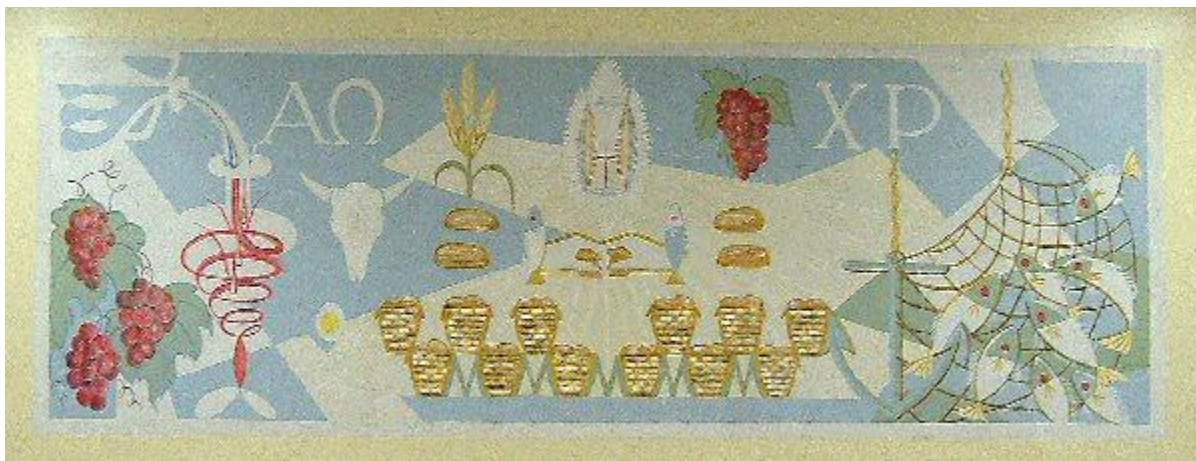


## Mural in Fellowship Hall



Newest addition to the use of symbolism in the church is the beautiful mural in Fellowship Hall, pictured above. Painted by Mrs. Rex Neely, the mural presents in symbols the miracles of our Lord having to do with food and fellowship - the loaves and fishes, the water and wine, and the fish within the net.

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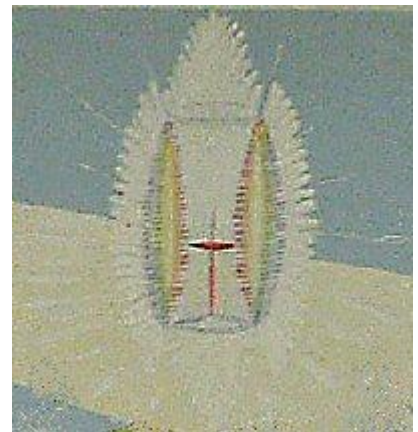
[Note Added: The artist was present for the Church's 75th birthday celebration and the picture at right was taken at that time. She died in 2002 and the following information is from her obituary in the Atlanta Journal/Constitution of January 27, 2002:



Jean Rita Hammond Neely Ericson, 88, of Atlanta, died Thursday, January 24, 2002. Jean was born in Weehawkin, New Jersey on April 19, 1913, the daughter of Margueritte Schermerhorn and Charles Hammon. She attended Syracuse University School of Fine and Applied Arts where she was a member of the Chi-Omega Sorority. She then transferred to Parsons School of Design in New York City and after graduation was offered a position to

head the Art Department of Montag Brothers in Atlanta. The logo on the Montag stationary still carries her original design. In 1947 she married E. Rex Neely. Mrs. Ericson was an artist member of the High Museum of Art. She studied with the late Ben Schute. She was Past President of the Lenox Park Garden Club and was instrumental in the plantings at the overpasses on the expressways. Mrs. Ericson was a member of the Second Ponce de Leon Baptist Church, the Fiedelus Sunday School Class, Circle #9 of the Women's Society and Past President of the WMU. For many years she was a patron of the Atlanta Symphony and active in many civic and local organizations. In 1979, after the death of E.Rex Neely, she married Alfred H. Ericson of Scarsdale, NY, who preceded her in death.]

To the early Christians, the main event of each gathering was the breaking of bread and the partaking of wine in remembrance of Christ. The symbolic cup of communion in the center is embraced within the threefold intertwining form which suggests the dove of the Holy Spirit, indicating that all Christian fellowship is under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. The color spectrum in the center symbolizes light.



The grains of wheat and the fruit of the vine signify the elements in communion as well as attributes of Christ, the Bread of Life and the True Vine.



**The Miracles of Fellowship began in Cana of Galilee with the changing of water into wine at a wedding reception.**



**In the miracle of the five loaves and two fishes, there were 5,000 fed and what remained was gathered up in twelve baskets.**



**Jesus performed the miracle of the draught of fishes twice; on the Lake of Gennesaret and later on the Sea of Tiberius. The first time the nets broke, the second time, although the nets were heavy, they did not break.**



The Greek letters Alpha and Omega (at left), the first and last of the alphabet, signify the beginning and the ending. The Greek letters Chi and Rho (at right) are letters for Jesus Christ and are used as symbols of worship.



The horns are a reminder of the fatted calf in the story of the Prodigal Son. The egg is symbolic of the new life in Christ - the rebirth and the resurrection.



The anchor symbolizes faith - the anchor of the soul.