

Kipp Cortez, organ
09 August 2023, 7:30pm
Westminster Presbyterian Church
1420 Moss Avenue Peoria, IL 61606

Sonata in A major, Op. 65, no. 3 Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)
I. Con moto maestoso
II. Andante tranquillo

Livre de Noël Louis-Claude d'Aquin (1694-1772)
I. Noël, sur les jeux d'Anches sans tremblant

Symphony in g minor, op. 42, no. 2 Charles-Marie Widor (1844-1937)
II. Adagio

Fugue sur le thème du Carillon des Heures de la Cathédrale de Soissons, op. 12 Maurice Duruflé (1902-1986)

Organ Sonata I Paul Hindemith (1895-1963)
I. Mäßig schnell - Lebhaft
II. Sehr langsam - Phantasie frei - Ruhig bewegt

Passacaglia and Fugue in c minor, BWV 582 Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Dr. Kipp Cortez has led a varied and interesting career as a church organist, choral conductor, university professor, carillonneur, and organ builder. He works in the Service Department at John-Paul Buzard Pipe Organ Builders in Champaign, Illinois. Along with tuning and restoration work, he assists with managing the tuning schedule, does new client intake surveys, and occasionally assists with sales. Since joining the Buzard firm, he has personally done tuning and service work on this organ here at Westminster. He also serves as the Assistant Organist at the Episcopal Chapel of Saint John the Divine in Champaign where he regularly plays the 1991 Buzard Opus Seven.

Kipp is originally from the Chicago suburb of LaGrange Park. He took degrees in organ and sacred music at Valparaiso University (Bachelor of Music) and the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor (Master of Music and Doctor of Musical Arts). His organ teachers were Dennis Northway, Lorraine Brugh, James Kibbie, and Marilyn Mason. He also studied harpsichord with Edward Parmentier and carillon with Steven Ball and Dennis Curry. In 2015, he advanced to Carillonneur Membership in the Guild of Carillonneurs in North America. He was named to the "20 under 30" Class of 2016 by the Diapason Magazine.

Kipp lives in Champaign with his two cats, Romeo and Minerva. Outside of organ building and music, he is an accomplished home chef, regularly cooking, baking, and grilling (no matter what the weather is doing). He occasionally brings in sweet treats to share with his coworkers. He also collects vintage and novelty cufflinks and enjoys trying to get better at billiards games.