



church MUSIC notes

Rodgers Organs by Chapel Music

June 2009

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welcome

Welcome to our friends, customers and fellow church musicians. I hope you will find our newsletter helpful as we endeavor to provide information, technical support, and assistance to your music program.

This newsletter is available in print form by mail, or digital form by email. Please let us know of any changes you would like in the way you receive the newsletter. We value your opinion and welcome your suggestions. Please email all change requests and newsletter suggestions to pconley@chapel-music.com.

I am very happy to announce that in addition to representing the truly fine Rodgers digital organs, we now also represent the Roland line of musical products designed specifically for church musicians. From my perspective as a pipe organ builder, Roland and their subsidiary, Rodgers Instruments, set the music industry's Gold Standard of Excellence, providing exceptional quality of sound, digital organ stops, audio and technology.

You may be surprised to learn that Rodgers/Roland is the largest custom supplier of organs and musical instruments in the world.

— Arthur E. Schlueter, Jr.

no interest financing for churches

Rodgers Instruments has introduced an economic assistance program in the United States to help churches finance a new organ without having to pay interest.

The program is being offered through participating Rodgers dealers. A church benefiting from the program can have a new organ installed right away and use fundraising to meet the monthly payments for terms of 12 or 24 months.

"This program offers a cost-saving, convenient solution to churches that need to replace an old instrument or purchase a new one when the funds are not already available," said Rodgers Credit Manager Diane Snyder. "Participating Rodgers dealers can install the organ immediately and give the church time to pay off the cost without incurring the expense of interest payments."

Restricted access to credit has affected churches as well as businesses and consumers, noted Ms. Snyder. This program is designed to be fast and easy, offering churches a \$1.00 buyout lease that covers the organ purchase, shipping, installation and training. The approval process requires a short, simple application, and credit decisions are typically delivered in less than 24 hours.

Also, traditional long-term financing is available for terms of 36 to 60 months with competitive interest rates to churches purchasing Rodgers organs.

Rodgers Instruments Corporation is the world's largest builder of stereo imaged church organs and pipe/digital organs. Rodgers is a member of the Roland Group, headed by Roland Corporation, a world leader in electronic musical instrument technologies and electronic musical instrument sales and manufacturing.

Call 770-482-9335 for more information.

CHURCH MUSIC NOTES

Rodgers Organs
by Chapel Music

2843 S. Stone Mtn-Lithonia Rd.
Lithonia, GA 30058

770-482-9335

www.chapel-music.com

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Surprise!

Gospel singer George Beverly Shea was presented with a surprise gift of a Rodgers Trillium Masterpiece 3-manual organ at his recent 100th birthday party. Rodgers dealer Waldrop House of Music worked closely with the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association to make Mr. Shea's dream of owning a new Rodgers organ come true.

The complete story and a wonderful photo is posted on the Rodgers website at www.rodgersinstruments.com/SheaGift.

Backstage Tour

Take a backstage tour of the Rodgers factory and watch a magnificent 5-manual organ come into being, from the day the rough lumber arrives, to the day it is played leading a congregation in worship. The craftsmanship, ingenious technology, environmental stewardship, and unique benefits built into the flagship Trillium Masterpiece Series organ add up to a fascinating story.

Visit www.chapel-music.com to watch this fascinating video.

what is midi?

Back in the late 1970s, when digital music was in its formative years, synthesizers could produce only one sound at a time. If a musician wanted to play two sounds at once, he needed both hands and two synthesizers. For every additional voice, another keyboard and synthesizer was needed. A few companies, guided by Roland Corporation (now the parent company of Rodgers), got together to overcome this problem. They developed a digital language called "MIDI" that would revolutionize music.

What does MIDI do?

MIDI, which stands for Musical Instrument Digital Interface, is a computer language that conveys musical instructions. For example, when a MIDI keyboard is played, messages are sent that describe which notes are played, how long each note is played, and much more. This information is sent to other MIDI instruments or devices where it's reconverted into music.

All kinds of electronic instruments, and even acoustic instruments such as pianos, guitars and windblown instruments, can be equipped with MIDI capabilities. MIDI sound modules, keyboards and sequencers are all considered musical instruments since they all contribute to the creation of music.

What equipment does it take to use MIDI?

Fundamentally, one MIDI device is a "master," or controller, and another is a "slave." The master sends musical information to the slave and it responds by producing music as instructed. All Rodgers organs are MIDI controllers. They can trigger electronic keyboards, sound modules, electronic pianos, MIDI controllable lighting, sequencers, and more. With MIDI, all these devices can be played and controlled right from the organ console.

One example of a device that works in conjunction with a MIDI controller is a sound module. The Rodgers MX-200 sound module contains over 1,100 digital sounds that can be selected and combined to create all kinds of music and effects.

There are even MIDI devices which have little to do with music, such as lighting systems and audio mixers. Using this type of MIDI lighting system, for example, after a hymn an organist could press a button at the console and automatically dim the lights, turn up a light on the pulpit, or turn on the preachers' microphone.

organ service and repairs

Rodgers Organs by Chapel Music is the only authorized Georgia service center for Rodgers Organs. We also offer:

- Repairs on most makes of organs;
- Organ design and consultation;
- Organ installation;
- 24-hour service;
- Organ value appraisals;
- Organ locator service;
- Organ removal and transportation;
- Organ voicing and regulation;
- Pipe/digital combination organs;
- MIDI additions to organs;
- Organ audio systems;
- Organ audio repair and additions;
- Organ rebuilding and restoration;
- Vintage Hammonds and Leslies sales;
- Vintage Hammond repairs and service.



