

Lance Luce - First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, Rochester, Michigan



First Congregational Church
Rochester, Michigan

Allen Organ,
Model Q325c with

MIDI Vista and 4 ranks of pipes. There are 6 voicing suites and 7 audio channels. There are also antiphonal speakers in the rear of the sanctuary. The main speakers are nestled up with the pipes and are not visible from the congregation's view point.



First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, is the oldest Congregational Church

in Michigan and the first church in the city of Rochester, Michigan. It was founded August 1, 1827, when Reverend Isaac W. Ruggles of the Missionary Society of Connecticut met with ten people in a log building on South Rochester Road.



The church has come a long way since its founding. They have grown and expanded through the years and again recently by adding a new sanctuary with a contemporary design. The new sanctuary incorporates many interesting

Pictures from the organ dedication program. Johnny Kash was the guest organist. He and Kathie Bowden performed solos as well as some piano and organ duets. It was an excellent program enjoyed by a large audience.





design elements including glass skylights from below as well as above in order to take advantage of the natural light available. The new and modern concept called for the



latest in technology for sound, lighting and a new state of the art organ.



Kathie Bowden, long time organist at the church, along with Music Director Alan Lollar and Pastor David Wheeler made up the organ search committee. Their old organ, a

2 manual Rodgers, was experiencing re-occurring service problems which included breaking key contacts causing notes to stick. This problem, along with poor sound quality, caused the committee to determine to find the best replacement for the old instrument.

The Following pictures were taken with a camera phone, so the quality is not as good. The 4 ranks each have their own cable run from the chest to the interface.

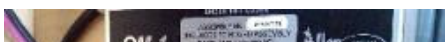
The 4 ranks of pipes that were attached to the old organ, however, still had good sound



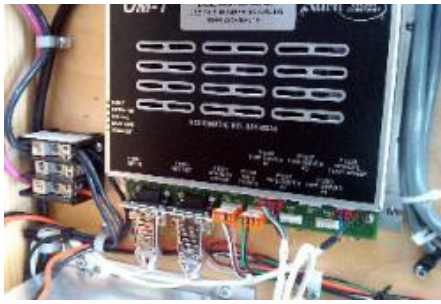
quality and were very attractive. Evola Music was ultimately contracted to supply



the new Allen organ for the church. A 3-manual instrument was desired, so I worked with Kathie to come up with best way to use the 4 ranks of pipes on the Allen Q325c. The organ is equipped with OST keys, Allen Vista MIDI as well as an



Some additional speaker information. The pipes were made



information. The pipes were made by the Ruffini Pipe Organ Co. in beautiful Italy. This instrument to play, listen to and record is a beautiful instrument. The ranks include 8' Diapassic (Tenor "C" Organ Flute), 8' Flute (Tenor "C" Organ Flute), 6 lowest 12 notes, 6th, 7th, 8th stops are produced by digital groups. They now have an organ that will be added into the next appropriate stops on the great manual. Those 4 drawknobs activate the pipe ranks. There are two custom stops on the organ, "Add Digital" and "Substitute Digital." The

"Add Digital" stop will make the matching digital voice sound simultaneously with the pipe stop, and the "Substitute Digital" will make the stops become digital only, no pipes.

There is a temperature sensor that raises and lowers the pitch of the digital part of the organ to track along with the pipes as they are affected by the room temperature.

Fun Fact: This organ was featured by the Allen Organ Company as a "Organ of the Week" on their web site. cool stuff! it was famous before it even left the factory. [Check it out.](#)

