



# In His Image

Art Ministry for First Presbyterian Church



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The purpose of Art Ministry (like Music Ministry) is to enhance the worship experience, by combining our creative skills to conceptualize, design, create and install large scale liturgical art in the worship environment. It is sometimes called "Ministry of Liturgical Environment". We already do this with Hanging of the Greens, the Tenebrae service, and adornments for Easter and Pentecost, as well as digital artwork and video for the Emerging Worship services.

Our regular workshop will be Monday nights at 7:00 pm throughout the liturgical year in Fellowship Hall. It will be geared for youth and adults, but not children. Church membership is not a requirement - bring your friends! And you need not commit for the entire year - participation on a per project basis is welcome.

The cover of this document shows examples of liturgical art; cut-paper banners (top right); origami sculptures (bottom right); fabric hanging for Pentecost (bottom left); frame from a projected digital video (top left). These projects were accomplished at minimal cost, and were created by congregation members working together. Their strength comes from a strong concept, and a desire to enhance the worship experience.

*One thing I asked of the LORD,  
that will I seek after:  
to live in the house of the LORD  
all the days of my life,  
to behold the beauty of the LORD,  
and to inquire in his temple.*

PSALM 27:4

On the following pages are images of our church sanctuary. They show the sanctuary as it is today, followed by examples of what might be done with very simple materials. These images are not necessarily meant to be the projects that we will work on, they are suggestions of the scope and vision of this project. Also included are the same images shown in a black and white "coloring book" style; they are meant for you to illustrate with your own ideas. Make copies of them, use tracing paper, and sketch out your thoughts any way you like. If you're not comfortable with drawing, don't worry - it's not a requirement for this ministry. Maybe you're better at expressing your ideas in writing, or verbally.

The projects we undertake will focus on an event, a season, or a celebration. We will start each project with a brainstorming session where we will share concepts, focus on the meaning of the event, and decide on a design and a means of expressing it. From there we will move into execution and then installation. We will focus on the sanctuary and the Narthex, but will consider all aspects of the church's physical environment, inside and out.

# Questions for Art Ministers

These are some suggested topics to reflect on; think about how you would participate and how your gifts might bring meaning to this ministry.

## The church environment

1. What in the church environment affects your worship experience, either positively or negatively?
2. How do you feel about the space? The light? The seating?
3. The images, windows, and sacred symbols such as the communion table and baptismal font?
4. Does the environment help the congregation identify with Christ? Does it help or hinder authentic worship? Does the environment draw you into the liturgy?
5. How is it to enter our church? Does it feel welcoming?
6. How does the Narthex serve to prepare us for worship?
7. How do adornments in the sanctuary affect the celebration?

## Your ministry

1. What are the gifts that God has given you? Are you a teacher, a speaker, an organizer? Are you mechanical, artistic, insightful, intuitive, compassionate?
2. How can you bring your gifts to this ministry?
3. How do you see yourself shaping the worship environment for your church?
4. How I prepare myself for worship?



