

Amos Ogden

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PILGRIM CHURCH MUSIC COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting-July 19, 1976

The Music Committee met at the Church at 7:30 P.M. with the following present:

Ray Baker
Donald Fouts
Carolyn Lee
Frances Leek

Frances Cash
Bill Van Druten
Bill Van Evera

The first discussion involved the fact that neither Bob Ballou nor John Oland will be available in the fall. Bob Ballou has submitted a letter of resignation, and John Oland plans to be away at least till after Christmas. It was suggested that Ray Baker consider Rob Hoch and Dennis Anderson as bass possibilities and that he check with Marcie Lindheimer and Donna Pegors regarding tenors.

The matter of the junior choir was discussed, including the fact that participation seems minimal with reference to the expense to the Church of having a junior choir director each Sunday during the church school year, and it was duly resolved to recommend to the trustees that we suspend the junior choir program as previously carried out and notify the junior choir director that her services will not be need this fall.

We discussed the matter of having a harpsichord for the Church available to be used in connection with some of the music which we perform during services where harpsichord accompaniment would be appropriate. Van Evera indicated there are some interested persons who expressed a willingness to help purchase a harpsichord if this is deemed desirable. The problem of keeping a harpsichord in tune was discussed, and it was agreed that if a professional tuner is necessary, this could be quite an expense. However, both Ray Baker and Dr. Van Druten are able to tune harpsichords and indicated a willingness to assist in this matter.

Van Evera reported that Lindsley Edson had written to harpsichord builders in Minneapolis and New York and had recommended for the Pilgrim Church Sanctuary a \$2200.00 harpsichord. It was felt that if, without any general solicitation, people come forward willing to defray the cost of a harpsichord, we could then present the matter to the trustees with a recommendation. Later it was mentioned that the UM-D harpsichord, which is a fine instrument, would be made available if Pilgrim defrays the cost of having it moved professionally, and that perhaps we should try this once or twice in the near future so that the congregation might become more familiar with what the harpsichord can do for our music at services. The Committee approved our going ahead to quietly gather information and support for the idea of having a harpsichord in church.

The matter of repairs and improvements to the organ was taken up at some length. At the request of the Chairman, Mr. Baker had Clarence Gould, the sales and service representative for Moller, Inc., the organ manufacturer, go over our organ, and he, on June 11, 1976, wrote a letter recommending various items, at a total possible cost of over \$32,000.00.

The Committee wholeheartedly adopted a resolution that we recommend to the trustees the console be given a complete going over at a cost of \$2,000.00 and that this be done as soon as possible. Mr. Baker gave the Committee a demonstration so that they would have some understanding of what Gould means by his recommendation of a rebuilding of the great and a rebuilding of the choir and a reworking of the present mixture, and installing it in the swell.

A motion was duly made and adopted that we recommend to the Board of Trustees that the matter of maintaining and improving the organ be made a project for the Church, that a fund be created to receive contributions for the purpose, and that the Church members be notified and invited to contribute, if they wish, memorial funds and other contributions to the organ maintenance and improvement fund. No definite plan or timing for the making of such improvements was discussed, and the Committee feels that this is a matter to be considered in connection with other long range plans for the Church.

The matter of wearing shirts and ties and the appearance of the choir during services was discussed, and the motion was duly adopted authorizing the director to purchase choir collars for an amount up to \$200.00 if funds are available.

Immediately following adjournment of the meeting, the services of the Music Committee were used to remove an inch of rain water from the lower rooms of the Church on the north side of the building.

June 11, 1976

R^Ay Baker
690 W. Chub Lake Rd;
Carlton, Minn 55718

Dear R^Ay:

Thank you for your letter of May 2nd concerning the organ at Pilgrim church and I'm sorry about the long delay in answering you but I have installed three organs since I got that letter so my office work has really gotten behind.

There are of course several ways to update an organ in steps but of course there are also some complications in doing it this way. The main problems are like as is true in the Pilgrim organ in the great and choir where you have some stops that play in both divisions. You then become involved in two divisions at once and this of course will more than likely make a division by division program cost more than a church may want to spend at one time. The way to do the great division here I feel is to make the great a completely independent division and I feel it should be exposed but even if it isn't it should be independent. This would make a fine great and then the present great & choir division would become strictly a choir division and this would be excellent but it would necessitate several new sets of pipes for the choir division, as you can see by the enclosed proposal for the choir division. I do feel that the place to start in this proposed program is in the great except for the console which of course needs a complete going over.

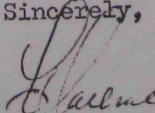
The way to do the console best is for the console to be taken out say the first thing on a Monday morning and brought back to our shop where we can do the best kind of a job on it. If all goes well I think we can have it back by the following Sunday but of course it is possible that you might be without it for one Sunday. To do a job like this on the console would cost two thousand dollars.

The cost of rebuilding the divisions as I have them shown would be \$19,400. for the great, \$9,600. for the choir and \$500. for reworking the present great mixture and installing it in the swell. Now I feel the new great should have a new mixture so the whole family of principals can be scaled and voiced for each other and secondly with little reworking this present great mixture would be an excellent mixture for the swell which very much needs a mixture also.

Now of course everything I show here is only my suggestion and I am completely open for any other ideas you might have and I'd be happy to hear from you of any input you might want to put in on these proposals.

At this point because of my extremely crowded schedule I have not worked out a plan for the Swell, pedal or solo division but I'll get to this before too long I trust.

Sincerely,



CWG/cg

Encl:
Sales and Service Representative For M. P. MÖLLER, INC. • HAGERSTOWN, MD. Pipe Organ Architects and Builders

June 11, 1976

PROPOSAL #1

New great division and rebuilding the choir division in Pilgrim Congregational church of Duluth, Minn.

GREAT ORGAN all new

Principal	8'	61 pipes
Bourdon	8'	61 pipes
Octave	4'	61 pipes
Spitzflöte	4'	61 pipes
Klein Octav	2'	61 pipes
Furniture	IV Rks.	244 pipes

If this division is to be exposed, beyond the cost of the division will be the cost for case work to cover the mechanical parts and also the supports to carry the division.

The present Great Mixture would be reworked and action and all would be installed in the swell division.

CHOIR ORGAN

The present actions of the great and choir divisions would become the choir organ only and all chests would be rebuilt and releathered and new relays and switchboard would be installed and also a new reservoir.

Camba	16'	present pipes and action	61 pipes
Concert Flute	8'	" " " "	61 pipes
Flute Celeste	8'	Present Waldflöte reworked	49 pipes
Gemshorn	8'	present pipes and action	61 pipes
Dulciana	8'	" " " "	61 pipes
Unda Maria	8'	" " " "	49 pipes
Koppelflöte	4'	New pipes present action	61 pipes
Nazard	2-2/3'	Present pipes and action	61 pipes
Principal	2'	" " " "	61 pipes
Cymbel	II Rks	New pipes, present action	122 pipes
Diapason	8'	Present pipes and action	61 pipes
Tremulant			

June 11, 1976

PROPOSAL #1

New Great division and rebuilding the choir division in Pilgrim Congregational church of Duluth, Minn.

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✓ Dulciana	8'	" " " "	61 pipes
Unda Maria	8'	" " " "	49 pipes
✓ Koppelflöte	4'	New pipes present action	61 pipes
Nazzard	2-2/3'	Present pipes and action	61 pipes
✓ Principal	2'	" " " "	61 pipes
Cymbale	II Rks	New pipes, present action	122 pipes
Clarinet CLARINET	8'	present pipes and action PRESENT PIPES AND ACTION	61 pipes
Tremulant			

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT, made this _____ day of _____
A. D. 19_____, by and between J. R. GOULD & SONS of St. Paul, Minnesota, party of the first
part, and Pilgrim Congerational Church

2310 E. Fourth St. Duluth, Minnesota
party of the second part.

WITNESSETH: the party of the first part agrees to (build) (rebuild) (or make additions to)
an organ after and according to attached specifications and plans to be hereinafter submitted
by party of the first part, and to erect in

Pilgrim Congerational Church

ready for use on or before the _____ day of _____ A. D. 19_____
or as soon thereafter as possible in the event of delays beyond its control.

2. The party of the first part agrees that the organ when completed shall be first class, free from defects in material and workmanship and that party of the second part may have examined immediately on completion, in the presence of the party of the first part, or its representative, by a competent and disinterested expert, and if examination shows that the organ does not conform with this agreement that the party of the first part agrees to remedy all defects at its own expense.
3. The party of the first part guarantees the action and the construction of the organ for a term of one year from the date of construction completion of the organ and agrees to correct defects in either material or workmanship that may be brought to its attention within that time, without cost to party of the second part. This does not include tuning or ordinary maintenance of organ (or electric motors which are guaranteed by their manufacturer.)
4. Cabinet work, grilles, panel work, etc. are not included in this agreement.
5. In consideration of the above, the party of the second part agrees to pay J. R. GOULD & SONS the sum of \$2,840.00

As follows:

First payment 25% ~~10%~~ or \$710.00
on signing of agreement.

Second payment XXXXXXXX40% or XXXXXXXXXXXXX
when material is delivered to said premises (ready for assembly)

Balance upon completion and acceptance 75% or \$2,130.00

The party of the second part agrees to pay any and all federal, state and city excise, sales and/or use taxes, and said taxes to be paid according to law, in addition to above price.

No tax to churchs.

6. The party of the second part agrees that the building will be in proper condition for the (installation) (reconstruction of the _____ weeks previous to date of completion; that they will allow, free from interruption, suitable convenience and opportunity for the installation in the building, provide such conditions of quiet as may be necessary for the proper tone regulation and tuning of the instrument, and necessary light, heat, and power.

7. The party of the second part also agrees to insure the organ or its parts against loss of fire, water, theft, etc. as soon as the parts are placed in the building, for the benefit of the parties hereto, and as their interest may appear.

8. When an electric motor is included in specifications, party of the second part agrees to provide foundation and enclosure when necessary, also furnish and install wind conductor between blower and the organ; to do all wiring connected therewith; to install such lights as may be needed for the erection and further care of the organ, and do any necessary cutting of floors, partitions, or other parts of the building. In the event of automatic remote control motor starter, electric conduits or other special equipment are required they are to be furnished by the party of the second part.

9. When chambers are so located that the organ parts must be hoisted by skids, block and tackle or other mechanical means, the necessary apparatus is to be furnished by the party of the second part.

10. It is mutually understood and agreed that the organ, when completed, will in every event be and deemed to be, and treated as personal property; and that the title and ownership of the organ shall be and remain in the party of the first part until purchase price for the organ has been fully paid, after which the instrument shall become the property of the second part, and it is further agreed that until completion of the payment of the organ shall be by the party of the second part; other owner or lessee of the premises in which the organ is contained, free and excluded from lein, mortgage, pledge or other encumbrance, except such as shall be expressly subject and subordinate to the right and title of the party of the first part, and as herein expressed.

11. It is mutually understood and agreed that this contract shall be binding after, but not before, acceptance of the party of the first part.

12. It is mutually agreed that all verbal agreements and understandings are merged in the contract and specifications attached hereto.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF we have hereunto set our hands and seals this day and year first above mentioned and written.

J. R. GOULD & SONS

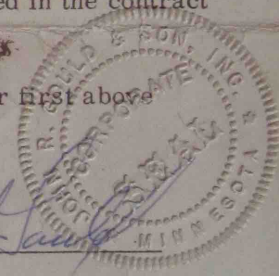
By [Signature]
Party of the first part.

By [Signature]
PARTY OF THE SECOND PART
237 East Fourth Street
Duluth, Minnesota 55812

[Signature]
Party of the second part.

Witness:

[Signature]
[Signature]



LAW OFFICES

VAN EVERA, MUNDT, KOSKINEN, CLURE & ANDREW

SUITE 700 TORREY BUILDING

DULUTH, MINNESOTA 55802

WILLIAM P. VAN EVERA
DANIEL H. MUNDT
DAVID J. KOSKINEN
THOMAS A. CLURE
THOMAS F. ANDREW
MARK T. SIGNORELLI

KENNETH D. BUTLER

ARTHUR M. CLURE (1924-1956)
THOMAS M. McCABE (1924-1970)

AREA CODE 218
TELEPHONE 722-0528
CABLE ADDRESS
MCVANEV

November 16, 1976

Mr. Ray R. Baker
690 West Chub Lake Road
Carlton, MN 55718

Dear Ray:

I remind you we meet with the trustees after church on Sunday, November 28, to talk about the organ, perhaps if you see fit, to demonstrate things about it.

Len Griffiths, Trustee Chairman, called for the meeting in order to talk about the proposed organ fund recommended by the music committee. You recall the music committee recommended that the trustees authorize such a fund and authorized solicitation toward it. I will see if I can find the minutes of the meeting and enclose them with this letter.

In any event, we are talking about a program in the neighborhood of \$30-\$32,000.00, and Len on the telephone suggested the following questions be answered: (1) What does the \$32,000.00 cover? Does it cover (a) maintenance, (b) enhancement, (c) visual esthetics? (2) What maintenance program is necessary to maintain the organ in proper condition as is? (3) How would an organ improvement fund be set up? How would it be announced to the church, and when? (4) Would we want solicitation of memorials for the organ, etc.?

I think I will ask the music committee to meet after choir practice on November 22, to discuss this and other matters.

Yours very truly,

William P. Van Evera

WPVE/tj
Encl.

November 11, 1977

MEMO RE PILGRIM CHURCH ORGAN

I met with Clarence Gould for an hour or so in the late afternoon, November 9, at Pilgrim, and Bill Hedenberg, at my request, also met with him and me in the early evening. These points came out: (1) there is no urgency about repair or overhaul of the organ, and accordingly, Bill Hedenberg concluded for the trustees there is no need for budgetary items right now; (2) notwithstanding the matter is not urgent, the organ is getting to the point where repairs and tuning take more time and trouble calls are more frequent, and neither the church nor Gould likes these trouble calls; (3) Hedenberg guessed off the top of the head after the description given him by Gould that the structural work to make supports for an organ hung on the walls of the choir loft would be in the magnitude of \$2,000.00. Gould also stated that the case work (to be done by him) for such exposing of the organ would similarly amount to something of the magnitude of \$2,000.00; (4) Gould said that he would write again, bringing his letter of June 11, 1976, down to date in the light of the various discussions he has had since with Ray Baker, Ron Gauger, Van Evera, Ms. Bouschor, Hedenberg, etc. He confirmed that approximately 6% or 7% price increase could be expected on the items listed for the repairs as set out in his June 11 letter, but perhaps we should wait to see what he now writes.

(5) If I recall correctly, Clarence stated that if the organ is to be exposed, then there would be considerable saving in doing the great and the choir at the same time. (6) Clarence seemed to be inviting us to take on Ron Gauger as a consultant. Since Ray Baker is modest about his knowledge of organs, Clarence would not be displeased if we had a PhD organist like Gauger participate and approve the changes we are going to make. Clarence stated that at the Congregational Church in Edina, where the organist is a PhD, they brought in another PhD organist as consultant in the design of a new organ to go in their new church. He says very few organ committees in churches know anything about organs, and certainly this is true at Pilgrim.

In his new letter, we ask Clarence Gould to put down the cost of simply bringing the present organ to well-maintained condition, as well as submitting an estimate for what Bill Hedenberg called the deluxe program. Clarence Gould suggested that we then set up a meeting for the proper persons to hear Clarence Gould and perhaps someone like Ron Gauger, as well as Ray Baker and Van Evera, to discuss what should be done about the organ.

/tj

April 18, 1978

MEMO RE PILGRIM CHURCH ORGAN

Saturday, April 22, at 1:30 P.M., Ray Baker is going to meet with Ronald Gauger at Pilgrim Church. Ron will give Ray his professional opinion about maintenance and repair of the organ after taking time to examine critical aspects. The newly formed Organ Committee is invited to be present at - or about - 2:30 P.M. that day to ask questions of Ron and Ray and gain first-hand information.

