

# Window Rededication

Sunday, August 7, 2022

THE SANCTUARY

JULIA HACKLEY FELLOWSHIP HALL



Music Window No. 1



Music Window No. 2



Madonna and Child



Christ the Good Shepherd

## Music Window No. 1

Given by Edith McGraft Wickham in memory of her family (1917)

## Music Window No. 2

Given by Miss Catherine Outhwaite and Mrs. Mary Chamberlain Smith in memory of their mothers: Mrs. Helen Reid Outhwaite and Mrs. Cornelia Chamberlain (1917)

## Madonna and Child (*"The Mother's Window"*)

Given by many donors in memory of Sophia F. Peck, Alma C. Foote, Mary A. Haight, Helen W. Boyd, Fannie M. Arms, Mary Jane Easton, Louise N. Rood, Mary A. Latimer, Annie N. Latimer, Emily D. Nelson, Sarah Fleming, Louise Z. Davis, Cornelia M. Hubbard, Frances A. Brundage, Alma Cornelia Warner, Gertrude H. Baker, and Harriet Haight Wilson (1915)

## Christ the Good Shepherd

Given by Mrs. William (Nellie) Munroe in memory of William and Barbara Reid McMillan (1915)

# History of the Windows

*From the FCC Archives and Hackley Hospital*

First Congregational Church had erected its second building at the corner of First and Clay Streets in 1884. By 1914, it was decided to remodel the sanctuary and to add an adjacent building for office space, meeting rooms for socials, and Church School classes. The church had been the recipient of the residue of the estate of Julia E. Hackley upon her death in 1905 and had invested the funds to be used for some special project. Plans for the hall to be named in her honor were secured and a fund drive begun for the remodeling of the sanctuary. The Women's Society undertook the replacement of the old windows (merely colored glass pieces) with stained glass to depict Bible scenes. The Donnelly-Kelley Art Glass Company of Chicago produced the two windows which were placed in the Sanctuary (*Madonna and Child* and *Christ the Good Shepherd*). The remodeled building and the new Julia E. Hackley Memorial Hall were dedicated on January 3, 1915. The windows were in place for Children's Day, June 13, 1915. The two Music Windows were added to Julia E. Hackley Hall in 1917. Not having any outside exposure, they were originally lit by electricity.

The windows graced FCC until 1955, when our current church was built on the corner of Jefferson and Merrill Streets. The architectural firm chose to design the building in Colonial Style and the Gothic style stained glass windows would not be compatible. The congregation decided to have all the original windows photographed and framed, then hung on the wall in the hallway between the Fellowship Hall and the Sanctuary and Chapel (where it still resides). Only FOUR windows would be kept. Those four are what you see today hanging in the chancel and flanking the stage in the Fellowship Hall. For thirty-six years these four windows remained in storage, until a motion was passed by the Endowment Committee on October 25, 1990 that the windows would be on permanent loan to Hackley Hospital for use in their Chapel: "Should the Chapel be demolished and the stained glass windows not be used they shall be returned to First Congregational Church." On February 19, 1991, after restoration and cleaning, the windows were rededicated within the Hackley Hospital Chapel. Upon closure of the hospital in 2021 the windows were returned to FCC and temporarily stored on the Fellowship Hall stage until Omnibus Studios of New Era, MI received a contract from FCC to re-install them as permanent artwork.

Each window is mounted in a new wooden cabinet and lit by LED strip lights with a diffusing acrylic panel to evenly disperse the light. All four light systems are dimmable. The two windows in the Fellowship Hall have the addition of protective tempered glass as they are placed in public areas of high traffic. The decision was made to remove the vent window (the only section that opened) from the bottom of these two windows to shorten them to fit in the space surrounding the stage. The two Music Windows which now hang in the Chancel have retained the entire span of the windows and no protective glass is required as they are mounted above the choir stalls. The *Madonna and Child* and *Christ the Good Shepherd* originally hung in the sanctuary of the previous church and the two Music Windows in the Fellowship Hall. In 2022 it was decided to reverse them and place the "twin" angels of music in the Sanctuary.