

Project Report: First Baptist Church, Kiel WI September 2008

Work has progressed quickly here on First Baptist Church of Kiel. Our crew is working well together and the spirit on the site is good. Dennis & Peggy Robinson and Jeremy & Jodi Smith (and Brandon and Ethan) join Sue & I along with Nehemiah Builders Bob & Evelyn Jude. We've had excellent help from five volunteer groups from Michigan, Kansas, and Missouri, as well as faithful help from the church folks. The church has 2 scheduled work days each week (Tuesdays and Saturdays), but someone comes nearly every day. We've also had help from John Robinson, Joe & Helen Robalard, Dick & Sharon Fennelson, and Duane & Renee Frost. A young man from the community, Justin Meyer, has worked with us a number of days, and now that school has started, he still comes on Saturdays.

The building is up, sheeted, and roofed. The columns are made for the drive-through, and the beams are set for the drive-through roof. Windows have been ordered and should arrive any day. Brick and siding are ordered and are ready to be delivered. Exterior doors will be picked up this week. The rough wiring is coming along well and we are scheduled to do insulation in mid-October. Our goal has been to have the building enclosed and ready for winter before the snow flies and things are looking good.

The church folks have been very gracious and have welcomed the builders wholeheartedly into the family. Builders are involved in the ministry as well as the social life of the church. The church ladies provide lunch for the builders every Saturday.

We had some moments of concern when the building inspector came the first time. In our previous telephone contacts with "Jane", she indicated that she wasn't enthused about our project being built by volunteers and when she arrived at the site, she definitely had a negative attitude. She made several threats, but in researching her issues after she left, we were in compliance with the laws and her threats were invalid. She had no issue with the quality of our work. Jane has been called to come back for inspections as appropriate since, but she has told us to "just keep going" and she has not returned. We are all praying for Jane and hope that when she returns, we will have an opportunity to minister to her.

We are also praying for the Meyer family. As we've mentioned, Justin has been working with us on the project. The family has friends in the church and would be best characterized as disillusioned Catholics. Justin's mom owns a bakery and she often sends donuts for the builder's breaks and they have provided lunches a couple times. They seem quite intrigued by the building ministry (living in trailers in WI through the winter), and the builders have had opportunity to minister. We are all praying that this family would come to salvation.



Respectfully submitted,

Keith & Sue Fitch
Building on a Solid Foundation
1 Corinthians 3:11