



# Dayton Ohio Chapter The American Guild of Organists



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March 2020

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## Dean's Note By Terry Donat

Dear Colleagues,

It is hard to believe that March is already here and that we have had two wonderful programs behind us this year.

I want to especially thank John Neely for the wonderful workshop on service playing that he presented to us in January at Westminster. Focus was given to hymn playing and techniques to highlight the text as a guide.

Thanks also to Rachel Lammi and Kettering Seventh-day Adventist Church for hosting Paul Byssainthe in recital.

The recital was very well played and received, I particularly enjoyed the three selections by African-American composers, especially appropriate for February.

I hope that everyone can join us on March 8 for the organ crawl, heading south this year to Germantown, Middletown and Springboro. There will be some interesting instruments from the early 1900's to be explored. Please remember to bring shoes and music to give these instrument a try. We'll finish up with dinner at Doubleday's Tavern just two minutes from the last organ!

"Sadly the event scheduled for April 17th, at Victoria Theatre with Clark Wilson has had to be changed due to water damage to the organ - Location TBD. **This program will hopefully be held at a different venue. Watch for further information!.**

I hope that everyone is staying warm, and remember, spring is just around the corner.

Wishing everyone the best.

Terry Donat

Dean, Dayton Chapter AGO



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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](mailto: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.

## Our Next Program: Organ Crawl South March 8th, 2:00 p.m.

**March 8<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m.**  
**Organ Crawl South**

Join us for an Organ Crawl focused on American organs circa 1900. The crawl includes:

- (1) A 1908 Barkhoff sanctuary organ and a Brombaugh organ in the assembly room of St. John's UCC, Germantown;
- (2) An old Kilgen in St. John's Middletown, St. John Church, plus a 1901 Austin in a nearby sister parish.
- (3) An 1890 Frank Roosevelt Organ at Covenant Presbyterian, Springboro. Bring some music and your organ shoes so you can give these wonderful organs a try.

If you'd like to carpool, a van will leave Westminster Presbyterian in Dayton at 2:00 p.m. for the crawl.

### The Crawl Schedule is:

- 2:00 pm Leave Westminster Presbyterian, Dayton
- 2:30 pm Arrive St. John's UCC,  
201 W Market St, Germantown
- 3:30 pm Leave St John's
- 3:50 pm Arrive St. John's/Trinity, Middletown  
1405 1st Ave, Middletown
- 5:00 pm Leave St. John's/Trinity
- 5:20 pm Arrive Covenant Pres,  
495 N Main St, Springboro
- 6:10 pm Leave Covenant
- 6:15 pm Arrive Doubleday's Tavern  
776 N Main St, Springboro

**We'll finish up with dinner at Doubleday's  
Tavern just two minutes from the last organ!**



**Richmond, Virginia Chapter  
Hosts July 2020  
POE+ (Pipe Organ Encounters Plus)**

**Dear AGO Member,**

Greetings from the Richmond, VA, chapter of the American Guild of Organists!

In late July 2020, our chapter is hosting a POE+ (Pipe Organ Encounters Plus) educational event, and we'd like to invite you to help us spread the word about it, perhaps even attending it yourself.

Beginning on Sunday afternoon, July 26th, and ending on Friday afternoon, July 31st, we will offer adult students of all experience levels an intense and exciting schedule of lessons, practice time, workshops, recitals, master classes, and some 'field trips' to interesting places in the Richmond area. There are only three requirements for this level of POE - the participant must be 19 years of age or older, want to improve his/her skills, and currently plays or wishes to play in a church or synagogue setting.

We have established the registration fee at \$500, or \$450 if registered and paid by May 1st. There is also a \$50 single-room supplement for the lodging arrangements. The registration deadline is June 15th.

Two websites have more information on the event – one at the AGO's website, and the other at the Richmond chapter's website.

AGO <https://www.agohq.org/education/poe/poe-plus/>

Richmond <http://poe2020.richmondago.org/>

A copy of the brochure can be found at either website and additional information in general (AGO) and in specifics (Richmond) can also be found at either place.

If you or anybody you know is interested in participating, he/she should start with the application form on the AGO website. A welcome letter will be sent out to the applicant, which will provide information on the next steps to be taken.

We hope that you are able to help us disseminate the information and/or the links to the AGO and chapter websites.

