

ORGANIST NEWS



40TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION

How time flies when you're having fun. As of January 2018 it will be 54 years since I began my career in the church organ business as an Allen Sales Representative for Kitt Music Company in Washington, D.C. Over my thirteen years there, I became church organ sales manager and grew the dealership to be the largest in the US. However, selling and installing standard models was not enough. It lacked the ability to create, which was what I craved. The Rodgers Organ Company had invented the first successful Electronic/Pipe combination instruments - organs where some of the most important stops were actually wind blown pipes. The concept looked so promising that in 1977 (40 years ago) I left my former employer and became the Rodgers Dealer in the Baltimore/ Washington Area. In 1980, we became the first electronic organ dealership to represent a major pipe organ builder. In 1983, we entered the field of pipe rebuilding and maintenance. I hired Bob Wyant as department head and with him came accounts such as Washington National Cathedral and the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. For more than fourteen years, we have been the largest Rodgers Organ Dealer in the United States. Our company excels in pipe organ design work and over the years, we have had a number of very talented people on our design staff. (See pages four and five) Our other field of expertise is in hybrid organs. Of the over 2000 installations I have been responsible for, a large number have included new pipe divisions or portions of the church's existing pipe organ rebuilt and incorporated into a hybrid instrument with a new Rodgers Console. Someone once said "I recently got a job that I really love and I haven't worked ever since" In my early years, I had planned for an early retirement. That was a long time ago! I wake up every morning with the same love for this work that I had in the very beginning. As a young man, my passions were church organs, airplanes and design work. How fortunate I am to have been able to combine all of these interests while carrying out our endeavor of serving the Mid Atlantic with the sale, service and rebuilding of church organs.

Sincerely,



Our Turbo Commander helps shrink our Mid-Atlantic territory

The Episcopal Cathedral of the Incarnation

Baltimore, Maryland

Four Manual

84 stop Rodgers/Moller/Aeolian Skinner

At the turn of the century, The Episcopal Diocese of Maryland began planning a new building which was to be the world's largest gothic cathedral. By 1911, the undercroft (basement) was completed and the first service was held on Trinity Sunday. This structure was designated as the "Pro Cathedral" meaning that it would eventually become the cathedral. The upper church, which was only a small portion of the original plan, was completed in 1931. This smaller version turned out to be one of Baltimore's most beautiful church buildings. There is no record of what instruments were used until the present instrument was installed in 1941 by the Moller Organ Company of Hagerstown, Maryland. The original plan was for a 43 rank instrument but, because of available funds, only 14 ranks were installed. In 1960 two bequests made it possible to contract with Aeolian-Skinner Organ Company of Boston, Massachusetts for the addition of 13 more ranks for a total of 27 ranks. In 1994 the original 1941 console was failing and the decision was made to replace it with a new 3 manual console built by The Rodgers Organ Company. One of the advantages of the Rodgers console was the ability to fill in the missing voices specified in the original 43 rank specification with digitally sampled ones. It was actually possible to expand the Moller/Aeolian-Skinner from a basic service instrument into a magnificent 3 manual 70 stop concert organ. Recitals have been performed by many of the greats of the organ world: Fred Swann, Berj Zamkochian, Felix Hell and John Weaver just to name a few. The success of this hybrid organ in combination with the cathedral's favorable acoustics. in this building is spectacular! Finally, a bequest from the estate of Bert Wyatt-Brown coupled with the generosity of Bob Daffer, of R. A. Daffer Church Organs, Inc., made the upgrade to the new 4

manual Rodgers Console possible. The 4th manual is home to a solo division that plays from the rear of the cathedral. The solo trumpet in this division is appropriately named "Bert's Trumpet". in honor of it's donor.



Ken Brown, Vice President, R. A. Daffer Church Organs, Inc. is the Canon for Music and Worship at The Cathedral of the Incarnation.

