

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

City or Town Seattle, State Wash. No. 3104
Church The Mount Baker Park Community Pres. Ch. Date of Completion Nov. 30, 1950 (Thanksg)
Donor and Correspondence with John A. Duncan, M.D. Medical and Dental Building,
Address Seattle 1, Washington \$580 1/16/57
Architect Manson O. Bennett, of John Graham, Archt., Quality of 480 f.o.b. Seattle.
Dexter Horton Bldg. Seattle. Glass 250 per foot.
Denomination Presbyterian.
and Minister
Footage 5 1/2 feet in panel to be made. sight Sizes, full
Ventilators Set by
Position in Church Aisle, nearest chancel on north side.
Height from floor Protection Glass Groove Rabbet Stone Wood
Points of compass
Quality of light North.
Inscription None in the glass.
Design wanted Design made. Staging
Shipping address Blue-prints Received
Bill to Templets
Photos of Cartoons Mailed
General Information "The Ascension"
Church is of early Christian type architecture, and has 12 nave windows.
Each window has a plain center panel, and it is this area that the stained
glass memorial windows are to be inserted. See Kodachromes of the
exterior of the church and the interior, showing the windows. Also see
samples of glass in the windows now. Because of the existing glass in
which these panels will be placed, medallions should be of light colored
glass and simple in design, rather than the rich elaborate Gothic windows.
*Dr. Duncan's residence is 3350 Shoreland Drive, Seattle, Tel. RA.2768; office
Eliot 8353.
Subjects to be arranged to proceed from the chancel toward the back of

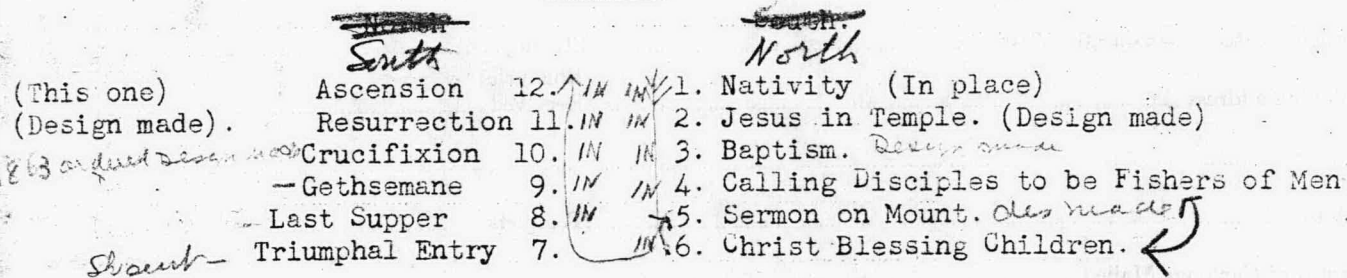
For addresses of those to be notified as window progresses, see other side.

Following is the list of windows (subjects), submitted with our letter of June 14, 1950

1. Nativity (in place)
2. Jesus in the Temple. *Design made # 3020*
3. The Baptism
4. Calling the Disciples to be Fishers of Men. *IN*
5. Sermon on the Mount. *#3989*
6. Christ Blessing Little Children.
7. Triumphal Entry.
8. The Last Supper. *IN*
9. Christ in the Garden. *IN*
10. The Crucifixion - *ordered 3863*
11. The Resurrection - *Design made # 3021*
12. Ascension. *# 3104 - Design made - Contract sent IN*

the church on the right-hand side as one faces the chancel, returning toward the chancel on the left side. They would then read from left to right as one stands in the center of the nave, and the two great first and last events, The Nativity and The Ascension, would come nearest the chancel. (See photograph of Nativity window in place.)

Chancel.



Nov. 22, 1950 - sent revised design: "...we have tried to avoid the formal design that characterizes the present panel, working for more natural attitudes that will harmonize more closely with the Nativity panel. We have also introduced more color, and altogether we feel that it will take its place in direct relation to the opposite panel."

Two sets of the sketches for your window panels for the Mount Baker Park Community Church have just been completed, and we are sending them to you in the attached package.

