



THE ORGAN

UNIVERSITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
FORT WORTH, TEXAS

THE HISTORY OF OUR ORGANS

In 1935, the Cecil Morgan family presented the newly completed University Christian Church Sanctuary with one of the earliest Hammond electric organs in the city of Fort Worth. It served well for 23 years.

In the Advent season of 1957, Senior Minister Dr. Granville Walker surprised himself by announcing with absolutely no forethought that it would be an appropriate Christmas present to the church to give it a real pipe organ. Wouldn't it be wonderful, he asked the congregation, if he could announce on Christmas Eve that all the money had been pledged for such an instrument.

At the close of the service, he sought Emmet G. Smith, Professor of Organ at Texas Christian University, to ask about the cost of such an instrument. In a matter of hours, the two outlined the stoplist, or design. Within days, they approached organ companies for prices and dates of delivery. The cost for a Reuter organ with 41 sets of pipes was \$44,000; delivery would take one year. The largest single gift given toward the organ was \$3,000. Even children brought Dr. Walker their piggy banks. On Christmas Eve, he made the happy announcement that the organ was underwritten.

The Reuter organ was dedicated in December 1958, at morning services. Emmet Smith played afternoon and evening concerts to packed congregations, each beginning with the joyous "Wir Danken Dir, Herr Gott" ("We Thank Thee, God") by Johann Sebastian Bach. When installed, many of the organ pipes were displayed along the south wall of the Chancel.

Ten years later, enlargement of the Sanctuary doubled its cubic foot capacity. A small division called the Positiv organ was added to the Reuter, bringing the organ to 56 ranks. Even so, the basic organ proved to be thin and shrill in tone as it tried to fill the larger space with sound. Furthermore, all of the pipes were recessed into chambers and lost much of their power. The organ performed with little mechanical attention until it reached the age of 40, when leather in the mechanism that admits air into the pipes began to deteriorate, burning contacts developed in the electrical system. A decision had to be made about the future of the organ. In a church where splendid music is essential to the worship service and program, it was a crucial decision.

Under the leadership of Rev. R. Scott Colglazier, the challenge of a capital campaign was undertaken to enlarge educational facilities and improve acoustics and sight lines in the Sanctuary, a new organ was included in the planning.

When the Garland organ was dedicated September 29, 2002, the celebratory concert, played by Bradley Hunter Welch, began with the same piece of music that opened Smith's recital in 1958 on the Reuter organ, Bach's "We Thank Thee, God."



THE NEW GARLAND ORGAN

Many of the stops in the 1958 Reuter Pipe Organ were too beautiful to lose, so Garland Pipe Organs Inc. agreed to incorporate these pipes into the new instrument.

Two new oak cases display polished zinc and pure tin pipes across the front of the Chancel wall on either side of the cross and the round window. This arrangement allows the Principal pipes of the organ to speak directly down the Nave of the church, producing the best possible tonal result in our long Sanctuary.

UCC is now blessed and fortunate to have an instrument versatile enough for worship leadership, choir accompaniment and professional guest recitalists. Recitals at UCC have ranged from theater organ style accompaniment to silent movies to great classic literature played by the best cathedral organists from France. This Garland organ will indeed provide decades of inspirational music to our congregation.

A lift has been installed under the floor on which the console rests, allowing the console to be lowered for worship, or raised to the main Chancel floor level. The Chancel railing at the back of the console can be removed, allowing the console to be rolled to the center of the Chancel. The recitalist and the organ can be viewed by the audience during a concert, making the event more enjoyable.

The new console can be moved on built-in casters to different locations in the Chancel, permitting proper placement of the organist for oratorio and orchestra performances. Four, rather than three manuals of the former organ will greatly expand the organ's capabilities, as will the many additional combination pistons (presets) and memory levels. Now, each organist can have his or her own set of pistons to use in preparing the music for services.

Following weeks of assembling the thousands of parts of the mechanism inside the church, and then fitting the 4,083 pipes into the proper windchest holes, the tonal finishing began. Each pipe was adjusted for pitch, volume and tone color to fit the Sanctuary's acoustical environment. The final "voicing" of the organ largely determines the musical qualities of any pipe organ.

The Sanctuary Organ Specifications

GREAT ORGAN

Manual II

Violone.....	16'
Principal.....	8'
Octave	
(from Pedal Octave).....	8'
Violone	
(from Violone 16).....	8'
Rohrflute.....	8'
Harmonic Flute.....	8'
Octave.....	4'
Spillflute.....	4'
Super Octave.....	2'
Fourniture IV	
Cymbel III	
Trumpet.....	8'
Krummhorn	
(from Choir).....	8'
Tuba	
(from Solo).....	8'
Tremulant	
Great to Great.....	6'
Great Unison Off.....	8'
Great to Great.....	4'

