

Remembering Our Past, Celebrating Our Future

Brief History of the Pipe Organ in the Sanctuary

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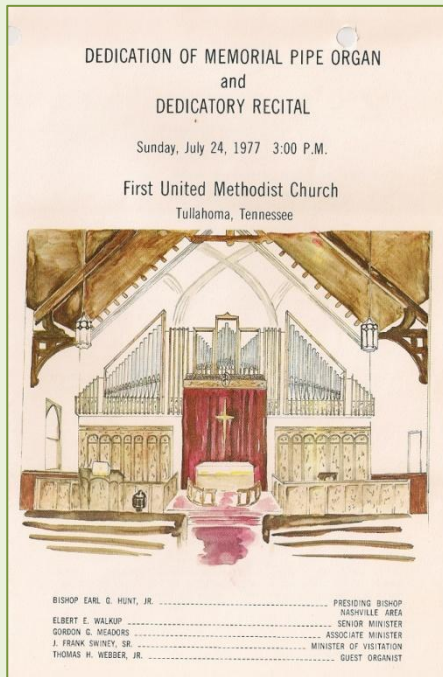


Image: Program of the Pipe Organ Dedication, 1977

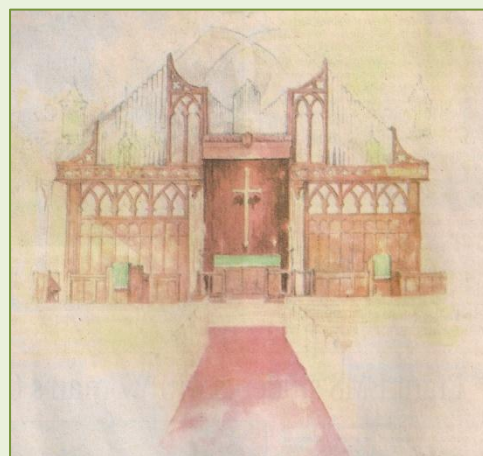
Each Sunday morning, members of the First United Methodist Church of Tullahoma have the fortunate opportunity to hear the melodious sounds of the pipe organ in the historic sanctuary.

Although the pipe organ music has become common in the traditional worship services over the years, the church sanctuary has not always had the pipe organ. It was not until 1977 that the pipe organ was installed in the sanctuary. At the time it was installed, the church did not have enough money to create a Gothic style organ façade so they developed a basic frame for the pipes.

After the pipes were installed, the church congregation held a dedication service on July 24, 1977 at 3:00 p.m. In addition to the dedication of the pipe organ, the church invited a guest organist named Thomas H. Webber, Jr. to perform a dedicatory recital.

Thirty-five years after the installation of the pipe organ, members of the congregation at FUMC Tullahoma began to make plans for a Gothic designed organ façade to replace the basic pipe frame. The design for the organ façade was made by church member Ruby Murphy.

Through the contributions of many congregation members they raised enough money and resources to create the Gothic styled organ façade. In February of 2012, the organ façade was completed and a dedication ceremony was held at the traditional worship services.



Drawing of new Gothic organ façade by Jim House