

# Hilbus Chapter

The Organ Historical Society, Inc.

*Where the Tracker Action Is!*

www.hilbus.org



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## Saturday April 28, 2018 Organs of Fredericksburg, Virginia

Crawl prepared by David Dutton  
assisted by Jim Baird

### 10 AM - 11 AM

St. Luke's Anglican Catholic Church  
65 Warrenton Road Fredericksburg, VA 22405  
Henry Erben, 1851. One manual, 4 ranks, mechanical action

Take I-95 south from the beltway. Get off at Exit #133A, which is Business route 17 South, also marked Falmouth Business. Go through 2 traffic lights, and the church will be on the right hand side just beyond Heflin's Garage. The church is located up on the hill. The church sign will say "St. Luke's Anglican Church". Parking is in front and in the rear of the church.

### 11 AM - 12:15 PM

St. George Episcopal Church  
905 Princess Anne Street, Fredericksburg, VA 22401  
(Corner of George and Princess Anne Street)  
Parsons Organ Company, Opus 29, 2010.  
Three manuals, 55 ranks, mechanical action

Leave St. Luke's and turn right on route 17 south. Go to the first traffic light and turn right. This is route 1 south. Cross over the bridge, moving into the left lane. Turn left at the next traffic light. This is Princess Anna Street. Go about 2 miles and you will see 2 church steeples on your left. The first steeple is the Baptist church, the second steeple is St. George's Church. St. George's Church does not have a parking lot. You may park in the Baptist church parking lot (on the right at Amelia Street), just before the church, or park on the street.

**continued on next page**

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## **Lunch            12:15 PM - 2 PM**

There are several eating places on Caroline Street, which is one block behind the church, down the hill. There are also three eating places on William Street, which is one block to the north of St. George's (going toward the Baptist Church). Turn left on William Street and go one block. They are Castiglia's Italian, Burger Lounge, and the Steak House.

## **2 PM - 3 PM**

Fredericksburg United Methodist Church  
308 Hanover Street Fredericksburg, VA 22401  
(parking lot behind church on Charlotte Street)

R.A. Colby Organ Company - digital additions 3m - 44 stops (2008)  
Reuter Organ Company Opus 2122 (1990), 3/29  
M. P. Möller, Inc. Opus 8108 (1950) 2/18

After lunch, you may drive or walk to the next church on Hanover Street. If you walk, continue down Princess Anne Street one block past St. George's to Hanover Street. The church will be on your right, about 1/2 block. The front doors may be locked, if so, walk around the far side of the church to the parking lot behind the church and enter through the side rear door.

If you drive, go south on Princess Anne street, (two blocks past St. George's) and turn right on Charlotte Street, (one block further than Hanover Street), then turn right into the church parking lot at the church sign. Enter the church through the rear side door.

St. George's Church is having a musical recital at 3 pm, which is open to the public for those wishing to do so. There will be a \$10 donation at the door.

Because of one way streets, you can not return to I-95 easily. Look at your GPS, or you may turn left on Charlotte Street from the church parking lot and go about two blocks on Charlotte until you come to a 'T', which is Sophia Street. Turn left onto Sophia. Get in the right hand lane and drive to the traffic light. Turn right and cross the bridge leaving Fredericksburg. Go to the next traffic light and turn left on route 212, north Chatham Heights. At the second traffic light (facing the Wawa gas station), then turn left onto route 218 west. Route 218 west becomes route 17 once you cross over route 1. Follow route 17 north until you come to the I-95 north interchange.

**Hilbus Chapter, Organ Historical Society expresses sincere thanks to Kevin Clemens for his dedicated service for many years as Newsletter Editor.  
Deadline for the May Newsletter is May 5, 2018**

## The March 2018 Crawl

A Review by Carl Schwartz

### A Familiar Organ and A Mystery Solved!

The first organ visited was a familiar one: Adam Stein, Opus 1 (1993), located at

Colesville Presbyterian Church  
12800 New Hampshire Ave. Silver Spring, MD. 20904

Our host was Andrew Kullberg, Director of Music. The Stein organ is in good condition, perhaps better than ever, and was greatly enjoyed. As for previous reviews of this instrument we reprint an old article by Gerald Piercey, onetime Minister of Music at the church, and Lloyd Farrar.