November 27, 1978

To: Carolyn Lee
From: Ron Gauger *RG*
Subject: Thoughts on the organ at Pilgrim Congregational Church, Duluth

With regard to the organ at Pilgrim, there seem to be three options: (1) "restore" the instrument to preserve the present sound (I have heard the instrument described as an excellent Leo Sowerby organ, i.e., a pretty good example of an early twentieth century American romantic organ); (2) rebuild the organ to bring it more "up to date" tonally; (3) replace the instrument with a new one.

As I have played and studied the instrument the past few months, I have grown to appreciate more and more its sound capabilities. It is true that the individual colors are not extensive: most of the flute stops sound basically alike; the differences are not so much in color as in volume level or in degree of "tubbiness." The same is true for the string stops and for the diapason stops.

I think it would be good to have someone evaluate the instrument in terms of preservation essentially as it now stands. Perhaps Dr. Kim R. Kasling of St. Cloud, organist at St. John's Abbey, Collegeville, would be helpful; he is an authority on American organs and organ music and would perhaps be willing to give an opinion. It would also probably be wise to obtain opinions from one or two more qualified organ builders, such as John Obermeyer of the Schlicker company, Minneapolis, or Dan Jaeckel of Duluth (728-2298). Mr. Jaeckel has just recently moved to Duluth but seems to possess fine credentials, including work for the Schlicker company; his primary interest, however, is in mechanical action instruments.

If I were to change or modify the present organ to "up-date" it, I would probably go about it in the following manner:

- (1) Begin with an entirely new Great Organ exposed on the front wall containing a principal chorus (8', 4', 2', mixture), flutes 8' and 4', reed 8' (perhaps the Bombarde from the present Solo division?) and a quintaton 16' - this is essentially the suggestion from Clarence Gould (6/11/76) plus the quintaton and reed.
- (2) Eliminate the Solo division as such (leaving the top manual for the Echo only).
- (3) Remove the wall in the left chamber between the present Solo and Great-Choir boxes - this would become the new Choir division (the Swell division remains in the right chamber).
- (4) Rework and redistribute the present pipework into Swell, Choir and Pedal divisions to complement the new Great. For example: (a) a pretty good secondary principal chorus of 8', 4', 2' could be made from combining the Choir Diapason 8', the Great Principal 4' and the Swell Geigen Principal 4' used an octave higher; (b) another principal chorus which works quite well is the Swell Geigen Diapason 8' plus the Great Principal 4' and Plein Jeu III; (c) the Swell Gedeckt 8' and the Choir Flute d'Amour 4' work quite well together; (d) the Great Waldflute 8' and the Choir Flute d'Amour 4' work quite well together; (e) the Swell Bourdon 16' and Gedeckt 8' played an octave higher are quite nice.
- (5) Include more independent stops in the Pedal division. Probably the weakest division of the present instrument is the Pedal. To the best of my knowledge, there are only two independent ranks of pedal pipes, both at 16' and hence not

11
11-27-78
Gauger 11/27/78

that effective in setting the pedal off from the remainder of the instrument.

(6) In reaction to Clarence Gould's proposed Choir division, I would basically agree, but wonder which pipes he would use at $2 \frac{2}{3}'$ and $2'$ - the present Dulciana $2 \frac{2}{3}'$ and $2'$ seem much too soft to be useful. It would be useful to retain a Tierce $1 \frac{3}{5}'$ in the Choir (but with a louder sound than the present stop) to allow for the Cornet and Sesquialtera color combinations. Perhaps a Krummhorn instead of the Clarinet (or in addition to?) would be desirable.

(7) My response to Mr. Gould's proposal to rebuild the Solo division is more negative. I feel that the Solo division is tonally the least useful division of the instrument and I think that \$15,000 could be spent to much greater benefit.

Please keep in mind that the above are all personal reactions and are not "gospel." I'm sure you will want to have Ray Baker interpret some of the organ jargon I have used. Sometimes it's very difficult to communicate without using it. I do hope that what I have said does make some sense.

I am attaching a copy of the annotated working stoplist which I used in studying the organ. I made it myself on the basis of playing each stop and hope that it is fairly close to what is actually there.

I am also attaching a copy of a possible redistribution of the pipes in rebuilding the organ. It includes many of the stops that are usually found in an instrument of that size and incorporates many of the present pipes. I hope all of this will be of some help.

cc: Ray Baker

Gauger 11/27/78

ANNOTATED DISPOSITION - Pilgrim Congregational Church, Duluth
40 ranks, 2838 pipes

GREAT (10 ranks)

- Diapason 8' (61 pipes) (leans toward string)
- Waldflute 8' (61) (would not be bad as a 4')
- Gemshorn 8' (61)
- Principal 4' (61) (best principal sound on the organ)
- Flute 4' (61) (wide scale - very bland)
- Rauschquint II (122) (weak - doesn't add much)
- Plein Jeu III (183) (would work pretty well as a Swell mixture)

SWELL (15 ranks)

- Bourdon 16' (73) (would not be too bad at 8')
- Geigen Diapason 8' (73) (quite stringy)
- Gedeckt 8' (73) (closest to "Baroque", i.e. chiff)
- Salicional 8' (61) (thin, penetrating)
- Voix Celeste 8' (73)
- Flute 4' (61)
- Geigen Principal 4' (73) (very similar to 8')
- Mixture II (122) (mild - no "bite")
- Viol Aetheria II (110)
- Cornoepen 8' (73) (perhaps use in pedal)
- Oboe 8' (73) (almost Schalmei-like)
- Vox Humana 8' (61) (nice, but very soft - could open box)
- Clarion 4' (61) (too similar to Cornoepen; could add an octave and use at 8')

SOLO (5 ranks, 1 extension)

- Principal 8' (61) (biggest principal on the organ; fluty)
- Major Flute 8' (61) (too big, tubby; wide scale)
- Gamba 8' (61) (narrow scale, almost reedy)
- Gamba Celeste 8' (TC) (49)
- Bombarde 8' (61) (WOW!)
- Clarion 4' (12) (from Bombarde 8')

CHOIR (9 ranks, 1 extension)

- Gamba 16' (73) (quite narrow)
- Dulciana 8' (73) (softest stop on organ; nice quality)
- Concert Flute 8' (73) (would not be too bad at 4')
- Unda Maris 8' (TC) (49) (sounds two ranks, i.e. U.M. and Dulciana)
- Diapason 8' (73) (light, but quite clear)
- Flute d'Amour 4' (61) (nicest 4' flute on the organ)
- Dulciana 4' (12) (from Dulciana 8')
- Gemshorn Principal 4' (73) (too light - doesn't combine well with Diapason 8')
- Tierce 1 3/5' (56) (too weak)
- Dulciana 2 2/3' -- (from Dulciana 8')
- Dulciana 2' -- (from Dulciana 8')
- Clarionet 8' (61)

Gauger 11/27/78

PEDAL (2 ranks, 1 extension)

Resultant 32'	--	(from Diapason 16' plus Bourdon I 16' (?))
Diapason 16'	(32)	(hooty)
Bourdon I 16'	(12)	(from Solo Major Flute)
Bourdon II 16'	(32)	(very close to Swell Bourdon 16')
Principal 8'	--	(from Solo)
Gamba 16'	--	(from Choir; good for pitch definition)
Major Flute 8'	--	(from Solo)
Gamba 8'	--	(from Choir Gamba 16')
Gedeckt 8'	(12)	(from Pedal Bourdon I 16')
Super Octave 4'	--	(from Solo Principal 8')
Tuba 16'	(12)	(from Solo Bombarde 8')
Bombarde 8'	--	(from Solo)

ECHO (4 ranks)

Fern Flute 8'	(61)	(bottom octave weak)
Viol Celeste 8' (TC)	(49)	(sounds 2 ranks: Celeste and Muted Viole)
Muted Viole 8'	(61)	(bottom octave weak)
Vox Humana 8'	(61)	(not usable at present)

Hasling

Saint John's University

Collegeville, Minnesota 56321

2 April 1979

Mr. Ray Baker, Organist and Choirmaster
Mrs. Carolyn F. Lee
and other concerned parties of
Pilgrim Congregational Church
2310 East Fourth Street
Duluth, Minnesota 55812

To Whom It May Concern:

It was my pleasure to have the opportunity of visiting the organ at Pilgrim Congregational Church on Sunday, March 25, 1979, for purposes of examining the organ and giving preliminary recommendations as per the written request of Mrs. Lee. I should add at this point that it was helpful to have the report by Mr. Ronald Gauger in hand as I made the necessary investigations. I would like to strongly urge Mr. Baker and church office personnel to try to locate in church records the organ's history, particularly as it pertains to the 1947 and more recent rebuilds. I have requested a copy of this history from Mr. Baker and I look forward to comparing it to my own findings.

As agreed via telephone with Mrs. Lee, my fee for coming to Duluth, examining the organ and making a preliminary report, is \$100.00, payable upon receipt of this report.

For the body of the report I will use a modified outline format concentrating in three major areas, or: 1) observations on organ's present mechanical condition; 2) observations on the organ's present pipe work; and 3) recommendations.

MECHANICAL CONDITION.

Although it is impossible to finitely determine the organ's exact mechanical condition in a two hour visit, I did come away with the basic impression that the organ is in relatively good condition. Many of the dead notes, rushes of air, rattles and vibrations are due more to regular maintenance problems than to basic mechanical flaws. It must be remembered that the organ is under heavy pressure so that any malfunctions may seem more pronounced. In addition, heavy pressure organs are subject to more mechanical difficulties in a shorter period of time than low pressure instruments. It did seem to me that a great deal of the action and reservoirs, wind lines, etc., were of more recent vintage than the original

Department of Music

612:363-2712

Hunting pg. 2

Steere - an advantage to the organ's longevity. Critical, too, is the condition of a very expensive component, the console which, at Pilgrim, seems to be good.

PIPEWORK.

It appears that roughly 50 percent of the pipework is newer than the original Steere. Again, the history of the organ would be vital in determining or disputing this estimate. Sometime in the last 20 to 30 years extensive modernization has been carried out but unfortunately, tonal results on high wind pressure have remained too hard, tubby and opaque sounding. Fortunately, much of this new pipework is of a reasonably moderate scale and decent quality so that some revoicing might be feasible (see Recommendations below). In any case, if Pilgrim is worried about the historical authenticity of the organ, it should be understood that so little remains of the original Steere that this should no longer be a consideration (most of the Steere pipework is of very heavy unplated lead producing, on high wind, dull, opaque tone).

RECOMMENDATIONS (Pro and con).

It should be possible to judiciously rebuild and revoice the present organ with some careful additions. Again, this depends on the mechanical condition of the organ, an assessment of which you should get from at least two organ builders. If the organ's wind pressure could be lowered slightly, and the organ's principal stops revoiced and possibly rescaled, major improvement would be achieved. Furthermore, such changes as moving the Great Mixture to the swell, Swell Mixture to the pedal, a new great mixture and a new 8' and 4' unit principal stop in the pedal (new chest required) along with new reeds and shallots for the Swell 8' Cornopean and the 4' Clarion would radically improve the organ's capabilities. A 16' extension of the Swell reed should also be considered. Opening the Swell Oboe caps, reducing some of the "saw" of the 16' Gamba, adding rollers to the 16' Pedal Diapason to reduce its "woof" are all minor adjustments that can affect major tonal changes. This kind of approach could probably be carried out for roughly \$20,000 provided major mechanical repairs are not needed. I would not recommend trying to tack on a brand new great division along with a few other selected stops together with much of the old. Such rebuilds are seldom satisfactory since the new division(s) either have to accommodate themselves to the old (to what purpose?) or the two contrast unpleasantly. I would also be cautious about opening up the walls into the sanctuary since this would mean the removal or relocation of the 16' Pedal Diapason and much of the Solo division, not to mention structural changes to the building. A final possibility is a completely new organ of smaller scope and design but adequate for the church which would cost approximately the same as an entirely new great plus several new stops, revoicing and mechanical attention (loose approximation, \$60,000-80,000).

Kasling pg 3

Pilgrim Congregational Church
2 April 1979
page 3

Unless the church has a large amount of funding available, the first recommendation I gave you seems the most feasible pending, again, a thorough mechanical investigation. I have recommended the name of a Minnesota specialist in such limited rebuilds, in whom I have great confidence, to Mr. Baker. I would recommend you have him come up and appraise the situation as I have, only with the added expertise of his being an actual organ builder. I enjoyed the visit very much (perhaps the Tiffany windows as much as the organ!). If I can be of any further help, please call upon me at any time.

Sincerely yours,

Kim R. Kasling

Kim R. Kasling

N.B. I have just received a copy of the organ's history from Mr. Baker which corroborates my findings. You are now in a better, more informed position to consider the above recommendations.

RICHARD LURTH

ORGAN
COMPANY

317 RECORD STREET

telephone 388 • 8864

MANKATO, MINNESOTA
56001

1 JUN 79

Ray R. Baker
Organist and Choir Director
Pilgrim Congregational Church
2310 East Forth Street
Duluth, Minnesota 55812

Dear Mr. Baker:

Enclosed is the contract and revised specification.

To Summarize:

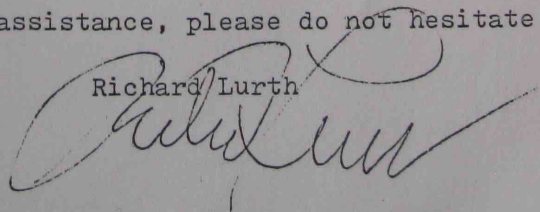
1. Most of the pipes in the organ will be regulated to provide better ensemble effects and to smooth out irregularities in timbre from pipe to pipe within a given rank.
2. The flute stops are generally of similar character. The revised scheme allows for variation in timbre and intensity between stops.
3. The string toned stops will be made broader.
4. The upper work registers (mixtures, etc.) will be re-worked to provide a "crown" for the organ that is presently lacking.
5. The Swell reed stops will be new (Trumpet) and/or revoiced.
6. The Choir division will be re-worked to provide a foil for the Great.
7. The Pedal organ will be redisposed and added to to provide greater clarity and variety.

In general the organ seems mechanically sound. I would predict that you could reasonably expect another ten years minimum from the chests without major problems. A regular service arrangement should be able to cope with any time to time seasonal problems.

In the proposed revisions every attempt has been made to preserve the integrity of the instrument. No attempt has been made to "Baroque" or "modernize" the instrument. The revised specification will allow for a greater flexibility in tonal textures for accompanimental and literature purposes.

If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to call on me.

Richard Lurth



26,320

Lunch pgs 6/79

SPECIFICATION A

*indicates revoiced pipe work
indicates addition, used pipes

GREAT

- 8 Diapason *
- 8 Concert Flute*(ch)
- 8 Gemshorn *
- 4 Principal*
- 4 Flute*(sw)
- 2 Octave *
- IV Fourniture *

SWELL

- 8 Geigen*
- 8 Hohlflöte #
- 8 Salicional *
- 8 Celeste *
- 8 Viol Aetheria *
- 4 Spitsflöte #
- 4 Octave *
- 2 Octavin #
- 16 Double Trumpet
(new pipes, new chest)
- 8 Trumpet (from 16)
- 8 Oboe *
- 4 Clarion
(new reeds, shallots)
- IV Mixture *

CHOIR

- 8 Viola*
- 8 Gedackt #
- 8 Unda Maris *
- 4 Principal*
- 4 Flute d' Amour *
- 2 2/3 Nazard # (new chest)
- 2 Piccolo *
- 1 3/5 Tierce #(new chest)
- 1 1/3 Larigot (nazard)
- III Sharff # (new chest)
- 8 Clarinet*
- 8 Regal #

PEDAL

- 16 Diapason*
- 16 Principal # (new chest)
- 16 Bourdon (solo)
- 16 Lieblich Gedackt * (sw)
- 8 Principal (16)
- 8 Flute (Diap)
- 4 Flute (Diap)
- 32 Harmonics (solo)
- 16 Tuba (solo)
- 16 Double Trumpet (sw)
- 8 Trumpet (sw)
- 4 Clarion

**LURTH
ORGAN
COMPANY**

Lunch 6/79
317 RECORD STREET | telephone 388 • 8864 | MANKATO, MINNESOTA
56001

REBUILD CONTRACT

This AGREEMENT, entered into between the Party of the First Part, LURTH ORGAN CO., hereinafter referred to as the BUILDER, and the Party of the Second Part, PILGRIM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, hereinafter referred to as the OWNER on this _____ day of _____, 19__.

