



harmony in the hills
2006-2007 concert series

st. paul's united methodist church
rochester, michigan

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prayer of dedication

Oh great and glorious God, Whom we worship with the gift of music, accept our praise to You in the sound of this pipe organ, which we dedicate in Your name and to Your glory. Grant that its music may be a blessing to all who hear it, and that they also may be dedicated to You. Let our music be so joined to Your Holy Word that Your glory may surround us and empower us for the service to which You call us in the world. We ask all this through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

message from dr. wm. jean randall

"I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do." – John 17:4



Dr. Wm. Jean Randall
St. Paul's Director of Music
and Organist

When I arrived at St. Paul's, some of the first words I heard from the Music Committee were, "We would like to finish the organ." Having just come through an organ project of about the same scope, I was somewhat less than excited by the prospect of several years of fundraising, negotiating with the builder, and convincing all involved of the need. But I learned long ago not to mess with God's plan. We formed a three-person task force to explore the possibility of moving forward. The result of that small spark is the magnificent pipe organ that now graces our Sanctuary.

To call an organ project "lots of work" is a gross understatement. It's HUGE! And thanks to the great congregation of St. Paul's, the project is now complete.

Two years ago, St. Paul's Music Committee was given the go-ahead to begin a fundraising campaign for the purpose of refurbishing and completing the J.W. Walker organ, left incomplete when built in 1988. In two months, all necessary funds were raised and a contract was signed with David Wilson of J.W. Walker & Sons Ltd. for the completion of the work which we now celebrate.

God has truly blessed the congregation of St. Paul's United Methodist Church. A rich heritage of sacred music has blossomed and matured around this church, led by superbly gifted directors and musicians. With the completion of our treasured J.W. Walker organ, this heritage will run deeper than ever and reach out to future generations as well. In the words of 2 Timothy 4:7, we have fought the good fight, we have finished the race and we have kept the faith.

st. paul's

In 1858, the Detroit Conference of the Methodist Church made the Stoney Creek Circuit, including Rochester, a regular preaching appointment. In 1866, St. Paul's congregation relocated from Stoney Creek to Rochester, where most members lived.

In 1868, a Walnut Street location was secured in downtown Rochester. In 1876, the church recorded a membership of 135 and a Sunday School of 110, as well as a library with 150 books. A new building was erected in 1912, and still stands on Walnut Street housing the Masonic Temple. In the 1950s, the growing congregation purchased eight acres on Romeo Street, and in late 1959, the Sanctuary (now known as Rickard Chapel) and educational unit were dedicated.

The growing congregation would expand twice more; once in the early 1970s (with a Sanctuary now known as Hickey Hall) and again in the late 1980s with a \$4.2 million expansion project and our current Sanctuary, Walker pipe organ, and expanded music and educational space.

Today, St. Paul's has a membership of 2,300 and a library that holds considerably more than 150 books. In 2008, the congregation of St. Paul's will celebrate the church's 150th birthday with surrounding communities.

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harmony in the hills

2006-2007 concert series*

Paul Jacobs
The Juilliard School

Sunday, November 12, 2006[†]
4:30 p.m.

Friday Advent Series

Featuring Dr. Wm. Jean Randall
on organ

Fridays in December 2006

(Dec. 1, 8, 15 and 22)
12:30 p.m.

Mozart: Coronation Mass

Featuring St. Paul's choirs
and members of the Rochester
Symphony Orchestra

Sunday, December 17, 2006

9 a.m. and 11 a.m.

Marilyn Mason

University of Michigan

Sunday, January 28, 2007[†]

4:30 p.m.

Friday Lenten Series

Featuring Dr. Wm. Jean Randall
on organ

Fridays in March 2007

(March 2, 9, 16, 23)
12:30 p.m.

Durufié: Requiem

Featuring James Kibbie, organ
with St. Paul's choirs, the
Rochester College A Cappella
Chorus and members of the
Rochester Symphony Orchestra

Friday, April 6, 2007

7:30 p.m.

Simon Preston

Concert organist
International recording artist

Sunday, May 6, 2007[†]

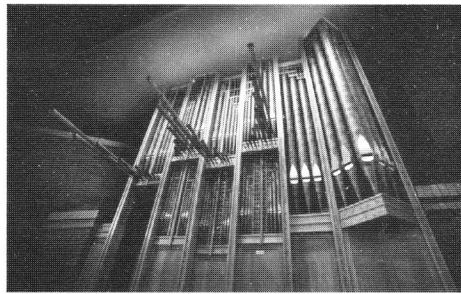
4:30 p.m.

