

The Stopt Diapason

Autumn 2020

Whole Number 145

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Website: www.ohschicago.org [under construction and is temporarily not available]



ABOVE: Saint Peter's United Church of Christ, Skokie, Illinois with its 1981 M. P. Möller Organ Company Opus 11522. The Chapter will visit this church with the North Shore AGO on Saturday, November 7, 2020 at 10:30 a.m. for a virtual Autumn Crawl. *More information about this event can be found on pp 4-8 of this issue of The Stopt Diapason.*

The Stopt Diapason, a journal devoted to the history of the organ in Chicago and the Midwest, is published quarterly by the Chicago-Midwest Chapter of the Organ Historical Society, Inc.

From the President:

Dear Chicago-Midwest OHS Members:

After consideration by the boards of the Chicago-Midwest Chapter of the Organ Historical Society and the North Shore Chapter of the American Guild of Organists, it was decided that in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, we would offer the Organ Crawl scheduled for Saturday, November 7th as a virtual event. Each of the organs featured on the event would be recorded and a video would be made available for viewing on Saturday, November 7th at 10:30 a.m. More details will be forthcoming via email, but specifications of the organs to be heard can be found on pp. 4-8 of this issue of *The Stopt Diapason*.

Finally, the Member's Recital that was to take place at Immaculate Conception St. Joseph Parish this past May, has been rescheduled for May 2, 2021. More detailed information about this event will be available in the next editions of *The Stopt Diapason*.

Have a wonderful and safe Autumn!

Gratefully yours,
Derek E. Nickels, President
Chicago-Midwest Chapter OHS

CHICAGO-MIDWEST CHAPTER HONORARY MEMBERS

David McCain
Stephen J. Schnurr, Jr.
Julie Stephens*

**deceased*

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CALENDAR OF CHAPTER EVENTS FOR 2020-2021

Saturday, November 7, Organ Crawl with the North Shore AGO, times and details of this event can be found later in this issue of *The Stopt Diapason*.

Sunday, May 2, 2021, 3:00 p.m., The Chicago-Midwest Chapter's Spring Member's Recital by Derek Nickels at Immaculate Conception and Saint Joseph Parish, 1107 N. Orleans Street, Chicago, IL.

CHICAGO-MIDWEST OHS DONORS LIST 2020-2021

(As of October 16, 2020)

Guarantor (\$100+): Rev. George Hull, Rev. Thomas Lijewski, Derek Nickels and Joseph Poland, Jay Peterson, Joseph G. Roberts, Joyce Robinson, Richard J. Siegel, Robert E. Woodworth, Jr., Douglas Zimmer

