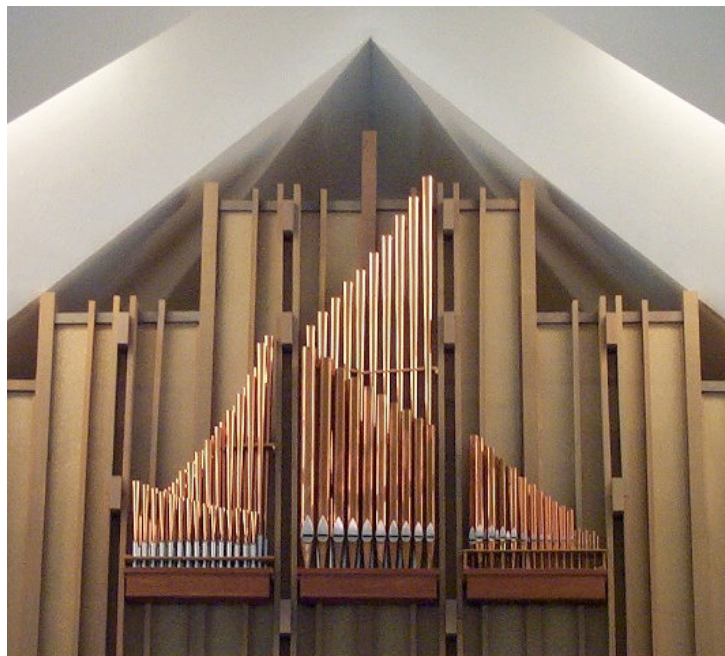


**Messiah Lutheran, Santa Cruz**  
**801 High Street, Santa Cruz**  
**Autsin Organ, Opus 2130, 1949 with Additions**  
[www.messiah-lutheran.us](http://www.messiah-lutheran.us)



**Organist:** Colin Whitby-Stevens  
 18 Jan 2011

### ORGAN SPECIFICATIONS

**Great**

- 16 Contra Gemshorn
- 8 Open Diapason
- 4 Octave
  - Doublet II
  - Sesquialter III
- 8 Harmonic Flute
- 8 Gemshorn
- 8 Dolce
- 8 Unda Maris
- 4 Nacht Horn
- 8 Lorna's Pfeiffen
  - Great to Great 4
  - Swell to Great 16
  - Swell to Great 8
  - Swell to Great 4
  - Tremolo (non-operative)

**Swell (Expressive)**

- 8 Geigen
- 8 Melodia
- 8 Gamba
- 8 Voix Celeste
- 4 Fugara
- 4 Chimney Flute
- 2 Fifteenth
  - Mixture II
- 16 Contra Oboe
- 8 Trumpet
- 8 Oboe
- 4 Clarion
  - Swell to Swell 16
  - Swell to Swell 4
  - Tremolo
  - Chimes

**Pedal**

- 16 Open Diapason
- 16 Violone
- 16 Bourdon
- 8 Octave
- 8 Flute
- 4 Choral Bass
- 16 Trombone
- 8 Tromba
- 8 Lorna's Pfeiffen
  - Great to Pedal 8
  - Great to Pedal 4
  - Swell to Pedal

## OUR AUSTIN ORGAN

### History

Opus 2130, a two manual 29 rank organ was built in 1949 by the Austin Organ Company for Saint Paulus Evangelical Lutheran Church in Oakland, California. The design of the instrument was said to be inspired by the English organ building tradition.

Messiah Lutheran Church in Santa Cruz, California acquired the organ in 1974. The installation was overseen by John West, a long-time California organ technician and builder.

The layout of the organ had to be altered to fit the available space. Originally the 16' open diapason was on top of the chambers, It was relocated behind the great and swell chambers and the pipes were layed horizontally. Also, the Austin Universal Windchest needed to be shortened. A new facade was constructed.

John West installed one of his trademark Zimbelsterns based on a 33/45 rpm record player.

The dedication service was in early March of 1975. Grace Cathedral Assistant Organist John Renke played and opened the service with Bach's Prelude and Fugue in C Major and closed with the Prelude on "Rhosymedre" by Ralph Vaughan Williams. A special work, Verbum Supernum (The supernal Word goes forth) was commissioned for the occasion and was composed by Dr. Donald Jennie of Iowa State University. Dr Jennie dedicated the piece in joyful memory of his father (1887-1971). His mother, Catherine, was a member of the congregation.

The decade of the 1970s was a period of reform in American organ building. To that end a 4' Choral Bass was added to the pedal division by John West. This addition was funded by monies from the memorial fund of Pastor Johnson's Mother. The rank was dedicated August 7, 1977. Long time members state that John West also re-voiced the pipework to give it more of a "baroque" character although recent inspections by an Austin representative dispute this claim.

On October 12, 1980 a rank of trumpet pipes was added to the facade, again by John West. This rank was called "St Lorna's Pfeiffen" and was given in honor of Lorna Smith who had served over 65 years as a church organist. She was Messiah's assistant organist at the time of the dedication.

In the 1980's, the expression shades were removed from both the great and swell chambers in order to get "more sound" out of the organ.

In the 1990's the altar and nave of the church were remodeled and much carpeting was added decreasing the impact of the organ in the room.

In the early 2000's the expression shades were replaced in the swell chamber.

The organ is currently monitored by John Haskey. Tunings and repair are handled by Hupalo & Repaskey Pipe Organs, LLC of San Leandro California.

### Donors

The fund to purchase the organ was started with a generous gift from Werner and Lois Jasper. Other gifts of money and labor were donated by members of the congregation. The instrument is dedicated to the Glory of God and in memory of loved ones.

This Austin has a "**Universal Windchest**". There is actually room for several people to be **inside** the chest in this organ. The chest is compact (you have to lay down to fit inside) other versions of Universal Windchests were tall enough that a person could stand up inside. You can actually enter the chest, close the hatch and then have someone start up the blower and watch the mechanisms as they operate.