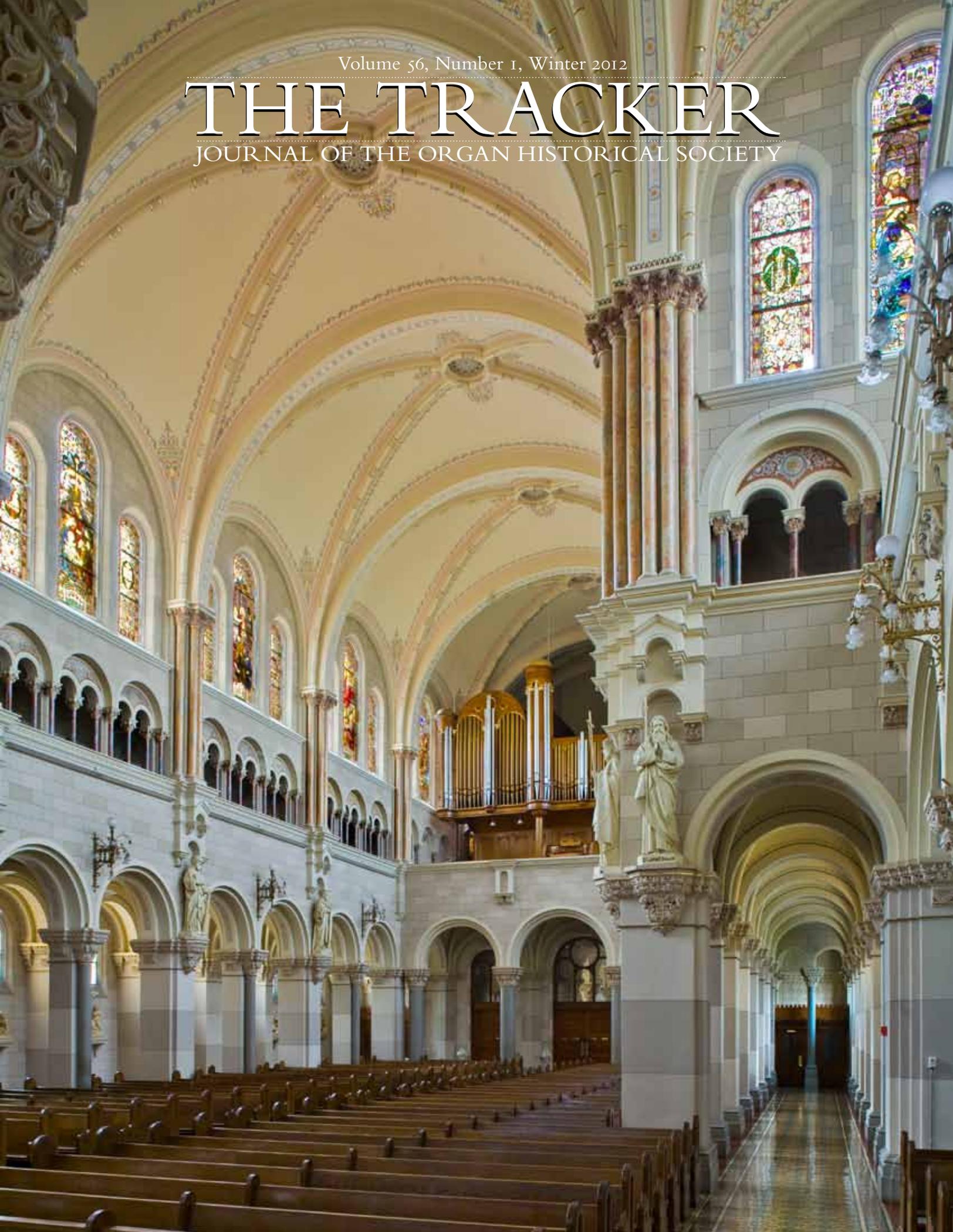
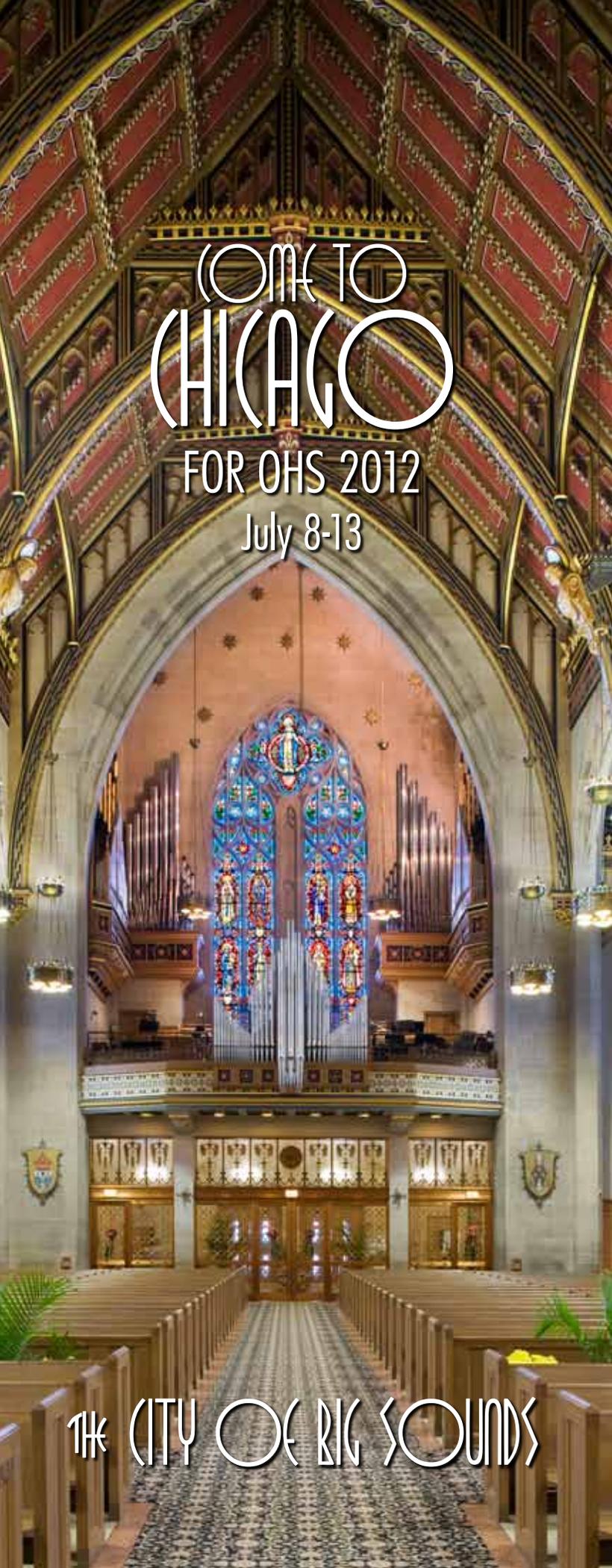


