

HISTORY

On December 25, 1923, the Higginson family made it possible for the First Presbyterian Church to acquire, not its first organ, but a new pipe organ from the Pilcher Organ Company of Louisville, Kentucky. The Pilcher organ, Opus 1229, was installed in 1924. It had several ranks added through the years by the Reuter Organ Co. of Lawrence, Kansas. In 1989, this organ had served its life, and on Christmas Eve, it breathed its last. The following year, the church contracted with Mac Range of Mesquite, Texas, to rebuild and renovate what could be saved. By 1992, there was a new organ again in First Presbyterian, including a beautiful wood façade adorning the chancel, built by Denney Organ Works of Paris, Texas. The organ had 41 ranks and 2,150 pipes. Since that time, a new console has replaced the old 1961 Reuter console, and an En Chamade which is the horizontal trumpet, has been added. In 2017, it became apparent that the reeds were unstable and failing. In addition, the choir required soft accompanimental stops for their anthems. Dr. Jason Alden of Dallas was engaged to replace the failing reeds; add a choir division supplying three new ranks of softer stops; and rewiring the organ to enable an organist to select sounds from a variety of manuals. This work was completed in April 2018. The newly repaired and enhanced organ was debuted on Easter Day. The total number of ranks is 44, with 2,385 pipes. Thank you for joining us this afternoon as we celebrate the artistry of instrument, composition and musician. May it be to God's glory.

WORDS FROM THE SENIOR PASTOR

Today is an afternoon set aside. Gathered, we celebrate the instrumentation of our pipe organ at First Presbyterian. In every significant way, a pipe organ is a beautiful mirror for the Body of Christ. Each rank of pipe holds various particular shapes and resonances...so, too, each person. Each pipe or person is distinct and irreplaceable to the whole. That many voices within a rank become one voice is mastery at the organ console. A composer gives melody, harmony and rhythm, arranged, to the organist who interprets and dispenses the music in waves and swells. In the pews we receive the waves. Our breath begins to synchronize as does the beat of each heart. Congregated, the divine composition is imparted once again. We find stamina within this rhythm for service, wonder and joy. Such is the importance of what we do this day for our current generations and the generation yet to come. What a joy to celebrate with you. Rev. Dr. Leslie Ann King

FROM THE ORGANIST

What a joy to sit at the console of the pipe organ at First Presbyterian Church! Not only is it beautiful to the eyes, but a bountiful cornucopia for the ears. It is inspiring to witness a congregation so involved in worship and so determined to continue the traditions and practices held dear throughout the years. The support shown in this organ renovation and renewal project is such a gift to all, not only those present, but for generations of worshipers to come. Becky Ward



