

Spring Valley Presbyterian Church

Stained Glass Windows

Hord Stubblefield (1919-2002), Designer

All fourteen windows were designed by Hord Stubblefield (1990). Mr. Stubblefield was a member of Spring Valley Presbyterian Church. He graduated from Clemson A & M College with a BS Degree in Architecture (1940), and served in the US Navy in the South Pacific during World War II. After the war Mr. Stubblefield studied art at the Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, NY, earning a degree in illustration (with honors) in 1951. Mr. Stubblefield was employed by various art studios and ad agencies and eventually was employed by Ogilvy and Mather, one of the largest ad agencies in the world. During Mr. Stubblefield's 27 years in the Creative Department at Ogilvy and Mather, he designed art for Hershey, Rolls-Royce, American Express, Shell Oil, AT&T, General Foods, IBM and Mercedes-Benz. His works also included countless paintings, illustrations and cartoons. According to Don Clark, owner of Art in a Nutshell Studio and Gallery in Columbia, South Carolina, "He is a master at painting water ...Very few people can make water look like water. And Hord can put ripples in it." Mr. Stubblefield was a member of Spring Valley Presbyterian Church and it was our privilege to have such a master as the designer of our 14 stained-glass windows.



The Sovereignty Window

The Sovereignty Window is the Chancel window. This window employs the flowers of God's world as religious figures. The outer circle is a wreath of Sparkleberry symbolizing God's world without end. The features of this outer circle include the trefoil, a form of shamrock; the *fleur-de-lis*; and the triangle - all denoting the Trinity. Beginning at the top right and proceeding clockwise, the figures include the following and their meaning:

Thistle - Earthly Sorrow
Oak - Faith and Endurance
Lily - Purity
Clover - The Trinity
Ivy - Life Eternal and Fidelity
Narcissus - The Triumph of Divine Love
Bulrush - Hope of Salvation
Christmas Rose - Nativity
Olive - Peace
Holly - The Passion of Christ
Anemone - The Trinity
Acacia - Immortality of the Soul

The inner circle features the wheat and the grape clusters for the Lord's Supper, the descending Dove and the flames for the Holy Spirit. The *Alpha* and the *Omega*, the Beginning and the End, symbolize the eternity and the infinitude of God. The

Crown of Glory symbolizes Christ's Kingship. This entire symbol is supported by the Bible, which rests on the pulpit of Christ's church.

The colors of purple, white, red and green symbolize the seasons of the Church year.

Beginning with the south transept and the "I am" Window and continuing down the south side of the church, the windows symbolize the life of Christ. All of the windows are in the form of a circle surrounding a quatrefoil. The *vesica piscis*, or fish, is found between the arcs of the quatrefoil. Each window has a flower in the border pertaining to the window's theme.



The "I Am" Window

The "I Am" Window is found in the south transept. The design consists of the unique sayings of Jesus, each beginning with "I Am" and of the other descriptions of Jesus.

Each symbol is found in a quatrefoil with a significant flower in the border; the daisy is innocence, the oak is faith and endurance, and the strawberry is righteousness. The outer border contains the triangle of the Trinity; the cherry symbolizes good works and the dogwood, the wood of the cross. Beginning at the top right and going clockwise, the outer circles signify these "I Am" statements.

The Lamb of God	John 1:29
The Way	John 14:6
The Word	John 1:14
The Light	John 9:15
The True Vine	John 15:1
The Living Water	Revelation 22:1
The Door	John 10:7
The Bread of Life	John 6:35

The inner circle is a wreath of ivy symbolizing life eternal. The center is the *Chi Rho*, the monogram for Christ in Greek. The *Chi Rho* is surrounded by the Alpha and Omega (Revelation 1:8).



The Nativity

This window shows the Dove of Peace, the Crown of Glory, the Epiphany Star, and the Christmas Rose.



The Baptism of Christ

The shell is used as the symbol for baptism. The three drops of water signify the Trinity. This design is surrounded by the columbine, a symbol of the Holy Spirit.



The Last Supper

This window shows the cup of Christ and the broken leaf of bread as symbols of the Last Supper. The palm leaf signifies conquest over sin and death and Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. The *IHS* is the Greek for the first three letters of "Jesus". The fish symbol is also present.