Volume 56, Number 1, Winter 2012

THE TRACKER

JOURNAL OF THE ORGAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY





COME TO CHICAGO

FOR OHS 2012

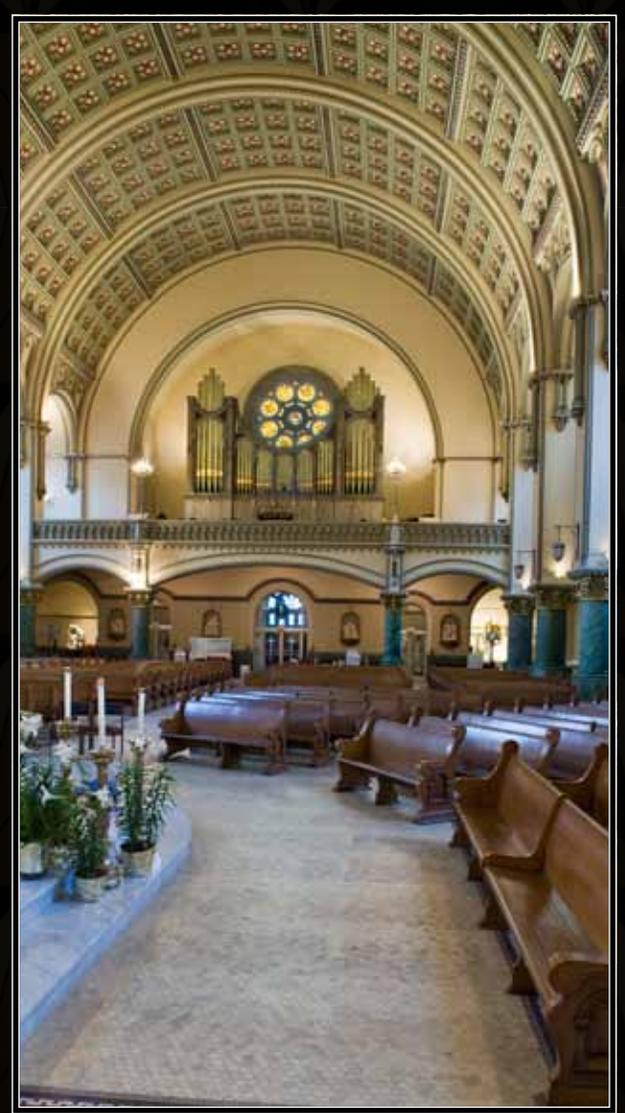
July 8-13

THE CITY OF BIG SOUNDS

WELCOME TO CHICAGO!

CHICAGO IS A WORLD-CLASS CITY that offers much to see and do—including fine dining, many museums, attractions, and events, and shopping. Allow time to savor the sights and sounds of this vibrant city and make your convention trip truly unforgettable!

The 2012 Convention is presented by the Chicago-Midwest Chapter, which brought you the 2002 convention. We couldn't fit all the wondrous organs and venues into just one convention—so make sure you don't miss this opportunity to visit the City of Big Shoulders—and Big Sounds!



PHOTOS WILLIAM T. VAN PELT



WHY CHICAGO?

THE CONVENTION WILL COMPLETE what the 2002 convention started—demonstrating more of Chicago’s distinguished pipe organs, from newer, interesting instruments that are frequent participants in Chicago’s music life, to hidden gems that have long been silent.

The Convention events cover the length and breadth of the Chicago area, including northern Indiana venues, and include an evening boat cruise for viewing the magnificent Chicago skyline while you dine.



PERFORMERS

Recitalists include many of the Chicago area’s leading organists, along with artists familiar to OHS audiences from previous conventions. Many players have a Chicago connection, and the recitals often feature younger players.



CONVENTION ORGANS

C.B. Fisk
Casavant Frères, Limitée
Hook & Hastings
Hinners Organ Co.
Skinner Organ Co.
Wurlitzer
Aeolian-Skinner Organ Co.
Noack
M.P. Möller
W.W. Kimball Co.
Wiener
Wm. A. Johnson
Estey Organ

CONVENTION HOTEL

CHICAGO MARRIOTT O'HARE
8535 West Higgins Road
Chicago, IL 60631

THE HOTEL is conveniently located near O'Hare International Airport, and is 15 miles from downtown Chicago. A Chicago "El" train station is but a block away. The hotel offers a complimentary shuttle to and from O'Hare Airport.

RATES

\$140, plus hotel sales tax of 14.9%
On-site parking is \$24 per day.



