



Dayton Ohio Chapter The American Guild of Organists



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November 2019

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Our Next Program is “Mindful and Physical Aspects of Organ Practicing” by Dr. Michael Unger on Sunday, November 10th at 4:00 pm

Our next program is the workshop “Mindful and Physical Aspects of Organ Practicing” by Dr. Michael Unger, Organ Faculty, CCM. The program will be held Sunday, November 10th at 4:00 pm at Fairmont Presbyterian, 3705 Far Hills Ave, Kettering.

Mindful organ playing: Incorporates concepts of mindfulness techniques (including “inner game” psychological considerations) with physical considerations (including “body mapping” ideas) into your organ practicing. Participants are welcome to bring any repertoire they wish to use as case-studies for various organ practicing strategies. We will go to dinner at a local restaurant after the program. Host Vicki Ramga.

BIO: Originally from Toronto, Canada, multiple award-winning organist and harpsichordist Michael Unger holds a Doctorate of Musical Arts from the Eastman School of Music, where he studied under David Higgs and William Porter, and is a recipient of Eastman’s Performer’s Certificate in organ and Jerald C. Graue Musicology Fellowship. He is a Gold Medal graduate of the University of Western Ontario, and his former teachers include Ethel Briggs, Sandra Mangsen, Joel Speersta, and the late Larry Cortner. An active church musician, he is formerly the Director of Music at Rochester’s Lutheran Church of the Incarnate Word, and is a published composer of choral music. He is a former part-time Instructor at Eastman.



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EXTRA! EXTRA! COMING NEXT ISSUE!

If you have an announcement for an upcoming program or event, send it to Matt Dierking at matt.dierking@agodayton.org and we will add it to the next Trumpetings, the Dayton Chapter website and Facebook page.

Also, you are more than welcome to write articles to appear in Trumpetings. Send your articles and pictures to Matt and he'll make sure they get in. The articles can be on a wide variety of topics that would be of interest to the chapter.

From Ellen Bagley, the Membership Chair....



ARE YOU NEW TO THE DAYTON SACRED MUSIC SCENE? JOIN US – THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS! PIANISTS/KEYBOARDISTS/CHURCH MUSICIANS AS WELL AS ORGANISTS -- ALL ARE WELCOME! Are you looking for inspiration and ideas

for enhancing worship, studying techniques, and learning more? If you want to be a member, you have two options: full national membership or Chapter Friend (local only). Sign up by choosing one of the options and following the instructions below. Questions? Please contact me, Ellen Bagley, the Membership Chair for this chapter, directly at baggylady46@gmail.com.

RENEW ANYTIME! Membership now happens at any time in the calendar year, not just the spring, or over the summer. You may opt for a full national membership or a local Chapter Friend designation. In any case, the simplest way is to go online to the national website for the American Guild of Organists www.agohq.org. Look along the bar to select "Membership" then once on that page, go to ONCARD to pay by credit card. It's really painless. If you want to pay by check and submit a form to snail mail to me or to our treasurer, contact me (see email above) to get that form.

WHO IS AGO DAYTON? We are a musically varied group with many abilities and talents where church music is concerned. Some are keyboardists/organists/pianists. Some play other instruments. Some appreciate organ concerts. All of us are enthusiastic in sharing stories, expertise, info on subs, lending ideas and music, and supporting sacred music in whatever way we can! Bottom line, we have fun too. And we email a newsletter regularly because we want you to know what is going on in our chapter.

OUR MEETINGS On a mostly monthly basis during the late summer, fall, winter and spring we meet around the Miami Valley to hear concerts, visit other churches and their instruments, go on crawls, attend a workshop given by a guest artist, etc. We encourage you to join us to explore, learn, listen and even lap up good food at a local restaurant after a meeting or concert. Some gather semi-regularly, while others only make a meeting or two during the 'year.' Come share your knowledge, ideas and creativity with us!

IN ADDITION...The national AGO is full of information and more inspiration: conferences, regional meetings and conventions.

