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Inside the Bunn-Minnick Pipe Organ Co.

By Katy Smith - Assistant managing editor
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Photographer [Dan Trittschuh](#) recently visited a pipe organ operation being run inside an old office building in [Harrison West](#) in Columbus' Victorian Village neighborhood. The Bunn-Minnick Pipe Organ Co. was founded in 1969 in Columbus, and these artisans likely have worked on your church's organ at some point.

Dan's trip yielded some beautiful photos of how these stately instruments are constructed and maintained. They can cost up to \$1 million new, and the company creates them as well as restoration. The four-story office building was customized by the company to accommodate the humongous organs – the floor of one room was removed so organs could be set up in the room below.

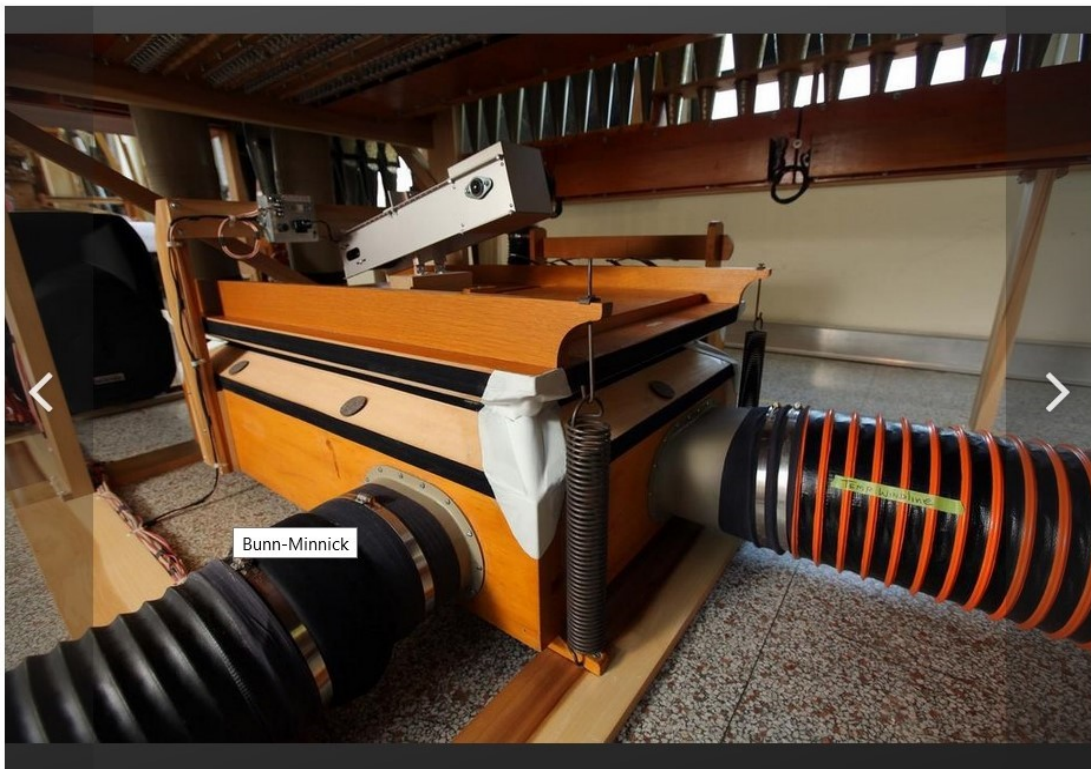
Bunn-Minnick was founded after Philip Minnick and Robert Bunn Jr. worked at another pipe organ company. "We thought we could do a better job," Minnick said. "They went out of business, and we're still here."

Click on the slideshow to see Dan's photos.



