



STAINED GLASS WINDOW RESTORATION PROJECT

AUGUST 2016 - FALL 2017

The First Presbyterian Church windows date back to 1892. Throughout the past century, there have been multiple efforts to maintain and protect the windows and structure. However, this year (2016) the session took on the momentous task of having the windows restored. After conducting a vast search of qualified contractors, they choose Lynchburg Stained Glass of Lynchburg, Virginia to perform the work.



On August 8th, Lynchburg began the task of carefully removing the windows. The removal process took a week as the contractor sealed the interior of the building with plastic, sealed the outside with plywood, and remove the windows.

At the Lynchburg studio, the team is using trace paper to essentially make a blueprint of each window. Then begin the arduous task of disassembling the windows down to each individual pane of glass. The process includes dislodging the glass from the came (a slender grooved lead rod used to hold together panes of glass) and lead that has held them in place for over a century.

Once safely removed, the glass is given a detailed cleaning to remove cement, lead, oils, and other residue. Each window is then repaired as needed.

Once restored each window is reassembled using new came and leading materials. The window sashes are inspected and repairs conducted as needed. Then each window will be reassembled to its' original beauty and staged for shipping back to Columbus.

The project should be completed in three phases: Phase I (First Avenue or west facing windows); Phase II (11th Street or south facing windows); and Phase III (main entrance or north facing windows).

