



October 2025

**Dayton Chapter  
American Guild of Organists  
NEWSLETTER**

## **Digital Downloads and Legacy Libraries**

*By Karen Bocko, Dean*

In my opinion, there is nothing more fulfilling and stimulating than holding a brand-new printed book regardless if it holds a novel or music scores. Think back to the last time you left a bookstore with at least one new purchase . . . wasn't the feel, the smell of the book almost therapeutic!? And the anticipation of sitting down with that book, whether on a comfy chair or an organ bench, always provided quite the rush.

Yet with current technology, I have too often traded that wonderful experience for the convenience of digital purchases. The ability to search various publishing houses' websites and have instant access via a download has been a blessing on more than one occasion. And to add to the convenience, each supplier stores my purchases in my account for easy access.

But what happens to these digital purchases when I die? That was the question that was raised as arrangements were being made for several young organ students to inherit my traditionally printed music. The investment in digital downloads now probably equals or exceeds that of my hard-copy music. So I casually inquired with the publishing houses I use on their regulations on transferring ownership of digital purchases. Responses were varied and a bit confusing and the effort got reprioritized. But as my expiration date gets closer and closer, I will be contacting the companies again and requesting their official policy on ownership transfer. Responses will be included in a future newsletter.

Below are the publishing houses from which I purchase. If you use other sources not on the list, please send me an email and I will include them in my research. Let's keep the music flowing!

**ECS Publishing Group**

**The Lorenz Corporation**

**Concordia Publishing House**

**Augsburg Fortress Publishers**

**GIA Publications**

**Hope Publishing Company**

## DAYTON AGO OCTOBER

### Joshua Stafford Improvisation Workshop

Saturday, October 4, 2025 at 10:00 AM

Westminster Presbyterian Church

125 N Wilkinson St, Dayton, OH 45402

Google Map: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/RHYEMm6qWxAQnoac8>

*There is FREE parking in the lot across from the church.*

*A handicap entrance is located on the west side of the church.*



Come learn to add color and spontaneity to your playing when award winning Organist Joshua Stafford, conducts a workshop on improvisation. Joshua got an introduction to organ improv while studying in Philadelphia at the Curtis Institute of Music, where Samuel Barber and Leonard Bernstein were schooled. He delved deeper into improvisation at Yale, as a student of Jeff Brillhart in the master's program. Mr. Stafford received the Bachelor of Music degree from the Curtis Institute of Music in 2010 and his Master of Music degree from the Yale School of Music in 2012. Mr. Stafford is currently the Minister of Music at First Congregational Church in Columbus, Ohio and Director of Sacred Music at the Chautauqua Institute in New York. Mr. Stafford has performed at notable venues including the Wanamaker Organ in Philadelphia, the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington D.C., Philadelphia's Kimmel Center, and Spivey Hall in Georgia.

### **AFTERWARD.....**

We will go to lunch at Jimmie's Ladder 11 immediately following the workshop. Jimmie's is an 1892 firehouse turned folksy-chic tavern with an extensive beer list. Our improvisations will sound better after a beer! Please RSVP to Matt Dierking ([matt.dierking@gmail.com](mailto:matt.dierking@gmail.com)) for the lunch reservation. Ladder 11 is located at 936 Brown St, Dayton.

Google Map: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/UxfzPaCZESvSmXS68>

### **...AND NOT TO BE MISSED!**

Josh will play a concert at Westminster on Sunday, Oct. 5th at 4pm

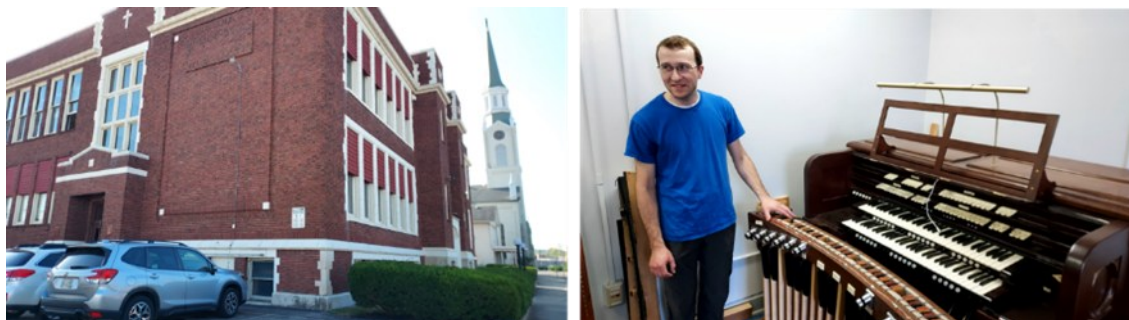
### **LAST BUT NOT LEAST!**

Workshop attendees will be able to browse the Dayton AGO music library before and after Saturday's workshop. Thanks to Madeleine Demetriades and her terrific parents, David and Mona Connolly, for their tremendous amount of effort invested in cleaning and organizing the library!

## SEPTEMBER PROGRAM PHOTO ALBUM

### Koch & Company Pipe Organ Factory Tour

On Saturday, September 13<sup>th</sup>, the Dayton Chapter kicked off the program season with a tour of the Koch & Company Pipe Organ Factory on Bainbridge Street. Nicholas Koch and his staff hosted an outstanding tour of their entire facility located in the old school building of Holy Trinity Catholic Church. Over 30 people enjoyed the Koch tour including both people from the chapter, St Joseph's and the public. Nicholas led the tour through the electronics room, pipe storage room, the voicing and tuning room and the main room with the St Joseph's organ buildup.