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NUNC DIMITTIS

Philip Klepfer Gehring, 94, died October 6, 2020, in Oak Park, Illinois. Born November 27, 1925, in Carlisle, PA, he graduated from Carlisle High School in 1943. He studied for one year at Franklin and Marshall College in Lancaster, PA, before interrupting his education for three years in the United States Navy. Upon completion of service, he continued his studies at Oberlin College and Conservatory of Music, Oberlin, OH, graduating with Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Music degrees in 1950. During this time, he was awarded prizes in theory and organ and was a student conductor of the college choir. From 1950 until 1952, he served as organist and choirmaster for Kimball Memorial Lutheran Church, Kannapolis, NC. On August 26, 1951, in Clear Lake, IA, he married Betty Burns. The following year, he began graduate studies at Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY, where he earned a Master of Music degree in 1955. His principal organ teachers were Bernard Wert, Fenner Douglas, and Arthur Poister. His composition teachers included Herbert Elwell and Ernst Bacon. Philip Gehring was assistant professor of music and college organist at Davidson College, Davidson, NC, from 1952 to 1958. He studied organ with André Marchal in France in 1957 under a grant from Southern Fellowships. He would later study with Harold Vogel and William Porter. In 1958, Gehring joined the faculty of Valparaiso University, Valparaiso, IN. The university's Memorial Chapel (since renamed the Chapel of the Resurrection) was opened that September and dedicated the following year, along with its large Schlicker organ that would become an iconic instrument in the American *Orgelbewegung* movement. There he taught organ, improvisation, and other subjects and served as university organist. During leaves from the university in 1960–1961 and 1962–1963 he pursued doctoral studies at Syracuse University with a grant from Danforth Teacher Study Grants, earning the Doctor of Philosophy degree in humanities in 1963 with a dissertation, "Improvisation in Contemporary Organ Playing." In 1985, Gehring was named the first Frederick A. and Maize N. Reddel Professor of Music at Valparaiso University. That same year, he was elected an honorary alumnus of the institution. In 2010, the Institute of Liturgical Studies at the university awarded Gehring its second Christus Rex Award for significant contributions to Lutheran liturgical scholarship and renewal. In 1970, Gehring won the national improvisation competition of the AGO, and the following year he participated by invitation in the International Organ Improvisation Competition in Haarlem, the Netherlands. Gehring was a Fellow of the American Guild of Organists and served on the national council of the AGO, was president of the Lutheran Society for Music, Worship, and the Arts, a predecessor to the Institute of Liturgical Studies, and vice president of the international Lutheran church music organization, *Ecclesia Cantans*. His research was published in various journals, particularly on the subjects of performance practice in the organ works of Bach and on contemporary organ literature. As a composer, his organ and choral works were published by Concordia Publishing House, Augsburg-Fortress, MorningStar, Hinshaw, Brodt, and E. C. Schirmer. Gehring performed organ recitals and presented lectures and hymn festivals across the United States, including performances at three conventions of the AGO, as well as in Canada and Europe. He was represented by Phyllis Stringham Concert Management for many years. In 1982, he was a recitalist and judge for the Manchester (England) International Organ Competition. After retirement from Valparaiso University in 1989, he remained active as a composer and performer. From 1993 until 1996, he served as founding editor of *CrossAccent*, the journal of the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians. He and his wife Betty would move to Oak Park, IL, to be near children and grandchildren. Philip Klepfer Gehring is survived by his wife, Betty; three children, seven grandchildren and one great-grandchild. A memorial service will be held at a later date at First United Church, Oak Park, IL.

NORTH SHORE AGO/CHICAGO-MIDWEST CHAPTER AUTUMN ORGAN CRAWL: A PREVIEW

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2020

This year's Autumn Organ Crawl with the North Shore AGO Chapter will be a virtual event that will start at 10:30 a.m. with a Zoom Welcome Meeting followed by a video that will feature the organs of the four churches on the Crawl. The instruments include the 1981 M. P. Möller organ at Saint Peter's United Church of Christ in Skokie, the 1962 M. P. Möller organ at Bethany Korean Presbyterian Church (formerly Saint John's Lutheran Church) in Lincolnwood, the 1974 Lawrence Phelps & Associates organ at Saint Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Skokie, and the 1961 Aeolian-Skinner organ at Edgebrook Community Church in the Edgebrook neighborhood of Chicago.

St. Peter's United Church of Christ, 8013 Laramie Avenue, Skokie, Illinois, is the oldest church in Skokie and was established on May 5, 1867 as St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church by German immigrant farmers in what was then known as Niles Center. The church's first building was dedicated in 1860 and a cemetery was purchased in 1880. The church was severely damaged by lightning in 1901 and the present sanctuary and towers were constructed and dedicated in 1903. In 1934 the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of North America merged with the Reformed Church resulting in St. Peter's Evangelical Reformed Church. In 1957, the Evangelical and Reformed Church merged with the Congregational Christian Church creating the United Church of Christ. (Information from the church's website and the Skokie Historical Society).

