

Choosing Richards, Fowkes & Co.

We are pleased to announce Richards, Fowkes & Co. of Ooltewah, Tennessee as the builders of the new organ at St. Andrew's.

The organ committee chose Richards, Fowkes, & Co. of Ooltewah, Tennessee to build our organ. The committee considered many types of instruments, and examined possible used instruments to see if we could find something suitable. After considerable study of the function, sound, and longevity of different types of organs, we settled on a mechanical-action or "tracker" organ and began consulting with different builders.

As with any artistic project, finding an artist is a complex matter of admiring the work of the artist, sharing an artistic vision, and building a relationship of trust and commitment. From the beginning of our meetings with Ralph Richards and Bruce Fowkes we were impressed by their commitment to Episcopal liturgy and tradition, their sensitivity to our church's history and beauty, their deep musicianship and their unflinching dedication to the finest artistic and technical mastery.

We travelled to play and listen to several of these instruments, including the very large organ at Transfiguration Episcopal Church in Dallas, Texas. In turn Richards and Fowkes have made many visits to Ann Arbor to listen in and learn about our sanctuary, to meet and get to know us, to work with us as our plans have developed and changed over the years. We have benefitted from their flexibility and understanding through the years of working together; we know that they have planned an instrument for our church's needs that will serve St. Andrew's well into the future and that they will build it with exquisite care.

Please visit the Richards & Fowkes website (www.richardsfowkes.com) to learn more about the company and see the astonishing range of organs they have designed and built. You can see a [video introduction](#) to the company and its artists at this link and view a [brief profile](#) of their work with Christ Church, New Brunswick, New Jersey, that gives you a taste of what the company is like to work with. At this link is a video showing the [voicing of the Richards, Fowkes & Co. organ at the Duke Divinity School](#).

We are excited to be working with this talented team of artists on creating beauty in sight and sound for the glory of God!



Members of the Organ Committee travelled to Transfiguration Episcopal Church in Dallas, Texas to experience Richards and Fowkes' work in person.