WITNESSETH: For the consideration of \$ ~~(twenty-six-thousand-three-hundred-and-twenty-dollars)~~ 26,320.00 the BUILDER agrees to ~~(rebuild)~~ ~~(rebuild)~~, (rebuild) the organ belonging to and standing in the city of Duluth, Minnesota, according to the following schedule:

1. The Builder agrees to provide all necessary parts and labor to revoice and add to the present instrument in accordance with specification "A".
2. Pipes indicated as "revoiced" shall be removed from the instrument and returned to the Builders shop for work.
3. Work shall be done in a manner to insure the integrity of each division. During the time of the rebuild, part of the instrument may not be playable for a time.
4. The entire instrument shall be tuned and regulated at the completion of the project.

STATUS OF BUILDER

The OWNER agrees that the BUILDER is operating as an independent contractor, and is in no way in the employ or the servant of the OWNER. All points of disagreement with the BUILDER or his agents or his crew to be arbitrated between the OWNER appointed LIASON and the BUILDER.

BUILDER DISABILITY

In the case of absence, illness, death or any other reason why the BUILDER cannot fulfill this agreement, the BUILDER or his agents (upon approval of the OWNER) may direct an agent to operate in his behalf to fulfill the contract, or that part of the contract cancelled at the discretion of the OWNER.

LIASON

The OWNER appoints _____ to act as LIASON between the OWNER and the BUILDER. Said LIASON to have the full authority of the OWNER and to be the sole official contact between the OWNER and the BUILDER.

OWNERSHIP

The materials made available to the OWNER by the BUILDER become the property of the OWNER upon payment to the BUILDER of the specified sums, but under the custody of the BUILDER until completion of the contract. The OWNER agrees to provide adequate insurance and reasonable care to insure that said materials that are on the property of the OWNER are not damaged or pilfered. Damaged or pilfered materials must be replaced by the OWNER at no cost to the BUILDER.

Materials removed from the present organ by the BUILDER and not to be used in the rebuild, become the property of the BUILDER and are to be considered part of the payment in fulfillment of this contract. Such consideration to be in addition to the face value of this contract.

ACCEPTANCE

When the BUILDER is satisfied that the work is complete, he shall inform the OWNER in writing to that effect. Then, within thirty(30) days the BUILDER and two representatives of the OWNER shall confer and examine the work to see if the contractual obligations have been met. If there is no disagreement, signatures shall be affixed to the contract in the space provided and final payment to the BUILDER shall be made. These actions shall constitute formal acceptance and shall initiate the GUARANTEE period.

If disagreement occurs, or if either party refuses to sign, the matter shall be settled by binding arbitration as set forth in the GUARANTEES section of this contract.

Lush

GENERAL

1. The OWNER agrees to allow easy access to the organ and related areas where work is to be done. This includes keys, if required. Further, the OWNER agrees to provide ample lead time to the BUILDER when the church is to be scheduled so as to preclude work being done by the BUILDER. (weddings, special services, meetings, regular services or functions, etc.)
2. The BUILDER agrees to carry adequate liability insurance to cover possible damage to the OWNER'S property during the course of the work. The BUILDER also agrees to carry workmens compensation insurance.
3. The OWNER agrees to carry adequate insurance to cover accidents or damage that may occur, through no fault of the BUILDER, due to structural failure of the OWNER'S property or due to negligence on the OWNER'S part. This insurance to cover all aspects of damage to the building or organ thus incurred for the period of work outlined in this contract.

COMPLETION SCHEDULE

Due to the many complexities involved in a project of this nature, it is impossible for the BUILDER to guarantee completion by a specific date. However, every possible resource will be brought to bear to attempt the following schedule:

(to be negotiated at a later date and inserted in this space)

STATUS OF INSTRUMENT

At no time until the BUILDER deems the instrument completed is the the instrument to be played or examined for any purposes by other than the BUILDER or his agents, or without the express permission of the BUILDER. If this provision is violated in any way, all obligations of the BUILDER in this contract shall be deemed null and void. All obligations of the OWNER, including full payment, shall remain intact. This provision is intended to limit access to the instrument during construction and finishing operation to only the BUILDER and/or his crew, or to those persons who have the express permission of the BUILDER. It is expressly intended to not allow the playing or examination of the instrument (to preclude possible damage to the instrument, or injury to the person or persons) without the BUILDER'S knowledge until the BUILDER deems the instrument ready to play. It is not intended in any way to limit the use of the instrument by the OWNER after the instrument is completed. In the case of malicious damage or vandalism, this provision is not to be invoked. (see GUARANTEES)

ST YEAR SERVICE

Lunch

The BUILDER agrees to provide reasonable free service for the instrument for the first year. This free service is provided to correct any anomalies that may occur during the initial "shake down" period. This period to begin at acceptance. (see ACCEPTANCE)

PAYMENT SCHEDULE

The OWNER agrees to pay to the BUILDER the face value of this contract according to the following schedule:

1. \$2632.00 (twenty-six-hundred-thirty-two-dollars) when this contract is signed.
2. \$4800.00 (forty-eight-hundred-dollars) prior to ordering pipes.
3. \$5418.00 (fifty-four-hundred-eighteen-dollars) when work begins.
4. \$5418.00 (fifty-four-hundred-eighteen-dollars) when Great and Choir divisions are done.
5. \$5420.00 (fifty-four-hundred-twenty-dollars) when Swell and Pedal divisions are done.
6. \$2632.00 (twenty-six-hundred-thirty-two-dollars) held against acceptance. (see Acceptance)

GUARANTEES

1. The BUILDER shall guarantee all workmanship and will replace or cause to be replaced at no cost to the OWNER any new device, attachments or appliances manufactured by the BUILDER for a period of ten(10) years, if the workmanship of the BUILDER is judged to be at fault. Judgement shall be by a jury of three judges acceptable to both parties. If the parties cannot agree on any three people, each party shall select two, these two shall select one, and the two thus selected shall select a third. The opinion of the jury thus selected shall be binding on both parties.
2. Normal manufacturers guarantees shall apply to all component parts added or replaced by the BUILDER.
3. Normal wear and tear, tuning or malicious abuse are not covered by this guarantee.
4. If during the period of the GUARANTEE (ten years), any person or persons, other than those authorized by the BUILDER, operates in any manner within the instrument, all guarantees are void. In the case of malicious damage or vandalism, if the OWNER hires the BUILDER to repair such damage or vandalism, and pays the repair bill in full, the GUARANTEE shall remain after such repair for the balance of the term.
5. This GUARANTEE does not cover damage to, nor inoperation of the organ caused by fire, vermin, water damage, building failure, windstorm, vandalism, or any other natural or unnatural causes.

DISCLAIMER

Lurth

This instrument supercedes all previous written and/or oral communications, agreements, arrangements, or implications. Items not specifically mentioned in this document are not within the scope of the intended work. No additional charges of any kind shall be made by the BUILDER(unless a clause on COST NEGOTIATION is included) to complete the work herein outlined. If additional work is required by the OWNER, such work shall be negotiated seperately and at additional cost to the OWNER.

IN WITNESS, we have signed this AGREEMENT the year and the date above written.

CONTRACT SIGNATURES:

THE BUILDER

THE OWNER

Richard Lurth

RICHARD LURTH, owner Lurth Organ Co.

WITNESS

WITNESS

ACCEPTANCE SIGNATURES:

THE BUILDER

THE OWNER

RICHARD LURTH, owner Lurth Organ Co.

WITNESS

DATE

COPY

June 19, 1979

Mr. Charles H. Andresen
720 Sellwood Building
Duluth, MN 55802

Dear Huck:

Here is the information I promised with respect to the Trustees' meeting scheduled for Monday noon, July 9th in the church.

The meeting has been called so that the board may consider a recommendation from the Music Committee that the church enter into a contract with the Lurth Organ Company to rebuild the organ at a cost of \$26,320.

Bill Van Evera and Ray Baker will be present at the meeting to explain the reasons for renovating the organ at this time. Mr. Lurth of the organ company will be present as well.

I am also sending word to Joe Leek, inviting him to attend so that he may reflect upon the impact of a possible special fund drive upon the regular financial campaign of the church.

Jess Bradley plans to attend and can provide additional information regarding available funds. Following is a summary of the situation as I have reviewed it with him.

Already in the organ fund	\$ 2309.
Pledged by ^{Bill} Van Evera on condition that the additional monies are raised . . .	<u>4000.</u>

Thus for practical purposes we already have \$ 6309.
assigned to the organ project.

Additional resources:

Reserve Fund (remnant of Congdon Fund, plus Julia Marshall special gift)	\$10,000.
Portion of J. Marshall gift in general fund	<u>11,600</u> (Should be \$1,600.)
Balance of Roberts Fund	11,000.
Second Century Fund income not allocated to budget	7,000. (estimate)
Unassigned memorial funds perhaps	500.

Clearly these current reserves would enable us to finance the organ project without asking the congregation for special contributions. However, we need to recognize that there are other unbudgeted needs that should be met in the near future. These include: Lexan protective glass for the south wall windows (est. \$2500); new mimeo and dictating machines (\$2000), roof repairs, lightning rod on tower, new folding doors for fellowship hall, and other undetermined building repairs that could prove quite substantial. We need to note as well that it may be necessary to go to either the Second Century Fund or to the Reserve Fund in order to balance the budget. At this moment our operating finances look very good, but actual pledges never did come quite up to the budget projection.

Another factor that must enter into any decision is the one you raised, that of timing. Should the Board approve the Music Committee proposal, you may feel it wise to postpone implementation until after our Building on Commitment program in the fall. Of course, this may entail some increase in cost.

These then are some of the relevant facts. The Board will need to decide:

1. Whether rebuilding the organ is needful.
2. Whether the Lurth Company bid is competent and reasonable.
3. Whether to finance the project out of existing funds, or to raise additional funds.
4. How to raise additional funds, should such funds be sought.
5. When to launch the project.

While you are answering all these questions, I expect to be fishing on Birch Lake. Good luck.

Sincerely,

Royal F. Shepard, Jr.

cc: Jess Bradley
Ray Baker
Bill Van Evera
Dr. Joseph Leek

1941 Woodlands Avenue
Duluth, Minnesota 55803
February 25, 1979

Dear Dr. Kasling,

Thank you for your enthusiastic reception to my requests to evaluate the organ at Pilgrim Church. I phoned Ray Baker, the church's Organist and Choir Director, to advise him of your willingness to come to Duluth. Ray will be out of town on March 11 and wonders if March 18 would satisfy your schedule? Also — Ray hopes you will feel free to phone him about any questions you may have concerning the organ prior to your trip to Duluth (1-218-384-4500).

Just to clarify the location of the church:

Pilgrim Congregational Church
2310 East 4th Street

I look forward to meeting you.

Sincerely,

Carolyn F. Lee
(Mrs. Ted Lee)

Dr. Kim R. Kasling
Music Dept.
St. John's University
Collegeville, MN 56321

**LURTH
ORGAN
COMPANY**

RICHARD LURTH

317 RECORD STREET | telephone 388 • 8864 | MANKATO, MINNESOTA
56001

507

1 JUN 79

Ray R. Baker
Organist and Choir Director
Pilgrim Congregational Church
2310 East Forth Street
Duluth, Minnesota 55812

Dear Mr. Baker:

Enclosed is the contract and revised specification.

243

To Summarize:

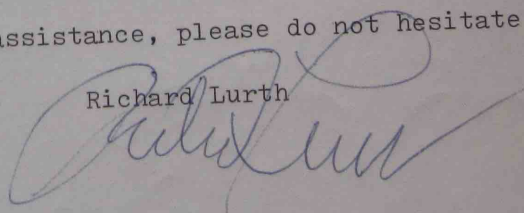
1. Most of the pipes in the organ will be regulated to provide better ensemble effects and to smooth out irregularities in timbre from pipe to pipe within a given rank.
2. The flute stops are generally of similar character. The revised scheme allows for variation in timbre and intensity between stops.
3. The string toned stops will be made broader.
4. The upper work registers (mixtures, etc.) will be re-worked to provide a "crown" for the organ that is presently lacking.
5. The Swell reed stops will be new (Trumpet) and/or revoiced.
6. The Choir division will be re-worked to provide a foil for the Great.
7. The Pedal organ will be redisposed and added to to provide greater clarity and variety.

In general the organ seems mechanically sound. I would predict that you could reasonably expect another ten years minimum from the chests without major problems. A regular service arrangement should be able to cope with any time to time seasonal problems.

In the proposed revisions every attempt has been made to preserve the integrity of the instrument. No attempt has been made to "Baroque" or "modernize" the instrument. The revised specification will allow for a greater flexibility in tonal textures for accompanimental and literature purposes.

If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to call on me.

Richard Lurth



**LURTH
ORGAN
COMPANY**

CHARD LURTH

317 RECORD STREET

telephone 388 • 8864

MANKATO, MINNESOTA
56001

REBUILD CONTRACT

This AGREEMENT, entered into between the Party of the First Part, LURTH ORGAN CO., hereinafter referred to as the BUILDER, and the Party of the Second Part, PILGRIM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, hereinafter referred to as the OWNER on this _____ day of _____, 19__.

WITNESSETH: For the consideration of \$ (twenty-six-thousand-three-hundred-and-twenty-dollars) 26,320.00 the BUILDER agrees to ~~(repair)~~ (refurbish), (rebuild) the organ belonging to and standing in the city of Duluth, Minnesota, according to the following schedule:

1. The Builder agrees to provide all necessary parts and labor to revoice and add to the present instrument in accordance with specification "A".
2. Pipes indicated as "revoiced" shall be removed from the instrument and returned to the Builders shop for work.
3. Work shall be done in a manner to insure the integrity of each division. During the time of the rebuild, part of the instrument may not be playable for a time.
4. The entire instrument shall be tuned and regulated at the completion of the project.

STATUS OF BUILDER

The OWNER agrees that the BUILDER is operating as an independent contractor, and is in no way in the employ or the servant of the OWNER. All points of disagreement with the BUILDER or his agents or his crew to be arbitrated between the OWNER appointed LIASON and the BUILDER.

BUILDER DISABILITY

In the case of absence, illness, death or any other reason why the BUILDER cannot fulfill this agreement, the BUILDER or his agents (upon approval of the OWNER) may direct an agent to operate in his behalf to fulfill the contract, or that part of the contract cancelled at the discretion of the OWNER.

LIASON

The OWNER appoints _____ to act as LIASON between the OWNER and the BUILDER. Said LIASON to have the full authority of the OWNER and to be the sole official contact between the OWNER and the BUILDER.

OWNERSHIP

The materials made available to the OWNER by the BUILDER become the property of the OWNER upon payment to the BUILDER of the specified sums, but under the custody of the BUILDER until completion of the contract. The OWNER agrees to provide adequate insurance and reasonable care to insure that said materials that are on the property of the OWNER are not damaged or pilfered. Damaged or pilfered materials must be replaced by the OWNER at no cost to the BUILDER.

Materials removed from the present organ by the BUILDER and not to be used in the rebuild, become the property of the BUILDER and are to be considered part of the payment in fulfillment of this contract. Such consideration to be in addition to the face value of this contract.