Quoting from the dedication brochure from March 16, 1975: Franklin Square Presbyterian Church of Baltimore was one of two churches donated by Mrs. Isabella Brown, wife of the president of the B&O Railroad, the other being Brown Memorial. The building was completed in 1861. In February of 1893 the Organ Committee recommended a new organ be purchased from Adam Stein, whose firm had opened six weeks earlier. [He just put his name over the door where it had said Roosevelt before, as he was the superintendent of the Baltimore works. GLP] The cost was \$2,500, and the organ was installed in September of 1893. S. Archer Gibson donated his services for a recital.

Beginning in 1908 the congregation began to move north, so in 1923 the building was sold and the church moved to Towson, Maryland, as the Towson Presbyterian Church. The Adam Stein organ built for Peabody Conservatory was moved there, so the congregation still had a Stein organ.

The organ was sold to the Crisp Memorial Presbyterian Church of Brooklyn, Maryland, and it was dedicated there on October 9, 1928. It

had been installed by George Houndshell and Lewis Herbst. Lewis Herbst became the Baltimore representative of Lewis & Hitchcock, Inc. in 1929 and serviced the organ from that point.

Several alterations were made for the organ to be installed in Crisp Church; the case had to be reduced in width, and the end facade pipes were too large, so new facade pipes were made by Mr. Houndshell, from old drainpipes. The mechanical action for the pedal was discarded, and electro-pneumatic pull downs were installed, operated by contacts under the pedals. One of the two blank stops was used for a 2' Piccolo, which was made from an old 8' Bell Gamba. The bells were cut off, and the result was a light Gemshorn tone. Miscellaneous pipes filled in the top notes.

By the 1970's the church had declined to the point that it merged with another, and the building and organ were sold. The organ was bought at auction by Colesville Presbyterian Church. It was moved by the church members, under the direction of Lewis & Hitchcock, Inc., who restored the action and provided the other prepared stop. The prepared stops were intended to be an 8' Trumpet, which was where the 2' was installed. The other preparation was an 8' Dulciana; several of the facade pipes are actually Dulciana basses, unvoiced, with uncut tuning scrolls. The Dulciana position was given to a new 1 1/3' Mixture II, which is mounted for ease of tuning.

The electro-pneumatic pull down action for the pedal was discarded, and the church organist devised a system of pulleys that open the valves mechanically. A two-pressure reservoir was added so that the Bourdon may also be played at lighter pressure by only pulling the knob partway out.

The organ was first used in Colesville Church on 12/8/74, but it was not complete until the dedication on March 16, 1975, and the recitalist was Geoffrey Simon.

Adam Stein, Baltimore Maryland - Opus 1 (1893)  
Lewis and Hitchcock (1974)

Specification

Great 58 keys

8'	Diapason	unenclosed, 1-14, zinc in facade, 13-58 lead
8'	Doppel Floete	1-12 single mouth wood, 13-58 double mouth wood
8'	Salicional	1-13 tin mouth, zinc body, 14-58 all tin, 1-42 bridges. It appears this stop was not made by Stein, as it does not bear the AS stamp, it maybe French
4'	Gemshorn	all open cylindrical pipes of spotted metal (Roosevelt often called the 4' Gemshorn)
2'	Piccolo	various metals and shapes; this stop was added in 1928 in place of the Trumpet, with the bulk of the pipes Bell Gambas cut into Gemshorn shapes, with miscellaneous trebles; this stop was improved in 1974
1 1/3'	Mixture II	116 pipes, tin, installed in the Dulciana preparation on a mounted toeboard.

