

The House That Love Built

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You have heard of the “House that Ruth Built”—the baseball Yankee Stadium—well we just experienced an awesome labor of love that began in mid January and went till near the end of February!

All in all more than 30 people descended upon this place to renew this 60 year old house and make it into a new home for our family and the ministry.

It all began with the desire to “downsize”... an economic decision we needed to make.. After 3 years in the big, broad house on Westview we no longer needed the many bedrooms and spacious living spaces with Mercy now married living in Humble, Texas and Melody now in San Francisco with her sister Laila.

It was now Mom and Dad with the two youngest John age 17 and Miracle age 13. The first step was to make an office of the garage. Adria and I spent 2 whole days de-junking the garage—dividing the good from the bad and lo and behold... Ryan and his son Denver came by one day while we were out and laid an entire plywood raised floor in the old garage.

That got the ball rolling, with Laila texting all the children to come help. In the next week 14 of our own family descended upon us rooting out, tearing down and building new walls, plugs, wires, tile, wood etc... What an awesome event! Not only our family but friends of the ministry.

We thought perhaps we had one or two real friends that would stand with us—and lo and behold—more than 30 people come to help and only 2 of them were actually paid for their effort. Michael and Elizabeth sent us a good offering to get the ball rolling and with which we were able to buy most of the materials needed and what we couldn't buy Dennis and Co. came and brought!!!

Dennis pulled a big trailer into the driveway full of flooring materials laminate and tile! The answer also arrived with a professional tiler-Mike Vigliatti and flooring and carpenter specialists and long time friend John Olszewski. Dennis also had his nephew Steve here who is an all around help on the floors as well! (Many thanks to Mary Dennis who gave a good price on the materials.)

Paul gave us all faith and encouragement as he said anything could be done! Dishwasher...sure just cut out the cabinet here. Paint the kitchen cabinets inside and out....no problem! (Oh my what a project that was—taking all the paint off of the doors and hardware!) New stove....sure there is a used appliance store over there!

Kyle and Faith put in a sub-floor in two bedrooms! From scratch! Regina was busy rollin' out the paint team orders which consisted of Melody, Miracle, Laila, Sharon Cuoco and Mommy, while her dear husband Armin tackled an “Impossible Dream” in the 60 year old bathroom! He even had to replace the ceiling and some of the walls! How did he get that old tub so white?

Nicolas, an experienced electrician, put in all new circuits and plugs in the utility room and the office. His wife Sharon was a great inspiration and all around help!

Mary and Sawyer with John and Luke's help sanded the living room floor and the hall and finished it with polyurethane. Evie and Luke helped paint the kitchen as well.

As the first contingent had to return to their regular jobs the work continued with a pending deadline of February 1st only 2 1/2 weeks away. We wondered how can we make it.

Our dear landlord, Kyung, came by to see our progress on renovating the house and graciously granted us more time in the Westview house without rent so that we could finish! Whew! Now we could make it!

After 6 weeks of renovation we moved into the totally renewed little 3 bedroom cottage house! It is a “house that love built!”

And, oh by the way, in April we got an income tax return and the Lord led us to a nice Christian brother who put a new roof on the house for a very very low price, dear brother Alfonso!

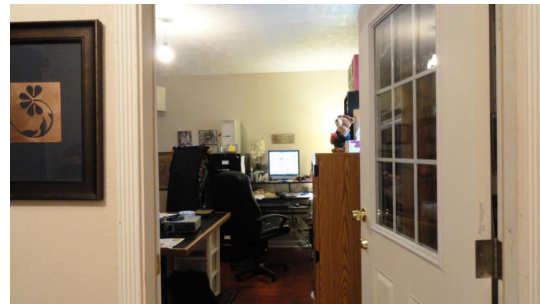
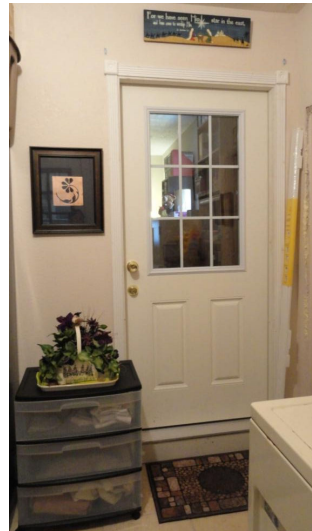
Thank you Lord for all of these blessings!