**If you have any questions, please contact either one of us at your earliest convenience.**

**Steve Henley [stevehenley044@gmail.com](mailto:stevehenley044@gmail.com)**

**Kenna Payne [kennajohnp@aol.com](mailto:kennajohnp@aol.com)**

# Dayton Art Institute Skinner Organ Community Service Project Proposed May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015 by Matt Dierking

**Background:** I began playing the Dayton Art Institute's Skinner Organ in 2010 (Note that I had mostly dark hair in the picture) and continued playing semi-regularly until 2015. During that time, the museum had limited resources to keep the organ up, so the organ had been degrading since its last major re-work. By October 2015 the organ was pretty much unplayable.



**Dean's Project:** When I started as Dean in May 2015, I identified several things to start or accomplish during my term. One of those was a community service effort in support of the DAI Organ as shown in this excerpt from May 31<sup>st</sup> Board Meeting Agenda:

*"I would like to propose the Chapter consider a significant community project to work on as a group. I would propose to work with the Dayton Art Institute on restoration of their organ, but I'm sure there are many more options. If the DAI project is adopted I believe it would entail advocacy with DAI and in the community, fundraising support (perhaps regular member concerts), cooperative grant righting, and others. If approved, I will be happy to contact DAI and develop a detailed plan for consideration."*

The Board thought it was a good idea and I was directed to engage with DAI and develop a plan for the organ.

**Multiple Meetings with Museum Staff and Leadership:** To get things going, I had multiple meetings with the DAI leadership and staff including Michael Roediger. These resulted in a plan with the following elements:

- Assess the Status of the Organ
- Help Define a Plan for Organ Repair
- Identify Possibilities for Funding
- Identify Potential Organ Programs to Highlight and Advocate for the Organ

**Assess the Status of the Organ:** I did an initial assessment of the organ which had multiple issues: (1) The Diapason rank was dead; (2) There were a half dozen persistent ciphers and many intermittent ciphers across the organ, (3) There were around two dozen dead notes across the organ - many in the most commonly used regions and voices. (4) There were console issues that caused some ranks to work from the swell but not on the great; (5) There were major air leaks across the organ - the leaks were so bad that a sustained chord with moderate registrations would quickly drain the reservoirs; and (6) The expression shutters had significant issues

**Help Define an Organ Repair Plan:** Dick Krewson and Matt Hunt did an additional assessment and built a plan to repair the organ that included:

- Rebuilding the three primary/secondary control boards (3 boards).
- Open the wind chests to identify and replace any bad components (leather, washers, springs, felt or cork gaskets, etc.).
- Clean all magnets and armatures to mitigate ciphers due to dirt and debris
- Repair any wind leaks (new cork and or felt as needed )

- Replace any defective wind sleeves and clamps
- Pipe repair ranging from repairing large cracks in wood pipes to straightening bent or dented pipes to re-packing of stoppered pipes
- Repair / replace expression shade actuators

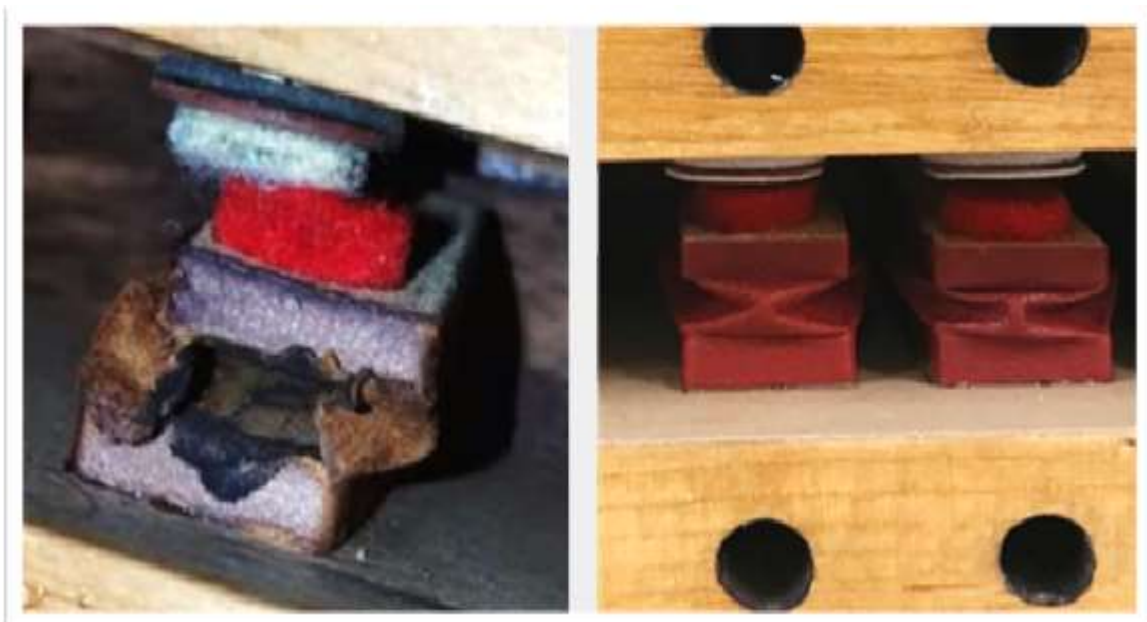
There were many things that were known problems, but others where the extent of the problems could only be determined after opening the organ. This turned out to be significant for the air leaks, ciphers and dead notes. Dick and Matt put together a phased plan but almost everything except the most basic repairs required bringing the organ down,

