

THE TRUMPETINGS

OCTOBER 2023

Dayton Ohio Chapter
American Guild of Organists



WELCOME

New & Returning Members

Jill-Ann Bryant

Laura Bottei

Deborah Courtney

Hunt Pipe Organ Services

Kathy Maresca

Helen Pemberton

Jim Will



OCTOBER CHAPTER EVENTS

Host - John Neely

October 7 - 10am

FOR ALL THE WORLD TO HEAR
Westminster Presbyterian Church
125 N. Wilkinson St. Dayton
Fellowship Hall

James O'Donnell shares his experience as the organist for Westminster Abbey in London and playing the state services of the Royal Family. Bring friends, family, and any Anglophiles you know to this unique lecture to learn about O'Donnell's career. He played the Funeral Services of the Queen Mother, Prince Philip, and Queen Elizabeth; as well as the wedding of Prince William and Kate Middleton.



October 8 - 4pm James O'Donnell Concert

Annual Memorial Organ Concert
Westminster Presbyterian Church

Free parking is available for both events in the lot on First Street across from the church and on downtown streets.

DEAN'S MESSAGE

Mary Ellen Clinard, Dean



Confessions of an AGO member

I grew up in a small town. After my piano teacher retired, my mom convinced a local organist to give me lessons. We had a second hand Hammond B-3 at home, with a full pedal board. My teacher went full steam ahead teaching me how to play organ. I didn't realize it at the time, but when I got to college lessons I knew she had prepared me with all the appropriate literature one should know. I've always been curious how she ended up in that small town nearly 2 hours from any major city with that kind of expertise. I never thought to ask until it was too late and she had passed.

In college, I continued to learn on small but serviceable pipe organs; a 7/2 Bigelow and a 15/2 Wilhelm. Due to the Hammond and these small instruments, as I moved along in my career, I subbed on whatever instruments a church owned. After college, I wasn't around other organists and never had much communication with whomever I was subbing. Every organ was different and there wasn't a lot of time to do a lot of registration experimentation.

Enter the AGO-Early in my membership experience, at one AGO workshop, the organist talked about "unison off." I had seen that on organs but had not idea how to use it. It was demonstrated and a whole new world opened up on creating registration! That learning continues today. Very rarely to I leave a meeting or workshop without learning something new. I realized that although we may take lessons and work as organists, we don't have much opportunity to talk with other organists and learn from them unless we are part of an organization like AGO. It has been invaluable to me in my growth as a musician and organist. Get involved in our chapter and ask questions! Someone in our chapter may know the answer.

AGO MUSIC LIBRARY

Sale at Every Monthly Chapter Meeting

Chapter Music Library Ongoing Sale

Exclusive to Dayton AGO members is access to a treasure trove of music! By the generosity of Westminster Presbyterian Church, Dayton, the chapter music library has been safely housed. This year, we will be bringing you seasonal music from our library for your perusal and purchase at each meeting. Sales will be CASH ONLY and all proceeds go towards our scholarship fund.

Why look through this music?

Karen Bocko, our Sub-Dean, shares she found a copy of a favorite piece of music, the score of which she had lost years ago! Rachel Lammi and other Organ Academy Teachers have found music for their students. There are even Organmaster shoes available from time to time.

Maybe you have lost the Table of Contents to a book, or spilled coffee on your music (Our Dean's experience). Maybe you just want to try something different.

This is a great way to build your organ music library!

At \$1 each, it is a steal!!!

Most monthly library sales will have a theme. Since our October event is at Westminster, we get to explore the entire library this month!