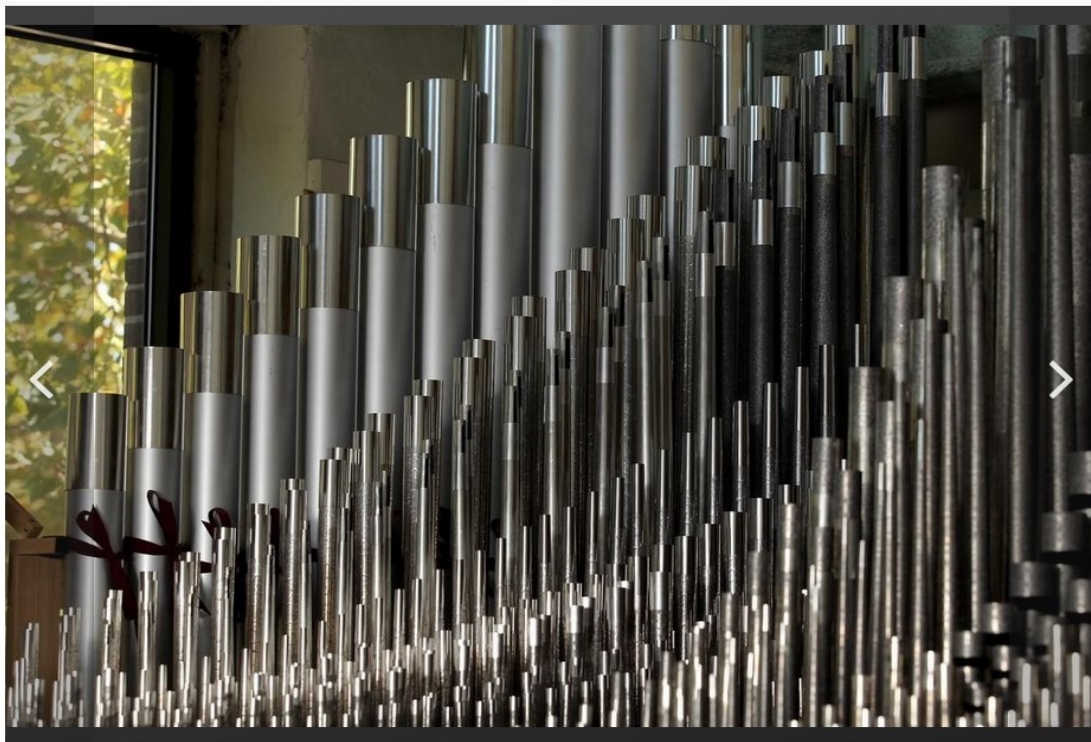
Organ voicer Scott Gorsuch works on restoration of an organ owned by Sacred Heart Church of Cincinnati. The organ was originally constructed in 1895 by A.B. Felgemaker of Erie, Pa.

DAN TRITTSCHUH



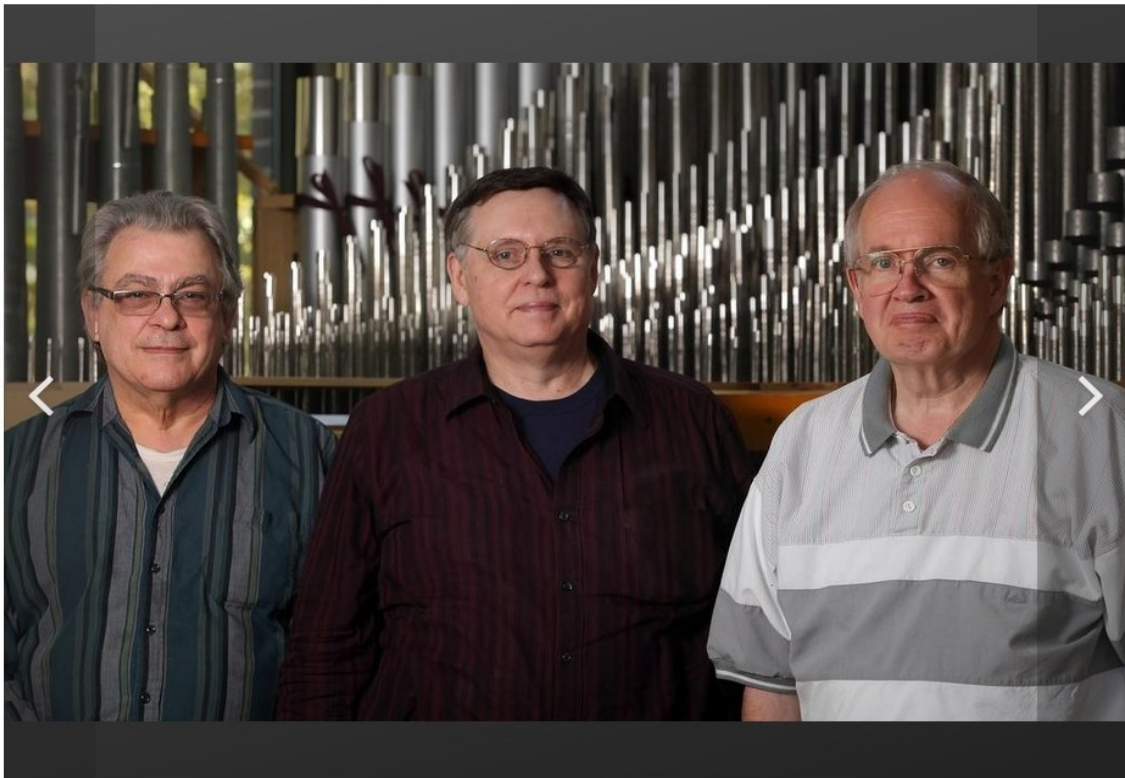
An organ reservoir/regulator component that has been restored by the Bunn-Minnick Pipe Organ Co.

