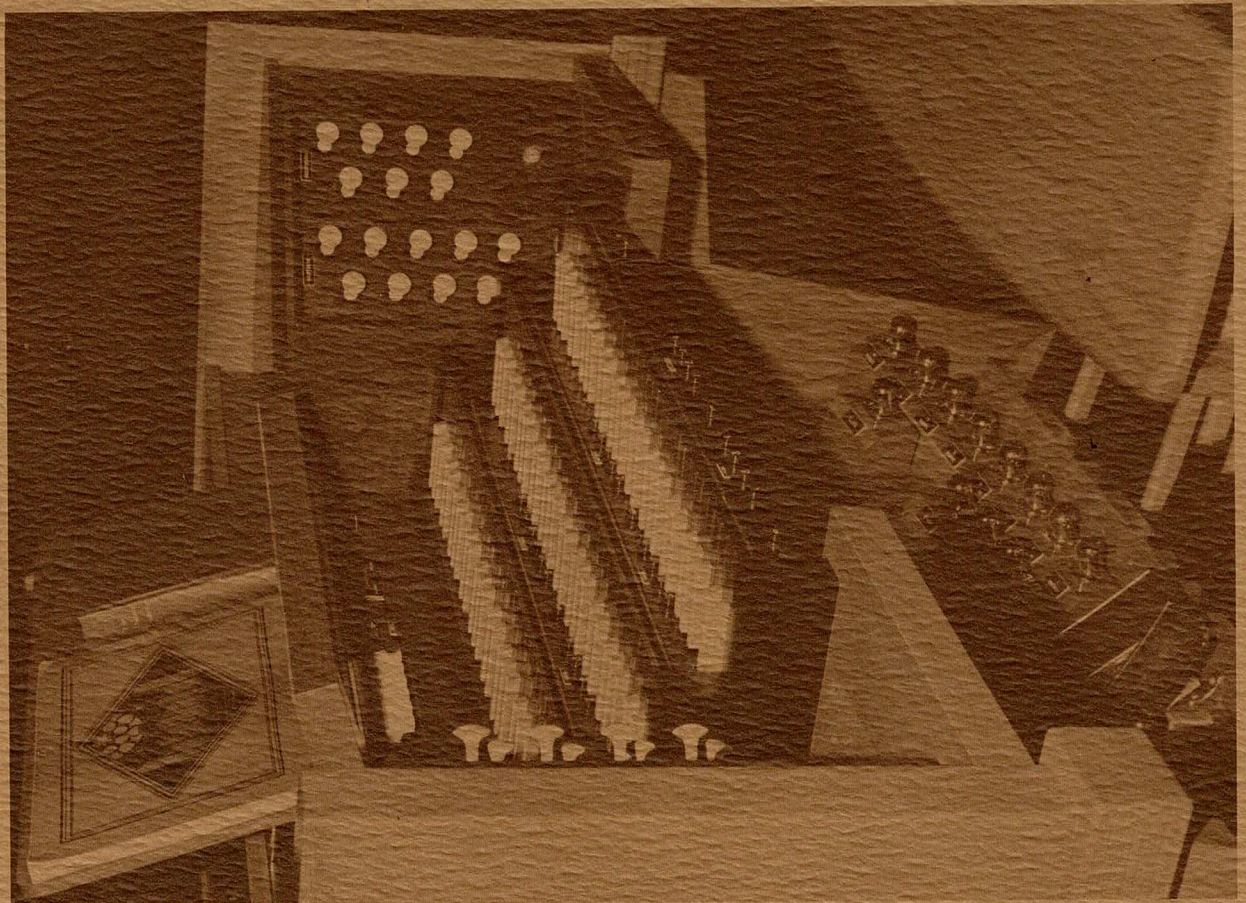
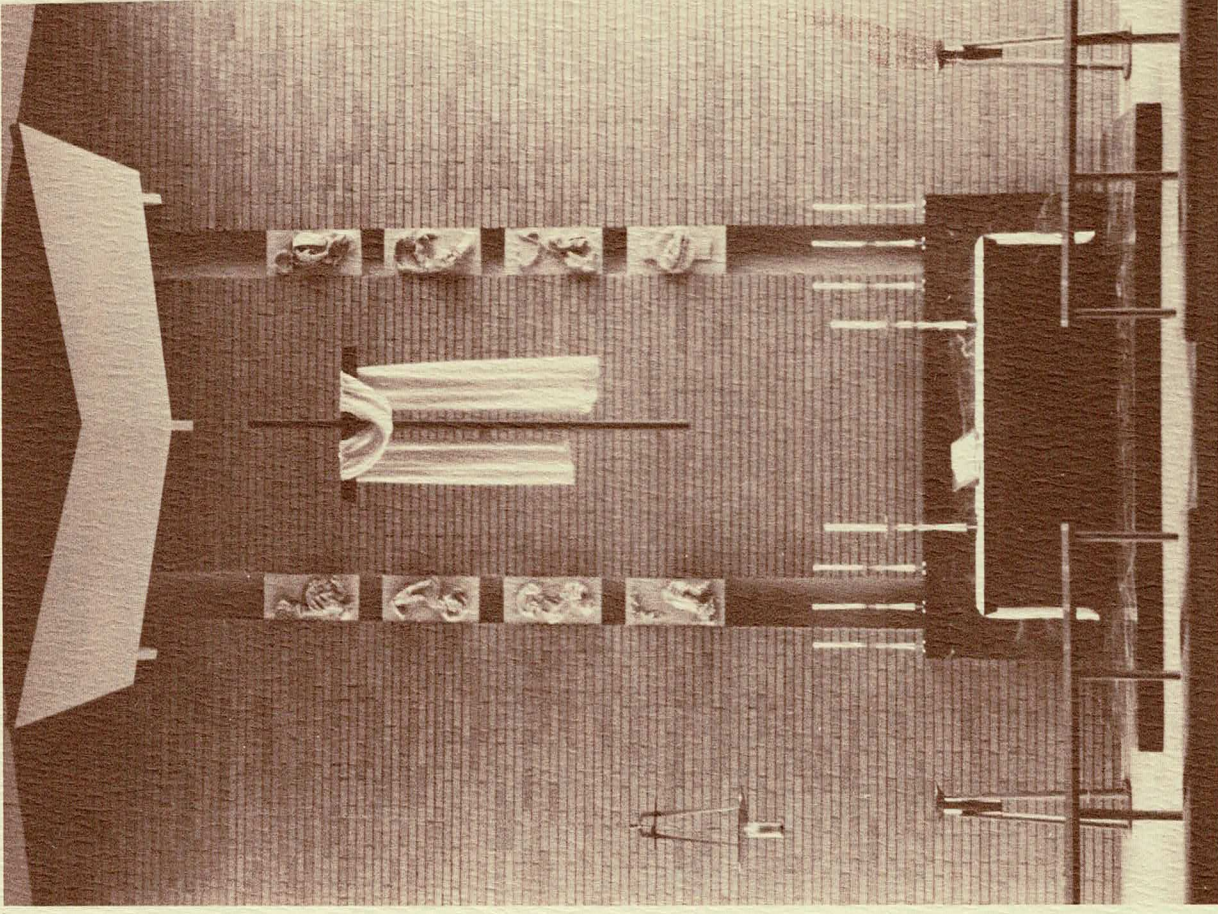


