

Wild Rose United Church



A Treasury of Sacred Art

Welcome to Wild Rose United Church

Housed within the walls of our sanctuary are many priceless works of art—in stained glass and wood. Since the sanctuary was constructed in 1930 and over the course of many decades generous donors have transformed the windows and walls of the sanctuary with truly beautiful art work that has brought light and wonder to thousands of worshippers.

This handbook details each stained glass window and wood carving as well as the original Karn Organ that provided musical accompaniment in the early days of the church's existence. Unfortunately many of the stories of the people associated with the windows are oral and have not been written down. We would appreciate any further details on the lives of those associated with our "sacred art". Please contact the Archives and Memorial Committee through the Church Office.

Take a leisurely walk around the sanctuary and narthex. Take in the beauty created by the hands of countless artists. Know that you are surrounded by the spirit of those who have walked here before you.

The Archives and Memorial Committee
April 29, 2012

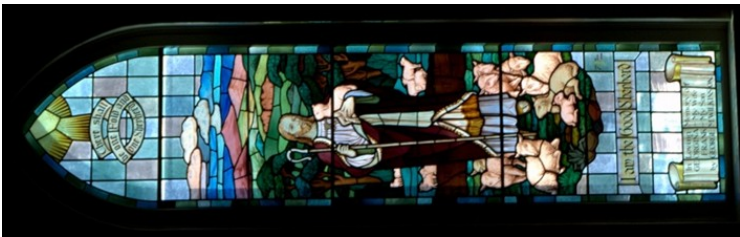
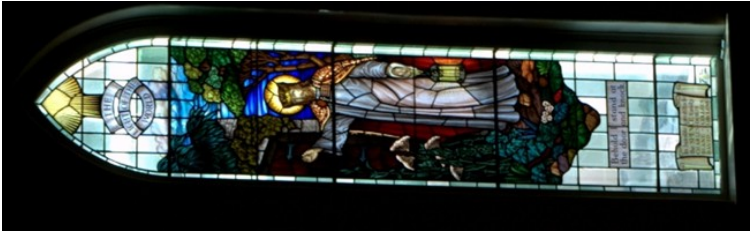
Our thanks to Barbara Ross, community volunteer, who contributed all the photographs for this booklet, with the exception of the wooden carvings, done by Kim Holmes-Younger.



There are seventeen stained glass windows in Wild Rose's sanctuary and narthex. Of these, fifteen windows were crafted by G. Maile and Sons, Ecclesiastical Art Craftsmen from Canterbury, England. These can easily be identified by the logo of a small armoured gauntlet-painted on the bottom of each window. Founded in 1875, G. Maile & Sons has hand crafted stained glass windows that now reside in churches all over the world.

The remaining two windows – the Remembrance window and the Ruth Reaping window – were created by Karl W. Lengauer of Avanti Art and Glass in Calgary. Mr. Lengauer trained at the Academy of Fine Arts in Vienna.

In addition to the windows with images, there are nine original glass and plain glass windows located throughout the church.



South Wall

Behold, I Stand at the Door and Knock: Christ with Lantern at Door

The Spence Family in humble gratitude Charles, Doris, Diane, Colleen, David, Gaylene, 1969

Mrs. Spence taught in the Sunday School during the era of North Hill United Church before the congregation renamed itself Rosedale United Church following amalgamation with Crescent Heights United Church in 1968.

South Triptych: Suffer Unto Me the Little Children

The significance of the triptych, or set of three, in western Christian iconography: according to the iconography of the Medieval Church, which serves as the model for modern stained glass tradition, the triptych, or group of three, represents the union of three persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, in the one God-head of the Holy Trinity.

He Took Them: Mother and Child Observes

John Wesley Pinder by Mrs. Pinder and family, 1969

John Pinder was born in North Toronto, County York, Ontario in 1892. He married Ella Jane Balsdon and they had one daughter. Mrs. Pinder joined the original congregation of North Hill Presbyterian in 1912. She was not only a pioneer of this Church, but also of the United Church of Canada which came into being through the union of the Presbyterian (Church of Scotland) and Methodist churches in 1925. The Pinders were kind, loving and generous people.

