

BACKGROUND ON CENTRAL'S ASSORTED WORKS OF ART

Stained Glass Windows...there were over 100 such windows installed in 1913 as part of the original building project. All were the gift of Mr. and Mrs. H.S. Hull and made of glass from the Kokomo Opalescent Glass Co. of Kokomo, Indiana. Most remain in their original locations but many of the smaller windows around the chapel were recreated from original windows of the main building that were removed during expansion/renovation.

"Christ in Gethsemane" is the largest and remains in its original location above the choir loft in the sanctuary. It is a faithful facsimile of the original painting by Heinrich Hofman. The glass was made in Kokomo but painted in Europe. The skilled immigrant would send the glass back to his family studio in Italy, Germany or England, paint it and then return it to America for assembling. Since labor costs were higher in America, the family in Europe got the job. Sometimes the artists got bored and drew "doodles" into the glass. The Gethsemane window from a distance is a beautiful, colorful depiction of Christ in the Garden but behind the scenes within the glass it has pictures of jellyfish or octopi, sailboats, angels, faces, a doll, a mushroom and many things that look like knives. (How about that?)

"The Good Shepherd Window" (Chapel) was gifted by an anonymous parishioner in 1998 when the Chapel was constructed. The stained glass is based on the painting by Bernhard Plockhorst of the same name. The church had wanted something that would appeal to children as well as adults so...note the Petoskey stone and other Northern Michigan flora and fauna. It was designed and created by Shadetree Stained Glass Studios, Inc. of Petoskey. Central's windows are listed in the Michigan Stained Glass Census or Registry that was started in 1992 as a resource for those caring for Michigan's delicate works.

"The Dove Window" (West stairwell) Created by Centralite Paul Welch. It depicts the Holy Spirit (Dove) that descended on Christ at his baptism. The dove is also a symbol of peace. Originally located in the South stairwell now leading to the chapel and upstairs but moved to the West stairwell entrance during renovation. In 1965 Annette Kalmback gave this renovated window in memory of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Lardie. Mr. Lardie was on the Board of Trustees and **also the original building committee when the church was built.**

"In Memory of Grace, Child of Zimbabwe" (Main stairwell) Members of the 1998 VIM trip to the Old Mutari Orphanage, a 100 year old Mission located across from the current Africa University, in Eastern Zimbabwe donated this original African artwork in memory of "Baby Grace." The newborn child was abandoned in a ditch, lived long enough to touch the hearts of everyone before succumbing to Malaria and AIDS. 12 cottages house 8-10 children, a house mother and an "auntie"... where they live in safety until age 18 and/or start work or college. What we now call "Baby Fold" sends funds to the orphanage.

"Be Thy Brother's Keeper" (Main stairwell) Painted by Walt Whippo in the 1930's using a toothbrush to get a "pointillism" effect. Whippo was the inventor of the IBM Selectric rotating-ball typewriter but was not compensated for his invention...he quit engineering and took up painting. On indefinite loan to CUMC in celebration of the life and service of Pastor Dean and Jan Bailey by Tai and Toni (Laura) Hiebert of Interlochen in respect of their Mennonite heritage. (Complete details are listed next to the artwork)

Stare at the **Face of Christ** (Pop Art in South youth room) Painted by Tom Fountain