**Saint Peter's United Church of Christ
M. P. Möller Organ Company, Opus 11522
1981; III/25**

GREAT

16' Rohrgedeckt (12 pipes; from Swell 8' Rohrflöte)
8' Principal (61 pipes)
8' Bourdon (61 pipes)
4' Octave (61 pipes)
2' Super Octave (61 pipes)
III-IV Fourniture (196 pipes)
8' Trompette (from Swell 8' Trompette)
Super
Chimes

SWELL*

8' Rohrflöte (61 pipes)
8' Viola (61 pipes)
8' Viola Celeste (from GG; 54 pipes)
4' Spitzprinzipal (61 pipes)
4' Rohrflöte (12 pipes; from 8' Rohrflöte)
2' Blockflöte (61 pipes)
III-IV Scharf (195 pipes)
8' Trompette (61 pipes)
Tremolo
Sub
Super

*Separate expression pedals for Swell Left (flutes and principals) and Swell Right (reeds and strings)

POSITIV

8' Holzgedeckt (61 pipes)
4' Spillflöte (61 pipes)
2' Doublette (61 pipes)
1-1/3' Larigot (61 pipes)
8' Krummhorn (61 pipes)
Tremolo
Sub
Super

PEDAL

16' Principal (32 pipes)
16' Rohrgedeckt (12 pipes; from Swell 8' Rohrflöte)
8' Octave (12 pipes; extension of 16' Principal)
8' Rohrflöte (from Swell 8' Rohrflöte)
4' Choralbass (56 pipes)
III Mixture (derived from 4' Choralbass)
16' Contre Trompette (12 pipes; half-length; from Swell 8' Trompette)
4' Clairon (from Swell 8' Trompette)

COUPLERS

Great to Pedal 8
Swell to Pedal 8
Positiv to Pedal 8, 4
Swell to Great 16, 8, 4
Positiv to Great 16, 8, 4
Swell to Positiv 16, 8, 4



ABOVE: The view of the left side of Möller Organ Company Opus 11522 at St. Peter's United Church of Christ, Skokie. The Positiv division is visible to the left above the console. Photo by Derek Nickels.

Bethany Korean Presbyterian Church, 4707 W. Pratt Avenue, Lincolnwood, Illinois was originally St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church. In 1941, Lincolnwood and Skokie were canvassed for establishing a new church while the first session of Sunday Church School was held in the Village Municipal Building. It was not until October 11, 1942 that St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church was officially organized with 91 charter members and ground was broken for the construction of a combination Chapel and parsonage on North Kilpatrick Street. In 1948, the congregation purchased additional property and engaged architect William F. Kramer to design the new church building, although ground breaking for the present church did not occur until 1951. The church towers over Pratt Avenue as an impressive brick and glass structure with many works of fine art housed in the church and nearby chapel. Construction proceeded quickly as the nave of the church was dedicated in 1952. As early as 1957, a full time Director of Music and Youth was hired. The church became a member of the Lutheran Church of America in 1962 and saw the installation of the M. P. Möller Organ Opus 9656. The Möller Organ (built at a cost of \$35,000.00) was installed in the center of a high alcove at the rear of the nave with the console located at the front of a very spacious choir gallery loft. This gallery was designed to accommodate a large choir and the full forces of an instrumental ensemble. Among the many noted organists that have played organ recitals at St. John's was the blind Parisian organist-composer Jean Langlais. (Information from *The Stopt Diapason, Whole Issue 90, pp.5-6*).

**Bethany Korean Presbyterian Church
M. P. Möller Organ Company, Opus 9656, 1962; III/27**

GREAT (Manual II)

8' Principal
8' Bourdon
4' Octave
2' Blockflöte
IV Fourniture
16' Sordun
Tremolo
Chimes
Great 4'
Great Unison Off

SWELL (Manual III)

8' Rohrflöte
8' Viola Pomposa
8' Viola Celeste
4' Spitz Prinzipal
4' Chimney Flute
2' Harmonic Piccolo
III Plein Jeu
16' Trumpet
8' Trumpet
4' Oboe Schalmey
Tremolo
Swell 16'
Swell Unison Off
Swell 4'

CHOIR (Manual I)

