

## Covid 19 Impacts Organ Restoration

In an email dated September 21, 2020 Thomas Rohlf of Rohlf's Pipe Organ Services wrote that his supplier, Organ Supply Industries (OSI) was behind on delivery of key stops needed for the restoration of the console because of one of their vendors being closed due to Covid 19. At that time OSI expected to receive the necessary parts by the middle of October.



### ***New information***

Exchanging text messages with Thomas Rohlf this morning October 6<sup>th</sup>, Thomas indicates that work on the stop units is still on hold. Seven of the units are complete with 15 still to be completed.

Organ Supply Industries (OSI) out of Erie, Pennsylvania is North America's largest and most complete wholesale manufacturer and supplier of pipe organ related parts and materials. Like many large and small businesses, they are having to deal with supply and manufacturing challenges driven by the pandemic.

### ***Work to go on despite delay***

Given the delay on the delivery the key stop units Thomas plans to be at McAllister on Friday, October 16<sup>th</sup>, to continue with the installation of the capture system. With the exception of having the stop units,

Thomas indicates that he has all other materials in hand.

As a part of the capture system a selector switch and an additional thumb piston need to be installed at the organ console. In order to remove the lower keyboard frame Thomas will need to pull the whole keyboard stack apart (disassemble the three keyboards). He doesn't want to do that until he has the needed parts from OSI in his possession. By the time he has the components of the capture system installed he hopes to have the rest of the stop units from OSI. Unfortunately, we are faced with having to go week by week until OSI can secure and ship the remaining needed parts.

Thomas Rohlf indicates that once he has the new stop key units from OSI installed and wired, and the selector button installed, the rest of the onsite work should go quite swiftly and fortunately he already has all those the needed parts in hand.

## Organ Gets New Keyed Electrical Switch



Anyone who has ever needed to power up the pipe organ at McAllister likely struggled with the old keyed electrical switch on the side of the organ case in the hall in the front of the sanctuary. The fork-like metal key had to be inserted in a vertical slot to activate the switch. For the unpracticed hand it

involved trial and error and often resulted in a measure of frustration until the correct position was found.



The old switch is being replaced by a new keyed switch from Leviton. The key and key slot on the new switch are readily recognizable. Inserting and turning the key results in a reassuring and audible click with the faithful Holtkamp organ powering on as it has for years at McAllister.

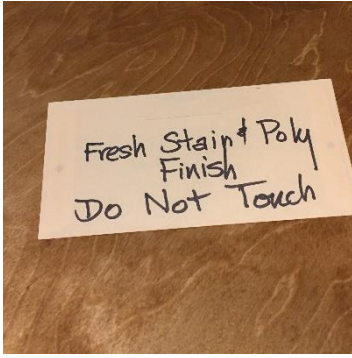
## New Livestreaming Desk

If you pick up the faint smell of wood stain and polyurethane in the sanctuary it is because a new livestreaming desk has been installed in the balcony.



Chuck Bartley and son Jeremy built the desk to support the initiative underway to increase the quality of our Sunday worship service livestream on Facebook LIVE.

We are waiting on new electrical connections and one or two remaining pieces of tech gear before we begin to set up our new livestreaming equipment.



While we will be working with a single camera and no doubt will experience a bit of a learning curve, we hope that you will notice a difference in the quality of our Facebook LIVE broadcast. Once the new equipment is in place, we will be able to give Pastor Jim's phone a bit of a rest.

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### **GIVE IN-PERSON**

Drop your gift into the collection plate on Sunday morning, or simply stop by the office any weekday to drop off your check. Special collection boxes can also be found at the back of the sanctuary.

### **GIVE BY MAIL**

If you would like to give by mail, you can mail your checks to the following address:

McAllister Memorial Presbyterian Church  
900 N. Alleghany Avenue  
Covington, VA 24426



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