



United Church Structures

A proud member of Explorer Building Group

Vol. 4 Issue 2

NEWSLETTER

Summer 2000

Change of Address

We are continuing to receive lots of mail addressed to our old facility. Our forwarding order with the post office will be expiring soon. We would hate for any of your cards or letters to get lost in the mail so,

Please note our Address Change:
United Church Structures
2046 S. State Road Ste. B
Davison, MI 48423

Destination: Lakeview Terrace, CA Middleburg Heights,

On May 17th, our assembly crew boarded an airplane and set off for California. Sending our crew 2400 miles away from home is rare, as most of our projects are east of the Rocky Mountains. The good news: it was Sunny California. The bad news: temperatures beat 30 year record highs. Despite the 105° weather and challenging code requirements, specific to Los Angeles County, the crew was able to finish the 100' geodesic dome for the Lakeview Terrace American Baptist Church in eight days.
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Steve Murray A.I.A., out of San Bernadino, prepared the working
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- ◆ Visiting Michigan Projects
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Michigan Projects Update

During the last few months UCS employees were able to visit some of our more recent projects in Michigan. Follow them as they stop and see Sts. Simon and Jude, St. Francis of Assisi, Ross Bible Church, and Lakeshore Baptist Church.

Over the last couple of months UCS staff members have been able to visit UCS projects in Michigan. During their journeys, they had the opportunity to learn more about each of the four different congregations.



*Top: The finished sanctuary at Sts. Simon and Jude in Westland
Bottom: The platform at St. Francis of Assisi in Ray Twp.*

On April 27-28, Ann and Gerry went out to visit Southeastern Michigan projects. The first stop on their itinerary was Westland, to visit Sts. Simon and Jude Catholic Church. In June, 1999, the UCS crew was on-site to erect a 120' dome for the congregation there. They began holding Mass in October of 1999.

Ann and Gerry spent a considerable amount of time talking with several members of Sts. Simon and Jude, including building committee member Adeline McCusker and Mary, the church secretary. Unfortunately, Father Bechard was out of the office on the day of their visit.

The next morning, Ann and Gerry were out once again, this time heading east to Port Huron to visit Ross Bible Church. In November of 1999, the UCS crew had assembled a 110' octagon for the congregation. This structure was quite impressive since it was built with a 24' sidewall. The gable option adds character to the roof-line.

While visiting Port Huron, it was interest-

ing to learn that the church has a broadcasting tower for a Christian radio station on the church property. We really enjoyed spending time with construction manager Ray Kemp. He has truly dedicated a significant amount of time and effort to see the project for Ross Bible Church come together. The building should be finished in late summer or early fall. The congregation plans to kick off a celebration of the new sanctuary with a visit from Christian artist Steve Green on September 24, 2000.

After leaving Port Huron, Ann and Gerry drove south to visit St. Francis of Assisi's 90' dome. Our crew built the 90' geodesic dome in March of 1998. While there, they had the special opportunity of meeting with both Father O'Sullivan, and Jed Dingens, the architect for the St. Francis of Assisi project. While there, they learned that Father O'Sullivan is preparing to retire. All of us here at UCS would like to wish him the best as he pursues all of his future endeavours.

While on the road, Ann and Gerry took several pictures. In fact, Gerry was able to add 360° virtual tours of Sts. Simon and Jude, and St. Francis of Assisi to UCS's website. These virtual tours give you the opportunity to view the inside of a finished structure right from your computer. Check them out!

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For the latest, visit <http://www.explorerbuildinggroup.com>

drawings for the church. Barry Cayce of K.C. Construction was Lakeview Terrace's Construction Manager. Our crew enjoyed working with Mr. Cayce and his company. The guys send their thanks for the sub sandwiches. Unfortunately, the crew did not do much site-seeing in California. They wanted to return home for Memorial Day weekend, before heading back out onto the road.

On May 31, our crew began working on another project with Dan Cozad and our associates at Krumroy Construction of Akron, Ohio. This time we were in Middleburg Heights, Ohio, building an 80' octagon for the Pleasant Hills United Methodist Church. Steve Olson of Krumroy designed the church. Steve incorporated a cupola and gable option into the design of the octagon.

Our crew would like to thank Larry Chesmar, Krumroy's on-site supervisor, for his help in coordinating with the welder. Larry is running an efficient project and we would not be surprised if he beats his projected completion date.



*Top: Ross Bible Church as the finishing exterior details are applied
Bottom: Lakeshore Baptist Church during construction*

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On May 24, Dave McLane was able to make a trip to Grand Haven. Grand Haven, is on the beautiful west coast of Michigan. While on-site, Dave was able to meet with both Jerry McMaster and Jim Meek of the McMaster Corporation. Our crew assembled Lakeshore Baptist's 96' octagon this past February. They should begin worshipping in their facility in the late summer of 2000. This was our third Michigan project with the McMaster Corporation and Aslan Architecture.

Another Busy Fall

It seems we will be looking at another busy fall. We have a number of projects in the permit process, getting ready to begin site-work. We don't mean to skip over summer since it feels like it never lasts long enough, but we want to make people aware of our lead times. The busy building season creates longer lead times. If you are planning to take delivery within the next few months please keep in mind the lead time for the geodesic dome structure is 8-10 weeks and the lead time for the laminated arch structures such as our square, rectangle, hexagon, or octagon structure is 19-21 weeks.