16' Erzähler
8' Cor de Nuit
8' Gemshorn
8' Gemshorn Celeste (T.C.)
4' Koppelflöte
2' Doublette
1 1/3 Larigot
II Zimbel (now Zimbelstern)
8' Trompette-en-Chamade
Tremolo
Choir 16'
Choir Unison Off
Choir 4'

PEDAL

32' Resultant
16' Violone
16' Bourdon
16' Erzähler (from Choir 16' Erzähler)
8' Geigen Prinzipal
8' Gedeckt
8' Gemshorn (from Choir 8' Gemshorn)
4' Octave Geigen (from 8' Geigen Prinzipal)
4' Gedeckt (from 8' Gedeckt)
II Mixture
16' Double Trumpet
8' Sordun
8' Trumpet (from 16' Double Trumpet)
4' Trumpet (from 16' Double Trumpet)
4' Sordun (from 8' Sordun)

ACCESSORIES

8 General Pistons with Toe Studs duplicating 5 - 8
7 Swell Pistons (thumb below Manual III)
6 Great Pistons (thumb below Manual II)
6 Choir Pistons (thumb below Manual I)
5 Pedal Toe Studs
Swell to Pedal (thumb and toe pistons)
Great to Pedal (thumb and toe pistons)
Choir to Pedal (thumb and toe pistons)
Tutti (thumb and toe reversibles)
General Cancel
Couplers:
Great to Pedal 8, 4
Swell to Pedal 8, 4
Choir to Pedal 8, 4
Swell to Great 16, 8, 4
Choir to Great 16, 8, 4
Swell to Choir 8, 4
Swell Expression Shoe
Choir Expression Shoe
Crescendo Shoe
Glockenstern Switch (on/off)
En-Chamade (indicator lights for Stop and Blower)



ABOVE: The Möller Organ Company Opus 9656 at Bethany Korean Presbyterian Church in the rear gallery of the church as seen from the nave floor. Photo from Organ Historical Society Pipe Organ Database.

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, 5201 Galitz Street, Skokie, Illinois was founded in February 1881. The cornerstone for the first church structure was laid in March 1881 and the completed church was dedicated on June 29, 1882. In 1910, the building was moved to the side of the church property along Galitz Street, had its steeple removed, and began use as a school building. The original church build was later demolished in 1954 when the present school was built. The present brick church was constructed in 1910 and dedicated on January 29, 1911. Plans for the neo-Gothic structure were drawn by the Chicago architects Worthmann & Steinbach. The cornerstone of the building still reads 1881. An addition across the front of the church was constructed in 1961. While the church's first organ was likely a reed organ, a one-manual, mechanical-action organ by unknown manufacture served the church until 1927 when the Wangerin Organ Company of Milwaukee, Wisconsin installed a two-manual, electro-pneumatic action organ in chambers above and on both sides of the altar. The present organ was built by Lawrence Phelps & Associates of Erie, Pennsylvania. The two-manual organ of mechanical key and stop action is located in the rear gallery. There are three cases: the center housing the Hauptwerk (lower chest) and Oberwerk (upper chest) divisions and the two side towers housing the C and C-sharp sides of the Pedal division. The console is located in the center of balcony railing. There is no combination action. Stop control is by knobs in terraced jambs on either side of the keyboards: Hauptwerk stops on the left, Oberwerk stops on the right, and Pedal split between both sides. (Information from *Pipe Organs of Chicago, Vol. 1, pp. 195-196*).

Saint Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church, Lawrence Phelps & Associates, 1974; II/32

HAUPTWERK (Manual I, 50mm wind)

8'	Prinzipal (45 in façade, metal—56 pipes)
8'	Rohrflöte (metal—56 pipes)
4'	Oktav (metal—56 pipes)
4'	Spitzflöte (metal—56 pipes)
2'	Flachflöte (metal—56 pipes)
IV	Mixtur (1-1/3', metal—224 pipes)
8'	Trompete (metal—56 pipes)

OBERWERK (Manual II, enclosed, 45mm wind)

