

IN TOUCH

REBUILDING IS CHALLENGING

Dear Friend:

If you haven't checked-out the construction of building or remodeling a house lately, you might want to pass now – unless you enjoy sticker shock. Building right now is challenging. Rebuilding is challenging too. Our daughter and family live in Upper Arlington. Upper Arlington is out of annexation space, so all over the city perfectly livable homes built in the 1960's and 1970's are purchased, then demolished, then a \$600,000 to \$1,000,000 home is built on the lot. Crazy!

The term rebuilding is not limited to just the building industry, rebuilding can refer to a marriage, health, businesses, and even the church. As a fallout from COVID, churches across the world, to some extent, are rebuilding. We are realistic – Franklin Church has some rebuilding to do. Three months ago rebuilding conversations were a bit premature. On June 2nd, Governor DeWine has declared all health orders will be lifted and that even includes social distancing and people capacity. Now, for the church, the real work begins.

Rebuilding will be challenging – count on it! We have a biblical roadmap on what to expect, this can be found in Ezra 4-6. The Jewish people rebuilt the temple but they ran into challenging roadblocks, I will mention just a few. First, they encountered those “outside” the church/temple who infiltrated their ranks and pretended to want to help, but really intended to derail the project. Second, some people tried to stop the rebuilding by intimidation. This is a favorite tactic of the devil, he says, “The job is too big, rebuilding takes so much effort and you just do not have the energy anymore.” A third roadblock to rebuilding is exaggeration (again a big trick of Satan). Satan will fill your thoughts with things like, “It will take so long to rebuild – years and years, why even try.” He may say to you, “No one wants to work in the church anymore – you're the only one who really cares.”

All the above are lies, lies, and more lies. That's why Jesus called Satan the father of lies! Yes, the church is undergoing some rebuilding but how about you? Do you need prayer for your own rebuilding? If you do – I've prayed for you!

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Mike

Prayer Needs: Mike and Heather Slagle (CRU Missionaries), Dick Hickernell, Margaret Jewett, Belinda Lee, Lifewise Academy

Events:

- Sunday 9:00 am Bible Study – Prophecies About Jesus
- Friday, June 4, 7:00 pm Combined worship service with NACP
- Friday, June 5: Spend an hour getting to know a few Presbyterian church members! Help spread playground mulch.