



Console, Trinity Reformed Church, Fulton, Illinois, before



Console, Trinity Reformed Church, Fulton, Illinois, after

Fabry, Inc. announces the completion of the rebuilt console and relay installation at Trinity Reformed Church, Fulton, Illinois. Installing the new Peterson ICS-4000 solid state system was the main part of the project; however, Fabry, Inc. builds a totally new interior for every rebuilt console they complete. Pedal keys, if worn, are cut and new maple naturals and walnut sharps are installed. New bolsters are provided for the additional toe studs.

Other work completed and additional repair projects signed for 2009 include First Church of Christ Scientist, Champaign, Illinois: recently re-leathered all wind supply reservoirs, installed new electric chime action, installed new electric Peterson shade actions, and as requested, produced a larger Plexiglas music rack; University Baptist Church, Champaign, Illinois: Fabry, Inc. has been commissioned to re-leather all wind supply reservoirs, install all new wind concussions, and repair warping keyboard covers; and Prince of Peace Catholic Church, Lake Villa, Illinois: Fabry, Inc. has been commissioned to add an 8' Trompette and III Mixture to their two-manual Schantz pipe organ. For information: <www.fabryinc.com>.

Parkey OrganBuilders has been commissioned by First Presbyterian Church, Gainesville, Georgia, to build a new three-manual/42-rank instrument for the sanctuary. The organ will replace a 1975 Möller. Mike Henry is the director of music for First Presbyterian. James Mellichamp of Piedmont College is the consultant for the project. The organ will be placed behind and above the choir, with direct sound

egress into the nave. Construction begins this summer with completion scheduled for early 2010.

In early 2009, Parkey OrganBuilders completed the mechanical and tonal renovations of the three-manual/53-rank organ for First United Methodist Church, Salisbury, North Carolina. Mechanical updates included renovating and upgrading the present console with solid state capture and relay systems. A simple piston sequencing system was added to the console along with new keyboards. The tonal renovations included replacement of all the reed stops, which were damaged due to humidity in the building. Also included was a substantial amount of revoicing to the fluework to better balance the organ for the room and congregational singing. The work was carried out under the direction of Phil Parkey, tonal director, and Matthew Brown, music director and organist. A recording of the instrument is scheduled for 2009 featuring Matthew Brown as the recording artist.

Parkey OrganBuilders will also release a new CD later this summer featuring the new Parkey organs at Church of the Good Shepherd, Lookout Mountain, Tennessee. For information: <www.parkeyorgans.com>.

Peterson Electro-Musical Products, Inc. announces a series of one- to three-minute videos demonstrating some of the most popular features of the ICS-4000™ pipe organ control system. More than a dozen videos are presently available, with more to follow soon. Each is intended to show organists and organ builders how easy it is to do such tasks as set up the programmable crescendo, use the built-in record/playback system, utilize Peterson's proprietary "Organist Folders™" system, and save piston registrations onto a USB "flash drive" memory stick. Visit <www.PetersonEMP.com>, then click on "ICS-4000 Instructional Videos."

Michael Proscia Organbuilder, Inc. has entered into an agreement with the Newnan Presbyterian Church, Newnan, Georgia, to commence phase I of a two-phase organ project. Phase I will concentrate on chamber renovation, cleaning and bringing the instrument up to code electrically, replacing all deteriorating felt and leather, reinforcing weakened structural supports, pipework repair, replacing crushed windlines, and other upgrades. Phase II will concentrate on stop additions for added versatility, tonal integrity, voicing, scaling and artistic merit. Prior to entering into the agreement, Proscia repaired the blower reservoir, then replaced the organ's Meidinger blower (the second blower in 83 years), which burned out two Sundays previously. They removed the original blower, and church volunteers removed the Meidinger, then prepared the space once occupied by the original, large, barrel-type blower, whose motor burned out decades ago but was never removed. The much smaller Meidinger blower was placed down in front of the original unit and wined into the reservoir by persons unknown. For information: <www.prosciaorgans.com>.

