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# Some Assembly Required: The CSI Newsletter

July - August - September 2023

Welcome to the 27th Edition of *Some Assembly Required!*



## Grace Lutheran Church

Above and Below: Picture of

Close up pictures of the pulpit. All items for this project were made in Shop 29 (Wood Shop at OCC). Great job!





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## 3 Questions With a CSI Employee - Alan Wessel, Shop 20 Supervisor

1. What is something not a lot of people know about working in the wood shop (or any of the shops from when you were a Utility Supervisor)? The difference between running one shop compared to utility is knowing one shop compared to running multiple shops at multiple institutions. Running Shop 20, it's like running two different shops. You have the Upholstery Shop and the Wood Shop. Each side comes with its own set of issues and perks. With taking over Shop 20, I had to learn more of the finer parts of running the shop. I had to pay attention more to the details of the master schedule deadlines. I had to make sure the supply chain was coming in. For example, Shop 20 puts out quite a few chair orders a week. I needed to focus on making sure the chair kits along with the upholstery so I went over the chairs. It's hard to do one without the other. On the other side was dealing with the workers. As a utility, I just had to make sure the inmates showed up to work. As a shop operator now, I had to make sure of the placement of the workers in the shop. I needed to know how many workers could work in the different locations of the shop. Certain areas require more workers than others.
2. What has been a project that stands out to you? In Shop 20, we are currently working on an order for Camp Ashland. We are in the process of making 456 wardrobe cabinets for them. Shop 20 has been known for refurbishing church pews and custom furniture. We have made a few custom desks and other types of furniture here and there, but nothing on this type of scale. To put this in perspective on what this project calls for, here are some of the items it calls for. 1,368 sheets of plywood, 456 sheets of fiberboard, and 230 gallons of stain.
3. What is your favorite part of your job at CSI? The best part about CSI is watching the workers become better people from where they have started. Taking a new hire worker and molding them into a better person. Having them apply their self and show themselves there is more to life than sitting in a housing unit. There is something about taking a raw piece of wood and making a bookcase for a school or library for everyone to see. Taking a rough-looking church pew and sending out a newly refurbished church pew for every churchgoer to see. They take pride in their work and what they do. The employees are another reason why I switched to CSI. I enjoy working around the crew we have. I have supervisors coaching me to become a better employee and representative of CSI. Being around a bunch of like-minded team members in wanting these guys to succeed in life.





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## Hastings High School Student Lounge

Below: Pictures of the Hastings High School student lounge. All lounge furniture made in Shop 16 (Sewing Shop at OCC) and Shop 29 (Wood Shop at OCC). Sitka chairs assembled in Shop 20 (Wood Shop at NSP.)







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## New CCC-L Uniforms

Above: Pictures of the new CCC-L female uniforms. These are going to be made in Shop 14 (Sewing Shop at NCCW).



## Congratulations!

Above: Picture of the Plate Production team at the NDCS Annual Awards. The team received the 2023 Innovation Award. Congratulations again!



## ACA Certification

Left: Picture of Jeremy receiving CSI's ACA certification in August. Congratulations to the whole CSI Staff on your hard work during this audit!

## Welcome to the Team!

John Schwichtenberg - Sales and Marketing Manager



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## **TSB and CSB Breakroom**

Above: Pictures of CSI products in an updated breakroom! The fixe leg tables were made in Shop 39 (Wood Shop at RTC), Sitka chairs assembled in Shop 20 (Wood/Chair Shop at NSP), and Shibby lounge chairs built in Shop 29 (Wood Shop at OCC) and Shop 16 (Sewing Shop at OCC).



## **Shout Out!**

Shout out to TSCI Laundry that processed 435,962 pounds of laundry during the month of August. That's an average of almost 19,000 pounds of laundry each day (23 working days in August.) The Driver's loaded, delivered, and unloaded 330,154 pounds (105,808 pounds of laundry was for TSCI).  
Great job TSCI Laundry!