

December 26, 2003

Church Of God

Code:VMC

Exterior and Interior Accomplishments

Veedersburg Ministry Center Project MWOA, August 3-16, 2003

Veedersburg, Indiana

Project Name: Firm Foundation

Pastor Travis Girdler

Section # 1 Structural Accomplishments Made To Existing Facilities

Accomplishment # 1

Metal Roof Correction and Repair

Leader: Ron Rice

Cut the 26ga. metal roof profile to 2 inches which gives the building the appearance of being square: 420 linear feet long

Install 26ga. Galvanized, 4x10 flat sheeting to crown of roof: 160 linear feet

Apply butyl to screw heads on the southeast section of roofing: approximately 300 square feet in area

Cut hole in metal roof and install plumber's boot 3" in diameter to vent bathrooms proper.

Check and repair any loose screws.

Check and butyl caulk any ribs that appeared to be separated.

Accomplishment # 2

Metal Vertical Siding and Drip Cap

Leaders: Kenny Kincaid, Bill Bradley

Remove screws from the 420 linear foot building from base to five feet high

Bend 26g flat stock in the following manner: 3" by 2" by 1" and install at base line to stop water seepage into interior rooms

Cut openings for six anodized windows and three panic double doors then trim all openings except one

Remove defective siding cutting it to fit around newly installed windows and doors

Remove siding where existing A/C units were installed and replace with same Build, and install three crosses and attach to siding

Install oval plastic sign to highway side of church

Install electrical to signs and A/C units

Remove bolts and cut siding base so as to allow the insert of a drip ledge to prevent water intrusion into the interior of building

Correct and install J-mould around windows and metal trim around doors

Accomplishment # 3

Concrete

Leader: John Brant

Cut and jackhammer out of square concrete floor so as to allow installation of metal drip cap at base where needed. About twenty feet is still left to accomplish
Form and pour three concrete pads and one door stoop to new A/C location
Jackhammer concrete floor in nursery so plumber could move stool to the proper location

Level floors and bridge expansion gaps in pre elementary and elementary classrooms

Cut and jackhammer concrete floor so as to allow drip ledge to be installed

Accomplishment # 4

Plumbing

Leaders: Mike Willison, Jim Carlisle

Correct vent pipe from existing 2" to code 3" venting it out the roof rather than the wall pointing to highway

Remove seven toilet stools; grind concrete down to a level condition

Modify stool with new stool flanges for 12" rough in rather than existing 17"

Change shut off valves, and install others as needed

Completely re- plumb nursery for child height fixtures

Jackhammer concrete and move stool drain to proper location

Install new urinal to code specs

Reroute water lines and install shut off valves as needed in proper locations

Insulate 100 linear feet of water line from kitchen to sanctuary on south wall

Insulate hot and cold water lines to bathrooms on outside walls

Jim Carlisle and John Brant and Marvin Burns assisted Mike in setting seven stools, and one urinal. They together solved many other problems that required a master's touch.

Accomplishment # 5

Sheet rock

Leader: Mark Caddell

Patch repair many places in the entire building: screw down loose defective sheets

Skim coat five rooms with three passes of compound. Square footage: 3768

Remove 5/8 inch thick sheet rock and clean studs for new installation. Square footage 2176

Install 191 sheets of 5/8 or 1/2 sheet rock. Square footage 9168

Accomplishment # 6

Painting and Patch Repair

Leader: Barbara Seymour

Skim coat, and sand walls and ceilings. Square footage 5304

Prime the walls and ceilings. Square footage 5304

Apply one coat of ceiling finish to Pastors office. Square footage 780

Paint three crosses for exterior of building each cross being 3' wide x 5' high

Install metal outside corner. Linear footage 350 feet

Accomplishment # 7

Tape and Bed Sheet Rock

Leaders: Barb Seymour, Celia Bannister

Tape and bed a total of 191 sheets of sheet rock. Square footage 9168

Patch repair several openings

Barbara Seymour hit the floor running and kept running until she had accomplished all she and her team could do. She along with Celia Bannister, Martha Fillers, Mikaela Girdler were a great team that produced quality taping and bedding preparing it for the remaining coats of finish mud. I want to add that each of these ladies were persistent in accomplishing their goal. One hundred ninety-one sheets of sheet rock is not a job for wimps. These women and child worked very hard.

Accomplishment # 8

Electrical

Leader: Lowell Eversole

Correct existing wiring in entire building to proper amp limits. Basically this was a complete re-wire with some interesting obstacles thrown in just for this crew. The Lord knew they were the ones to accomplish the task. This is why they came. Trace all existing circuits and mark main box accordingly. Electrician indicates that the newly added kitchen needs to have circuits split and additional circuits added for safety. This was a large section of this project that was very complicated and time consuming. Electrician indicates that all circuits are working properly. Wires were installed for exit lights and battery backed emergency lights. Brian Meister, Amy Meister, Dave Myers, Graham Myers, Rochelle Royer, Russell Vail and Paul Fillers assisted Brother Eversole as they installed two thousand feet of # 12 electrical wire with all the outlets and switches that the facility required.

Note: this brief description does not include all the details associated with this phase of the project but I assure you that this was a significant improvement accomplished by a professional and his helpers.

Accomplishment # 9

Work Completed Prior To Arrival of Team

Leaders: Kenny Kincaid, Travis Girdler

Remove sheet rock from the following areas: foyer walls, back wall of sanctuary, food pantry with a total square footage of 2462.

Move several door openings and rough in for fire rated wood doors with steel frames, commercial quality.

Cut opening between food pantry and pastors office in order to make it one big room 21x24/ total square footage is 720.

Accomplishment # 10

Carpentry

Leaders: Gerald Sams, Kenny Kincaid, Tom Bannister, Bob Kern, Bill Bradley
Ron Rice, Stoy Lankford

Remove, cut out and frame rough openings for 20 doors and steel jams

Install wood, fire rated doors with jams after openings were squared

Install 20 locksets

Cut out floor in loft area, build stairway and frame wall around it

Build deck platform with staircase to loft area on gym side of building 8x50= 400 square feet

Straighten floor, apply liquid nails and install 100 sheets of ¾ tongue and groove: 3200 sq. ft.

Frame two walls on 2nd story above kitchen for youth pastors office: 20 linear ft.