OUR MUSIC LIBRARY IS OPEN. When you have time, stop by our music library over at Westminster Presbyterian Church, Dayton; it is available for your perusal and digging. Some music is classic, hardly used, some old, some new, and all is ripe for the picking; contribute a couple bucks to our group's treasury. Maybe you've not been in to see what's in the file drawers – it's well-organized and labeled, up in a back room on the second floor, ask the church secretaries for directions. There is a piano (I don't know when it was tuned...) if you want to explore a piece.

"Rhythm and the Organ" Workshop by Dr. Richard Elliott

The Chapter enjoyed another illuminating workshop with Dr. Elliott. "Rhythm and the Organ" focused on ways to vary tempo and timing variations to bring life and excitement to music. He recommended keeping two tracks in mind. A constant "Click Track" grounds the variations to the fixed tempo. The second track allows variations across the beats within measures or phases adding emphasis before returning to the reference.



Dr. Elliott drove his points home with demonstrations and examples varying the timing and emphasis on a variety of music including Bach, hymns and other composers. Both keyboard and pedalboard techniques were addressed. The workshop drew from several texts that Dr. Elliott recommended for further study.



Visit the Dayton AGO Music Library at Westminster

The Dayton Chapter has a growing music “library” that is currently housed at the Westminster Presbyterian Church. The library is primarily composed of organ literature, but has piano works, choral music and method books as well. The music is arranged by composer for much of the work but also has groups organized by holiday, collections, anthology, wedding music, sheet music and lots of monthly’s like the Organ Portfolio. The library is open to everyone. Just stop in and peruse the music. Take what you would like to use and leave a donation. We highly encourage teachers (and students) to use the library. There is a lot of the standard literature for study spanning all levels of difficulty.

To access the library, visit Westminster on a weekday. Enter through the Office door on the east side of the church and let the administrator know you would like to go up and review music in the AGO library. It is on the 3rd Floor in room 301.



Young Organists – Jared Post Another Dayton Chapter Success Story!

Update on Jared Post, one of our former “Young Organists” who now serves a northern Ohio church full-time.

One of the most gratifying support/educational activities that we do as a chapter is to encourage young organists. The special program “Pedals, Pipes and Pizza” is one we sponsor bi-annually, to introduce the organ to young pianists and budding organists.

The other is a scholarship for a more advanced musician who decides to take organ lessons in college. Musicians apply to Priscilla Acuff by letter, explaining their reason and need. The Chapter Board deliberates and decides how much scholarship to award. The amount is awarded for one year.

We always hope that our support will motivate a musician to apply for a church position.

Sometimes the student is inspired to add Organist/Minister of Music/Choirmaster to the list of accomplishments and graduates with the intent of serving at a church, full- or part-time.

One of our young organists, Jared Post, received one of our scholarships when he was studying at Ball State University, Muncie IN. Jared writes: “Thank you to the Dayton Chapter of the AGO for your support both financially and professionally during my college years; I certainly appreciate it immensely.” Past chapter member Ron Johnson, organist at Trinity RCC, Coldwater, was his instructor some years ago.

Jared graduated from Ball State in May of 2019 with a bachelor degree in music performance for organ, graduating with Summa Cum Laude honors. He studied for five semesters with Raul Prieto Ramirez (now the San Diego Civic Organist) and with Stephen Price for the last three semesters.

Prior to his graduation from Ball State, he began work in December 2017 at St. Augustine Catholic Church in Minster, Ohio as their director of music, then following graduation, he continued in a full-time capacity.

Jared is quite busy! He directs a 40 voice men’s choir, a 65 voice mixed choir, a children’s choir of 65 young voices, and the resident brass quintet. He also oversees the hand bell choir and a folk group (contemporary music ensemble). To summarize, his responsibilities encompass four weekend Masses and four weekday Masses (all with music), 20-30 weddings and 40-50 funerals each year.

St. Augustine Catholic Church anticipates a major renovation of their pipe organ, to be completed in late fall of 2020.



