

New Organs



Console

**Lewis & Hitchcock, Inc.,
Beltsville, Maryland
Hughes United Methodist Church,
Wheaton, Maryland**

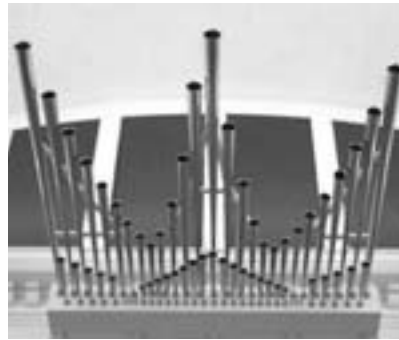
The Newcomer brothers, Harold and Ed, were masters at "remanufacturing" organs. The Newcomer Organ Company of Washington, D.C., produced a number of these instruments, one of the finest of which they built for Hughes United Methodist Church of Wheaton, Maryland, in 1966. The windchests and pipes were mainly from E. M. Skinner and Möller organs, with new pipes by Möller and Trivo, and a new Möller three-manual drawknob console. The organ had 35 ranks in two chambers up front and an antiphonal above the rear balcony. Space was left in the chambers

for additional stops, and knobs were prepared on the console.

In 1983 the Newcomer firm was purchased by Lewis & Hitchcock, and the two firms eventually merged. When some repairs due to age were required, discussions began about improving the chancel area and completing the organ. The final outline was:

1. The church would remodel the chancel, removing all carpet and installing hardwood floors. The choir pews would be removed and be replaced with chairs. The chamber grille cloth would be replaced, and the chamber ceilings and walls repaired where required.

2. The organ would be physically renewed as required. New blowers would be provided for the main and Antiphonal



Trompette en Chamade

organs, and new rectifiers provided.

3. The organ console would be totally rebuilt with solid-state action, and be placed on a new, rolling platform, so that it could be located anywhere in the chancel area.

4. New and rebuilt pipework would be added to complete the specification, and some of the existing pipework moved to a more appropriate location.

5. A new Trompette en Chamade would be added to the Antiphonal division.

The completed instrument now totals 47 ranks. The organ is very versatile and able to provide support for soloists, choirs, and congregation. The new solid-state equipment occupies less space than the previous system, so a storage space for music and shoes was created in the left side of the console. The new oak parquet platform may be easily moved throughout the chancel area. The new systems include a transposer and multiple-memory combination action with settable crescendos, and a MIDI system with sequencer to record and play back performances. The remodeled chancel has improved the acoustics and has proved very useful for the wide variety of services held there.

The late Randy Skinner was chair of the organ committee that selected the Newcomer firm to provide the organ. Sharon Skinner, his daughter, was the chair of the trustees in charge of the rebuilding work. Organist Van Knauss worked with Gerald Piercey to plan the tonal changes and additions.

Many pictures of the work in progress in the factory and in the church may be found in the Rebuilt Organs section of the Lewis & Hitchcock website: <www.lhorgans.com>.

—Text and pictures by Gerald Piercey, Lewis & Hitchcock, Inc.

**Hughes United Methodist Church,
Wheaton, Maryland
Rebuilt by Lewis & Hitchcock, Inc.**

GREAT

Chimes	21 tubes
16' Quintaton	61 pipes
8' Principal	61 pipes
8' Hohlfute	61 pipes
4' Octave	61 pipes
4' Nachthorn	61 pipes+
	rebuilt pipes on rebuilt chest
2' Fifteenth	61 pipes
1 1/2' Mixture III-IV	219 pipes
8' Bombarde	17 pipes+
	new, on new chest, and Ped 16' Bombarde
16' Great to Great	
8' Great Unison Off	
4' Great to Great	

