View from the Organ Bench

Pastor Karen asked me to provide notes and pictures about the organ. Though I have only been with the instrument for a short period of time, there are major issues that cannot be overlooked. These problems negatively impact the ability to lead services and choose music. Some issues are intermittent – whether due to season, improper heating and cooling, or poor craftsmanship – further limiting the congregation and its music.

Below, I provide pictures and notes to help show some of the issues affecting our instrument. – Michael Snyder

Random parts can be found throughout the organ chamber. Missing tuning slides make some pipes untunable. Bottoms of wind chests (not pictured) are warped and will not seal, causing leaking, hissing air. Failed seals make an audible hissing sound. Flex hose, instead of rigid HVAC-like ducting, causes unsteady pressure and, therefore, unsteady pitch. Plastic bag filling a failed seal The leather and action are failing. Some notes do not play. Others ciphered - where a note continues to play when it's not supposed to - and the pipes were pulled while the air continues to hiss out.

- More pulled pipes due to ciphers
- Significant dust covers the organ from fallen plaster due to ceiling damage.

• Masking tape holding the regulating scroll in place. Caused by a improper maintenance.

- Improper ducting and poor electrical work;
- Deteriorating leather joints on reservoirs.