Up In His Arms: Christ with Holy Spirit

David & Ann Scott by George A. Scott, 1964

David and Ann Scott sang in the church choir at North Hill United Church for many years.

And Blessed Them: Mother and Children

Mrs. Florence Ingram by Mr. Hector Ingram (husband) and family and friends, 1964

I am the Good Shepherd: The Good Shepherd

In Loving Memory of Georgina – My Wife, Frank – My Son

by George M. Wilkinson 1969

The Wilkinson window depicts Jesus as the Good Shepherd.

George Miles Wilkinson came west to Calgary in 1909, acquiring an electrical company in 1920. He built a home on Crescent Road in 1921. George's wife, Georgina Madden Wilkinson, was deeply dedicated to church life at North Hill United Church. She was an active member in many organizations including the Women's Missionary Society (WMS), Ladies Aid Society (LAS), and Sunday School. Their son, Frank, died at an early age.



The Crucifixion: Crucified Christ flanked by St. John (the beloved disciple) and the virgin

Ethel May & Owen Hugo Hoover, 1978

Both Clerestory windows were shipped from England in 1978. They each weighs 214 Kg or 471 lbs!

The two clerestory windows depict the most powerful events in Christian teaching: The Crucifixion, which is above us here, and the Triumphant Christ sitting at the right hand of God in the Clerestory window directly opposite the Crucifixion.

The Hoovers were members of the founding congregation of North Hill Presbyterian Church, which was active from 1910-1925. In 1960, they were also honoured at the sixtieth anniversary celebration of North Hill United Church for their long-standing commitment and involvement in the congregational community. As part of their ongoing and tireless involvement in the daily operation and long term organization of the church, the Hoovers were heavily involved in the construction of the Christian Education building in 1957 and the amalgamation process between North Hill and Crescent Heights United Churches in 1968.

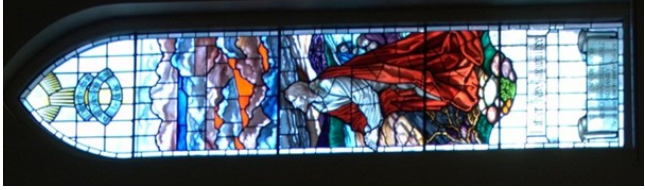


The Risen Triumphant Christ in Majesty

David and Dorothy Little, 1978

As described in the Book of Revelations, the design includes two Angel figures and seven Golden Candlesticks and the seven Stars.

Grace Stonewall, a member of Wild Rose United Church and a Little, passed away in 2004. Grace was a proud Calgarian, born to parents, David and Dorothy Little, early Calgary homesteaders and business people. She attended Balmoral and Crescent Heights Schools. An honorary life member of the National Council of Women and president (1959 to 1963) of the Local Council of Women, she was influential in the preservation and protection of Prince's Island as a park, in the formation of the Native Indian Rest and Friendship Centre, and the preservation of James Short Cupola. Her longest commitment was to the acquisition of land for Nose Hill Park. She was also a strong supporter of the Stampede and never missed one, even in the last year of her life. She served as president of Mount Royal College Auxiliary, served five years on the Library Board and two terms as a member of the inaugural University of Calgary Senate. After her husband retired from the Calgary Herald, they became very active members of the Calgary Outdoor Hiking and Skiing Club and the Calgary Seniors Skaters.



North Wall

Father I Have Known Thee: Jesus at Gethsemane

In Memory of Florence & Arthur Turner

Our other true Alberta pioneer, Arthur Turner, was born in Scotland in 1886. He came to Canada as a young man in 1905 to take part in the great expansion and European settlement of the west. He settled in Alberta in 1908 where he homesteaded. He arrived at Calgary with \$20 in his pocket and spent his first night here at the old Salvation Army men's barracks on 9th Ave. He was advised that the CPR was giving away good land about 100 miles from Calgary. Arthur set off on foot and walked the 100 miles to stake his claim. He married his beloved "sweetheart" Florence in 1916, and was almost immediately sent off to fight on the Western Front with Lord Strathcona's Horse. Following the war, he opened a carpentry shop at 1112 Centre Street N. Florence was the first female elder of the church and a pioneering member of the Women's Missionary Society. Eva Turner (daughter-in-law) was a soloist at North Hill United Church as early as 1930.