OFFICERS

Dean

Mary Ellen Clinard

Sub-Dean

Karen Bocko

Secretary

Priscilla Acuff

Treasurer

Dr. Yun Kim

BOARD

Class of 2024

Danielle Guilbault

Dr. Alan Kimbrough

Class of 2025

Dr. Sharon V. Gheynst

Michelle Carner

Class of 2026

Marie Bliss

Dr. Jimmy Leach

CHAIRPERSONS

Organ Academy Chair

Rachel Spry Lammi

Educational Concerns

Judy Bede

Placement

Effie Sue Kemerley

Membership & Directory

Ellen Bagley

Newsletter Editor

Rachel Spry Lammi

2023-2024 CHAPTER EVENTS

Local events

October 8, 4pm James O'Donnell Concert
Westminster Presbyterian

November 12, 3pm Playing our Favorites
Urbana UMC

January 14, TBA How Music Therapy Changes Lives
Emmanuel Catholic

February 4, 4pm Avocation vs. Vocation
Abiding Christ Lutheran

March 9, 2pm Music Library and Dinner
Westminster Presbyterian

April 28, 2pm Organ Crawl
Minster, Ohio

May 5, 4pm Organ Academy/Scholarship Winner Recital
and Installation of Officers
St. George's Episcopal Church

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Publication occurs the 1st of each month. Information on upcoming concerts, programs, and articles on organ and choral related topics are welcome.

Please submit these to our editor, Rachel Lammi, by the 22nd of the month prior to desired publication.

Please send raw, unformatted text and jpeg pictures.

Please be sure submit changes to your contact information to guarantee you receive chapter communications.

www.daytonago.org

USEFUL NOTE

Underlined items are email or website links.

JOB HIGHLIGHT

Covenant Presbyterian, Springfield



Church Organist

Covenant Presbyterian Church

Springfield, Ohio 45503 (Downtown area)

Part-time: Program staff. Average 12 hours per week

Covenant Presbyterian Church is a mission-driven, inclusive community in downtown Springfield, Ohio. Covenant is seeking an organist to join our music program.

We offer a weekly traditional service at 10:30 am in our beautiful sanctuary. Covenant has a long tradition of quality music programs that enhance the worship experience and engage the community-at-large and a congregation that loves and appreciates good music. Our Schantz organ has 3046 pipes, three manuals, full pedalboard, and 56 ranks. It was built and installed in 1962 and is maintained by Peebles-Herzog, Inc.

This part-time position includes a weekly Sunday morning rehearsal and service and negotiable Thursday evening rehearsals.

The service music includes prelude, hymns, anthem, Doxology, Gloria Patri, and postlude.

The organist is also responsible for evening holiday services as needed including Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Carols & Lights, Christmas Eve, and Christmas occurring on a Sunday. For additional compensation, the organist serves as the point of contact for weddings and funerals and, if requested, provides music for these services. Ability to play the piano is preferred.

Full position description available upon request.

Education/Experience: Bachelor of Music in Organ Performance preferred or equivalent experience.

Salary range: Minimum \$24,000. Salary is commensurate with education and experience.

Applicants should submit resume to Pastor Jody Noble at

Fire2Last@aol.com or call

937-325-2427 for questions.

JOB OPENINGS

Unless otherwise indicated, these institutions are seeking part-time organists. Complete details can be found at the chapter website.

*Covenant Presbyterian
Springfield, Ohio*

*Troy Church of the Brethren
Troy, Ohio*

*Mosaic Church
Beavercreek, Ohio*

*High Street UMC
Springfield, Ohio
Part-time choir director*

*Good Shepherd Lutheran
West Milton, Ohio
Part-time keyboardist*

*First Presbyterian
Troy, Ohio*

*St. Paul UCC
New Bremen, Ohio*

*First Church of Christ, Scientist
Dayton, Ohio*

*First Presbyterian
Troy, Ohio*

*Royal Redeemer Lutheran
Liberty Township, Ohio*

*St. Paul's Episcopal
Greenville, Ohio*

*First Lutheran
Troy, Ohio*

MEMBER HIGHLIGHT

Janet Burkett

What inspired your decision to be an organist?

One Sunday morning, the sun shone in the church windows as the choir processed in while the first hymn was sung. I don't remember the hymn, but I remember thinking, "That's the instrument I want to play!"

If you had/have another career, please tell a little about that part of your life.