ACCEPTANCE

When the BUILDER is satisfied that the work is complete, he shall inform the OWNER in writing to that effect. Then, within thirty(30) days the BUILDER and two representatives of the OWNER shall confer and examine the work to see if the contractual obligations have been met. If there is no disagreement, signatures shall be affixed to the contract in the space provided and final payment to the BUILDER shall be made. These actions shall constitute formal acceptance and shall initiate the GUARANTEE period.

If disagreement occurs, or if either party refuses to sign, the matter shall be settled by binding arbitration as set forth in the GUARANTEES section of this contract.

GENERAL

1. The OWNER agrees to allow easy access to the organ and related areas where work is to be done. This includes keys, if required. Further, the OWNER agrees to provide ample lead time to the BUILDER when the church is to be scheduled so as to preclude work being done by the BUILDER. (weddings, special services, meetings, regular services or functions, etc.)
2. The BUILDER agrees to carry adequate liability insurance to cover possible damage to the OWNER'S property during the course of the work. The BUILDER also agrees to carry workmens compensation insurance.
3. The OWNER agrees to carry adequate insurance to cover accidents or damage that may occur, through no fault of the BUILDER, due to structural failure of the OWNER'S property or due to negligence on the OWNER'S part. This insurance to cover all aspects of damage to the building or organ thus incurred for the period of work outlined in this contract.

COMPLETION SCHEDULE

Due to the many complexities involved in a project of this nature, it is impossible for the BUILDER to guarantee completion by a specific date. However, every possible resource will be brought to bear to attempt the following schedule:

(to be negotiated at a later date and inserted in this space)

STATUS OF INSTRUMENT

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FIRST YEAR SERVICE

The BUILDER agrees to provide reasonable free service for the instrument for the first year. This free service is provided to correct any anomalies that may occur during the initial "shake down" period. This period to begin at acceptance. (see ACCEPTANCE)

PAYMENT SCHEDULE

The OWNER agrees to pay to the BUILDER the face value of this contract according to the following schedule:

1. \$2632.00 (twenty-six-hundred-thirty-two-dollars) when this contract is signed.
2. \$4800.00 (forty-eight-hundred-dollars) prior to ordering pipes.
3. \$5418.00 (fifty-four-hundred-eighteen-dollars) when work begins.
4. \$5418.00 (fifty-four-hundred-eighteen-dollars) when Great and Choir divisions are done.
5. \$5420.00 (fifty-four-hundred-twenty-dollars) when Swell and Pedal divisions are done.
6. \$2632.00 (twenty-six-hundred-thirty-two-dollars) held against acceptance. (see Acceptance)

GUARANTEES

1. The BUILDER shall guarantee all workmanship and will replace or cause to be replaced at no cost to the OWNER any new device, attachments or appliances manufactured by the BUILDER for a period of ten (10) years, if the workmanship of the BUILDER is judged to be at fault. Judgement shall be by a jury of three judges acceptable to both parties. If the parties cannot agree on any three people, each party shall select two, these two shall select one, and the two thus selected shall select a third. The opinion of the jury thus selected shall be binding on both parties.
2. Normal manufacturers guarantees shall apply to all component parts added or replaced by the BUILDER.
3. Normal wear and tear, tuning or malicious abuse are not covered by this guarantee.
4. If during the period of the GUARANTEE (ten years), any person or persons, other than those authorized by the BUILDER, operates in any manner within the instrument, all guarantees are void. In the case of malicious damage or vandalism, if the OWNER hires the BUILDER to repair such damage or vandalism, and pays the repair bill in full, the GUARANTEE shall remain after such repair for the balance of the term.
5. This GUARANTEE does not cover damage to, nor inoperation of the organ caused by fire, vermin, water damage, building failure, windstorm, vandalism, or any other natural or unnatural causes.

DISCLAIMER

This instrument supercedes all previous written and/or oral communications, agreements, arrangements, or implications. Items not specifically mentioned in this document are not within the scope of the intended work. No additional charges of any kind shall be made by the BUILDER(unless a clause on COST NEGOTIATION is included) to complete the work herein outlined. If additional work is required by the OWNER, such work shall be negotiated seperately and at additional cost to the OWNER.

IN WITNESS, we have signed this AGREEMENT the year and the date above written.

CONTRACT SIGNATURES:

THE BUILDER

THE OWNER

[Handwritten signature of Richard Lurth]

RICHARD LURTH, owner Lurth Organ Co.

WITNESS

WITNESS

ACCEPTANCE SIGNATURES:

THE BUILDER

THE OWNER

RICHARD LURTH, owner Lurth Organ Co.

WITNESS

WITNESS

DATE

SPECIFICATION A

*indicates revoiced pipe work
indicates addition, used pipes

GREAT

- 8 Diapason *
- 8 Concert Flute*(ch)
- 8 Gemshorn *
- 4 Principal*
- 4 Flute*(sw)
- 2 Octave *
- IV Furniture *

SWELL

- 8 Geigen*
- 8 Hohlflöte #
- 8 Salicional * *4/8*
- 8 Celeste * *Humana?*
- 8 Viol Aetheria *
- 4 Spitsflöte #
- 4 Octave *
- 2 Octavin #
- 16 Double Trumpet
(new pipes, new chest)
- 8 Trumpet (from 16)
- 8 Oboe *
- 4 Clarion
(new reeds, shallots)
- IV Mixture *

PEDAL

- 16 Diapason*
- 16 Principal # (new chest)
- 16 Bourdon (solo)
- 16 Lieblich Gedackt * (sw)
- 8 Principal (16)
- 8 Flute (Diap)
- 4 Flute (Diap)
- 32 Harmonics (solo)
- 16 Tuba (solo)
- 16 Double Trumpet (sw)
- 8 Trumpet (sw)
- 4 Clarion

CHOIR

- 8 Viola*
- 8 Gedackt # *(from Swell?)*
- 8 Unda Maris *
- 4 Principal*
- 4 Flute d' Amour *
- 2 2/3 Nazard # (new chest)
- 2 Piccolo *
- 1 3/5 Tierce # (new chest)
- 1 1/3 Larigot (nazard)
- III Sharff # (new chest)
- 8 Clarinet*
- 8 Regal #

Harp?

ARD LURTH

ORGAN
COMPANY

317 RECORD STREET

telephone 388 • 8864

MANKATO, MINNESOTA
56001

1 JUN 79

Ray R. Baker
Organist and Choir Director
Pilgrim Congregational Church
2310 East Forth Street
Duluth, Minnesota 55812

Dear Mr. Baker:

Enclosed is the contract and revised specification.

To Summarize:

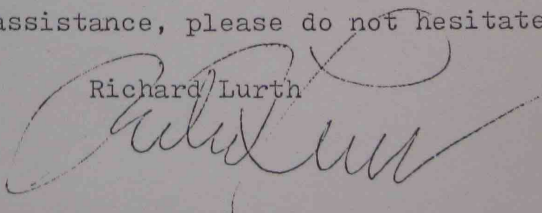
1. Most of the pipes in the organ will be regulated to provide better ensemble effects and to smooth out irregularities in timbre from pipe to pipe within a given rank.
2. The flute stops are generally of similar character. The revised scheme allows for variation in timbre and intensity between stops.
3. The string toned stops will be made broader.
4. The upper work registers (mixtures, etc.) will be re-worked to provide a "crown" for the organ that is presently lacking.
5. The Swell reed stops will be new (Trumpet) and/or revoiced.
6. The Choir division will be re-worked to provide a foil for the Great.
7. The Pedal organ will be redisposed and added to to provide greater clarity and variety.

In general the organ seems mechanically sound. I would predict that you could reasonably expect another ten years minimum from the chests without major problems. A regular service arrangement should be able to cope with any time to time seasonal problems.

In the proposed revisions every attempt has been made to preserve the integrity of the instrument. No attempt has been made to "Baroque" or "modernize" the instrument. The revised specification will allow for a greater flexibility in tonal textures for accompanimental and literature purposes.

If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to call on me.

Richard Lurth



26,320
67,320

SPECIFICATION A

*indicates revoiced pipe work
indicates addition, used pipes

GREAT

- 8 Diapason *
- 8 Concert Flute*(ch)
- 8 Gemshorn *
- 4 Principal*
- 4 Flute*(sw)
- 2 Octave *
- IV Fourniture *

SWELL

- 8 Geigen*
- 8 Hohlflöte #
- 8 Salicional *
- 8 Celeste *
- 8 Viol Aetheria *
- 4 Spitsflöte #
- 4 Octave *
- 2 Octavin #
- 16 Double Trumpet
(new pipes, new chest)
- 8 Trumpet (from 16)
- 8 Oboe *
- 4 Clarion
(new reeds, shallots)
- IV Mixture *

CHOIR

- 8 Viola*
- 8 Gedackt #
- 8 Unda Maris *
- 4 Principal*
- 4 Flute d' Amour *
- 2 2/3 Nazard # (new chest)
- 2 Piccolo *
- 1 3/5 Tierce #(new chest)
- 1 1/3 Larigot (nazard)
- III Sharff # (new chest)
- 8 Clarinet*
- 8 Regal #

PEDAL

- 16 Diapason*
- 16 Principal # (new chest)
- 16 Bourdon (solo)
- 16 Lieblich Gedackt * (sw)
- 8 Principal (16)
- 8 Flute (Diap)
- 4 Flute (Diap)
- 32 Harmonics (solo)
- 16 Tuba (solo)
- 16 Double Trumpet (sw)
- 8 Trumpet (sw)
- 4 Clarion

Pilgrim Congregational Church

2310 EAST FOURTH STREET
DULUTH, MINNESOTA 55812

June 20, 1979

TO: Charles Andresen
Ray Baker
Bill Van Evera
Dr. Joseph Leek

FROM: Royal F. Shepard

In our recent letter to Mr. Andresen, an error was made with respect to the balance of the Julia Marshall gift in the general fund. The figure should read \$1,600., not \$11,600.

cc: Jesse Bradley

June 19, 1979

Mr. Charles H. Andresen
720 Sellwood Building
Duluth, MN 55802

Dear Huck:

Here is the information I promised with respect to the Trustees' meeting scheduled for Monday noon, July 9th in the church.

The meeting has been called so that the board may consider a recommendation from the Music Committee that the church enter into a contract with the Lurth Organ Company to rebuild the organ at a cost of \$26,320.

Bill Van Evera and Ray Baker will be present at the meeting to explain the reasons for renovating the organ at this time. Mr. Lurth of the organ company will be present as well.

I am also sending word to Joe Leek, inviting him to attend so that he may reflect upon the impact of a possible special fund drive upon the regular financial campaign of the church.

Jess Bradley plans to attend and can provide additional information regarding available funds. Following is a summary of the situation as I have reviewed it with him:

Already in the organ fund	\$ 2309.
Pledged by ^{Mary} Billy Van Evera on condition that the additional monies are raised	<u>4000.</u>

Thus for practical purposes we already have... \$ 6309.
assigned to the organ project.

Additional resources:

Reserve Fund (remnant of Congdon Fund, plus Julia Marshall special gift)	\$10,000.
Portion of J. Marshall gift in general fund	11,600. 1600
Balance of Roberts Fund	11,000.
Second Century Fund income not allocated to budget	7,000. (estimate)
Unassigned memorial funds	perhaps 500.

C
O
P
Y

Clearly these current reserves would enable us to finance the organ project without asking the congregation for special contributions. However, we need to recognize that there are other unbudgeted needs that should be met in the near future. These include: Lexan protective glass for the south wall windows (est. \$2500); new mimeo and dictating machines (\$2000), roof repairs, lightning rod on tower, new folding doors for fellowship hall, and other undetermined building repairs that could prove quite substantial. We need to note as well that it may be necessary to go to either the Second Century Fund or to the Reserve Fund in order to balance the budget. At this moment our operating finances look very good, but actual pledges never did come quite up to the budget projection.

Another factor that must enter into any decision is the one you raised, that of timing. Should the Board approve the Music Committee proposal, you may feel it wise to postpone implementation until after our Building on Commitment program in the fall. Of course, this may entail some increase in cost.

These then are some of the relevant facts. The Board will need to decide:

1. Whether rebuilding the organ is needful.
2. Whether the Lurth Company bid is competent and reasonable.
3. Whether to finance the project out of existing funds, or to raise additional funds.
4. How to raise additional funds, should such funds be sought.
5. When to launch the project.

While you are answering all these questions, I expect to be fishing on Birch Lake. Good luck.

Sincerely,

Royal F. Shepard, Jr.

- cc: Jess Bradley
 Ray Baker
 Bill Van Evera
 Dr. Joeseeph Leek

1980

THE ORGAN AT PILGRIM

Starting with a circa 1915 Steere and Turner organ with tonal revisions in the late forties and sixties as a basis, it was decided to make the organ at Pilgrim a truly romantic one, embodying the best tenants of the late romantic era (ca 1880) in American organ building. To this end much of the philosophy of the organ, which tended to be Symphonic rather than Romantic, had to be altered. Instead of a rather bland canvas of homogeneous colors, a palette of contrasting colors and textural variety was provided. A brief description of the essential characteristics of each division of the organ follows:

GREAT

A full complement of Principal type stops is provided, comprising six stops and eight ranks. This provides the typical "organ" sound for the instrument and is useful in contrapuntal literature. In addition, a pair of open harmonic flute stops at an octave relationship and a Gemshorn stop are provided for accompanimental purposes.

SWELL

A fiery battery of reed stops to provide the so called "Full English Swell" sound so useful in many types of Organ Anthems and in much French and German Romantic music. A full secondary Principal chorus of four stops and seven ranks plus a variety of Flute and String stops is also provided. This division is perhaps the most versatile on the organ.

CHOIR

The Color division! A variety of mutation stops, five in all, comprising seven ranks. In addition two contrasting short resonator reeds, two flutes, a small Principal chorus, and a slow beating, undulating Unda Maris.

PEDAL

The underpinning of the organ. Formerly a rather weak division having essentially very soft or very loud sounds. It has been expanded by the addition of new pipes and different manual borrows to provide a graduated level of sounds, at various pitches, from soft to very loud.

SOLO

SOLO

As the name implies, a division for soloing out. This division includes a String and Celeste, a Flute, a Stentorphone, and a brilliant Reed. Extensive re-voicing was done on this division.

ANTIPHONAL

To provide soft background and echo effects. Little was done except to make it all operable.

In conclusion the organ, totaling 54 ~~ranks~~ ranks and some 3400 pipes, has been given a voice that seems admirably suited for many types of literature, choir accompaniment, and congregational singing.

F A C T S H E E T
Capital Fund Drive - Pilgrim Church
1980

I. GOAL: \$50,000

II. NEEDS:

A) Maintenance and Improvement of Organ - \$30,000

Since the organ was installed approximately 60 years ago it has been given sporadic attention. Improvements have been made to the over 55 stop instruments. These have not always been coordinated with one another; and various experienced organists have suggested this be among the items of work done on it. Like any instrument, periodic maintenance and repair is required. This was last done in the 1940's. Mr. Richard Lurth of Mankato has a contract for \$30,000 to carry out this work. He has informed the Music Committee and the Trustees that upon completion of his work, Pilgrim's organ will continue as a fine musical instrument for another 25 to 30 years. He estimates its current value at approximately \$375,000. The Trustees have taken this action based upon the need to maintain Pilgrim's assets and the discussion of this matter at the annual meeting

B) Construction of Permanent Cover to Protect Rear Entry-way - \$10,000

For the past two years a temporary cover has protected winter-time users of the rear entry-way from falling ice and snow. With the construction of ramp entry to the Church there is increased use of this entrance - particularly in the rehabilitation program which makes almost daily use of the building. Working drawings and specifications have been developed to support the construction cost. These are available at the Church. The temporary cover has been removed because the Hedenberg Company has other needs for the scaffolding which has been "on loan" to Pilgrim. The project can be completed before fall.

C) Control System for Zone Heating for the Entire Church - \$6,000

Currently, Pilgrim has to heat much of the building in order to provide heat for smaller areas. Timing controls to provide automatic cooling and heating at specified times have been installed. To give us the ability to provide heat for seldom used smaller areas requires revised and improved controls for our heating system. A firm contract is available for this work to be completed before fall. This conservation program is an annual money saver.

