

Specifications

Pedal	Great	Positive
Praestant 16 ¹	Bourdon 16 ³	Gedackt 8
Octave 8 ²	Praestant 8 ⁴	Praestant 4 ⁴
Octave 4	Rohrflöte 8	Flute 4
Nachthorn 2	Octave 4	Octave 2
Mixture VI	Spitzflöte 4	Larigot 1 1/3
Posaune 16	Quinte 2 2/3	Sesquialtera II
Trumpet 8	Nasard 2 2/3	Scharff IV
	Octave 2 ⁵	Dulcian 8
	Gemshorn 2	
	Tierce 1 3/5	
	Mixture IV	
	Scharff III	
	Trumpet 8	

¹ Ten unpolished copper pipes located in tower to right of main casework, rest in façade.

² Ten pipes common with Gt. Praestant 8.

³ Oak, lowest ten form side columns of lower case.

⁴ In façade

⁵ Hammered metal

Tremulant to the whole organ with two speeds

Hinged bellows

Couplers: Great/Pedal, Positive/Pedal, Positive/Great

Manuals: 56 notes, C-g^{'''}

Pedals: 30 notes, C-f^{''}

Front pipes: 75% tin, burnished

All remaining metal pipes: 33% tin, planed

Tops of all covered stops are soldered fast

Zimbelstern added by Hal Gober in 2002

Our Mission Statement

Called and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we the members of First Evangelical Lutheran Church will:

Tell people about Jesus Christ,

Worship Christ together every week,

Welcome all people into our fellowship of believers, and

Provide spiritual, emotional and physical support for all people in need.



REV. DR. LINWOOD H. CHAMBERLAIN, JR., Co-Pastor
 REV. JIMMY W. MADSEN, Co-Pastor
 BRIAN WENTZEL, FAGO, Director of Music

Rev. Ben Wilson, Missionary in Ghana
 Rev. Robert A. Boettger, Pastor Emeritus
 David Boe, Director of Music Emeritus

603 Washington Ave.
 Lorain, OH 44052
 440-244-6286

www.FirstLutheranLorain.org

THE ORGAN at

First Lutheran Church



John Brombaugh
 Opus 4

“An instrument of exceptional historic merit”

The Organ at First Lutheran Church



An Instrument of Exceptional Historic Merit

First Lutheran is home to a magnificent and historic pipe organ, John Brombaugh's Opus 4. In 2011, it received a Historic Organ Citation from the Organ Historical Society, recognizing it as "an instrument of exceptional historic merit."

Significance

First Lutheran's Brombaugh pipe organ is significant largely because of its firsts: the first to re-employ in America historical techniques such as flexible winding, unequal temperament and hammered pipes, and the first large instrument that John Brombaugh built.

On Brombaugh's significance as an organ builder, Homer Ferguson's 2008 dissertation on Brombaugh's life and work states:

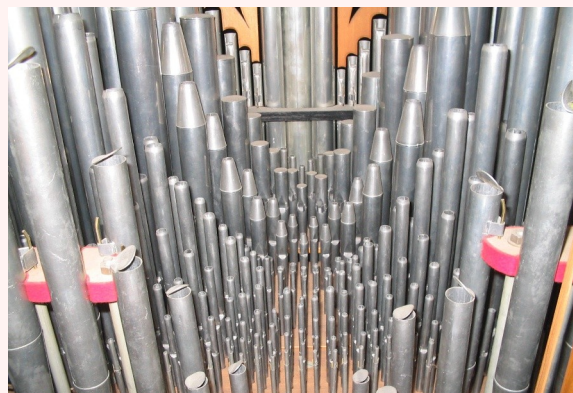
"His methods of construction revolutionized American organ

building in the twentieth century. Brombaugh organs have been influential to both organ builders and organists, defining many aspects of the historically informed American organ in the late twentieth century. Despite the relatively small number of instruments by Brombaugh, his impact on the field has been enormous."

Michael Barone, the host of the national radio show *Pipedreams*, remembers hearing this organ for the first time:

"My memory of Opus 4 was "wow." The sound was vivid, live, colorful, exciting. The action was amazingly fluid, communicative and light. Anyone who heard or played that organ understood that something important was happening at First Lutheran."

People came from all over to see and hear the organ. Through these visits, and through Brombaugh's other instruments and the organ builders he influenced, Brombaugh's ideas have spread widely. Many of the technical details that were first tried out at First Lutheran are now relatively common. At the time it was built, this was quite an experimental organ, but now you can find similar instruments throughout the United States.



History

By 1962, when David Boe was hired as Director of Music, the 1924 Möller organ was failing. Also in the mid-60's, John Brombaugh was apprenticing with organ builder Fritz Noack, and had built a small organ in his spare time for Trinity Lutheran Church in Ithaca, New York. David Boe played the dedication recital for that organ in November 1966. He was impressed, and in September 1967, the congregation voted unanimously to purchase an organ from Brombaugh.

Just two months after the contract was signed, Thelma Melin Schumann of Cleveland visited the church unannounced and told the pastor that she wanted to give some money in memory of her parents. When told about the new organ, she immediately pledged more than half of the total cost.

Mr. Brombaugh set up his shop in Middletown, OH, and began work on the organ in early 1968. In April 1970, the organ was shipped to Lorain, and began to be constructed in the back of the sanctuary. The dedication service and recital were held on June 21, 1970. The church newsletter called it "one of the most joyous days in the history of First Lutheran Church."