

A CHILDREN'S STORY

Good Morning Boys and Girls! How are you to day?

Today's story deals with one our senses, that of hearing.
What do we hear with? (Ears) What things do we hear? (Sounds)
Sounds are unseen vibrations passing thru the air

Some sounds are named/called noise. (Debbie hits many notes on key board at random*)
(Noise is sounds that are loud, disagreeable or unwanted.)

Some sounds are named/called music. (Debbie plays a few bars of a familiar hymn*)
(Music is organized sound/tones, usually pleasant to the ears)

Today we are dedicating our rebuilt pipe organ. From it we will hear new and pleasant sounds/music.

Brief History: crude organs were known to exist before the birth of Christ.
Seems during the 17 and 18 hundreds the art of pipe organ building came about.

Our original pipe organ was built in 1955-56, installed Nov.-Dec. 1956 and dedicated January 1957. It was built by M. P. Moller pipe organ company of Hagerstown, MD. Mathias P. Moller was Danish by birth. Our organ has the number 8,935. It has a number just like cars that have numbers to identify them.

Component/parts of a pipe organ:

- Electricity must be present. Switch on the pipe organ turns on the blower (found in basement) (makes pressurized air) and electrical current to various parts of the organ. (Show photo) Wind-Wind Chests sealed with leather.
- Console has two keyboards (with black and white keys), foot pedals (same as keys but played with the feet)
- Finger pistons /push buttons (numbers on them) for various combinations)
- Stops (tablets lifts up or down/on or off) and more later.

Of course we need to have a person with knowledge about playing the organ. It requires a person who has taken lessons on the pipe organ. Our current organist is Debbie.
Some times Betty or Colleen play the organ.

A major part of the organ is the all the pipes.
The pipes are located in a chamber/box (up to my left) show photo)
This box has shades like venation blinds which can be opened and closed.
Organist operates with feet to make music louder or softer. (Debbie will demo.)

Just like there are different groups/sections of sounds in an orchestra such as: string section (violin), brass section (trumpet), woodwind section (flute), percussion section (drum) there are different groups/categories of sounds in a pipe organ.

You will see the tabs/stops on the organ console which give different sounds when turned on/depressed. They tilt back and forth like a teeter tooder/see saw.

There are five broad groups/categories of sounds

(Debbie will demonstration a few notes and a few chords *)

1. Principal (Diapason)..... play the diapason 8’*
(This is a unique sound only found on a pipe organ)
2. Flute.....play the flautino 2’*
3. String.....play the viole dolce 8’*
4. Reed.....play the trumpet stop*
5. Percussion.....plays the chime stop*

Numbers of pipes 1Rank = 61 pipes so we now have 6 ranks.

Original organ 4 ranks= 376 pipes

We had 2 ranks added = 122pipes

Total estimated 498 pipes

Shapes of pipes: three- square, round, rectangular

We have the two common shapes- square and round.

Pipe materials: Some are wood/made of hard wood (usually square)

Many are metal (round) mixture of lead and tin

On the tabs/stop you will see numbers 16’, 8’, 4’, etc.

Lowest note is 16’, 8’, 4’ and 2’ feet high. (Lowest note is “C”)

(Bourdon 16’, Gedeckt 8’, Lieblichflote 4’, Flautino 2’-demonstrated

We do not have 16 feet high pipe in our chamber, organ builders can make pipes to give a 16’ sound and some pipes are bent to fit into the chamber.

We even have a stop that has no sound “Tremolo”. When turned on/stop depressed the sound is given a vibrating sound. (with demonstration play notes with on and off*)

Yes in the Bible we read references to musical instruments example Psalm 150 (6 verses). Verse 4: **Praise him with stringed instruments and organs (flutes).**

Back in the 1700 hundreds there was a composer whose name was Johann S. Bach. On some of the music he composed he wrote these words in Latin “Soli Deo Gloria” which translates To the Glory of God Alone.

And so today we have organ dedication which means the musical sounds of this pipe organ are being dedicated to the glory of God.

(Close with a short prayer)

June 21, 2009