Frame steel supports with metal studs and drywall same: 5

Support three exterior panic door entrance and exits by framing with 2x8's & 2x10's attaching them to steel and concrete

Tear out and re-build 6 interior window support frames, and support exterior walls by using 2x4's

Cut floor out, drop baptistery below floor line placing it on treated ¾ plywood, frame stairs and knee wall around the unit and finish

Build walls in two bathrooms so as to give the appearance of 12" center stool line, also tear out and re-build wall panels: 20 linear feet

Build catwalk from loft area on 2nd floor across main hallway and into the sanctuary that will be used as a sound booth. Also frame sound booth and catwalk area and finish

Build extension to platform in sanctuary 2x15

Build three fences around A/C units and cover with metal siding

Frame three concrete pads for A/C units

Accomplishment # 11

Heating and Cooling

Leader: Ken Seymour

Remove three heating and cooling units from the south side of building and transfer them to the north side and install them on new concrete pads
Fabricate new duct work and install same allowing heating and cooling to be delivered to the loft area and both bathrooms. There was no heating or cooling in these areas on the existing building

Walt Courtney was Ken's helper. Ken and Walt worked together on the Peru, Indiana Project in 2002.

Thank you Ken for keeping us cool on this project.

Note: Ken Seymour indicates an additional unit will be required for classrooms
Presently there is no heating or cooling in the five classrooms

Accomplishment # 12

Food

Leaders: Veedersburg Ladies

Over forty full meals were served with a wide variety of foods. Each food crew went that extra mile that makes a project successful. ***They were all served with smiles.*** It was easy to see the servant attitude of The Veedersburg Ministry Center as they worked hard to make our stay comfortable. In addition to meals the ladies delivered candy bars as we worked. We appreciate all the work that went into this operation of the project especially the night we had steaks on the grill. We also thank Lowell and Virginia Eversole for the Alaska Halibut fish they brought from Alaska and shared with us. It was a two hundred-pound fish that one and all enjoyed. We appreciated all the good food and thank you for serving it with a smile.

Accomplishment 13

Community Outreach

Leaders: Richard Marks, Lowell and Virginia Eversole

As always, Richard provided us with his style of music. He, once again had us sing along with the song, "*Faith, Faith, Just A Little Faith*". In addition he conducted services at The Veedersburg Ministry Center, Friendly Grove Baptist Church, Benwood Mt. Lebanon Church and The Carbon Baptist Church.

Lowell Eversole and his wife Virginia along with Richard ministered in music and song in Perrysville, Indiana after working a blistering hard day in Veedersburg. I want to tell you that they represent quality Christian outreach.

Accomplishment # 14

Youth

Leader: Janette Ashley

Janette brought thirteen youth to Veedersburg as requested in the Indiana Coordinators letter well in advance of this project. Pastor Travis and I discussed the wonderful opportunity it would be if our Church of God youth could experience “hands-on mission work” in their own state with MWOA as mentors. Ladies and gentlemen, I personally feel that when you have an international supported state project going on in your own backyard youth should be exposed. Don't you agree?

Accomplishment # 15

Devotions Leaders:

Pastor Paul Fillers, Brian Meister, Martha Carter, Ken Seymour, Barbara Seymour, Jake Crafton, John Brant, Manny, Paul Goins, Bill Bradley, Marvin Burns, Pastor Stoy Lankford, Bob Kern, Lowell Eversole, Richard Marks and Walt Courtney each gave us another memory to place in our heart .

Do you remember...

Do you remember when Martha Carter gave us the simple but difficult challenge to hang on to God's promises? She is not here as I type this overview, but she has not changed her mind. Then Marvin Burns told us proudly that he had many brothers and sisters around the world and that he loved to work with MWOA. Marvin doesn't know a stranger because he loves them all. Ken talked about eating right and gave us pencil and paper for notes. He also gave a verbal illustration about a bird. Those of you who weren't present to hear missed a beautiful time of Christian fellowship as he expressed his heart. He is Ken Seymour. He attends The Dexter Lake Church of God in Battle Creek, Michigan. His phone number is 616-729-4059. He needs to write you annotating this story so you can listen. Listening is a good thing. We could stand some more of it. Or better yet call him on the phone. I challenge you to do this exact thing. Take the time, you will be blessed.

Then who could forget the impressive gathering of thought that spilled out of the mouth of an overworked electrician as he identified John 3:16 as the starting and ending point of his excellent delivery that provoked instant reflection and thought in our spirits. John 3:16 was the start and ending but Lowell let us know in no uncertain terms what was between the start and the end was the subject. He stated that we make it too hard and referred us to return to the attributes associated with John 3:16. Powerful, thought generating and habit changing were the impact of

his short session after supper that August evening in 2003. I remember it well and I am truly sorry that only MWOA and the hosts got to feel the impact of those electrical words that were energized by the Holy Ghost.

Then we also tuned into a very direct battery of words directed to our sensitivity as a Christian. Stoy Lankford reminded us that each of us have a spiritual load limit, just like road signs. I first thought he was going to remind us that God was not going to place on us any more than we could carry. (Wrong, that is why I write and he instructs). He had thought and prayed all day about what he was to share. Here it is in brief: *try to be sensitive about your neighbors load limit*. You do not know what he is caring and he may be overloaded. This was a word for the day.

Many MWOA workers went through terrific circumstances to arrive at this particular project. They carried the load, but continued to labor for Gods people. I think in all fairness this is called sacrifice, don't you? When they arrived at Veedersurg the Veedersburg Ministry Center and the community welcomed them with open arms and Christian love that lightened the load they were caring. Veedersburg, you were real ministers to every MWOA on the jobsite. Thank you for lightening our load and just receiving us as one of you. My wife, Charlotte has a sign in our bedroom that says, "Home is where they love you." Truer words could never be formed or expressed about a group of brothers and sisters. All of the MWOA team felt at home in Veedersburg. Love does that to a person. God's people make a difference in the world and let each of us not forget the difference they make in the church.

Gale Jarvis opened the word and began to go to work using his verbal skills and acute desire to follow the leading of the Holy Ghost. As I sat I took the time to look at the faces of the listeners. I discovered that Gale mentored us on one word: anger. What he said in five minutes just might have changed the direction that many of us have followed. MWOA is more than hammers and nails. We must realize that we are mentors as we labor for Christ.

