

### Stained Glass Shows Radiance For Celebrations Of Holy Day

Biblical stories and personages come to life in a blaze of color. Light and color combine to create an ever-changing mosaic. From dawn to day to dark, patterns vary with the light. Designs seem to live and move as colors change in intensity.

While Christians around the holy festival of Christmas, these dazzling effects add to the beauty and solemnity of the celebration, as stained glass windows shed their radiance throughout churches large and small.

The art of creating stained glass windows is ancient—known in the ages before recorded history began, say the editors of the Encyclopedia Americana. Yet the windows themselves seem always

new. As light plays upon the colors of the glass, the living beauty of the windows is constantly renewed and reborn. Appropriately, the age-old yet ever new story of the Nativity is a favorite subject for these windows. Through the centuries, artist craftsmen have preserved the spirit of the first Christmas in stained glass.

Thus for countless worshippers this Christmaside, the light that shines through the stained glass windows of their churches illuminates the wonder of Christmas.

The "why" of using stained glass windows in churches—and secular buildings, too—is simple and logical. Like all windows,

they're intended to admit light and keep out wind and weather. Colored glass helps in controlling both the amount and the quality of light admitted to buildings. And the combination of light and color forms patterns appealing and restful to the eye. Traditionally, stained glass windows complement the architectural design of the building where they appear.

**HOW IT BEGAN**  
The "how" of creating stained glass windows is complicated—in some respects as difficult and time-consuming as it was in the Middle Ages, although modern methods and equipment do give today's stained glass artist certain advantages.

The rainbow-like effect of the windows comes from pieces of glass—sometimes, hundreds of pieces—fitted together and held together with strips of lead.

Today's artists don't have to make their own glass, leads and pigments. That's one advantage they enjoy that was denied to the early artist craftsman.

But they do have to plan and work painstakingly, from the beginning of a scale drawing in precise colors through the development of actual-size paper patterns and on to such final steps as firing, glazing and cementing.

**WHAT IT SHOWS**  
The art of stained glass window reflects nearly every artistic style and movement of the past several centuries, including Romanesque, Byzantine, Gothic, Renaissance, Romantic and modern.

Until the late Gothic period, artists believed that a stained glass window should be decorative rather than pictorial. With the Renaissance came a trend toward illustration rather than

design. In succeeding years, the balance of traditionally decorative and more pictorial styles.

**HOW IT CONTINUES**  
A relatively small band of artists keeps the art of the stained glass window alive.

In a discussion of stained glass art in North and South America, the American lists some 24 artists working in stained glass, in studios throughout the United States, as well as others in Canada, Mexico and South America.

Among them are revivalists who work in terms of the earliest traditions of stained glass. Other artists take the contemporary approach, but their use of free forms carries out the belief that light and pattern, rather than illustration, make a picture in stained glass.

Christmas presents are a great way to share the holiday joy, but loose wrappings and paper can become a real fire hazard, warns Liberty Mutual Insurance Companies. Christmas-morning confusion can have the house in an uproar and a lighted match or cigarette that is carelessly dropped in the wrappings can have the house in flames. If you are a memento collector, store these "goodies" in a safe place.

Visiting friends and family during the Christmas season is part of the holiday fun, but often trips are planned on too tight a schedule. Liberty Mutual Insurance Companies suggest that you plan trips well in advance and don't try to "make up time" on the road. Better to lose time than life on a dark winter road due to poor driving conditions.



*Our Best Wishes to All of You*  
We're wishing the best for all of our friends this Christmas. Hope lots of fun and happiness come wheeling your way. We appreciate your trust.

**SOUTHWELL**



**CHRISTMAS GREETINGS**

It's the merry arrival of the holiday season, bringing with it our cheeriest good wishes to all our valued customers. Serving you has been our pleasure and we sincerely thank you for your friendship and trust in us.

# City Utilities Department

- ELECTRIC POWER
- WATER
- NATURAL GAS

*Merry Christmas*

May your tree be trimmed with all the fun and festivity of the Christmas season.

This greeting comes your way with deep appreciation for your patronage and good will.

**PHIFER HARDWARE COMPANY**

**'Twas the Night Before Christmas...**

Time for us to say thank you to our many friends, wishing them all "Merry Christmas"!

**Dellinger's Jewel Shop**