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New Pipe Organ (Opus 167)

Phase 1 Installation Complete

The team from Zimmer returned on November 6 to begin the first phase of installation for our new pipe organ. Throughout the week, they put into place much of the foundational work in both chambers. This included the structural supports for the chancel casework, the building of platforms for windchests and pipes, some windchest installation, bourdon pipes, cabling, and pipe driver boards. Zimmer team members will return in December to install the blower in the basement, and then on January 8, the remaining windchests and all pipes go in, followed by tuning and voicing. This work is expected to last 4-5 weeks. Thank you for your support of this exciting and historic project!



The very first pipe goes into the church! This is a Bourdon wood pipe, refurbished from our previous organ.



Top of a windchest. When the pipes are installed in January, each one has been custom-fitted to the hole where it will reside.



The bottom side of a windchest, where the magnets reside. Each pipe has a magnet and when a key on the console is pressed, the magnet opens a hole for the air to move through and allows the pipe to make sound.



View from the balcony of all parts before installation began. This is about 1/3 of the total amount of parts that will make up our new pipe organ.



Close-up of the Bourdons, a type of lower-pitched flute pipe.



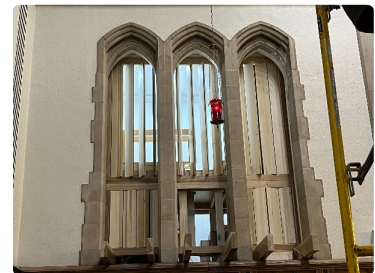
This is the vox humana, which has become part of our new instrument from a vintage 1930's organ at St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Charlotte, NC. A set of small reed pipes are enclosed in the wood box and the sound resembles the human voice.



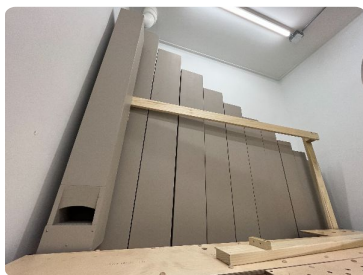
Scaffolding was erected and a lift used to bring the windchests and other parts to the chamber openings.



A windchest going into the Choir Chamber (left side of Chancel).



A view of the newly installed expression shades (the vertical wood pieces). These shades control the volume of the pipes coming from the chambers.



Some of the Bourdon pipes installed in the Choir Chamber, along the back wall.



A view from the inside front of the Choir Chamber. The expression shades can be seen on the right, and the Bourdon pipes in the back.



A view inside the Choir Chamber, between the platforms. By stacking windchests and pipes on platforms, Zimmer is able to incorporate more pipes that



A view inside the Swell Chamber, from the back.



Pipe drivers, which serve as the electrical connections between the pipes and the console.

provide a wider variety of sound than our previous organ.



These wood beams will provide structural support for the wood casework and pipes that will be visible in the Chancel.



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