Looking Back

10 years ago in the August 1999 issue of THE DIAPASON

Cover: Jaeckel, Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church, Richmond, VA

James O'Donnell appointed Organist and Master of the Choristers, Westminster Abbey

Simon Preston re-appointed Artistic Director, Royal Bank Calgary International Organ Festival

Christopher B. Teal appointed Organ Scholar, Truro Cathedral

Gerre Hancock honored by New York City AGO chapter

Feature article: "In the footsteps of Gottfried Silbermann," by Aldo Baggia
New organs: Bedient, Létourneau

25 years ago, August 1984

Cover: Noack, Cathedral Church of St. John, Wilmington, DE

Lynn Trapp wins Ottumwa Undergraduate Organ Competition

Michele Johns appointed Director of Music, Epworth United Methodist Church, Toledo, OH

Hal Hopson appointed associate professor of music and resident composer, Scarritt College, Nashville, TN

Carl Durst dies at age 74

Feature articles: "Pistoia and Its Historical Organs, Part III," by Umberto Pineschi; "Scottish Organ Music Since 1950, Part II," by John E. Williams; "Isolde Ahlgrimm at 70," by Larry Palmer

New organs: Abbott and Sieker, Casavant, Koppejan, A. David Moore, Visser-Rowland

50 years ago, August 1959

R.C.C.O. 50th anniversary issue

Siegfried E. Gruenstein, founder of THE DIAPASON, honored with memorial plaque at First Presbyterian Church, Lake Forest, IL, where he served as organist for nearly half a century

News of Roberta Bitgood, Sir Ernest Campbell MacMillan, Charles Peaker, Harold W. Thompson, Fred Tulan, Camil van Hulse, Helmut Walcha, Joseph S. Whiteford, T. Carl Whitmer, Kenneth Edward Williams

Organs by Aeolian-Skinner, Austin, Casavant, Kney and Bright, Möller, Reuter, Schantz, Wicks

75 years ago, August 1934

News of Charles N. Boyd, J. Riley Chase, Marcel Dupré, Edward Eigenschenk, Francis Hemington, Arthur B. Jennings, Glenna Baker Leach, Hamilton C. Macdougall, John Sebastian Matthews, G. Darlington Richards, William R. Voris, Charles-Marie Widor, Henry Vincent Willis

Organs by Aeolian-Skinner, Austin, Estey, Frazee, Kimball, Kilgen, Möller, Reuter

Harpichord News

by Larry Palmer

The best medicine

Sing Alleluias forth (or seventh, to be exact!). This summer's light-hearted read to top all others has arrived in the pages of **Mark Schweizer's** latest liturgical mystery, *The Diva Wore Diamonds*, just published by St. James Music Press (ISBN 978-0-9721211-5-6; <www.sjmp



books.com>). Following the uproarious goings-on in *The Alto Wore Tweed*, *The Baritone Wore Chiffon*, *The Tenor Wore Tapshoes*, *The Soprano Wore Falsettos*, *The Bass Wore Scales*, and *The Mezzo Wore Mink*, skullduggery continues unabated at St. Barnabas Episcopal Church in the little town of Beth . . . , er . . . St. Germaine, North Carolina!

Police chief and organist-choirmaster Hayden Konig, now happily married to his longtime companion Meg, is looking forward to the dedication of a rebuilt church and its splendid new organ (replacing structure and instrument lost in a disastrous fire). He also continues to keep his choir in reading material with yet another faux-Raymond Chandler gumshoe mystery tale, typed on Chandler's original Remington typewriter (for those of you too young to know what that machine is, try googling the word). This story-within-a-story, cleverly related thematically to the primary plot, appears in typewriter-script throughout the book.

Musical references abound: I noted mentions of Elgar, Harris, Bach, Karg-Elert, Mahler, Mark Isham, Erich Korngold, Reger, Marcello, Purcell, Handel, and nearly the whole choral output of John Rutter. All these while sputtering with laughter at Schweizer's madcap inventions, including an International Thurifer Invitational, his engaging retelling of the biblical creation story, an unknown Purcell cantata (*Elisha and the Two Bears*), and a shady character named Pickett the Fence!

For the more scholarly among us I refer you to the July issue of *Hymns and Hers* magazine (see page 49), as well as to the sly digs at popular television shows (page 29), or the descriptions of pipe organ embellishments Zimbelstern and Nachtigall (page 97). And, just to keep this column slightly thematic, I am grateful for the harpsichord references on pages 138 and 141.

So lads and lassies, hie thee to an order source (electronic, manual, or vocal) and procure this bit of fun as quickly as possible. Better yet, order all seven of these liturgical mysteries. You will be better for it, if laughter truly is the "best medicine."

Comments and news items for these pages are always welcome. Send them to Dr. Larry Palmer, Division of Music, Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas 75275; <lpalmer@smu.edu>.

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