These are the north and south windows, third from the chancel in each case; the one on the south side being devoted to The Baptism of Our Lord by Saint John the Baptist, and the one on the north to the Crucifixion.

We are sending three more sketches herewith, - The Sermon on the Mount, the Last Supper and Gethsemane. I think they are self explanatory. *#3989*

October 10, 1950.

John A. Duncan, M.D.,
Medical and Dental Building,
Seattle 1, Washington.

Dear Dr. Duncan:

We were all immensely pleased with the appearance of your window here in the studio. It was sent by express addressed direct to the Church last week, so should reach you soon.

We included two sets of flat reinforcing bars in case you wish to change the first window.

We are eager to know how your installation costs work out with the present plan in comparison to the earlier one. If they still seem too high, I think we may be able to suggest another way that might cost less.

Our friend, Mr. Nyson, who drove me around Seattle is not back in business, but he is in touch with men who are familiar with this type of work.

We shall send you some more color sketches soon.

With cordial greetings,

Sincerely yours,

OES/rmh.

3104
MT Baker
Prishy

JOHN A. DUNCAN, M. D.
MEDICAL AND DENTAL BUILDING
SEATTLE 1

November 13, 1950

3104
Mt Baker

Mr. Orin E. Skinner, President
Charles J. Connick Associates,
Nine Harcourt Street,
Boston 16, Massachusetts.

Dear Mr. Skinner:

The second stained glass window arrived for the Mount Baker Park Community Church about ten days ago and was installed by Fullers at that time. It was dedicated last Sunday.

I am sorry to inform you that there was a general disappointment on the part of the church congregation with this second window and it has put me in somewhat of a spot. There were two donors prepared to install additional windows as soon as your sketches arrived but both feel a little reticent after seeing this second window.

As far as I can gather the chief criticisms seem to be that the new window is made of a different type of glass than the first one, the coloring is not as good, and that it appears rather lifeless. Personally, I feel that these people are probably right. The new window is made of transparent glass so that the outside trees and houses can be seen through it. It is almost completely transparent. The first window is translucent but the glass is of a frosty nature and not transparent. The richness and color appears to be lacking in the new window that aroused so much enthusiasm in the first one.

Now Mr. Skinner, as you probably recall, Mr. Bennett and I chose Connicks to do this work so that there would be a continuity and a similarity in the windows as they are completed through the years. With the tremendous difference, and apparent inferiority, of the second window the enthusiasm for putting in new windows has been considerably dampened and some of the blame seems to rest on us. That makes no difference to me but I am rather disappointed that the project will not be continued as fast as we had planned. Perhaps you can give me some explanations in this matter, particularly the marked difference in characteristics between the first and second windows. I am naturally sorry to report this dissatisfaction.

Sincerely yours,

John A. Duncan
Dr. John A. Duncan

JAD/jm

3104 MT Baker

OES
Answer to
Dissatisfaction
or 2nd
Window For
MT Baker Problem
Cherem

November 15, 1950.

John A. Duncan, M.D.,
Medical and Dental Building,
Seattle 1, Washington.

Dear Dr. Duncan:

Your letter came as a great surprise and shock to us, as we had liked the second panel very much, and were proud of it.

But, we have just been examining our Kodachromes of the two panels, and even in these reproductions, we can see the basis for your criticism. The Ascension panel is lighter, and the white background, although constructed of just as fine glass as the background of the Nativity is, no doubt, clearer.

We think of the Ascension as the most brilliant theme in the events of Christ's life, and we deliberately chose the glass to best interpret the theme. The design is more formal, also in recognition of the theme, while we think of the Nativity in a gentler and more intimate mood.

Both panels were designed by the same artist, cartooned, cut and painted by the same craftsmen. We like the second one even better than the first, and the latter is in no way inferior to the former, either in design, material or execution.

Of course we do not want them all to look alike, but we do want balance and harmony throughout the group. We think the second one would eventually take its place to excellent purpose in the entire series, and believe that the congregation would grow to like it. But we had better not wait for that.

We are very sorry to have put you in this awkward position, and we should like to design and make a new panel in place of this one. I am confident that your comments will enable us to arrive at a solution of the problem that will be entirely pleasing to the congregation.

