

## Refinishing the Worship & Bishop's Chairs and Hymns Board (July 2011)

Four chairs used by the Worship Team during our services and the Bishop's chair have been stripped and refinished. The worship chairs are oak wood, and were dark, with their marred and scratched finish maybe 80+ years old. The Bishop's chair is mostly fir, with a large plywood back—also with a very dark and cracked finish.



Left: In the rear the Bishop's chair and in front the worship chairs before stripping. Right: The worship chairs before refinishing.



Left: The Bishop's chair, ready for stripping off the finish. Right: Two worship chairs already stripped, compared to another not yet stripped. Lacquer thinner and denatured alcohol did the trick and made quick work on all of the chairs.



Left: The Bishop's chair after stripping—nice medium mahogany color, with a white cross. Right: The Bishop's chair back in place in the sanctuary.



Left: Three of the worship chairs after refinishing back in their place in the sanctuary. They are now a lighter oak color, a little darker but similar to the other furniture in this space. Right: the completed Bishop's chair (for now!). Likely there will be a new cushion seat cover, maybe deep red or purple.



This old hymns board has been in the church for a long time and no one knows where it came from or who made it. Left: the hymns board hangs in the nave just in front of the door to the parish hall. Note how dark the finish is. Center: Just before stripping, sitting in sunny light it appears a little lighter. Right: After stripping off the old finish—nice stain color to refinish, and the cross and the edging at the top stand out much more.



Hanging back in place in the nave again—ready for use for many more years!