

# Hilbus Chapter

The Organ Historical Society, Inc.

*Where the Tracker Action Is!*

www.hilbus.org



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## Recent Pipe Organs of Alexandria, Virginia

Prepared by Glen Frank

**Saturday, February 27, 2016**

**10:00 a.m.**

**Immanuel Lutheran Church, LCMS**

**1801 Russell Road**

**Alexandria, Virginia 22301**

*1992 Berghaus Organ*

*Two-manual and pedal, 30 ranks*

*Electro-pneumatic action*

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**DIRECTIONS:** The church is a 20 minute walk from the King Street Metro Station in Old Town Alexandria. From the Capital Beltway, take the Telegraph Road North exit. From the Telegraph Road North exit East on Highway 241, Duke Street. Turn left at the second traffic light onto Callahan. Callahan becomes Russell Road. Continue 1 mile north, and the church is on your right, with additional parking down the hill on Belleaire Drive, both on the street and on the school's blacktop. If you are driving from 395, exit East on Route 7. Turn left on Braddock Road. Turn left on Russell Road and the church will be on you right.

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*Articles and news may be submitted to the Editor electronically: [kevinclemens@mac.com](mailto:kevinclemens@mac.com)*

*Dues are due in October. \$14.00 mailed to Secretary-Treasurer. (Checks payable to: HILBUS CHAPTER, OHS)*

***Have you registered for the Philadelphia OHS Convention - June 26-July 1, 2016?***

**11:30 a.m.**  
**RT's Restaurant**  
**3804 Mount Vernon Avenue**  
**Alexandria, Virginia**

**DIRECTIONS:** From Immanuel Lutheran Church Drive North one block on Russell Road to Mount Vernon Avenue approximately 1.5 miles. Turn sharp right on Mount Vernon. Restaurant will be on the right.

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**1:30 p.m.**  
**Virginia Theological Seminary**  
**Immanuel Chapel**  
**3737 Seminary Road**  
**Alexandria, Virginia 22304**

*Taylor and Boody Organ, Opus 70, 2015*  
*Two manual and pedal, 34 stops, 41 ranks*  
*Mechanical Key Action, Electric Stop Action*

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**DIRECTIONS:** From RT's Restaurant - Drive North toward Russell Road. Take a sharp left onto Russell Road to W. Braddock Road. Turn right onto W. Braddock Road. Follow to N. Quaker Lane and turn left. Turn right on Seminary Road. Chapel will be on the right.

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**CONCERTS AND RECITALS**

**Organ Recitals** - Fridays from 12:15 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. **National City Christian Church**, 5 Thomas Circle, NW, Washington, DC.

**Organ Recitals** - Sunday, March 13 and Sunday, April 10 at 4:00 p.m. **Franciscan Monastery**, 1400 Qunicy Street, NE, Washington, DC.

**Christopher Houlihan, organist** - Sunday, March 6 at 3:00 p.m. **Wilson College**, 1015 Philadelphia Avenue, Chambersburg, PA.

**Organ Plus** - Sunday, March 6 at 2:00 p.m. **St. Columba's Episcopal Church**, 4201 Albermarle Street, NW, Washington, DC.

**James David Christe** - Saturday, March 12 at 7:30 p.m. **Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church**, 6601 Bradley Blvd., Bethesda, MD.

**Silent Movie with Organ (Thomas Ospital, organist)** - Friday, March 18 at 7:00 p.m. **St. Jane Frances de Chantal Church**, 9601 Old Georgetown Road, Bethesda, MD.

**Marilyn Keiser, organist** - Friday, March 18 at 7:30 p.m. **Immanuel Chapel, Virginia Theological Seminary**, 3737 Seminary Road, Alexandria, VA.

## A Review of the November Organ Crawl “Upper Montgomery County Maryland”

Kevin M. Clemens

On a crisp November day Hilbus Chapter members gathered to inspect, hear, and play three very different pipe organs in Damascus, Germantown, and Gaithersburg. Our first church was the Damascus United Methodist Church located on 9700 New Church Street in Damascus, Maryland. We were met at the church by organist Stephen Kalnoske. Stephen demonstrated the Skinner with an improvisation on a hymn tune. The Skinner Organ, 1930, Opus 843, was purchased from the Metropolitan Memorial Methodist Church in Washington, DC for \$7,500.00 in 1958. The Metropolitan Memorial Methodist Church had signed a contract with Aeoline-Skinner in 1958 for a 3 manual and pedal pipe organ of 58 ranks. The installation was completed in 1961. The reason for replacing the Skinner Organ was because the church had doubled its nave in length thus requiring a larger instrument to fill the new space. The installation cost for Damascus United Methodist Church was an additional \$7,500.00 in 1958. Recently the Skinner had received some updating to its console by Lawless and Associate Pipe Organ Company, Inc. It is very evident that Metropolitan Memorial Methodist Church was a larger space than Damascus United Methodist for the Skinner pipe organ fills the sanctuary well. In fact one has to be careful as to not to over power the congregation in hymn playing and service music. But the church possess a beautiful gem of an instrument and is very proud of their Skinner.

