Phase 2: The Restoration of the Organ - The Foundation of our Music Program

What Will Be Done?
This phase involves the restoration and expansion of our organ along with a reconfiguration of the organ chambers. This will also include a new HVAC system to ensure the proper humidity and temperature control for the new organ. The repairs will require the organ to be completely removed from the church and taken to the factory in Connecticut where the work will be completed. It will require a year to complete the work. The organ is scheduled for removal in January of 2018, and we should have it back by December of 2018.

Why Is It Needed?
“The organ sounds fine to me!” To the casual listener, the organ might sound perfectly acceptable, but a closer inspection will yield some surprising and troubling results. Heavy and constant use, overcrowding in the organ chambers, and huge swings in temperature and humidity have taken their toll on the complex instrument. More and more pipes are being silenced and no longer functional. Regular maintenance is very difficult to perform. Some pipes have completely collapsed from their own weight. Our Casavant organ was built in 1963 and has faithfully served our Parish for over 50 years. A complete overhaul is now necessary to ensure that our organ will last another 50 years (or more!).

Our Musical Legacy
Music has always played an important role at Christ and St. Luke’s. A vested choir has been part of the tradition of this church for generations, and the church has employed fine organists to lead the worship of her people. The sound of a great organ, located in an ideal acoustical situation, gives voice to the praises of the Church on earth. Christ and St. Luke’s has also stood as a beacon for the community, both in physical structure and cultural center. Countless artistic groups have enjoyed the acoustical splendor of our church, and we hope to continue this relationship with the community for years to come. The foundation for all of this is the organ, which is in serious need of repair and renovation, which is the focus of Phase Two of the Master plan.

How Can You Help?
If you would like to help, you can make a contribution to the building fund at any time. If you have any questions, please contact John Ford at jbford@odu.edu, or any of the other members of the Steering Committee (Ray Gindroz, Kevin Kwan, Win Lewis, Mollie McCune, Bryant McGann, Grant Stokes, Priscilla Trinder-Roady, or Sigur Whitaker).