

## In Appreciation for the Stained Glass Windows

Last week I visited with former member/acolyte Tom Drewry (son of the recently deceased Jane Drewry). He spoke fondly of the church and of the installation of the stained glassed windows. Sometimes it is easy to forget that the way things appear now is not the way things have always been.

I love the colorful windows and the stories they tell. When I am on the liturgist side (the 9th Street side), I gaze at the Creation Window. It has the symbol of the hand of God and I think creation. There is the window of Moses with the Ten Commandments and I remember the great leader and the love of God expressed through law. Then the prophets and I remember the powerful words spoken by courageous people of God; it is not easy to take on controversial topics in preaching.

When I am on the pulpit side I look at the Pentecost window. At the top the window shows the dove as the symbol of the Holy Spirit. The collected apostles are presented with a “tongue of fire” atop each of them. Then two great early church leaders Peter with his mission to the Jewish church and Paul with his mission to the Gentile church are depicted. Finally, at the bottom is the symbol for the United Methodist Church, the cross and the flame.

These beautiful stained glass windows were dedicated in 1977. They were given in memory or honor of people who loved the church by people who loved the church. And we are blessed by them. We had nothing to do with the being there. We can only received them each week as a gift of grace, and be thankful.

God, thank you for people who love the church and have given so other generations might benefit by their generosity. Thank you for the windows and for the stories they tell. Thank you for your grace and for all the ways that grace flows to us. In Jesus' name, amen.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ken".

Dr. Ken Dunivant, Senior Pastor