

**History April 2012**  
**The Music at Holy Trinity**  
**By Susan Exley**

Music has played a very important part of our worship at Holy Trinity. When the cornerstone was laid in 1909, Eva Gnann played for the event held in a grove of trees behind Holy Trinity. In 1912 the church had a pump organ and the first organist was Georgia Kieffer Trobaugh.

Through the years Jackson Zipperer, Speedy Tebeau and John Tebeau pumped the organ.

The original organ was replaced with an electronic organ a Baldwin Model 5 around the early 1950s and Ida Gnann was hired to play it. On May 23, 1976, a new custom built pipe organ was dedicated at Holy Trinity with a recital by William B. Clark of Savannah. In 1990, Chimes were donated to Holy Trinity and dedicated in memory of Ravenel Weitman and in honor of Pauline E. Weitman by their children. On April 30, 2005, after an extensive upgrade of the pipe organ was donated by Essie Gnann, the upgraded organ was dedicated with a special musical program.

In 1994 an adult hand bell choir was organized and we began to use the hand bells for special services. Young people came to be among those in the hand bell choir.

Holy Trinity has had an active choir for many years with names too numerous to mention. Some had served for decades. Many different choir robes have been used to enhance our worship. There is an active Worship and Music Committee tending to the business of seeing that all our services and festivals are well planned.

Some organists who served Holy Trinity on a full time basis were: Mildred Marchman, Marie Hawk, Ida Gnann, Naomi Alderman, Helen Smith, James Creech and our present Norman Owens. Many have been assistants or substitutes including: Terrell Weitman, Staci Hinely Ambrose, Norma Jean Gnann, Linda B. Rahn, Betty Jean Fergueson, Mary Will Long and Joyce Alderman. Those who have played our pianos for services, special music and Sunday School are numerous and have included: Myrtie Exley, Theresa Zipperer, Joy Weitman, Jane Gnann, Mary Will Long, Marina Van Sickle, Naomi Alderman, Deetie Rahn, Mildred Marchman and the list goes on. We can't forget Ravenel Weitman who played piano "boogie woogie" style for family night fun events.

Music has indeed enhanced the services at Holy Trinity and we are thankful and proud of those who have served to make our services special through the blessings of our hymns, anthems and musical ministry.