DAN TRITTSCHUH



Pipes that have undergone restoration await shipment in the erecting room of the Bunn-Minnick Pipe Organ Co. in Columbus.

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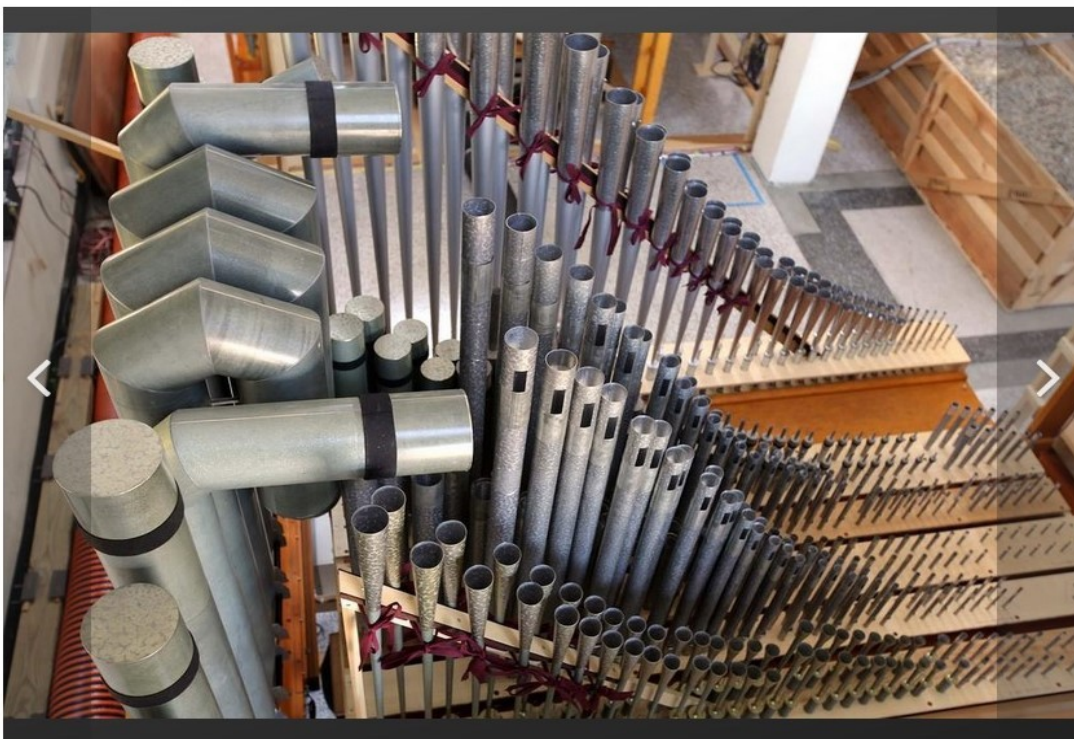
Bunn-Minnick Pipe Organ Co. owners (from left) Robert Bunn Jr., Phil Minnick and Leo Klise Jr.

DAN TRITTSCHUH



Gary Gould of the Bunn-Minnick Pipe Organ Co. works on restoring wood splits on an organ stop-action piece in the shop. Also pictured are company owners Robert Bunn (center) and Phil Minnick (far right). Shop dog Clover is pictured at bottom right.

