



The organ at Historic First Presbyterian Church was built by the W.W. Kimball Company and installed by their representatives in 1928. It is an example of early twentieth century American organbuilding commonly referred to as the *symphonic* style. In addition to the standard array of *church* organ sounds there are also voices that are built to imitate instruments of the symphony orchestra. Hence the reference to the *symphonic* style when describing pipe organs from this period. This Kimball organ is the only extant, playing example of its kind in Arizona.

The organ was purchased through fund-raising efforts by the Ladies Aid Society and has remained an integral part of the worship service for almost seventy years. Four years ago, it became obvious that the instrument needed major restoration. Smoke damage from a disastrous fire in 1980 as well as generally poor maintenance practices over a decade or more had taken their toll. One attempt to "modernize" the organ had done more damage than good. I was engaged by the Senior Minister, Dr. Peter Eckert, to examine the instrument and advise the Session Committee on what alternatives might be considered. Two other consulting experts were called in from California and Ohio to offer their opinions. These two consultants recommended replacing the entire instrument with a new organ, although both men suggested incorporating some of the undamaged parts from the old organ into the new plan.

My firm was awarded the contract because we supported an historically faithful restoration with judicious additions using original Kimball components wherever possible. The original organ has been restored to its 1928 specification although several additions to each manual department have been made. These additions were made using Kimball organ pipes from the same historical era as the original organ. A nationwide search was instigated which turned up a number of significant components including the four-manual console which now controls the organ. The original Kimball console from the 1928 installation was removed many years ago. The current console was purchased from a church in Oakland and completely rebuilt by myself and my associates.

The organ has fifty-eight *ranks* or sets of pipes with a total of 3,500 pipes. The largest pipe is 32' in length with a diameter of 18". The smallest pipe is just barely one quarter of an inch long. The 32' Trombone which plays from the Pedals was voiced in the organ chambers since the pipes were too long to stand erect in our workshop. Myself and my associates consider this project to have been our most difficult in fifteen years of organbuilding. We also feel that it has been one of the most rewarding. It has been high privilege to be able to serve this congregation by restoring to perfect working order, a legacy which has stood the test of time. This instrument will be passed from one generation to the next as living example of good stewardship. Where stewardship is concerned, longevity is the watchword. When longevity is required, the pipe organ has no equal.

Grahame S. Davis for Pipe Organ Artisans of Arizona, A.M.D.G.

GREAT

7½" wind • Tuba 15"

* original pipework

- 16' Contra Gamba (CH)
- 8' Open Diapason 1* (leathered lips)
- 8' Open Diapason 2*
- 8' Concert Flute
- 8' Gemshorn
- 4' Octave
- 4' Rohrflute
- 2⅔' Nazard (from Rohrflute)
- 2' Superoctave
- III Grave Mixture (12. 15. 19.)
- III Sharp Mixture (22. 26. 29.)
- 8' Tuba Mirabilis*
- 4' Tuba Clarion*
- 8' Tibia Clausa*
- Tibia Tremulant
- Great to Great 16' (except Tubas)
- Unison Off (except Tubas)
- Great to Great 4' (except Tubas)

SWELL

7½" wind • Double Trumpet, 10"— low 12 pipes

* original pipework

- 16' Quintaton*
- 8' Open Diapason*
- 8' Stopped Diapason*
- 8' Salicional*
- 8' Voix Celeste*
- 8' Spitzflute
- 8' Flute Celeste (TC)
- 4' Geigen Octave
- 4' Harmonic Flute*
- 2' Open Flute
- III Cornet Mixture* (12. 15. 17.)
- IV Fourniture (15. 19. 22. 26.)
- 8' Double Trumpet*

- 8' Cornopean*
- 8' Trumpet
- 8' Oboe Horn*
- 4' Clarion*
- 8' Vox Humana*
- Vox Tremulant
- Tremulant
- Swell to Swell 16'
- Unison Off
- Swell to Swell 4'

The Vox Humana resides in its own expression box which may be set at any volume. However, this is not adjustable from the console.

CHOIR

7½" wind (The Gedeckt is a unified stop.)

* original pipework

- 16' Contra Gamba
- 16' Lieblich Gedeckt
- 8' English Diapason*
- 8' Gedeckt*
- 8' Gamba
- 8' Voix Celeste (TC)
- 8' Dulciana*
- 8' Flute Celeste* (TC)
- 4' Octave
- 4' Gedeckt*
- 2⅔' Nazard*
- 2' Fifteenth
- 2' Gedeckt*
- 1⅓' Tierce*
- IV Mixture (19. 22. 26. 29.)
- 16' Contra Fagotto
- 8' Cor Anglais*
- 8' Clarinet*
- 16' Tuba Mirabilis* (GT)
- 8' Tuba Mirabilis* (GT)

- 4' Tuba Clarion* (GT)
- Tremulant
- Chimes* (in Swell box)
- Choir to Choir 16' (except Tubas)
- Unison Off (except Tubas)
- Choir to Choir 4' (except Tubas)

SOLO

- 16' Tuba Mirabilis* (GT)
- 8' Tuba Mirabilis* (GT)
- 4' Tuba Clarion* (GT)

PEDAL

10" wind • Trombone 15"

* original pipework

- 32' Contra Bourdon (elect., low 12 unenclosed)
- 16' Wood Diapason*
- 16' Violone* (in Sw)
- 16' Bourdon* (in Sw)
- 16' Gamba (CH)
- 16' Lieblich Gedeckt* (from unified CH Gdckt)
- 10⅔' Quint (duplexed from CH Gamba)
- 8' Wood Diapason*
- 8' Gamba (from unified CH Gamba)
- 8' Bourdon* (from 16' Bourdon)
- 8' Gedeckt* (from unified CH Gedeckt)
- 4' Concert Flute (GT)
- 4' Gedeckt* (from unified CH Gedeckt)
- III Grave Mixture (GT)
- 32' Contra Trombone (ext. from GT Tuba)
- 16' Trombone (ext. from GT Tuba)
- 16' Double Trumpet* (Sw)
- 16' Fagotto (CH)
- 4' Fagotto (CH)
- 8' Tuba Mirabilis* (GT)
- 4' Tuba Clarion* (GT)

The Pedal ranks are located throughout both pipe chambers.