The first stop in the main hall was the buildup of Koch organ design for St Joseph's Catholic Church. Nicholas combines traditional organ design with modern systems engineering to create modular design with classical organ performance that is both cost effective and easier to install and maintain. Per the Koch website, the St Joseph's organ is described as:

*The opus 4 is a hybrid organ of 40 ranks spanning 4 divisions and played by a 3 manual, American terraced style, drawknob console. The Swell and Choir Organs are fully under expression, and the Great Organ is partially enclosed with the Choir. The diapason chorus on the Great will be unenclosed. This organ features seven 16' stops including a 16' Diapason, 16' Subbass, 16' Bourdon Dolce, 16' Violoncello, 16' Gemshorn, 16' Trombone, and 16' Bassoon.*

As shown in the photos on page 4, we saw the organ buildup in process on the tour. Next spring as part 2 of our New Organ Crawl, we'll get to see and play the finished organ in it's home at St Joseph's.

*Shop buildup of the Koch organ for St Joseph's Catholic Church – We'll get to play the final organ next spring.*



In the electronics room, Nicholas, Tom and Emily presented their work on the consoles toe boards, and control systems for the organs. They also discussed the reclamation of components ranging from rare old wood stocks like mahogany, toe boards and keyboards. These can be used to match existing organ casework, reduce costs and in the case of keyboards refurbish existing consoles with matching keyboards from the original makers. This includes ivory keyboards and laminates.

*Nicholas, Tom and Emily of Kock organ presented their work in the electronics room. They discussed everything from keyboards to toe boards.*



*Future Organists simultaneously enjoy the tour and a donut!*



Nicholas led the group through multiple pipe storage rooms. The ranks of pipes were recovered from a variety of organs from the Dayton and Cincinnati areas many dating back to the 1800's. According to Nicholas, using old pipes can decrease the organ cost for the customer, but more importantly, it can capture the historic sounds of those wonderful old makers and instruments. Many of the pipes in the pictures below will make their way into the St Joseph's organ. The upright pipes are the façade pipes for that instrument. Cleaning these pipes revealed an old stencil pattern which St Joseph's plans to restore before installation.

*Nicholas provided a tour of multiple rooms of reclaimed pipe work including stenciled façade pipes that will be repainted for the St Joseph's organ.*



In the voicing room, Nicholas discussed and demonstrated a variety different pipes including multiple flues, clarinets, trumpets and of course the vox humana. Nicholas gave a perfect description of the vox as “angry bees in a can”. He demonstrated the differences between pipes both in the same and different families and discussed the procedures for voicing and tuning.



*Nicholas repeated his voicing room talk for a couple of smaller groups leaving a little time to socialize with Lynn Mishler, current Dean, Karen Bocko and past Dean, Mary Ellen Clinard.*



To wrap up the day, we met at Wheat Penny Grill for lunch. It was a great way to cap off a great tour as well as to catch up with members and friends that we had not seen since the previous year. Thanks again to Nicholas, Tom and Emily for a great tour!





**DAI Halloween Spooktacular**  
Sunday October 26<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm

**DAI** DAYTON ART INSTITUTE

**Spooky Silent films with Scary Music**  
on the 1929 Haunted Skinner Pipe Organ

played by the Ghoulish Organists from the  
**Dayton Chapter of the American Guild of Organists**

Matt Dierking - Lynn Mishler - Jimmy Leach - Priscilla Acuff - Yun Kim



**COMING**  
**Oct 26th!!**

## *In Memoriam*

Teresa (Terri) Fryman, Dayton AGO member, passed away on March 3, 2025.

Terri was such a wonderful person. She was always willing to contribute and brought her smile to everything! Terri regularly attended chapter events ranging from workshops to concerts to AGO conventions. Terri did not just attend, she often contributed to programs like playing for Silent Movie Nights and Volunteering to play programs at the Dayton Art Institute. Terri was a talented musician, a great representative for the organ and a dear friend of our chapter. We will miss her. Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to her husband, James, and sons for their loss.



## COMBINATIONS

### ALWAYS DREAMED OF BEING AN EDITOR??

Do you love designing on the computer and knowing all the AGO news before anyone else? Then being the monthly newsletter editor is for YOU! Contact Mary Ellen at [music@myfumc.net](mailto:music@myfumc.net) if you would like to serve

### NEWSLETTER PUBLICATION DEADLINE

Deadline for sending information and photos for the monthly Dayton Chapter Newsletter is the 20th of the month prior to publication date. For instance, articles and news for the December Newsletter will be due on November 20th. Thanks so much!

## Dayton AGO Leadership

### OFFICERS

Dean—Karen Bocko  
Sub-Dean—Matt Dierking  
Treasurer—Yun Kim  
Secretary—Priscilla Acuff

### BOARD MEMBERS

Judy Bede  
Marie Bliss  
Madeleine Demetriades  
Terry Donat  
Jimmy Leach  
Joe Severyn

### COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Organ Academy Chair— Rachel Spry Lammi  
Educational Concerns— Judy Bede  
Newsletter Editor—Mary Ellen Clinard  
Placement—Jimmy Leach  
Membership & Directory—Ellen Bagley