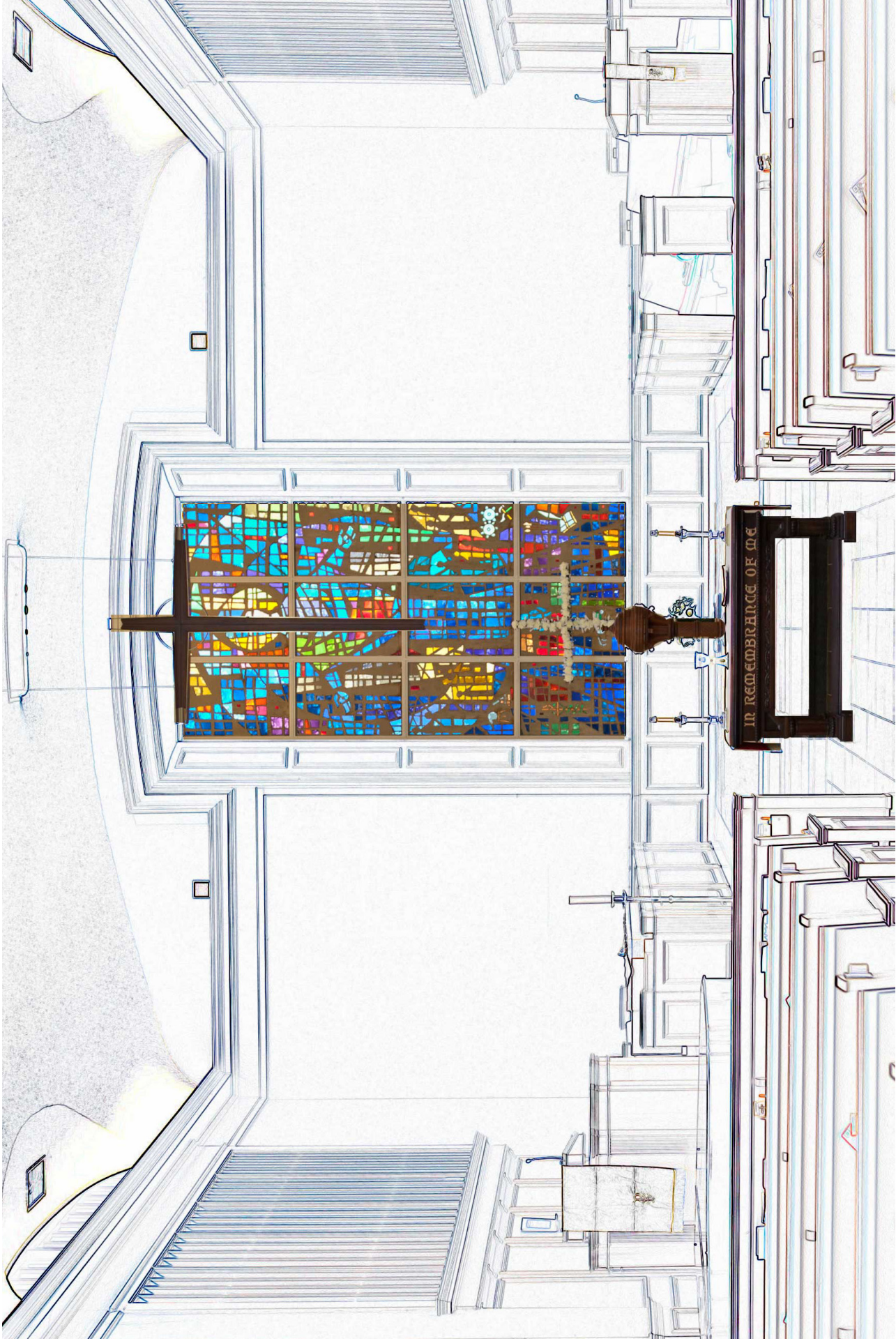
1. Top: The sanctuary as it now appears
2. Center: Suggested adornment: 30" x 72" banners can be printed or hand painted and hung from the ceiling. The effect is to draw our eyes upwards. *Materials: printed vinyl, wire, canvas and acrylic paint*
3. Bottom: On Good Friday, covering the stained glass window conveys mourning, loss, the death of Jesus and his descent to the dead. On Easter Sunday the panels would be removed to reveal the risen Christ. *Materials: painted corrugated cardboard, matte board, or fabric*



1. Next Page, Top: The sanctuary as it now appears
2. Bottom: An Advent design. Red backdrop paper is the primary material; upper banner is hand lettered on gold backdrop paper, and doves are cut from the same gold material.









**Do-it-Yourself Sanctuary Design Pages**

# Church Calendar September - December 2011

Take a look at the events and celebrations taking place in our church over the next few months. We probably can't address all of them, but we will focus on the ones that are important to you. How would you envision the environment for World Communion Sunday? Children's Sabbath? Advent?

<b>September 4</b>	Community Service at First Baptist Church	Matthew 18:15-20
<b>September 11</b>	CE Sunday	Matthew 18:21-35
<b>September 18</b>	Homecoming Sunday	Matthew 20:1-16
<b>September 25</b>	Evangelism Sunday	Matthew 21:23-32
<b>October 2</b>	World Communion Sunday	Matthew 21:33-46
<b>October 9</b>		Matthew 22:1-14
<b>October 16</b>	Children's Sabbath	1Thessalonians 1:1-10
<b>October 23</b>		Matthew 22:34-46
<b>October 30</b>	Reformation Sunday	Matthew 23:1-12
<b>November 6</b>	Stewardship	Matthew 25:1-13
<b>November 13</b>		Matthew 25:14-30
<b>November 20</b>	Christ the King Sunday	Matthew 25:31-46
<b>November 27</b>	First Sunday of Advent	1Corinthians 1:3-9
<b>December 4</b>	Second Sunday of Advent	Mark 1:1-8
<b>December 11</b>	Third Sunday of Advent	Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11
<b>December 18</b>	Fourth Sunday of Advent	Luke 1:26-38
<b>December 25</b>	Christmas Day	Luke 2:1-14 (15-20)

## Things We Need

Whether or not you can participate, there are materials, supplies and tools that will support this ministry. Consider donating or lending what you can. Paper, fabrics, mylar, foil, nylon or metal wire, hardware, large netting, rope, almost any kind of paint and brushes (house paint, acrylic, tempera), large drop cloths, findings or crafts supplies. We will pick up whatever you have.

## Resources

SUGGESTED READINGS AND LINKS:

**Energize your Art Ministry** - *Marilyn Dale*

**The Ministry of Liturgical Environment** - *Joyce Ann Zimmerman*

**Spaces for Spirit** - *Nancy Chinn*

[ecva.org/index.html](http://ecva.org/index.html)

[nancychinn.com/liturgicalart/](http://nancychinn.com/liturgicalart/)

[thenewr.org/](http://thenewr.org/)

[newjersey.anglican.org/arts/](http://newjersey.anglican.org/arts/)

[civa.org/](http://civa.org/)

FOR FURTHER INFO

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