### GREAT ORGAN (unenclosed)

16'	Bourdon	17 PED
8'	First Diapason	61
8'	Second Diapason	61
8'	Open Wood	prepared for
8'	Harmonic Flute	61
4'	Principal	61
II	Grave Mixture	122
8'	Tuba	CH
	Chimes (in SW box)	25 tubes
8'	Harp (from Celesta)	-- tc
4'	Celesta	61 bars



### CHOIR ORGAN (enclosed)

8'	Geigen Diapason	73
8'	Concert Flute	73
8'	Dulciana	73
8'	Unda Maris	61 tc
4'	Flute	73
8'	Clarinet	73
8'	French Horn	61 (from Möller, Opus 6463)
8'	Tuba	61 (engages Unison Off Coupler)
	Tremolo	



**SWELL ORGAN** (enclosed)

16'	Bourdon	73
8'	Diapason	73
8'	Rohrflöte	73
8'	Gamba	73
8'	Gamba Celeste	73
8'	Flute Celeste II	134
4'	Flute Triangulaire	73
2'	Piccolo	61
III	Mixture	183
16'	Contra Oboe	73
8'	Oboe	73
8'	Vox Humana	73
8'	Tuba	CH (engages Unison Off coupler)
	Tremolo	



**PEDAL ORGAN** (unenclosed)

32'	Resultant (f)	--
32'	Resultant (p)	--
16'	Diapason	32
16'	Bourdon	32
16'	Echo Bourdon	SW
8'	Octave	12
8'	Gedeckt	12
16'	Trombone	12 CH (Ext. Tuba)
16'	Contra Oboe	SW
8'	Tuba	CH
	Chimes	GT



**COMBINATIONS** (99 levels)

Great	6	(thumb)
Swell	6	(thumb)
Choir	6	(thumb)
Pedal	6	(thumb)
General	12	(thumb and toe)
Set		(thumb)
General Cancel		(thumb)

**COUPLERS**

Great to Pedal	8		
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	16	8	4



## EXPRESSION

Balanced Swell Pedal  
Balanced Choir Pedal  
Crescendo Pedal

## ACCESSORIES

Great/Choir Transfer  
Pedal Divide  
Previous/Next Pistons and Toe Studs

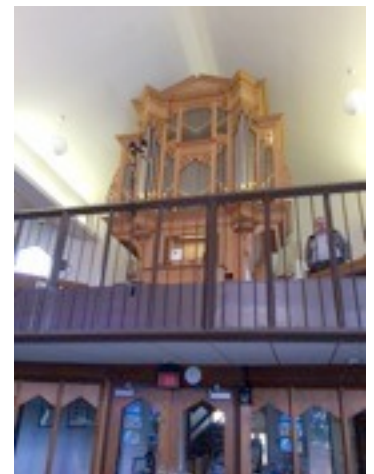


Our next church was located in Germantown, Maryland on Clopper Road. Messiah Lutheran Church is a Missouri Synod Lutheran Church. The Flentrop Orgelbouw, was built and installed in 1990. The pipe organ is in a gallery level case at the rear of the sanctuary. There is an attached keydesk *en fenêtre*. There are two manuals, 23 stops, comprising 30 ranks. Manual compass is 56 notes and the pedal compass is 30 notes with a flat straight pedalboard. The pipe organ has slider chests with suspended mechanical key action. The stop action is mechanical and the draw knobs are in vertical rows on flat jambs. There is a balanced swell shoe. No combination action exists on this instrument. The external case is made of French Oak and the interior mechanical parts are of cedar and mahogany. The Bovenwerk is at the top of the case. The Hoofdwerk is below the Bovenwerk. The Hoofdwerk windchest is about 1 meter above the keydesk. The Pedaal is at the bass of the case. The pipe organ was dedicated on April 21, 1991.

The Flentrop has a very delicate key action and as I played I noticed that I have been playing electro-pneumatic organs far too long. It was nice to be able to control the speech of each pipe through proper touch and articulation. Eventually I adjusted to the flat pedal board. The sound of the organ is aggressive and is the perfect instrument to lead a Lutheran congregation in hymns and service music. Thanks to organist Bill Parsons for being a gracious host.

## HOOFDWERK

8'	Prestant	
8'	Gedeckt	
4'	Octaaf	
4'	Roerfluit	
3'	Quint	
2'	Superoctaaf	
IV	Mixtuur	1 1/3'
III	Cornet	2 2/3' (partial-compass, C25-G56)
8'	Trompet	



## BOVENWERK (Zwelwerk)

8'	Bourdon	
8'	Gamba	
4'	Prestant (enclosed behind the swell shutters)	
4'	Fluit (stopped)	
3'	Nasard	
2'	Woudfluit	
1 3/5'	Terts	
III	Mixtuur 2'	
8'	Hoboi	



## PEDAAL

- 16' Bourdon (wood)
- 8' Fluit (open wood)
- 4' Octaaf
- 16' Fagott
- 8' Trompet

**TREMULANT** affects the entire organ.

**COUPLERS** (Controlled by drawknobs)

- Hoofdwerk+Bovenwerk
- Bovenwerk+Hoofdwerk (reversible)
- Hoofdwerk+Pedaal
- Bovenwerk+Pedaal



Our lunch was scheduled to be at the Dogfish Head Alehouse in Gaithersburg, but due to a large number of people at the restaurant waiting to be seated we decided to find another restaurant nearby in Gaithersburg. We ate at a very good Mexican Restaurant but the travel from one restaurant to the other made us lose time. Thankfully the organist-choirmaster of our third church was dining with us and was able to extend our time at Ascension Episcopal Church.

