

nd Century

Changes to the organ over the years

1900 to 1941

The organ remained without change until 1941 when the Kilgen Organ Company presented a specification to the church for updating the pipe organ. This consisted of rebuilding the tubular pneumatic pipe chests into electro / pneumatic and a new console. All of the original pipe work and organ case remained intact. The change to electro / pneumatic chests permitted some of the pipework to be "borrowed" and played on other manuals. The new console was now detached from the original organ case and was prepared to allow for future additions to the organ. The contract was signed by the church trustees and by Eugene R. Kilgen on June 2nd 1942 for the princely sum of \$2,885.00. At this time the pipes and chests were taken to the Kilgen factory then located at 4632 West Florissant. The organ was reinstalled back at the church later that year. The organ saw only minor pipe changes at the time. The pedal board went from 30 notes to 32 and acquired 2 more stops. These were "borrowed" from other manuals, now easily done with its new electro / pneumatic chests. Pipes were added to some ranks to permit maximum use of the new couplers. Couplers were added as they permitted borrowing pipes from different manuals and at different pitches. The organ was given a new opus number (serial #) at this time. Opus # 7050

making it the seven thousand and fiftieth organ from Kilgen.

1942 to 1999

The organ remained with only minor changes and additions. Chimes were added in 1945 and over the next 30 years four ranks (sets) of additional pipe work was added to broaden the organ's music capability.

2000 the second Century

After a century of continuous service the organ was showing signs of its age. Keys were worn, combination action and some of the pipes were slow to respond. Funds were raised to replace the 100 year old leather, install new combination action in the console. (This feature permits the organist to preset hundreds of different pipe stop combinations.) Three sets of pipes were added bringing the organ to 16 ranks (sets) of pipes. The cost of rebuilding the organ exceeded the original cost of the church (about \$50,000) a century ago. The builders legacy proudly continues with thousands of Kilgen pipe organs still providing music, while many are in their second century (as is LPUMC) a true testimony to their craftsmanship and excellent design.

The organ Today

Great Organ

8' Open Diapason*
8' Melodia*
8' Dulciana*
4' Octave*
4' Flute d'Amour
2 2/3 Twelfth
2' Fifteenth

Swell Organ

8' Stopped Diapason
8' Salicional*
8' Oboe
4' Harmonic Flute*
2 2/3' Nazard
2' Flautino
Chimes
Tremolo

Pedal Organ

16' Bourdon*
16' Gedeckt
8' Diapason
8' Gedeckt*
4' Octave

* original pipes from 1900