With your permission, we shall complete and install it, at our own expense, just as soon as possible. And then we should like to have the other one back for exhibition purposes. Every season we have a number of shows in various museums and galleries throughout the country, and we shall welcome this panel for that purpose.

We have more designs for you well under way, and look forward to sending them before very long.

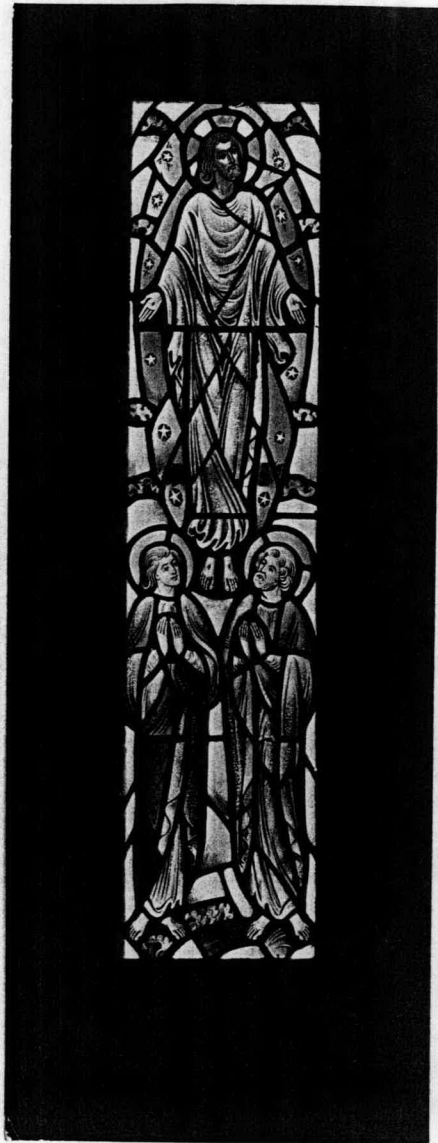
Sincerely yours,

OES/rmh.

Excellent
Explanation

Power

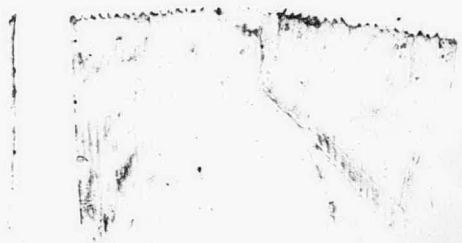
3104 MT Baker
Prism



1st window
Ascension -
church unhappy



2nd window



November 22, 1950.

3104
MT Baker

John A. Duncan, M.D.,
Medical and Dental Building,
Seattle 1, Washington.

Dear Dr. Duncan:

We have restudied the Ascension Window, and think it would be well to show you the rough sketch before we proceed with the full sized drawings.

We have tried to avoid the formal design that characterizes the present panel, working for more natural attitudes that will harmonize more closely with the Nativity panel.

We have also introduced more color, and altogether we feel that it will take its place in direct relation to the opposite panel.

As we said, we do not want them all to look alike, but we do want a basic harmony that will result in perfect unity when all are in place.

With your approval and the return of this sketch, we shall proceed with the development of the new panel at once, so that you may have it early in the new year.

With cordial greetings,

Sincerely yours,

OES/rmh.

JOHN A. DUNCAN, M. D.
MEDICAL AND DENTAL BUILDING
SEATTLE 1

December 15, 1950

3104 Mt Baker

Mr. Orin E. Skinner, President,
Charles J. Connick Associates,
Nine Harcourt Street,
Boston 16, Massachusetts.

Dear Mr. Skinner:

Thank you for your letter of November 22, with the enclosed sketch. I have delayed answering because I wanted to make sure there was sufficient disapproval of the new window to warrant the trouble of its replacement.

After discussing the matter individually with a number of the responsible members of the congregation it would seem wise to replace it if we are to continue with the series. The new sketch which you propose seems to meet with general approval.

I am sure you realize how reluctant I am to ask you to construct a new panel. I do feel that you should submit your statement for the Ascension Window now to partially recompense you for your work. If you will do so a check will be forthcoming immediately.