Swell 58 keys

16'	Bourdon	stopped wood; pipes 1-12 are available on the bottom half of the drawknob, to use as a soft bass coupled to the pedal. The split knob was a feature of many Roosevelt organs.
8'	Violin Diapason	1-12 zinc, 13-58 spotted metal, 1-24 bridges
8'	Stopped Diapason	stopped wood
8'	Dolce	metal, 1-5 zinc, stopped, 6-12 zinc, open, 13-58 lead, 1-37 bridges
4'	Flute Harmonique	lead, 1-20 open, 21-58 harmonic length
8'	Oboe	reed, 1-17 zinc & spotted metal resonators, 18-49 spotted metal resonators, 50-58 flues

Pedal 27 keys

13.	16' Bourdon	stopped wood
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The Great Diapason and the Pedal Bourdon are exposed; the rest of the pipework is enclosed in a massive Swell box.

Couplers:

Great to Pedal

Swell to Pedal

Swell to Great

Swell to Great 8ves

Mechanical Movements:

Swell Piano, double acting

Swell Forte, single acting

Swell Shoe

Great to Pedal reversible

Great Piano, double acting

Great Forte, single acting

Engine Starter, which originally started the water motor; now non-functional



Colesville Presbyterian Church  
Photo - Gordon Biscomb



Adam Stein Opus 1, 1893  
Photo - Gordon Biscomb



Side view of organ - Andrew Kullberg  
Photo - Gordon Biscomb



The keydesk  
Photo - Glendon Frank



Recently the organ was given attention to the wind system. The winding was somewhat limited for many years and this has been corrected. It represents a great improvement.

Most of the registers of the organ are grouped into pairs differentiated by loudness but having similar tonal character: Doppel Floete and Stopped Diapason, Diapason and Violin Diapason, Gemshorn and Flute Harmonique. One might expect another pair to have been the Dulciana (prepared for) and the very soft Dolce and similarly the Trumpet (prepared for) and Oboe. The Salicional is bold and pungent, much in the manner of an Oboe-Gamba. The 2' Piccolo and Mixture contribute mightily to the brilliance of full organ registrations. The desirable additional register would be a Great Dulciana so that the individual Swell voices might be used as solo stops in various ways as the builder likely intended.

C. Louis Miller (1897) (?)  
Baltimore Church and Concert Organ Co. - F. X.  
Ganter and Schumacher (1884)  
August Pomplitz, 1869 (?)



*An old photo of St. John's - courtesy of Steven Bartley*

Following this visit members had lunch at various area restaurants and reconvened at the next church. Much information contained in this article was kindly provided by Steven Bartley of Baltimore and also by Scott Wick and Lynn Dermody of The Wicks Organ Company, Highland, Illinois

Silver Spring United Methodist Church  
Marvin Memorial Church Campus  
33 University Boulevard  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20901

*organ formerly located at*

Christ United Methodist Church (closed)  
5700 Lee Highway  
Arlington, Virginia 22207

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
2526 W. Lombard Street  
Baltimore, Maryland 21223

Central Organ Company, Washington, DC (1990)  
Wicks Organ Company, Opus 2622 (1944)  
Unknown renovation, Electric Blower installed (1927)  
Unknown renovation (1913)

One can already see that this organ has quite a history. Long believed to contain Hook and Hastings pipes, the provenance of the old material is more interesting and complex. Wicks kindly provided their factory specification. This clarifies what pipes were new and old when the organ was shipped on November 28, 1945.

The specification of the Wicks organ as it stood in Baltimore at St. Johns is given below. Old ranks reflect a previous compass of 61/30. To these were added 12 note extension octaves for the 73 note chests and 2 pipes in the pedal.