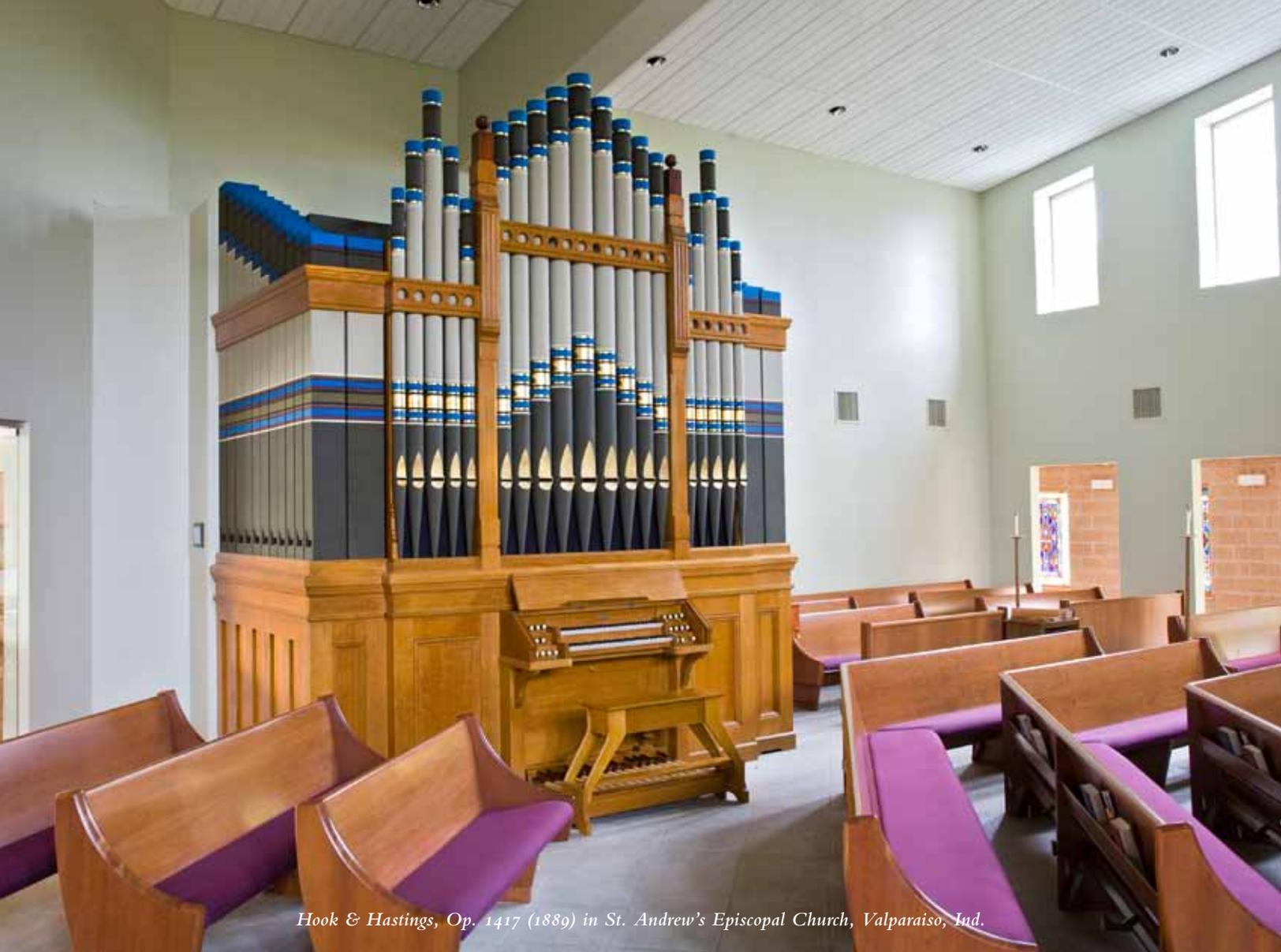
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE CONVENTION CONTACT
Dennis Northway, Convention Chair
773.764.5003 ~ 2012@organsociety.org

AND LOOK FOR OUR UPCOMING WEBSITE AT
www.organsociety.org/2012



OK CHICAGO 2012
THE CITY OF BIG SOUNDS

Berghaus Op. 217 (2005) in Chicago's Queen of All Saints Basilica



Hook & Hastings, Op. 1417 (1889) in St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Valparaiso, Ind.

ARTICLE BY *Dennis Northway*

PHOTOS BY *William T. Van Pelt*

CHICAGO, THE “WINDY CITY,” will fulfill its name, not for politicians, but for the wind that flows through pipe organs of many different sizes, makes, and styles. The OHS 2012 Convention Committee, welcome you to our beautiful city, our shoreline, and our Midwestern hospitality. Join us for our convention and be our guests. If you consider each national convention a chance to unlock a local pipe organ treasure chest, and be treated to the finest gems of the region, this convention will not fail to please. You are promised instruments and venues you will never forget.

We begin with two exceptional opening programs on two modern instruments. We will have the rare opportunity to hear the only C.B. Fisk in the Chicago area, a 2005 two-manual tracker, Opus 123, at St. Chrysostom Episcopal Church in Chicago's Gold

Coast neighborhood. This bold instrument in a clean acoustic is an excellent start to the week. We will then hear a metropolitan-area resident, who also has an extensive organ discography, Wolfgang Rüksam, play an evening recital on the stupendous 117-rank Flentrop organ in the improved post-fire acoustics of the Cathedral of the Holy Name.

On Monday, July 9, we will explore treasures of the southern portion of the region, traveling to Valparaiso, Indiana, to hear an 1889 Hook & Hastings, very successfully relocated by Scot Huntington. Local organist James Russell Brown will demonstrate the suave tones of this lovely tracker. We will then be whisked to Gary, Indiana, and view the exquisite interior of the Cathedral of the Holy Angels and its beautifully intact two-manual Casavant designed by Lawrence Phelps. Chicago Midwest OHS Chapter presi-



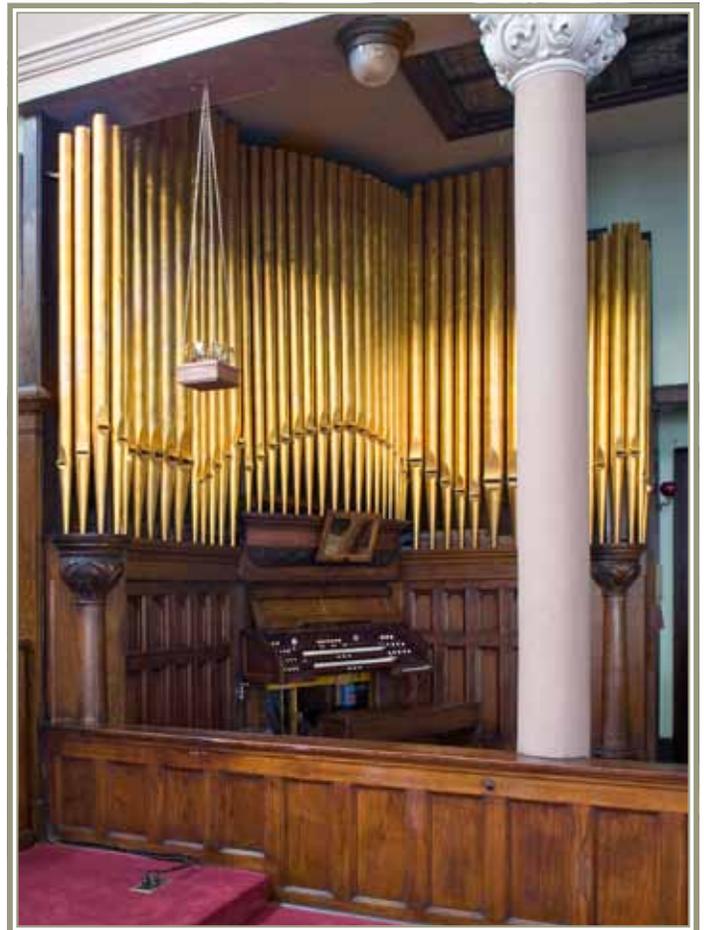
Johnson Op. 386 (1872) in St. Josaphat R.C. Church

dent, former Biggs Fellow chair, popular OHS recitalist, and local musician Derek Nickels will put the instrument through its paces. We will then hear one of the larger extant instruments built by the downstate Pekin, Illinois, Hinners Organ Company, a three-manual instrument at Christ Temple Cathedral (formerly Bethany Reformed Church), Chicago, demonstrated by local organist Mark Sudeith, who teaches only a few blocks away.