D) Protection for the Tiffany Windows - \$4,000

Protective covering for the windows is long over-due!

REPORT ON STATUS OF ORGAN

The organ is in need of major repair. The Music Committee has spent several years exploring options. As is stated in the annual report of the Music Committee evaluations have been obtained from experts outside of the church. In line with these evaluations, Organ Builder, Richard Lurth, of Mankato, MN, has presented us with a step-by-step plan for working on the instrument. His proposal was accepted by the committee because it is the most reasonable and practical of those offered by firms which have been consulted and because it is based on preserving the instrument as it now stands.

Memorial gifts were used to add a three-rank mixture in the early '70's. The Console was repaired in 1977. Otherwise, repairs and maintenance of the organ have been kept to a bare minimum for 33 years, focusing only on minor adjustments - or "pick-up" repairs --- overlooking signs which have pointed to possible future trouble. The last major overhaul was done in 1947. At that time (to point out a major discrepancy), new pipes were also added --- BUT --- nothing was done to the old pipes to affect a blending of tone between the new and the old --- thus --- use is still restricted. This is but one example of inadequacies encountered constantly. Leaky chests, too much wind pressure, dead notes, ciphers, non-working pedals, are but a few of the mechanical problems which are faced regularly. Ray Baker has coped with Amazing Grace! As evidence of his concern and interest Ray has gone out of his way to examine, first hand, work Mr. Lurth has undertaken. Ray has also had Mr. Lurth work on the organ at Denfeld High School.

In general, the organ is mechanically sound. That is why repairs and improvement CAN be made, but also why those same repairs and improvements SHOULD NOT be forestalled any longer. The Music Committee, therefore, strongly recommends that the congregation accept its proposal that funds be found so that work can be begun on the organ.

The congregation is growing in numbers and enthusiasm. Our organ seems to be one which is admired. It is a "romantic" organ of 4 manuals (most churches in Duluth have a maximum of 3 manuals). The cost of replacing such an instrument is very great: anywhere from \$400,000 to \$600,000. Therefore it seems to the Music Committee that an expenditure at this time of \$27,520 to repair, strengthen, and enrich this instrument would be money well spent. Philip Brunelle, noted organist, who presented a concert in Pilgrim Church last Fall under the auspices of Matinee Musicale, when told of this estimate, exclaimed, "It's a Bargain!"

*Prepared to be used at Annual Meeting, Jan. 1980, but I don't believe it was presented as the Trustees made a good case for the organ's needs. B. J. Southworth, Sec'y
5/13/81*



TOWER INSURANCE COMPANY INC.
Division of Fiduciaries, Inc.

May 24, 1982

Pilgrim Congregational Church
2310 East 4th Street
Duluth, Minnesota 55812

Re: Our Policy

TPI-7762 (MMP7-1718)

Gentlemen:

We have a Notice of Loss indicating water damage to the organ in the church. It was indicated that the water came in through a leak in the roof. Would you kindly drop me a note indicating if repairs have been made to the roof to eliminate the leaking problem. We would also like to know the approximate date when you first noticed water coming in.

Your reply in this regard will be appreciated.

Very truly yours,

Ardis McGurk
Claims Manager

ALM:mcr

1915 Waverly Avenue
Duluth, MN. 55803

November 22, 1982

Ms. Ann Anderson
UMD Department of Music
Duluth, MN. 55812

and

Mrs. Edith Livingston
2431 E. 6th Street
Duluth, MN. 55812

Re: Repairs to Moller Console
Pilgrim Congregational Church

Dear Music Committee Members:

Dan Jaeckel spoke to me several weeks ago and again several days ago. Included in the conversation, was mention of the fact that the Moller console at Pilgrim was malfunctioning in a way that is symptomatic of further failure. Late this past week I spoke to Edie Livingston about the matter. I wish to include both of you in my request for consideration to repair the Moller console.

I am an organ repairman with about eleven years' experience in the field. I know both of you to a slight degree. If you know me, you will know, also, that organ installation and repair is an avocation that I came to indirectly, through a varied background of handicrafts which I have practiced since my youth. My pipe organ projects includes repair to a number of local instruments, yours, Holy Rosary, Glen Avon Presbyterian, First Presbyterian, Hammond Avenue Presbyterian, St. Jean's Catholic, Zion Lutheran, etc., and the installation of six instruments into totally new settings, including three, three manual instruments of size larger than twenty ranks of pipes. I have installed consoles on a two manual instrument in Cloquet and a three manual instrument in Duluth. I have worked both on electro-pneumatic consoles, such as the Moller at Pilgrim, and all-electric consoles, such as Austin and Wicks. Two of the Austin consoles, which make I hold in high esteem, I have rebuilt to a considerable extent. What I wish to convey to you is the fact that I have done a considerable amount of console work on a variety of console types. I consider myself qualified to make console repairs of considerable difficulty.

I have, on one occasion, perhaps three years ago, had the side boards off the Moller console at Pilgrim. I do recall that the mechanism is complex and compact, lots of parts packed into the case.

Dan has mentioned that the breakdown of your console is related to a rebuilding of the pneumatic switches, some years ago, with a plastic membrane material. Moller was not the only company to

get caught in that mistake. I believe that most of the major builders went through a stage where plastic appeared to offer a suitable substitute for pneumatic leather which is reportedly attacked by a variety of air pollutants. Austin, I know, also has some horror stories to tell about plastic membrane material.

The point that I would make is that the plastic experience was an unfortunate one. I, for one, do not subscribe to the view that pneumatic leather is a fragile material. I have had experience with windchests and consoles that are fifty and sixty years old and have found much of the leather still serviceable. Releathering, in general, is practical and acceptably permanent. I would not condemn a console to the landfill because of a failing of pneumatic pouches.

I consider Moller to be a builder of excellent quality material. Their electro-pneumatic consoles are among the best in the industry. I would respectfully request that you reflect carefully before taking action to replace your existing console.

This past summer I toured the Moller factory at Hagerstown, Md. One of the third generation Mollers was my tour guide. In that factory I saw fifty year old consoles undergoing rebuilding and enlargement. Mr. Moller told me that the basic design of their consoles had been settled in the 1920's and that the company had been building them more or less in the same manner since that time. As an occasional rebuilder of Austin consoles, I must comment on the convenience of ordering parts in the 1980's for something that was built in the 1920's, and finding that, indeed, I could get parts. Try that with your washing machine or stove. But Moller (and Austin) can do that.

I have a present understanding, based, perhaps, on this belief that the plastic pneumatics are going bad, that your whole console was rebuilt at Moller not long ago. If that is the case, I believe that the only thing that would require service, at this time, would be the pneumatic membranes. The silver contacts could not be significantly damaged or worn after so short a period of service, if they were replaced at that time.

If you are interested in pursuing the possibility of rebuilding your present console, I would like to give the Moller factory a call to find out precisely what was done to it, -what record they have of the work. If I knew better what was done then, I could give a better opinion of the work required now.

In talking to Edie, I suggested that you might consider staged rebuilding, where the works for a particular manual or pedal division could be removed for repair while leaving other portions of the console available for continued use. I would want to explore that alternative more carefully before representing that it could be done effectively.

I would request that you consider the matter which I have discussed and that I be given permission, first to examine the console with some care, and second, to present a proposal for rebuilding the console to your committee.

Edie has suggested that your committee is meeting to consider a

proposal on Sunday, December 5, 1982. If a time for my examination of the console can be worked into a week-end or evening during the days immediately after Thanksgiving, I believe that I could have my material prepared by that time. I would sincerely appreciate an early reply from you regarding your interest in exploring this matter.

Sincerely yours,

David C. Rutford
David C. Rutford

1915 Waverly Avenue
Duluth, MN. 55803

December 11, 1982

Pilgrim Congregational Church
2310 E. 4th Street
Duluth, MN. 55812

Attn: Ms. Ann Anderson and
Mrs. Edith Livingston, Co-Chairpersons
Worship and Music Committee

Re: Pipe Organ Repair Work

Dear Music Committee Members:

I express my thanks to the committee for the opportunity to appear before you on December 5th.

On the following Monday, Dan called to convey to me several additional questions and concerns that had been discussed by committee members. I will address these in the paragraphs that follow. The points are listed as I remember them:

1. List of references
2. Comment on long-term costs (of maintenance?)
3. Consideration of on-going service agreement.
4. Consideration of written agreement (for immediate repairs? for on-going maintenance service?)
5. Repair or rebuild options?
6. Warranty period for service work.

My commentary will address these issues in its own way. I will not adhere to the strict sequence of the list. The references will be last.

As I stated to Mrs. Livingston in a subsequent conversation, the questions raised are broader than a consideration of repair of the console, alone. Dan stated to me that he would, also, be submitting his proposal. I am unclear as to the full agenda before the committee. I will address the issues as I interpret them.

Options

This item is so broad as to invite pages of discourse. Therefore, in order to set boundaries, I will ask myself, "What options am I interested in offering?"

Your congregation invested upward of thirty thousand dollars in modifications to the instrument less than three years ago. The option that makes sense to me is related to maintaining the existing mechanism so that you realize a reasonable return on your cost.

I have no knowledge about what was discussed or expected regarding the Lurth work. I observed, during the course of the project, the installation of a 16' metal diapason on the SWELL side. As I indicated at the meeting, I also see certain evidence that solid state switching has been installed on the GREAT-CHOIR side. I am looking at a copy of the dedicatory program. It suggests additions or replacements of ranks in several divisions.

Might the church have expected, also, a general rebuild of most parts of the organ for that price? Based upon (1) comments made about rebuilding costs, this past summer, by my guide at the Moller factory (2) knowledge about a ten-year-old quote for rebuilding the Skinner organ at the First Presbyterian Church in Duluth, and (3) my knowledge about how long it takes to dismantle, repair, and reassemble major organ components, my response is, "No!" I have been in the chambers of your instrument both before the Lurth work and since. I see material that is changed; I see material that is unchanged. Since I have no knowledge about the terms of your agreement, I cannot speak about value received. However, I am not surprised that maintenance work is required so soon.

Paul Moller, my guide, indicated that complete rebuilding of existing Moller instruments costs about one-half the price of a totally new organ. He also stated that a new instrument, of small size, may cost as much as about seven thousand per rank of pipes, with the price per rank dropping to about forty eight hundred dollars per rank in a large instrument. The dedicatory program lists your instrument as 54 ranks. One measure of replacement value would be 54 times \$4,800, or about \$260,000. One half of that, for a complete rebuild, is a far different dollar amount from the Lurth budget. Nevertheless, the Lurth budget was not a small amount of money.

Restated, the option I would suggest to the committee is one of maintaining the existing instrument in a good state of repair. I will define my meaning of "good state of repair" as I continue. I will also return to this matter of options.

Long-term Costs

The dedicatory program identifies the basis of your present organ as a 1915 Steere and Turner. I would, here, distinguish between the console, obviously a 1947 replacement, and the pipework and mechanism in the chambers, which I term, "the organ." Whether or not any profound rebuilding has ever been done in the chambers is unknown to me. I mean by rebuilding, the rebuilding of wind-chests, the electro-pneumatic valve mechanism and very foundation of the chambers or divisions. Upon the windchests, collectively, stand the 3,400 pipes of the organ. For that reason, if for no other, windchest rebuilding is regarded as an extreme measure.

Certain evidence suggests to me that the chests may have been rebuilt since the original installation. I have worked on several instruments from the late teens. All that I personally know about had wood electro-pneumatic magnet caps. The chests that I

examined the other day, at Pilgrim, had metal caps of a design which appears to be contemporary with magnets installed in the 1940's. The magnets are not a current Moller design. They do resemble magnets installed on parts of the Hammond Avenue Presbyterian Church organ, which material was installed, I believe, about 1951. The chests, themselves, are not recognized by me as being Moller chests, although I did not look at them with any special attention. I could suspect that the chests have not been significantly worked on for, perhaps, at least forty years.

Dan invited me to look at the total mechanism with more care, in preparation for writing this letter. (I respectfully decline. I could request my physician to look me over, and if he finds anything wrong, quote a price for the repairs.) As I explained to Mrs. Livingston, some of the disassembly and reassembly of windchests, to a certain degree, places the chests in jeopardy. If a repair is essential, the process is done, and any unintended damage is restored during the act of repairing. I do not recommend poking around in the internals as an exercise.

So, what about the long-term picture? I must draw on my experiences of repairing and installing a dozen or so instruments in the Duluth area.

At my home I have a Hall windchest that reportedly was rebuilt in 1933. It was installed in a downtown St. Paul church, with the blower located on a side room off the boiler room. For forty years that blower blew coal dust into and through the those windchests. I did no repair to that chest. I simply set it onto its frame, wired it up in about 1975, and my wife now uses it as a part of her home practice instrument. The chest is the GREAT division. It probably receives at least twice as much use, per week, as a typical church instrument, my guess is eight to twelve hours per week. The chest had one weak note when installed in 1975; the chest, with occasional cleaning of dust from the 1916 electro-pneumatic magnet caps, still has the same weak note in late 1982. The leathers in the chests of that old Hall organ have filtered so much coal dust and smoke that my finger tips peel when I work, for any length of time, with other of the materials. Yet that one chest, which was installed, "AS IS," surprises me more, each year, with its dogged reliability.

I serviced, for several years, the E. M. Skinner at First Presbyterian Church, Duluth. Electro-magnets have given trouble, and the magnet style is totally obsolete, but in that whole organ, in 1975 or '76, when I stopped servicing it regularly, only one pipe in the whole instrument was silent due to flawed pneumatic circuits in the windchest.

This past winter I serviced the Hall instrument at the First Church of Christ Scientist, Duluth. The construction details suggest to me an original construction date in the teens; it is a near copy of the Hall materials at my home. A guarantee document, installed on the organ, suggests that the organ was rebuilt in 1936. One note channel in this instrument of eighteen ranks was silent. Rebuilding of the electro-pneumatic valve box would have cost the church several thousand; the SWELL division would

have had to be totally dismantled. The smallest little tat of leather, glued by means of a long wire over the offending tear, put the whole thing back into working order. A band-aid, but seven months later it is working well, and I suspect that seven years from now it may well still be doing its thing.

But, that doesn't guarantee that the pouch right next to it may not fail in a month.

What I want you to understand, from this personal experience, is that, in my opinion, electro-pneumatic chests, in general, are tough, enduring things, but that individual electric and pneumatic circuits do fail and require repair. Unless such chests get inundated, they do not fail dramatically; -a magnet, here, a crack in the wood, there, a gasket, perhaps, and once in a great while a valve pouch.

I predict that kind of future for the chests in your existing organ.

Service Agreement and Costs

What might it cost to maintain your instrument?

First, let me define good repair. I am a repairman and not a player. I recognize that some silent notes occur in parts of the keyboard where immediate repair is essential. Other notes are used so seldom that repair can be deferred until several repairs can be done at one time. My definition of good repair does not hold that every note must play at all times. Also, your instrument has 54 ranks. That broad palette surely allows occasional non-use of a rank or two, until a number of repairs can be scheduled at once. I would like to call this approach, "practical." Your organist may disagree.

So, what would it cost?

If we were to agree that replacement in kind would cost \$200,000, and you were to think of that amount as capable of investment, say, at eight percent interest, it would earn \$16,000 per year. If you paid one-eighth of that amount per year for repairs, even one-tenth, I believe that you could keep your instrument in excellent repair for several decades or more. And meanwhile, seven-eighths of the interest on this fictitious amount could be banked with the "principal." If you decide to replace the organ, then the amount is no longer fictitious.

