

¹ Sing for joy to God our strength; shout aloud to the God of Jacob!

² Begin the music, strike the timbrel, play the melodious harp and lyre. (Psalm 81:1-2)

Church services in the early part of the 1900 lasted at least two hours with a complete English service followed by a complete Gaelic service. Singing was a major part of these services, but without music. The use of a presenter was used instead. (The presenter would say or sing a line, then the congregation would follow singing)

In the early 1900's the young people of the church were very active in a Young Peoples Group, and decided to place a gift in the church.

The story goes that one Sunday the Session entered the church and nearly had a stroke—there before them was an instrument of the devil, an organ- a gift from the young people of Lake Ainslie. The session was out-raged and ruling elder demanded that the instrument be removed from the building immediately-which it was!

In September, 1905, it is recorded that three of the Young People appeared before Session and requested them to accept the organ as a gift from the Young People of the parish. The Session agreed to accept it on behalf of the congregation, however what part the organ played in worship during the next few years is questionable. In May 1909, it was decided that some improvements be made to the system of singing in the church, so during the English service the organ would be used.

Over the years there have been at least four manual pump organs and two electronic models in use. Their locations in the church have ranged from behind the pulpit, to in front of pulpit, to the main level below the choir, and up in the balcony when it was in use.

(adapted from Rev Adam Lees book "One Church, One Faith, One Lord"- The story of the Presbyterian Church at East Lake Ainslie, 1988)