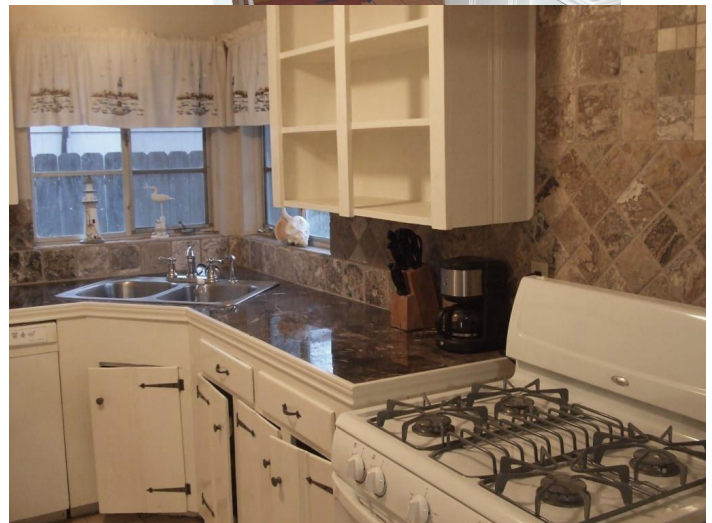
Renovation of our New Home!

Before...OW!

After...WOW!



Come & Dine!

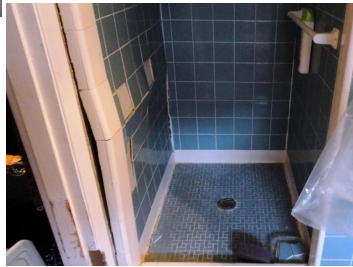
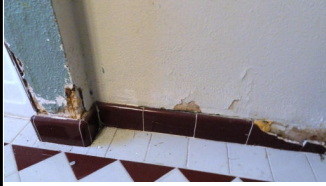
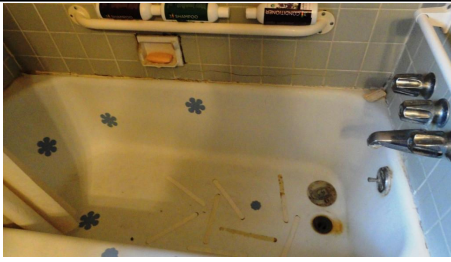


Office & Laundry Room

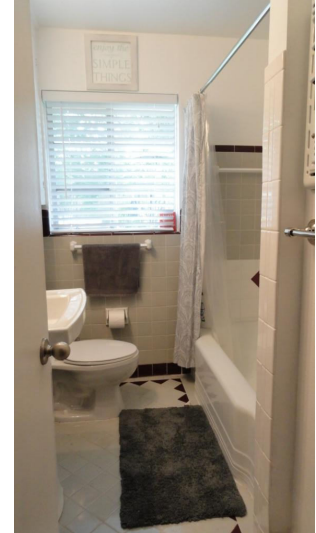
Kitchen

Bathrooms

Before



After



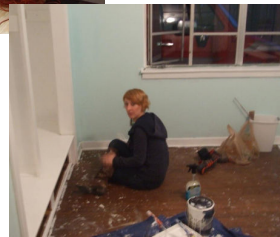
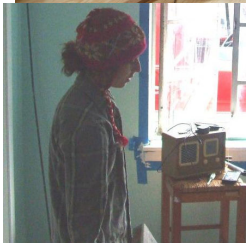
Voila!

Living Room



Beautiful!

Bedrooms



Just
Floored
us!



We kept busy running errands, returning parts, gathering needed items and trying to keep this crew fed as they worked like they were building the Lord's House!



To the Rescue! Dennis & Christopher Kirk with John Paul does it all!



Wood floors by Steve Kirk
(from New York)



Superb tile man! Mike Vigliatti. Check it out



Courtney Stephen Cuoco
3 Old High School Baseball buds get the ball rollin'



Fernando
&
Lydia
Tape and Float
Sheetrock



Stephen sandwiched between the Flyin' Olszewski Brothers
Gene & John



Stephen with Luke and Roy who moved a lot of furniture and the trampoline

Just a few of the pictures of our friends that helped on the house.

There were others we failed to take pictures of.....

Paul, Mercy, John, Miracle, Sharon Cuoco, Denver Courtney, Bruce Johnson, Armin, Gina, Kyle & Faith, Luke & Evie, Mary & Sawyer, Laila and Melody, John O's daughter