* All concerts take place in the Sanctuary at St. Paul's United Methodist Church.

† \$10 per ticket. An afterglow with the artist follows each of these concerts.

st. paul's organ

St. Paul's sanctuary organ was custom designed and hand-built in 1989 by J.W. Walker & Sons Ltd. of Suffolk, England. When first built, St. Paul's was in the midst of a \$4.2 million expansion project and nearly one-third of the organ was left incomplete due to a lack of funds.



In 2005, the church raised the necessary funds to refurbish and complete the organ. In late June 2006, the organ was disassembled and silenced. It was refurbished, completed and debuted Sunday, October 8, 2006. The organ is now one of the premiere English pipe organs in Southeast Michigan, featuring three manuals, 42 stops and more than 3,000 pipes.

"The Walker mechanical-action organ at St. Paul's is a treasure," says Marilyn Mason, university organist and organ department chair at the University of Michigan School of Music. Mason served as consultant to St. Paul's and Walker back in 1988 and 1989 when the organ was designed and first installed. "It is a splendid instrument, crafted with variety in the various 'stops' or 'registers,' and has a beautiful tone."

j.w. walker & sons ltd.

While J.W. Walker & Sons Ltd. of Suffolk, England, traces its roots back to the 16th Century, it was officially named for Joseph William Walker in 1828. The company has built mechanical-action pipe organs for cathedrals, music schools, churches and even royalty. And while it's not possible to count the number of organs the company has built and installed from Australia to Japan and Norway, it is in excess of 2,000.

The company's organs range from the gallery organ at St. Martin in-the-Fields in London, England, to an organ in the crypt of Canterbury Cathedral in Kent, England, to the organ in the town hall in Adelaide, Australia. Perhaps the oldest surviving Walker organ is a small chamber organ dating from 1832, now in the company's possession. The latest? If you're sitting in St. Paul's Sanctuary in Rochester, Michigan, you just may be enjoying it now.



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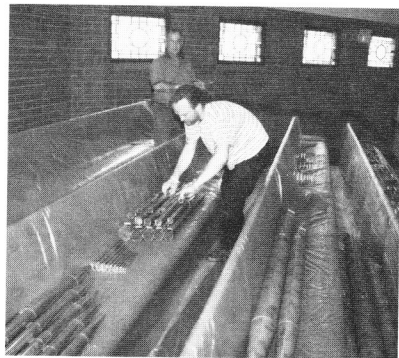
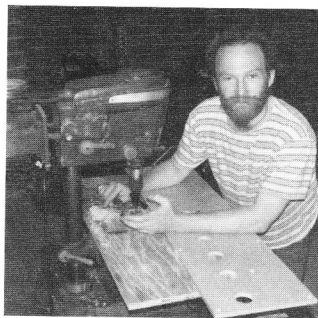
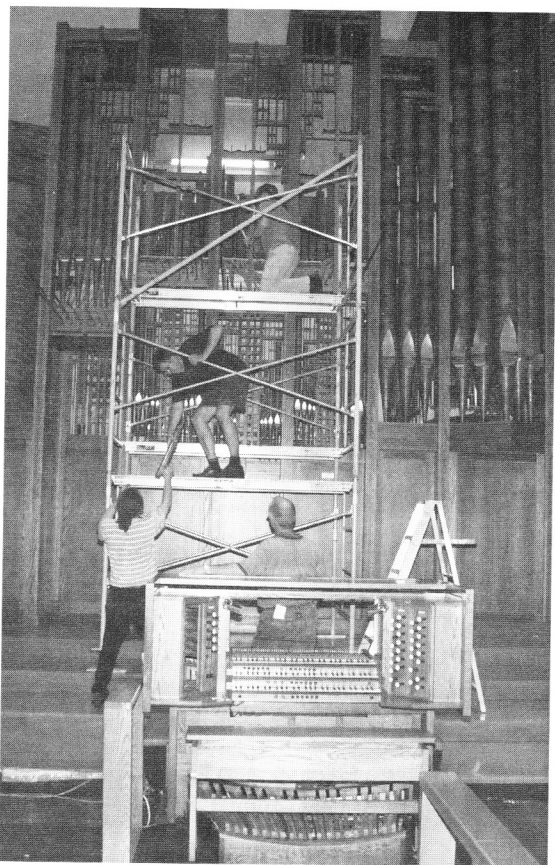
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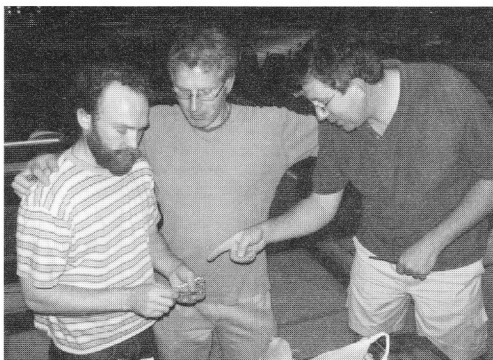
organ refurbishment and completion

