

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

City or Town Upper Montclair, State N.J. No. 2472
Church Union Congregational Church, Date of Sept. 15, 1944.
Donor and Chairman of Comm: Mr. J.W. Hansen, care of Iselin-Jefferson Co., 90
Address Worth St., N.Y.C. CONOVER WINDOW. \$1170 (\$19.50).
Quality of \$1500 for 5 panels -
Glass \$25. per foot; See below*
Architect.....
Denomination.....
and Minister George C. Vincent, D.D. Minister.
Footage 12' ea panel - 60' in the five. sight
Sizes, full.....
Ventilators in second and fourth panels Set by.....
Position in Church South window nearest chancel. Aisle
Height from floor 47 inches Protec- Groove Stone
tion Glass Rabbet Wood
Points of compass.....
Quality of light South. This window gets best light.
Inscription to be a simple one in English:
"In memory of Louise F. Conover, old windows are to be removed and placed
(See letter from Dr. Vincent, June 14, 1944) of June 26, 1944 from Mr. Gilman
Design wanted and June 30). about examining Tiffany W&A and
repairing up to \$100. Scaffold
ing provided by church.
Shipping address *4 side panels, \$250 ea; central one Blue-prints
\$300 - total \$1300 for the group if Received.....
all placed at one time. If one or two panels were made separately,
the cost would be increased about 10%. If more than one complete
Bill to group were made together, this would be reduced about 10% Templers
Photos of Cartoons Mailed.....

General Information It has been suggested that we keep the price down to \$1200
but we think we might go to \$1500. The idea is to treat the present block of
five panels as five separate but harmonious windows, each one of which could
be installed at a cost of \$200 or \$300.

The church is a sort of square, dark interior finish, with a lot of dark, heavy
beams. The single round headed window on the north is not to be considered
now as this is being held for some. There are 5 groups of 3-panel windows -
3 on south and 2 on north, one either side of the round-headed window. The
only figured window is the big 3-lancet round-headed chancel group by Tiffany,
designed in medallions and inclined to be better than the usual Tiffany
windows. Although some of it is pretty washy, it has fine passages of pure
color, reds and blues.

They hoped that in the design of the glass we could accent an arch shape
in the design of the panel to sort of tie them in with the round-headed aisle

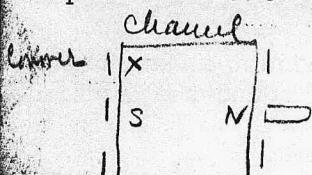
For addresses of those to be notified as window progresses, see other side.

window and the similar type in the chancel. Also there is the round arch of the chancel wall and nearly round arches of the aisles. The church seems to be a good stone structure but with no particular period or relation to any style, unless it might be the Morris and Mission Chair period.

Dr. Vincent has in mind over-all patterns with practically no figures and perhaps accents of symbols or small medallions. He liked the color photograph of our light but colorful grisaille windows and thought that was along his ideas.

June 25, Dr. Vincent wrote about his ideas. "First of all, in the statement of faith of Congregationalism there is a rather interesting definition of the mission of the church, and I think the phrases which occur there might conceivably be used as the basis of the symbolic windows. I am enclosing a leaflet which contains this statement - (See leaflet with letter.) SECOND. Our church has always had considerable interest in missionary work. Among the fields and institutions to which we have made fairly generous contributions are the American University at Beirut, Talladega College for negroes in Talladega, Alabama, the Ryder Memorial Hospital in south-eastern Puerto Rico, a church and community work at Evarts, Harlan Co., Kentucky, a work of folk education for backward peoples carried on by Dr. Frank Laubach in various parts of the world, missionary work in the Philippine Islands and a work among students in the universities of West China to which students have gone since the war with Japan. THIRD: this church has had something of a reputation for its work among children and young people. We have children's and young people's choirs, children's and young people's service organizations as well as a rather fine church school carrying on a work of religious education; NEXT: you may be interested to know that our church has had considerable interest in what is sometimes called the social application of religion and has interested itself in forums, projects of international friendship, etc. FINALLY: this congregation has had a rather interesting position in this suburban community. It is truly a "union" church in that it has brought together people of many different religions and educational backgrounds. Quite conceivably one group of panels might represent something of the varied interests represented here: - the engineer, the teacher, the musician, the banker or business executive, the social service worker, the industrialists or factory executive, the chemist, physicist or research worker. Also we are happily blessed with a lot of the good, common, ordinary folk who do a good day's work as clerks, housewives, accountants, factory workers, etc. From this latter group come many of the people who might like to have their relatives remembered in memorial windows; and while they could not afford anything elaborate, I myself would be very much interested in any group of memorials placed by such people. IN GENERAL, this church has tried to combine a rather high grade service of worship and teaching with a pretty strong emphasis on the application of Christian teaching to all sides of life; and I think that some series of windows that would suggest this combination of interests might be especially appealing to our people. THE DONOR OF THE FUND which is now at our disposal had in mind a memorial to his mother who worked a good deal with the older women of this church in sewing, knitting, Red Cross work and the meetings of the woman's guild for fellowship, study and worship. The Dorcas window (Maplewood) might fit in rather well with this particular donor's interest."