St. Augustine Catholic Church

By Jared Post

The St. Augustine Catholic Church, in Minster, Ohio (at which I am the Director of Music), has signed a contract for the complete overhaul and renovation of our pipe organ in church.

Reynolds Associates, Inc., of Marion, Indiana, has been selected to do the renovation work to our organ, starting early 2020. This is the first time since 1939 our organ has had major work done on it. A brief history – Henry Pilcher’s Sons of Louisville, Kentucky installed the original organ in the church in 1896. With two manuals, twenty-three ranks, and mechanical action, it was the largest organ in the Mercer/Auglaize County at the time. In 1939, Henry Pilcher’s Sons came back to rebuild and enlarge the organ. The new organ had 31 ranks and electro-pneumatic action. With the changing tastes of the 1950’s and 1960’s, H.W. Muller & Sons of Toledo, Ohio, added and swapped out a number of pipes in 1968 and 1972 in an attempt to brighten the sound of the organ. Muller also installed a stock two-manual Shantz console to control the 37 ranks of pipework.

With the organ forming the backbone of the over 500 Masses and services yearly at the church, the organ was no longer functioning at it’s best. Also, most of the organ still runs on the 1939 Pilcher chests and original leather valves. A major rebuild was necessary. The church and Organ Rebuild Committee decided that a new instrument, encompassing the best pipework of the old instrument would be the optimal way to go. We also wanted to return to the rich, darker sounds of the Pilcher era with a symphonic flair that Reynolds Associates likes to give to their instruments. The new organ has been designed to accompany our 40 voice Men’s Choir, 65 voice Mixed Choir, and our resident Brass Quintet. To accomplish this end, there is 9 ranks of strings in the manual divisions, three different 8’ Diapasons on the Great, complete Diapason choruses on each manual, and four 32’ options in the Pedal – to name a few!

Expected to be completed in late 2020, the new pipe organ is going to have 54 ranks, a new three-manual console, and a new façade. In the works is a year of concerts that highlight the organ beginning in 2021 – we will certainly keep you up to date. We are very excited!

2019-2020 Programs

Dayton Chapter of the AGO

Sunday, January 26th, 2020 at 3:00 p.m.

Spicing up Service Playing by John Neely

Location: Westminster Presbyterian Church
125 N Wilkinson St, Dayton, OH

Based on his broad experiences, John will cover topics like performing piano accompaniments on the organ, spicing up hymn playing and directing from the console. We will go to dinner at a local restaurant after the program.

Sunday, February 9th, 2020 at 4:00 p.m.

Paul Bysanthe Jr Recital.

Location: Kettering Seventh Day Adventist Church
3939 Stonebridge Rd, Dayton, OH

The KETSDA sponsored recital by Paul Bysanthe, Jr. of SLIGO Seventh Day Adventist Church in Takoma Park, MD will serve as our February program. Paul is an accomplished organist, conductor, and composer and this should be a wonderful concert. We will go to dinner at a local restaurant after the program. Host Rachel Lammi

March 2020 - March 8th, 2:00 p.m.

Organ Crawl South

Locations: Watch the website/Trumpetings for Schedules, Maps and Transportation Details

Join us for an Organ Crawl focused on American organs circa 1900. The crawl includes a 1908 Barkhoff sanctuary organ and a Brombaugh organ in the assembly room of St. John's UCC in Germantown; (2) an old Kilgen in St. John's Middletown plus a 1901 Austin in a nearby sister parish; and (3) a 1890 Frank Roosevelt Organ at Covenant Presbyterian in Springboro. Bring some music and your organ shoes so you can give these wonderful organs a try. **We'll finish up with dinner at Doubleday's Tavern just two minutes from the last organ!**

Friday, April 17th, 2020 at 7:30 p.m.

Clark Wilson Silent Film Accompaniment at Victoria Theater.

