

Buyers Guide to Stained Glass for Congregational/United Churches of Christ

With over 5000 congregations in the Congregational/United Churches of Christ in America, this relatively new Protestant denomination is actually rooted in a two very old faiths. In 1957, the Evangelical and Reformed Churches merged with the Congregational Christian Churches to form a new denomination, committed to the concepts behind its name, Christian, Reformed, Congregational and Evangelical. This brief guide is intended to aid those who are seeking to select stained glass as part of the appropriate décor for Congregational/United Churches of Christ.

"...The characteristics of the United Church of Christ can be summarized in part by the key words in the names that formed our union: Christian, Reformed, Congregational, Evangelical."

<http://www.congregationalucc.com/home/index.php>



Introduction to Stained Glass for Congregational/ United Churches of Christ

The Congregational/United Churches of Christ are built on cooperation, consisting of two longstanding denominations with rich histories, who conquered many obstacles to come together as one Christian Church dedicated to the work of God. Churches are often historical buildings, cornerstones of many early American cities. Congregations often seek to protect and enhance the historical value of their buildings, while finding quality stained glass to replace broken or damaged windows that might be hundreds of year old. It is important to members of stained glass selection committees that the mission of the Congregational/United Churches of Christ is a factor in the design, including evangelical work, missions, justice and commitment to the teachings of Christ. At Stained Glass, Inc. of Greenville, Texas, helping those entrusted with commissioning the perfect stained glass designs and crafting those designs for Congregational/United Churches of Christ congregations is a top priority.

Unique features of Congregational/United Churches of Christ Stained Glass Needs

Architecture for Congregational/United Churches of Christ across the nation is varied and unique and every congregation presents its own challenges when it comes to finding stained glass that will enhance worship décor. Many older buildings, some more than 200 years old, are in need of renovation and members are looking to decorate new building additions without marring the classic architectural design of majestic, historical churches. Some Congregational/United Church of Christ buildings have been displaced by super highways, urban sprawl and changing neighborhoods, or have simply fallen into disrepair and church members opt to rebuild in new locations, in order to accommodate growing ministries, membership numbers and programs. For these congregations, a newer, more contemporary building or set of buildings may fill the bill, and more modern stained glass designs might be an exciting option. At Stained Glass, Inc., commissioning stained glass art tailored specifically to each church's individual tastes and needs is as simple as speaking to our experts, and allowing them to provide the guidance and advice to ensure a perfect selection of stained glass windows, doors, furniture insets, altar accents or hanging art to inspire and uplift.

Congregational/ United Churches of Christ Stained Glass

“Puritan Blue” is a feature found in many old Congregational/United Church of Christ sanctuaries, especially in churches that are landmarks from earlier times. Christian symbols are often used to center the designs of symmetrically perfect, astounding stained glass art created in the studio of Stained Glass, Inc., featuring shades of blue that gather rays of light and reflect an ethereal glow throughout every worship area. Some churches seek stained glass windows that will honor more personal concepts of the individual church, such as veterans of wars and other members of the church for their service to others, and still others wish to enhance their worship space with simpler, elegant designs that inspire and uplift believers. At Stained Glass, Inc., expert artisans are open to ideas from those commissioning stained glass artwork, and are adept at creating the perfect solution for individual church needs, whatever they are.



“**Christ knocking at the Door;**
-represents that it is up to us to open the
door and let him into our lives. It is only
from us taking action on the inside that
opens the door to let him in.” “Dr. Barbara
Johnson sheds light on stained glass in Clark
County,” Clark County Courier, Dakotafire.



Stained Glass That Teaches Christian Values

Stained glass windows in churches have been called the “Poor Man’s Bible,” since, in days past, the windows studied by mostly illiterate congregants depicted stories from the Bible and events and teachings from the life of Christ. Even though today there are few people who are unable to read the scriptures, stained glass windows that portray the life and works of the Savior provide an enlightening enhancement for church members. At Stained Glass, Inc., our online gallery provides an extensive collection of stained glass art that depicts the events of the life of Jesus, including:



Christ is Born in a Manger – Brilliant color and flawless imagery bring the story of Jesus’ humble birth to life for worshippers in this work of stained glass art from the studio of Stained Glass, Inc. Color and light blend and cast a heavenly glow across every area of application, filling the hearts of those who are blessed by this holy event.