SWELL

8' Rohrflute	61 pipes
8' Viol d'Gamba	61 pipes
8' Voix Celeste TC	49 pipes
4' Principal	61 pipes
4' Flute Traverse	61 pipes
2 3/4' Rohr Nazard	61 pipes
2' Zauberflöte	61 pipes+
	rebuilt, in place of RohrSordun
1 1/2' Tierce (prepared)	
2' Plein Jeu III	183 pipes+
	new, in place of Cymbal
16' Fagott	61 pipes+
	new, on new chest
8' Trompette	61 pipes
8' Hautbois	12 pipes+
	new, and 16' Fagott
4' Clarion (prepared)	
Tremolo	
16' Swell to Swell	
8' Swell Unison Off	
4' Swell to Swell	

CHOIR

8' Holz Gedeckt	61 pipes
8' Flauto Dolce	61 pipes
8' Unda Maris TC	49 pipes
4' Koppelflute	61 pipes
2' Blockflute	61 pipes
1' Cymbal III	183 pipes+
	moved from Swell, on new chest
8' Krummhorn	61 pipes
Tremolo	
16' Choir to Choir	
8' Choir Unison Off	
4' Choir to Choir	

ANTIPHONAL

8' Melodia	61 pipes
8' Dulciana	61 pipes
8' Unda Maris TC	49 pipes+
	rebuilt, on rebuilt windchest
4' Octave	61 pipes
2' Super Octave	61 pipes+
	rebuilt, on rebuilt windchest
1 1/2' Mixture III	183 pipes+
	rebuilt, on rebuilt windchest
8' Trompette en Chamade	61 pipes+
	new, on new chest
8' Trompette Harmonique	61 pipes
16' Antiphonal Bourdon	32 pipes
8' Antiphonal Bourdon (ext)	12 pipes

PEDAL

32' Untersatz (prepared as electronic extension, resultant at installation)+	
16' Subbass	32 pipes
16' Quintaton (Great)	
16' Lieblich Gedeckt	32 pipes
8' Geigen Principal	32 pipes
8' Bass Flute (ext Subbass)	12 pipes
8' Lieblich Flute (ext 16 Lieb)	12 pipes
4' Geigen Octave (ext)	12 pipes
4' Flute (ext Subbass)	12 pipes
5 1/2' Mixture II 44 pipes & 8' Geigen Pr	
32' Bombarde (ext, 12 electronic notes)+	
16' Bombarde	32 pipes+
	new, on new chest
16' Fagott (Swell)+	
8' Bombarde (ext)	12 pipes+
	new, on new chest
4' Clarion (ext)	12 pipes+
	new, on new chest

Couplers

8' Great to Pedal	
4' Great to Pedal+	
8' Swell to Pedal	
4' Swell to Pedal	
8' Choir to Pedal	
4' Choir to Pedal	
8' Antiphonal to Pedal	
4' Antiphonal to Pedal	
MIDI on Pedal+	
16' Antiphonal to Swell+	
8' Antiphonal to Swell+	
4' Antiphonal to Swell+	
MIDI on Swell+	
16' Swell to Great	
8' Swell to Great	
4' Swell to Great	
16' Choir to Great	
8' Choir to Great	
4' Choir to Great	
16' Antiphonal to Great	
8' Antiphonal to Great	
4' Antiphonal to Great	
MIDI on Great+	
16' Swell to Choir+	
8' Swell to Choir	
4' Swell to Choir	
16' Antiphonal to Choir+	
8' Antiphonal to Choir+	
4' Antiphonal to Choir+	
Choir/Great Transfer+	
MIDI on Choir+	

+ = additions/changes

Pistons

Under Swell: General 1-4, Swell 1-6, SFZ
Under Great: General 5-8, G/Ped, Great 1-6
Under Choir: Set, Pedal 1-6, Choir 1-6, GC

Toe Controls

Left: Gen 1-4, Gen 5-8
Center: Ch/Sw/Cresc shoes
Right: Gt/Ped, Sw/Ped, Ch/Ped, ZIMB, SFZ, Ped 1-6

Left Drawer

MIDI Resource Center
MIDI IN/OUT/THROUGH ports
Sequencer to record and play back

Right Drawer

Memory Level Selector 1-99
Crescendo Selector 1-4
Transposer +/- 6 half steps

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