Accomplishment #16

Interaction: With the Community

Leaders: Travis and Yessie Girdler

Yessie was instrumental in getting the word out about the arrival of the MWOA team. Two newspapers interviewed various workers on the job site. Please view the attachment from the Danville Paper. Also, let it be known that this church has a food pantry. It is efficiently organized and operated under this pastoral team with many laity acting as faithful servants. In June, they fed over five hundred people and in July well over seven-hundred were ministered to with food items. During the August project, I was on the scaffolding and the recipients were lined all the way out of the doors. Many of these hurting people had big smiles on their

faces as I overheard members of our team explain that we were enlarging the food pantry to better serve the community. God has given us the responsibility to take the goodness of our Lord to the people. The people that stood in line to receive the food that August day thought they were receiving but the truth is they were giving to us.

Accomplishment # 17

Interaction: with the Veedersburg Ministry Center

Leaders: All Team Members

The MWOA and the Veedersburg Ministry Center congregation were unified, cooperative and showed the love of Jesus to each other. People got to know one another. Rita Sams visited the Sams reunion and found out she was related to Gerald Sams our International Field Representative. Small world, indeed, isn't it?

Accomplishment # 18

Prayer

Leaders: All MWOA Team Members

The one hundred-six names are listed on the official registry of membership and those who attend services at the Veedersburg Ministry Center. Betty Sams blew up the names so they would be easy to see. She cut them in strips of two and gave each MWOA a couple names that were on the list. We all took the names home with us and were challenged to pray for those names often. I have mine in my wallet and continue to pray for the names I was given by Betty.

Accomplishment # 19

Interaction With State Level Leadership

Leaders: State Lay Board, Darryl Huyett, Del Marshall, Bob Kee, Dennis Edmonds, Jack Stout and liaison Dennis Sanders

All of these gentlemen did an outstanding job at contacting their respective districts. All one has to do is look at the Indiana response to understand their dedication to this project and Indiana churches.

Accomplishment # 20

Interaction With District Overseerers

Leaders: State Lay Board

State Lay Board members worked with the District Overseerers communicating encouraging and urging support for one of our churches.

Accomplishment # 21

Interaction With Indiana Pastors

Leaders: Indiana Administrative Bishop Ronald Martin, Pastor Ron Ragan and the State Lay Board

This team of leaders communicated with all Indiana pastors in a timely, professional and accurate manner. They described the existing problem and helped with the solution. I am pleased to work with these men. I especially thank Pastor Ragan for his insightfulness, communication, and fund-raising skills for the project. Your communication with other leaders in our state is appreciated. All of you are great role models for our men.

Accomplishment # 22

Revival and Good Ole Church of God love

Leaders: International Leadership, State Leadership, State Lay Board, Pastor Girdler, All Veedersburg Saints, and All Team members.

Men and women we had a revival! We could feel the power of the Holy Spirit! Is there any other place in Indiana that had one hundred twenty-eight people show up for a two-week work project? We did! You, ladies and gentlemen are a blessing!

Accomplishment # 23

Roof: On Parsonage

Leader: Ron Ragan

During the first week, Pastor Ron Ragan and wife Sharon visited the job site. After a tour of the operations, he told me that the parsonage was going to get a new roof. God fulfilled those words!

Accomplishment # 24

Clean Up

Leaders: Local Youth and Terre Haute Church of God Youth

The Terre Haute Youth arrived and were put to work doing clean-up. The youth were ready to go to work and had fun at it also. There are two youths, Thomas and Seth, from Veedersburg who really worked hard over the two weeks. These boys labored like men cleaning up after the crew had quit for the day. I am pleased with our youth and I know you are too.

Accomplishment #25

Hospitality

Leaders: The Veedersburg Ministry Center Members

If we had such wonderful hospitality! John Brant likes that hospitality so much he is going for two weeks next year. What can I say...the food was great, you took us into your homes, and you fellowshiped with us and made us feel like we were family. Marvin Burns and Warren White even got a car by the name of "Sara Jane" in mint condition.

Accomplishment # 26

Communicate, Move and Achieve Goals

Leader: Veedersburg Ministry Center, State Office Staff, and MWOA Team

We communicated, moved and achieved thanks to the sound leadership of number twenty-one. This was a total team effort but looked effortless because of good leadership.

Accomplishment # 27

Involvement Of Leadership, Boards and The Laity

Leader: Administrative Bishop Martin and Fred Smith

Brother Martin and Brother Smith and our Boards led the way for others to follow making it easy for the laity to follow good leadership.

Accomplishment # 28

Community Assistance and Acknowledgement

Leaders: The Veedersburg ministry Center

The Veedersburg Ministry Center staff and congregation got the word out about this project called Firm Foundation.

Accomplishment # 29

Awareness

Leaders: State Office Staff, State Lay Board, Pastor Ron Ragan, the Veedersburg Ministry Center, Mike Willison of ctministries.net

In order to conduct a project of this size awareness is essential to accomplishment. Without you making this project an advertised "adventure" participation would have been limited. Thank you for making Indiana aware of Veedersburg!

Accomplishment # 30

Music

Leaders: Richard Marks and Lowell Eversole

It is amazing what a hard days work will do to your singing and praise. Truly, we had great times of worship as we reflected on what God was accomplishing in Veedersburg. You brightened our day by leading us in song and praise to God.

Accomplishment #31

Friendly Benwood Community Christian Youth Camp

Leaders: Perry Mager and Bill Reberger

In 2002, the MWOA helped build the FBCCYC cabins in Brazil, Indiana. Since the initiation of this project, FBCCYC workers have been to Pinsfork, Kentucky working on a church with Kenny Kincaid and now Veedersburg, Indiana. Thank you for your efforts to better the facilities of others. Your ministry will touch many people that you may never know.

Accomplishment # 32

Involvement: of Other Denominations

Leaders: Mike Willison

Just click on the website ctministries.net

Leadership Section

Question: Is Veedersburg Your Church?

The contents of this document comprise the “nuts and bolts” that are necessary for a successful adventure in ministry. All of these works recorded in this document are indeed a story in and of themselves. It is my hope that you will read this document and take the time to apply the words that have been annotated for you. Most importantly let us remember that this project was about God and how he cares for his people.

We are reminded that this project provided all of us with opportunities to share our Christian walk with others and to experience God’s presence. It also includes various tidbits some might expect and enjoy. I trust that you will put this document in a special file and label it, ***Another Victory for Gods People at Veedersburg, Indiana***. I encourage you to view often ***the mind images*** and

thought patterns it generates. I also hope that it will bring to your memory that God's people must hang on to God's promises. This is a quote from Martha Carter during devotions as we sat after a hard day of labor and listened to her express her heart as only she can do.