SWELL ORGAN

Manual III-Expressive

Gedeckt.....	16'
Geigen Principal.....	8'
Holzgedeckt	
(from Gedeckt 16).....	8'
Salicional.....	8'
Voix Celeste.....	8'
Flauto Dolce	
(from Choir).....	8'
Dolce Celeste	
(from Choir).....	8'
Principal.....	4'
Blockflute.....	4'
Nazard.....	2-2/3'
Octave.....	2'
Spitzflote	
(from Gedeckt 16).....	2'
Tierce.....	1-3/5'
Plein jeu IV	
Contra Trumpet.....	16'
Trumpet.....	8'
Trompette	
(from Contra Trumpet).....	8'
Oboe.....	8'
Vox Humana.....	8'
Clarion	
(from Contra Trumpet).....	4'
Tremulant	
Swell to Swell.....	16'
Swell Unison Off.....	8'
Swell to Swell.....	4'

CHOIR ORGAN

Manual I-Expressive

Flauto Dolce.....	16'
Principal.....	8'
Bourdon.....	8'
Waldflute.....	8'
Gamba	
(from Solo).....	8'
Gamba Celeste	
(from Solo).....	8'
Flauto Dolce.....	From 16'
Dolce Celeste.....	8'
Unda Maris II.....	8'
Prestant.....	4'
Koppelflute.....	4'
Gemshorn.....	2'
Larigot.....	1-1/3'
Siff flute.....	1'
Sesquialtera II	
Scharf III	
Krummhorn.....	16'
Tuba	
(from Solo).....	16'
Clarinet.....	8'
Krummhorn	
(from Krummhorn 16).....	8'
Tuba	
(from Solo).....	8'
Trompette-en-chamade.....	8'
Tuba	
(from Solo).....	4'
Chimes	
Harp	
Tremulant	
Choir to Choir.....	16'
Choir Unison Off.....	8'
Choir to Choir.....	4'

SOLO ORGAN

Manual IV-Expressive

Diapason.....	8'
Gamba.....	8'
Gamba Celeste.....	8'
Solo Flute.....	8'
Diapason.....	4'
Grand Fourniture VI	
Tuba.....	16'
Tuba	
(from Tuba 16).....	8'
English Horn.....	8'
Orchestral Oboe.....	8'
Tuba	
(from Tuba 16).....	4'
Trompette-en-chamade.....	8'
Chimes	

Harp

Tremulant

Solo to Solo.....	16'
Solo to Unison Off.....	8'
Solo to Solo.....	4'

PEDAL ORGAN

Contrabass

(Walker).....	32'
Contra Bourdon	
(Walker).....	32'
Open Wood.....	16'
Principal.....	16'
Violone 16	
(from the Great).....	16'
Flauto Dolce	
(from Choir).....	16'
Bourdon.....	16'
Gedeckt	
(from Swell).....	16'
Octave	
(from Principal 16).....	8'
Bourdon	
(from Bourdon 16).....	8'
Flute	
(from Solo).....	8'
Gedeckt	
(from Swell).....	8'
Salicional	
(from Swell).....	8'
Super Octave	
(from Principal 16).....	4'
Bourdon	
(from Bourdon 16).....	4'
Gedeckt	
(from Swell).....	4'
Contra Bombarde	
(Walker).....	32'
Bombarde.....	16'
Contra Trumpet	
(from Swell).....	16'
Krummhorn	
(from Choir).....	16'
Tuba	
(from Solo).....	8'
Bombarde	
(from Bombarde 16).....	8'
Trompette-en-chamade.....	8'
Bombarde	
(from Bombarde 16).....	4'
Krummhorn	
(from Choir).....	4'
Chimes	

COUPLERS

Tilting Tablets

Great to Pedal.....	8'
Great to Pedal.....	4'
Swell to Pedal.....	8'
Swell to Pedal.....	4'
Choir to Pedal.....	8'
Choir to Pedal.....	4'
Solo to Pedal.....	8'
Solo to Pedal.....	4'
Swell to Great.....	16'
Swell to Great.....	8'
Swell to Great.....	4'
Choir to Great.....	16'
Choir to Great.....	8'
Choir to Great.....	4'
Solo to Great.....	16'
Solo to Great.....	8'
Solo to Great.....	4'
Swell to Choir.....	16'
Swell to Choir.....	8'
Swell to Choir.....	4'
Solo to Choir.....	8'
Choir to Swell.....	8'
Solo to Swell.....	8'
Great on Solo	
Great/Choir Transfer	
All Swells to Swell	
Cymbelstern Reversible	
Piston	
14 General Pistons affecting	
all stops and couplers,	
duplicated by toe studs	
10 Local Pistons each for	
Great, Swell, Choir and	
Pedal	
6 Local Pistons each for	
Solo and Local Couplers	
128 Levels of Memory for	
Combination Action	
12 Reversible for	
Bombardes, Mixtures,	
Full Organ, Pedal	
Couplers, Reeds, Manual	
16' off and all Swells to	
Swell	

In 2019, a new Solid State Sequencer Organ System was added as well as Piston Readout Lights and forward and back toe pistons.