Our Staff



Robert A. Daffer
President



Ken Brown
Vice President



Al Murrell
Vice President



David Lang
Sales Representative



Dave Yoder
Service Manager



Bill Teyssier
Pipe Organ Division Manager



Taylor Brooks
Pipe Organ Technician



Tim Coleman
Installation Technician



Kim Conley
Office Manager



Steve McBride
Director of Marketing

Who's Who in the Organ World



Dr. Gerry Muller has conducted and directed over 200 operas and musical theatre productions. His early training was at the Juilliard School of Music where he was a piano major with Irwin Freundlich. In 1952, he joined the order of the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales, where he earned a B.A. from Niagara University in English Literature. Afterwards, he continued his graduate studies at The Catholic University of America where he earned his M.M. in 1965 and his D.M.A. in 1980. From 1965 to 1995, he was Professor of Music at Montgomery College-Rockville. While there he helped develop the Opera/Musical Theatre workshop and was the Artistic Director throughout his tenure at the College. From 1974 to 1975, he and his family lived in Vienna, Austria. Upon returning to the United States, he worked in parishes of the Archdiocese of Washington. He was appointed Director of Music at the Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle from 1980 until his retirement in 1997. Under his leadership, the Cathedral Chorale sang for Blessed John Paul II in 1988. Dr. Muller was awarded the Pro Ecclesia Et Pontifice medal upon retirement and remains Director of Music Emeritus. While at the Cathedral, he guided the formation of the Conference of Roman Catholic Cathedral Musicians (CRCCM). He now, as a founder of this organization, continues as an advisor to the Conference. From 1995 to 1999, he was Music Director for TheatreFest, a professional equity theatre in Upper Montclair, New Jersey. He was also Director of choral activities and a faculty member of the Department of Music of Montclair State University. From 2003 to 2006, Dr. Muller participated as a member of the Amalfi Coast Music and Arts Festival where he conducted many opera scenes. He retired as Artistic Director and General Manager for the Maryland Opera Society in May of 2011. He is currently Director of Music of Theological College and continues as principal organist at St. Hugh of Grenoble Catholic Church in Greenbelt, MD. His compositions include 5 fully staged operas, with a sixth in preparation, chamber works for various instruments and over 300 Masses, motets and psalm-settings for the liturgies of the Roman Catholic Church.

Nunc Dimittis.

It is with both sadness and admiration that we mark the passing of A. Graham Down on August 30, 2014. Graham lived a long and vigorous life as an educator, humanist, and concert musician; one could not be with him for more than a few moments without sensing his passion for high academic standards, the liberal arts, and the monuments of civilization. He did not hesitate to articulate his deep belief that these things matter profoundly for our society and for each individual. And share he did. Anyone who had the privilege of seeing Graham at the keyboard not only heard a superb performance, but also sensed the sublime pleasure that he drew from communicating that beauty to his audience. The small concerts that he regularly held at his home were highlights of Washington cultural life. He was at the very center of several crucial initiatives in higher education and in teacher preparation. He served as Acting Director of the College Board's Advanced Placement Program and was Executive Director and President of the Council for Basic Education during the twenty years of its most important national work. Graham's final day on earth was characteristic of his life and career. The afternoon before he died, he celebrated his 85th birthday at the Cosmos Club in the company of nearly one hundred of his close friends. He spoke with grace and erudition of the work that lies before us in advancing learning and culture. Graham was a wonderful friend, and he is greatly missed.

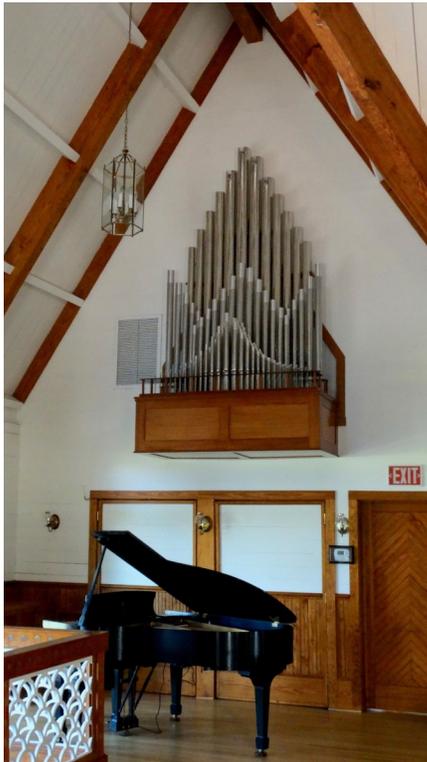
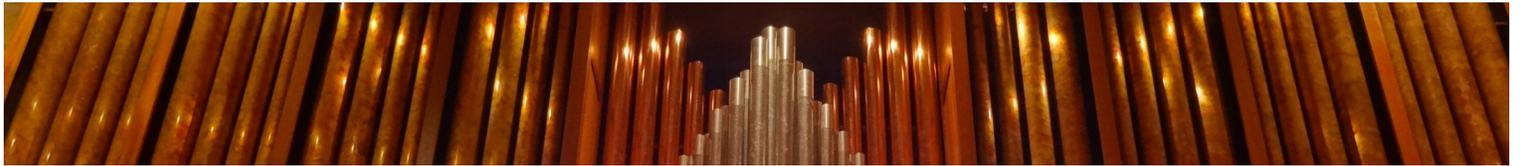
Daffer Designs



