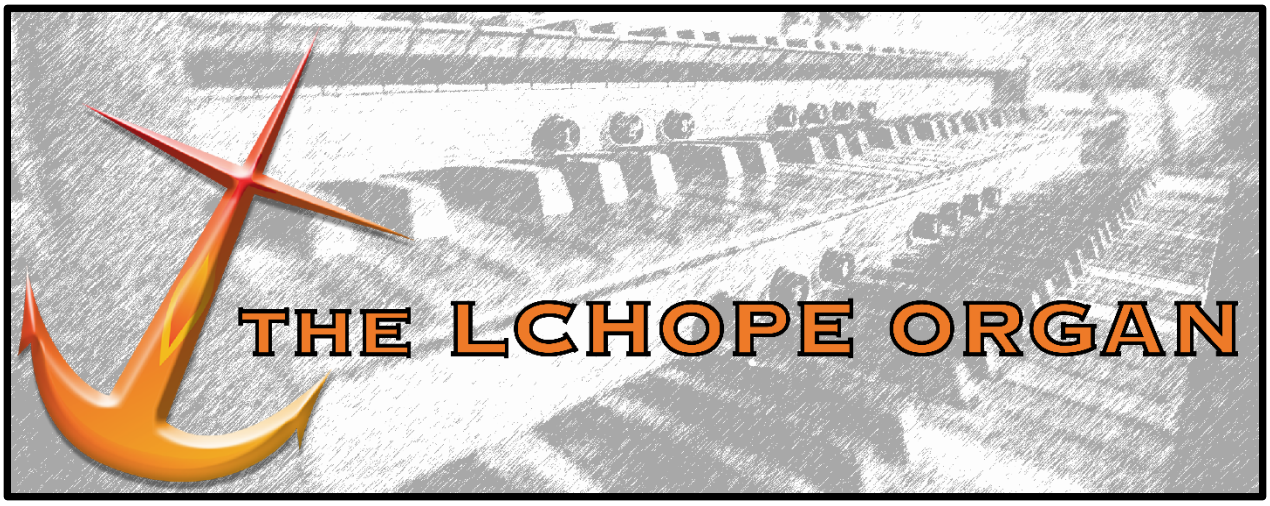
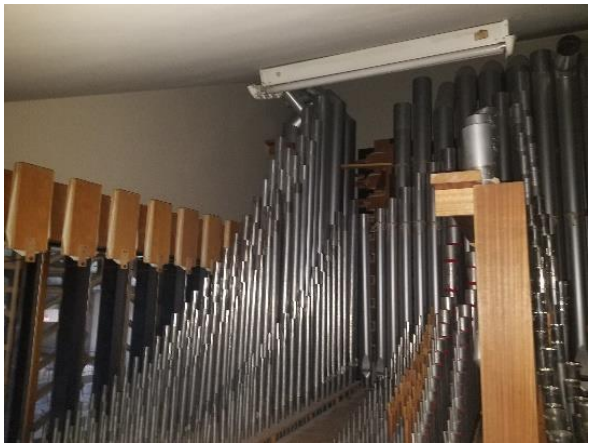


A PROPOSAL

Lutheran Church of Hope
1305 West 10th Avenue
Broomfield, CO
www.lchope.org

About the Opus 1555

Built in 1967 by Reuter Pipe Organs, Opus 1555 is a 3-manual pipe organ installed at Brookside Baptist Church in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Since its original installation, the organ has been critically acclaimed and in demand as a concert instrument along with leading music for the Sunday worship services. The organ has 25 stops, 30 ranks, complete with swell and choir divisions along with a zimbelstern and chimes. This instrument will ring in the Easter Alleluias with trumpets and capture the reflection and introspection of Ash Wednesday and Good Friday with flutes. This is an organ that will lead congregational song and be an instrument that organists will want to play in concert.