✠ FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA ✠





† THE FESTIVAL OF DEDICATION †

Trinity Sunday, June 13, 1976

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Atlantic Avenue at Ninth Street • Long Beach, California

✠ IN NOMINE JESU ✠

THE ORDER OF THE ORGAN DEDICATION SERVICE

PRELUDE *Come, Holy Ghost, Creator Blest*

Johann Sebastian Bach

PROCESSIONAL HYMN: No. 233 — *Come, Holy Ghost, Creator Blest*

- STANZA 1: All
- STANZA 2: Women
- STANZA 3: Men
- STANZA 4: All
- STANZA 5: Women
- STANZA 6: Men
- STANZA 7: All

INVOCATION

P: *In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.*
C: Amen.

THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

P: & C: O Lord, our God, merciful and gracious, we come before You to praise You for your steadfast love and goodness to us; and to humbly acknowledge our own unworthiness. We have done wickedly. We have offended You by our thoughts, our words, and our works. We have in many ways broken Your righteous law and wasted or misused our talents. We confess O Lord that we are unprofitable servants, and we deserve Your anger and displeasure; yet we seek Your compassion for our infirmities. According to Your generous mercy forgive our offenses for the sake of the suffering and death of Your son our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Fill us with Your Holy Spirit that we may truly repent of our sins past and seek to serve You from this forward in newness of life to Your honor and glory, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

RITE OF DEDICATION

PSALM 100

P: *Sing for joy to the Lord all the world.*
C: Worship the Lord gladly and come before Him with joyful song.
P: *Never forget that the Lord is God.*
C: He made us and we belong to Him, we are His people, we are His flock.
P: *Enter His temple with thanksgiving, go into His sanctuary with praise.*
C: Give thanks to Him and praise Him.
P: *The Lord is good, His love lasts forever.*
C: And His faithfulness for all time.