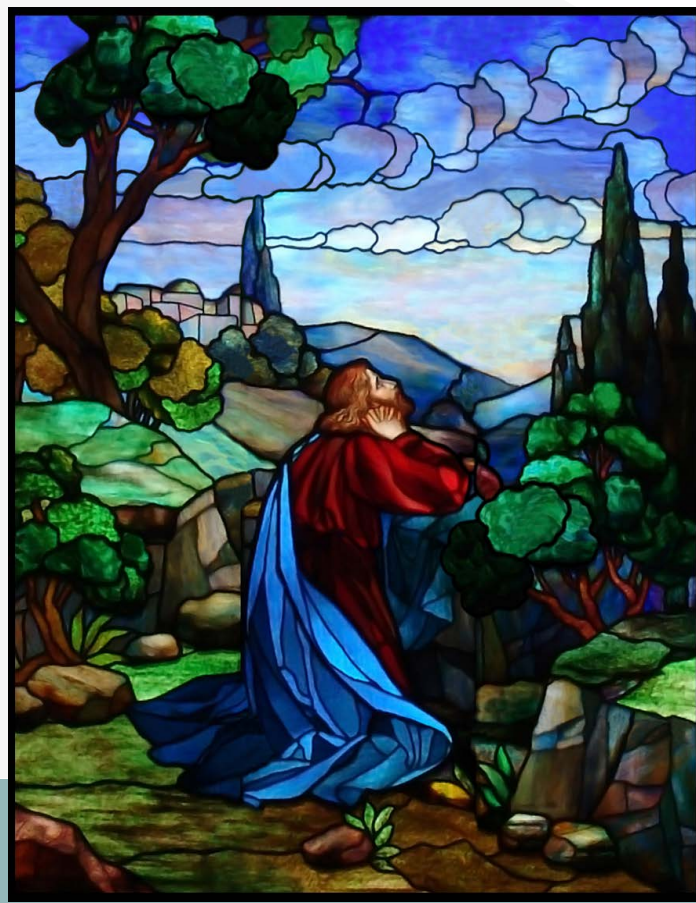
Jesus’ Resurrection – Victory over death and sin is depicted here in the Risen Savior, created in classic Tiffany style with hues that cross the full spectrum of color and realistic, moving imagery that is a tribute to this holiest of events.



First Call—This arched design in classic gothic style depicts Jesus’ call to the first disciples, Peter and Andrew, to follow Him in His journey on earth. This work is perfect as a door insert or tall, narrow window space, and can be easily installed behind existing glass windows, since it is custom created for fit, size and shape.



Jesus' Crucifixion – Heart rending and evocative, this lovely arched creation of the crucifixion of the Lord dazzles the eye and touches the heart of everyone who beholds it. Created with an ornate arched design, this work of stained glass art blends unmatched beauty with a Christian message for all time.



Not My Will – The essence of Christianity, this Tiffany inspired window stirs the soul as Jesus is portrayed in prayer, surrounded by the resplendent landscape of the Garden of Gethsemane. Careful, meticulous attention to detail and the use of color and shading sets the tone for scripture study and prayer.



“Congregational United Church of Christ is a warm, welcoming congregation that is always happy to receive visitors. To help you feel as comfortable and at home as possible when you visit us. . . .”

<http://www.congregationalucc.com/home/index.php>

Windows for Congregational/United Church of Christ Congregations

A loving, open spirit is embodied by the faithful in Congregational/United Churches of Christ, and a culture of welcome prevails. Visitors to church services are warmly accepted and enfolded in the worshipful atmosphere of friendly, accepting congregations, including lovely stained glass accents in entryways and church foyers that include door inserts, transom windows and furniture insets. Contemporary as well as modern designs are employed to provide a glowing welcome to church newcomers. The gallery at Stained Glass, Inc. includes an extensive collection of these designs, including:



Holy Spirit Dove – Combining the symbol of the Holy Spirit and a design perfect in the church foyer, this glowing window inspires praise and warmth for gathering guests.



Decorative Transom Window – This warmly hued, classically Tiffany styled transom window is the perfect crown for door inserts at the entrance of your church, providing a lovely welcome to services, while casting a joyous glow about your church foyer.

“The world is full of icons that can open the eyes of our hearts. Stained-glass windows, old Christmas cards, a setting sun. Creation is full of divine images.”

<http://www.ucc.org/feed-your-spirit/practices/icons.html>



Ascension Transom – Arms spread wide, Christ ascends to his throne in Heaven, portrayed in this breathtaking transom work of stained glass art that is perfect for application in a church foyer.

How to Choose the Right Stained Glass

Making sure your church stained glass needs are met with beauty and quality is the mission of Stained Glass, Inc. master artists. The professionals here are eager to help you begin your journey to find the perfect stained glass art for your Congregational/United Church of Christ, art that honors your Christian heritage and is a tribute to your congregation's unique personality. To start your exploration of the magnificent world of stained glass, visit the extensive online gallery of Stained Glass, Inc. at <http://stainedglassinc.com/> today and talk to a professional.

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Stained Glass, Inc Will Meet Your Congregational/United Church of Christ Needs

At Stained Glass, Inc. our expert artists know their craft, and create the finest works of stained glass every time, on time and on budget. Versatile and easy to install, Stained Glass, Inc. designs are custom created according to your specifications, and of the highest quality:

- Artisans in the studios of Stained Glass, Inc. are masters in old world technique and cutting edge technology, ensuring top quality and flawless beauty every time.
- Cost effective, energy efficient and environmentally friendly stained glass
- Stained glass is 80 times stronger than ordinary glass
- Easy to install panels that fit behind existing glass windows, versatile for changing to fit any occasion or religious observation
- Heat fused mineral deposits for intense, deep color to reflect light as it shifts through the day