**Identify Possibilities for Funding:** The DAI had some existing grant money that was able to get the repairs started, but the sources for the full amount were unknown. In addition, the full cost of the repair was unknown since many of the most significant issues would not be known until the organ was opened. We discussed several fund raising activities, but between the initial funds and the subsequent generous donations of Mimi and Stuart Rose the major portions of the repairs were funded.

**Repairs:** The repairs were begun with a relatively short schedule, but due to the significant issues within the wind chests and other complicating issues the repairs took over 2 years to complete. Virtually every wind chest was disassembled, cleaned, repaired as needed, all the leather, washers, felt or cork gaskets were replaced. To do this all the nearly 1400 pipes were removed, many were repaired, and all were moved from the chambers to the DAI kitchen where they were cleaned before re-installation. Thanks to Dick Krewson and Matt Hunt and Barb for their work!



Pictures before and after the rebuild!





**Identify Potential Organ Programs to Advocate for the Organ:** In the meetings with the DAI leadership, it was agreed that the best way to advocate for the organ was to use it! We agreed on a program where the AGO would help in three ways:

- **Organ Integrated into Museum Events:** Whenever possible, the organ would be highlighted in museum activities. Since the rebuild the organ has been used in multiple Vine and Canvas programs, the Grand Re-Opening, Oktoberfest, the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration and three Halloween Spooktakulars.
- **Regular Informal Concerts:** In the spirit of the Wanamaker performances, Thursday afternoon concerts were planned for two Thursday afternoons a month and all Thursdays in December for Christmas. Matt Dierking plays these regularly, but also helps organize other volunteers to play. To date, nine other members have also played.
- **Special Museum Sponsored Organ Concerts and Events:** The DAI will Sponsor formal concerts when possible.

In all of these cases, the AGO (Matt Dierking) would help to organize support for the events. The first advocacy event occurred before the organ repairs were completed.

**April 2017 - Vine & Canvas:** “Wet Your Pipes I” was a Vine & Canvas event focused on the organ. Matt Dierking gave a talk on the organ, its history and pipe organs in general. Matt Hunt and Dick Krewson described the organ repairs and demonstrated a variety of pipes, and different voices.

**October 2017 - Spontaneous “Spooktakular”** – The organ came up a few days before Halloween in 2017. The Chapter had just held a scary music night at Rieger’s “LeBarn”, so Matt Dierking and Lynn Mishler had prepared silent film accompaniments. We worked with the DAI and got the word out just a couple of days before program, but the first “Spooktakular” had over 150 people attend and was a lot of fun. The Spooktakular has become an annual event for the DAI! More on those later.



**January 2018 – DAI Vine & Canvas: Wet Your Pipes II:** A second wet your Pipes was held in early 2018 to announce the organ was back. Matt Dierking presented an updated talk on the organ and the refurbishment, but then played a half hour program demonstrating the newly restored organ.

**November 2018 – DAI Vine & Canvas: Veteran’s Day:** The next event was a Veteran’s Day Vine & Canvas. Matt played a variety of patriotic selections accompanied by a patriotic slide show. This was a wonderful program. If you’ve never been to a Vine & Canvas, you should give it a try – it’s a great night out!



**December 2018 – DAI Sponsored Dr. Yun Kim Christmas Concert:** In December, the DAI hosted and sponsored its first paid concert. Yun, her husband and Elaina McCormick (Soprano) gave a wonderful holiday concert really showing off the Skinner both as a solo instrument and accompaniment.



