

Fulfillment of a Dream

Ever since the sanctuary was constructed in 1956, some members of Bethany have dreamed of having stained glass windows. The windows were installed in August, 2006.

Each window has a colored border, with the central part made up of geometric shapes of different types of glass. In the upper part of each window is an etched symbol, designed by Bethany member R. V. James. Bethany's consulting designer, Deb Harvey, did the layout of the geometric designs, using the windows in the chapel (designed by Mary Lybarger and her daughter) as her guide. The windows were crafted and installed by Light Haus and their representative, Bonnie Shaw.

Bethany Window Designs

The insets in the windows depict events in the life of Jesus based on accounts in the Scriptures starting at the back left of the Sanctuary (nearest Fellowship Hall) and proceeding clockwise around the room to the back right window (nearest the elevator).

The announcement to Mary, *Luke 1:26-33*



The angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, with a message for a girl betrothed to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David; the girl's name was Mary. The angel went in and said to her, 'Greetings, most favored one! The Lord is with you.' But she was deeply troubled by what he said and wondered what this greeting might mean. Then the angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for God has been gracious to you; you shall conceive and bear a son, and you shall give him the name Jesus. He will be great; he will bear the title "Son of the Most High"; the Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David, and he will be king over Israel forever; his reign shall never end.'

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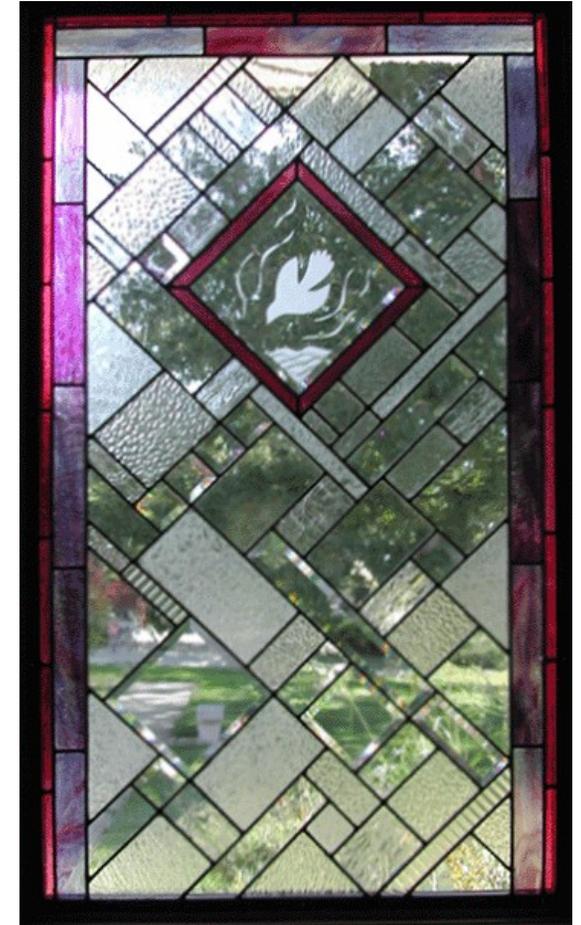
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The Sanctuary Windows



Bethany
United Methodist Church



The birth of Jesus, John 3:16; Matthew 2:1-3

God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, that everyone who has faith in him may not die but have eternal life.

Jesus was born at Bethlehem in Judea during the reign of Herod. After his birth astrologers from the east arrived in Jerusalem, asking, 'Where is the child who is born to be king of the Jews? We observed the rising of his star, and we have come to pay him homage.'



Jesus' baptism, Matthew 3:13-17

Then Jesus arrived at the Jordan from Galilee, and came to John to be baptized by him. John tried to dissuade him. 'Do you come to me?' he said; 'I need rather to be baptized by you.' Jesus replied, 'Let it be so for the present; we do well to conform in this way with all that God requires.' John then allowed him to

come. After baptism Jesus came up out of the water at once, and at that moment heaven opened; he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove to alight upon him; and a voice from heaven was heard saying, 'This is my Son, my Beloved, on whom my favor rests.'