St. Luke: Evangelist and physician with his symbol of the cow. 1967 1st in triptych

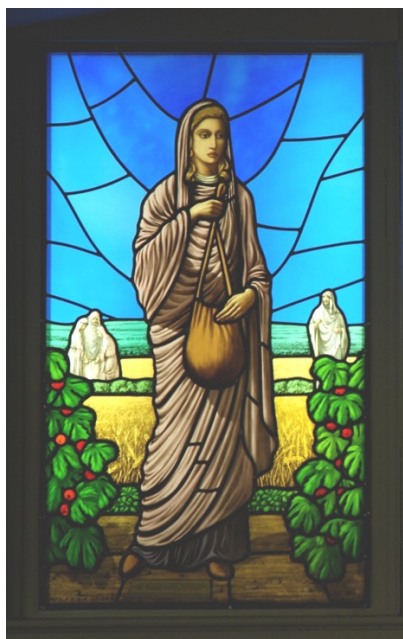
In Loving Memory of Dr. J. N. Johanson by wife & family, 1967

Baby Jesus Manger Scene: Crèche Scene with Holy Family, 2nd in triptych

In Loving Memory of Mrs. Dorothy L. Miller by husband & family, 1967 The first crèche was made by St. Francis of Assisi in 1209 at San Damiano near Assisi, in Umbria, Italy. The crèche has become the central icon in Christian churches at Christmas time ever since.

St. John (The Evangelist): figured with his symbol, the eagle, 3rd in triptych

In grateful memory of John Franklin Trick by Mrs. Trick & family, 1967



Under Balcony



Ruth Reaping, 2nd in diptych: **Ruth 2: 18**

In Memory of Lewis and Gladys McCook by their family,
1989

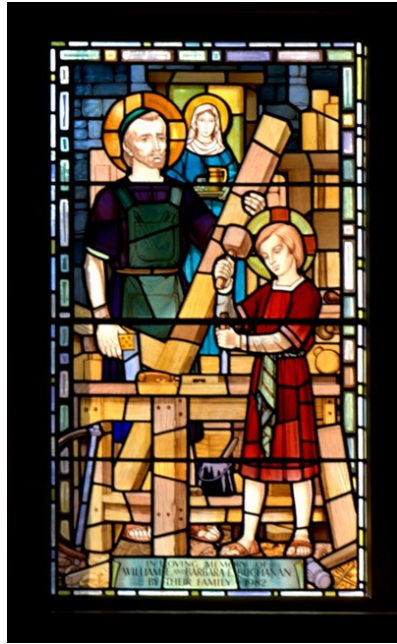
Lewis Grant McCook Jr was born in Inverness, Scotland in 1904 and immigrated with his family to Calgary in 1905. He ran a successful used car operation in Calgary for most of his life, as well as volunteering as a Scout leader at North Hill United Church. He married Gladys Eddie in 1927 and they had four children. Gladys was born in Glencoe, Ontario in 1906. Her family moved to Carstairs in 1918. Gladys became a teacher and taught in Acme and Carstairs as well as at Crescent Heights High School. She was very active at Rosedale United Church and played bridge with the same group for over 60 years. She was a kind, gentle and loyal person who was always ready to lend a hand.

Green and Yellow Glass: Believed to be the original glass installed in the church when constructed.



The Boy Jesus in the Temple, 2nd in diptych
The Boy Jesus Teaching in Herod's Temple at Jerusalem
In memory of Arthur Edward Lewis by Mrs. Helen Lewis Broznitsky, 1983

Arthur Lewis was born in Shanghai in 1922 and moved to Duchess, Alberta in 1927. After serving in World War II, he began his career with the CPR, where he stayed for the rest of his life. He married Gladys Marshall in 1948 and they had one son. In tribute to his outfielder days with the Purity 99rs of the Big Four League, a trophy in his memory (Hustle Award) was established in the 1950's. His CPR career highlight was serving as driver to Princess Elizabeth and Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, during their royal visit to Canada in 1948.



