

The stories of the Stained Glass windows.

If you are like me you sit and admire the windows in the sanctuary and the Narthex and wonder how they came about. Over the next year or so I hope to contact the people who made it possible for us to have these beautiful windows.

The first story is by Rob and Ruth Stapleford.

We moved to Oakville in June 1991 about fifteen months after my father passed away. After a brief search of churches and a captivating visit by our minister, Bill Brown, we joined Glen Abbey United Church and became active in the building of a new church in North West Oakville.

After the church building was completed a campaign was undertaken to see if there were interest in enhancing our sanctuary by installing stained glass windows at the front of the sanctuary. We talked it over in our family and let Bill know of our Interest. My Mom, who attended the Anglican Church in London thought this was a great idea and encouraged us to pursue this ideas as a fitting tribute to my father. One night Bill came to our house with the design created by Sue Ebata. He laid them out on our kitchen table and I sat and Bill and Ruth stood behind me. Almost immediately I was caught by the left hand window. To me it was the image of the wing of an airplane. Ruth agreed and we were happy that this window had not be yet been spoken for. When I described the window to my mother she was genuinely touched by the image that we described. The day that the windows were commemorated was a special day for our family and we were very happy to have a permanent and fitting memory for my father who had served as a navigator in the RCAF.

Description of the window.

The Stapleford Window – on the left.

By means of colour, line and symbol, the chancel window represents the birth, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, and the gift of the Holy Spirit to the disciples at Pentecost. In doing so, all four lights of the window relate to the cross at the center.

In the left light the traditional symbol of the Nativity, the star, tells of the beginning of Jesus' life. The small green areas coming from the star and moving down the window represent growth and beginnings. Green is also the colour of Epiphany. Blue represents Heaven and is the colour for Advent when we prepare for the coming of God into human life and history. Towards the bottom, the blue changes to turquoise and with the movement of line represents water, signifying the baptism of Jesus. The gray represents the earth where Jesus dwelt among us. The purple at the bottom of the left and center left lights foreshadows events of the Passion to come.

