

Stained Glass at the Community Church

COMMUNITY CHURCH OF SEBASTOPOL 125TH ANNIVERSARY-QUASQUICENTENNIAL 1889-2014

Each month of this 125th Anniversary year, the Quasquicentennial Committee will include some bit of interesting church history in the monthly newsletters. This month you will learn all about the large stained glass window in the sanctuary.

The stained glass window in this church was made by Hogan Stained Glass Studios from Los Gatos, California in 1967. It was constructed in basically the same manner as those made in the twelfth century churches of Europe. Hand blown glass was used and bound by “came lead”, however, painting and firing have been omitted to allow the color to show its full intensity.

The basic design and overlapping shapes seemed complimentary to the architecture and tend to unify the design through the two main divisions [between the narthex and the sanctuary].

The shape itself suggested the overall theme: In the top section, (1) the hand of God is emitting a (2) flow of Grace (as indicated by the central yellow area) to the (3) Holy Spirit in the form of a Dove in the center section. This flow (4) continues toward the bottom where man (5) is depicted in his environment. The shapes of trees (6) and a man are suggested rather than stated because they are not a particular tree or person, but anyone and everyone who receives this flow of Grace. The brown shape (7), in turn, symbolizes a unified whole.

The design is in keeping with contemporary standards, and contains a degree of both complexity and ambiguity. Hopefully this will cause you, as the observer, to pause and wonder about the beauty and its related mysteries found in God’s world.

This was taken from church history papers, author unknown.