DAN TRITTSCHUH



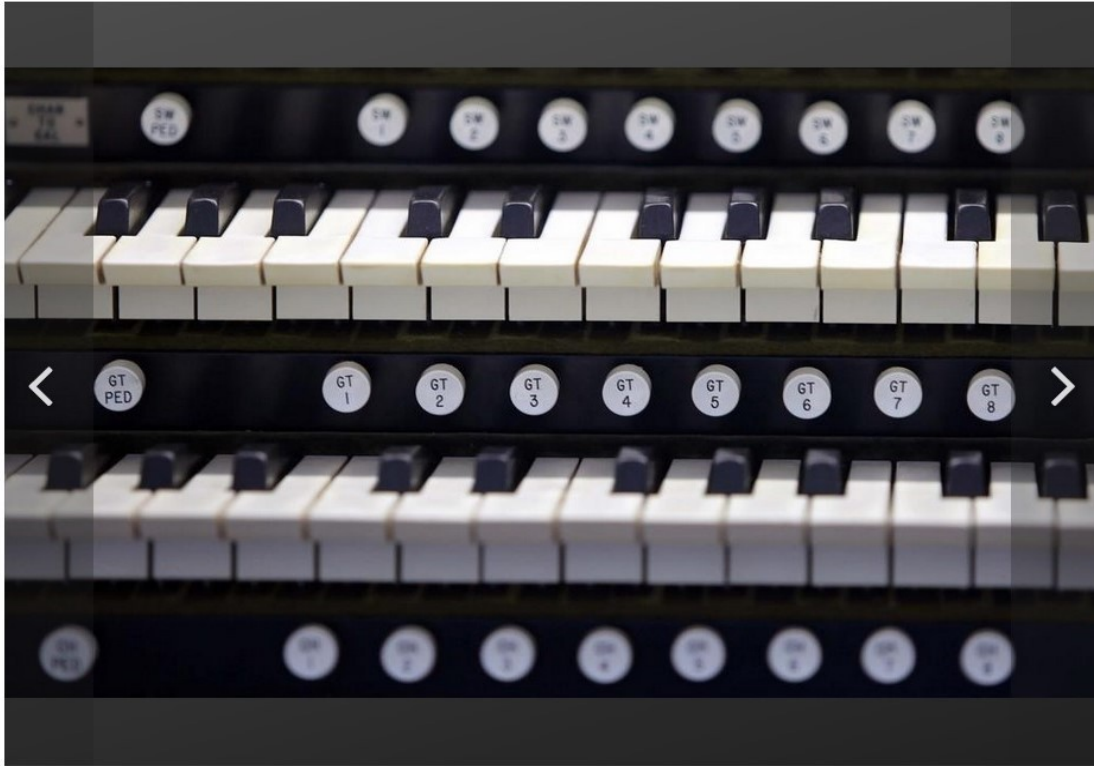
A portion of an organ owned by Southminster Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh, Pa. awaits final shipment in the erecting room of the Bunn-Minnick Pipe Organ Co. in Columbus. The company is currently restoring about one-fourth of the church's entire organ and is in possession of about 1,200 pipes - the rest of the organ and pipes will be restored in the near future.

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Bunn-Minnick Pipe Organ co-founders Robert Bunn (left) and Phil Minnick (seated at console). The two men started the company in 1969 and were later joined in ownership by Leo Klise, Jr.

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Keys from an organ console under repair at the Bunn-Minnick Pipe Organ Co..

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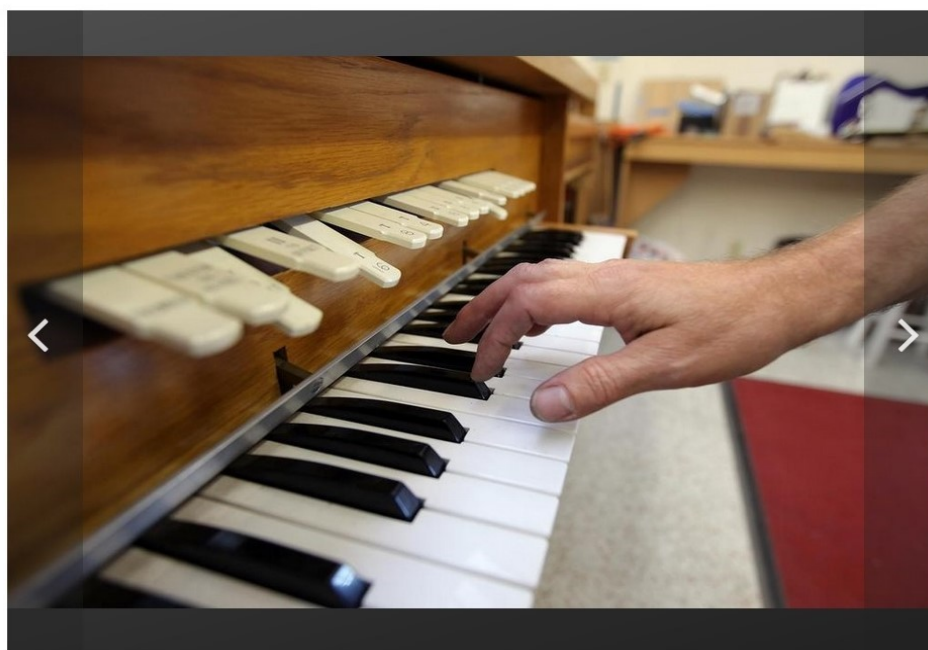
Phil Minnick, co-owner of Bunn-Minnick Pipe Organs, is pictured with an organ stop-action that is having wood splits repaired by his company.