SALUTATION

P: *The Lord be with you.*
C: And with your spirit.

THE DEDICATION COLLECT

LITANY OF DEDICATION

P: *O God, well-spring of beauty, You entrusted to mankind the skill to transpose discord into harmony.*

C: We pray You to hear us.

P: *O Lord Jesus Christ, You alone can transform man's clashing anguish and destruction into channels of harmony and rhythms of peace.*

C: We pray You to hear us.

P: *O Holy Spirit, You impart melody through inspiration of human hands and voices.*

C: We pray You to hear us.

P: *Reveal to us the power of sound unseen, the purity of tone untouched, the sensitivity of vibration unimpaired.*

C: We pray You to hear us.

P: *Attune our hearts to the voice of this noble instrument that it may speak of heavenly visions, of gold undistorted, of character enriched, evil overcome.*

C: We pray You to hear us.

P: *That it may lift us above shame, hypocrisy, anxiety and tribulation to vibrant aliveness and readiness to undertake tasks which seem too great.*

C: We pray You to hear us.

P: *That it may weld congregation and choir into unity of worship, transmitting many voices into one.*

C: We pray You to hear us.

P: *That those who play it and those who sing with it may offer their finest as if in Your presence alone, disregarding the applause of men.*

C: We pray You to hear us.

P: *Accept O Lord, this instrument in Your temple, that joy and gladness flow from it into the hearts of Your people, summoning them to serve You with thanksgiving, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.*

C: Amen.

Presentation of the Organ by Builder

THE DEDICATION

DEDICATION PRAYER

P: *Praise the Lord our God, the God of all times and places.*
C: Praise Him with the sound of the trumpets.

P: *Praise Him with the lute and pipe.*

C: Praise Him with stringed instruments and the organ.

THE ANTHEM, *Great and Marvellous Are Your Works*

Church Choir

Michael Doyle

THE SERVICE OF THE DAY

(We begin our worship with the new organ.)

THE PRELUDE *Come, Holy Ghost, Creator Blest* Johann Sebastian Bach

THE HYMN: No. 233 — *Come, Holy Ghost, Creator Blest*

STANZA 1: All

STANZA 2: Women

STANZA 3: Men

STANZA 4: All

STANZA 5: Women

STANZA 6: Men

STANZA 7: All

THE SALUTATION

P: *The Lord be with you.*

C: And with your spirit.

THE COLLECT FOR THE DAY

ALL: Almighty God our Father, dwelling in majesty and mystery, renewing and fulfilling creation by Your eternal Spirit, and revealing Your glory through Your Son, Jesus Christ: cleanse us from doubt and fear, and enable us to worship You, with Your Son and Spirit, one God, living and reigning forever. Amen.

THE LESSONS

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Deuteronomy 6:4-9

EPISTLE: II Corinthians 13:11-14

CHILDREN'S CHOIR ANTHEM: *All You People Clap Your Hands*

GOSPEL: John 3:1-17

THE APOSTLES CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary; Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead and buried; He descended into hell; The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; The holy Christian Church, the communion of saints; The forgiveness of sins; The resurrection of the body; And the life everlasting. Amen.

CHORAL CONCERTATO: Hymn No. 39 — *Praise to the Lord the Almighty*

STANZA 1: All

STANZA 2: Choir

STANZA 3: All

STANZA 4: Choir

STANZA 5: All

THE SERMON

The Rev. Ronald J. Kusel

THE OFFERTORY

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence; and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation; and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

THE DEDICATION OFFERING

VOLUNTARY *All Praise to God Who Reigns Above*

Hugo Gehrke

THE PRAYERS

THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE HYMN: No. 19 — *All Praise To God Who Reigns Above*
Stanzas 1, 5, 6

