

CHARLES J. CONNICK : DESIGNER AND WORKER IN STAINED AND
LEADED GLASS : NINE HARCOURT STREET, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

City or Town Hinsdale, State Ill. No. 2047
Date of act on by Dec. 11, 1938
Completion Nov. 24, 1938
Church Union Congregational Church.
Donor and Mr. Wade Fetzer, representative, 135 So. LaSalle St. Chicago -
Address W.A. Alexander and Co. Tel: Franklin 7300.
Quality of \$400 ea. pair; or \$1200
Glass for 3 groups.
Architect Congregational. (\$50. per foot).
Denomination Congregational.
and Minister Rev. Wilfrid A. Rowell, D.D. Pastor.
Footage 8 feet in each of 3 groups. sight
Sizes, full
Ventilators None Set by
Ground floor. Narthex. (4 feet between groups).
Position in Church 3 groups of windows in front, or west elevation.
Height from floor 3'3" Protec- Groove Stone
tion Glass Rabet Wood
Points of compass West.
Quality of light
Inscription None
Design wanted Staging
Shipping address Blue-prints Received
Bill to Templets Wallin
Photos of Cartoons Mailed
General Information These windows are beneath the large window made by us.
Mr. Fetzer wrote: "It would seem to me that the windows in the narthex should be of such coloring as would not darken, more than at present, this room. The present brown stained glass I should think would have as much darkening effect as would art glass windows. In any event, the room should not be darkened more than it now is, and, if anything, should be brightened."
C.J.C. wrote... "I think you are quite right about keeping the narthex windows fairly light, and the balcony windows could be in harmony with the surrounding windows, although, of course, with a design acknowledging their particular position and individual shape."

For addresses of those to be notified as window progresses, see other side.

See sketch showing how the stair landings cut across in front of the windows in the bays on either side of the narthex. (Sent by Harford Field, Architect.)

February 21, 1938, We wrote Mr. Fetzner: "For the three small groups in the narthex, I think we might wisely choose from among the Fruit of the Spirit, as Saint Paul has enumerated them in his Epistle to the Galatians. Two of them - Faith and Charity (or Love) - are now symbolized in the large window above, devoted to the Cardinal Virtues, Faith, Hope and Charity. Not long ago, I completed a group quite similar in theme in Little Bóar's Head, ... Here the Virtues are symbolized through celebrated characters whose lives were expressive of these qualities. Joy and Peace might well be the central subjects, with Goodness and Patience at one side balanced by Mildness and Continency. These windows should be kept light, but should be treated in delicate detail in consideration of their position near the eye.

~~I believe Mr. Skinner spoke of my group of windows in the Chapel of the Boston University School of Theology, where little vestibule windows are placed in a very similar position and well serve as the only narthex illumination... They are devoted to Truth, Worship and Service - themes which might well be symbolized in the stair-landing windows opening from the narthex.~~

~~I think that the field of these windows could be treated quite simply in rectangular or diamond leaded patterns of light colored glass, which is known as off-whites, with a border of pure color, central figures and related medallions in the side lancets - all in rich brilliant color."~~

~~(Sent photos to illustrate this idea. - Peace Wd, Quincy; Springboro, First Beatitude; Chicago, S. Chrysostom's, Hinde; Phila, St. Anthony; Philadelphia, Window in St. Anthony Ch; Dobbs Ferry, Masters, Corridor, Panel from Eliz B. Masters Mem.).~~

Feb. 24. Mr. Fetzner wrote: "One thought is offered for your consideration; namely, that the three groupings of 2 windows each in the narthex are not visible all of them at the same time. The most conspicuous of the 3 openings is the center one which is directly opposite the main aisle of the church. Obviously, the recessional down the main aisle places this one group of 2 narthex windows in a direct line of vision. We were wondering what you would think of using windows similar to the two outside windows shown on the frontispiece of your Union Chapel booklet. If you will visualize the elimination of the center window you will observe that the two outside windows placed along side of one another would give the effect of the two angels facing the center. These would be rather in general character similar to the large balcony window, although not near enough to make any effect on one another. We also think that the window on the front of your booklet "Chapel Windows", also the window near the front, "Worship" are extremely beautiful. The one at the rear of the book "Service" is equally lovely, but we have the quotation "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me", appearing, as you may recall, in our large north transept window. For this reason I do not think you would want to have this biblical quotation repeated in two windows."

Designs for three west windows in the narthex,
 Union Congregational Church, Hinsdale.

The dominating theme of these three double windows is taken from the Epistle to the Galatians - where in the fifth chapter, twenty-second and twenty-third verses, Saint Paul enumerates the Fruit of the Spirit. The large window in the balcony above includes two of them, Faith and Charity (or Love), in the group devoted to the Cardinal Virtues.

The central window in the narthex, which has been most fully developed in the sketches, is devoted to the Virtues - or Fruit - of Joy and Meekness, symbolized through devout characters whose lives were expressions of these qualities. Saint John the Evangelist represents Joy: "I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth". (3 John 4). He is given the traditional symbols of the Evangelists - the book and pen. In the medallion below is a symbol of his Vision of the Bride, as related in the twenty-first Chapter of his Revelation.

The companion figure represents the Blessed Virgin who holds a symbol of the Christ Child, and in the medallion below is the Annunciation, as a symbol of meek acceptance of God's Will: "Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word". (Saint Luke I:38).

For the window at the left, we have suggested symbols of Temperance and Abstinence, choosing Saint John the Baptist for Temperance: "For he shall be in the sight of the Lord, and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink, - shall be filled with the Holy Ghost". (Saint Luke I:15). He holds a scroll of the Lamb of God with the cruciform banner, while in the base below he is represented baptizing Christ. (Saint Luke 3:21).

Goodness is personified by his mother, Elizabeth, the wife of Zacharias: "And they were both righteous before God, walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless". (Saint Luke I:6). The medallion below symbolizes the Visitation. (Saint Luke I:40).

The balancing window is devoted to Peace and Gentleness through the characters of Simeon and Anna. The Just and Devout Simeon holds the Christ Child in his arms: "Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word". (Saint Luke 2:29). Below is a symbol of the Presentation in the Temple. (Saint Luke 2:27).

Gentleness is represented by the prophetess, Anna, "Which departed not from the temple, but served God with fastings and prayers night and day". (Saint Luke 2:37) She holds a book of prayer, and in the medallion she is represented giving thanks likewise unto the Lord.

Through the field, forming an outline and background for the medallions and figures, are growing silvery vines patterned on rich blue. In the central window, these take the form of the fleur de lys or lily, symbol of purity; and ⁱⁿ the one at the left, the vine is the grape, symbol of Christ and His followers and of the Blessed Sacrament. At the right, the Pomegranate symbolizes the Unity of the Church.

It is our thought to keep these windows light and brilliant - though colorful - and they would be treated in delicate detail in consideration of their position near the eye.