

The Chapel Organ

Still in use today, the Chapel Organ was custom-designed for this space by Dewey W. Layton of Layton Organs, Inc., of Florence, Colorado. It replaced the original reed pump-organ, presently housed at Andrews Funeral home. Funded by numerous memorial gifts and other donations, the organ was completed in September, 1974, at a cost of \$8,000. The cost of an equivalent organ today is estimated at over \$200,000.



It is a five-rank electropneumatic pipe organ installed on both sides of the main entrance and has two manuals and a full pedal division. It contains a total of 321 pipes, made of wood, tin, and zinc. The viola pipes had been used briefly in another church organ, but were “almost new” and exactly what this design called for. The reed pipes reportedly came out of an old theater organ and were re-voiced for this installation. The rest were made to order. The swell division is enclosed in a swell box above the Philippine mahogany console. The wind chest and blower are located in the loft above and behind the organ, and depend on room air drawn in through the lattice covering over the structure that houses them.

Swell Organ	Great Organ	Pedal Organ
8' Gedackt	16' Gedackt	16' Subbass
8' Viola	8' Principal	8' Principal
4' Gedackt	8' Gedackt	8' Gedackt
4' Viola	8' Viola	4' Principal
2 2/3 Nasat	4' Octave	4' Gedackt
2' Flote	4' Gedackt Flote	4' Viola
1 1/3 Quintflote	4' Viola	2' Principal
8' Oboe	2 2/3 Nasat	8' Oboe
4' Oboe	2' Octave	4' Oboe
Tremulant	16' Oboe	
	8' Oboe	
	4' Oboe	

The new organ was dedicated by Bishop William Frey on February 2, 1975, and remains today the only full pipe organ (that is, without electronic/synthesizer enhancement) in Douglas and Elbert counties.

As you walk through our historic chapel and see many of those same furnishings still in use today, you can feel the sacred spirit created by generations of people who have lived and worshipped here.

Christ's Church Today

In 2005, having outgrown this beautiful chapel, we built a new sanctuary just to the west, and use both it and the historic chapel. Our vision of a growing and expanding spirituality for a growing and expanding world remains the same as our founders. With gratitude to the past and faith in the future, we invite all seekers to join us on the journey. All are welcome here.

www.ChristsEpiscopalChurch.org

www.ChristmasinCastleRock.org

303-688-0780



a place to be



Christ's Episcopal Church Historic Stone Chapel

615 Fourth Street

Castle Rock, CO 80104

*Built in 1906 by local
stone mason Charles Herb
of locally quarried Rhyolite stone*

A Church with a Vision

Since its inception Christ's Church has been dedicated to helping people find community and the transformational vision that moves us into the future. Welcome!

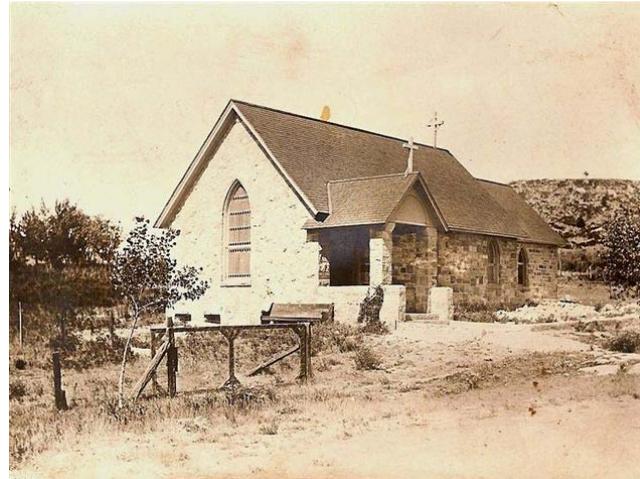


Early Beginnings

It began with the vision of a group of mostly English and Welsh pioneers, a vision to create spiritual community in the developing frontier town of Castle Rock in 1905. In 1906, the current chapel was built of hand-cut rhyolite blocks from the local stone quarry, by local stone mason Charles Herb and his helpers, on land donated by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Ellis. The original church was only what is now the nave (central section with pews). Tradition has it that church members hand-carried the heavy stones and helped lift them into place as Herb worked his artistry to turn ordinary rocks into inspiring sacred space.

A Colorado marble cornerstone was laid the summer of 1906. Bishop C. L. Olmsted consecrated Christ's Episcopal Church on April 23, 1907, under the proud gaze of the Rock itself.

In those early years, the church had no running water and no central heating, but its spiritual roots were strong. As the community grew and prospered, and gradually the building was expanded. In 1911, a Sanctuary, or raised altar area, was added to the East end, along with a new entry way that extends on the south side (where a window now is). Notice the intricate hand-worked stone framing around the curved triangle stained glass window in the end of the building.



Inside, a hand-carved wooden altar, and beautiful stained glass windows, one at a time, were added, and at Christmas evergreen garlands decorated the whole chapel.



But the vision didn't stop with a chapel. As the community of Castle Rock continued to grow and change, the Christ's Church community realized there was a great need for education, community building, and outreach.

So, in 1954, bathrooms, a kitchen, a furnace, and a gathering place were added. Now self supporting, in 1957 the congregation purchased a rectory so they could house a full-time priest, and called the first rector, the Rev. Charles Pitkin. That building now houses administrative offices.

In the sixties and seventies, the world was undergoing a huge culture shift, and the Christ's Church Community felt called to open itself in new ways to better serve a changing world. In 1965, they built the Pitkin Education wing on the north end. The Church community here embraced the 1979 modern-language prayerbook, as well as a new hymnal and exciting new opportunities for spiritual formation and spiritual renewal, for new kinds of music, and new kinds of community outreach.



The church also added a bell tower, renovated and expanded the kitchen, classrooms, and other facilities, and bought two more adjacent pieces of real estate, our present rectory and two small rentals. As Castle Rock grew, the church found itself opening the doors to more and more people, developing new kinds of education, new ministries, and starting a food bank that eventually became the present-day Douglas-Elbert Task force.