Let us begin.

The Planning Phase:

During late summer of 2002, Pastor Ron Ragan, Pastor of Trinity Fellowship met with Keith Pritchett and Ed Magnum of MWOA at the Veedersburg Ministry Center for an initial inspection of the facilities. The Veedersburg Ministry Center is located at 702 W. 2nd. St. in Veedersburg, Indiana. This team was sent by Hugh Carver, Director of Men and Women of Action (MWOA). This small team, along with Pastor Girdler prepared a report indicating general needs and suggested corrective measures to improve this facility.

This report was forwarded to the Indiana State Coordinator, Jake Crafton who worked jointly with the State Lay Board. The State Offices went to work immediately developing a plan of action. The accomplishments listed below are the result of good communication between the International Offices, Brother Ragan and our Administrative Bishop Ronald Martin.

In October of 2002, Administrative Bishop Martin started the paper work phase of The Veedersburg Ministry Center Project. The key leader of our state led the way for others to follow. He was easy to find and see because he was with the laity working just as hard as all the workers. This state project was scheduled to begin August 3-16, 2003.

Administrative Bishop Martin accomplished good, sound, direct communication with our MWOA International Office Director, Hugh Carver. The leadership of these two caring gentlemen and the tender loving care of another Pastor namely, Ron Ragan, started the process of encouragement, aid, real sacrifice and victory. Brother Martin and Brother Ragan are indeed men of God.

Our state lay board comprised of Darryl Huyett, Jake Crafton, Del Marshall, Jack Stout, Dennis Edmonds, and Bob Kee went to work in each of their assigned districts in the state. Each lay board member was an active participant and played a key role of leadership in this unique adventure in the form of a project. Isn't it funny how The Lord takes a work project and turns it into a ministry adventure? The Holy Spirit moved this project forward at full steam.

I would like to express my appreciation to Kenny Kincaid who started working on this project as soon as we got the word to proceed. Thank you for arriving early and staying late prior to the teams' arrival. Thank you for the use of your time, talent and treasure. The weeks of work and layout allowed the team to work at a much faster accomplishment rate. Thank you for your stick to it leadership.

Kenny attends The Friendly Grove Baptist Church in Rosedale, Indiana. His pastor is Perry Mager. Kenny reminds me of something my dad used to say. He would say, sequester the grown males from the young males or separate the men from the boys. From my own perspective real men do something for God. Thank you for being a mentor to young and old alike. Many thanks go to Mike Willison. Mike also goes by the name Plumber. Now we all know what plumbers do, but Mike also knows how to do it professionally and involves young people. His only request was that he be assigned to work with a youth so he could pass on his trade. In addition he used his web site ctministries.net to advertise the project. Mike told me that fourteen countries had visited this project. Mike and Kenny Kincaid helped develop the scope of work for this project.

Mike attends the Memorial United Methodist Church in Terre Haute, Indiana and is the author of twenty books. Mike reminds me of this verbiage. If it is possible for an occurrence to go amiss, then that is what is going to come to pass or in other words if anything can go wrong it will. God sends us the right people to correct the wrongs. Thanks Mike.

My appreciation is also extended to Gerald and Betty Sams. They brought to Veedersburg twenty years of consistent outreach with MWOA. Together, their leadership indicates that deeds communicate more forcibly than speech or another way to say it is actions speak louder than words. Anyone can talk but it takes Men and Women of Action to move from words to deeds. Many thanks go to this top- notch husband and wife team. Gerald's leadership was instantly put in full throttle the first day after breakfast and continued for two weeks. Betty accomplished the paper work on the project. I hope everyone has the opportunity to do the paper work on a project of this size at some point in his or her life. Then you will know what we know. They are a great team and represent MWOA with a style that is representative of a leader-servant. They serve as field representatives of MWOA out of The International Offices. They do not receive income for their work. I encourage you to send some money to them as they labor as volunteers in construction and disaster relief worldwide. Their project number is #731-1143-142. They can be contacted at Church Of God International Offices PO Box 2430 Cleveland Tennessee 37320-2430. The phone # is 423-478-7955. Home # is 828-665-2123. E-mail address is gwsams@yahoo.com.

We had 119 people on this project. In addition, many more participated in various ways to make it a successful project. Also, I would like to say thanks to our International Office. The Men and Women of Action office is run by Hugh Carver, Teddy Fletcher, Amber Morris and Matt Hanrahan. Also, I appreciate Bill Hale who brought the MWOA motel and shop. This is a very nice set up.

Interesting Information Section

Here are some items worth mentioning. ***The Holy Spirit working through you is what made this project a successful ministry adventure with long lasting results.***

Setting Records and Moving Mountains

a) ***The strongest support in terms of number of people on the project for one day*** was The Terre Haute Church of God located at 2501 Thompson, Terre Haute, Indiana. Dennis Sanders, Minister. Pastor Sanders is the State Lay Board Liaison.

b) ***The strongest support from another state*** was a tie. Both North Carolina and Michigan sent four people.

c) ***The State Lay Board*** participated with a unified effort. The members are Darryl Huyett, Jake Crafton, Del Marshall, Bob Kee, Jack Stout and Dennis Edmonds.

d) ***The Women's Ministry Board participated.*** President Lynda Martin and member Chrissy Sanders showed up for work. Other board members were Tereasa Quigley, De Ann Henderson, Phyllis Rawlins, and Bonnie Bennett. These ladies care about Indiana.

e) ***The State Evangelism and Home Missions Board*** consisting of Al Henderson, Brian Shaver, Billy Heard, Jerry Martin, and Dennis Sanders contributed.

f) ***The International Director of Lay Ministries.*** Leonard Albert participated by advertising the project from the Cleveland Offices and sending communications.

g) ***The State Finance Committee (State Council)*** participated with a unified effort. This council consists of Woodrow Alley, Danny Thompkins, Mark Muncy, Larry Pyeatt, Greg Isaacs, Kenneth Lee, Edgar Rawlins, John Quigley, and Jerry Ballard. I got to work on the site with Pastor's Pyeatt, and Isaacs. Many thanks go to each of you. You are very much appreciated.

h) ***Indiana Lifebuilders*** participated with a large group of men led by Bob Kern. The men were from Lawrence. Terre Haute also sent several men to this project. Each of these churches also brought teenagers.

i) Former Overseer and now Editor of The Evangel, ***Dan Bolin*** participated by involving this publication and promoting the project in the August 2003 edition. (p.36).

j) ***Truman Smith*** participated by offering assistance to feed the MWOA workers

k) *Indiana retired ministers* participated by sending letters and encouraging me in person. Names that stand out to me are Ballard, Harrison, House and Cook. The letters they sent were read to the MWOA team during devotions. Active Church Of God Indiana ministers that showed up for work were Pyeatt, Ragan, Sanders, Moss, Girdler, Sluder, Isaacs, Lankford, Joplin, Fillers and Shinolt. Pastor Larry Pyeatt hung drywall with a member of The Rochester Church of God.

