

New Organs



Marceau & Associates Pipe Organ Builders, Inc., Seattle, Washington Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, Stanwood, Washington Opus 27, 2009

Marceau & Associates Pipe Organ Builders has completed their Opus 27 project at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church in Stanwood, Washington. The original instrument was built by Balcom & Vaughan Organ Builders of Seattle as their Opus 735, completed in 1968 for the First Presbyterian Church of Bellevue, Washington. This organ served as the primary musical resource for the Bellevue congregation until 1995, when a new sanctuary was built that included a new Casavant Frères pipe organ. At that time, the original sanctuary became the chapel, providing services on a smaller scale. In 2008, the chapel and adjoining buildings were slated for demolition to expand the current church campus. This news was brought to the attention of the organ committee of Our Saviour's Lutheran, who decided to purchase this organ instead of rebuilding and enlarging their existing Kimball/Balcom & Vaughan instrument.

In May 2008, with the help of volunteers from Our Saviour's, the organ was removed and transported to the Marceau organ shop in Seattle. From June to September, the organ was repaired, modified and redesigned to fit into the two organ chambers in Stanwood. The winding system was reduced to eliminate redundant reservoirs, a new electrical system by the Syndyne Corporation of Vancouver, Washington was installed, and all pipes were cleaned and revoiced for a more musical result. During the fall, the organ was installed and finished. It was used for the first time on Thanksgiving.

Since the original organ had no visible pipework, a new façade was designed with members of the church fabricating all of the casework. New polished zinc pipes from A. R. Schopp's Sons of Canton, Ohio were installed in January 2009. The organ contains 21 stops, 26 ranks and 1,572 pipes, with preparations for a Great 8' Erzähler Celeste and Swell 1 3/4' Tierce. While the Great principal chorus is unenclosed, the Great flutes and string stops are enclosed, allowing for a greater degree of expression from both manuals.

The Great 2 3/4' Quinte was not an original stop; this was created from the Pedal Mixture, which was not retained in the new stoplist. The principal chorus on the Great was revoiced to have a more prominent fundamental emphasis, which included reducing the dynamic output of the Mixture so that this stop now sits atop the ensemble without overpowering the listener with the original hard, glassy sound. The Swell 8' Trompette was also programmed to play from the Great, replacing the duplexing of the Swell 8' Hautbois from the original stoplist. The 16' Posaune is now extended from the 8' Trompette instead of the original 8' Hautbois. The result is a smoother segue to this low octave of pipes.

A special thanks goes out to Jon Stoneman of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church. His activities included the original planning of the organ project, removal and installation, providing volunteer help, technical advising throughout the project and providing home stays during the installation.

Members of the Marceau staff involved with the project included Sean Haley, René Marceau, Ruth Register, and Tom Skyler. Organbuilder Frans Bosman provided much needed technical assistance and support.

—René Marceau

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GREAT

- 16' Rohrbass (Sw)
- 8' Principal (part façade)
- 8' Gedeckt
- 8' Erzähler
- 8' Erzähler Celeste, TC
- 4' Octave
- 4' Spillflute
- 2 3/4' Quinte
- 2' Super Octave
- 1 1/2' Mixture IV
- 8' Trompette (Sw)
- Chimes
- Great to Great 16'
- Swell to Great 16'
- Swell to Great 8'
- Swell to Great 4'
- MIDI on Great
- Zimbelstern

SWELL

- 8' Rohrflute
- 8' Viola
- 8' Viola Celeste, TC
- 8' Erzähler (Gt)
- 8' Erzähler Celeste, TC (Gt)
- 4' Principal
- 4' Flute Douce
- 2 3/4' Nasard
- 2' Blockflute
- 1 3/4' Tierce
- 1' Plein Jeu III
- 16' Posaune (ext)
- 8' Trompette
- 8' Hautbois
- 4' Clarion (ext)
- Tremulant
- Swell to Swell 16'
- Swell Unison Off
- Swell to Swell 4'
- MIDI on Swell

PEDAL

- 16' Subbass
- 16' Rohrbass (Sw)
- 8' Principal (part façade)
- 8' Rohrflute (Sw)
- 4' Choralbass
- 4' Rohrflute (Sw)
- 16' Posaune (Sw)
- 8' Trompette (Sw)
- 4' Clarion (Sw)
- Great to Pedal 8'
- Swell to Pedal 8'
- Swell to Pedal 4'
- MIDI on Pedal



R. T. Swanson, Inc., Grand Ledge, Michigan St. John's Lutheran Church, Saginaw, Michigan

The history of the pipe organ at St. John's actually starts with an organ built by the Tellers-Kent Organ Company of Erie, Pennsylvania for St. Lorenz Lutheran Church of Frankenmuth, Michigan in 1930. When St. Lorenz bought a new Casavant pipe organ in 1967, their old instrument became available. William Kaltrider of Owosso, Michigan was engaged by St. John's to build an organ by reusing much of the St. Lorenz instrument and providing a new console, electrical system and two new blowers. By 2000, many of the 1967 components were becoming increasingly unreliable. Another problem with the 1967 installation was that the organ pipes were installed in two cramped chambers on both sides of the balcony and they spoke through very small tone openings, resulting in a "muffled" tone quality.