COLLECT FOR PEACE

BENEDICTION

THE HYMN: No. 15 — *From All That Dwell Below the Skies*

POSTLUDE: *We All Believe in One True God*

Johann Sebastian Bach

THE PASTOR: Rev. Ronald J. Kusel

THE LITURGIST: Rev. Edward H. Schroeder

THE ORGANIST: Prof. Hugo Gehrke

THE CHURCH CHOIR: Mr. Michael Doyle

THE SCHOOL CHOIR: Mrs. Carolyn LaPrairie, Mr. James Wilkie

THE TRUMPETER: James Brunner

† SOLI DEO GLORIA †

✠ IN NOMINE JESU ✠

DEDICATORY CONCERT

TOCCATA IN D MINOR ('Dorian') Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)
HUGO GEHRKE, ORGANIST

A majestic vigorous work, in which an 'echo' style of writing is in evidence; it is Bach's only organ work in which he set down the keyboard changes to be observed by the performer: loud passages on the Great keyboard, softer ones on the Ruckpositiv.

THE LESSON AND PRAYER

SINFONIA FROM "GOD'S TIME IS BEST" Johann Sebastian Bach
MARIE KRUEGER AND NORMA GEHRKE, RECORDERS;
SELDA GEHRKE AND RODNEY GEHRKE, VIOLINS

An introductory composition from one of Bach's most deeply moving cantatas, performed on two recorders, two violins, and organ.

FANTASIA ON A MIGHTY FORTRESS IS OUR GOD Max Reger (1873-1916)
RICHARD GEHRKE, ORGANIST

Reger's organ works are regarded as the most important since Bach. Despite his Roman Catholic background, his greatest works for both organ and choir are based on the great Lutheran chorales.

LOBE DEN HERR Hans Friedrich Micheelsen (1902-1972)
SELDA GEHRKE, SOPRANO; RODNEY GEHRKE, VIOLIN

The composer has been one of Germany's outstanding writers of church music of our time, though his works are seldom heard in this country.*

A CANTATA FOR BAPTISM Jan Bender (1909-)
Dedicated to the Teacher Donald Rotermund family, Dallas, Texas, this unusual cantata is based on the chorale "Dearest Jesus, we are Here" and was published four years ago. It is set for four mixed voices, violin and organ. Dr. Bender has been on the faculty of Wittenburg University in Ohio; this summer he and his wife will move back to their native Germany, for retirement, but with plans for continued composing.

FANTASIE IN G MAJOR Johann Sebastian Bach
WALTER KRUEGER, ORGANIST

This splendid work opens with sparkling passage work for the hands, with echo-like contrasts between the Ruckpositiv and Swell divisions. The noble middle section is set in five-part counterpoint, followed by another section of passage work over a constantly repeated dominant pedal tone, concluding with a radiant g major triad.

* The text is from Psalm 103: Praise the Lord, my soul, and forget not all His benefits; who forgives you all your sins and heals all your diseases, who saves your life from corruption, who crowns you with grace and mercy, that you may rejoice and become young again as an eagle.

HOW LOVELY SHINES THE MORNING STAR Paul Manz (1919-)

HUGO GEHRKE, ORGANIST; RODNEY GEHRKE, VIOLIN

Internationally renowned as a composer, organist, teacher and lecturer, Paul Manz is head of the music department of Concordia College in St. Paul. This lovely composition is one of his most recent works; the violin substitutes for the oboe called for in the score.

CONGREGATION: HYMN 23, "Hallelujah! Let Praises Ring" Philipp Nicolai (1599)
Please rise for the singing of the hymn

STANZA 1: All
STANZA 2: Women and Children
STANZA 3: Men
STANZA 4: All

The varied harmonies are by Jan Bender.

THE OFFERING (The offering is dedicated to the organ fund)

A FESTIVE PRELUDE ON "Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord" (TLH 224)
Charles Ore (1936-)

HUGO GEHRKE, ORGANIST

Professor Ore is a faculty member at Concordia College in Seward. This prelude, composed last year, presents a driving rhythm, fascinating off-beat treatment of the chorale melody, and echoes of his recent sabbatical in Spain. As in his other published works for organ and for voice, this is a unique and exciting style.

CHORAL VARIATIONS ON "Veni Creator Spiritus" (TLH 233) Maurice Duruflé
RODNEY GEHRKE, ORGANIST

A church organist and professor of harmony at the Paris Conservatory, Duruflé has composed a number of beautiful works for organ, as well as for orchestra, choir, and solo instruments. Tournemire and Vierne were his organ teachers and Paul Dukas taught him to compose. Duruflé and his wife are outstanding recitalists and recording artists.

