

# Casavant Frères



## ***Red Wing, Minnesota — First Presbyterian Church***

Two manuals and pedals, 19 stops, 23 ranks  
Detached movable tablet console, compass 61/32  
Electro-pneumatic action  
Opus 3847, 2005  
Photographs: Tom Erickson

The congregation of First Presbyterian Church in Red Wing traces its history to 1848 when members began worshiping together as a church. The group incorporated on January 13, 1855 and built a church two years later. Unfortunately a fire destroyed the 1857 building on May 24, 2002. Until then, the building had been recognized as being the oldest church in continuous use in Goodhue County.

Discussions regarding building a new organ began at the same time that the architectural plans were being developed. The new organ occupies a central position at the back of the chancel similar to the pipe organ that was destroyed in the fire, as did the congregation's first pipe organ, built in the nineteenth century. The new instrument has rift-cut oak casework designed with Gothic details that were taken from the tracery of one of the church's large stained glass window that sustained major damage in the fire. Colors used for the polychrome detailing of the moldings and in the acoustically transparent areas behind the quatrefoils in the front of the case were taken from colors found in the same window. Other woodwork details include significant moldings, raised field paneling at the base and grooved panels on the two upper side walls that replicate the style of vertical wood paneling in the wainscot. The top of the case has decorative Gothic cresting at the front and sides. The Gothic arched mouths of the façade pipes are highlighted in gold.

The intimate space did not require a large instrument or one with significant power. What was needed was an organ with rich color and resources for use in the variety of roles that the instrument is called to fill. In order to provide the instrument with considerable flexibility for a two manual instrument, both manual divisions are expressive. Since the normal open position of expression shades on Casavant organs is ninety degrees, there is no obstruction to the sound of the division, therefore the expression enclosure functions in the same manner as an organ case when the expression shades are in the open position. The organ façade is drawn from the two eight-foot principal stops in the Great and Pedal divisions. The center section of the case contains the pipes from the Pedal Principal 16', the lowest pitches of which are open wood pipes that are mounted horizontally on the top of the organ case behind the decorative woodwork.

<b>Great Organ</b>		<b>Swell Organ</b>	
Bourdon (Ext.)	16	Major Flute	8
Principal	8	Viole de gambe	8
Chimney Flute	8	Voix céleste (TC)	8
Flûtes Célestes II	8	Principal	4
Octave	4	Spindle Flute (Ext.)	4
Open Flute	4	Doublette	2
Nazard (TC)	2-2/3	Quint	1-1/3
Italian Principal	2	Bassoon (Ext.)	16
Tierce (TC)	1-3/5	Trompette (Great)	8
Fourniture II-IV	2	Oboe	8
Bassoon (Swell)	16	Tremulant	
Trompette	8	Swell 16', Unison Off, Swell 4'	
Oboe (Swell)	8		
Tremulant			
 <b>Pedal Organ</b>			
Resultant	32		
Principal	16		
Bourdon (Great)	16		
Principal (Ext.)	8		
Chimney Flute (Great)	8		
Octave	4		
Spindle Flute (Swell)	4		
Bassoon (Swell)	16		
Trompette (Great)	8		
Oboe (Swell)	4		