Immediate Repairs

I was not furnished a general list of deficiencies. I was informed about the coupler pneumatics and concentrated my attention on that matter. As I explained to committee members at the meeting, a few other deficiencies were noted, -some repaired at the time. I strongly encourage organists to write down and maintain an active list of deficiencies. They are the persons with weekly acquaintance with the instrument. Lacking such a list, I

assume that the current repairs are represented, primarily, by the failing couplers. I also have mentioned my prior knowledge that several of the reservoirs are due for repairs or rebuilding at some time in the next few years. (They have appeared to be on the verge of failure for the past four or five years.)

I can purchase the replacement pneumatics from Moller for three dollars each, plus shipping. Installed, the coupler repairs would probably cost about \$700. Each reservoir would cost about \$400 to refinish and releather. In the SWELL division are some windy leaks that do not interfere with operations but could well be regasketed or otherwise repaired, someday.

Warranty Period

Reservoir repairs I would warrant for two years, barring flood, earthquake, and fire, plus vandalism and whatever other unnatural events that the mind might conceive. Chest repairs, the repairs that I make, I would warrant for 90 days or a year, but the repairs that are warranted would be described with great care and be countersigned by a committee member. I find the warranty concept on maintaining a sixty year old instrument to be strange, but if the committee wants to furnish the witness, I would warrant the specific work done.

Service Agreement

I profoundly enjoy repair and troubleshooting of pipe organs. I would gladly enter into a written agreement for on-going service work on your instrument. However, I suspect that such agreements are rare. I cannot predict, at this time, whether or not we would successfully agree upon terms of the agreement. So much of the work is either based upon trust or becomes cumbersome to verify. I would, as an alternative, be willing to submit fairly detailed reports of what was done, even to the extent of offering plans of attack and reports upon results.

Options Revisited

I earnestly believe that your congregation could get decades of use from the existing organ, if you are willing to commit a regular budget to the work. My example of a small percentage of the potential interest earned by the existing organ's replacement cost, as an annual maintenance allotment, is useful, I believe, in establishing an order of magnitude. But having sat on church trustee and council boards and having deliberated on and heard others deliberate on maintenance budgets, I realize that maintenance is a neglected church matter. An on-going budget of a thousand to fifteen hundred a year would do wonders for preserving what you've got.

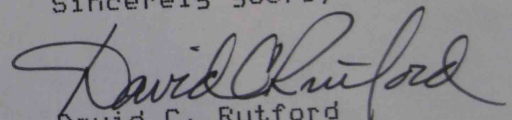
My program, the one I suggest, maintains but does not change what you've got. Whatever tonal qualities are there now would remain.

One day, of course, the organ will be replaced. Such a decision need not and should not be made as a result of needless neglect. On the other hand, perhaps that is the way that the decision has

to be forced. As a patient student and advocate of repair, however, I know that such a fate is chosen rather than inevitable.

References for my work might be gotten from the Rev. Donald Mitchell or Mr. Keith Jensen, Hammond Avenue Presbyterian Church; Mr. Curt Jackson, Community Education, Cloquet, and former choir director, Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Cloquet; the Rev. John Cedar or Mr. Floyd Johnson, First Presbyterian Church, Duluth; Mr. Robert Morton, First Church of Christ Scientist, Duluth; the Rev. David Gustafson, Peace Lutheran Church, Poplar, WI., and the Rev. Sam Buffat, Lakeside Presbyterian Church, Duluth.

Sincerely yours,


David C. Rutford

ROBERT LURTH

LURTH ORGAN COMPANY

317 RECORD STREET | telephone 388-8864 | MANKATO, MINNESOTA
507-388-8864 56001

18 JAN 83

Pilgrim Congregational Church
2310 East 4th Street
Duluth, Minnesota 55812

Please forgive the tardiness of this reply. Also, I'm sorry that I misunderstood the arrangement for our meeting. I was under the erroneous (apparently) assumption that the meeting was to be Saturday. When no one contacted me, I assumed, again erroneously, that no meeting had been arranged. Anyway, so much for assumptions.

This is what I propose as a solution to the pneumatic problem affecting the coupler problem in the console:

1. That the leaking ^{pneumatics} not be repaired but disconnected
2. That one set of contacts to each division, i.e. Solo, Echo, Swell, Great, Choir, Pedal, be mechanically set to engage the key contacts (what the pneumatics normally do)
3. That electronic couplers be used, energized by the above stated contacts. These coupler assemblies would be located remote from the console, probably in the room under the console. (it is interesting to note that this room was originally used for remote coupler action associated with the old console.)

To accomplish this, it is necessary to fabricate an "interface" between the present cable and the electronic couplers. This consists of a "spreader" strip to break the connections in the main cable to each division; a set of terminals to connect to the electronic coupling assembly; and a "driver" board consisting of transistors and associated components to re-energize the key lines to the various divisions.

If it is not desired to replace all of the couplers at once (many are still operating satisfactorily) this procedure of replacement could be done piecemeal. However, all of the "interfaces" must be installed. This will preclude any damage that might occur to the electronic portion from arcing contacts on the non-transistorized portion. (transistorized contacts will not arc) In addition, all couplers of a given group, i.e. Swell to Great 16, Swell to Great 8, Swell to Great 4, must be installed as a group. (the circuit boards are laid out this way)

COSTS:

- 1. \$250.00 per interface, plus installation
- 2. \$125.00 per coupler assembly, plus installation

Example:

If you wished to replace only the couplers now troublesome;

6 interface(Echo, Solo, Swell, Great, Choir, Pedal) @ \$250.00	=	\$1500.00
5 couplers(Choir to Great 16,8,4;Choir to Ped. 8,4) @ 125.00	=	625.00
3 days installation @ \$250.00	=	750.00
		Total \$2875.00

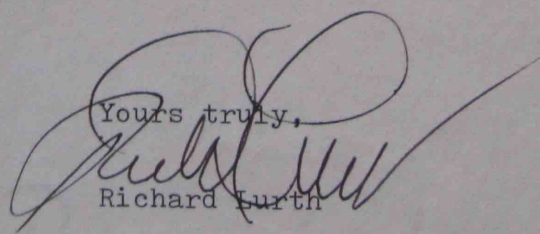
Additional couplers at similar rated; approx. 20 couplers could be installed in one day(after interfaces are in place); Minimum labor charge, regardless of number of couplers installed is \$250.00.

If these figures do not exactly agree with the figures that I gave Ben over the phone, forgive me, I gave him those on the spur of the moment. These quotes are valid for six months.

GUARANTEE AND RELIABILITY

My normal ten year guarantee applies. We have had earlier versions of these assemblies in service for over twelve years with no problems whatsoever(after intial turn on). Electronic devises tend to fail imediately if they're going to. I cannot give you a figure on expected life, but the devices are very simple and under little stress; I'm sure that you can expect a minimum of 25 years. Another feature of this system is that it would be compatible with a new console if you decide to replace it in the future, and at a considerable saving as the coupler action would not have to be included in it. Also, since it relieves the key contact of heavy current carrying duties, contact failure due to arcing is eliminated.

I would be glad to execute a formal contract if you wish. If you have any further question, or what I propose to do is not clear, I will be happy to explain further; please feel free to contact me. I may be in Duluth Mar. 6th for a recital. If I am, and if you want, it would be possible to meet sometime that weekend. Please let me know.

Yours truly,

 Richard Lurth

Ann



Pilgrim Congregational Church of Duluth

2310 EAST FOURTH STREET

DULUTH, MINNESOTA 55812

TELEPHONE 218-724-8503

ROYAL F. SHEPARD, JR., TH.D.

ELIZABETH OETTINGER M.DIV.

Ministers

March 28, 1983

PATRICIA WEIBORN

Church Secretary

Clarence Gould
J. H. Gould and Sons, Inc.
3820 Foss Road
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55421

Dear Mr. Gould;

In the late summer of 1976, you will probably recall, you rebuilt the console of our organ in your shop. This work you did included the installation of new pneumatic parts for the couplers to replace the worn leathers.

In 1946-47 you installed the new console and the leathers lasted until 1975-76, almost 30 years.

As of last spring, 1982, less than six years after your installation of the new pneumatics, the material was already deteriorating and cracking so that many couplers and related notes are now not usable again.

We have checked with other churches in the area, and although none seem to have the same type of material in the consoles that you have installed and/or serviced, they have all indicated that you follow up well on your work.

We are, therefore, requesting that you make good on this item as well, and perhaps use a more lasting material. Most organists have indicated that pneumatics in this area in organs should last 25 to 35 years easily. Ray Baker was under this same understanding from you.

May we hear from you?

Sincerely,

Ann C. Anderson, Chairperson
Music Committee

ACA:pw
cc: Chris Crockett



SHOP: (612) 781-2332
CLARENCE GOULD: (612) 633-3986
STEVE LETHERT: (612) 633-9510

J. R. Gould and Sons, Inc.

PIPE ORGAN BUILDERS / 3820 FOSS ROAD / MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55421

April 1, 1983

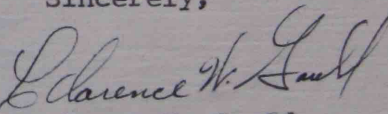
Mrs. Ann C. Anderson
Pilgrim Congregational Church
2310 East Fourth St.
Duluth, Minn 55812

Dear Mrs. Anderson: Re: Your letter of March 28, 1983

In response to your letter of March 28th concerning the pneumatic problems in the console at Pilgrim church I will state the following.

Your letter is most accurate on all counts including that we have made good on every failure of either our work or the material used. The problem you are having is do to a failure of material the the Moller company sent out a few years ago and has since proved to be very bad. In view of the fact that we seperated ourselves from the Moller company over a year ago and they do have another representative in this area I suggest that you write to the Moller company and explain your problem. Be assured they will understand the problem at once and this has been happening all accross the connty. Moller's address is Box 149 Hagerstown, Maryland 21740.

Sincerely,


Clarence W. Gould

CWG/cg

PILGRIM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF DULUTH

2310 East Fourth Street
Duluth, Minnesota 55812

April 19, 1983

The Moller Organ Company
Box 149
Hagerstown, Maryland 21740

Dear Sirs:

As chairman of the Pilgrim Congregational Church Music Committee, I am writing to you concerning the deteriorating condition of the console of our organ.

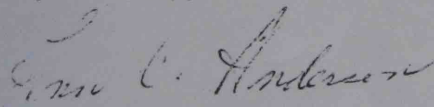
We have sent a letter of enquiry to Mr. Clarence Gould who repaired our console in 1976. Mr. Gould has informed us that he is no longer associated with your company, but that it is your company that provided the materials for the new pneumatics which are now cracking.

I am enclosing a copy of our letter to Mr. Gould and a copy of his answer.

We are most anxious to have this problem settled as quickly as possible. As you can see in our letter to Mr. Gould, we are requesting that the material used in the repair of the console be replaced by a more lasting material.

May we hear from you in the near future?

Very sincerely,


Ann C. Anderson, Chairperson
Music Committee

D. BYRON ARNESON, F.A.G.O.

15810 Hazel Road • Cleveland, Ohio 44112

Telephone: (216) 268-4005

22 August, 1983

Mr. Daniel J. Jaeckel
Pilgrim Congregational Church
2310 East 4th Street
Duluth, Minnesota 55812

Dear Mr. Jaeckel:

As a recent vacation with my family took me right through Duluth, I couldn't resist the opportunity of stopping in at your church to have another look at the building, and its organ, after not seeing it since, I believe, 1948! I was sorry not to catch you in, and I hope you will forgive my unannounced arrival.

The visit brought up memories. I substituted for Miss Rogers one Sunday in the summer of 1947 or 1948. And I came up from Minneapolis on a Sunday afternoon during the fall of 1948 to hear Virgil Fox give a recital. Virgil then drove back to Minneapolis in Ed Berryman's Cadillac, and I was a passenger therein, along with Ed's future wife, and Roberta Bailey, who later became Virgil's manager in New York. Forgive, too, all this personal drivel . . . but I assume you know the names mentioned. It was during this drive back to the Twin Cities that Virgil encouraged my interest in entering the organ business, and suggested that I write to G. Donald Harrison for summer employment with Aeolian-Skinner, between years at college. I did, and worked three summers at the Boston plant. . . a great experience.

Now, getting to your case. A brief trial of the organ allowed me to listen for air noises in the console, and from what I hear it seems the coupler pneumatics are leaking. Likely it is these that were covered with the plastic material which is now giving out. I heard no leaks in operating the combination action, so perhaps that is not affected. Recovering of the coupler pneumatics is not a great job, and coupler pneumatics can usually be done without removing the console. For such work, we would suggest you call our Moller service representative in Minneapolis, John Obermeyer. I am enclosing his business card. He is a very experienced organ service man.

Some day I would like to stop again and really have a thorough inspection of the entire instrument. If all the original Støere windchests exist, I wonder if they have had new leathers for all their primaries, pouchboards and stop actions. Indeed, if you are still on the original leather, you have really gotten you money's worth, as that would be about 60 or 70 years.

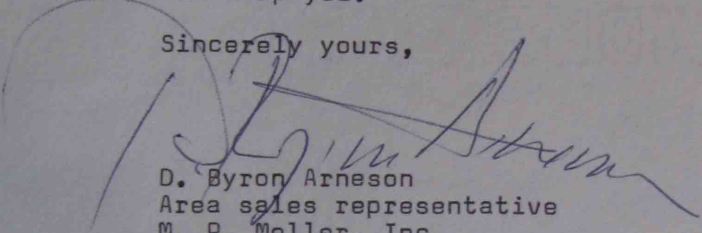
You may be interested in the large brochure I will enclose with this letter. Please refer especially to pages 14 and 15, which tell of Moller's unique in-the-factory rebuilding of older organs. Normally, Moller only consents to rebuild Moller instruments. But we do make

Sales Representative For M. P. MÖLLER, INC. • HAGERSTOWN, MARYLAND Pipe Organ Architects and Builders

exceptions with the best work of some other builders, such as the Skinners, Kimballs, etc. The Steere pitman windchest was similar to the Skinner chest, and in fact there was some connection between the two companies in the 1920's. Hence, subject to a thorough inspection of your Steere, the Moller company probably would be willing to undertake a major rebuilding and updating project, should you entertain such a program for the future. Moller's method of handling such a project is very, very thorough. We remove everything to our Hagerstown plant, and the result is virtually like a new instrument . . . in sight, sound, and operation. Needless to say, this is not inexpensive, but it is less than the cost of an all-new organ of the same size.

I get into Minnesota every month or two on business for the Moller firm, so do let me know if you would like us to make a further study of the organ at Pilgrim. It was good to see it again, and I hope we can help you.

Sincerely yours,



D. Byron Arneson
Area sales representative
M. P. Moller, Inc.

Enc

8433 QUINN AVE.
MINNEAPOLIS, MN. 55437

(612) 831-4533

John F. Obermeyer

COMPLETE PIPE ORGAN SERVICE

TUNING - MAINTENANCE - REBUILDING
CONSULTANT

Dear Mr. Lutz,

On January, 1983, you submitted a letter to Pilgrims Church concerning the price of organ repairs deemed most necessary - we are a little closer to making a decision on this and would very much appreciate it if you would send us an itemized list of exactly what organ parts could be replaced or repaired for $\$3000$, labor included - Actually I should say, all costs included -

We feel a top priority should be repairing the box

110 011 June 28 1984
beneath the organ that blows
the air into it but which
now leaks -

Thank you so much
for your help - we would
hope to hear from you at
your earliest convenience -

Sincerely,
Mrs. Thomas Kohler
Chairman, music
committee

March 11, 1984

Dear Mr. Lurtz,

Recently I wrote you concerning organ repairs at Pilgrim Church. The faulty box to which I referred is properly called the bellows, or reservoir. Would you please give us the cost of repairing this. It is most inefficient as it now leaks.