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

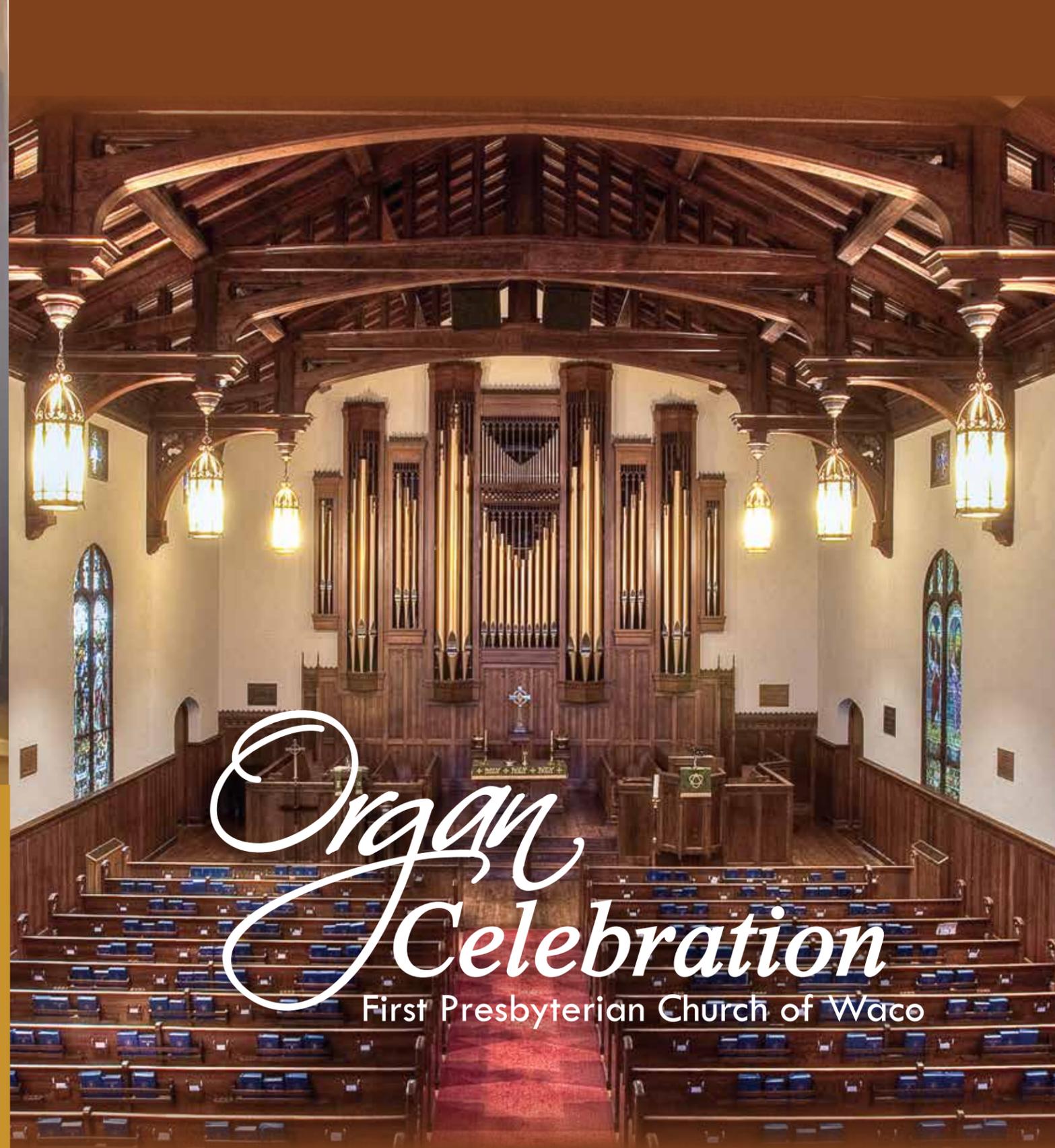
This afternoon's organ concert is given to the Glory of God in memory of Hester Beck Willis, John Todd Willis Jr. and John W. "Jack" Parnum, former church organist who died in 1918 serving in World War I.

A special thank-you to the Central Texas Chapter of the American Guild of Organists for providing accommodations for the Watanabes during their visit.

Please join us in the Foundation Parlor immediately following today's concert for a brief reception, hosted by the Chancel Choir.

A bronze plaque commemorating individual and congregational generosity will be mounted on the chancel screen near the organ console. Appreciation to Dr. Jason Alden and Aaron Garcia for their creative expertise throughout this project.

Cover photo by Mr. William Schaefer, Jr.



Organ Celebration

First Presbyterian Church of Waco

October 21, 2018
4:00 pm

SPECIFICATION

GREAT

Violone	16'
Principal	8'
Bourdon	8'
Violone	8'
Octave	4'
Flute Biberon	4'
Super Octave	2'
Fourniture IV	1 1/3'
Cromhorne	8'
En Chamade	8'

CHOIR

Rohrflute	8'
Gemshorn	8'
Celeste	8'
Spitz Principal	4'
Violone (Gt.)	8'
Bassoon (Sw.)	16'
Trompette (Sw.)	8'
Bassoon (Sw.)	8'
Clairon (Sw.)	4'
En Chamade	8'

PEDAL

Resultant	32'
Principal	16'
Bourdon	16'
Violone	16'
Octave	8'
Bourdon	8'
Lieblich Gedeckt	8'
Choral Bass	4'
Nachthorn	4'
Mixture III	2 2/3'
Trombone	16'
Bassoon	16'
Trompette	8'
Bassoon	8'
Krummhorn	4'

SWELL

Lieblich Gedeckt	16'
Stopped Diapason	8'
Viole de Gambe	8'
Voix Celeste	8'
Principal	4'
Koppelflote	4'
Octave	2'
Quinte	1 1/3'
Mixture IV	1 1/3'
Bassoon	16'
Trompette	8'
Bassoon	8'
Clarion	4'
En Chamade	8'

ANTIPHONAL

Echo Flute	8'
Flute d' Amour	4'
Flautino	2'
Sesquialtera II	2 2/3'

RANKS: 44

PIPES: 2385

PROGRAM NOTES

The Ride of the Valkyries is a movement from Wagner's epic four-cycle opera, *Der Ring des Nibelungen*. The story is based on Norse mythology and this piece in particular, has become a popular choice for films and military celebrations. It was first heard in 1870.