Administrative Bishop for Indiana Ronald Martin with wife Lynda scheduled some time for work. They encouraged all the workers and displayed quality leadership at the hands-on level. I must add that the MWOA appreciated the Martin's coming because this is not the norm across America. We are blessed to have a leader who knows the followers. This indicates a caring leadership to the minds of the laity. They respect leaders who set agendas aside just to be with the followers as they labor for another minister and his congregation. Our State Office staff has aided, mentored, and provided the direction and resources I requested. This is unity, real unity at the grass roots of leadership.

Our Director of Youth and Christian Education Fred Smith with wife, Cindy showed up for work and were a great encouragement as they labored for one of our churches out of the office and into the field.

Active Church Of God ministers from other states that worked were Paul Fillers and Stoy Lankford.

MWOA workers came from Indiana, North Carolina, Iowa, California, Michigan, Alaska, Maryland and Illinois. Please note that this covers North, South, East and West. This is powerful when you take time to reflect how it just seemed to happen.

People were interested in this project across the United States. Forty-nine women and girls showed up for work. Eighty-five men also reported to aid this project. There were thirty-six youth that rolled up their sleeves and went to work in ministry. Of the thirty-six, fourteen were girls and twenty-two were boys. All workers ranged in age from six months to eighty years old. It was reported by Mike Willison, that he had fourteen countries visit the web site prior and during the project. Fifteen thousand hits were reported. You can view the project on ctministries.net

Our executive staff put there aggressive agenda on the back shelf and arrived in full force to work a day in Veedersburg. They hammered nails, carried concrete bags, encouraged and prayed for one of Indiana's finest churches both now and in the future. Thank you, Brother and Sister Martin and Brother and Sister Smith. I assure you that your work was very important to those who follow sound leadership and all the members of The Veedersburg Ministry Center.

Pastor Perry Mager, of Friendly Grove Baptist Church reported for work. He brought an interesting group of men with him with the following names: Crane, Donovan, Purcell and Jarvis. These gentlemen are powerhouses of God's goodness in motion. Crane and Donovan sit next to Vi and Kenny Kincaid as they worship in Rosedale, Indiana. Purcell and Jarvis go to different churches in Brazil, Indiana. Recently these churches worked in Pinesfork Kentucky and Brazil, Indiana on other MWOA projects. They also helped Herman Clegg get a bull for *Emma's Kids* in Africa. You can talk to Herman Clegg about this continuing ministry by calling him at 865-882-9290 or e-mail him at the web address of clegg@esper.com

The town of Veedersburg now looks at this metal building (60x150) as a church rather than a warehouse. Three crosses were installed on the facilities outside. In addition, Bishop Martin instructed Gerald Sams, International Field Coordinator MWOA to install a large Church of God sign on the highway side. Lowell Eversole added lights and Jake Crafton threw in a touch of paint. The Pastor was pleased and so was the church. This church is an aggressive outreach to an entire community. In July, they fed over five hundred people. In August, they fed over seven hundred. We give God the glory!

Reflect on those memories for just a minute. This is a time for reflecting on God's goodness now. ***God always provides for us when we pray. Prayer is action. I listened to Hugh Carver give instructions to leaders at a leadership retreat as he spoke these words, "If you don't pray don't take the project."*** I liked that because it made good sense to me. God sent several people along to aid this small congregation. Pastor Travis says it is a fulfillment of something that was spoken inside of the four walls of his church. Pastor Travis will share this information with you if you call or write him. He can be reached at 765-294-4669. His address is 806 Stearling, Veedersburg, Indiana. Take the time to call or write him. Pastor Travis and Paul Goins were committed to tackling three things that will produce substantial results on a project. They are to communicate, move and accomplish. Sounds easy but it takes a great deal of dedication and persistence to do all three. My personal thanks go to Pastor Travis and Paul Goings. Paul is the Youth Pastor of Veedersburg. Thank you for your continued efforts to accomplish difficult tasks.

As I reflect on just how good God is I am spiritually reminded that we can do everything right down to the last detail but ***it is God who puts together the MWOA personalities.*** We prayed and prepared to the best of our ability before this project. The Holy Spirit moved August 3-16, 2003 because of His Love for His people. He sent us two electricians, one brick layer, two carpenters, one painter/decorator, one mechanical engineer, two civil engineers, one landscaper, one music man, one window specialist, two truck drivers, one plumber, one roofer, one heating and cooling specialist, one university professor, one linguist, one graphic designer, one saw mill worker, one pallet manufacturer, two farmers, a factor worker, a cook, some very hard working housewives, a photo lady, one

college student, one retired nurse, one conservation specialist, one lady from the community, high school students, elementary students, one youth group, two out-of-state pastors and one Indiana Church Of God pastor with his wife, and two Indiana pastors that brought laymen to experience this form of giving first hand. Now this is not a complete list. It is, however, sufficient to let you know that God indeed loves all one hundred and six Church Of God people on the registry and sent very capable MWOA people to demonstrate His love by hands-on help. You came from the north, south, east and the west. He intended it to be that way.

As a coordinator, you try to all sorts of things sometimes by experimentation sometimes by knowledge, sometimes by hoping. I just knew or thought or thought I knew where the personalities for this special project were coming from, but God had a different idea. Spiritually He is saying "Veedersburg I love you." He sent you from Indianapolis, Terre Haute, Veedersburg, New Castle, Covington, Shelbyville, Greenwood, Lawrence, Greenfield, Brazil, Hillsboro, Rockville, Crawsfordville, Attica, Pimento, West Terre Haute, Reelsville, Rosedale, Lafayette, Delphi, Flora, Rochester, and Kingman, Indiana. You worked four thousand nine hundred man hours on this project. What was accomplished was amazing in terms of hammers and nails.