Great- enclosed (61 notes) 3 ½" wind

16'	Gemshorn
8'	Open Diapason old
8'	Doppel Flute old
8'	Gemshorn
4'	Principal old
4'	Chimney Flute old
2 2/3'	Octave Quint
2'	Super Octave
8'	Trumpet old 5" wind
	Chimes
	Tremolo

Swell - enclosed (73 notes) 3" wind

16' Bourdon old  
8' Geigen Diapason old  
8' Viola  
8' Stopped Flute old  
8' Salicional old  
8' Voix Celeste TC old  
4' Flauto Amabile old  
2' Flautino 61 pipes old  
Dulciana Cornet IV 244 pipes  
The following on 5" wind  
8' Cornopean  
8' Oboe old  
8' Vox Humana 61 pipes  
Tremulant

Choir - enclosed (73 notes) 3 1/4" wind

16' Dulciana  
8' Melodia old  
8' Viol d'Amour old  
8' Dulciana ext. 16'  
8' Unda Maris TC  
4' Spitzfloete  
2 2/3' Nasard 61 pipes  
2' Flageolet 61 pipes  
8' Clarinet 5" wind  
Tremulant

Pedal 5" wind

16' Diapason  
16' Subbass old  
16' Gemshorn Great  
16' Bourdon Swell  
16' Dulciana Choir  
8' Octave  
8' Violoncello old  
8' Stopped Flute Swell  
4' Super Octave ext. 8'  
4' Dolce Flute Swell  
16' Double Trumpet new ext. Gt  
8' Trumpet Great

Chapel - Echo Organ  
(playable from Choir man.)

16' Bourdon  
8' Open Diapason  
8' Melodia  
8' Dulciana  
8' Viola Dolce  
4' Fugara  
8' Oboe (new)

The chapel organ was an existing instrument and simply hooked up to the Wicks. Possibly it was a small Moller unit organ.

Full compliment of couplers, all-electric drawknob console, Direct-Electric action.

The old stops found in the Wicks organ give a notion of the previous organ specification. There may have been additional stops that did not translate to the Wicks. The stoplist below, however, conveniently corresponds to the late photo on the following page: eight knobs to the manual registers on each side, two to the pedal, bellows signal and couplers over the manuals. It would appear that the 1884 instrument by the Baltimore Church and Concert Organ Co. (F. X. Ganter and Schumacher) is the basis of the present organ, rather than the church's 1869 Pomplitz. The 1884 organ cost \$3500, a price that seems to imply that the organ was new. The Pomplitz, which cost \$1450 in 1869, most likely would have had easily identified zinc bodied flue pipes and reeds made by Peter Schenkel of Philadelphia not in evidence in the present organ.

Compass 61/30, Mechanical Action

Great

8' Open Diapason  
8' Doppel Flute  
8' Melodia  
8' Viol d'Amour  
4' Principal  
4' Chimney Flute (soldered caps)  
8' Trumpet  
Chimes

Swell

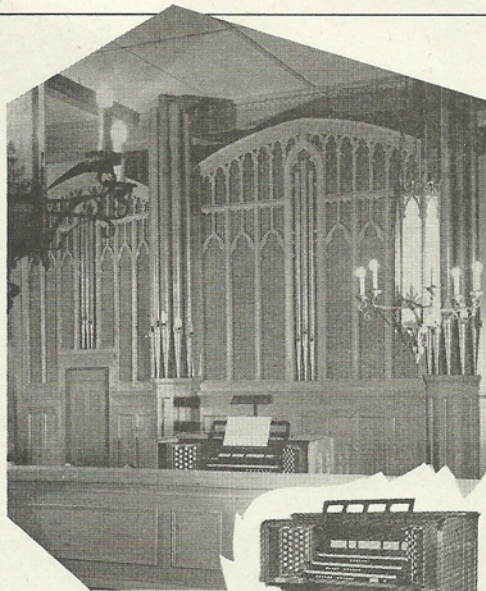
16' Bourdon  
8' Geigen Diapason  
8' Stopped Flute  
8' Salicional  
8' Voix Celeste TC  
4' Flauto Amabile  
2' Flautino  
8' Oboe

Pedal

16' Subbass  
8' Violoncello



## WICKS ORGAN OF THE MONTH



in  
BALTIMORE  
MARYLAND.