Location: Victoria Theater
138 N Main St, Dayton, OH

The Chapter is Sponsoring Clark Wilson, an Ohio native and resident organist at the famed Ohio Theatre in Columbus, to play at the Victoria. This should be a fantastic event. Clark has played extensive silent movie accompaniment, including the Chautauqua Institution in New York, the Packard Foundation's Stanford Theatre, UCLA, and the Fox Theatre for the Atlanta premier of the restored "Metropolis." and plays a silent picture annually on the organ series at L.A.'s new Walt Disney Concert Hall. This event will be open to the public (tickets available), and the chapter will get a tour of the organ prior to the program. **We'll meet for dinner prior to the program.**

Sunday, May 3rd, 2020 at 4pm

Academy Recital & Installation of Chapter Officers

Location: Kettering Seventh Day Adventist Church
3939 Stonebridge Rd, Dayton, OH

Help us celebrate the accomplishments of the young organists of the Organ Academy as well as recognize the efforts and dedication of the Academy instructors. The Installations of Chapter Officers will also be held. A reception will follow the program. **Host: Rachel Lammi**

Upcoming Area Events

2nd and 4th Thursday Afternoon Organ Music on the Dayton Art Institute's 1929 Skinner Organ, 1:00-2:00 pm

- **November 14th – Alan Kimbrough, Organ and Jimmy Leach, Trumpet**

Alan and Jimmy have planned a diverse program with tunes that folks will know well as well as some things they won't. They'll play Clarke's Prince of Denmark from the original virginal/harpsichord book, Jimmy's arrangement of the slow movement of Haydn's Trumpet Concerto, "Jesu Joy" and "Rhosymedre", an original trumpet and organ piece by Verdi discovered in the past few years. Jimmy's arrangement of "Lotus Blossom" by Dayton-born Billy Strayhorn, and the "Prayer of St. Gregory" by Hovhaness.



The 1929 Skinner organ is restored and ready to go. Matt Dierking is coordinating volunteer organists to play informal programs on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month. These are very informal where museum patrons come in and out and are encouraged to talk to the organists. Matt has been playing regularly. Terry Fryman, Carolyn Ripp, Mary Ellen Clinard, Terry Donat and Rachel Lammi have also played. If you would like to play, contact Matt Dierking: matt.dierking@agodayton.org or cell: 937-505-7290.

Sunday, November 3, 4:00 p.m.

Bach Society of Dayton Concert – “Haydn and More” -

Kettering Adventist Church 3939 Stonebridge Road Kettering, OH

Missa brevis St. Joannis de Deo – Haydn; Motet No. 6 (Lobet den Herrn, alle Heiden) – J. S. Bach; Salve Regina – Haydn; Concerto for Organ and Strings in F – Haydn; Credo – Vivaldi; The Bach Society will be joined with The Stivers School for the Arts Chamber Choir, Paula Powell, Director; and Minnita Daniel-Cox, Soprano - - String orchestra – R. Alan Kimbrough, Organist; John Neely, Music Director



Friday, November 8th, 5:30 PM

The tenth annual Pipe Organ Concert with Appetizers and Mocktails

preceding the concert will take place on Friday, November 8th at First Presbyterian Church 2910 Central Ave., Middletown. The appetizers and mocktails will be served from 5:30-6:30 pm in Fellowship Hall. The concert will take place at 7 pm in the sanctuary. All proceeds from the evenings events will benefit the Organ Support Fund and Choralfest 2020 which sponsors children's choral music. Tickets for the appetizers and mocktails are \$10 for adults, \$5 for children, and free for children 5 and under.

The concert is free and open to the public. This unique pipe organ concert features organist Joyce Zigler, guest organists, handbells, piano, trumpet and vocalists (both adult and children), performing a great variety of music from "Classical to Jazz". For more information call 513-422-6365.



Sunday, November 24, 4:00 p.m.

A Festival of Hymns -- Westminster Presbyterian, Dayton: – Westminster Choir, Calvin, Cherub, and Knox Choirs, Westminster Ringers – Oakwood Brass – Freewill offering.



Dayton Chapter

American Guild of Organists
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