

Organ Concert
Celebrating the 250th Anniversary of
Trinity Episcopal Church, Chocowinity, North Carolina
May 26, 2024, at 4:00 p.m.

featuring

Dr. Filippa Duke

and

The Historic Stevens Organ



Dr. Duke is the Director of Music and Worship Arts at Edenton Street United Methodist Church in downtown Raleigh and this year has been the interim Professor of Organ and Sacred Music at East Carolina University. A native of Henderson, North Carolina, Dr. Duke earned her doctorate in Church Music with a dual emphasis in Organ and Choral Conducting from the University of Kansas following her completion of the Master of Music degree in Organ Performance at Indiana University. When she was an undergraduate student at ECU studying with Janette Fishell, she served as the organist and choirmaster at Trinity Church from 2004 to 2007. During her tenure here she inspired the church to undertake the restoration and refurbishment of their historic Stevens organ. She looks forward to returning to this parish that held a special place in her formation as a church musician. Her program will include selections by Bach, Buxtehude, and Martinson, and a set of tunes by everyone's favorite Fab 4: The Beatles!

Trinity's historic pipe organ was originally built in 1866 by George Stevens of East Cambridge, Massachusetts, for Calvary Episcopal Church in Tarboro. It had nine stops and nine ranks of pipes and, like all instruments of that period, was entirely mechanical. In 1914, the organ was sold to St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Wilmington where, at some later date, it was converted to using an electric blower for the wind supply and thus no longer needed to be pumped. It served St. Paul's until their "little brick church" failed in 1944 at which time it was donated to Trinity Church. In 2008, John Farmer of Winston Salem, who specializes in historic instruments, completely rebuilt and restored the organ. At that time, 154 new pipes were also added, bringing the total to 607. The tonal makeup of this rare "tracker" instrument is now 12 ranks and 13 stops.