Falls Church Presbyterian Church
Falls Church, VA
Case Design by Russell Meyer



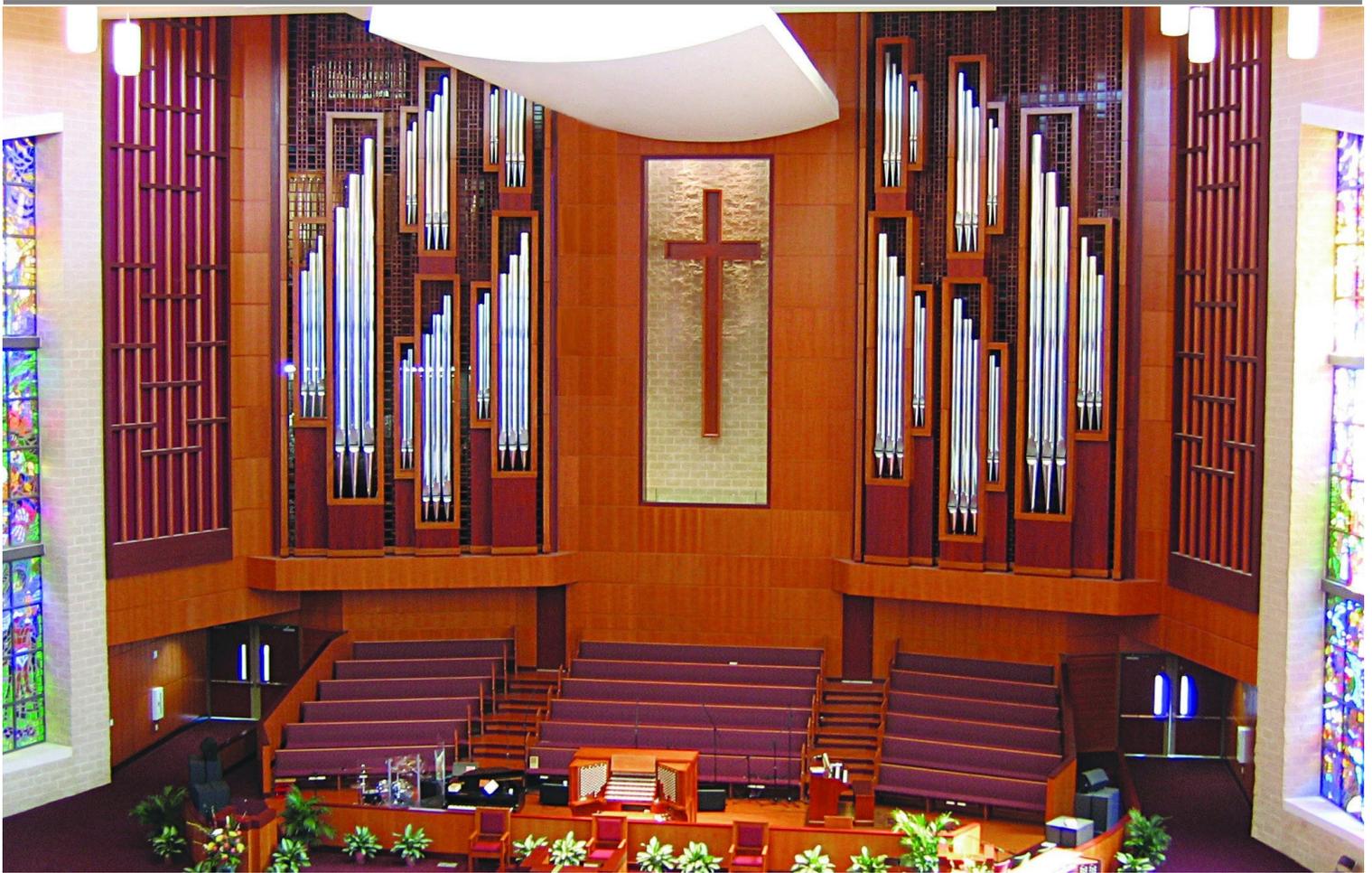
R. A. Daffer Showroom
Jessup, MD
Case Design by Bob Daffer