Reuter Organ Company from Lawrence, Kansas was founded in 1917. The company has designed, built, and renovated over 2,240 instruments for churches, concert halls, and residences, including several in the Denver metro area. Opus 1555 will be disassembled piece by piece by Reuter's own technicians and stored in their own climate-controlled facility in Lawrence, Kansas until final design, overhauling, and installation is ready at LCHope. The organ has been well-maintained over the years. The instrument is in need of a generational overhaul including updating and maintenance including re-leathering, electronic updates/upgrades, and the console will be refinished to complement LCHope's worship space. With all the updates the organ will also be reconfigured and voiced to LCHope's worship space as advised and approved by the Organ Task Force. Reuter will then be responsible for the installation of the instrument at LCHope.

Frequently Asked Questions Surrounding the Acquisition of the Reuter Pipe Organ Opus 1555 (1967)

Why do we need a new organ? Can we move the present organ into the renewed nave?

The current Allen electronic organ is over 40 years old. It was Allen's early 'digital' technology, now vastly outdated, with tone generation that does not provide a pipe organ sound. It can no longer be repaired. We are quite fortunate it has lasted this long.

Why not get a new digital organ for the new space?

Digital organs use electronic tone generators derived from sampling sounds of real pipe organs. They use multiple speakers to project sound into the nave. The problem is that these organs cannot provide the gestalt (ambiance) of wind-blown pipes. With a digital organ you are listening to a recording of a real pipe organ. The life span of a digital organ is roughly 21 years. (Amazingly, we have had our Allen organ for over 40 years!) Maintenance and repairs become more frequent and costly. Also, their technology is quickly outdated.

On the other hand, the life span of a pipe organ is unlimited. The organ we are proposing to acquire was built in 1967 by the Reuter Organ Company of Lawrence, Kansas. It is still in fine playing condition, even though it is in need of tuning. The instrument can readily be restored, adapted and upgraded by Reuter for our renewed nave.

What about the total cost?

Our initial cost would be $35,000. This means $10,000 to the church in Tulsa to purchase the instrument, and $25,000 to remove it from the church and transport it to Reuter's warehouse in Lawrence. It will be properly stored, insured, and placed in a temperature and humidity-controlled environment. We pay Reuter rent for the storage. The price for storage has yet to be determined. If we sign a letter of intent to have their company restore, modify, and/or adapt the organ for our renewed nave, the rent is forgiven.

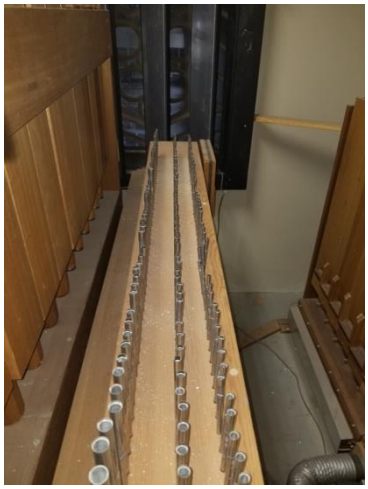
Reuter estimates the total cost to be between $245,000 and $320,000 to restore, modify, upgrade and install the organ in our renewed nave. The updated organ will have an eleven-year unconditional warranty, which is the same as a newly-built organ. (Note: Reuter estimates the cost of a newly built organ of the same specifications to be approximately $657,000.)

Tulsa is a more humid environment than Denver. Is that a problem moving an organ from a humid to a dry climate?

Reuter organs are unaffected by changes in humidity due to the way they are built.

What if we pay the $35,000, put it in storage and due to some cataclysmic event we are unable to proceed with this project?

Reuter has assured us that it would be able to find another buyer who would reimburse us for all, if not nearly all, the $35,000 acquisition cost. We would still have to handle the cost of storage, if it is applicable.



What kind of pipe organ are we talking about?

The organ we are recommending is a three-manual (keyboard), 25-stop (different sounds), 30-rank (sets of 61 pipes) pipe organ.

Why not a two-manual organ like we have now?

