Cross is artistic symbol of belief

By SHERRY KAHAN

Worshipers in Augsburg Lutheran Church in Redford Township have a new focus for their Sunday contempla-tion, a cross blending the work of Dr. Ken McKersie of Dearborn Heights and Mark Talaba of Birmingham. Dr. McKersie, a member of the con-presation, made the worden cross

Dr. McKersie, a member of the con-pregation, made the wooden cross which is dedicated to the memory of Karl and Ruth Lehman Sr. and Clifford and Rena Palmer. The stained glass section of the project was carried out by Talaba, and dedicated to the memory of the Rev. Lightner A. Swan, pastor of the church from 1951-70. It was commissioned by Swan's wife, Ann, along with the Rev.

came from funds donated in memory of Swan.
Rising 11 feet, the cross is sea against a white background. Lights concealed within it heighten the red, purple and rose colors of the stained glass which flows upward at its side. The glass contains several symbols. The blue circle on the center stands for hope in the promise of God's love in Christ. A dove, a triangle, the letter A, and the Greek symbol for Omega are pictured in white against a red background at the top to the cross. The dove is the symbol of the Holy Spirit, and the triangle refers to the Trinity. The symbols of Alpha and Omega express Christ as the first and

Daniel Ward, present pastor. Financing came from funds donated in memory of Swan.

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form." he said. "When the light comes through the glass it is like being in the sau. The colors radiate out to you. Light fascinates me. I work directly with the effect of light." He grew up smid an artistic family in Union Lake, drawing and painting but never quite hitting on the art form that was for him. While at Michigan State University, he became interested in stained glass and before long had decided to make it his medium.

For 11 years he has made a successful living, mainly by installing stained glass windows in various churches.

Recognition has brought him invita-

Recognition has brought him invita-tions to lecture at the International

tions to lecture at the International Glass Arts Conference in San Francis-co.



Mark Talaba and the cross he worked on jointly with Dr. Ken McKersie. (Photo by Art Emanu-

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Fr. Iwuc is pastor of St. Joseph Church in Central Falls. R.I., and has served on the OLS board of regents and board of trustees. He is affiliated with many Polish and Catholic organizations and in 1974 received the first Ore-tions and in 1974 received the first Oremany Polish and Catholic organiza-tions and in 1974 received the first Orc-hard Lake Schools alumni association "Man of the Year" award. He is the 33rd recipient of the medal. Previous winners include Cardinal John Krol and Secretary of State Ed-mund Muskie.

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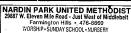
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