In December 2001, St. John's signed a contract with our company to build an essentially new pipe organ while salvaging as much of the previous instrument as was practical for reuse. Eighteen new windchests were built, allowing the most efficient layout for better tonal egress as well as better accessibility for tuning and maintenance. The action is electro-mechanical. The Swiss-made Meidinger blowers were connected to a new wind system that includes new reservoirs and swimmers to regulate the wind supply.

Most of the pipes of the Great and Choir-Positive divisions are on windchests cantilevered out from the balcony rail by way of steel framework. The windchests and frames are clad in contemporary oak cabinetry stained to match the other oak in the sanctuary. Three ranks of the Choir-Positive are expressive and located in their own enclosure. Of the organ's 25 ranks of pipes, 8 are new, 10 are from the St. Lorenz organ, and 7 are used ranks from other sources. All of the old flue ranks were reconditioned and revoiced in our shop. The Trumpet and Oboe ranks were reconditioned and revoiced by Trivo Company of Hagerstown, Maryland. The 8' Cromorne was built and voiced by Eastern Organ Pipes of Hagerstown, Maryland. All new flue pipes were built by CMC Organ Pipes of Erie, Pennsylvania and voiced in our shop.

The console cabinet from 1967 was retained and refitted with new manual keyboards, stop tablets and the new ICS 4000 control system by Peterson Electro-Musical Products of Alsip, Illinois. The ICS 4000 system features a 99-level combination action and complete MIDI capabilities including record/playback.

Tonal egress from the existing organ chambers was improved by enlarging the tone openings and by installing all new expression shades. Preparations have been made for the future addition of a horizontal brass Trompette en Chamade,

which will jut out from the center of the balcony railing.

A dedicatory organ concert on February 25, 2007 featured Professor Leonard Proeber from Michigan Lutheran Seminary in Saginaw.

—Richard Swanson

GREAT

- 8' Principal +
- 8' Doppelflöte °
- 8' Gemshorn
- 4' Octave +
- 4' Doppelflöte (ext) °
- 2 3/4' Twelfth TC +
- 2' Fifteenth (ext Octave) +
- 1 1/2' Mixture III +
- 8' Trumpet (Sw)
- Chimes
- Great to Great 16', UO, 4'
- Swell to Great 16', 8', 4'
- Choir to Great 16', 8', 4'
- MIDI on Great

SWELL

- 16' Bourdon
- 8' Geigenprincipal
- 8' Bourdon (ext) °
- 8' Violo de Gambe °
- 8' Voix Celeste °
- 4' Geigenoctave (ext)
- 4' Flûte Harmonique
- 2' Piccolo (ext)
- 2' Mixture III +
- 8' Trumpet °
- 8' Oboe °
- 4' Clarion (ext) °
- Tremulant
- Swell to Swell 16', UO, 4'
- MIDI on Swell

CHOIR-POSITIVE

- 8' Holzgedeckt
- 8' Flauto Dolce (expressive)
- 8' Flauto Dolce Celeste (expressive)
- 4' Principal +
- 4' Rohrflöte °
- 2 3/4' Nazard TC °
- 2' Octave (ext Principal) +
- 2' Rohrpfefe (ext) °
- 1 3/4' Tierce TC °
- 1 1/2' Quinteflöte (ext 2 3/4') °
- 8' Cromorne (expressive) +
- 8' Trompette en Chamade †
- Tremulant
- Chimes
- Choir to Choir 16', UO, 4'
- Swell to Choir 16', 8', 4'
- MIDI on Choir

PEDAL

- 32' Resultant °
- 16' Subbass °
- 16' Bourdon (Sw) °
- 8' Octave
- 8' Bourdon (Sw) °
- 8' Gemshorn (Gt)
- 4' Fifteenth (ext Octave)
- 4' Rohrflöte (Ch) °
- 2' Twentysecond (ext Octave)
- 16' Trombone (ext 8') °
- 8' Trumpet (Sw) °
- 4' Clarion (Sw) °
- Great to Pedal 8', 4'
- Swell to Pedal 8', 4'
- Choir to Pedal 8', 4'
- MIDI on Pedal

° = pipework from the 1930 Tellers-Kent organ originally at St. Lorenz, Frankenmuth
+ = new pipework

† = preparation for future addition