The Church of the Ascension (Episcopal) is located on Summit Avenue in Gaithersburg, Maryland. The pipe organ was built in 2001 by Casavant Frères as their Opus 3801. The organ is two manuals, 19 registers with 22 ranks. Manual compass is 61 notes and the pedal compass is 32 notes. The organ is electro-pneumatic action with pitman chests. The console has tilting/rocking tabs above the top manual. The swell pedal is balanced and the console has adjustable combination pistons. The organ is located in the front off to the left side and the console is directly across from the pipe work on the right side. The sound of the organ sounds well in this "A Frame" building and the acoustics are not too bad. Most organ literature works well on this instrument and it does well in leading the congregation in hymns and service music as well as accompanying the choir.

**GRAND ORGUE** (unenclosed)

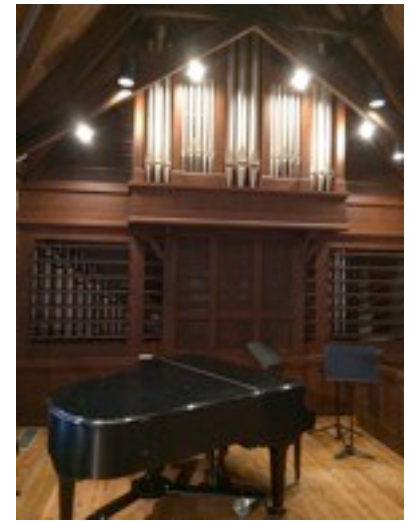
- |        |                  |       |
|--------|------------------|-------|
| 8'     | Montre           | 61    |
| 8'     | Flute à cheminée | 61    |
| 8'     | Viola de gambe   | Récit |
| 8'     | Voix Céleste     | Récit |
| 4'     | Prestant         | 61    |
| 4'     | Flute à fuseau   | 61    |
| 2 2/3' | Nazard           | 61    |
| 2'     | Flute            | 61    |
| 1 3/5' | Tierce           | 61    |
| IV     | Fourniture       | 244   |
| 16'    | Basson           | Récit |
| 8'     | Trompette        | Récit |
| 8'     | Basson-hautbois  | Récit |
|        | Tremblant        |       |



Thanks to Gordon Biscomb, Glen Frank, and Carl Schwartz for providing photos.

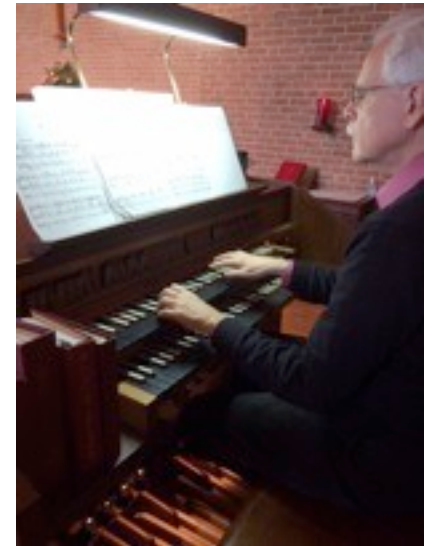
## RÉCIT (enclosed)

8'	Flute Majeure	61	
8'	Viole de Gambe	61	
8'	Voix Céleste	49 tc	
4'	Principal	61	
4'	Flute Octaviante	61	
2'	Doublette	61	
1 1/3'	Quinte	61	
16'	Basson	12	1/2 Length
8'	Trompette	61	
8'	Basson-Hautbois	61	
	Tremblant		
	Sub		
	Super		



## PÉDALE

16'	Soubasse	32
8'	Octavebasse	20 (1-12 common with 8' Montre)
8'	Flute a Chimnée	Grand Qrgue
4'	Octave	12
16'	Basson	Récit
8'	Trompette	Récit
4'	Clairon	Récit
4'	Hautbois	Récit



# HILBUS CHAPTER RENEWAL FORM 2016

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone(s): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

## CONTRIBUTION TO E. POWER BIGGS FELLOWSHIP 2016

Honoring an notable advocate for examining and understanding the pipe organ, the E. Power Biggs Fellows will attend the OHS 61st Convention in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, June 26 - July 1, 2016. Hear and experience a wide variety of pipe organs in the company of organ builders, professional musicians and enthusiasts. The Fellowship includes a two-year membership in the OHS and covers these convention costs: Travel, Hotel, Meals and Registration.

**Hilbus Chapter Dues: \$14.00**

**Contribution to E. Power Biggs Fellowship: \_\_\_\_\_**

**TOTAL: \_\_\_\_\_**

Write check payable to: Hilbus Chapter, OHS

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