# St. John's

EVANGELICAL LUTH. CHURCH

This fine installation, the result of close collaboration between the Rev. W. Kochheim, M.A.M.TH, Pastor and Wicks technicians, is a three manual, forty rank organ including the echo played from the choir manual. Pastor Kochheim, a superb organist, and an authority on organ tonal architecture as well as liturgical music, performed a major part in the planning of the tonal design.

The illustration above shows but a section of the instrument which actually is over forty feet wide and some fifteen feet high.

For further details concerning this or other Wicks organs, kindly address your inquiries to Dept. "I".

# WICKS ★ ORGANS ★

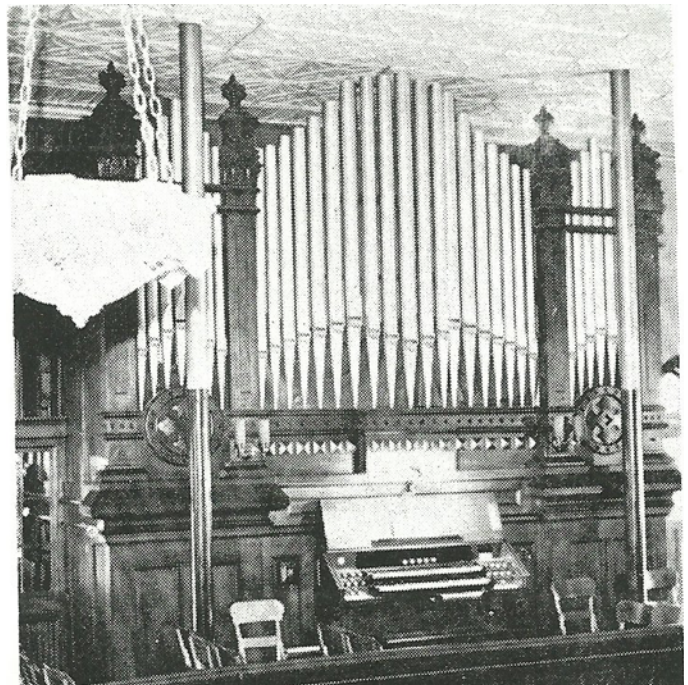
HIGHLAND ★ ★ ILLINOIS

*The American Organist - March 1947*  
Provided by Steven Bartley

The Wicks advertisement tells us that the Pastor, Rev. W. Kochheim, also an organist who is described as an expert in tonal matters, collaborated with the builders in designing the new organ. The organ was ordered in November 1944 at a time of wartime materials restrictions and shipped in November 1945, itself a notable circumstance.



*The Choir and Council at the 25th Anniversary Celebration*  
Photo provided by Steven Bartley. The church was founded in 1867. Likely this was taken in 1895.



*The organ was relocated to the rear gallery in 1897. style key desk. Provided by Steven Bartley*



St. John's eventually became part of the Evangelical and Reformed Church (E&R) and, subsequently, the United Church of Christ. The Lombard Street building was sold to another group around 1960. St. John's was reestablished in Catonsville where a new sanctuary was built. Austin Organs, Inc. installed an organ there in the 1970s.

Opus 2622 was relocated to Christ United Methodist Church Arlington, Virginia sometime in the early 1970s. At Christ United Methodist Church the Great division was unenclosed. In a prominent location it exceedingly loud and the organ gave a rather unfavorable impression. Christ United Methodist Church closed around 1990 and merged with Crossman United Methodist Church in Falls Church. The Wicks organ was purchased by Marvin United Methodist church and installed there by the Central Organ Company.

The present stoplist, aside from the addition of the Great Mixture III by Central Organ Company is as the organ stood in the Arlington location. At that point the 16' Great Gemshorn was an extension and the 16 Pedal Diapason also was extended. This may be original, but it is not what is indicated in the Wicks factory specification. The Great division remains unenclosed but its position in the chamber provides a good balance with the rest of the organ in this installation.

