

## ORGAN UPDATE

We have now been without our pipe organ for approximately 29 weeks. At this point, you might be wondering about its return! The good news is that we have received an updated timeline for our project, AND it will be ready by Christmas of this year!

The dismantling of the old instrument took just about a week; much of it was in poor enough condition that it simply went to the dumpster. The remainder was carefully boxed and shipped to Orrville, Ohio to the Schantz Pipe Organ Factory.

The crew has been working almost solely on our project for the last few months, repairing portions of the old instruments and constructing new wind chests, pipes, and the console (where the keyboards are).

Starting in the first week of November, we will begin to see construction of the new instrument. Truckloads of pipes, both metal and wooden will arrive, the new wind chests that will send the air through the pipes will be installed, and the empty space in the sanctuary where the console sat will once again be filled. This physical installation will take about 2 weeks. After that, you will see the organ façade and it will look like it is ready to be used. The tedious part of the installation is actually what follows the physical installation; the tuning and tonal finishing will take about another month or so. Every pipe will be tuned and will be adjusted to maximize the sound in the acoustics of the church, and with almost **2,500 pipes**, this is quite time consuming!

Throughout the month of November and early December, the crew will be here working. This may impact Mass times and/or location, other prayer groups such as rosary, and various other happenings in the church. There will be updates posted for any changes that need to be made. We thank you in advance for your patience as this exciting project comes to an end!

If all goes according to plan, the tonal finishing will be finished mid-December and will give a few weeks for all the musicians to acclimate to the new instrument and prepare for the Christmas season.



*New Console*



*New keyboards*

If you have any questions about the project, please contact Katie Barton, Director of Music and Liturgy at [kbarton@smshp.com](mailto:kbarton@smshp.com) or 321-1207.