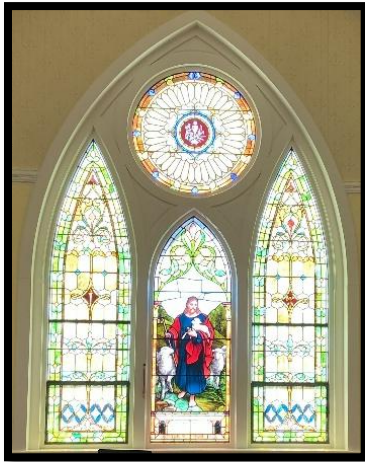


Reflections on the Stained Glass Windows

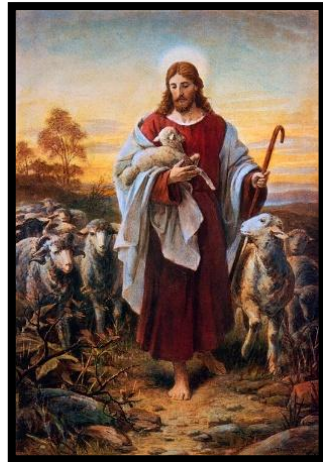
Clarksville Presbyterian Church

May 6, 2025

WinGS Program



The Good Shepherd Window, 1909



The Good Shepherd by
Bernard Plockhorst, c. 1878

Presenters:

**Judith Irvin, Linda Pulliam, Terry Denton,
and Rev. Annette Eckerd Goard**

Judith Irvin: History and purpose of stained glass through the ages.

History

- Stained glass dates back to 700 AD “to prevent the entry of birds and showers”
- During the 1140s, new architectural ideas such as arches and flying buttresses meant that walls could be opened for larger, taller windows
- Band windows (several windows in a row) proliferated during 1330s
- Stained Glass Windows continued to be developed until the Reformation when many were destroyed (1568)

Purpose - To remind congregants of:

- Bible stories (Life of Christ, Creation)
- Important people (Virgin Mary, Apostles, Saints, Bishops)
- Important lessons (seven deadly sins, Christian virtues)
- Who was in charge of (kings, popes, donors of windows)

References:

Eidelberg, Martin, Gray, Nina, & Hofer, Margaret K. (2007). *A New Light on Tiffany: Clara Driscoll and the Tiffany Girls*. New York Historical Society: New York

Rosewell, Roger. (2012). *Stained Glass*. Shire Library: Absecon, NJ

Vreeland, Susan (2010). *Clara and Mr. Tiffany*. Penguin Random House: New York

Website - Online Stained Glass Photographic Archive: www.therosewindow.com

Linda Pulliam: History of our sanctuary windows, the Christian symbolism hidden in the windows, and the unique effects of the morning sun on the Good Shepherd window.

Chronology of Clarksville Presbyterian Church:

- 1832 – Founding of Clarksville Presbyterian
- 1865 – Dedication of the first building at 209 4th Street
- 1907 – Sale of church building to Second Baptist Church
- 1909 – Dedication of current church, 502 Virginia Ave.

Stained glass windows – 1909

- **Narthex, Pulpit, and Hallway windows** – decorative, Victorian style
- **Christ Window** – dedicated to Henry Wood (d.1883) and Anne Eliza Wood (d.1886) by their children and grandchildren. Moved from 4th Street church.
 - Crown – the crown of life
 - Chalice – the blood of Christ, the Last Supper
 - Flowers – love, faith, and hope
 - Crown of thorns - worn by Christ at his crucifixion
 - Angels – God’s protection
 - Book – divine authority, wisdom from God
 - Red cape – love, power, the blood of Christ
- **Sunnyside Window**
A Gift of Love from Sunnyside School, The Carrington Sisters, 1909
 - Baptismal font – death to life through baptism (round window)
 - Alpha and Omega – first and last letters of Greek alphabet; God’s eternity
 - Harp – worship, praise, joy
- **Good Shepherd Window** - dedicated to Rev. F.N. Whaley, served from 1852-1892.
 - Bernhard Plockhorst painting, “The Good Shepherd” c. 1878
 - Symbolizing our relationship with Christ - John 10:14, “I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me.”
 - Standing shepherd, lamb and two sheep – Christ and his followers; thorn – sins of the world; evergreen – eternal life; red of the cape – his blood*
 - Side panels – Chi Rho - first two Greek letters of Christ’s name; Torch – God’s presence, passing of the faith
 - Round - Chalice and bread – Christ’s body and blood

The CPC Windows Speak

Linda will share with us her personal experience with the unique effects of the sunlight through the Good Shepherd window.

References:

History of Clarksville Presbyterian Church <https://www.clarksvillepresbyterian.org/history>

Stained Glass of Clarksville Presbyterian Church <https://www.clarksvillepresbyterian.org/history>

*Interpretation of the Good Shepherd window, St Petersburg First United Methodist Church, FL

Terry Denton (t.e.smith denton)

Terry is a well-known local artist with ties to Clarksville Presbyterian Church since childhood as the daughter of a Presbyterian minister who retired here. Terry has always been drawn to the Good Shepherd window, and the artist of the original painting, Bernhard Plockhorst, has been a personal favorite. After her early morning visit to the church in the late winter to witness the effects of the rising sun on the windows, she was inspired to capture the images herself in oils. She will unveil tonight her stunning work in progress which will eventually be graciously loaned to Clarksville Presbyterian Church for display.

References

Bernard Plockhorst, Artist, 1825-1907 https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bernhard_Plockhorst

Rev. Annette Eckerd Goard: Closing

Please join us in the Fellowship Hall for a potluck dinner.