The next program is designed as a special treat for the convention attendees. We have collected three small instruments and placed them together in the First Unitarian Church in Chicago's Hyde Park, one of the exceptional visual and aural venues in the city. Two of these are from the instrument collection of Stephen Schnurr: a Jardine from the 1850s recently restored by

John-Paul Buzard, with the able assistance of Trevor Dodd, and an 1885 Hilborne Roosevelt one-manual, two-rank portable pipe organ (one of only five in existence). We will also hear a Scudamore organ with Henry Willis pipework from Willis's own collection curated by John-Paul Buzard. There will be a fourth organ, but you have to come to the convention to see it. A hint: it might be an Aeolian-Skinner as you have never imagined.

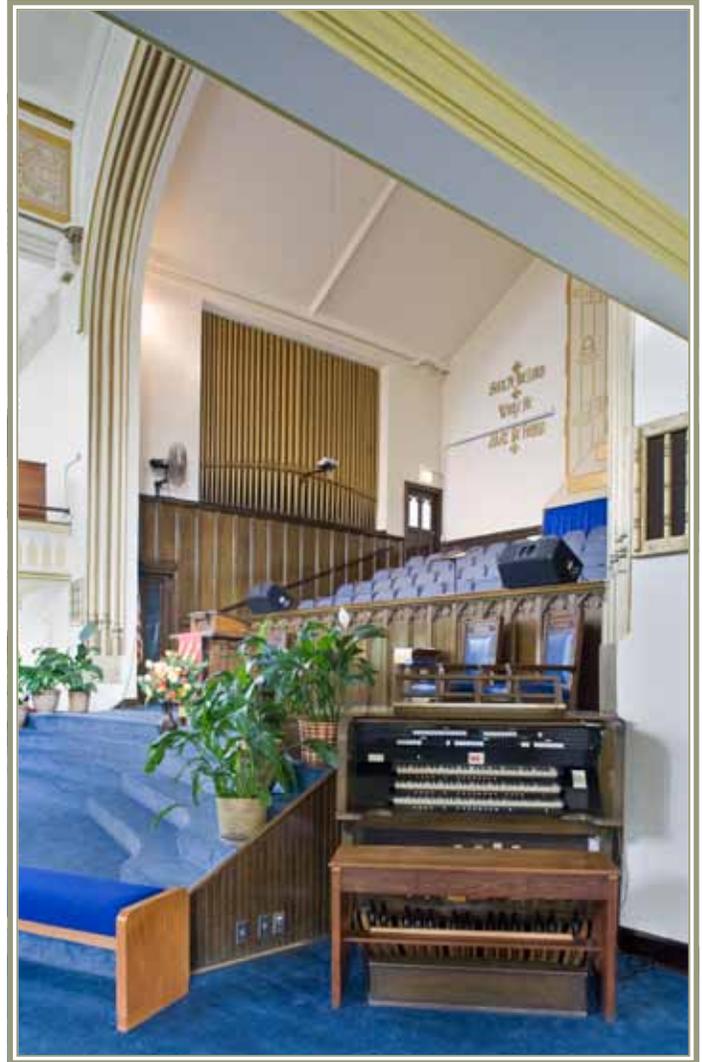
Rockefeller Memorial Chapel on the University of Chicago campus is home to the second largest carillon in the world. We will hear it peal under the able hands and feet of Chicago-Midwest Chapter member John Gowens. He will play as we walk from the Unitarian Church to the Chapel and enjoy our dinner on the lawns. We will then have an evening program to remember. Metropolitan Chicago native Nathan Laube will be featured at Rockefeller Chapel in a recital on one of the more exciting organs, in one of the more famous venues in America: E.M. Skinner's Opus 634,



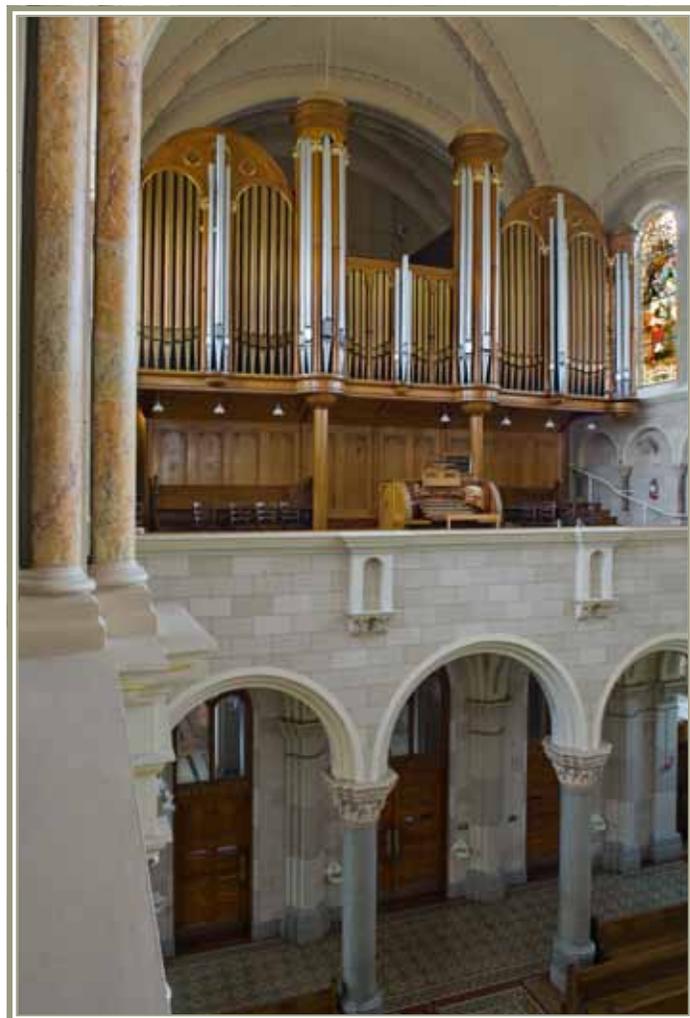
Möller, Op. 758 (1907) in Wicker Park Lutheran Church

inaugurated by Lynnwood Farnam on November 1, 1928. The Gothic facade is a work of art in itself, and is almost universally recognized by organ aficionados. It had 6,610 pipes and 110 ranks. In 2008, the Schantz Organ Company undertook a sensitive repair and refurbishment with judicious additions. The organ now boasts 8,565 pipes and 132 ranks.