Again I thank you for your prompt reply.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Thomas Kohler

March 26, 1984

RICHARD LURTH

LURTH
ORGAN
COMPANY

317 RECORD STREET

telephone 388 • 8864

MANKATO, MINNESOTA
56001

17 MAR 84

Mrs Thomas Kohlbry
Chairman: Music committee
Pilgrim Congregational Church
110 South 36th Ave. East
Duluth, Minnesota 55804

Dear Mrs. Kohlbry,

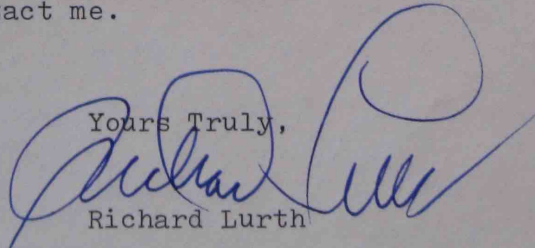
Thank you for your recent letter requesting information on the repair of the console on the organ in your church. In referring to my letter of the 18th of Jan, '83, I find that the prices quoted are still current. The couplers that would be replaced are the Choir to Great 16,8,4; the Choir to Pedal 8,4, and for the total of \$3000.00, I would install an additional two couplers. I suggest the Echo to Great and Echo to Solo, which have been troublesome.

I am not sure exactly what is meant by the "box under the organ that blows air into it". If you are referring to the air noise that you now hear coming from the console, that will be taken care of when the leaking coupler pneumatics are disconnected. If some of the regulators that control the air pressure to the various parts of the organ are now leaking, that is an entirely different matter. Please ask Ben to give you an "organ Builders" term that I can relate to and send it to me. Re-covering of regulators is \$650.00 per regulator; repair of individual corners is \$175.00 per corner.

Work could be done sometime in latter May, and would coincide with the semi-annual service trip. The normal service charge, \$250.00 would be in addition to the \$3000.00 for the special work. \$1500.00 down payment (for parts) will be required.

Again, thank you for inquiry. If I can be of any further help, please feel free to contact me.

Yours Truly,



Richard Lurth

RICHARD LURTH

LURTH
ORGAN
COMPANY

317 RECORD STREET

telephone 388 • 8864

MANKATO, MINNESOTA

56001

30 MAR 84

Mrs. Thomas Kohlbry
Chairman: Music Committee
Pilgrim Congregational Church
110 South 36th Ave. East
Duluth, Minnesota 55804

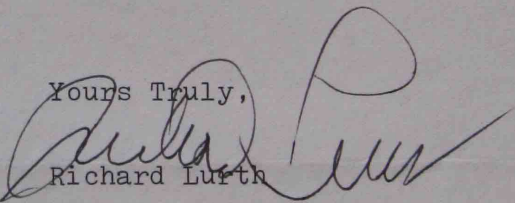
Dear Mrs. Kohlbry,

Your letter of the 27th rec'd. I have talked with Dan Jaekel and he tells me that the bottom of the "static reservoir" next to the blower, has separated from the rest of the box. If this is the case, and it is simply a matter of glue failure or joint failure due to dryness, the damage can be repaired a modest cost. If you can wait until I make my regular service call, I should think that an additional \$50.00 would cover it. Since I have not seen the problem directly, I cannot give you a firm bid, however.

The air leak, though noisy, should not cause any undue harm to anything, unless the crack is of such magnitude that most of the air is being vented rather than being supplied to the organ. I suggest that you try to effect a temporary repair by sealing with "duct tape". If you think that the damage is bad enough to warrant immediate repair, I could come up on the 16th of April, or you could have Dan Jaekel do it.

Please feel free to call me if you need further clarification or information.

Yours Truly,


Richard Lurth

**LURTH
ORGAN
COMPANY**

RICHARD LURTH

317 RECORD STREET

telephone 388 • 8864

MANKATO, MINNESOTA
56001

23 APR 84

Pilgrim Congregational Church
2310 East Fourth Street
Duluth, Minnesota 55812

After investigation of the several routes that may be taken concerning work to be done on your organ, I have the following recommendations:

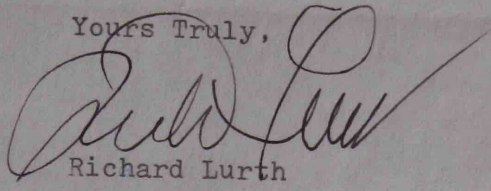
1. Retain the present blower and motor. After discussions with the people at Spencer Turbine (the mfr. of the blower) I think that it would not be economically feasible to attempt to replace the blower either with two smaller blowers of European manufacture (about \$5000.00), or to attempt to replace the present motor with a new one. The engineer at Spencer indicated that the new ones are no more efficient, are noisier, and would take 15-20 wks to manufacture at a cost of about \$2500.00. In the interest of economy, maybe your local power company would take the organ blower off of your demand meter (separate meter), or would measure the actual "in-rush" current to see what effect the blower actually has on your bill.
2. Repair the present static regulators. Contrary to what my initial reaction was to the condition of the older regulator and my recommendation that it be replaced with an "air flow regulator", I think that the regulator can be repaired satisfactorily and at less cost than replacing the unit. I will repair and refurbish both regulators for \$1050.00
3. Console: The condition (non-operation) of the console seems to be deteriorating. If the pieces of masking tape on the various controls are any indication, some very important couplers (Gt. to Ped) and some switches that allow the Echo to be played are no longer operating. I will install the before described electronic interfaces and the following couplers for \$3700.00:
Great to Pedal, 8,4
Choir to Pedal, 8,4
Choir to Great, 16,8,4
Echo to Solo manual
Solo to Solo manual
Great to Great Manual
Solo to Great manual

All of the remaining couplers/controls can be replaced for an additional \$3500.00
4. The few dead notes, tuning, etc. can be attended to at the regular service call. I would like to keep these two functions (regular service and major repair) separate. I would like to do the regular maintenance in mid May if that is acceptable to you.

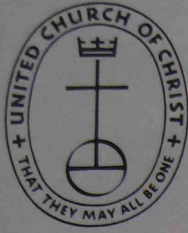
If you wish to do the entire repair project at once the cost is \$8250.00. These prices are good through the summer of '84. I will need about 6 weeks lead time and 1/3 down to complete the electronics parts that I must do in my shop. If you decided to do only the \$3700.00 part, the amt. would be \$1221.00; if you decide to go for the entire project, the amt. would be \$2376.00. The mechanical repair(regulators) will require \$250.00 down, and balance upon completion. The regular maint. trip will be at our last agreed upon figure of \$250.00 per visit, payable after the work has been done.

I hope that I have answered your concerns and not confused you. If you have other questions or need clarification, please do not hesitate to call.

Yours Truly,



Richard Lurth



PILGRIM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

2310 East Fourth Street, Duluth, Minnesota 55812 • Telephone 218-724-8503

May 5, 1984

Dear Mr. Obermeyer,

The organ at our church, a Moeller console for a Steere organ, is in need of some work. We would be very pleased if you would come and give us your recommendations.

As with many churches, our budget has definite limits. We will need to have an itemized list of the cost of repairing or replacing the most necessary things. We would also like to have your price for tuning.

Because any organ work would need to be completed during the summer, we would truly appreciate it if we could have your figures by June 1.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Thomas Kohler, Chm.

Ministers: John D. Fitzgerald and Elizabeth N. Oettinger • Music Director: Daniel J. Jaeckel • Secretary: Patricia Welborn

music comes



SHOP: (612) 781-2332
CLARENCE GOULD: (612) 633-3986
STEVE LETHERT: (612) 633-9510

J. R. Gould and Sons, Inc.

PIPE ORGAN BUILDERS / 3820 FOSS ROAD / MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55421

May 14, 1984

Mrs. Thomas S. Kohlbry
110 S. 36th Ave. E.
Duluth, Minn 55804

Dear Mrs. Kohlbry:

Thank you for your letter of May 5th concerning the pipe organ in Pilgrim Congregational church of Duluth. For over a period of twenty five years we did all the service on that organ so are quite familiar with the instrument although have heard through the organ grape vine that there have been some changes made in it but do not know what they are. We were the Moller representative in Minnesota for over thirty years but because of regressive workmanship and materials supplied by them we found it necessary to sever our connection with the company. We rebuilt the console in Pilgrim church in 1976 using Moller supplied materials and I know these materials are giving trouble and we are indeed sorry.

I will be in the Duluth area this coming Sunday afternoon as I am meeting with an organ committee on the twentieth in Superior. If you will send me a telephone number where I can reach you sometime in the afternoon I will give you a call and perhaps I can come over and meet someone at the church so I can see what the needs are at this time.

Our charges for service are sixty five dollars per hour for two men and equiped truck, portal to portal and of course when we come to Duluth which is at least ten times per year we do several jobs on each trip and this splits the travel cost with all the churchs involved.

If we can be of service may we hear from you,

Sincerely,

CWG/cg



SHOP: (612) 781-2332
CLARENCE GOULD: (612) 633-3986
STEVE LETHERT: (612) 633-9510

J. R. Gould and Sons, Inc.

PIPE ORGAN BUILDERS / 3820 FOSS ROAD / MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55421

May 23, 1984

Mrs. Thomas S. Kohlbry
110 S. 36th Ave. E.
Duluth, Minn 55804

Dear Mrs. Kohlbry:

It was indeed a pleasure to meet with you the other day and discuss the organ situation at Pilgrim congregational church. To put in writing some of the things we discussed I submit the following.

There are two items or needs that the organ has that require attention very soon ~~or~~ the organ will become unplayable. The first is the coupler pneumatic system and the second is the blower room reservoir. In 1976 we did a major reworking and recovering to the console and the only problem was we used coupler pneumatics from the Moller company as they were the people that built the console. These penumatics turned out to be very bad news and they simply must be replaced. The Mollerecompany will not back these faulty pneumatics ~~with~~ any guarantee but we will replace them all for a total consideration of five hundred dollars.

In the blower room there are two reservoirs and some ten or fifteen years ago we did completely rebuild one of these but now the other one is blown and needs to come out and be taken into the shop for a complete rebuild and reinstalled. We could do this reservoir job for a total consideration of seven hundred and eighty dollars. Both of the above prices are based on an assumption that we are in Duluth doing other work also as we couldn't do these jobs for this price if that were the only thing we came to Duluth for. However we do come to Duluth at least ten to fifteen times per year.

As for the other needs of the organ and they are indeed many, as I explained to you Sunday, I would be happy to come to Duluth and meet with the proper parties and go over the needs of the instrument and make suggestions as to how these problems might be remedied.

Trusting to be of further service to Pilgrim church we are,

Sincerely,

CWG/cg

OBERMEYER-HOFF, INC.

Phone (612) 831-4533
(612) 881-7973

8433 QUINN AVENUE
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55437

Organ Builder

• TUNING • MAINTENANCE • REBUILDING • CONSULTANT •

June 18, 1984

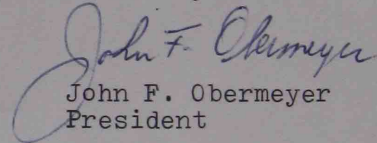
Mrs. Thomas Kohlbry
Chairperson, Music Department
110 South 36th Avenue East
Duluth, Minnesota 55804

Re: Pilgrim Congregational Church

Dear Mrs. Kohlbry,

After inspecting the organ in the above church the end of May I feel that I do not wish to submit a bid at this time. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


John F. Obermeyer
President

JFO:eld



SHOP: (612) 781-2332
CLARENCE GOULD: (612) 633-3986
STEVE LETHERT: (612) 633-9510

J. R. Gould and Sons, Inc.

PIPE ORGAN BUILDERS / 3820 FOSS ROAD / MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55421

July 27, 1984

Mrs. Thomas S. Kohlbry
110 S. 36th Ave. E.
Duluth, Minn 55804

Dear Mrs. Kohlbry:

I am indeed sorry I failed to get a letter of to you about our company guarntees and etc. before you called again. Somehow I mislaid the phone notes from our previous phone call and for me to lose phone notes is for me trouble.

Our policy for our work is, anything we build and install is 100% guarnteed for five years. Now of course if our product or work has been abused or misused or gone into malfunction due to water or fire, then of course the guarntee would not cover the equipment.

For service work why of course there has to be simply because of the nature of such work a different set of rules. WE stand behind our service work with as much guarntee as anyone could expect for service work and should the quality of our work be responsible for a malfunction we would take care of the problem without charge. However we can not be expected to be responsible for all the functions of any dvice that has several functions and we have repaired one of the functions. AS I beleive I told you when we talked, I urge you to talk with other of the churches in Duluth that we service and there are many and ask them if we have not been reasonable people to deal with.

We have had some calles since our phone conversation of the other day and it turns out that we will be in Duluth next week and I will be calling you perhaps before you get this letter to see if while we are in the area you might want us to go ahead with the work we have been talking about. I had intended to get this letter off to you yesterday but that just wasn't possible.

I'll be calling you early next week,

Sincerely,

CWG/cg

ORGAN REPAIRS

December 4, 1984

1. Solo couples to swell at lower contact point when coupler is not on.
2. Pedal principal 16' does not come on at all; for no reason, it is now working
3. Middle C (C25) on pedal is always out of tune: extra pipe(s) speaking?
or winding bad.
4. Stentorphone comes on when cancel is pushed
5. Vox Celeste comes on, at times, when cancel is pushed
6. Principal 16' comes on, at times, when cancel is pushed
7. Division switches work very hard, and require extra force to insure switching
8. After reed plenum is played, pedal trombone 16' will not shut off
9. Harmonics 32' has too many non-harmonics and is unusable
10. Choir tremulant is too strong to use for good organ literature or church music
11. Low octave of choir 8' Gedeckt is always out of tune
12. Pipe of low G# on choir 8' Gedeckt is split
13. Many notes do not play on pedal 16' Bourdon
14. One note on 16' Bourdon in pedal ciphers at random times, and is turned off at
the foot
15. Contacts on solo division or solo division stops corrode very easily and
often do not play
16. 16' Violon in Gt. causes ciphers when used, and only adds these ciphers when
notes are held on the Great division
17. A few notes of pedal 16' Violon do not play
18. Low C of Stentorphone ciphers
19. Poor voicing and tuning of choir mixture on some notes in the vital octaves
do not allow for this stop to be used
20. Poor voicing and tuning of 1 1/3 Quint on some notes in the vital octaves,
do not always allow use of this stop
21. Musette needs constant tuning
22. Piccolo 2' needs constant tuning
23. Great 2' and 2 2/3' need tuning always
24. Chimney fl. 8' around middle d, does not stay tuned -- voicing and tightness of
cap
25. Gemshorn a#23 dead

26. Gemshorn a34 and b36 over-blow
27. Swell Diapason 8' does not work
28. Choir mixture does not always play particularly with chords held on plenum registration
29. Vox humana and Vox Angelica tuning very unstable
30. Bellows leather is very thin and beginning to split
31. Gr. to Gr. 16' does not work (now ok again)
32. Many, many pipes individually speak too slowly, too quickly, too loudly, too softly or other voicing problems (unsteady)
33. Gamba Celeste - top c dead
34. Nothing for III Mixt. - g#3 - c4
35. Fifteenth dead on g#3
36. Violon Gt. 16' - c# dead, g3 - c4 nothing
37. Twelfth c#3 weak b3 - c4, weak g3
38. Piccolo dead
39. Viola 8' Cho. dead d#3, c#
40. Princ. 4' choir weak and slow g#2
41. Mixt. III choir dead C and G
42. Clarinet - b slow, g slow, low octave awful
43. Tierce - g3 dead, d#3, e3 dead, g2, d#2, e2 dead
44. Nazard f#2 weak
45. Salicional e3
46. Octave 2' - g#3, c4 dead
47. Some louvres do not work - pneumatics bad
48. Violon 16' plays on B always after organ has been off for a while and is turned on again
49. Faggot 8' - B dead
50. Sw. Trombone 16' - low octave - very slow, c# very soft

51. Vox Celeste - d3 dead
52. Only $\frac{1}{2}$ of all notes on Vox Humana (SW) play
53. Vox Humana - echo - C#, A, e3 dead
54. Muted Viol - C#, A dead
55. Viol Celeste (echo) C#, A dead
56. Fern Flute - C#, A dead
57. Clarion 4' - Ped - f# and g dead
58. Trumpet - Ped - c#, d#, f, f#1, g1, dead
59. Trombone - Ped c# dead, F very slow
60. Tuba f# dead
61. Solo - Bells do not work
62. Choir - Harp - many notes not working

Dr. Harwood:

Pursuant to your request I have been researching data on the maintenance of the organ. So far I have located the attached documents which are supplemental to each other. Although I have been through eight volumes of data I still have more sources to explore and am hopeful that some more data can be found. Meanwhile, these letters indicate that the Trustees minutes and the Music Committee minutes (which are not in my control) might be a fertile field for organ information.