There was a Christian bonding that took place that overrides hammers and nails, squares and sheet rock. MWOA were messengers of love but also it must be annotate that the people of The Veedersburg Ministry Center were ministers of love. *It is not what one brings to a project that counts but more importantly what you take home is the real substance that will continue to minister to you long after the project.* Manny said it this way with sincere appreciation, "It is amazing what is happening here at the church, the bad thing is you have to leave, the good thing is I get to stay." That's substance, that's energy, that's respect, that's power, that's humility and that my friend is the essence of MWOA which is to enhance. Take your time and capture that thought and place it someplace where it will not be lost.

Tid-bits of Speech Otherwise Known As Memories

The following is a short list of interesting comments that I put in my memory bank. The neat thing is you can do the same as you secure your memories.

Jacob Taylor said, "Grandpa, I love you." Perhaps this will not qualify for a quote but you already read it so it must be true. Jacob is my grandson and he is six months old.

Lowell Eversole said, "Where is Curtis now?" Curtis's dad said, "Where is Curtis this time?"

Kenny Kincaid was talking as he ate supper one evening and he spoke these impressive words that we all feel, "Going is easy, but leaving is difficult."

Pastor Ron Ragan said, “Jake, I am sending a team of roofers to roof the parsonage.”

Doreen Neff sent an e-mail that said, “I will be praying for all the workers at Veedersburg.” She joined **Ruby Harrison and Pansey House** because they also said they would be in prayer.

A young teenager said, “I think I found the electrical problem Jake. Can I borrow your hammer?.” Try to figure that one out.

Bill Reberger said, “I’m just glad that I was apart of it.”

Steve Crane said, “I came to help. What can I do?”

Perry Mager said, “We must work together.”

Amy Meister said, “Jake, I want to paint.”

Those who added youthful energy to this project were: **Shariylah Kelly, Megan Auterson, Shaakia Means, Nicole Blevins, Garry Myers, Graham Myers Mike Abolt, Shenkia Jackson, Aron Ashley, Shelly Memodoza, Raheem Kelly, Danielle Kelly, Danielle Joketner.** These young people were from The Terre Haute Church of God.

Bailey Kiger was there to offer assistance in any way possible. **Gary and Alan Zellers** also participated.

B.B. Bradley said, “I came to learn.” He doesn’t realize it but he taught more than he learned. Thanks Bill. The man in the orange shirt and funny orange hat said, “You do not know how much difference you are making in our town.” Perhaps what this minister of the gospel doesn’t realize is he doesn’t know how much difference he and his congregation made in the lives of MWOA visitors. Then on his arrival Gerald Sam’s made a statement which actually set the tone for this project in a quiet kind of way. We were complaining about how crooked things were at this project. Someone said, “If you lay a pencil down it would roll off onto the floor.” Then instantly twenty years of labor and wisdom came forth from this blonde headed laborer for Christ. He stated, “Then I guess we will just have to use carpenter’s pencils.” He was saying we are here to correct not to judge. We are to assist not condemn. We are MWOA and are here to enhance and we will do it. You and I, we will do it together.

Another quiet gentleman, **Peter Priest**, uttered these words, “I speak Russian, what can I do.” There was openness in the structure of those four little words that injected themselves into my being for consideration as I stood next to this giver of oneself. A man with your quick wit, astuteness and language skills can be used

worldwide. As I record this document, Peter is on his way to Russia to find out, “what he can do.” We need more Brother Priests.

Cleo said, “My son is involved with MWOA in Atlanta, “how can I help.” She is an Instructional Designer and works at Indiana State University. Again something got a hold of me. Actually it was a very firm grip around my heart that squeezed until I yielded to this statement of accountability. Cleo, I tell you the truth now. God was listening when you shared those simple but profound four words. The answer to your question is easy. Get involved with the MWOA and go on a trip then God will show you how you can help. It will cost you some time and perhaps some money but you will most assuredly receive an answer to that four word question that is also asked by many others nation wide.

In between wiping sweat and putting together plumbing pieces, **Mike Willison** looked up at me as I walked the hallway and said, “It is amazing what has been accomplished in such a short time”.

Then who could forget **John Brant** whom we always seem to find with a shovel, jackhammer, grinder or food in his hands now in front of this dirty, tired crew of laborers for Christ. John talks with his skills and hard work but also works for Jesus using his speech. John gave a good testimony.

Tom and Celia Bannister arrived from Michigan as a husband and wife team. Tom e-mailed me and said, “This is my first MWOA trip.” This did not stop Tom from jumping right in with the carpentry and Celia doing a great job at taping and bedding sheet rock. I did not get to talk with each of you very much but I want to say thank you because you blessed me by your example of self-motivation, and desire to serve. Each of you fit like a glove. They came to Veedersburg from a mission minded church. The name of their church is Dexter Lake Church Of God in Battle Creek. You can find them there next to **Ken and Barb Seymour, Landell Rayburn, Jerry and Ida Bailey**. There are 6,800 Churches of God in the United States but only one Dexter Lake and only one team of **Tom and Celia Bannister** and that makes each of you special.

A small businessman arrived and left very quietly. He doesn't talk a lot, unless you know him. He appeared in his bibs with no hair and a goatee all his own. He is a teacher to small boys every Wednesday at the Terre Haute Church of God. **He is husband to Valerie and dad to Tom and Katrina**. To me he is friend and to MWOA he is a servant. Glad you came and shared. His name is Tony Trotter.

Veedersburg is now in your memories. Never forget this country town on the West Bank.

Minnie Clawson would greet each of us with a big smile and say, “Morning Boys, are you hungry?” When she said that I knew we had some good grub

coming. Thanks Minnie for your hard work in the kitchen. Minnie took a tumble on the concrete floor but she is rough, tough and is doing fine.

Jack Stout arrived ready to go to work, so we worked him on the electrical crew. **Mike Turner** came with **Bob Kern** and they hung sheet rock, installed outside corner bead and a lot of other projects over the entire building. Bob gave some great devotions. He even stood up front of us and said, "We are our brother's keepers." This is the truth.

