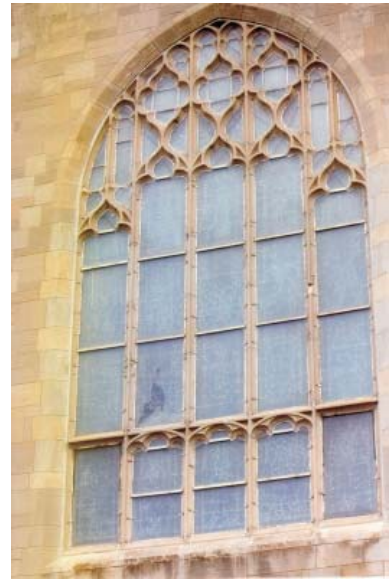


## HUMC's Stained Glass Windows

If everything goes according to plan as this is being written in mid-July, anyone who has attended services the past couple of weeks has noticed the work being done to protect the large stained glass window in the chancel area, one of many signature works of art in our building. Earlier this summer the trustees concluded that the many issues surrounding the windows needed attention. The problems have built up over the years due to a variety of issues, the primary ones being moisture leakage because of worn caulk and heat buildup. The Trustees voted to proceed with immediate repair and protection of the chancel window because of the severity of its condition. The pictures here illustrate some of the problems with this window.



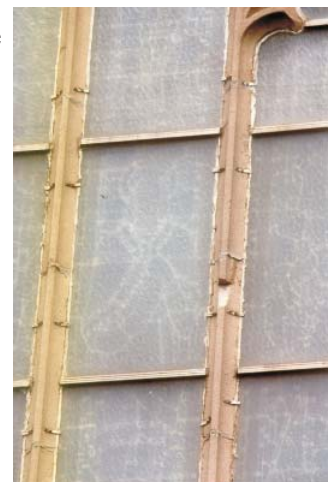
Two major problems led to the decision to take immediate steps with this window. First, a large pane of glass in the layer protecting the stained glass exploded due to heat buildup, putting the stained glass itself in jeopardy. Moisture was also coming in due to the missing and worn caulk around the window. Moisture has an adverse affect on the leading and frames for the stained glass and on the performance of the organ, another landmark of the Hamline United Methodist Church.

The cost of this one project is in the range of \$45,000, with approximately half that expense for tuck pointing and repair of the stonework surrounding the stained glass. While, as with the roof replacement last year, this is not an insignificant sum of money, the windows, in total, are valued in the millions of dollars. They are the building's greatest asset, as has been noted by many people numerous times over the decades.



The current plan is to restore other windows as funding and fund raising permits. The upper windows on the west side of the building are leaking, too, and will need restoration as soon as possible. The entire project will: A) protect the irreplaceable windows, B) enhance the vividness of the colors, and C) continue the effort to seal the interior of the building from water and moisture damage. Specific donations in support of window restoration should be marked for that purpose and would be welcomed as soon as you are able.

There will be a forum on September 27 to explain further what is needed and the best way to proceed with the work. More pictures of our windows illustrating what needs to be done and pictures of other churches to see how the improvements will look upon completion will be available. Our contractor will be in attendance to answer any questions at that time. For anyone with questions at the current time, please contact either Mary Bakeman or Roger Greiling.



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