8'	Gedackt (metal—56 pipes)
8'	Salizional (12 basses capped, metal—56 pipes)
8'	Schwabung (from tenor C, metal—44 pipes)
4'	Prinzipal (metal—56 pipes)
4'	Koppelflöte (metal—56 pipes)
2'	Oktav (metal—56 pipes)
1-1/3'	Quinteflöte (metal—56 pipes)
II	Sesquialtera (2-2/3', metal—112 pipes)
III	Scharf (1/2', metal—168 pipes)
8'	Krummhorn (metal—56 pipes)
	Tremulant

PEDAL (50mm wind)

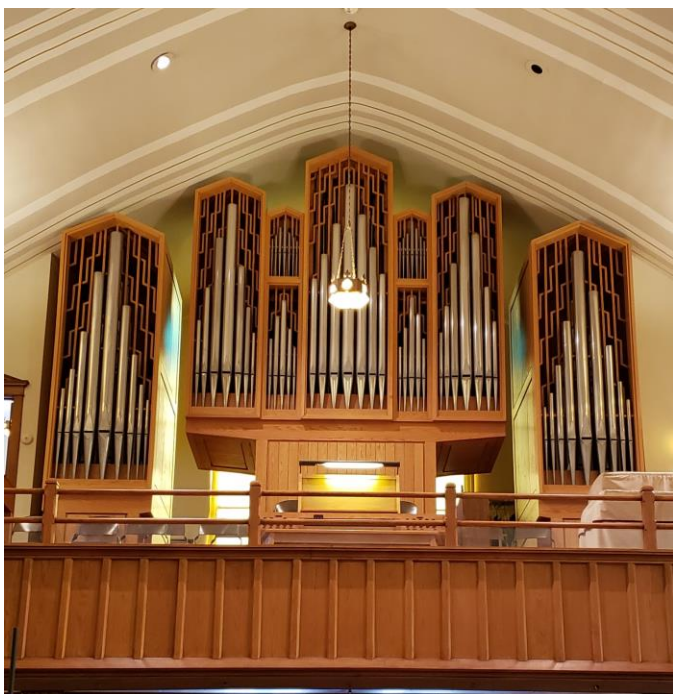
16'	Subbass (wood—32 pipes)
8'	Oktavbass (18 in façade, metal—32 pipes)
4'	Choralbass (metal—32 pipes)
IV	Mixtur (2', metal—128 pipes)
16'	Fagott (metal—32 pipes)
4'	Schalmei (metal—32 pipes)

COUPLERS

Hauptwerk to Pedal
Oberwerk to Pedal
Oberwerk to Hauptwerk

ACCESSORIES

Hauptwerk to Pedal Reversible (toe)
Oberwerk to Pedal Reversible (toe)
Oberwerk to Hauptwerk (toe)
Zimbelstern Reversible (toe, ten bells)
Oberwerk Expression Shoe



ABOVE: A gallery view and console of the Phelps & Associates organ at St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Skokie, Illinois. Photos by Derek Nickels.

Edgebrook Community Church, 6736 N. Loleta Avenue, Chicago was founded in 1924 with the construction of a basement church within a few years on the present property. A colonial-style church building was constructed above during 1946-1947. For this auditorium, a used practice organ of unknown manufacture was purchased from Wheaton College, Wheaton, Illinois. The cornerstone of the present church was laid in 1956 and the sanctuary was dedicated in the Autumn of 1957. In 1961, Aeolian-Skinner Organ Company of Boston, Massachusetts, installed its Opus 1359. A number of ranks were prepared for, including chests and console controls. More recently, pipework for several of these ranks were installed by the late Jerry Kinsella and Church Music Service of Chicago. (Information from *Pipe Organs of Chicago, Vol. 1, pp. 164-166*).

