

Five Wounds Portuguese National Church

1375 East Santa Clara Street, San Jose, CA

Kimball Organ, ~1906

11 Ranks, 11 stops, 640 pipes

<https://fivewoundschurch.org/fwc/>





Console
Exposed Great Principle



Crescendo Indicator and Wind Supply Indicator



ORGAN SPECIFICATIONS

Grand Orgue	Pipes	Swell (Expressive)	Pipes	Pedal	Pipes
1. 8' Open Diapason	61	6. 8' Salicional	61	11. 16' Bourdon	30
2. 8' Melodia	61	7. 8' Stopped Diapason	61	Great to Pedal	
3. 8' Gamba	61	8. 8' Violin Diapason	61	Swell to Pedal	
4. 8' Dulciana	61	9. 4' Harmonic Flute	61		
5. 4' Principal	61	10. 8' Oboe & Bassoon	61		
		Tremolo			
Swell to Great		Foot Pedal Presets		Indicators	
Swell to Great Octaves		Soft Swell and Full Swell		Crescendo Level	
Great Super Octave		Soft Great and Full Great		Wind Supply	

The actual known history is quite sketchy! I can only find that it went from the Kimball factory in Chicago, around 1906 (the middle years this particular model was made) to a place (church assumedly, though could be large funeral home too) in Sacramento as that city name is pencil written largely on most components in florid script writing! No church name or actual year is listed anywhere. There are patent date stickers for those established to the assumed built date.

I read where a gentleman of the Portuguese Tribune learned from a parishioner/priest back in 2005 that it was purchased from a “Baptist” church in Stockton. I however, have no proof of this in any way.

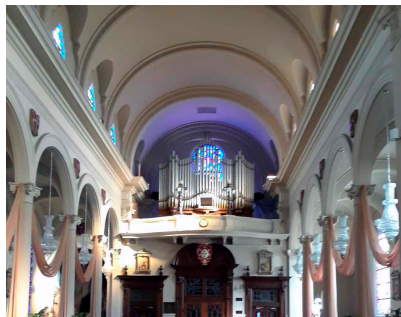
The Organ Historical Society does show other Kimball organs from this vintage with most similar stop lists and visual appearance. I have reviewed those on their website. Five Wounds made that purchase from wherever around 1929 or 30. What they had prior to that is anyone’s guess. Maybe a reed organ!?

Roger Inkpen

03 March 2019

Article from the AGO San Jose Chapter April 2019 Newsletter

-1906 Kimball Organ at the Five Wounds Portuguese National Church



On **2 March 2019** at **3-5 PM** we were able to play and go inside the **~1906 Kimball 11 rank pipe organ** at the **Five Wounds Portuguese National Church**, at 1375 East Santa Clara Street, San Jose. **Roger Inkpen** of Newton Pipe Organ Services, Sunnyvale, has restored this very unique pipe organ and it is now fully functional. This event was a joint event with the Palo Alto/ Peninsula Chapter.

Roger gave a talk describing the history of organ and the work that was required to restore it. Roger explained all of the detail required to re-leather the bellows and wind chests. He also described how the Tubular Pneumatic action work and hose all of the controls worked. Near the end of his talk, he demonstrated each of the 11 ranks. Then approximately four of five AGO members then played while the rest of us examined the instrument, inside and out.



Jin-Kyung Lim said, “I played excerpts from a couple of Bach organ works, Fantasia and Fugue in G minor, Toccata, Adagio and Fugue in C Major (Pedal solo and the introduction of the Toccata), and Mendelssohn (the last movement of the first sonata). Those were

fragments from her memory.” Approximately thirty members from the two chapters attended. We all had a great time.

To obtain a sense of the tonality and acoustics of this grand space listen to Eleanor Muhawi’ recital at this church on YouTube at https://www.youtue.bcom/watch?v=TkCw5dE9j_c

We thank Roger Inkpen of the Newton Pipe Organ Services for hosting this event and the excellent talk he gave about the organ. We also thank the Church Officials of the Five Wounds Church for their sponsorship of this event.

Organ Details

The organ is in the back of the Chapel approximately two stories up (see the first picture). The console (picture 2) is attached to and centered in the organ case. The Swell chamber is to the upper left, the Great chamber is to right, and the pedal pipes are in the back of the organ case on the right side. The exposed pipes are Diapason pipes with only 12 speaking pipes (bottom 12 of the 8' Diapason stop) and the rest are display pipes. The space under the Swell chamber is occupied by the double-rise and double-pressure wind regulator (about the size of a pool table).

