

Stoney Creek Church of Christ holds groundbreaking ceremony

BY GREG MILLER Staff Writer for The Elizabethton Star, Elizabethton, TN

A groundbreaking ceremony was held at 4p.m. Wednesday at the Stoney Creek Church of Christ.

Area congregations and congregations of the Churches of Christ throughout America helped us build this new facility for the Tri-Cities School of Preaching and Christian Development as well as an educational wing for the Stoney Creek Church of Christ," said Mr. Wesley Simons, an elder and the church's preaching minister.

The dimensions of the new 14,400-square-foot facility will 180' by 80.' "It will also have within it a TV and radio studio," Simons said. "It will be producing TV programming for the new Gospel Broadcast Network (GBN). We will be producing programming for World Video Bible School, as well as radio programming for different places."

Simons continued, "It will house a library for the school. It will house a library for the school. It will house various offices for the instructors, plus huge dining rooms for the school and for the congregation.

Rob Christian and Christian Contracting Co. will be the contractor for the building project. "He has basically agreed to build it at no profit to him," Simons said. "The facility is going to cost \$500,000."

The contractor, Simons says, "Is going to bring in out-of-town contractors to some degree to help with it. We'll be using some local contractors, as well, to help us.

The school has been meeting in the church building, but now we're moving to this new facility," Simons says. "We estimate three to four months to finish the project, once we undertake the project. The building process will start next week."

"We're looking forward to getting in our new facility, because we've been very crowded over in the church building, and this is going to be a real blessing to us," Simons says.

The new facility, Simons says, will make it possible for the school to serve more students. The school currently has nine full-time students and about nine part-time students. The new facility will be able to accommodate up to 15 students in each of its three classrooms.