It is possible that some string registers were moved about during the journey of this organ. The second Swell string is now labelled Viola Dolce. It is louder and more pungent than the Salicional. It is likely the 1944 Swell Viola with a name change. However a register so named is seen in the Chapel organ of the Baltimore church so it raises a question.

Since the original console and relay was simply worn out, Central Organ Company provided a repurposed Casavant tilting tablet Console of plain modern design. A Classic Organ Works solid state control system for the organ was also installed at that time. A Great Mixture III was added.

The organ, now installed in two spacious chambers at the Silver Spring church, has an exceedingly rich orchestral tone with many colorful flutes and a variety of string registers. The fine reeds of the English type

avored by Wicks at the time Henry (Harry) Vincent Willis was tonal director. It is likely that Wicks revoiced all the old reeds when they were placed on higher pressures. The Diapason Chorus is melodious, not brilliant. The newer Mixture introduces further harmonic enrichment into the tonal picture. The Choir chorus, though made up mostly of flute registers, has the character of a mild secondary flue chorus. The major deficiency in the tonal plan is the lack of a Swell Principal 4 or Violina 4. The stop named Flauto Amabile is a bright, bubbly, orchestral flute, not a blending Swell type Harmonic Flute as one might expect. Nothing stands between the eight foot registers and the small scaled Dulciana Cornet to knit the chorus together tonally. The Dulciana Cornet stop has separate action for each rank and contains a Tierce throughout its compass.

The Marvin church campus, which sits at the intersection of University Boulevard and Colesville Road presently is home to a school and day care facility. It is also rented to outside church and community groups. The pews have been removed in the sanctuary and replaced with flexible seating and carpeting installed with flexible seating. The organ, with its robust unison tone, does well in spite of the compromised acoustic. After a period of silence due to an electrical issue at the building it is currently serviced and maintained. The other campus of the combined parish is the former Woodside UMC church on Georgia Avenue which has a Moller organ in an reverberant acoustic. Mary Ann Willow, Music Director and Organist of the parish was our host for the visit.

*Thanks to all who provided information or research guidance for this review: Steven Bartley, Scott Wick, Lynn Dermody, Barbara Owen, David Moore, David Storey, Donald Clark, Gerald Piercey and photographers Gordon Biscoomb and Glendon Frank.*

Organ Specification  
Central Pipe Organ  
October 2000

Great- uenclosed

16' Gemshorn  
8' Open Diapason old  
8' Doppel Flute old  
8' Gemshorn  
4' Principal old  
4' Chimney Flute old  
2 2/3' Octave Quint  
2' Super Octave  
8' Trumpet old  
Mixture III (2000)  
Chimes  
Tremolo

Swell - enclosed

16' Bourdon old  
8' Geigen Diapason old  
8' Stopped Flute old  
8' Salicional old  
8' Voix Celeste TC old  
8' Viola Dolce  
4' Flauto Amabile old  
2' Flautino 61 pipes old  
Dolce Cornet IV 244 pipes  
8' Cornopean  
8' Oboe old  
Tremulant

Choir - enclosed

16' Dulciana  
8 Melodia old  
8' Viol d'Amour old  
8' Dulciana ext. 16'  
8' Unda Maris TC  
4' Dolce Flute  
2 2/3' Nasard 61 pipes  
2' Flageolet 61 pipes  
8' Clarinet  
Harp (added c. 1970)  
Tremulant

Pedal

16' Diapason  
16' Subbass old  
16' Gemshorn Great  
16' Bourdon Swell  
16' Dulciana Choir  
8' Octave  
8' Violoncello old  
8 Stopped Flute Swell  
4' Super Octave ext. 8'  
4' Flute Swell  
16' Double Trumpet ext.Gt  
8' Trumpet Great

Full couplers

Solid State Control system and relay



Marvin Memorial Church, Silver Spring  
Photo by Gordon Biscomb

Below - The chancel area, console and chamber openings. Photo by Gordon Biscomb



The present console  
Photo by Gordon Biscomb



The nave  
Photo by Gordon Biscomb