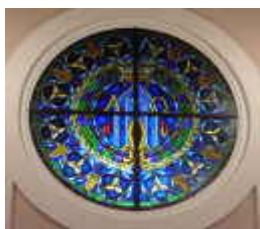
The Crucifixion

This window shows the plain wooden cross, the crown of thorns, and the monogram for "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews". The border is of thistle depicting earthly sorrow.



The Ascension

The *Chi Rho* are the first two letters of the Greek for "Christ". This design shows Christ rising above the clouds ascending into Heaven. The border is the triangle of the Trinity.



The Trinity Window

The Trinity Window is the Narthex window. This window represents the Holy Trinity in many of its symbols. The outer circle is a wreath of ivy symbolizing life eternal. The figures of the outer circle include the triquetra, made by the three circles merging; the triangle; and the fleur-de-lis - all symbols of the Trinity. The three circles contained in the larger circle not only symbolize the Trinity, but also mean eternity and emphasize the concept of the Three in One. The equal size of the three circles shows the equality of the members of the Trinity. The symbol of the early church is a fish, made by merging of the three circles.

The inner circle has a wreath of wheat and grape clusters symbolizing the Lord's Supper. The colors of the Church year begin at the Crown of the King of Glory continuing through the *fleur-de-lis* of the Trinity. The Center shows the *Alpha* and *Omega* symbols.

Omega , the flames of the Holy Spirit, and the three arches of the Trinity within three arches.

Beginning with the north transept and the Creation Window, and continuing down the north side of the church, these windows symbolize the history of the church. In these windows, the *vesica picis*, or fish, found between the arcs of the quatrefoil, symbolizing the early church. The Greek word for fish is *Ichthus*. Each letter in *Ichthus* stands for the first letters of "Jesus Christ, Son of God, Savior". Each of these windows also has a flower in the border relating to that window's theme.



The Creation Window

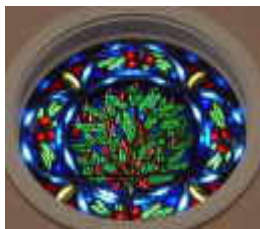
The Creation Window is in the north transept. This window depicts the history of God's Church. Each symbol is encircled by a quatrefoil symbolizing justice, prudence, temperance, and fortitude. Each quatrefoil contains the Christmas Rose signifying the birth of Jesus. The borders consist of the wheat and the grape clusters, the symbols of the Eucharist. Beginning at the top right and circling clockwise, the designs symbolize these events in the history of God's world: The Creation, The Fall of Man, The Flood and God's Rainbow, David's Star and Lyre, Christ, the Shepherd, and His Disciples, Pentecost, The World Council of Churches, The Kingdom of God Restored

The inner circle has the *Alpha* and the *Omega* and the cross of Jesus Christ.



Abraham

This window refers to God coming to Abraham in a vision saying, "Do not fear, Abraham. I am a shield to you." (Genesis 15:1) The stars refer to God's promise to give Abraham as many descendants as the stars in the sky. (Genesis 15:5) The grape clusters show God's promise of great fruitfulness. (Genesis 17:6) The oak border is for faith and endurance.



Moses

This window shows the burning bush signifying the call of Moses. The border pictures the cherry which is a symbol for good works.



The Gifts of the Holy Spirit

Each dove symbolizes one of the Gifts of the Spirit (Romans 12:6-8) poured in to the human heart upon which is the anchor of hope. This is surrounded by the laurel, a symbol of triumph.



The Reformation

This window depicts the ninety-five theses of Martin Luther surrounded by the broken chain. The border is the pomegranate, the symbol of proliferation of the church and the hope of immortality and resurrection.



The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Official Seal

The formation of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is the result of the 1983 union between the United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. (old Northern church) and the Presbyterian Church in the U.S. (old Southern church). This union brought together many people with diversity in theology, worship and social attitudes. That union and the diversity are represented in the three-fold quality of the cross. The basic symbols in the seal are: the Cross, Holy Scripture (resting on pulpit), Descending Dove and Flames.