Tuesday will begin a trip that includes points west of the city. We begin the day by seeing a Charlie Chaplin silent movie filmed in Chicago in 1915. It will be accompanied by David Rhodes, president of the Chicago American Theatre Organ Enthusiasts. He will play the Wurlitzer organ, Opus 942, originally in the Indiana Theatre in Indiana Harbor, East Chicago, Indiana, and relocated to the magnificently-restored auditorium of the Tivoli Theatre in Downers Grove. Then, we travel on to La Grange Park to a refined and



The 1926 Hinners in Christ Temple Cathedral, Roseland-Chicago



Wiener organ (ca. 1930) in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit, of the Society of the Divine Word, Techny

beautiful Noack Opus 44 tracker, in the Chapel of the Sisters of Saint Joseph, that will be demonstrated by Thomas Wikman, choirmaster of Chicago's Episcopal Church of the Ascension. Next, author and organist Stephen Schnurr will present a program for organ and instruments on the exceptional three-manual Casavant, Opus 3062, in the French Gothic environs of Emmanuel Episcopal Church in La Grange. Joining Schnurr will be former National Council member Allison Alcorn, and her children, Willson and Kiersten, for a vocal selection, as well as a work for organ, harp, and violin. Literally across the street from Emmanuel is the First Presbyterian Church with its 1962 three-manual Aeolian-Skinner organ. The clean American Classic sound projects into the contemporary room with unforced elegance. The church is also home to a

