LETTING THE LIGHT SHINE

Chapel Stained Glass Windows Provide Illumination and Inspiration
As visitors to the new Patty and Bo Pilgrim Chapel enter the sanctuary, they will see two beautiful stained glass windows, each painstakingly handcrafted, that have been made possible thanks to the generosity of two friends of DBU, Joan Trew of Fort Worth and June Hodges of Duncanville.

A real estate leader in Fort Worth, Joan Trew has served faithfully as a member on the DBU Board of Trustees for a number of years and has been a long-time friend of DBU, along with her husband, Phil. She is also an active member of the DBU Women’s Auxiliary Board (WAB), having served as the chair of the 2004 WAB Yellow Ribbon Luncheon. In 2005 the WAB presented her with the Ruth Award. Over the years, she has also been a strong supporter of the University, providing funds for building projects and scholarships. She is a member of Agape Baptist Church in Fort Worth.

Trew’s gift made possible the construction and installation of the Garden of Gethsemane stained glass window. The window, constructed by Lynchburg Stained Glass in Lynchburg, Virginia, is inspired by the classic painting of Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane by 19th Century German artist Heinrich Hofmann. Constructed from hand-blown German glass, the window stands at the front of the chapel above the stage area. The scene depicts Christ praying to God the Father on the night of His betrayal, as thunder clouds roll in depicting His coming death. In the distance, a faint glimmer of light is seen, showing a breaking dawn and a coming new life, thus allowing the magnificent window to simultaneously display the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

On the east side of the sanctuary is the Rose Stained Glass Window, made possible by a gift from June Hodges. June, and her late husband, Darwin, were long-time residents of Duncanville when June made her way to the DBU campus for the first time in 1991. Over the years, she has become one of the most faithful supporters of the University, providing scholarship funds and donations for various building projects, including the new Pilgrim Chapel.

The design of the DBU Rose Stained Glass Window is inspired by the Rose Stained Glass Window in Notre-Dame Cathedral in Paris. At the center stands a wooden cross, with a purple robe draped over the cross-beam, symbolizing the resurrection of Jesus Christ and also reminding students of the wooden cross that stands in front of the Burg Center, the site of DBU chapels for many, many years. Twelve petals extend from the center, each with a picture of one of the 12 disciples. These images were taken with special permission from artist Kenneth Wyatt’s special Apostles collection, which is currently on display on the second floor of Pilgrim Chapel. Along with the image of the apostle is a symbol either representing their martyrdom or their evangelistic call.