PRAYER AND BENEDICTION

CHORALE "Now Rest Beneath Night's Shadow" Heinrich Isaac (1450-1517)
for recorders and voices

✠ SOLI DEO GLORIA ✠

Following the service you are invited to the Parish Hall for an informal reception to meet the Hugo Gehrke family.

† THE GEHRKE FAMILY †

PROFESSOR HUGO GEHRKE is a graduate of Concordia River Forest and Northwestern University, with post-graduate work at Stanford and in Germany. During the first half of his professional life he served as church musician and Christian day school teacher in Chicago and Milwaukee parishes, before joining the Oakland Concordia faculty. For five summers he taught music courses on the campus of Concordia Seminary in St. Louis and has served as organ designer and consultant to churches in various parts of the country. At present he is chairman of the music department at Concordia College in Milwaukee.

Six members of the Gehrke family group are graduates of Concordia Colleges: Richard, a River Forest Concordia graduate, is organist and choir master of St. Mark's Lutheran Church in San Francisco. Son-in-law Walter Krueger, graduate of River Forest and University of Michigan school of music, is Director of Christian Education and Music at Trinity Lutheran Church, Burlingame. Rodney, an Oakland graduate, is a music major at UC Berkeley; after a year of study in Germany, he is a church organist in Walnut Creek. Norma, an Oakland graduate, has had advanced music training at Cal State Hayward and Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore; she teaches piano and voice and is a music teacher in several Lutheran schools in the Bay area. Marie Krueger has studied voice, piano and recorder in Oakland and River Forest Concordias. Mrs. Gehrke has studied violin and voice in Milwaukee and Hewford, Germany, and recorder in Berkeley. Ellissa Krueger, aged 4½, is studying piano, and joins the family as a singer. The family has enjoyed presenting sacred concerts in Bay area churches for a number of years; this evening's concert is their first in Southern California.

† Organs at First Lutheran Church †

AFTER MUCH RESEARCH of the congregational minutes in German and English, we found very little mentioned about the first organs at First Lutheran Church. We know from old photographs that there was a small reed organ which served the congregation in their first house of worship at Seventh Street and Locust Avenue. The minutes of January 6, 1907 mentioned that an organ was purchased from Mr. F. W. Bode for the sum of \$20.00.

A new house of worship was built at the corner of Tenth Street and Linden Avenue. From an old photograph which shows another reed organ, we know that possibly another instrument was purchased for that sanctuary. On November 26, 1911, an announcement was made that Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Schinnerer were presenting a new pipe organ to the church and that Mr. L. A. Schinnerer would pay for its installation and the electric power and energy required to operate the organ for a period of one year.

We know that there was a pipe organ early in the history of our congregation which was dedicated in an evening service, on December 17, 1911. Since the records do not indicate who the builder was nor the size of the organ, the only source we have is an old photograph lent to us by Mrs. Fred Ohlendorf. From the photograph we can see that it was a one manual instrument with ornate gilded principal pipes in the front and painted wooden pipes flanking the principals. Since the console was attached to the case, we can possibly assume that it was a mechanical action organ. The photograph also shows that the organ had eight stops.

On January 10, 1915 a request for an organ was received from our sister Lutheran church in Hollywood. It was resolved that the organ (presumably the reed organ

used before the purchase of the first pipe organ) be presented to a mission congregation for its use but that the Hollywood congregation be permitted to use it first. What happened to the reed organ after that, no one knows.

As our congregation grew, the sanctuary at Tenth Street and Linden Avenue became inadequate; therefore, the members decided to remodel and enlarge the church. With this undertaking, the congregation resolved on October 12, 1924 to purchase a new two manual and pedal organ from the M. P. Moller Pipe Organ Company of Maryland. The organ was to have eleven unified ranks of pipes and not to exceed \$5,000. The Organ Committee consisted of three men and two women. They were also instructed to dispose of the one manual organ which had led the congregation in praises to God for 14 years. The minutes do not indicate what happened to that first pipe organ.

Our Moller Pipe Organ arrived in Long Beach in April of 1925. On July 11, 1925, the Organ Committee gave a full report to the congregation on the organ. We can assume that this was when the congregation officially accepted the organ which served our house of worship at Tenth Street and Linden Avenue until 1959.

