



The Stained Glass Windows *First United Methodist Church of Las Vegas, NM*

A central feature of the sanctuary is the collection of stained glass windows which draw attention to events in the life of Christ and other images of religious significance. The windows were designed and created for the church by the Jacoby Art Glass Company of St. Louis, Missouri. This company was organized in 1896, incorporated in 1907, and operated under that name until sold in 1970.

The Commissioning and Design

The contract for the windows was issued in August 1922, and it provided for the production of a total of 44 windows: Three large images that dominate the sanctuary and 41 smaller panels placed throughout the church

Two of the large images are reproductions of works by German artist Heinrich Hofmann (1824–1911):

The south window is based on his 1890 painting Christ in Gethsemane, acquired by John D. Rockefeller for the Riverside Church in New York.

The north window is inspired by Christ at Jacob's Well (also known as Christ the Teacher), though the date of the original is unknown.

The third main window, referred to as the "crowning feature" of the design, is based on "He is Risen" by Bernhard Plockhorst (1825–1907). The date of this work is also unknown, but the original resides in the Belton House Collection, Lincolnshire, UK.

Each of the three primary windows is adorned with symbols related to its theme, as noted in a transcript from a 1922 Optic article.

Financials and Legacy

The total cost for the 44 stained glass windows was \$2,000.

Relocation: When the Education Building was added in the 1950s, three windows from that wall were moved to the north side of the new structure (specifically, the Pastor's Office).

It is believed that some of the windows were memorial dedications by church families. For example: The "Star of Bethlehem" in the small south window commemorates the infant daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Fred Lewis. Further details about other dedications have not yet been located.

Other Historic Features

Light Fixtures: Supplied by Albert Sechrist Company, Denver – \$800.

Balcony Seats: Installed by A.H. Andrews Company, Chicago – "Andrews Opera Chairs", \$380.22.

Pews: From the Garnett Church Furniture Company, Garnett, Kansas – \$1,268.73.

Bell: Currently in use, purchased in 1882 for the original frame church (no additional details currently available).

"He is not here; for He is risen, just as He said." – Matthew 28:6