Gustave Merkel's *The Sonata in D Minor*, was the prize-winning composition in an 1857 organ duet competition sponsored by the Deutsche Tonhalle Association. It is broadly conceived in a style influenced by Beethoven, Schumann, and Liszt, and the virtuosic pedal-part is cleverly divided between the two players. Following the precedent set by Julius Reubke in the *Sonata on the 94th Psalm*, Merkel prefaced each of three movements with a motto from the Psalms

- I. Allegro moderato (Psalm 42:5, 6, 7, 9)
- II. Adagio (Psalm 23: 1–4)
- III. Allegro con fuoco – fugue (Psalm 42: 11)

NHK (Japan's national public broadcasting organization) produced the song "Hana wa Saku" (Flowers Will Bloom) to build public support for the 3.11 tsunami disaster recovery efforts in 2011. It is also the theme song of the TOMORROW series of TV documentaries produced by NHK's Great East Japan Earthquake Project. The song's composer, lyricist, and singers of the original Japanese recording all have strong ties to the region affected by the disaster. The lyrics are a message from those who lost their lives to the people they left behind. The song rose to the top of Japan's music charts and has generated compassion for survivors from across the country and around the world. The English version of the song was produced for international viewers of NHK. All royalties for musical composition and lyrics are being donated to the recovery effort. Today's musical setting was created by Kiyo Watanabe.

Celebration was composed in 2013 at the suggestion of an organist friend and since then, has been performed a number of times in Topeka, Kansas. It was originally intended as a companion piece for an organ processional composed in 2010, for a family wedding. Dr. McQuere is very honored to have "Celebration" performed today, celebrating a noteworthy event in First Presbyterian Church, where he and his family were members for 17 years.

Louis Vierne, blind organist and composer, served as organist of the Notre Dame Cathedral for 37 years. He composed many organ pieces, still popular today, and left his legacy through many famous students, namely Nadia Boulanger, Marcel Dupre and Maurice Durufle.

Paul Dukas was a music critic and composition teacher in Paris. He is best known for his famous symphonic poem, *The Sorcerer's Apprentice*, written in 1897. The popularity of this well-known music can be attributed to its inclusion in Disney's *Fantasia*. Based on a poem by Goethe, it tells the story of a young apprentice who casts a spell and has some problems containing its effects!

Kiyo was born in Tokyo, Japan. He originally came to Texas to study at Baylor University in Waco, where he earned a bachelor of music in organ. Then he made a move to New York City, where he studied at Manhattan School of Music and received a master of music and a doctor of musical arts degrees, both in organ performance.

Chiemi is originally from Aichi, Japan and holds a bachelor's degree in sociology from Kwansei Gakuin University in Hyogo, Japan, but also had a love for music. She moved to New York where she earned a masters of music degree in organ and went on to The Julliard School for post-graduate studies. In October of 1996, Kiyo moved to Wichita Falls to become the organist for the First United Methodist Church. Chiemi followed him to Texas and they were married in June of 1997. She was employed as organist and music director for Floral Heights United Methodist Church in 1997. They both still hold these positions.



First Presbyterian Church

Presents

Kiyo and Chiemi Watanabe
Duo organists in concert

PROGRAM

Ride of the Valkyries for Organ Duet Richard Wagner (1813-1883)

Sonata in D Minor for Organ Duet Gustav Merkel (1827-1885)

- I. Allegro moderate
- II. Adagio
- III. Allegro con fuoco; Fuga

The Flowers will Bloom Yoko Kanno (b. 1964)

*Performed by the St. Cecilia Handbell Choir; Jan Bodine, Director
Chiemi Watanabe (piano), Kiyo Watanabe (organ)*

Moderato (from Piano concerto No. 2) Sergei Rachmaninoff (1873-1943)

Chiemi Watanabe (piano), Kiyo Watanabe (organ)

Celebration Gordon McQuere (b. 1946)

Kiyo Watanabe (organ)

Claire de lune Louis Vierne (1870-1937)

Kiyo Watanabe (organ)

Carillon de Westminster Louis Vierne

Chiemi Watanabe (organ)

The Sorcerer's Apprentice for Organ Duet Paul Dukas (1865-1935)

Please adjourn to the Foundation Parlor following the concert for a reception honoring the Watanabes and celebrating the joy of music shared this afternoon.