My first job was in electrical engineering as a test equipment engineer. Then, my husband and I raised 2 daughters and I volunteered and began playing again. I did some homeschool and some tutoring. Now I am giving piano lessons and working as an organists. I have just enough students to give a short recital. Most are beginners and their parents and families are just as excited as the students. It is wonderful to speak to a smiling and joyful crowd.

What is one of your "organist disaster" stories?

I was playing for a wedding and an unusual version of The Lord's Prayer was requested. The soloist didn't show up. I struggled and so did everyone else. I felt so bad for the couple.

What bits of advice would you give a beginning organist?

Remember you are playing for someone besides the congregation and God never asks for more than you can give.



QUICK FACTS

BORN & RAISED

Brookville, Ohio

CURRENT MUSIC POSITION

Organist/accompanist

Grace Lutheran

Eaton, Ohio

OTHER CAREER

Test Equipment Engineer

REPEATABLE MOVIE

Anything with a
happy ending

FAVORITE SMELL

Fresh Cut Spring Grass
Pine Trees by Lake

Want to know more about Janet? You can meet her at many of our chapter events.

LOCAL CONCERTS

Local events

October 8 - 4pm

James O'Donnell

Annual Memorial Organ Concert

Westminster Presbyterian

125 North Wilkinson Street, Dayton

October 15 - 3pm

Anna Han, Piano

Christ Church UMC

3440 Shroyer Road, Kettering

Hailed by the Washington Post as "prodigiously gifted...a display of imagination, taste and pianistic firepower far beyond her years."

NOONDAY ORGAN RECITALS

Thursdays in October - 12:10-12:35 pm

Westminster Presbyterian

October 5 – Trent Sims

October 12 – John Sherer

October 19 – Brent Manley

October 26 – Victor Kovacs

Lunch follows each recital. \$7.00

Your events could be shared here. Please submit information to Rachel Lammi by the 22nd of the month.

Dayton Art Institute SPOOKTACULAR

October 29 - 2pm

Rose Auditorium



LOCAL CONCERTS

Local events

**Piano Masterclass & Gala Concert featuring
Kara Huber, Grammy-nominated concert pianist
joined by Dr. Yun Kim, concert organist**

Masterclass: Saturday November 4 - 3pm

Concert: Sunday November 5 - 3pm

Christ Episcopal Church

20 West First Street

Dayton, Ohio

This gala concert will showcase the church's new Steinway "Sterling Edition" 9 foot concert grand piano, played by dazzling prize-winning concert pianist Kara Huber. Kara, who is Instructor of Piano at Interlochen Academy, will also offer a master class for junior high and high school ages pianists. Our very own chapter member, Yun Kim will be featured in an organ/piano duet and organ transcriptions of piano literature as part of our chapter's outreach program.



WANT TO PLAY THE DAI SKINNER?

Matt Dierking

The Dayton Art Institute Skinner organ is a wonderful instrument with some absolutely beautiful voices. The organ is located within the beautiful Italian renaissance style Rose Auditorium. Both the organ and the Rose underwent extensive repairs and renovations from 2015-2017 which makes playing there a simply awesome experience. In addition, the museum staff are extremely friendly and supportive. I love to play at the DAI. I have organized and played a wide variety of programs there since 2010. If you'd like a chance to play the DAI Skinner, there are two great ways to get engaged. They include the regular Sunday afternoon organ programs and my personal favorite, the "Halloween Spooktacular."

Regular 1st and 3rd Sunday afternoon organ programs are designed to be informal, fun, and a little educational. People are welcome to come in and out of the auditorium during the performances. I liken it to the Wanamaker performances. With the doors open, the sound carries throughout the galleries for people to enjoy. It often brings them into the auditorium like the pied piper. One of the best parts is that you are free to play whatever you like. I recommend a program with a wide breadth of music. I often play programs ranging from Roberday fugues to Walt Disney. Also I typically play music for the holidays in the month like "Love Songs from the 1500s to 2000" for Valentines Day; German Oom-Pah music for Oktoberfest (one of my favorites); and Patriotic music for Memorial Day, Fourth of July, and

DAI CONCERTS

1st & 3rd Sundays at 2pm

Oct - Matt Dierking

Oct - Matt Dierking

Want to play a DAI concert?