**May 2019 – The Auditorium Grand Reopening:** was a broad ranging ribbon cutting celebration with performers from all around the Dayton area including musical groups, dancers, acting groups and many others. Matt Dierking and Matt Hunt both played for the program and Matt Hunt and Dick Krewson got to take a well-deserved victory lap for all the work restoring the organ. This program really got to show off the organ for a diverse crowd of DAI members as well as state and local dignitaries.





**September 2018 – Oktoberfest:** Playing Oom-Pah music for Oktoberfest is a blast. What better way to support the DAI than to play for their big festival, meet lots of fun people, drink a little beer and celebrate with Family.



**2017, 2018 and 2019 Spooktacular Halloween Concerts:** The Spooktaculars are my personal favorite, and so far are the best attended DAI Organ events with over 400 guests in 2018. Each year, multiple organists play to silent films ranging from current shorts from film schools to a 1910 version of Frankenstein by Thomas Edison. The organist dress up and it's tremendous fun for us and the audience. Thanks so much to Lynn Mishler, Priscilla Acuff, Mary Ellen Clinard, Daniel Yoder and Trudy Faber who joined the fun in 2019.





The 2019 Spooktacular Organ Ghouls got even scarier with the addition of Trudy Faber



**2019 - DAI 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration:** was another interdisciplinary event with representation from across the Miami Valley with jazz groups, dance groups, acting companies and Matt Dierking playing the organ.



**Radio Programs:** We helped to promote the DAI organ by participating in two radio programs. The first program was posted July 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018 on Dayton Public Radio's website entitled "Organ Concerts at Dayton Art Institute" by Grace James. This program focused on the organ and the informal Thursday Concerts. You can hear it at:

<https://discoverclassical.org/area.htm>



The Dayton Art Institute has presented a series of organ concerts on Thursday Afternoons this summer.

The Skinner pipe organ was originally built in 1929, around the same time that the museum itself was constructed. Ernest Skinner was one of the foremost organ builders in the world and was instrumental in advancing the technology of the organ in the 20th century.

The Dayton Art Institute is a fantastic place to play," Matt Dierking said. "The original inner has an amazing sound." Matt described what made Skinner pipe organs special. "They are modeled after the French symphonic organ, and they feature solo stops, such as the clarinet and tuba," he remarked.



Matt Dierking plays the Art Institute's recently restored Skinner pipe organ.

## Culture Couch Pulls Out All The Stops On The Dayton Art Institute Skinner Organ

By JASON REYNOLDS - JUN 12, 2019

Community Voices | Share | Tweet | Email



Matt Dierking organizes the Skinner Pipe Organ concerts at the Dayton Art Institute and often performs at them. A Skinner in full was king order with the original pipes in a variety these days, something akin to a Steinway's instrument.

JASON REYNOLDS/WYSO

The second was June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019 on WYSO's program, "Culture Couch Pulls Out All The Stops on the Dayton Art Institute Skinner Organ" By Jason Reynolds. Terry Donat and Matt Dierking both participated. You can hear the program at the link: <https://www.wyso.org/post/culture-couch-pulls-out-all-stops-dayton-art-institute-skinner-organ>

**Regular 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday Afternoon Organ Recitals:** The most regular programs for the organ are the Thursday concerts. Since the organ came back to life in 2017, there have been approximately 30 afternoon recitals by AGO Volunteers. These are very informal where museum patrons come in and out, are encouraged to talk to the organists, ask questions and really learn about the organ. The audiences range from just a few up to 80 or 90 depending on the day. Many have never heard a pipe organ live before. It is an incredibly fun outreach talking to patrons about the music and the organ. Matt has been playing regularly. **Huge Thanks** to Terry Fryman, Carolyn Ripp, Mary Ellen Clinard, Terry Donat, Grant Wareham, Rachel Lammi, Alan Kimbrough, Jimmy Leach and Donna Larsen who have all played on Thursdays. If you would like to play, contact Matt Dierking: [matt.dierking@agodayton.org](mailto:matt.dierking@agodayton.org) or cell: 937-505-7290.

**SUMMARY:** The service project has been a success. The AGO and DAI organ have had regular concerts and supported a variety of special DAI events. We have let many new people hear the pipe organ promoting the DAI, the Skinner organ and the AGO! Thanks to all who have helped and Ellen Bagley for suggesting I write this up!



