

Wicks Organ Opus 2043...

...Began its life in 1939, built for and installed in a large Atlanta home. Comprised of four sets (“ranks”) of pipes, it was designed and voiced for the customs of the day as well as the requirements of a house organ. It remained in the home until 1972, when it was removed, and placed in storage pending rebuilding and placing in another location.

In 1975, the Catholic Church of the Sacred Heart in Petersburg, VA, installed the organ in their Sanctuary, where it was placed in the balcony with the choir(s). It served the church well until 2006, when a new worship space was built and dedicated. At the time of the construction, it was determined that the organ would be too small for the new space; and once again, it was looking for a home.

About that same time, St. Andrew’s was considering the future of their 1923 Estey Reed Organ. The instrument had been installed new in the Sanctuary, and had served well for many years with a minimal amount of service. However, in the previous several years, the amount of service required had increased in multiples, as did the related costs of the service. In the process of looking, numerous options (a complete overhaul / a new pipe or electronic organ) were discussed and investigated. It was in the midst of this that Otto Pebworth, who had been maintaining the Estey, advised the committee of the availability of the Wicks organ. After a visit to see-hear-play the instrument, it was voted to purchase the organ and move it to its third home.

For several months, the church at times resembled an on-going construction zone/ disaster area as pipes were cleaned and restored, wind-chests were rewired, and the console provided with new controls. Many times the question was asked, “It WILL all go back together, won’t it?” However, by late summer of 2007 all the parts had migrated to the newly-built chambers, and the instrument was indeed placed into use for regular services.

None of this would have been possible without the un-tiring labours of the church members, who carefully pondered the direction of the music program, helped to pack, transport, and unload the instrument, and then made the instrument truly their own by lovingly helping to rebuild and place the organ into the Sanctuary in such a way that it “looks like it’s always been there.”

Especially, a major thanks to Al Van deGriek and Kevin Cannon, whose many hours of painstaking and work have brought this project to fruition.

Specifications

Pipe Inventory

16’ Bourdon - 97 Pipes
8’ Diapason - 73 Pipes
8’ Salicional - 73 Pipes
8’ Dulciana - 73 Pipes
Chimes - 21 Tubes

The majority of the pipes are located in the chamber across the Chancel from the console, with the bottom 12 pipes of the Bourdon and the Chimes located in the chamber next to the console.

Stops

Great Division	Swell Division	Pedal
8’ Diapason	16’ Bourdon	16’ Bourdon
8’ Bourdon	8’ Flute	8’ Principal
8’ Salicional	8’ Salicional	8’ Stopped Flute
8’ Unda Maris	8’ String Celeste	8’ Viole
4’ Octave	4’ Diapason	5 1/3’ Lieblich Quint
4’ Flute	4’ Flute	4’ Octave
2 2/3’ Twelfth	4’ Celeste II	4’ Flute
2’ Super Octave	2 2/3’ Nazard	(Future Stop)
1 1/3’ Larigot (Future Stop)	2’ Piccolo	
Chimes	1 3/5’ Tierce (Future Stop)	
	Tremolo	

The console is equipped with 3 Programmable Presets, which control the entire organ, a transposer, and the capability to record and playback in “real-time”.

About the Artist

David Breneman is Director of Music and Organist at Reformation Lutheran Church (ELCA) in New Market, VA. He is also the carillonneur of the Luray “Singing Tower”, which is played on a regular basis during much of the year. A native of Rockingham County, he studied at Bridgewater College, and has served at different churches throughout the area. He currently resides in Luray.

About the Builder

Otto Pebworth has had a life-long interest in pipe organs, and can usually be found talking about/listening to/working on organs, or (many times) boring people about organs or projects he has been on. A native of the Shenandoah Valley, he lives with his wife Sherry and “puppy” George in the family house, where he is the fourth generation to take up quarters. Otto serves as Organist at Salem Lutheran Church (ELCA) in Mt. Sidney. In addition to working on pipe organs, Otto services older electronic (“analogue”) organs, and installs/maintains sound reinforcement and paging systems.

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