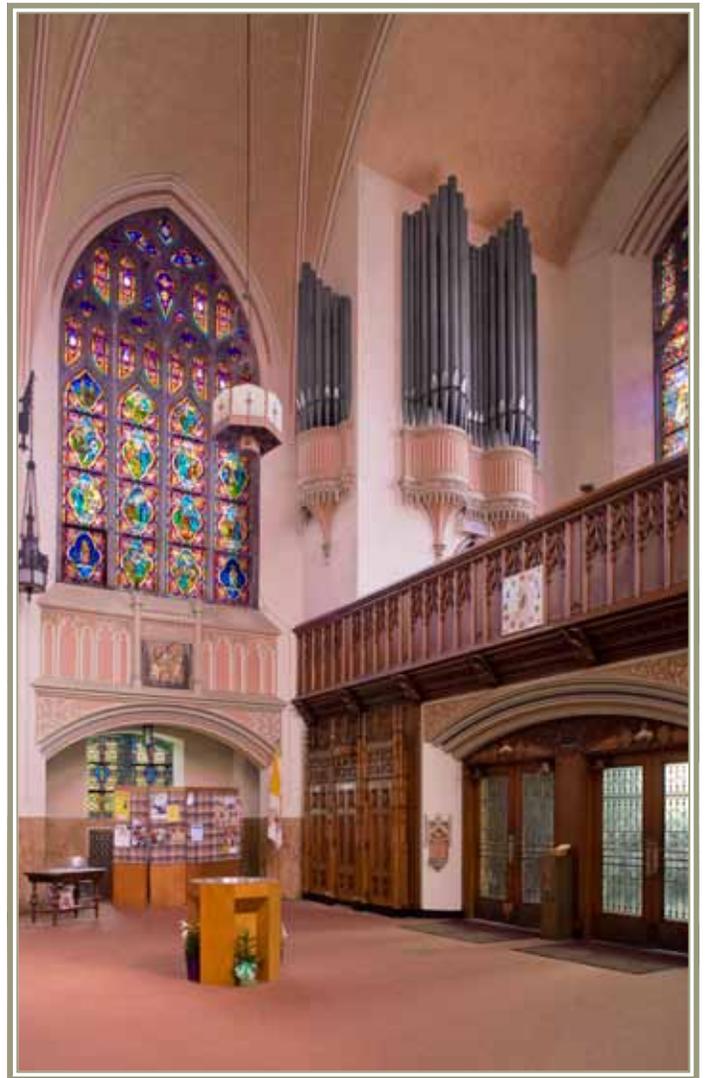


The 1922 Casavant in Grace Episcopal Church, Oak Park



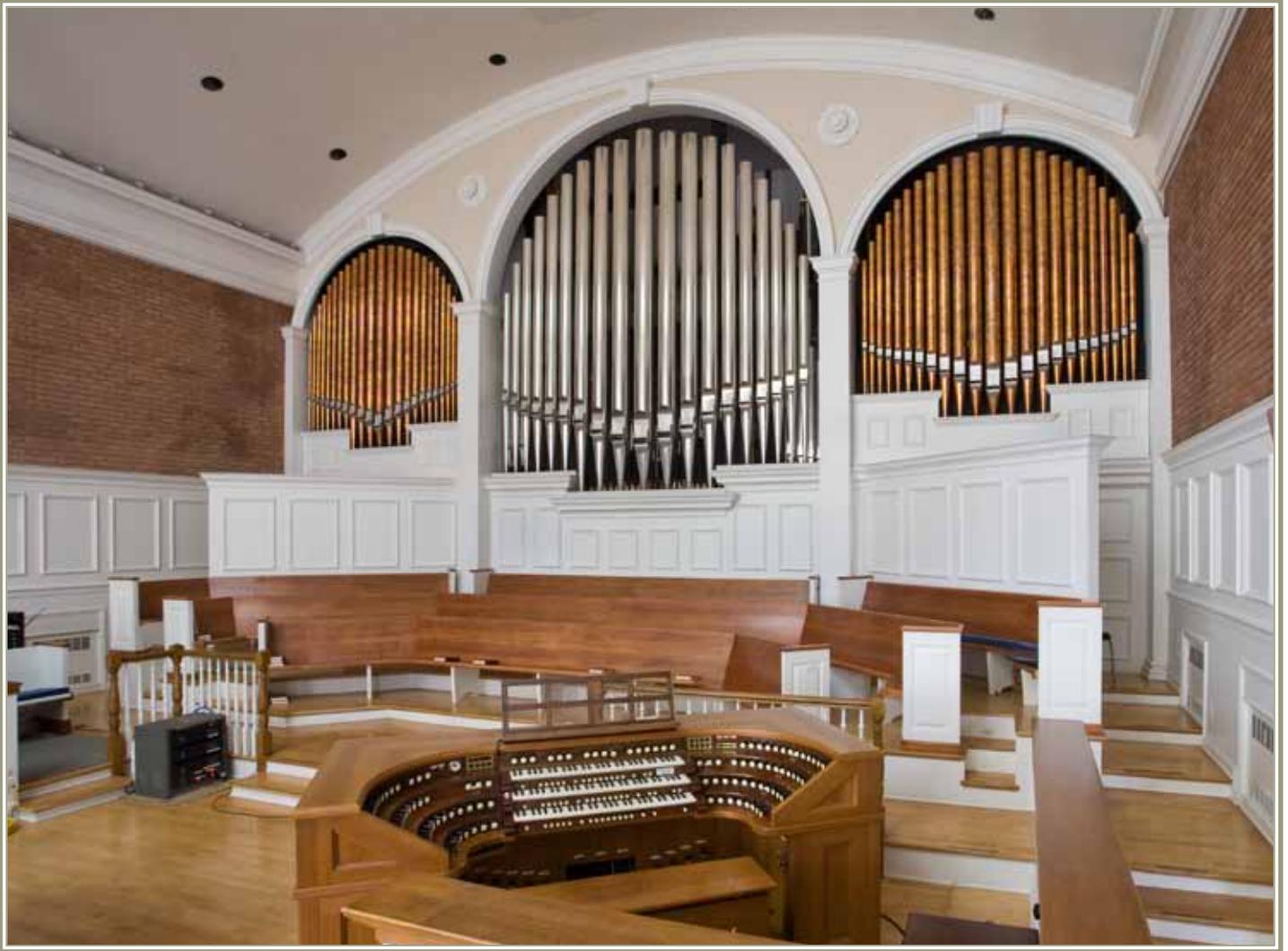
1981 one-manual Brunzema tracker, Opus 4. Both organs will be demonstrated by area residents Jay Peterson and David Jonies.

For the rest of Tuesday, we will visit the village of Oak Park, well-known for fine organs and excellent music. Rhonda Sider Edgington, who formerly played at an Oak Park church, will demonstrate the 1932 Casavant, Opus 1467, at St. Catherine of Siena-St. Lucy parish. This elegant three-manual instrument sings proudly into a warm acoustic. Our Annual Meeting will be held at Grace Episcopal Church, which was seen in Robert Altman's movie *The Wedding* and in the first installment of *Home Alone*. It is home to a 1922 Casavant with alterations. We will then have free



Above: The 1932 Casavant, Op. 1467, in St. Catherine of Siena - St. Lucy R.C. Church, Oak Park

Left: Skinner, Op. 634 (1928) in the University of Chicago's Rockefeller Memorial Chapel



Buzard's Op. 21 (1999) in Glenview Community Church, Glenview

time to to cross the street to see Frank Lloyd Wright's first public building, Unity Temple, or to see the huge Casavant at First United Church, the Schantz at First Baptist Church, or to eat at any of 15 great restaurants in close proximity. Our evening concert will be by Ken Cowan on the marvelously restored four-manual 1926 Skinner, Opus 528, at First United Methodist Church.

Wednesday will take us to points north. On our way out of town, we will hear one of the more important instruments in Chicago at the 1910 Carl Schurz High School. A designated Chicago Landmark, the building is a blend of Chicago and Prairie architectural styles designed by Dwight H. Perkins, chief architect to the Chicago Board of Education. In the 1,800-seat auditorium is a four-manual 1935 M.P. Möller organ,

the work of then tonal director Richard O. Whitelegg. This treasure boasts a Cornet, a Mixture, and a Harmonics (complete with a Septième) on the Great alone. The organ is a triumph in this three-second acoustic because, rather than being mounted in the side chambers, it is cantilevered across the back of the stage and speaks directly into the room. Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago organist John Sherer will play a recital to mark the centennial of the sinking of the *Titanic*.

A North Shore day will officially begin with a visit to arguably the most visually exciting room of the trip, North Shore Congregation Israel. This extraordinary sanctuary, perched on the edge of Lake Michigan, was constructed between 1962 and 1964 to the design of Minoru Yamasaki along with the firm of Friedman,

Alschuler & Sincere. Incorporated into the structure of the room is the organ designed by the partnership of Robert Baker and Lawrence Phelps, a three-manual Casavant, Opus 2768. The outstanding acoustics and visual drama will showcase the artistry of Ricardo Ramirez, organist of Chicago's Cathedral of the Holy Name.

A special treat then awaits us at First Church of Christ, Scientist, in Winnetka, as we hear a completely intact 1938 Kimball two-manual instrument. Literally, everything works on this organ and is original, including the Chime damper and the Chime sostenuto. This Chicago-built organ will be demonstrated by Moody Bible Institute's professor of organ, Elizabeth Naegele. We then travel just a few blocks to one of the newest in-

struments in Metropolitan Chicago: the visually stunning three-manual organ built in 2008 by Martin Pasi & Associates of Roy, Washington. It is tuned in Kellner/Bach, $\frac{1}{5}$ -comma temperament. The Swell reeds are inspired by French Classic and Romantic models; the Oboe, in particular, was modeled on the work of Aristide Cavallé-Coll. The reeds of the other divisions are informed by Baroque examples from Northern Germany, especially by the work of Arp Schnitger. The young virtuoso Nicholas Bideler will be the performer. We then travel to a unique instrument in a capacious and radiant space. The Divine Word International Chapel of the Holy Spirit in the small village of Techy boasts a four-manual Wiener organ, ca. 1930, in jaw-dropping acoustics. To compliment the organ



M.P. Möller, Op. 6373 (1936) at Chicago's Carl Schurz High School



*The 1938 Kimball in Winnetka, Illinois's
First Church of Christ, Scientist*

and the space, the Madrigal Choir of Grace Episcopal Church, Oak Park, a well-known high-school-age a cappella ensemble, will sing motets by Chicago composers—such as Eric DeLamarter's lovely *Blessed Are the Pure in Heart*—and alternate with performances by organists in the ensemble: Madeleine Woodworth and Charlie Carpenter. We will conclude by traveling to Evanston and bask in the sounds of the beautifully-restored 1914 Skinner, Opus 208, in the Music Institute of Chicago, demonstrated by Scott Montgomery.