To the above C.J.C. REPLIED! Both Old and New Testaments are full of grand subjects for such windows. I am thinking of the Psalms and Isaiah and of the parables - along with Martha, Dorcas, the Beatitudes, the 25th chapter of St. Matt, and the 13th Chapter of first Corinthians."



Extracts from letter written to Mr. Hansen about the design.

It is my thought to make this entire composition of five panels a Woman's Window - her work and influence in the church.

The general design motif is developed in what might be called "colorful grisaille". Patterns of growing forms enrich the field and outline the medallions, developing significant symbolism. The foliated patterns suggest the Parable of the Vine and its related symbol, the Tree of Life. The conventionalized border of cloud forms accented with stars, recall the heavenly reaches and the reward of steadfast faith.

While the design suggests a colorful jewel-like quality, it is carefully planned to avoid the exclusion of light but to retain the clarity and brilliance necessary to admitting an abundance of illumination.

As a central motif I have taken Dorcas, with text on the open book from the Ninth Chapter of Acts, thirty-sixth verse: "This woman was full of good works and almsdeeds which she did."

The figure of Dorcas is robed in blue, traditional color of heavenly contemplation, with accents of white and gold - color symbols of purity and treasures in heaven. She holds a small garment with which to clothe the poor.

She is placed in a field of rich ruby, color symbol of divine love.

Smaller related medallions through the side panels suggest woman's work in the church and the community and they may be thought of as modern applications of the Beatitudes which Our Lord taught as the way of true Christian life.

The central medallions at right and left of the dominant figure suggest visiting the sick and helping the poor through the agency of the Red Cross.

Above are services to the church, - tending the candles and providing flowers.

In the outer panels are symbols of woman's work in sewing and knitting; and above, writing and study.

In the base of each panel a space is provided for a memorial inscription.

For the other windows I have thought of related themes to round out the great work of the church in the community and in modern society in general. For instance, I have thought of one window to be devoted to the Mission of the Church, with perhaps Saint Paul as the central figure, with medallions devoted to preaching - proclaiming the gospel - the worship of God, labor for the progress of knowledge, the promotion of justice, the reign of peace, the realization of human brotherhood, and the great principles of freedom and unity.

Another group, dominated by the significant figure of Saint James,

would be the Missionary window - with symbols of the work of missionaries, perhaps suggesting some actual personages in this field.

I should like to make one group a Children's window, with the figure of the Young Christ at the center and ~~rest~~ symbols related to the development of young Christian lives and possibly incidents related to childhood and celebrated children of both the Old and New Testaments.

Another group, with Saint Peter at the center, could well be devoted to the Social Application of Religion and the position of the church in the community, - with medallions symbolizing the works and occupations of members, - businessmen, factory workers, doctors, lawyers, accountants and the rest.

The large round-headed window could very appropriately be designed as a war memorial and I would want to devote a good deal of prospective study to its subject and arrangement.

I am convinced that a plan of this kind, carefully developed, would present through your windows a most significant record of the church's mission and place in contemporary Christian life, and would serve as an inspiration to all who come within the range of their color and light."