# 2019-2020 Programs

## Dayton Chapter of the AGO

**March 2020 - March 8<sup>th</sup>, 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 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 7:30 p.m.**

### **Clark Wilson Silent Film Accompaniment – Program Change**

**Location: TBD – Due to water damage to the organ at the Victoria Theater, This program will Hopefully be held at a different venue. Watch for Further Information!!**

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

**Sunday, March 8, 4:00 p.m.**

### **Lenten Choral Vespers**

**Westminster Presbyterian Church, Dayton**

“A Treasury of Choral Gems”

“Salvation Is Created” - Pavel Tschesnokoff

“Let Thy Holy Presence” - Pavel Tschesnokoff

Cantique de Jean Racine – Gabriel Fauré

Requiem – Maurice Duruflé

Westminster Choir with organ Plus Handbell music by Westminster Ringers

A freewill offering will be received. Childcare (infant-grade 2)

**Sunday, March 22, 2020 4:00 PM**

### **Devine - Bach Society of Dayton**

**Kettering Adventist Church**

**3939 Stonebridge Road, Kettering, OH**

Lauridsen's *Lux aeterna* and Mozart's *Requiem*, two masterpieces of choral literature, approach the same sacred text from unique perspectives, both shining brightly with eternal light.

*Lux Aeterna* — Morten Lauridsen

*Requiem* — Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Bach Society Chorus and orchestra — John Neely, music director

R. Alan Kimbrough, accompanist



**Sunday, March 29, 4:00 p.m.**

### **Concert by the University of Michigan Men's Glee Club**

Mark Stover, Director

Westminster Presbyterian Church, Dayton

Sponsored by The University of Michigan Alumni Club of Dayton

Freewill offering – Suggested donation: \$10 per person

All proceeds will go into the local student scholarship fund of The University of Michigan Alumni Club of Dayton

### **2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays Afternoon Music on the Dayton Art Institute's 1929 Skinner Organ, 1:00-2:00 pm**

The 1929 Skinner organ is restored and ready to go. Matt Dierking is coordinating volunteer organists to play informal programs on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays of each month. These are very informal where museum patrons come in and out and are encouraged to talk to the organist. Matt is playing regularly. Thanks to the following for playing; Terry Fryman, Carolyn Ripp, Mary Ellen Clinard, Terry Donat, Grant Wareham, Rachel Lammi, Alan Kimbrough, Jimmy Leach and Donna Larsen. If you would like to play, contact Matt Dierking:

[matt.dierking@agodayton.org](mailto:matt.dierking@agodayton.org) or cell: 937-505-7290.

# Richard Hills Organ Concert

May 17, 2020 at 3:00 PM  
St. John's Lutheran Church  
209 Southwest St.  
Bellevue, OH 44811



*photo Courtesy of the Embassy Theater Foundation.*

For this special free community event, internationally renowned organist, Mr. Richard Hills from London, England, will perform a spectacular and varied afternoon concert.

**Richard Hills** is widely acknowledged as one of the very few musicians to have bridged and mastered the divide between the classical and theatre organ worlds.

St. John's Lutheran Church, Bellevue Ohio, is proud to present a community celebration of the Tallar-Clark tonal re-design of our IV/53 rank 3,500 pipe organ.



## NEW: Westminster Presbyterian Church Music Residency Program

Dear Colleagues,

**Westminster Presbyterian Church** in Dayton, Ohio is beginning a **Residency Program** for music graduates who are considering a career in church music. While some students will be headed directly to graduate school, there may be others who are contemplating their future and still deciding what direction they may take upon completing their undergraduate degree. Our music residency program may be just what they need.



Further information can be found by using the following link: <http://westminsterdayton.org/serve/residency-program.html>

**It is important to note that this is a paid residency including salary and benefits.** This is an eleven - month residency program beginning in September 2020. Westminster Presbyterian Church has a long history of outstanding church music. The Westminster Choir College began here in the 1920's, and our renowned Casavant organ is one of the largest church organs in the country. This strong choral and music tradition continues to be a valued part of our church. The Westminster Residency in Church Vocation allows us to pass this legacy on to future generations.

Please consider sharing this information with your students who are preparing to graduate. If you would like hard copies of the program brochure, please let me know. We are seeking highly qualified candidates who are looking for the opportunity to further develop their musical and leadership skills for music ministry in the church. Please feel free to contact Brent Manley (937-430-7036, text or call) with any questions you may have.

Thank you very much for your time.

Sincerely,

**Brent Manley**

Westminster Presbyterian Church  
Music Associate and Residency Coordinator  
937-223-7285 (church), 937-430-7036 (cell)

## 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 monthlies 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 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor in room 301.







**Dayton Chapter**

American Guild of Organists  
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