Some names have become almost ubiquitous in the field of church music, and one of these is Paul Manz. For many years, he was the cantor at the Evangeli-

cal Lutheran Church of St. Luke, and held forth on its large three-manual Schlicker that dominates the rear balcony of the striking sanctuary designed by Harold A. Stahl. Manz was famous for his hymn-based preludes. On Thursday morning, we will travel to St. Luke to hear Erik William Suter perform on this historic organ.

Thursday will continue with Chicago's oldest resident organ now in its third home. St. Josaphat, Bishop and Martyr Catholic Church is home to two instruments. The instrument of greater interest is the two-manual 1872 Wm. A. Johnson, Opus 386, that arrived the year after the devastating fire of 1871. (The fire lasted for days and changed the fabric of the city of Chicago forever.) The other organ is a 1924 Geo. Kilgen & Sons, Opus 3386, in a case and facade from the an instrument by the Wisconsin Pipe Organ Factory,



*The 1963 Schlicker in the
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Saint Luke*



Casavant's Opus 2769 (1962) in the Cathedral of the Holy Angels, Gary, Indiana



East end of the Cathedral of the Holy Angels in Gary



Casavant's Opus 2768 (1963) in Minoru Yamasaki's North Shore Congregation Israel in Glencoe



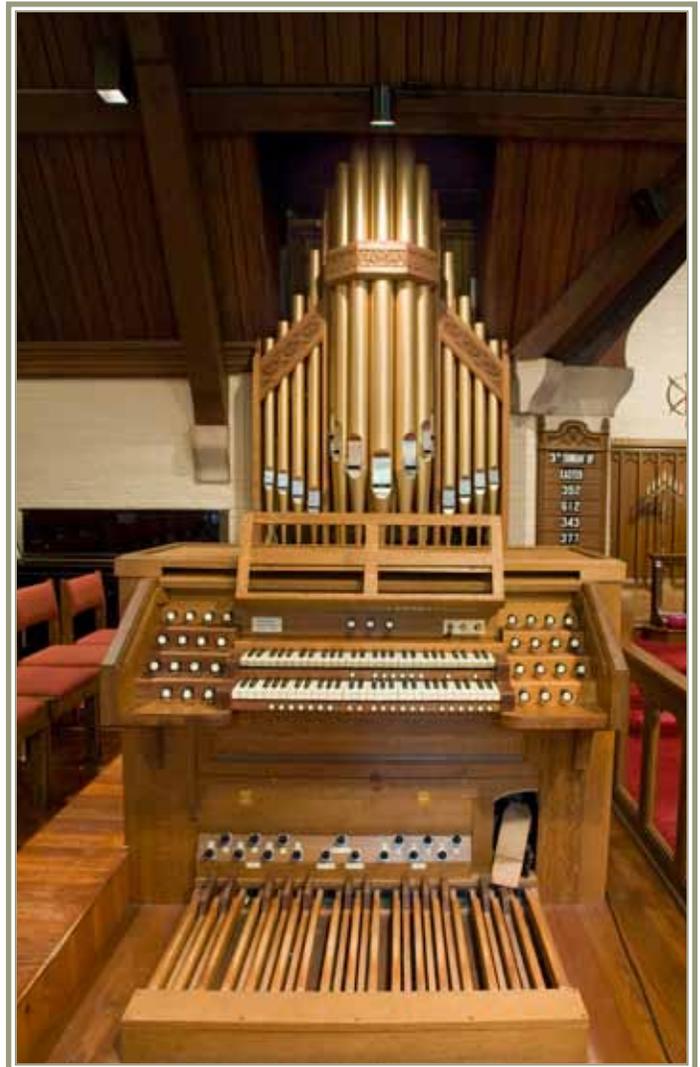
*St. Chrysostom's Episcopal Church with
C.B. Fisk's Op. 123 (2005)*

the builder's Opus 32, installed for the church's dedication. We hope to present an OHS favorite as recitalist to give us a chance to hear the warm colors of both instruments. We travel then to Wicker Park Lutheran Church to hear a large two-manual, tubular-pneumatic Möller from 1907 that speaks into a Chicago Prairie-Style room of the same period. The young Oberlin student Adam Gruber will make his third OHS National Convention recital appearance on this organ.

Built in the 1897, the Chicago Cultural Center was originally the Chicago Public Library and boasted the world's largest art-glass dome by Tiffany. Located in what is now known as Preston Bradley Hall, the dome

is approximately 38 feet in diameter; its some 30,000 pieces of glass cover more than 1,000 square feet. The body of the dome has a "fish scale" pattern, while, in the center, the signs of the zodiac are depicted. In 2008, it was restored to Tiffany's original vision when a concrete outer dome, added in the 1930s, was removed, allowing natural light through the stained glass and into the room for the first time in decades. We hope to stop by simply to have lunch.

Just around the corner from St. James Episcopal Cathedral is the John B. Murphy Auditorium, constructed between 1923 and 1926 by the American College of Surgeons, and named for its founder. The stunning auditorium was built for the college's annual meetings, but quickly proved too small. The room