In 1957 an Organ Committee was established to secure a pipe organ for our new church at Atlantic Avenue and Ninth Street. After much studying of organs, the committee decided to retain the Moller Organ. The old Moller was then taken out of the church to be re-leathered and to have the console refinished to match the wood of the new church. The cost of the renovation was to be \$4,500. On dedication day the Moller was ready to serve God's children in leading their singing in a new environment.

By the mid-sixties, it was apparent that this old organ was inadequate and too small to fill our large sanctuary with enough sound to lead the congregation in singing. Also, at this time there were many mechanical failures. In 1967 an appraisal was made of the instrument; it was discovered that the wind chests were cracked, that much of the upper pipe work had been damaged due to poor tuning techniques and that the leathers were deteriorating badly. A fund for a new organ was established the same year as a memorial to the late Mr. Walter Mueller.

The year 1970 saw the formation of an Organ Committee to study the condition of the present organ and make recommendations as to its replacement. After many meetings, and much studying, the Organ Committee recommended to the Voters Assembly on May 20, 1974, that we accept the bid of Zimmer and Sons, of Charlotte, North Carolina, to build a new three manual and pedal tracker action pipe organ for \$90,858.

We give thanks to God on this Organ Dedication Day that He has heard the prayers and given us a magnificent new organ to lead us in praising His name. May all who play it and sing with it use their talents to His greater glory!

† THE MEMORIAL PIPE ORGAN †

*First Lutheran Church, Long Beach, California
Built by W. ZIMMER AND SONS, INC., Charlotte, North Carolina*

The magnificent pipe organ which you view in the west gallery is a culmination of many prayers for a dream of this church. It is with joyful hearts that we dedicate this outstanding instrument to the glory of God.

The new three-manual and pedal organ was built by W. Zimmer and Sons, Inc., Charlotte, North Carolina. The specification was designed by our organ consultant, Professor Hugo J. Gehrke, of Concordia College, Milwaukee Wisconsin.

† ORGAN SPECIFICATIONS †

HAUPTWERK (GREAT)

16'	Quintade	.....61	pipes
8'	Principal	.....61	pipes
8'	Rohrflote	.....61	pipes
4'	Octave	.....61	pipes
4'	Spitzflote	.....61	pipes
2'	Octave	.....61	pipes
2 2/3'	Nasat	.....61	pipes
1 3/5'	Terz	.....61	pipes
1 1/2'	Mixture IV-VI	..330	pipes
8'	Trompete	.....61	pipes

SCHWELL (SWELL)

8'	Spitzgamba	.....61	pipes
8'	Celeste T.C.	.....49	pipes
8'	Rohrpommer	.....61	pipes
4'	Principal	.....61	pipes
4'	Koppeflote	.....61	pipes
2'	Waldflote	.....61	pipes
1'	Octavlein	.....61	pipes
1'	Scharff IV	.....244	pipes
16'	Helle Trompete	.....61	pipes
8'	Fagott	.....61	pipes

Tremolo

RUECKPOSITIV

8'	Metallgedackt	.....61	pipes
4'	Hohlflote	.....61	pipes
2'	Principal	.....61	pipes
1 1/2'	Nasat	.....61	pipes
2 2/3'	Zimbel III	....183	pipes
8'	Krummhorn	.....61	pipes

Tremolo

PEDAL

16'	Principal	.....32	pipes
16'	Subbass	.....32	pipes
8'	Octave	.....32	pipes
8'	Bordun	.....32	pipes
4'	Choralbass	.....32	pipes
2'	Mixture IV	.....128	pipes
16'	Posaune	.....32	pipes
8'	Kopftrompete	.....32	pipes

COUPLERS

Hauptwerk to Pedal	Schwell to Hauptwerk
Schwell to Pedal	Rueckpositiv to Hauptwerk
Rueckpositiv to Pedal	Schwell to Rueckpositiv

COMBINATION PISTONS

Schwell	.....1	2	3	4	5	6
Hauptwerk	.....1	2	3	4	5	
Rueckpositiv	.....1	2	3	4		
Pedal	.....1	2	3	4		
General	.....1	2	3	4	5	6 7 8

General Cancel
Zimbelstern toe stud (6 bells)
Tutti and indicator light
3 Reversibles
Balanced Swell expression pedal
Crescendo pedal and indicator light

Preparations were begun in January of 1976 to remodel the balcony for the placement of the organ and for the seating of the choir. The large pews were removed, flooring taken out, and new wiring and lighting installed. The majority of the work was done by congregational members. By May, all of the preparation work was completed and the balcony area was ready for the arrival of the new organ.

