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First Baptist Church Building History &  
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First Baptist Church (Shelby, NC)

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1971

### 1971 Organ (1911 Instrument) Report

First Baptist Church Shelby

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## REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION OF THE ORGAN COMMITTEE

Our present organ was built by the Moller Organ Company and installed in 1911 at a cost of \$5,000. With regular maintenance it has served us well. This organ has 15 ranks and was originally built to serve this sanctuary, which at the time was half the size it is now.

To preserve the uniqueness of this instrument a family in our church has pledged funds to cover the entire expense of rebuilding nine ranks which will be moved to the Webb Chapel. The organ will have a new organ guarantee. The completion of this project is February 1, 1972.

From the beginning and throughout our study our committee depended heavily on the advice and leadership of our organist, Mrs. H. S. Plaster. We also sought the opinions of other experts such as Samuel W. Shanko, instrumental consultant of the Baptist Sunday School Board. After a complete study he recommended that the present organ not be rebuilt for the new sanctuary but suggested that it would serve satisfactorily in the chapel. He recommended we purchase a new organ for the sanctuary.

We felt the need for additional technical expertise to serve on a long term basis and the church in conference employed Dr. H. Max Smith of Appalachian State University as organ consultant. His findings concurred with that of Mr. Shanko. Dr. Smith will continue his work with the architect and organ builder until the project is completed.

Five major organ builders and two independent builders were sent specifications and requested to submit a bid. The lowest bid was \$59,000 and the highest was \$77,000. The major builders were Austin, Casavant, Moller, Reuther, and Shantz. The independent builders were Lewis-Hitchcock and Zimmer. The committee members and ex-officio members visited various churches in neighboring cities and heard these organs. Dr. Smith performed on each instrument using as nearly as possible the specifications proposed for our organ. He explained in detail the different kinds and quality of materials and craftsmanship in each instrument.

Our present Moller Organ has functioned in a superior way for 60 years and no repairs have been made because of inferior work or materials. The new Moller organs have sounds similar to our present instrument yet offer color and brightness of a character not found in other makes of pipe organs. Because of these findings we are recommending that we purchase a Moller Pipe Organ. This organ will have 44 ranks and 2,103 individual pipes. We also suggest that as many pipes as possible be exposed as not to obstruct the sound. This instrument will be designed and custom built for our sanctuary. The completion date is June 1, 1972.

We urge the adoption of the below recommendations because this action will allow the Moller Organ Company sufficient time to complete the installation of the organs in cooperation and coordination with the rest of the building program. It will further avoid a price increase above the stated bid price, which has been announced for November 12. THE 10% DEPOSIT REQUIRED FOR CLOSING THE CONTRACT IS GUARANTEED REFUNDABLE IF THE CONTRACT IS CANCELLED BEFORE NOVEMBER 12.

After months of critical and prayerful evaluation, your organ committee with the unanimous concurrence of the board of deacons, recommend the following:

1. *That we purchase for our sanctuary the Moller Pipe Organ herein described at the bid price of \$62,725.*
2. *That we commission the Moller Organ Company to move our present organ to Webb Chapel and rebuild as is herein described at a cost of \$9,330.*

I move the adoption of these two recommendations.

C, J. Hill

Organ Committee     Mrs. Michael LeCroy  
                             Mrs. Gene Watterson  
                             Ned Bost  
                             Dr. Blake McWhirter

Ex-Officio Members Mrs. H. S. Plaster  
                             Lloyd Bost  
                             J. A. West,  
                             Rev. Gene Watterson  
                             Rev. Roland Leath  
                             Van H. Ramsey

*Appalachian*

STATE UNIVERSITY

Boone, North Carolina 28607

Honors Program  
Office of the Director

September 15, 1971


Mr. Van Ramsey  
First Baptist Church  
Shelby, North Carolina

Dear Van:

The organ which has been designed for the First Baptist Church in Shelby, North Carolina, will be a flexible organ, planned uniquely for the purposes of its use in this church. It is not intended as a historical instrument, but one which will be capable of sounding the organ literature from every period in the history of church music. The voices of this instrument will employ the full tonal range as well as the color spectrum of the various qualities of sound. The organ will be capable of producing very quiet sounds as well as sounds of restrained grandeur and brilliance.

The primary function of a church organ is to lead congregational singing. This has been provided by various pitch ranges rather than by a force or blast of sound. The congregation will be able to hear the organ while singing without being overpowered by it. Other functions provided by this organ will be to accompany the choir and soloists, to provide adequate voices for playing organ preludes, postludes, etc., and to be capable of the demands of organ recitals. This organ will function admirably for the many requirements of a church organ without being lavishly extravagant and costly.