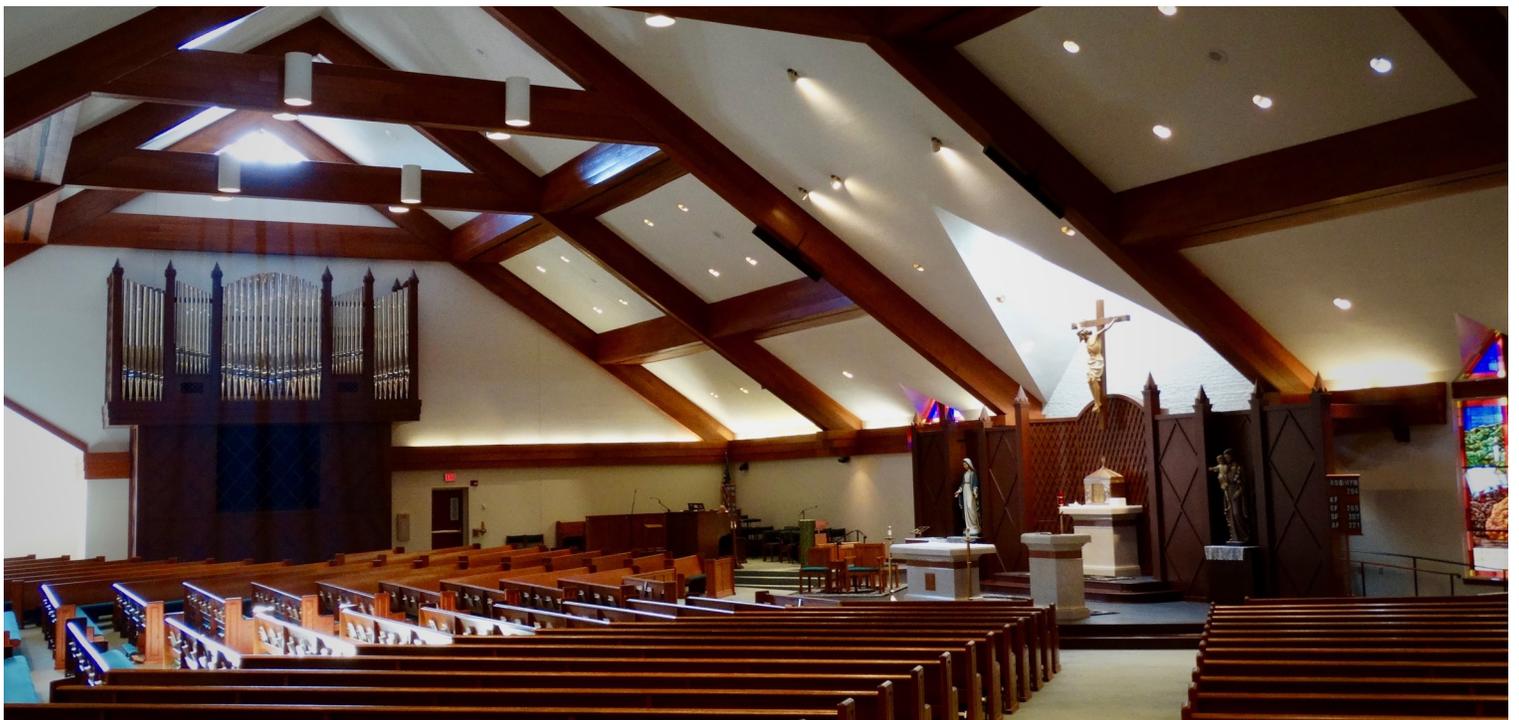
The Village Chapel
Bald Head Island, NC
Design by Michaela Ruffatti



Theological College
Washington, D.C.
Case Design by Bob Daffer



Friendship Missionary Baptist Church, Charlotte, NC
Design by Pierro Ruffatti



St. Elizabeth Ann Seaton Catholic Church, Lake Ridge, VA
Case Design by Dave Yoder

Eleven Four Manual Rodgers Organ Installations

THE 4 MANUAL 84 STOP RODGERS INFINITY ORGAN

This is clearly the best instrument Rodgers has ever produced! Since its introduction 3 years ago our company has sold 11 of these spectacular instruments. This unprecedented number of 4 manual sales found their way into churches large and small: a village chapel, several mega churches and a cathedral. These instruments were chosen because of their fine pipe organ sound, quality of construction, ease of customization and a very affordable cost.