Organ Specifications – 640 pipes

Grand Orgue		Swell	Pedal (30 notes)
8' Open Diapason		8' Salicional	16' Bourdon
8' Melodia		8' Stopped Diapason	
8' Gamba		8' Violin Diapason	
8' Dulciana		4' Harmonic Flute	
4' Principal		8' Oboe & Bassoon	
Couplers	Sw. to Ped	Gt to Ped	Gt Super Octave
Couplers	Sw. to Gt	Sw. to Gt Octaves	
PreSets	Soft Great	Soft Swell	
	Full Great	Full Swell	

Swell Expression Pedal **Crescendo Pedal**

Indicators: Crescendo Level and Wind Supply

Wind Pressures: 4 inches for the pipes, 6 inches of the actions.

The Tubular Pneumatic Action

This organ takes up only 400 square feet of floor space. This organ is unique as the interface between the console and the wind chests is a pneumatic tubular action. In this action, a pressurized tube of air (pressure of 6 inches) connects the key to a pneumatic motor under the pallet in the wind chest. When the key is pressed, air is exhausted from the tube which then operates the pneumatic motor, opening the pallet allowing wind chest air to enter the pipe. These pneumatic tubes are made from quarter inch lead tubes. The coupler mechanism is a set of wind valves that will connect the various control tubes together. The following figure shows the mechanism in the wind chest.

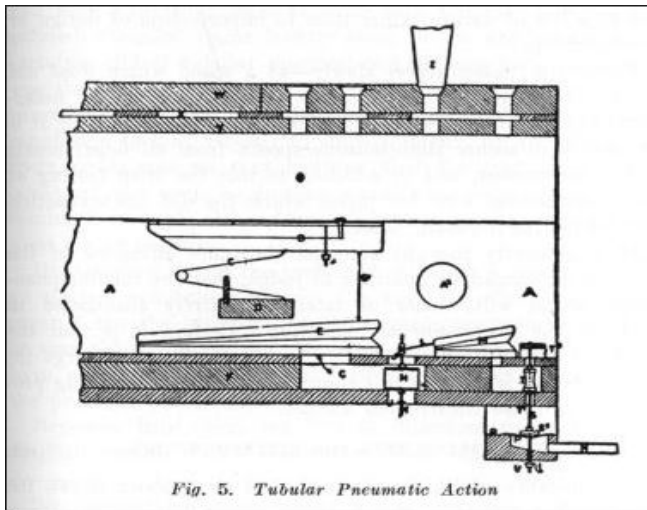


Diagram showing the two wind motors in the wind chest to open the pallet. In this mechanism the control tube is pressurized to open the small valve which collapses the small bellows which opens the next valve which collapses the larger bellows opening the pallet. The control tube between wind motor and the key is attached to the small tube shown in the lower right corner. In the Kimball organ there is only one wind motor, which collapses when the control pressure is exhausted.



Back of the keyboard – Many of lead tubes ($\frac{1}{4}$ inch diameter), approximately 165 tubes, from the coupler mechanics to the wind chests; large bellows (with 3 white strips of leather), wooden rod (with green on it) controlling the crescendo level.

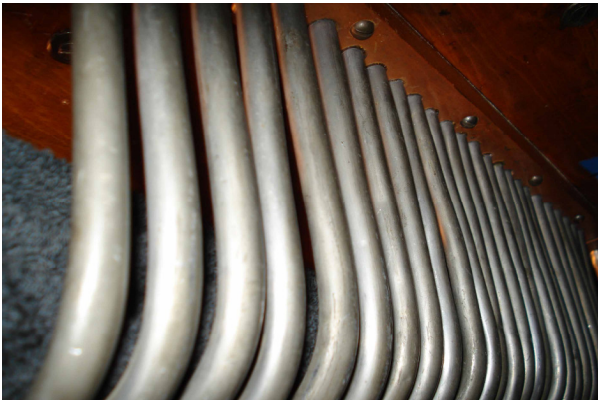


Photo showing a set of note tubes from the primary action going up into the Great chest bottom board.

The original organ was hand pumped. The console has a wind supply indicator on the console to alert the organist how much wind he has so he could tell if he could add additional stops. The organ now has a $1\frac{1}{2}$ horse power electrical blower that can supply plenty of wind for full organ.



Crescendo Level Indicator (left) and Wind Supply Indicator.



Back of the keyboard – Tens of lead tubes going to the Swell Chamber. 🎵