

We are thrilled that the time has come for the organ to be officially dismantled and removed off-site! Although this will be a bitter-sweet time as we say goodbye to an old friend, the incredible finished product will be well-worth the wait! While away, all the major components that supply wind to the organ pipes as well as all mechanical components will be replaced with brand-new, state-of-the-art equipment. The console will be replaced and upgraded to include all new technology, keyboards, and a tasteful design meant to match the aesthetics of the sanctuary. We are looking forward to watching this fascinating project take place!



Cory Whittier  
Music Director & Organist

### **Important Things to Know about the Removal Process**

- The work of removing the organ from the chambers in the Sanctuary will be completed by Foley Baker, Inc (FB or FBI) located in Tolland, Connecticut.
- This work will take place over the course of three weeks (Monday through Saturday) from January 31 through February 19. During this time, we will experience some changes in the Sanctuary, Narthex, and the front circle near the main entrance.
- Due to the need to be prepared for FB prior to their arrival, you will notice a few adjustments to the Sanctuary space and worship starting on Sunday, January 30th. These adjustments will also be in place for Sunday, February 6, 13, and 20.
- Specific areas of impact to highlight:
  - Once the first pipes, chests, and other organ features are removed, we will be without an organ for music in worship and other Sanctuary activities until the project is completed. Cory and the Worship and Music team have been strategizing for months on ways to incorporate more of the piano and other instruments during worship to maintain the powerful and beautiful elements of music for worship!
  - In order to allow space for FB to work in the Sanctuary, the first four pews on each side will be removed and temporarily relocated to the Officers' Room; protective coverings will be placed on the marble and carpet in the front, down the main aisle and into the Narthex during parts of the project.
  - Wooden trays will be placed along the back wall of the Narthex (adjacent to the Columbarium) to serve as a temporary storage and organization place for the pipes as they are being removed. Some boxes will be large and some will be small as the pipes vary in size from that of a pencil to that of a light pole.

- PLEASE be attentive as you (and your children) walk in the Narthex. The boxes will be easy to see so they shouldn't be a tripping hazard, but they may pique some interest!
  - Throughout the week, there will be a large U-Haul sized truck parked in the front circle along the side of the Sanctuary. This will serve as a transport vehicle to a larger tractor-trailer that you may see at the beginning and end of the three weeks. Our understanding is that there will not be trucks or trailers in the front circle on Sundays.
    - PLEASE use caution when driving through the circle and if possible, avoid parking in the circle during this time.
  - The main entrance will be open as it normally is while the FB men are working. We ask you to just be aware and attentive when trays are being transported back and forth from the Narthex to the truck through the entrance!
  - Upon completion of the removal, FB will take all the parts back to Connecticut where they will work on refurbishing and replacing the pipes, chests, and other components of the organ. This process will take anywhere from 12-14 months, which means worship will continue without the organ (but with the piano and other instruments until February/March of 2023)!
- 

The organ renovation project is one of the projects made possible through your generous support toward the Rooted and Reaching Capital Campaign! Thank you for your contributions made so far and in the future to help enhance the ministries, music, and facilities of FPCLY. We cannot wait to hear the difference in the sound of the organ in spring 2023! It's going to be magical!



If you are interested in watching or listening to some of our preludes and postludes from this month's worship services that have been an ode to the organ, head to our [YouTube Channel](#) and check them out! If you press the red "subscribe" button, you will be able to receive notifications when we share a new video!