The location of the organ and choir was of paramount importance to the Organ Committee. After a great deal of research, the committee recommended that the organ and choir be moved from the north transept to the west gallery which is in keeping with Lutheran tradition. With the organ and the choir in the back of the church, the sound can travel more easily on the main axis of the building and thus give the congregation more support in their singing. The placement of the Rueckpositiv Organ on the gallery railing also follows a Lutheran custom which gives support to the congregational singing in the rear of the church where a tone shadow often results.

Our organ of 47 ranks and 34 independent registers is not the largest organ in the greater Long Beach area; but it is probably the most unique, since it is of classical design and housed in its own case, speaking into the room where it is placed instead of being housed in some far distant chamber. In the facade of the large case which contains the Pedal Organ, Schwell (Swell) Organ, and Hauptwerk (Great) Organ, are the 16' Principal pipes of the Pedal on both sides of the 8' Principal pipes of the Hauptwerk. These bright shining pipes are aesthetically pleasing to view. Cantilevered from the west choir railing is the Rueckpositiv, which is housed in a beautiful case with polished pipes on its facade.

The oak console has 36 drawknobs, six tilting tablets for the couplers, 27 combination pistons, and 15 toe studs. The organ also includes a Zimbelstern with six bells, and a set of chimes taken from the old organ with new action placed on them.

The flue pipework was made by Jacq. Stinkens, Holland, except for the large basses which were made by W. Zimmer and Sons, Inc. out of selected wood. All of the reed pipes were made by Carl Giesecke and Sohn of Germany. There is a total of 3,476 pipes in the organ, ranging from 16 feet in length down to a mere 1/2 inch. The organ, which took approximately 4,000 man-hours to build, is the second largest instrument built by W. Zimmer and Sons—their first west of the Rockies.

Each manual and pedal division of the organ has its own independent ensemble which includes a mixture. The entire organ is voiced on low wind pressure which is consistent with the Baroque voicing principal of organ building with a minimal nicking of the languids of the flue pipes. Each set of pipes has been voiced in such a manner as to permit its own individual character and yet to blend and contribute to the entire ensemble. The entire organ uses the slider chest principle which makes it speak more clearly and is easier to maintain.

The main purpose of the organ in the Lutheran Church is to lead, support, and inspire the congregation and choir in their songs of praise to God. The secondary function is to supply service music which aids the worshiper in his worship. This beautiful instrument will meet both requirements, since it is capable of playing the great heritage of Lutheran music and the music of any period organ literature.

With thankful hearts we dedicate this organ to the Triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. "To Him who loves us and freed us from our sins with His life's blood, who made of us a royal house, to serve as the priests of His God and Father to Him be Glory and Dominion for ever and ever! Amen." (Revelation 1:6)

✝ MUSIC CALENDAR ✝

June 13	Dedication Services	8:30 A.M.; 11:00 A.M.
June 13	Dedicatory Concert—Gehrke Family	7:00 P.M.
July 4	Bicentennial Services	8:30 A.M.; 11:00 A.M.
July 11	Chorale Vesper/Robert Prichard	7:00 P.M.
September 12	Vesper Service Fred Ohlendorf & Instrumentalists	7:30 P.M.
October 31	Circuit Reformation Service Dr. Paul Stroud	7:30 P.M.
November 25	Thanksgiving Day Festival Service	10:00 A.M.
December 19	Christmas Vesper of Song Choirs and Orchestra	7:30 P.M.
December 24	Candlelight Service	11:00 P.M.
December 25	Christmas Day Festival Service	10:00 A.M.
January	To be announced	
February 23	Ash Wednesday (Music of Bach)	7:30 P.M.
March 6	Hymn Festival, Dr. Paul Manz	7:30 P.M.
April 10	Easter Day Festival Services	8:30 A.M.; 11:00 A.M.
May 3	John Kuzma Organ Recital (A. G. O. Dinner Meeting)	8:00 P.M. 6:00 P.M.
May 22	Annual Vesper of Song Choirs of First Lutheran Church	4:00 P.M.