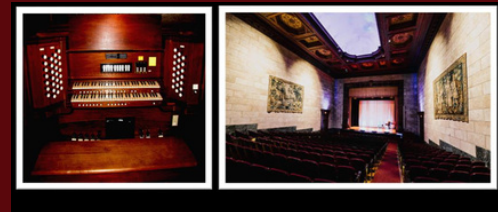
All Dayton AGO Chapter members are encouraged to take turns presenting these concerts. Contact Matt Dierking if you wish to perform one of these 1 hour programs.

Begun in 2010 by Matt Dierking, these concerts serve to generate interest and educate museum patrons on the pipe organ by playing a wide variety of music and showing off the many varied dimensions of the DAI Skinner Organ.



Veterans Day. Again, it's your chance to go wild. Thanks to Mary Ellen Clinard, Terry Donat, Alan Kimbrough, Rachel Lammi, Donna Larson, Jimmy Leach, and Grant Wareham who have all played programs. Sorry, I'm sure I missed some! When you play there, I highly recommend talking with the audience about the music you play, the DAI organ, organs in general, and ask for audience questions. You can also talk about the AGO and our events and resources. Sometimes the audience is quiet, but they are always friendly and appreciative. When they're engaged, it can be great fun. The excitement and curiosity of kids can be especially fun and rewarding. The audience will usually be a mix of regulars, new folks who made the visit for the organ program, and new folks who just wandered in. There are typically 20-30 people, but on occasion there have been up to about 100. It just depends on the day. It is surprising how many times people say it was the first time they heard a pipe organ live. This is a great way to promote the pipe organ, the DAI and the AGO. These programs are one hour long, but the actual music time will vary with how much you and the audience talk.

The DAI's 7th annual Halloween Spooktacular will be held on Sunday October 29th, 2023 at 2:00 pm. The Spooktacular is a "Silent Film" event mixing scary films with funny music, wacky films with creepy music, and bone-chilling films with eerie music. For me, surprise and juxtaposition are the keys. The first Spooktacular was played in 2017 by Matt Dierking and Lynn Mishler, but more eerie organists soon joined in the fun. From the beginning, the Spooktacular has been one of the most fun and best attended organ events. Matt Dierking, Priscilla Acuff, Mary Ellen Clinard, Lynn Mishler, and Trudy Faber played the last Pre-Covid "Spooktacular." The 450 seat auditorium is usually pretty full for the "Spooktacular." Playing the "Spooktacular"



can be a little more challenging since you will be accompanying a silent film. The most difficult approach is the full silent film approach which requires timing different themes, registrations, and keys to support the movie action. (The Tom Mix cut sheet picture shows the beginning themes used throughout the film "King Cowboy" listed by moment in the film. The organist would improvise on these. Priscilla Acuff and Yun Kim are great at this!) The second approach is easier and combines a single (or few) pieces or themes with significant timing, tempo, volume, and key modulations to support the action. It still requires timing but the changes are slower and less frequent. The final and easiest approach is to play a single piece slightly modified with tempo, registrations, repeats, etc. to support the music. We try to mix all these approaches in a "Spooktacular." If you're new to this, we can help you find films, suggest music to play with it, and help you with the accompaniment approaches. Covid caused DAI operating restrictions and late program approvals. Therefore, I played those "Spooktaculars" as a lonely ghost. Now the museum is back to normal operations and the 2023 "Spooktacular" is back on in full spooky form! The "Spooktacular" is great fun for the organists. We dress up, give each other spooky names, combine great music with crazy films, and then head to dinner in costume after the program to celebrate. I hope we will have three or four organ ghouls join in again this year. If you would like to play for a Sunday program or "Spooktacular," please let me know.