Three manuals allow the organist more flexibility in the range of organ music that can be played. Also, three manuals makes the organ easily adaptable for adding new stops and ranks of pipes.

Most organ literature is written for a three-manual pipe organ. Organ recitals are a strong outreach tool for our church since this will be only the second (and largest) pipe organ in Broomfield. We are making a strong statement to the entire northwest metro area about how we view the ministry of music. Many people are attracted to a church by attending an organ concert.

Does a pipe organ require higher maintenance?

Pipe organs require less maintenance than digital organs. These instruments that have existed from the fifteenth century are still being played today. The main reason for maintenance on a pipe organ would be the twice-a-year tuning.

This proposition seems like we are putting the cart-before-the-horse. The decision has not even been made to renew the nave. We should just wait to get the organ after that space is complete.

No. Trying to retrofit a pipe organ (or even a digital organ) into an already-built space is futile, at best. The organ needs to be planned at the same time as the building. The organ builder must work closely with the architect to insure proper liturgical location and outstanding acoustical environment.

The primary purpose of the pipe organ is to support the assembly in song and liturgy. When this happens, it is fulfilling its purpose for Lutheran liturgical worship. The organ is also an instrument to accompany the choirs, soloists, instrumentalists, and for the performance of great organ literature.

Reuter has assured us that the instrument under consideration is readily adaptable for our use. They are willing to work with the architect to assure the proper liturgical and acoustical placement in our renewed nave.

What are the benefits of acquiring this pipe organ?

"It is often said that the Lutheran Church is a singing church. Singing by the gathered people of God, while not unique to Lutherans, is a hallmark of who we are." (ELCA—The Church's Journey in Art and Song: Resource Guide (1993).)

The main benefit to LCHope is improved singing, both in hymns and liturgy. Liturgy is generally sung in the Lutheran church and the pipe organ opens many more options for celebrating our Christian faith through both liturgy and hymnody.

Coupled with outstanding acoustics in our renewed nave, the instrument proposed will open an entire new world of congregational singing. Many potential members who visit the church are attracted by the quality of music. The proposed instrument will make a strong statement to the community as well as our parish church. The organ is a real tool of evangelism to spread the Good News through outstanding music and congregational singing.

Does a high-quality digital organ sound the same as a pipe organ?

No. Speakers cannot replicate the real sound of pipes which can penetrate the entire room. Digital organs cannot replace the sound of wind-blown pipes that breathe into the room. Critics of our current organ say there are some dead spaces in the nave where the organ can barely be heard. The goal for our renewed nave is to have acoustics that enable the organ to be heard everywhere in the new space.

How do we pay for the total cost over the long term?

We would add the remaining cost into the cost of the renewed worship space.

What is the urgency for this decision?

The church in Tulsa would like to have the organ removed by the end of the calendar year. Also, there is another church waiting in backup mode for our decision. We need to make our decision before the end of October.

The most important point we must consider -- a family in the congregation has offered a $30,000 challenge grant to be matched before the end of the calendar year. We need to take advantage of this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

SOLI DEO GLORIA!!

The Financial Picture – Purchasing the Organ

Organ Fund Balance before the October – December Challenge	$21,357.75
Anonymous 2019 Gift to be designated for Organ	$10,000.00
Anonymous Gift	$3,642.25
	_____
	$35,000.00

Organ Purchase Cost	$10,000.00
Disassembly, Transport, Storage	$25,000.00
	_____
	$35,000.00

Organ Challenge to Date (10/18/2020) $4,850 ($9,700 after match)

Dollar for Dollar up to $30,000

Many thanks to the Organ Task Force for researching and developing this proposal:

Judy Vialpando, Patricia Kennedy, Co-Chairs
Charlie Freitag, Vice-Chair
Karen Kuhlmann
Sue Lyon
Adam Green
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Pat Thomas
Kathy Henson
Beth De Boer
Kenda Meyer
Sue McKnight
Terry Shockey
Pastor Scott McAnally

Lutheran Church of Hope
An ELCA Congregation