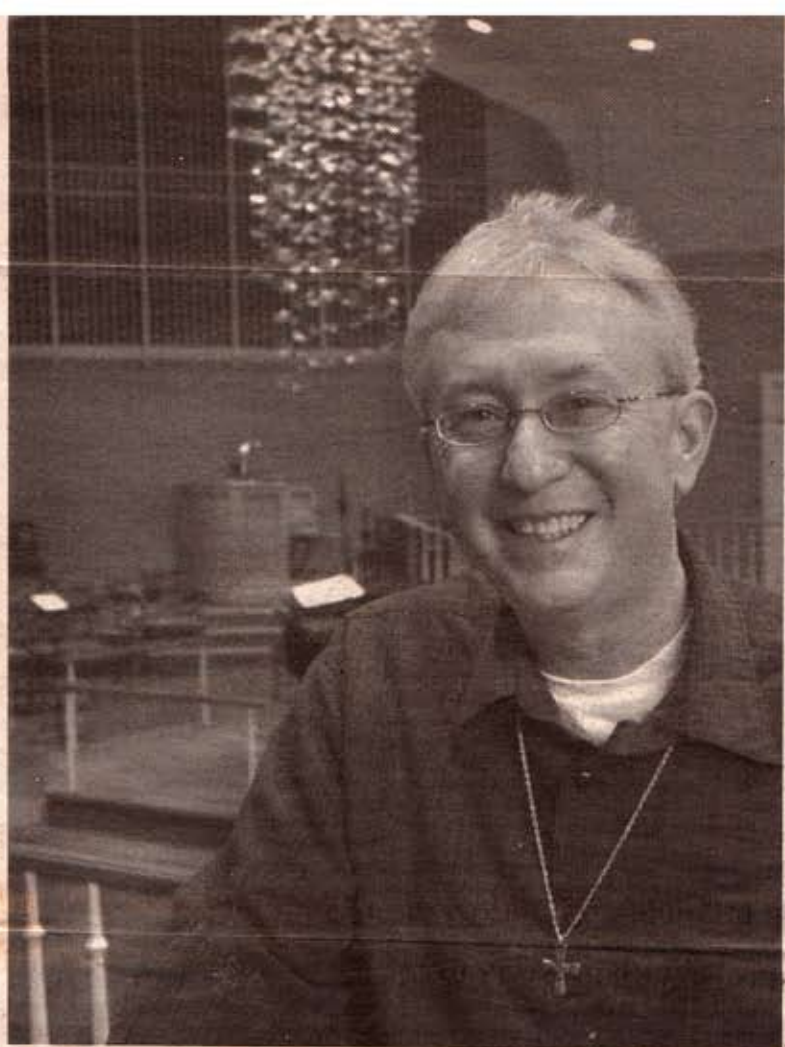


Queen Anne United Methodist Church

2007 Northwest Design Awards Competition



Rev. Roddy Rowe was photographed by Bradley Enghaus in the Queen Anne United Methodist Church sanctuary in spring 2006.

Not many people think about churches when it comes to winning design awards, but that's just what happened to Queen Anne United Methodist Church at the recent 2007 Northwest Design Awards Competition.

The competition recognizes interior-design professionals whose work has made a significant contribution to the design industry. Projects are judged on the basis of problem solving, creativity, quality of design and beauty of the space.

The United Methodist church redesign was completed in February 2006 by Stephen Marshall-Ward of Stephen Marshall Design Company, who saw the purpose of the project as transforming the old interior into "a flexible, inspiring and beautiful worship space for the 21st century."

He said further that "the new interior-design elements are connected to the original stained-glass windows, with colors and materials carefully chosen to connect these windows to the worship space. In addition, a stunning and dynamic piece of art over the altar was created to bring an even stronger central focus to the space.

"Over 1,200 abstract handblown

glass doves were suspended on jewelry-like stainless steel cables to design a helix-type sculpture bringing all the colors of the windows to the center of the room and captivating the attention of the worshipper toward an inspiring spiritual experience in the space," the designer concluded.

Said one of the judges, "I found the space to be simultaneously spiritual, warm and beautiful."

At the gala awards evening on Sept. 28, Rev. Roddy Rowe and his wife Alice may have felt a little out of place at the black-tie event, where other design award winners included luxury yachts and multimillion-dollar homes. In the end, the church design received a second place in the commercial division — remarkable given that it was the only church design submitted and a tremendous accomplishment for the Stephen Marshall Ward design firm: this was the firm's first submission to this competition.

Anyone who would like to see the sanctuary is welcome to visit for Sunday worship at 10 a.m., or stop by during weekday office hours, 9 a.m. to noon, or visit www.qaumc.org

—Submitted by Alice Rowe