

Research into Stained Glass Windows at Lancaster Moravian Church: (Oct. 2013-Apr. 22, 2014)

Background info from the Archives—Nancy Sturgis and Priscilla Weidman spent about 4 hours going through Trustees' notes, Church Topics (newsletters of the time), news clippings, etc. stored in the Moravian Archives in Bethlehem from the old church located at 30 West Orange Street in Lancaster city on Nov. 12, 2013. Tom McCullough, assistant archivist, did some advance research for us concerning the windows after being contacted October 18, 2013 and had materials out for us when we arrived on Nov. 12th.

1. **From Church Council minutes of September 13, 1922:** *“At the same meeting (May 16, 1922), sketches and costs of memorial windows were received and a resolution adopted to have Mr. Rudy of York, draw and submit sketches of memorial windows to cost approximately \$350, also for temporary windows to be used until replaced by memorial windows, if necessary.”*
2. **From Saturday evening Lancaster New Era of June 30, 1923:** An article titled, *“Moravian Church Plans Rededication Services,”* with the subheading, *“Edifice Has Been Renovated Inside and Out at Cost of \$50,000—Founded in 1746. Former pastors to Deliver Addresses”* states that *“All the windows have been replaced with attractive ones, five of them memorials.”* The rededication of the renovated brick church building, built in 1820 to replace the original stone one from 1746 and enlarged in 1869 was held the following day, July 1st, 1923. The stained glass windows that were dedicated as memorials included *“Christ in the Garden,” “Christ and the Vine,” “The Ascension,” “Christ the Good Shepherd,”* and *“The Angel, Faith.”* Also dedicated on July 1st, 1923 along with the windows, was the mural of Christ welcoming the multitudes painted by H. K. Beck and the rebuilt organ, part of the renovations made to the building. From the materials, we have been able to identify who designed, created and installed the windows (Rudy Brothers of York, PA) and approximate which windows were located where.
3. **From Church Topics Vol. XVI July-August 1923, minutes, etc. from the 1920s:**
 - a. *“Christ and the Vine”* was the first window from the front of the church on the Market Street side of the old church. It was given in memory of Elizabeth Mary Shreiner presented by Mrs. Harry B. Cochrane. *“Rudy Brothers of York, PA placed all the windows.”* It is Slide #30 taken by Earl Hibner prior to the windows being removed from 30 W. Orange Street before the building was torn down. It is one of the five designated as a memorial at the dedication on July 1st, 1923.
 - b. *“Chris with Mary and Martha”* was the 3rd window from the front of the church on the Parsonage side of the church. Serena Thomas, daughter of John and Lydia (Frank) Thomas, was granted permission to have the *“third window West side”* be donated in her name in Feb. 1924. She died July 30 1924, so we assume her parents later had it memorialized for her. It was probably dedicated July 1st since the New Era of June 30, 1923 says...*“All the windows have been replaced with attractive ones, five of them memorials.”* It is Slide #31 taken by Earl Hibner.
 - c. *“The Angel, Faith”* mentioned in the news article of June 30th, 1923 is referred to by Dr. C.J.R. Meinert, Pastor in Church Topics Vol. XVI, July-August 1923 as *“The Angel of Faith and Hope.”* It was the second one from the front on the Parsonage (West) side of the old church. It was presented by the Ammon family and was one of the five dedicated as a memorial on July 1st, 1923. It is Slide #27 taken by Earl Hibner.
 - d. **One smaller (3' X 4') stained glass window depicting the Holy Family** is also located currently in the basement at 1460 Eden Road and was one of two on either side of the Narthex area at the entrance of the old church.. It is #34 taken by Earl Hibner. We know the window on the opposite side was *“The Boy Christ in the Temple,”* was the same size, and that one was dedicated as a memorial on January 16, 1927 but we could find no more information about the one we have.
 - e. **One translucent stained glass window approx. 6' X 4' with smaller 5" X 8" panes (approx.)** was probably one of the stained glass windows that faced Orange Street. The *“Light of the World”* stained glass window was the only one with scenes in it that faced Orange Street. The remainder were similar to this one.
4. **Lancaster Moravian Church built on 1460 Eden Road** in the 1965-66 time frame and all the stained glass windows were removed from the old church prior to its destruction. The windows not restored were then stored in the basement to the present time (2014). Prepared for Jeff Venturella, Architectural Emporium by Priscilla Weidman, and Nancy Sturgis, LMC.