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Organ voicer Scott Gorsuch of Bunn-Minnick Pipe Organs in Columbus shows the reed/tongue assembly of an organ owned by Sacred Heart Church of Cincinnati. The organ was originally constructed in 1895 by A.B. Felgemaker of Erie, Pa.

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Organ voicer Scott Gorsuch checks the tone of an organ owned by Sacred Heart Church of Cincinnati. The organ was originally constructed in 1895 by A.B. Felgemaker of Erie, Pa.

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Organ voicer Scott Gorsuch works on restoration of an organ owned by Sacred Heart Church of Cincinnati. The organ was originally constructed in 1895 by A.B. Felgemaker of Erie, Pa.

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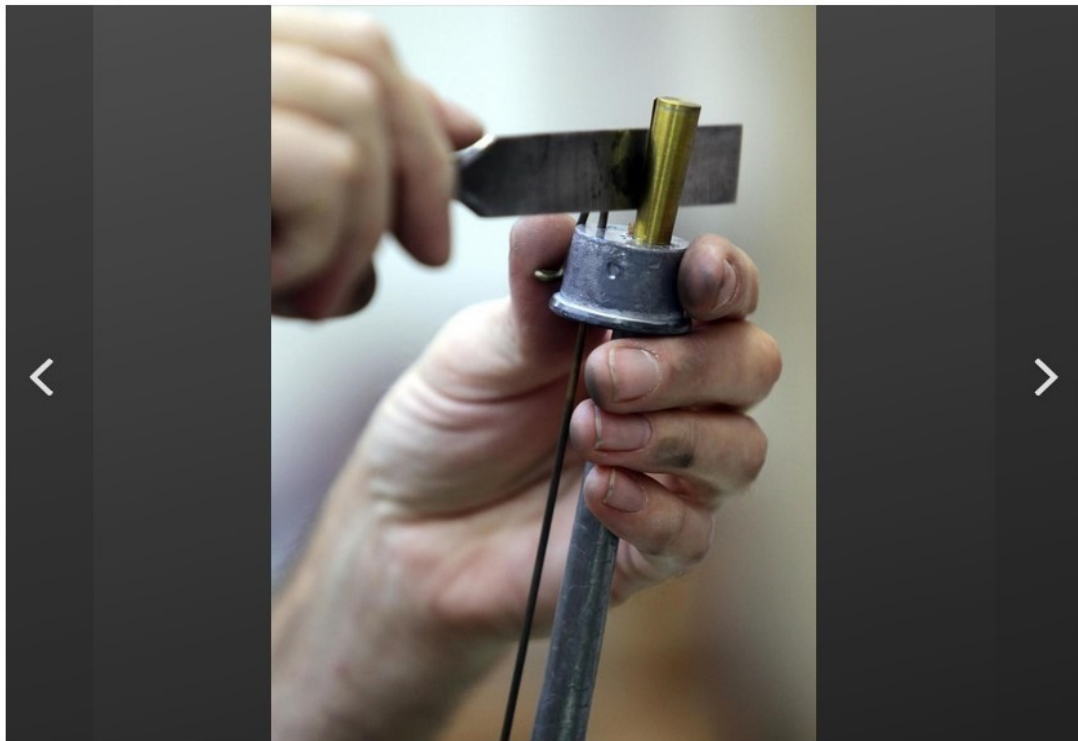
Organ "voicer" Scott Gorsuch works on restoration of an organ owned by Sacred Heart Church of Cincinnati. The organ was originally constructed in 1895 by A.B. Felgemaker of Erie, Pa.

