



Elkhart Truth photos / Jordan Fouts

Pastor Rosanna McFadden describes the process for installing the church's new stained glass windows.

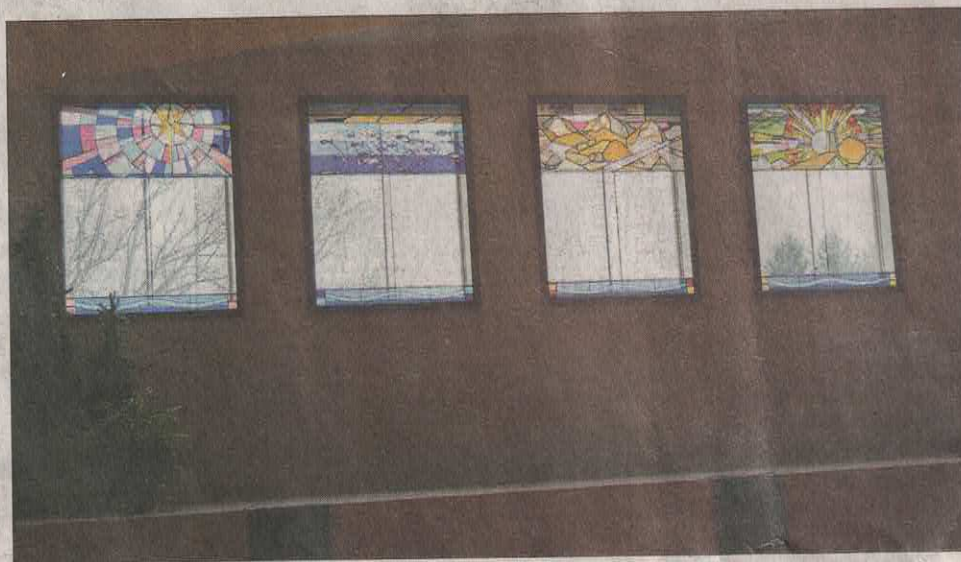
Works of light and color

Granger stained glass artist finishes windows for Dunlap church

By JORDAN FOUTS
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DUNLAP — Don Burling is anxious to see his latest creation brought to life by the light of day.

The Granger glazier with 45 years of experience has his work installed in the walls of churches, colleges, homes and businesses across the country. His most recent job was crafting eight 42-by-55-



Pictured are the windows on the northwest side of the church.

foot stained glass windows for Creekside Church of the Brethren, which plans to dedicate them with a service on May 19.

Pastor Rosanna McFadden said after the thought

was raised of sponsoring one window as a memorial for someone, they had hoped to win people over to the idea of having all eight windows made. She said they decided to find an artist who could do

them all at once, rather than installing one window in the worship hall at a time as they were sponsored.

"I think when we first

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Elkhart arts te tourna

ELKHART — Gym/Elkhart M sent a team letes to the AA State Champio gether they bro 38 medals, inc state champion Coach Lorr said he couldn proud.

"It has taken hard work and get where we a it has all been Smith said.

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Key in shows easing

By PAUL WISEM
AP Economics Write

WASHINGTON measure of infl closely tracked al Reserve slipp in a sign that pr continue to ease

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Tomorrow's weather

55°  44°


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Classified: C4
Comics: B3

Life: D1
Obituaries: A3
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Puzzles: B2
Sports: C1
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 The Elkhart Truth

GLASS

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pitched the idea of stained glass to the congregation or first asked about it, some people had a preconceived idea of what stained glass would look like. Like it had to be in a window with a gothic arch, and it had to have certain colors and a certain subject," she said while seated at a table in the church foyer. "Since the windows have been installed, we've just had a really positive response to them. People have just said, 'Well, I didn't know they'd look like this. This is wonderful.'"

Burling, who spoke over speakerphone alongside wife Carol, said it made him feel good to hear that.

"I like for people to be involved with whatever we're doing for them," he said. "My wife helps with the designing and all that, picking out the colors, and hands-on they come pick out the stuff that they want and finalize what they want, and I go from there."

Life of the church

The church contacted the Burlings in early November and the couple had the windows completed by the end of January. The total cost was around \$8,500.

The church installed each window as soon as it was finished, since the wall was the safest place for them.

"We didn't put them all up at once, because we didn't want them all sitting around the church while we were getting them framed and stuff," McFadden said. "We put up the nativity window right before Christmas, which was terrific to have that as part of our Christmas eve services."

The windows were designed to tell the New Testament story of the life of Jesus and the life of the church. Creekside's logo, a wavy ribbon of blue, is at the bottom of each one along with colors representing each season of the church calendar.

The designs were kept simple so there wouldn't be too much detail lost when viewed at a distance.

"There was a team here

because the resurrection happened in a garden, we wanted some specialized glass that had texture in it that looked kind of like stems and flowers and things."