**Edgebrook Community Church
Aeolian-Skinner, Op. 1359, 1961; III/53**

HAUPTWERK (Manual II, 2" wind pressure)

- 16' Quintade (metal—61 pipes)
- 8' Spitzprinzipal (metal—61 pipes)
- 8' Montre (addition, called Principal, metal—61 pipes)
- 8' Rohrflöte (metal—61 pipes)
- 4' Prestant (metal—61 pipes)
- 4' Spillflöte (metal—61 pipes)
- 2' Super Oktave (metal—61 pipes)
- IV Mixtur (metal—244 pipes)
- 8' Festival Trumpet (addition, metal—61 pipes)
- Glocken (chimes)
- Hauptwerk Unison Off

RÉCIT I (Manual III, enclosed, 3" wind pressure)

- 8' Flûte à Cheminée (metal—61 pipes)
- 8' Viole de Gambe (metal—61 pipes)
- 8' Viole Céleste (metal—61 pipes)
- 4' Prestant (metal—61 pipes)
- 4' Flûte Harmonique (metal—61 pipes)
- 2-2/3' Nazard (metal—61 pipes)
- 2' Octavin (metal—61 pipes)
- 1-3/5' Tierce (metal—61 pipes)
- IV Plein Jeu (metal—244 pipes)
- 8' Voix Humaine ("M F", metal—61 pipes)
- 8' Voix Humaine ("P P", metal—61 pipes)
- Tremblant
- Récit I 16
- Récit I Unison Off
- Récit I 4

RÉCIT II (Manual III, enclosed, 3" wind pressure)

- 16' Flûte à Quinte (metal—73 pipes)
- 8' Flûte à Quinte (extension, 16' Flûte à Quinte)
- 8' Flûte Douce (metal—73 pipes)
- 8' Flûte Céleste (metal—61 pipes)
- II-III Grave Mixture (prepared)
- IV Cymbale (metal—244 pipes)
- 16' Basson (metal—61 pipes)
- 8' Petite Trompette (metal—61 pipes)
- 4' Chalumeau à Chimenée (metal—61 pipes)
- Tremblant
- Zimbelstern (reversible, toe, with indicator light)
- Récit II 16
- Récit II Unison Off
- Récit II 4

BRUSTWERK (Manual III, 2" wind pressure)

- 8' Kupfer Bordun (metal—56 pipes)
- 4' Gemshorn (metal—56 pipes)
- 2-2/3' Rohr Nazat (from low G, metal—49 pipes)
- 2' Zauberflöte (metal—56 pipes)
- 1-3/5' Terz (from low G, metal—49 pipes)
- III-IV Scharf (metal—192 pipes)
- Tremulant
- Brustwerk Unison Off

POSITIV (Manual I, 2" wind pressure)

8' Nasongedeckt (wood—56 pipes)
4' Koppelflöte (metal—56 pipes)
2' Spitzprinzipal (metal—56 pipes)
1-1/3' Quinte (metal—56 pipes)
1' Sifflöte (metal—56 pipes)
III-IV Zimbel (metal—192 pipes)
Tremulant
Positiv Unison Off

PEDAL (3" wind pressure)

32' Contre Flûte à Quinte (addition, electronic extension)
16' Kontra Bass (metal—32 pipes)
16' Quintade (from Great, 16' Quintade)
16' Flûte à Quinte (from Récit II, 16' Flûte à Quinte)
16' Contre Flûte Douce (extension, from Récit II, 8' Flûte Douce)
8' Prinzipal (metal—32 pipes)
8' Gemshorn (prepared, to be metal—32 pipes)
8' Flûte à Quinte (from Récit II, 16' Flûte à Quinte)
4' Choral Bass (metal—32 pipes)
4' Nachthorn (addition, metal—32 pipes)
2' Blockflöte (metal—32 pipes)
IV Mixtur (metal—128 pipes)
32' Contra Basson (addition, electronic extension)
16' Bombarde (prepared, to be metal—56 pipes)
16' Basson (from Récit II, 16' Basson)
8' Trompette (extension, 16' Bombarde, prepared)
8' Basson (from Récit II, 16' Basson)
4' Clairon (extension, 16' Bombarde, prepared)
4' Chalumeau à Chiminée (from Récit II, 4' Chalumeau)
Glocken (from Hauptwerk, Glocken)