Although tuned each year since its 1989 installation, St. Paul's organ was overdue for a thorough refurbishment to battle the effects of 17 years of

dust and use. Refurbishment included completely stripping the instrument to its bare mechanisms, plus cleaning and reassembling or replacing parts, as necessary.



More than 1,000 new pipes and other new parts were manufactured to complete the instrument. The organ's sound boards were shipped back to England so they could be drilled and fitted for the new pipes. On site in Rochester, new pipes were matched to balance in tone and sound with the old pipes, pipe by pipe, in a painstaking process.



J.W. Walker & Sons Ltd. staff worked on site at St. Paul's for hundreds of hours in July and September 2006. From left, they are Organ Builder Michael Cleaver, Tonal Director David Wilson, and Organ Builder James Molineux.



the artists



paul jacobs **november 12, 2006**

organ department chairman
the juilliard school
new york city

With his once-in-a-generation gifts as a performer, Paul Jacobs has re-invigorated the American organ scene. This young talent's phenomenal technique, charismatic stage presence, huge repertoire and showmanship puts him in great demand throughout the U.S. and with growing recognition in the rest of the world too.

He is among the youngest faculty members of The Juilliard School, where he was named chairman of the organ department in 2004. Jacobs possesses a vast repertoire spanning from the 10th Century through contemporary times.

"An ideal mix of technical brilliance and interpretive power..." – Baltimore Sun

"... a wizardly musician who deserves a massive audience." – Cleveland Plain Dealer

"One of the most supremely gifted young organists of his generation ..."
– Chicago Tribune



simon preston **may 6, 2007**

concert organist
international recording artist
england

In March 1962, a capacity crowd at the Royal Festival Hall in London was stunned by the brilliant and ferociously intense playing of a 23-year-old Cambridge student. The player was Simon Preston and this virtuoso performance was his London debut and the beginning of a distinguished career as organist and conductor.

10 Shortly after his London debut, Mr. Preston was appointed sub-organist of Westminster Abbey. In 1965, Preston made his first tour to North America.

marilyn mason
january 28, 2007

university organist
chair of the organ department
university of michigan
ann arbor, michigan



Among the important influences on the American organ scene in the second half of the 20th century, Marilyn Mason has made a lasting impact in her distinguished career as concert organist, lecturer, adjudicator, teacher, organ consultant, recording artist, and by the nearly 75 organ works she has commissioned.

Mason was the first American woman organist to perform in Westminster Abby, the first woman organist to play in Latin America, and the first American organist to perform in Egypt. Mason was also pivotal in bringing St. Paul's and its J.W. Walker & Sons organ together. "The Walker organ at St. Paul's is a treasure," Mason says. "It is a splendid instrument ... and has a beautiful tone."

"...every piece was played not only with brilliance but with affection, respect and imagination, taste and vitality."
- Sacramento Bee

"Dr. Mason's playing is dynamite."
- Evening Gazette (London)

"Mason makes any instrument she plays a thrilling thing to hear."
- Cleveland Plain Dealer

When he left Westminster Abbey in 1967, Preston was already an internationally acclaimed artist. In 1970, he became Organist of the Cathedral and Tutor in Music at Christ Church Oxford. In 1981, he returned to Westminster Abbey as Organist and Master of the Choristers. He directed music at the wedding of Sarah Ferguson and Prince Andrew in 1986 and was also responsible for writing much of Salieri's music in the film Amadeus.

Since leaving Westminster Abbey again in 1987, he has continued to pursue an active career as a highly sought-after organist and conductor.

"Technically, Mr. Preston is one of the strongest virtuoso organ performers we have ever heard."
- Miami Herald

"He is quite evidently a polished master of the king of instruments, and a superbly sensitive musician to boot."
- Washington Star

"An artist of remarkable musicality and accomplishment."
- Chicago Tribune



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