

What is the reason for this project?

The current organ has served the congregation since 1962. There have always been problems with the sounds, layout and mechanics of the instrument. These problems have amplified with age and have reached a point over the past decade that it is necessary to address them. This, coupled with changes in worship style, have led to several deficiencies. Those specific needs addressed are:

Improvement of sounds for the leading of congregational song.

Improvement of sounds for supporting the choir.

Better balanced ensembles with an increased variety of tone colors.

Increased options for smaller congregations/services.

Increased flexibility for the performance of organ and related music.

Mechanical and tonal deficiencies in the current design.

What does the project involve?

A Chancel (front of the room) organ of 12 ranks (sets of pipes) will be installed on the front wall in two matching cases designed to compliment the existing look of the Nave (our worship space). The cases will be approximately 7 feet wide and 44" deep. This organ will be controlled by its own portable console which will plug in to a receptacle located in the front of the room when needed. It will also be playable from the console in the balcony as an antiphonal foil to the main organ.

The balcony organ will be completely removed and 17 of its 34 ranks (sets of pipes) will be retained. About one-third of the mechanical system for winding the current organ will be retained. The visible elements of the organ will be redesigned to create a more attractive layout and allow for new windchests for the visible pipework and additions. Twenty (20) new ranks of pipes will be added to those retained, focusing on congregational and choral support and increasing the tonal palette of the instrument.

A new console will be installed for controlling both the Chancel and Balcony instruments. This console will use computer style, microprocessor technology for dependability, size and speed.

What is the cost and financing?

The cost of all of the organ work is \$558,000. A single gift to the church in this amount has made this project possible. The congregation is responsible for some additional costs related to electrical and structural improvements necessary for this project. These costs are estimated at this time (this work has not been bid) to be less than \$50,000.

A contract was approved and signed by the Vestry in August, 2006 with Parkey Organbuilders, Inc. of Atlanta, GA for this work.

What is the timetable?

January- Decision made on the final appearance and location of front pipes.

May/June 2007- Installation begins on front pipes

August 2007- Rear organ removed

Spring 2008- Rear organ returns

Who has been involved?

An organ committee was appointed by the Vestry to research and develop this project. The committee members are,

John Wigal, Organist/Director of Music, Good Shepherd

Fletcher Bright, Chairperson, Good Shepherd Choir member

Jane Kline, Past Organist/Director of Music, Good Shepherd

Jeanne Rudisill, Vestry member and Good Shepherd Choir member

Additional questions or comments?

Please give us your input on one of the available sheets at the display in Talbird Hall or contact one of the committee members or John Wigal, Organist/Director of Music at 821-1583 or jwigal@goodshepherdlookout.com.