As mentioned before we are most anxious to receive the designs of the other windows since we would like to place orders as rapidly as possible. We have one positive order which will probably be placed next month for the second window in the series and another one seems definite.

Thank you again for your cooperation in our project.

Sincerely yours,

John A. Duncan

Dr. John A. Duncan.

JAD/jm

JOHN A. DUNCAN, M. D.
MEDICAL AND DENTAL BUILDING
SEATTLE 1

March 30, 1951

*Ascension
window.
3104 Mt Baker*

Mr. Orin E. Skinner, President,
Charles J. Connick Associates,
Nine Harcourt Street,
Boston 16, Massachusetts.

Dear Mr. Skinner:

The new Ascension replacement panel arrived and was installed in time for Easter Sunday. It is a beautiful window and the comments have been nothing but complimentary. We certainly wish to thank you in the way you have handled this matter.

We have not as yet received the contract for the panel being installed by Dr. and Mrs. Smith of "Christ Blessing The Little Children". I would appreciate your sending it soon. I will have the officers of the church sign it and mail it back to you.

Enclosed is a check for \$150.00 (one hundred and fifty dollars) from the Mount Baker Park Community Church to be the first payment toward the second window in the series entitled "Jesus In The Temple". This represents according to our understanding Jesus in the Temple at the age of about twelve and is being sponsored by Mr. and Mrs. Gus Sundfelt in memory of a deceased son. We would appreciate your developing this window as rapidly as possible.

Mr. Skinner, there is some misunderstanding regarding the arrangement of windows which I would like to call to your attention. The first window is on the north side. I believe this is also known as the epistle side since the lectern is on this side of the chancel. The last window is on the south side next to the chancel and I believe this is the gospel side since the pulpit is on the south. It is our understanding that the first six windows would be on the north side or the right side facing the chancel and the last six would be on the south side.

In the sketches, however, it seems that some mistakes have been made in their labeling. For instance, beneath the sketch of the Crucifixion is a note that this is the design

for the north aisle window third from the chancel where it would seem right to call it the design for the south aisle window third from the chancel. Further, the sketch of "Christ in the Garden" is labeled window from the fourth on the epistle which we believe is the north side. In our plan of the series, however, this one is the fourth from the last and should be the design of the window fourth from the chancel on the gospel side. There are similar discrepancies in the other sketches hence I would appreciate your making a list of the entire series together with their exact proposed location so there can be no mistakes. After you have submitted such a list I will retitile these sketches if necessary.

We wish to thank you again for your kind cooperation in preparation of this series and as is quite obvious the interest is high and orders for more windows seem likely within the near future.

Sincerely yours,

John A. Duncan
Dr. John A. Duncan

JAD/jm

OES Ap. 24 '51

" We are glad to have
your verification of the
points of the compass
and shall correct our records
to coincide w your design "

" The results will justify the delay " OES -

April 6, 1951.

3104 Mt Baker

John A. Duncan, M.D.,
Medical and Dental Building,
Seattle 1, Washington.

Dear Dr. Duncan:

We are delighted to know that you are pleased with the new Ascension panel. The old one has arrived safely, and we are very glad to have it.

We are enclosing the usual agreement for the Smith panel, "Christ Blessing Little Children".

We thank you for the check in the amount of one hundred fifty dollars in first payment on the "Christ in the Temple" window, the Sundfelt Memorial. No doubt this sketch is being returned, and we shall put forward both windows as rapidly as possible. I think we can better the date indicated in the agreement forms.

I had thought from our earlier correspondence, that we were clear about the arrangement and relative position of the windows, but now I think we may have the exposure wrong. The enclosed diagram may serve to settle any questions. Will you please check the points of the compass and let us know if these are the positions in which the windows are placed so far. The general custom is to call the north or left side, as you face the altar the Gospel side, and the south or right side the Epistle side.

If we are turned around, will you please mark the diagram as it should be, so that we will be perfectly clear about it from now on?

With cordial greetings,

Sincerely yours,

OLS/rmh.
Enclosures.