The Memorial Chapel at Ft. Myer, Arlington, VA



The Episcopal Cathedral of the Incarnation, Baltimore, MD



St. Mary's Catholic Church, Annapolis, MD



The Village Chapel, Bald Head Island, NC



Tabernacle United Methodist Church, Poquoson, VA

Eleven Four Manual Rodgers Organ Installations



Mount Vernon Place United Methodist Church
Washington, D.C.



Christ Episcopal Church
Easton, MD



St. Elizabeth Ann Seaton Catholic Church
Lake Ridge, VA



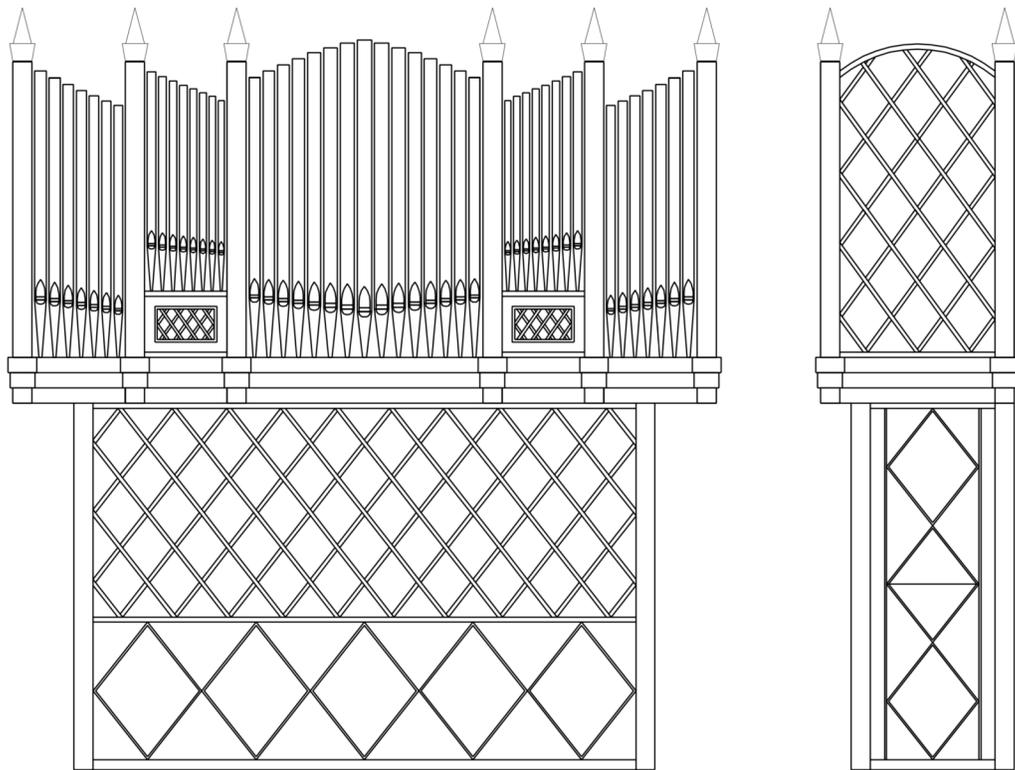
Bel Air United Methodist Church
Bel Air, MD



St. Paul's Baptist Church, Charlotte, NC



Park Road Baptist Church, Charlotte, NC



ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON CATHOLIC CHURCH
LAKE RIDGE, VIRGINIA

R.A. DAFFER CHURCH ORGANS, INC.			
10545 Guilford Road, Suite #106, Jessup, MD 20794			
OWNER BY:	DATE:	PATH:	SCALE:
CHAZ DEWSBURY	2/15/2015	C:\ACAD\	1:24
CHECKED BY:	DATE:	FILE NAME:	SHEET (C)
		SEAS-1	1 OF 1



R.A. Daffer Church Organs, INC.

ESTABLISHED 1977

10545 Guilford Road • Suite 106 • Jessup, MD 20794 • DafferOrgans.com

RODGERS - RUFFATTI - JOHANNUS - MAKIN

Inside this Issue

The Episcopal Cathedral of the Incarnation....	Front Cover
President's Column	Page 2
Cover Story	Page 2
Who's Who in the Organ World	Page 3
Nunc Dimittis	Page 3
Staff of R. A. Daffer Church Organs, Inc.	Page 3
Daffer Designs.....	Pages 4 & 5
Eleven Four Manual Organ Installations.....	Pages 6 & 7
Concept Drawing	Back Cover

ORGANIST NEWS is published by
R. A. Daffer Church Organs, Inc
Volume XL, Issue No. 1
Copyright 2017