

## **Stained Glass Windows**

*from the artist, Michael Pilla*



With the installation of the first group of exterior wall lancets, we begin to realize the presentation of symbols and light.

Remember that these designs are inspired by the community of Oak Grove, the opportunity created by the architecture, and the religious and spiritual tradition of the Presbyterian Church. At the onset we saw each window as a tree within a grove of trees, the canopy being diverse and complex. There are “cupped hands” that embrace these tree tops and offer them in prayer and praise. The play of round and square and organic line meandering is reminiscent of how different we all are, yet we can come together.

At the base of the windows we have the intertwined three circles, symbolic of the Trinity, and hidden within them, three fish each. The fish “deep” in the design are a reminder of Luke 5 (Jesus calling disciples away from their nets).

And woven within the trinity symbol we have root-like elements reminding us that our faith is rooted in our Christian beliefs and that actions “grow” from those fundamental beliefs.

The good surprise for the artist is the importance and power of the center column of white glass. It demonstrates the feeling of movement from top to bottom, bottom to top. And it literally feels like I am enlightened, enlivened by being in the presence of this sacred space.

*Michael Pilla*

*An exciting addition is now a part of our Sanctuary. The newest beautiful stained glass window was made possible because of generous donations by members of this congregation. Further phases will be constructed as donated money becomes available in the Dedicated Stained Glass Memorial Fund.*