Sincerely,



H. Max Smith, Director  
Honors Program

HMS: jab

**M.P.MÖLLER.INC.**

**SPECIFICATIONS**

**OF**

**THREE MANUAL PIPE ORGAN**

**FOR**

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**

**SHELBY, NORTH CAROLINA**

# M. P. MÖLLER. INC.

**MANUALS:**           Compass CC to C4, 61 notes  
**PEDALS:**           Compass CCC to G, 32 notes  
**ACTION:**           Moller's electro-pneumatic  
**CONSOLE:**         Detached. Stops and couplers by drawknobs. Imported  
                       ivory keys. 4 oz. key touch. Black shanks.  
**PITCH:**            A-440

## GREAT ORGAN

### Exposed

Principal	8'	61 pipes
Bordun	8'	61 pipes
Octave	4'	61 pipes
Super Octave	2'	61 pipes
Mixture (1-1/3')	IV Rks	244 pipes
Trompete	8'	61 pipes
Chimes (Existing tubes, new action)		

## SWELL ORGAN

### Expressive

Rohrflöte	8'	61 pipes
Viole	8'	61 pipes
Viole Celeste (T. C.)	8'	49 pipes
Principal	4'	61 pipes
Flachflöte	2'	61 pipes
Scharf (1')	III Rks	183 pipes
Regal	16'	61 pipes
Trompette	8'	61 pipes
Schalmei	4'	61 pipes
Tremulant		

## CHOIR ORGAN

### Expressive

Holzgedackt	8'	61 pipes
Erzahler Celeste	II Rks	110 pipes

# M. P. MÖLLER, INC.

## CHOIR ORGAN - continued

Koppelflöte	4'	61 pipes
Principal	2'	61 pipes
Sesquialtera (T. C.)	II Rks	98 pipes
Zimbel (2/3')	III Rks	183 pipes
Krummhorn	8'	61 pipes
Carillon (existing Schulmerich)		
Tremulant		

## PEDAL ORGAN

Subbass	16'	32 pipes
Rohrgedackt	16'	12 pipes
Principal	8'	32 pipes
Rohrflöte	8' (Swell)	
Choralbass	4'	32 pipes
Mixture (2')	III Rks	96 pipes
Posaune ( $\frac{1}{2}$ L)	16'	32 pipes
Clarion	4'	24 pipes

## COUPLERS

Great to Pedal 8'

Swell to Pedal 8'

Choir to Pedal 8'

Swell to Great 8'

Swell to Great 4'

Choir to Great 8'

Swell to Choir 8'

Swell 16'

Swell Unison Off

Swell 4'

# M. P. MÖLLER, INC.

## ADJUSTABLE COMBINATIONS Moller's In-Console Capture System

Pistons No. 1-2-3-4	Affecting Great
Pistons No. 1-2-3-4	Affecting Swell
Pistons No. 1-2-3-4	Affecting Choir
Pistons No. 1-2-3	Affecting Pedal
Pistons No. 1-2-3-4-5-6	Affecting Full Organ
General Cancel	
Setter Piston for combinations	

### PEDAL MOVEMENTS

Great to Pedal Reversible  
Swell to Pedal Reversible  
Choir to Pedal Reversible  
Tutti Reversible  
Balanced Expression Pedal - Swell Organ  
Balanced Expression Pedal - Choir Organ  
Balanced Expression Pedal - Schulmerich Carillon  
Balanced Crescendo Pedal

### ACCESSORIES

Concave, radiating pedal clavier  
Organ bench with music shelf and blocks for height adjustment  
Crescendo indicator light  
Tutti indicator light  
Light for music rack  
Light for pedal clavier  
Motor, blower and action power unit of ample capacity  
Momentary contact starter switch



# M. P. MÖLLER. INC.

## GENERAL

Final layout of exposed pipework to be determined in consultation between church, architect and organ builder.

The organ is to be tone-finished in the church by the head factory finisher.

PMY/mly  
7/6/71  
Revised 9/14/71

M.P.MÖLLER.INC.

SPECIFICATIONS

OF

TWO MANUAL PIPE ORGAN

FOR

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH - CHAPEL

SHELBY, NORTH CAROLINA

## M. P. MÖLLER. INC.

**MANUALS:** Compass C<sub>2</sub> to C<sub>4</sub>, 61 notes  
**PEDALS:** Compass C<sub>2</sub> to C<sub>4</sub>, 32 notes  
**ACTION:** Moller's electro-pneumatic  
**CONSOLE:** Detached. Steps controlled by tilting tablets.  
**PITCH:** A-440

### MANUAL I

Rohrflöte	8'	61 pipes
Dolcan Celeste	II Rks	61 notes
Principal	4'	61 pipes
Rohrflöte	2'	7 pipes
Mixture	II Rks	61 notes
Chimes		(console only)

### MANUAL II

Rohrflöte	8'	61 notes
Dolcan Celeste	II Rks	110 pipes
Rohrflöte	4'	12 pipes
Principal	2'	12 pipes
Larigot	1-1/3'	30 pipes

### PEDAL ORGAN

Gedeckt	16'	12 pipes
Rohrflöte	8'	32 notes
Principal	4'	32 notes

### PEDAL MOVEMENTS

Balanced Expression Pedal - All pipework

### ACCESSORIES

Consave, radiating pedal clavichord

Organ bench with music shelf

Low profile contemporary console

M. P. MÖLLER. INC.

ACCESSORIES - continued

Motor, blower and action power unit of ample capacity

Momentary contact starter switch

Console finish to match sample submitted by church

PMY/mly

7/6/71

Revised 9/14/71