The Youthful Christ in the Carpenter's Shop,
1st in diptych

Jesus, as a Boy, in Joseph's Shop

In Memory of William E. & Barbara E. Buchanan by their family, 1983

William Ettershank Buchanan was born in Glasgow, Scotland in 1897. He served overseas in the Canadian Artillery and here at home as a member of the RCMP. He was an Elder at the Rosedale United Church as well as Commissioner of the Boy Scouts and member of the Leduc Masonic Lodge and Elks Club. He married Barbara Ellen Cromarty in 1921 and they had four children. Barbara was born in Pakan, Alberta (previously Fort Victorian) in 1898. She was one of Wild Rose's true Alberta pioneers. In 1853, Ellen's Grandfather was named the first Chief Factor at the HBC outpost at Fort Severin. A railway station on the Churchill line of the CNR is even named after the Cromarty family.



Remembrance Window: Navy, Army, Air Force: 1987, Hebrews 12:14 “Strive for peace with all men.”

Dedicated to the Members of Rosedale United Church who served in the Canadian Armed Forces. It displays the names of 47 members. The window was made by Karl W. Lengauer.



Come Unto me: Christ with Outstretched Hands, 1988
Munch Family: In humble gratitude Walter, Effie, Evelyn,
Audrey, and George

This window depicts the image of the risen Christ (note his outstretched hands bearing the wounds of crucifixion) welcoming or beckoning the faithful to him.

Stained Glass From the Former Pleasant Heights United Church



Bruce MacKenzie who did stained glass as a hobby, was asked to lead the Grade 7 and 8 Sunday School class in constructing the windows.

The first window depicts the beginning of the Lord's Prayer "Our Father who art in heaven".



These windows are a result of a Sunday School project begun in 1992 at Pleasant Heights United Church.

The second window is the emblem of The United Church of Canada. The youth worked in pairs to complete the project. Paul Hughes and Gary Bouey-Shank were two that contributed their efforts.

Pleasant Heights United Church joined Rosedale United Church in 2002 and brought these windows with them. They are now part of Wild Rose United Church's legacy and will eventually be displayed in the street level entranceway of the church.

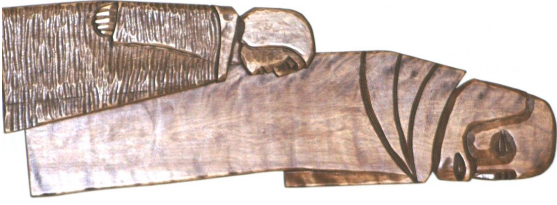


Above Balcony



Peace Window

In 1986 it was thought that this window could be designed and dedicated to peace, however it was never commissioned.



Our Wooden Carvings



Our Wooden Carvings

The wood carvings at the rear of the sanctuary depict Jesus feeding the multitude: Matthew 14: 19. These carvings were commissioned by Pleasant Heights United Church and installed in 1981 to honour all those involved in Christian Education, as exemplified by Bob Matthews, who died in 1978. The carver is Albert Gerritsen, a local artist who had formerly been a lay person at Mount St. Francis Retreat. The representative “crowd” have features of different nationalities. The carvings were initially installed on the main wall of the Pleasant Heights United Church Chapel and were moved to their present location at Wild Rose by the artist, without charge.

Another example of Mr. Gerritsen’s art is affixed to the sanctuary wall, directly to the left of the Choir Loft. This piece depicts Jesus addressing the crowd from a boat: Mark 4:1. The carvings honour four members of the former Pleasant Heights United Church congregation who served God diligently and faithfully for many years: Gar Gartry, Emily Moore, Arthur Moore and Rene Taylor.



Karn Organ

This organ was manufactured by the prestigious D.W. Karn Piano and Organ Manufacturing Company in Woodstock, Ontario in 1904. The organ was at the North Hill United Church until 1951, when John Digney, a Board of Stewards member, bought it and lovingly restored it to its former glory. Following John's death in September 2011, his wife Phyllis and family generously offered to return the organ to its original home for all to enjoy. In John Digney's memory, the organ was donated to Wild Rose United Church in February 2012 and re-dedicated to service in the church on April 29th, 2012.



Wild Rose United Church

1317 1st Street NW

Calgary, Alberta

T2M 2S5

277-5576

Fax: 276-2551

Email: wrucinfo@wildroseunited.ca

Website: www.wildroseunited.ca