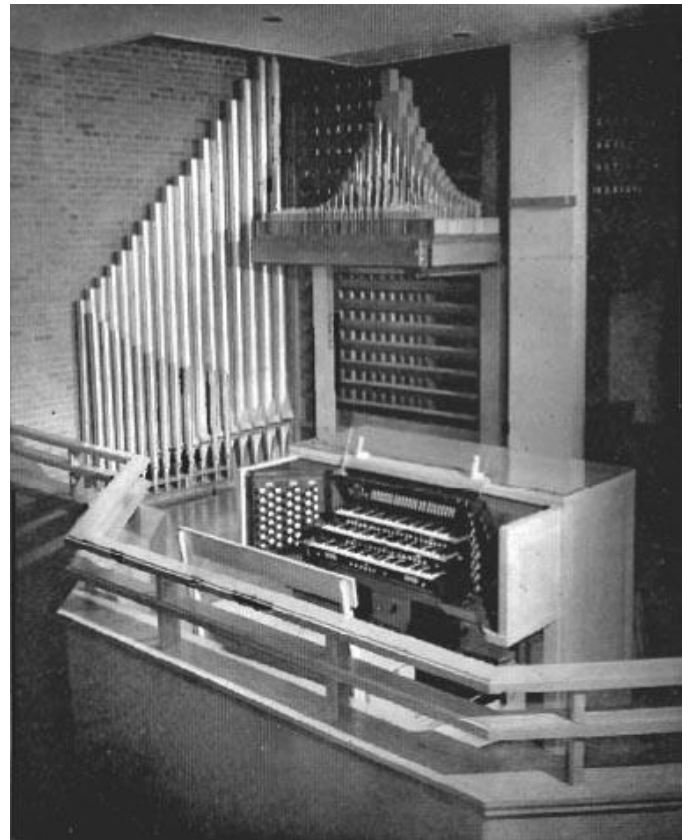
COUPLERS

Hauptwerk to Pedal 8
Positiv to Pedal 8
Récit I to Pedal 8, 4
Récit II to Pedal 8, 4
Brustwerk to Pedal 8
Positiv to Hauptwerk 8
Brustwerk to Hauptwerk 8
Récit I to Hauptwerk 16, 8, 4
Récit II to Hauptwerk 16, 8, 4
Récit I to Positiv 16, 8, 4
Récit II to Positiv 16, 8, 4
Brustwerk to Positiv 8
Récit Only
Brustwerk Only

ACCESSORIES

8 general pistons (thumb and toe)
5 Hauptwerk pistons and cancel (thumb)
4 Brustwerk pistons and cancel (thumb)
4 Positiv pistons and cancel (thumb)
6 Récit I pistons and cancel (thumb)
6 Récit II pistons and cancel (thumb)
8 Pedal pistons (toe)
General cancel (thumb)
Setter button (thumb)
Hauptwerk Cancel tablet (in stop jamb)
Brustwerk Cancel tablet (in stop jamb)

Positif Cancel tablet (in stop jamb)
Récit I Cancel tablet (in stop jamb)
Récit II Cancel tablet (in stop jamb)
Pedal Cancel tablet (in stop jamb)
Récit pistons on/off (right keycheek, Manual III)
Hauptwerk to Pedal reversible (thumb and toe)
Brustwerk to Pedal reversible (thumb)
Positiv to Pedal reversible (thumb)
Récit I to Pedal reversible (thumb)
Récit II to Pedal reversible (thumb)
Récit I expression shoe
Récit II expression shoe
Crescendo Shoe (with white indicator light)
Full Organ reversible (thumb and toe, with red indicator light)
Wind indicator light (white)
Carillon controls (on/off, Tower/organ, volume)
Chancel Signal light (white) and button
Narthex Signal light (white) and button
Electric clock
Adjustable bench



ABOVE: The 1961 Aeolian-Skinner Opus 1359 at Edgebrook Community Church as it appeared in the April 1962 issue of *The American Organist* via Aeolian-Skinner Archives.