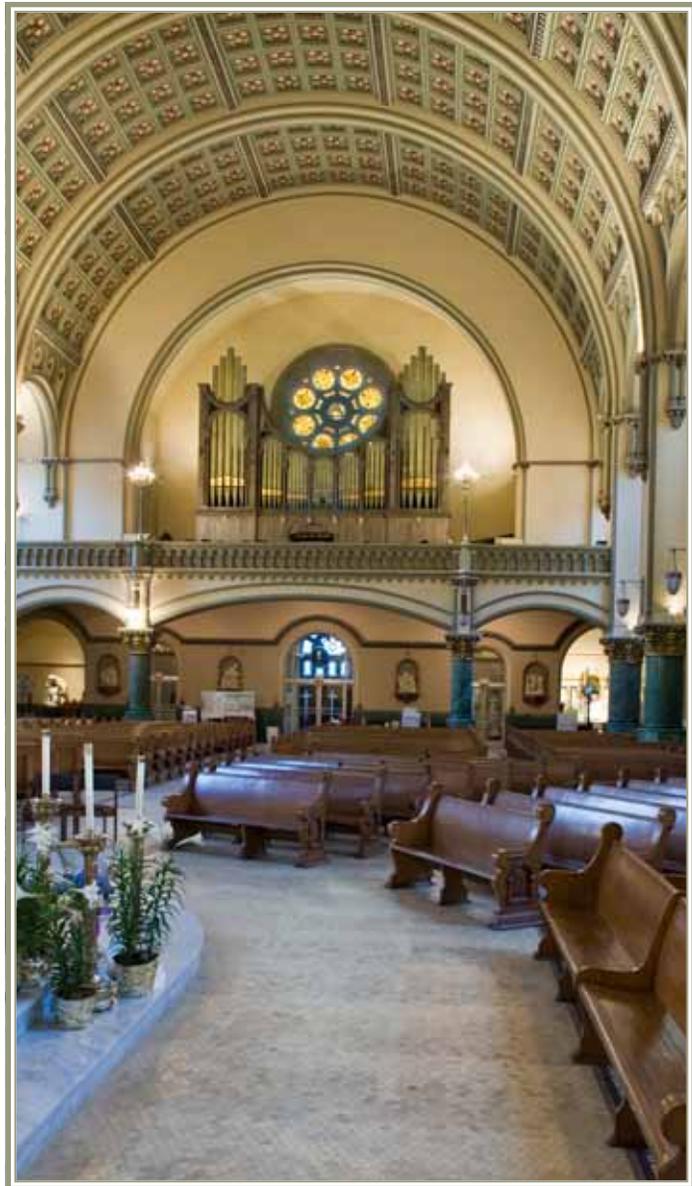


*Bradford, Op. 6 (1990) at St. John's Lutheran Church,
Wilmette, Illinois*

languished for decades, but is now restored and the 1927 Estey, Opus 2500, with its original “luminous stop control” console, can again be heard. The instrument is similar to ones that would have been installed in the homes of the wealthy of the period and Cathryn Wilkinson’s recital will feature music for the residence organ.

It is impossible to come to Chicago and not notice the beautiful skyline next to Lake Michigan. Before the evening concert, we will take a cruise as we enjoy late-afternoon cocktails and dinner. We then will see the skyline and the “Windy City” in all its midsummer glory.

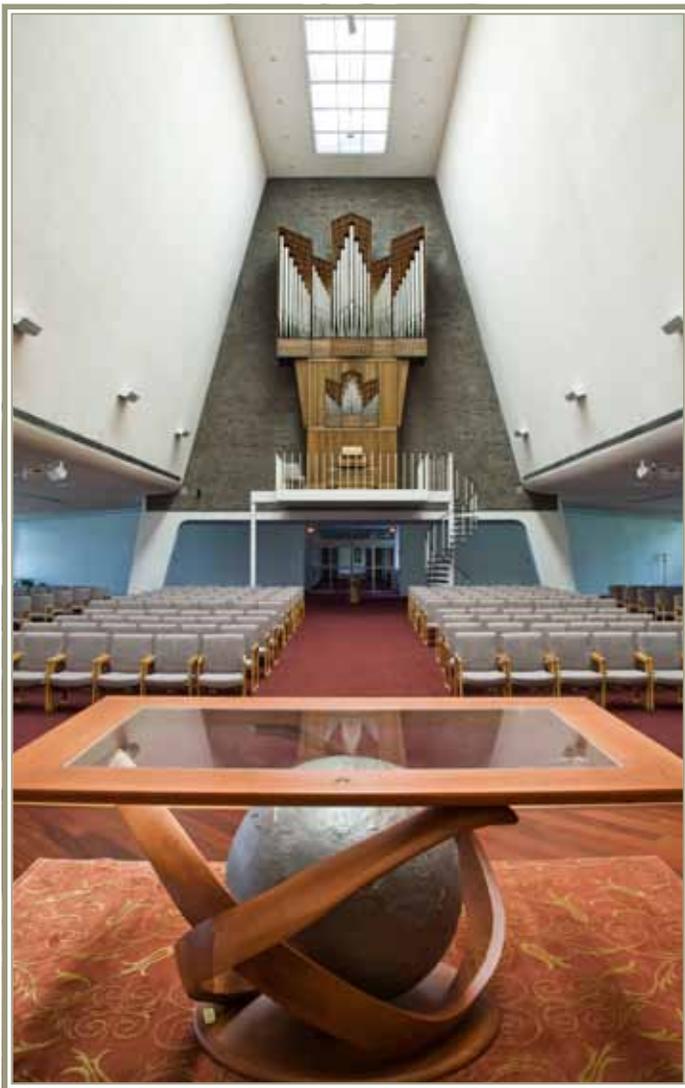
Perhaps the least-heard organ in the city is the commanding three-manual Casavant in Chicago’s



The 1924 Kilgen Op. 3386 in St. Josaphat R.C. Church

famous Orchestra Hall. Home of one of the world’s great orchestras, this hall recently underwent a multi-million dollar transformation that improved seating, acoustics, and the placement of the organ. Resident organist for the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, David Schrader, will perform a pops concert for the attendees of the convention in partnership with four American Guild of Organists chapters, as a fundraiser for the ChicAGO 2006 endowment fund.

On Friday, we will hear organs by Illinois builders and end the convention with a unique event. After a morning lecture at the hotel we will travel to the visually stunning Queen of All Saints Basilica to hear a re-



Fritz Noack’s Opus 44 (1969) in the convent of the Sisters of Saint Joseph, La Grange Park



Aeolian-Skinner Op. 1390 (1962) in the First Presbyterian Church, La Grange

cital on the large three-manual Berghaus organ. Then, on to Evanston to hear perennial favorite William Aylesworth perform at St. John Lutheran Church on the organ at which he presided for decades: the Walter Bradford instrument that incorporates many ranks of interesting 19th-century pipework.

John-Paul Buzard produced the very large and colorful instrument for Glenview Community church in 1999. Since then, the acoustics have been considerably improved. We can look forward to John-Paul Buzard's son, Stephen, demonstrating the colors of the soft flutes, the warm, firm principal chorus, and the thrilling grand Tuba.

The final extravaganza for the convention week is a trip to Jasper Sanfilippo's home to hear the largest theater organ in the world in his *Place de la Musique*.

This 77-rank giant was planned by some of the finest minds in theater organ research and restoration and is maintained with the many other mechanical musical instruments in the collection, by a curatorial staff. It is good to know that this collection will remain at this location in perpetuity because it now has its own foundation. Jonathan Ortloff will put this astounding instrument through its paces.

Chicago has a grand collection of instruments from many builders and from many periods; this, coupled with good-old Midwestern hospitality, will make a delightful, colorful, and memorable adventure for your summer travels. We hope you will join us for the convention, and hope you will invite your friends. We look forward with joy to greeting you personally in Chicago.