



HENDRICKS AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH

August 12, 2016

Mr. Arthur E. Schlueter
A. E. Schlueter Pipe Organ Company
2843 South Stone Mountain Road
Lithonia, Georgia 30058

KYLE T. REESE, D.MIN.
Pastor

THOMAS M. SHAPARD, M.DIV.
Minister of Music and Worship

Dear Arthur:

BRITT J. HESTER, M.DIV.
Minister of Youth and Mission

FAITH M. MCCALL, B.S.
Minister to Children

ANNE E. ENGLAND, M.T.S.
Minister of Christian Education

VICKIE M. LANDERS, B.B.A.
Church Administrator

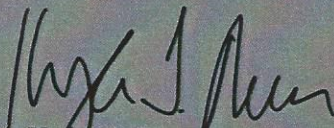
H. KENDELL SMITH, DIP.C.M.
Minister of Music Emeritus

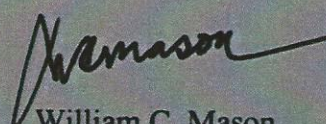
When the sanctuary of Hendricks Avenue Baptist Church in Jacksonville, Florida, suffered a catastrophic and all-consuming fire in the wee hours of Sunday, December 23, 2007, following a performance of *Messiah* the night before, nearly everything was destroyed, including the pipe organ. The church met in the gym later that very day and determined that it would rebuild the sanctuary in two years and would perform *Messiah* on December 23, 2009—with a new pipe organ.

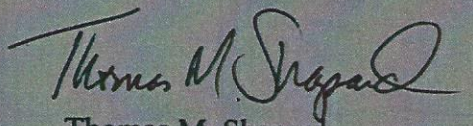
An exhaustive search for the very best pipe organ builder in the U.S. was undertaken—a builder who could, in less than two years, design the right instrument, build, install, tune, and have it ready for December 23, 2009.

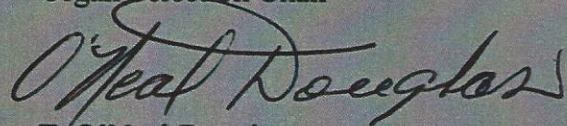
The church voted unanimously to accept Schlueter's bid, and the rest, as they say, is history. You somehow accomplished the nearly-impossible, turned it over to us, complete with antiphonal organ and trumpet en chamade, on schedule and on budget, and you were there to hear it played exactly as planned.

We thank you from the depths of our hearts for the splendid instrument that so magnificently leads our worship and inspires admiration from all who hear it.


Kyle T. Reese
Senior Pastor


William C. Mason
Organ Selection Chair


Thomas M. Shapard
Minister of Music and Worship


T. O'Neal Douglas
Rebuilding Chair