During his two week adventure **Richard Marks** worked at Veedersburg by day and mingled with his wit and music in the community and surrounding counties in the evening hours that were left. But after work one evening just before **Lowell and Virginia Eversole and Richard** were getting ready to share the gospel at a location that **Marge and John Davis** arranged we were privileged to hear a blazing testimony. Seems like Oral Roberts first citywide crusade was organized by Richard's father. As sincerity was emitted from the eyes of this retired math teacher and retired school principal one couldn't help but to put a hand up and wipe a tear from one's eyes.

Then we should be reminded about the zeal of **John Brant**. John said, "I'm hooked now so what can I do." I am going for two weeks next time. John said, "That food is just too good to pass up."

We should not forget that we had two P.K's. on the job site. Their names are **Michaela Girdler and Josh Sanders**. Michaela seemed like she didn't mind all these people coming to her church. I saw Michaela grab a drywall broad knife and some sandpaper and put her skills to the test with **Barb Seymour, Martha Fillers and Celia Bannister** serving a mentors. In my mind's eye, I can see her there in her flip-flops, quiet as a June bug with a big smile on her face. I can't help but thinking exactly what you are thinking right now. Children will work when led by adults. As simple as this might sound she was also leading the way for adults. She was speaking with her actions. She is a little woman of action. One does not have to be a rocket scientist to see and understand that children desire to work for Jesus.

But on the flip side a question emerges at this location in the document. Who is leading whom here? It appears that we have youthful workers ready to go but mentors are a commodity that needs to be expanded. Any volunteers? Names that ring a bell in my memory are **Carolyn Flint, Karyn Goins, Kristen and Thomas Anzaldua, Andy Rehmel, Betsy Ross, (seems like I have heard that name before, somewhere) Sharon Ross, Michelle Haymen, Lisa Haymen, Seth Haymen, James Haymen, Jacob Wright, Sarah Wright, Jeremy Swenson, Jodi Swenson, Alys French, Kay Simonton, Jason Watson, Bailey Kiger, Donald Peterson, Delores Hayden, Jim Hollingshead, and Angel Oswalt.**

My wife, Charlotte took some great pictures and videos of the project from start to finish. **Bart Taylor**, my son-in-law arrived with my daughter and his wife **Lauren**. They brought my grandson **Jacob**. I gave Jacob the grand tour and showed him everything. He liked it. Jacob is six months old. We must start them out young.

Lavilla Kincaid visited the job site several times to spend time with **Kenny Kincaid** and just to catch up on what was happening. **Ramona Bryant** came to visit and to see the progress.

Chrissy Sanders sanded sheet rock in the elementary class room as her husband **Dennis Sanders** helped move the scaffolding for the workers. They Pastor the Terre Haute Church Of God.

It was a pleasure to labor side by side with **David Bivens, Steve Poteat, Chad Robinson, Jerry Swenson, and John Thompson** all from the Lawrence Church of God.

Pastor Virgil Moss shared the vision of his church as we sanded sheet rock in the elementary classroom with **Garry Myers**, a teenager from The Terre Haute Church of God. I well remember his statement which I have recorded here. "I personally do not know of a single Pastor who doesn't have enough time in there schedule that they cannot give one single day-it is a pleasure for me and my men to help, I love it." By the by, Brother Moss also works a full time job.

Pastor Robert Sluder arrived from 410 California Street in Crawfordsville, Indiana to hammer nails for Jesus and aid another hard working Pastor. Young gentlemen with names like **Ricky Thompson, Jared Schinolt, Randy Schinolt and Chandler Heim** will not be forgotten because I put these reflections of love in action in my memory bank. By the by if you need one-hundred sheets of three-quarter tongue and grove moved from one location to another by hand these lads can make short work of it and have fun too.

Graham Myers, one of America's finest young men helped solve an electrical problem that had us going nuts trying to figure it out. Graham is a teenager. Both **Garry Myers and Graham Myers** were accompanied by their father, **Dave Myers**. Dave is a neat dude. He has two neat boys, who do neat things together like go on MWOA Projects. Dave does not just merely send his boys. Rather he takes them and exposes them to progressive, beneficial, sacrificial ministry. He gets to see the look on the faces of his children as they solve problems for somebody else. Those smiles will only arrive to those who are present to see them. Thanks for coming Dave. Everyone else enjoyed the smiles too. By the way Dave is a successful engineer, husband, mentor to men, Sunday School Teacher and student of the Word. He took the time to invest in Gods gift-his children.

I was fortunate to work with a youth by the name of **Edward Burkes**. He is from the Lawrence Church of God. His men's group led by **Bob Kern** took the time to bring this lad. I met eleven of these men who are astute. One of the eleven was the Youth Pastor. Please remember this man because he is beyond the cutting edge leading the way for other Pastors and Youth Pastors to follow. He was the only Youth Pastor in this state to participate with a men's group, and Edward was with him. I call them astute because they did not leave their youth at home. I speak truth to you to get your attention and hold it for a short period of time: youngsters are men too they are shorter in some cases, they dress different, they have different needs, but they are young men and desire your attention. Will you dare to share, or be stingy with you time?

Noah O'Reilly said, "Ed just wants to hang out, that's all, just hang out." We got to talk a lot as we sanded sheet rock. Ed shared some things with me that often are overlooked as we go about witnessing the love of Jesus in our every day activities. Sometimes we men just need to settle down and say to the Ed's in our churches, "I just want to hang out with you, can you spare some time, I need it too.

Speaking of another youth that made a week of appearances; know the first day of the project as **Curtis**. This intelligent young man followed the likes of, **Bill Bradley and Ken Seymour**. He was eager to participate. Curtis was with his dad, **Glenn**. Glenn worked at the local factory a full shift then went to the project to work again. The best place for Curtis to be was on this project. Our churches are full of youngsters just like Curtis. The Veedersburg Church of God and the Men and Women of Action involved Curtis in the activities of the project. I trust that you allow and invite your youth to be a part of the church. By the way ladies and gentlemen, this also involves participation in Lifebuilder and Ladies Ministries events. After all they are a part of the church. Don't forget to let them work around the church. It is their church too. They need and desire responsibility, just like you.