Call 770-482-9335 for all your organ needs.

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first a zimblestem

It started as a simple request from organist Rick McManus of the First United Methodist Church in Thomaston, Georgia, for a zimblestem. It ended with one of the largest Rodgers pipe/digital combination instruments in the state.

Several proposals for additions to and refurbishment of their 1962 3-manual, 22-rank Moller pipe organ were being studied when a fire broke out in the education wing of the church. The December 2007 fire caused major smoke damage to the sanctuary and organ.

After the fire, the congregation, lead by Pastor John Barnes, met in the undamaged fellowship hall. During this time they leased a Rodgers Allegiant 667 2-manual organ for their worship, which they decided to purchase to replace an older Allen Organ in the chapel.

While the sanctuary was being cleaned and painted, the pipes were removed from the organ for cleaning and storage. Although the Moller pipe organ was adequate for service playing, it lacked mutations, color reeds and complete divisions. Because of the limited space for additional pipework in the chambers, consideration had been given to adding custom digital stops to the existing organ, or replacing the old console with a digital console to provide additional tonal resources. As part of the repair to the sanctuary, the organ project was partially funded by insurance.

After several visits to the Rodgers Organs by Chapel Music showroom, Mr. McManus recommended a 4-manual Rodgers organ, to be interfaced with the repaired pipework. A custom specification was developed by Mr. McManus along with Rick Stewart (Sales Consultant with Rodgers Organs by Chapel Music) and Dan Miller (Product Manager with Rodgers Instruments).

The new console and audio system was installed by Mike Ray (Rodgers Organs by Chapel Music), and tonally finished by Dan Miller. The sound of the organ is a seamless blend of pipes and advanced digital technology. Each stop was selected using the Rodgers Organ Architect custom design program, and reproduced in stereo through 18 audio channels and 24 speakers.

In addition to the main organ, an antiphonal organ was installed in the rear of the sanctuary, and a Rodgers MX200 MIDI Sound Module was added for even greater musical flexibility.

On October 31, 2008, renowned organist Dan Miller presented a recital on the new instrument to the delight of the congregation and many guests. Among the pieces played were the Bach "Tocatta and Fugue in d minor," a medley from "Phantom of the Opera" by Andrew Lloyd Webber, and the Widor "Tocatta from Symphony No. 5." Mr. McManus is very

pleased with the completed organ and has extended his invitation to other organists to see and hear this outstanding instrument.



*Rick McManus,
organist.*



Being Green

When purchasing an organ, one of the critical issues to consider should be the environmental impact.

Rodgers has made the commitment to adhere to the environmentally friendly standards established for the electronics industry.

This sets them apart as the leader in our industry by providing environmentally conscious musicians with lead-free environmentally-friendly instruments, of which they can be proud.

Save Paper

Another way to conserve our resources is to request this newsletter in electronic form delivered to your email account.

It's easy! Just request the change from snail mail to email by sending an email request to:
pconley@chapel-music.com



Music Tidbits from the Web

Attending church services can be especially challenging for families with disabled children. One innovative church uses music and puppets in services designed specifically for children with autism.

Read more: <http://www.post-gazette.com/pg/09141/971454-55.stm?cmpid=neighborhoods.xml#ixz0GjSe6Now&B>

Demo Specials

Special pricing is available on several demonstrator organs from the Rodgers Organs by Chapel Music showroom. Demonstrator models currently available include:

- Trillium 798
- Trillium 908

Visit www.chapel-music.com to review organ features and specifications.

Call 770-482-9335 for more information.

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summer storms

Summer is here, and with it comes thunderstorms. Millions of dollars worth of damage, and in some cases complete loss of equipment and structures, are a result of lightning in public assembly buildings each year.

Lightning is a natural event. The lightning bolt appears to be indiscriminate in nature and can choose to strike anything at random. However, it only takes one strike in the vicinity to create havoc within today's organs.

Lightning is always seeking ground to complete the circuit. Conductive material such as a copper roof, bell tower, and conductors in the attic will act as a lightning rod, particularly if it is connected to anything which may provide a path to earth ground.

Each damaged instrument can be subject to both immediately documented problems, and conditions where components are weakened but may not cause immediate problems. Failure can occur up to a year after the lightning or EMI event. It should be noted that any semi-conductor that lightning comes close to can be affected.

Some churches and public assembly places have installed line voltage conditioners, which have fail-safe engineering to restructure the line voltage for the organ. These devices can provide a higher level of protection against the power line pulse that can occur from a lightning event. This is very expensive and has proven to be only marginally effective, because lightning does not affect the pipe organ from only the power source.

Download the complete article for digital organs at: www.chapel-music/dig-lightning.pdf

Read the complete article for pipe organs at www.pipe-organ.com/lightning.shtm

If you suspect lightning damage to your organ call us at 770-482-9335.