In some cases, like the fisherman's net, the lead channel that holds the cut glass pieces together was made part of the design. McFadden said she was most impressed with the large fruit tree on the "growth" window, which required Don Burling to carefully cut a lot of squiggly green leaves.

"I can honestly say I don't think I've ever had to start over on a piece," he said. "I've had to do some (recuts) because of my mistakes but not because of the customer. It'll break or it's too delicate, that's what happens in this type of work. ... Sometimes a type of glass you're using breaks better than other types."

He keeps a lot of bandages handy in his shop, he added.

"We bought stock in Band-Aid," Carol Burling said.

The shop had most of the colors the church wanted on-hand, but had to range out of state to source some hues of glass. McFadden said it was great to be able to see and handle the colored pieces in person instead of picking them out of a catalog.

"She found glass I didn't even know I had," Don Burling remarked. "They and Carol picked out all the glass. I don't partake in that part of the business."

Don Burling said he's only aware of a handful of artists in the region who still do large stained glass pieces on commission like him. He and his wife said the quality of glass from some suppliers has changed over time, but the process of making a piece is the same.

"It hasn't really changed; it's the same concept. Sometimes things can get bigger, but sometimes bigger things, it's hard to get them smaller

because of the number of pieces or the size of the piece," Carol Burling said. "Like the Detroit Red Wings and stuff like that. That's a lot of pieces in their logo. You can't make them 8-by-8, they have to get to be 20-by-20 to make the pieces comparable to work with them."

He hasn't seen all the windows fitted into place yet, but Don Burling said it's hard to visualize based only on how they look in his workshop. McFadden agreed that it's hard to capture with a photo.

"Don and Carol know this, but a stained glass window lying on a table looks completely different than one with light coming through it," she said. "We'd see them as they were completed and thought they looked really nice up close, and then when you see them with light coming through, it's just, wow. And not just the window themselves, but we get swirls of colored light on the white walls opposite the windows. It just adds to the whole space."

Close to 10,000 blue pinwheels will be placed around the city during Pinwheel Month in April.

CAPS

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"It's a really, really important advocacy role."

The rally also allowed visitors to see a gallery of 137 drawings made by children from schools and Boys and Girls Clubs across Elkhart County. It's part of the shared curriculum that teaches students about safe adults, and children are invited to depict the people who fit that role in their lives.

"A safe adult is someone you can go to when you've been abused or neglected. They've got teachers, they've got principals, they've got coaches, pastors," Shetler Fast said. "That's a big part of

the rally, is safe adults. All in this. Whether parent or not, you need a safe adult in the house. And this artwork helps kids see safety and the importance of a sign of hope.

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Christmas eve services. The windows were designed to tell the New Testament story of the life of Jesus and the life of the church. Creekside's logo, a wavy ribbon of blue, is at the bottom of each one along with colors representing each season of the church calendar.

The designs were kept simple so there wouldn't be too much detail lost when viewed at a distance.

"There was a team here from Creekside who worked on the designs. We asked the congregation for ideas about what they would like to be the subjects of the windows," McFadden said. "That team came up with the concept. I am an artist and I rendered the designs, and then our administrative assistant mechanically cleaned up the lines and things, and we gave scale drawings to the Burlings."

On the northwest face of the building, a star represents the nativity, a net full of fish depicts discipleship, hills and a cross represent the path to the crucifixion and an open tomb shows the resurrection. On the southeast side, the windows depict the Pentecost with a flame, the growth of the church with a tree, the body of Christ with wine and bread and the reign of Christ with a crown.

A path is meant to run through the images on the northwest wall, while a circle or the suggestion of a circle in every image on the other side represents unity or a global community, McFadden said.

Delicate work

McFadden said the Burlings gave input on what would work or not but were very open to the design ideas from the church.

"We needed a lot of this royal blue and turquoise for every window," she said. "For the crown on the last window there, he got an iridescent gold. We wanted like a shimmering gold for that crown. In the Easter window here,

"It hasn't really changed; it's the same concept. Sometimes things can get bigger, but sometimes bigger things, it's hard to get them smaller

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 APRIL 12 & 13, 2024

AUCTION

Elkhart County 4-H Fairgrounds
 17746 County Road 34 • Goshen, IN 46528

Open House
FRIDAY, APRIL 12, 2024
 4:30-9:00pm

Haystack Supper 4:30pm to 7:30pm
 Fellowship & Praise Concert 6:00pm
 with the Gospel Echoes Teams
 Auction of Selected Items 7:30pm

Sale Day
SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 2024
 Biscuits & Gravy, Fried Mush & Tomato Gravy,
 Pancake & Sausage
 Breakfast 7:00 am
 Auction 9:00 am

All announcements made the day of the sale take precedence over any printed material or website info. Some photos are item samples.

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