Paul Goins sat in the sanctuary one evening and stated, "It is awesome; our entire town is talking now. They are asking, "What is going on at the church?" Sometimes our own thoughts place limitations on us as individuals but we must think beyond our own thoughts, and reach beyond our own strengths and just plain depend on the Holy Spirit to do a work. **Pastor Travis** said, "Do something nobody else is doing." This gathering of words spoke to me as I listened to him in March after returning from The Dexter Lake Church of God in Battle Creek, Michigan from a missions rally hosted by **Landell Rayburn**. Most MWOA participants realize that a project has specific dates but MWOA also realize that there is a fine tuning that starts prior to the scheduled project dates. God started fine-tuning me at The Dexter Lake Church of God as I observed missionaries from several locations that I would have difficulty even finding on a map. The fine-tuning continued again at Veedersburg the same month of March. The Holy

Spirit was nudging me to get a hold of the thought to do something nobody else is doing. I thought of the significant impact that The Dexter Lake Church of God is making in the world. They are making things happen in the world. Well, the Holy Spirit insisted that I pay attention when He moved on me and let me know with no uncertainty that The Veedersburg Ministry Center was making a significant impact as well. After all **Jake**, how many churches this size could say that they fed over seven hundred people out of a local food pantry in one month? Another question arrives momentarily, how many of our churches feed this many hurting people. Project Firm Foundation, this is the name Pastor Travis attached to the project has made me realize that The Veedersburg Ministry Center is indeed a real ministry center meeting the needs of the community, involving area pastors and local congregations to aid the hurting.

I sat in the pew at The Dexter Lake Church of God with just a hand full of interested saints. The leadership of the church was present, the International Offices were present, the missionaries were present, The Men and Women of Action were present but where were the remainder of the saints? It boggled my mind that such an aggressive church only had a hand full of people in the big sanctuary that were interested. The Holy Spirit insisted that these were part of the ones that were doing something nobody else was doing. I paid attention. I went to school that March evening in 2003 sitting in the pew next to Jerry and Ida Bailey as I listened to a young man from Bolivia.

Many from this church are my mentors. They lead the way for others to follow. I had an aggressive goal for this project because I felt we would be able to reach it if a hand full would just reach past the communicating element and stretch all the way to the movement phase where accomplishments are achieved. It is time for reflection now. It is good for the spirit and food for the mind. Sometimes reflection inspires, sometimes it saddens, sometimes it provokes. Indeed it accomplishes all of these accolades and does even more. Sometimes reflection slows us down enough to make us realize that we need to offer a helping hand once in a while. I must be honest now, “sometimes we pay no attention to the nudge of the Holy Spirit.” Now, just don’t sit there and roll your eyes at me, admit it.”

I am convinced that while the physical eyes may be blurred or even blind the heart can still see. Trouble is we many times more use the physical eye rather than the heart to see what we intend to view. Veedersburg was something the eye needed to see but it was also something the heart needed to see. One eager beaver Pastor who pastors a great church said this, “I didn’t know it was going to be like this, I really didn’t understand.” You see, State Coordinators can write then send challenging, informative, artistic short or long letters, to include graphic pictures to people who need to see with their heart well in advance of a project. But if the readership will not take a small element of time to see with the heart the eyes will not do them any earthly good. If the presentation of a hurting church goes in one

ear and out the other ear nothing is accomplished but neglect both to the reader and to the writer.

Sometimes God's goodness is expressed by humans who go by such names as, Marge Davis who said, "I just want to live long enough to see the Men and Women of Action come and work on my church." Marge was taking four nitro pills a day but continued to labor with our team and for her church. I must add that if you missed the zeal of Marge by not participating in the Veedersburg project then you really missed one of life's best lessons. I actually feel a sense of sorrow that so many missed this lesson. Certainly school was in session in August of 2003. One of the classes was on loving one another and the instructor was Marge Davis wife of John.

Her greatest lesson could be titled, Pretending vs. Participating, You Choose

If you were the teacher which class would you teach? She chose Participation.

Final comment.

I ran cross country in high school. I never won anything higher than a county cross country meet. I always saw the back end of a youth by the name of Don Vandry. It always seemed like I was chasing him. I worked really hard to be as good as this long distance runner who smoked everyone who put a pair of track spikes on and called themselves a runner. Like I said I never was a star runner but I participated. Another runner on my team years after graduation said, "Jake, I always appreciated you because you made me work harder." I was always on his heels but never except once in front. I was always chasing him. He went on to explain the following. His name is Jack. He said, "Every time I thought I had a good lead on you I was fooled because you pushed me to the max. I was tired and hurting in many races. I wanted to just lay back and complete the race. But when I heard you coming up on my heels new energy would emerge and I would have more kick than I realized. Sometimes I hated to hear you breathing trying to overtake my lead. I had sprinted to get ahead of you. The other three, you and me were really a team. I was the number five runner on a five man team. I thought all my efforts were insignificant but Jack helped me realize that every person on a team is important. You were a participant of Project Firm Foundation.

You were on this MWOA team. Remember it often. Remember it with good memories. You were the one who kept somebody going.

One last bit of information, then we put the pencil and paper away until the next project. ***We always had a great team.*** One memory that has always bothered me was the fans. Our team was pushing it to the max; running miles in under five minutes is no job for sissies. We were doing our best and then some. As we passed the turns our coach, Alan Barcus was always there yelling at us and letting us know that we were doing great, encouraging us to do our best. The fans on the

other hand always had something extra to add such as, “Pick it up boys”, or “Get with it”, or “Get the lead out young man”.

Our coach, Alan ran cross country in college. He knew how we felt about ourselves; he knew our strong and weak points. He knew our desires; he knew our frustrations. He knew our anxiety and he knew the fans. The fans had never participated in a race in their lives but they could give advice abundantly. They would yell things at us as we gave out one-hundred per cent and looked for more as they stood on the side lines. They thought they knew what we were feeling, but in reality they never participated with the team. Those who participate always remember more, and learn more as they do more.

You will always have more memories than those who do not participate. Many participated in this Men and Women of Action Project, August 3-16, 2003 at The Veedersburg Ministry Center in Veedersburg, Indiana. Those who participated will remember much more than those who stood on the side line as they watched the team move and accomplishment or just sat in the pew and did the same.

Participants can say,” Been there, seen it and done it. And want to do it again.”

I am pleased to be on your team. I think we pushed our accomplishments to the max and by the way the coach is pleased. *His name is Jesus.*

Sincerely Written By My Hand And With Deep Appreciation For Your Participation,

Jerry (Jake) Crafton
Indiana Men and Women of Action Coordinator