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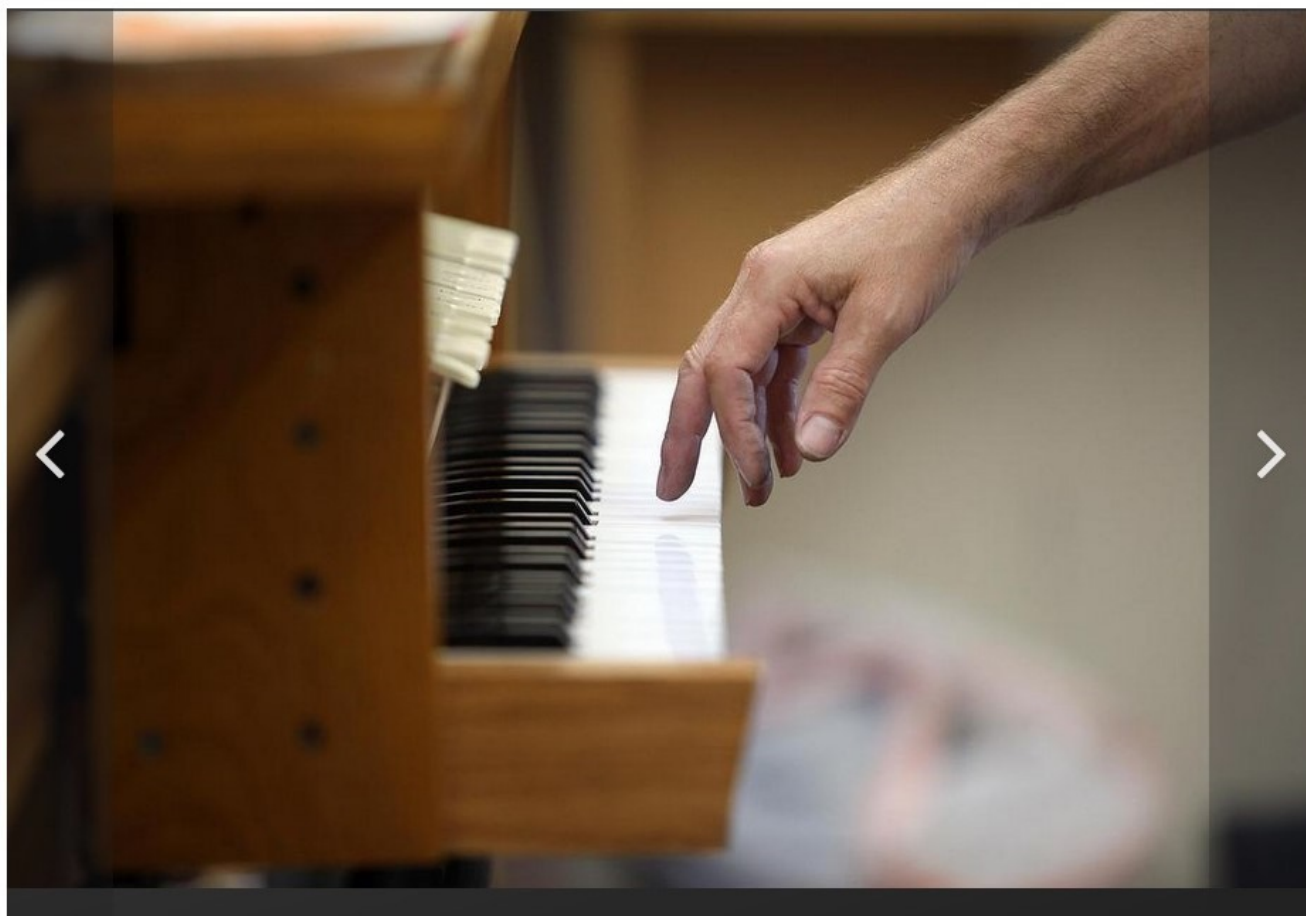
Organ voicer Scott Gorsuch works on restoration of an organ owned by Sacred Heart Church of Cincinnati. The organ was originally constructed in 1895 by A.B. Felgemaker of Erie, Pa.

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Organ voicer Scott Gorsuch works on polishing and reassembly of reed tongues and shallots for an organ owned by Sacred Heart Church of Cincinnati. The organ, undergoing a restoration by the Bunn-Minnick Pipe Organs company, was originally constructed in 1895 by A.B. Felgemaker of Erie, Pa.

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Organ voicer Scott Gorsuch checks tone as he works on restoration of an organ owned by Sacred Heart Church of Cincinnati. The organ was originally constructed in 1895 by A.B. Felgemaker of Erie, Pa.

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