Bob Smith

NG OF
REGATIONAL CHURCH OF DULUTH
1946.

ulpit at the regular church ser-
ally at the regular church ser-
egation of Pilgrim Congregational
wing the church service on August

25, 1946. Rev. John M. Phillips presided as Moderator.

Mr. Elmer F. Blu, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, made a report on behalf of the Board of Trustees with respect to the following matters:

1. Repair of the parsonage

Inasmuch as it was found impossible to rent an apartment for Dr. Phillips and his family, it became necessary to put the parsonage in proper condition for occupancy. In doing so the following expenditures were incurred:

Painting interior	\$ 440.53
J. D. Harrold, contractor	281.55
Plumbing	167.50
Painting exterior	550.00
New roof	474.00
Miscellaneous	84.33
	<u>\$1,997.91</u>

2. Repair of church roof

Because of the serious condition of the church roof, repairs were required at a total cost of \$1,483.45.

3. Purchase of corner lots east of the parsonage

In the spring of 1946 the attention of the Board of Trustees was directed to the fact that the lots east of the parsonage and on the southwest corner of 25th Avenue East and 4th Street were being offered for sale by the State of Minnesota (the State having acquired the same on account of tax delinquency) and that there was a possibility that these lots might be purchased for the construction thereon of two small residences. The Trustees were of the opinion that in view of these circumstances it

112 pages 2,3,74

MINUTES OF MEETING OF
THE CONGREGATION OF PILGRIM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF DULUTH
HELD AUGUST 25, 1946.

Pursuant to notice read from the pulpit at the regular church service on August 18, 1946 and also given verbally at the regular church service on August 25th, a meeting of the congregation of Pilgrim Congregational Church of Duluth was held immediately following the church service on August 25, 1946. Rev. John M. Phillips presided as Moderator.

Mr. Elmer F. Blu, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, made a report on behalf of the Board of Trustees with respect to the following matters:

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would be advisable for the church to purchase these lots, including the frame garage situated thereon. This was done at a cost of \$1,268.00

4. Source of funds for the above expenditures

When the above repair work to the parsonage and church was undertaken, the budget allowance for repairs was only \$2,000.00. There was also in the budget an additional \$1,000.00 for painting the interior of the church. The Board used for these repairs not only the \$2,000.00 but also the \$1,000.00 set aside for painting the church interior. The latter could not well be done until the roof was repaired. The remainder of the repairs over and above \$3,000.00 and the purchase of the corner lots have all been paid for from the general funds of the church not allocated for any other purpose. The total of these expenditures amounted to \$4,749.36.

Mr. Blu then introduced and moved the adoption of the following resolution:

"RESOLVED, that the action of the Board of Trustees in repairing the church property and parsonage as stated, in acquiring the vacant lots east of the parsonage and in making the expenditure of the sum of \$4,749.36 in connection therewith, including the use of the \$1,000.00 set aside for painting the interior of the church, be ratified and approved."

This motion was seconded by Dr. A. N. Collins and the Moderator then asked for a discussion thereof. Inquiry was made as to whether all bills have been paid. Mr. Blu replied in the affirmative. Upon a vote the motion was carried and declared adopted.

5. Church organ

Mr. Blu stated that the church organ has long needed repairs and has failed completely two or three times within the last year; that a careful study has been made by the Board of Trustees with Miss Rogers and with Mr. H. O. Iverson, representative of M. P. Möller, Inc., of Hagerstown, Maryland. The Board believes that either a piece-meal repair job can be done, which would mean that the church would still have an old organ, or that the organ can be rebuilt, in which latter event the church would have a

new organ worth \$35,000 or \$40,000, with a life of 50 years and which would be the best organ in the city. The Board of Trustees has unani- mously recommended that the second procedure be adopted and that the or- gan be completely rebuilt. This would involve a cost of \$11,050.00. Mr. Blu outlined the proposed contract with ^{Harry Oliver Iverson} M. P. Möller, Inc.), under which the first payment of 10% would be required upon execution of the contract, the second payment of 40% on delivery of the materials and the balance upon completion. Materials are available for delivery in six months and after that the job can be completed in some two or three months, thus allowing for eight or nine months within which to raise the funds. The Board be- lieves that with special gifts for this purpose spread over eight or nine months there should be no great difficulty in raising this money.

Mr. Blu then introduced and moved the adoption of the following resolution:

"RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Pilgrim Congregational Church of Duluth be authorized to enter into a contract with Harry Oliver Iverson (M. P. Möller, Inc.) for the rebuilding of the church organ at a cost of \$11,050.00, and that the Board be authorized to make a canvass for special funds with which to rebuild the organ, it being understood that gifts to the fund may be paid in cash or in instalments within the next six or eight months."

Mr. G. A. E. Finlayson seconded this motion and offered an amendment there- to that the signing of the organ contract be contingent upon the raising of the money by subscription. This amendment was then seconded. Mr. E. A. Vivian inquired whether it is planned to place a mortgage on the church and Mr. Blu replied in the negative. Mr. Finlayson then suggested that the Trustees personally underwrite the raising of the required amount. Mr. Blu stated that he could not speak for all of the Trustees but that he would be willing to underwrite his individual share if such should be the expressed wish of the congregation. Mr. Finlayson then moved a further amendment, namely, that the money be raised before the signing of the con- tract unless the Trustees individually underwrite the raising of the re- quired funds. This motion was seconded. Upon a vote on the amendment as

offered by Mr. Finlayson and as later amended by him, Mr. Finlayson's amendment failed to carry.

The Moderator then asked for a vote on the original motion as made by Mr. Blu. Upon a vote, which the Clerk reported to be 30 in favor of and 9 in opposition, the motion was declared carried and the resolution declared adopted.

There being no further business, the meeting was declared adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Howard P. Clarke
Howard P. Clarke, Clerk

At a meeting of the ... church ... following the ... as Chairman presented the report of the Committee elected June 1946 to recommend a successor to ... The Committee recommended that ...

Howard P. Clarke

William I. Miller
Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

PILGRIM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Twenty-third Avenue East and Fourth Street
Duluth 5, Minnesota

December 3, 1947.

Dear Fellow Members:

This letter is to supplement and support the communication sent to you by the Minister regarding the annual budget for 1948 and the Every-Member Canvass.

A copy of the tentative budget is enclosed for your careful perusal.

You will observe that every item is practically unchanged except the following:

(a) The amount for Religious Education has been increased because we are now paying more for a well trained director.

(b) The amount for Music has been substantially increased inasmuch as music forms such a reverent part of our service of worship. The \$800 item for the two junior choirs might well be included under Religious Education.

(c) The amount for Benevolences has been increased only by the amount that we fell short in 1946; we pledged and owe the amount of our 1946 default.

(d) The amount of \$1,000 intended to start an endowment fund, which we were unable to secure last year, has been reinstated in the current budget; this is an item which hangs heavily on my heart.

Altogether the amount to be raised by current pledges has been increased from \$26,441 to \$30,137, an increase of \$3,696.

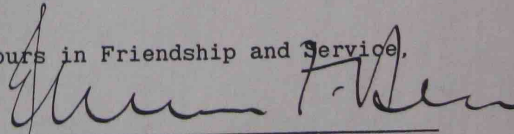
We believe that the leaks in the church structure have been eliminated; if so, the matter of decorating the sanctuary can be completed next spring; practically all of the organ material is here, and soon we shall have the best organ in the city.

The church must go forward. If it does not do so, it will not stand still, it will go backward. I bespeak for this budget, and for the captains and teams who go out to gather in the necessary funds, the fullest consideration and co-operation on your part.

Every member should fully realize that all things come from our Heavenly Father, and that in answering this call for funds we are giving Him only His own for the furtherance of the Kingdom.

Let every member do his full share toward raising this annual budget and do it with grateful hearts.

Yours in Friendship and Service,



Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

January 5, 1986

To: Organ Committee, Pilgrim Congregational Church

Re: Current Condition of the Sanctuary Organ

From: Jesse E. Eschbach, Organist

The following report may be viewed as an update to the list of defects and problems compiled by Mr. Jaeckel in December of 1984. While some items noted have been remedied, others have developed. Between the performance of the Vivaldi Magnificat and January 1, two crucial notes on the Great Division (a# and b) have gone dead, demonstrating just how rapidly the various components of the action are deteriorating.

Standard octave nomenclature is employed throughout. The report progresses division by division through the organ and ends with an evaluation of its esthetic/artistic potential.

Great

VIOLON	16:	g#3, a3, a#3, b3, c4 all dead.
DIAPASON	8:	b slow
CONCERT FLUTE	8:	b slow
OCTAVE	4:	b slow
GEMSHORN	8:	b slow
TWELFTH	2 2/3:	b slow, c#3 almost silent
FLUTE	4:	b slow, c4 almost silent
FIFTEENTH	2:	g#3 dead
MIXTURE	III:	g#3, a3, b3, c4 all dead.

Choir

GEDECKT	8:	g# dead
VIOLA	8:	d# 3 dead
UNDA MARIS	8:	a#3 needs regulation
PRINCIPAL	4:	regulation throughout
PICCOLO	2:	g3 regulation, b3 dead, c4 dead
TIERCE	1 3/5:	d#2, e2, g2, d#3, e3, g3 all dead breaks at c#3 WHY?
QUINT	1 1/3:	g#3, a3, a#3, b3, c4 c#3 tuned as c c3 breaks to 2' WHY?
CLARINET	8:	A slow, b slow
MUSETTE	8:	a#. Upper 1/2 octave - poor regulation, out of tune

Solo

GAMBA	8:	c4 dead
Gamba Celeste	8:	c4 dead
CLAIRON	4:	A, d dead
TROMPETA MAGNA	8:	F3, a dead

Swell

Salicional	8:	c# regulation (slow), e3 dead
VOIX CELESTE	8:	d3
OCTAVIN	2:	G3, g3 regulation, g#3, c4 dead
TROMBONE	16:	g# (dirt?) c#3 (dirt?)
TRUMPET	8:	A (dirt?)
FAGGOT	8:	B (dirt?)
VOX HUMANA	8:	Totally dead (all 61 pipes) Ruptured pneumatic.

or specification. U
recessed chamber.
masterpiece.
Promised by
of style
Giv

Echo

- VOX HUMANA 8: C#, A, f#3 regulation
- MUTED VIOL 8: C#, A, dead
- VIOL CELESTE 8: C#, A, dead
- FERN FLUTE 8: C#, A, dead

Pedal

- Härmonics 32: TOTALLY UNMUSICAL AND UNUSABLE. SHOULD BE REMOVED FROM THE CRESCENDO PEDAL AND SFORZANDO PISTON IMMEDIATELY.
- DIAPASON 16: 31, g1, dead
- PRINCIPAL 16: e1 dead. Often "windy" voicing.
- VIOLON 16: B, d, e, f, f#; dl, all dead.
- BOURDON 16: D#, #, F, dead.
(THIS STOP BREAKS INTO THE SOLO CLARABELLA AT c1. THE TWO STOPS HAVE VIRTUALLY NOTHING IN COMMON)
- VIOLA 8: dl dead
- CLAIRON 4: A, f#1, g, dead
- TRUMPET 8: G#, (dirt?) fl, f#1, g1 dead
- TROMBONE 16: C# very slow, F very slow, A very slow, c regulation, g# dirt?
- TUBA 16: f#, g1 dead

Solo "leaks through" to Swell manual on several notes. Division switches are awkward to manipulate.

General

The pedalboard is very used resulting in many worn areas or "depressions" on the surface of the keys. The result can be almost catastrophic even for the well-practiced organist. Virtuosity is almost impossible.

The toe studs affecting general pistons and pedal pistons have not been properly labeled since the last rebuild. Currently, pieces of masking tape identify the function of the particular piston, and these are on the verge of falling off. It is curious why suitable engraved labels were never ordered by the builder. The cost is nominal.

Remarks and Evaluation

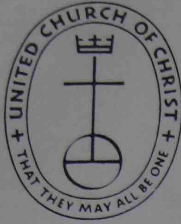
I have often heard it said throughout the musical public of the Twin Ports that the organ at Pilgrim Congregational Church represents a fine example of the so-called "Romantic" style of organ building. As a scholar of 19th century organbuilding, especially of the French school, I find such an assertion exceeding ill-founded and naive. What does an electric action instrument buried in deep chambers with thick expression shades over all divisions have in common with the 19th century style? Nothing! This can be easily demonstrated here in Duluth with a trip to Sacred Heart Church where we have at our disposal a genuine example of 19th century organbuilding, fortunately never defaced by later rebuilds. What does the 1916 instrument at Pilgrim have in common with the Felgemaker organ at Sacred Heart? Very little. One will first notice the action. The Felgemaker is mechanical (tracker) throughout, although assisted with Barker levers. The composition of the organ is based on well-founded ensembles through the mixture. Each division is balanced, and the entire instrument is encased. Wind-pressures are not forced, lending an extremely "sweet" quality to the flutes in particular. Those who contend that the Pilgrim instrument must be preserved because of its Romantic style would do well to spend several hours acquainting themselves with a genuine Romantic organ at Sacred Heart.

True, it is virtually impossible to assess the value of the original 1916 instrument at Pilgrim. To my knowledge, the church archives do not contain the original contract

or specification. However, given its placement on either side of the choir in large, recessed chambers, it is highly dubious that even the old instrument was ever a masterpiece. Whatever original quality the instrument had has been seriously compromised by successive reguilds. In short, the present organ represents a hodge-podge of styles and esthetics. It therefore has little artistic personality.

Given the serious mechanical shortcomings, the on-going cost of maintaining such an organ even if it were totally rebuilt once again, and the questionable artistic value of the specification and pipework, I recommend that the organ committee investigate the purchase of a new instrument.

* * *



PILGRIM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

2310 East Fourth Street, Duluth, Minnesota 55812 • Telephone 218-724-8503

July 16, 1986

Memo to: Choir members
Diaconate
Music Committee
Interim Minister - Dick Nelson
Secretary - Pat Welborn

From: Ted Harwood, Chair
Music Committee

Enclosed is a survey of Steve Morgan's performance of his duties as Music Director of Pilgrim Church. It is to be used as the basis of a professional review, a process which the professional staff of the church undergo periodically. The answers will be used constructively and confidentially, so express your feelings in an open manner. If you prefer to discuss this person to person, please contact one of us personally.

We would like to have the questionnaires returned to the church office by August 1, 1986. Please use the enclosed self-addressed envelope.

Please put the number of your response to each question on the line preceding the question (use the key at the bottom of this page). You may write further thoughts on the backside of the questionnaire or enclose another sheet of paper.

MUSIC COMMITTEE AGENDA
APRIL 1, 1986

I. Organ

A. Congregational Vote: 256 ballots counted (400 + *mailed out*)
204 Yes 79.6 %
34 No 13%
17 Abstentions 6.6%
1 Invalid ballot

II. New Music Director

A. Philosophical questions

1. separation of organist - choir director position

2. do we recommend a full time position ?
we will eventually need a very good organist
because of our potentially "world class"
organ.

3. the same could be said for the first question

B. Potential candidates

1. Where and how do we look

2. Ask around town
Ask Steve or Jesse E.

3. Ad in the American Organist Magazine

C. Salary

1. full time

2. part time

III. Piano

A. Which one

B. How much needs be done and why

C. ?

*not
really
answered*

(scribble)