

The Golightly Memorial Pipe Organ

LINDENWOOD CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Memphis, Tennessee

The magnificent pipe organ of Lindenwood Christian Church, Memphis, Tennessee, was a gift from the Golightly family in 1966 and was built for the many musical requirements of the church, one of Tennessee's largest Disciples of Christ congregation. The tonal designer was the late Thomas H. Webber, Jr., and the organ was built by the Möller Company of Hagerstown, Maryland.

An organ such as this one is the product of many minds, and Mr. Webber, considering its many uses, the church's traditions and physical appointments of the large sanctuary, created an organ of tonal appointments second to none in the area.

The organ has 75 ranks, and contains more than 3,500 pipes, the pitch length ranging from 32 feet to about three-eighths of an inch. All wood pipes are made of the finest lumber, and the metal pipes are of zinc or alloys of tin and lead.

The Swell and Choir chambers are under expression while the Great and Positiv are unenclosed. The Positiv was "floating" and was playable on all manuals, but the new console, installed in 1992, includes a fourth manual for the Positiv. Some of the pedal pipes are situated in each division of the organ. The Principals and Bourdon are adjacent to the Great in the North chambers. The Bombarde and Sub Bass units are sited adjacent to the Positiv in the South chamber.

The organ was equipped with a set of twenty-five Carillon Bells when built, installed by the Schumerlich Electronics Co. of Sellerville, Pennsylvania.

Additions were made to the organ in 1985 in preparation for the twentieth anniversary of the organ. The additions were made possible by a grant from the Golightly Foundation in memory of the Golightly family, and included the two 32' pedal stops as well as a 25-note Mass-Rowe carillon and separate console, as well as the beautiful Iona F. Reed Memorial Harp.

The organ was further improved as a new console, built by the Reuter Organ Company of Lawrence, Kansas, was installed in July 1992 at a cost of \$125,000. (The cost of the total organ was \$86,000 in 1966!)

The new console incorporates the best of the original Möller as well as state of the art technology: a 96-level memory with digital select, additional divisional and general pistons, great/choir transfers, four full-organ pistons, moveable console and adjustable bench, midi preparations and a solid state switching system.

In June, 2001, The Golightly Memorial Trompette en Chamade was added, as was The Carolyn Sellers Sharpe Grand Facade, giving the stunning visual on the Chancel Wall. The pipes are flamed copper (twelve pipes), polished zinc (twenty pipes), and polished copper (sixty-one pipes.) All pipes in the facade are speaking.

The latest additions included the installation of a viole celeste, English diapason, nachthorn, French horn and English horn on the choir, a montre, clarinet, harmonic flute, 16' violone, and an 8' and 16' trumpet on the great, renovation of the Iona F. Reed Memorial Harp, as well as preparations for the ultimate completion of over 90 ranks!

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