Reading the scripture lesson, Luke 4:16-19

So he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and went to synagogue on the Sabbath day as he regularly did. He stood up to read the lesson and was handed the scroll of the prophet Isaiah. He opened the scroll and found the pas-

sage which says,

'The spirit of the Lord is upon me because he has anointed me; He has sent me to announce good news to the poor, To proclaim release for prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, To let the broken victims go free, To proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.'

He rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down and all eyes in the synagogue were fixed on him.



Choosing the disciples, Matthew 4:18-20

Jesus was walking by the Sea of Galilee when he saw two brothers, Simon called Peter and his brother Andrew, casting a net into the lake; for they were fishermen. Jesus said to them, 'Come with me, and I will make you fishers of men.' And at once they left their nets and followed him.



The sermon on the mount, Matthew 5:14-16

You are light for all the world. A town that stands on a hill cannot be hidden. When a lamp is lit, it is not put under the meal-tub, but on the lamp-stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house. And you, like the lamp, must shed light among your fellows, so that, when they see the good you do, they may give praise to your Father in heaven.

The sermon on the mount, Matthew 6:26, 28-31.



Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow and reap and store in barns, yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Consider how the lilies grow in the fields; they do not work, they do not spin; and yet, I tell you, even Solomon in all his splendor was not attired like one of these. But if that is how God clothes the grass in the fields, which is there

today, and tomorrow is thrown on the stove, will he not all the more clothe you? How little faith you have!



The good shepherd, John 10: 10-12, 14-15

'I have come that they may have life, and may have it in all its fullness. I am the good shepherd; the good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. I know my own sheep and my sheep know me - as the Father knows me and I know the Father - and I lay down

my life for the sheep.'



Healing, Matthew 8:2-3; 9:20-22

'And now a leper approached him, bowed low, and said, 'Sir, if only you will, you can cleanse me.' Jesus stretched out his hand, touched him, and said, 'Indeed I will; be clean again.' And his leprosy was cured immediately.

Just then a woman who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years came up behind him and touched the edge of his cloak. She said to herself, "If I only touch his cloak, I will be healed." Jesus turned and saw her. "Take heart, daughter," he said, "your faith has healed you." And the woman was healed from that moment.



Feeding the multitude, Matthew 13:14-20

When he came ashore, he saw a great crowd; his heart went out to them, and he cured those of them who were sick. When it grew late the disciples came up to him and said, 'This is a lonely place, and the day has gone; send the people off to the villages to buy themselves food.' He answered, 'There is no need for them to go; give them something to eat yourselves.' 'All we have here', they said, 'is five loaves and two fishes.' 'Let me have them', he replied. So he told the people to sit down on the grass; then, taking the five loaves and the two fishes, he looked up to heaven, said the blessing, broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples; and the disciples gave them to the people. They all ate to their hearts' content; and the scraps left over, which they picked up, were enough to fill twelve great baskets.



Communion, Matthew 26: 26-29

During supper Jesus took bread, and having said the blessing he broke it and gave it to the disciples with the words: 'Take this and eat; this is my body.'

Then he took a cup, and having offered thanks to God he gave it to them with the words: 'Drink from it, all of you. For this is my blood, the blood of the

new covenant, shed for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you never again shall I drink from the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in the kingdom of my Father.'



The crucifixion and resurrection, John 19:17-18; Matthew 28:6; Luke 24:50; Matthew 28:20

Jesus was now taken in charge and, carrying his own cross, went out to the Place of the Skull, as it is called (or, in the Jews' language, 'Golgotha'), where they crucified him, and with him two others, one on the right, one on the

left, and Jesus between them.

'I know you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; he has been raised again, as he said he would be.'

Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and blessed them with uplifted hands; and in the act of blessing he parted from them.

'And be assured, I am with you always, to the end of time.'