

Church Organ Department  
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# EVOLA MUSIC



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Welcome to the  
Evola Music  
family !

First United  
Methodist Church  
*Allen Q265 with  
Vista and  
antiphonal*

Ullin Residence,  
Utica, Michigan  
*Allen Custom  
Theatre Compact*

Unity Church,  
Royal Oak,  
Michigan  
*Hammond A-405  
with Leslie*

Houghton Lake  
Baptist Church,  
Houghton Lake,  
Michigan  
*Allen ADC-2110T*

St. Sharbel  
Maronite Church,  
Warren, Michigan  
*Allen MIDI  
Assistant*

## First United Methodist of Troy, Michigan Chooses an Allen Q265 with MIDI Vista and Antiphonal



Fund raising for a new organ at First United Methodist of Troy was accomplished in record time when chairman Michelle Freeman agreed to champion the project. We gave her a little help with our "Buy a Key" program and some small thank you gifts for the donors. Fueled by her determination and enthusiasm the nearly \$60,000 that was needed to reach their goal of a new organ was raised in only a few months.

Prior to this outstanding accomplishment, a letter was sent out to the congregation explaining the

current state of their church's organ. Unfortunately the parts required to fix their increasingly ailing organ were no longer available because the manufacture had long since gone out of business. With the backing of Pastor Hal Weemhoff, Music Director Steve Kosinski and Organist Kim Rawlings, Committee Chair Michelle Freeman and Evola Music's "Buy a Key" program, excitement and fundraising for a new organ was off and running.

Steve and Kim decided that the Allen Quantum Q265 would be the perfect fit for their church. They also chose the Allen Vista MIDI unit which adds hundreds of additional sounds to the organ, playable from either keyboard or pedalboard. The Vista unit also allows the organ to record and playback stored song files at the push of a button. This makes the organ so much more versatile for many styles of music with all of the additional "contemporary keyboard" sounds it can produce.

The 5 main channels of amplification and speakers are located in the altar area, directly across from the choir. It was decided that an additional antiphonal speaker system in the rear of the church would provide a nice surround sound effect, letting the organ fill the church evenly from front and back at the same time. There are controls on the console that allow the organist to use the Swell and Great divisions in either the main or antiphonal locations, or both, giving some very nice effects.

One of the reasons an Allen organ was chosen was the 70+ year history and reputation of the company and the availability of parts, if any repairs might be needed in the future. The high quality of the pipe organ sound was also a key factor in their decision making process. The Allen organ uses state-of-the-art sampling technology that recreates the sound of a pipe organ so true, that many people can not tell it apart from a pipe organ.

The dedication concert was well attended and the church compiled a slide show of some pictures they took during the delivery and installation process. The church has a projection screen on which the pictures were shown. During the actual concert, a video camera projected the live image of the keyboards during the performance. Johnny Kash and Lance Luce each performed selections in their own styles showing off the versatility of the Allen organ with MIDI.

Continued on page 2 ....

## First United Methodist - Troy, continued from page 1

**J**ohnny Kash plays in a classical style and did a great job highlighting the authentic pipe organ sounds. Lance Luce plays in a theatre style, and with the help of the full flute tremolo and the MIDI Vista was able to transform the Allen into a full fledged theatre organ, including sound effects.

The dedication concert was followed by a reception provided by the church. First United Methodist of Troy did a remarkable job of fund raising in a short period of time, and now they can relax knowing that they have an organ that will be reliable for years to come with the support of the Allen Organ Company and Evola Music, a combined history of 150 years!!



Steve Kosinski, Michelle Freeman, Kim Rawlings, Johnny Kash, Pastor Hal Weemhoff, Lance Luce

Here are some kind words that were written on behalf of the church. Our goal is 100% satisfied and happy customers.

Lance,

Thanks so much for all the assistance you have given our church over the past few months as we made decisions regarding the purchase of a new organ for our church. Our members, and in particular, our music staff members, are delighted with our wonderful new instrument!

Once we had determined that the Q265c was a great “fit” for our sanctuary, it was very helpful to discuss potential ideas for trying to raise the necessary funds to purchase it. We found the chart showing the various keys on the organ to be a wonderful “visual” for our congregation to be able to see the progress in our organ campaign, and it was probably the most inspiring tool we could have used to show the progress in our campaign! Coloring in keys as they were “purchased” became a huge goal to be accomplished!

The installation process was very smooth! The Evola staff members who delivered the organ to our church were very courteous and patient, as we worked through access issues to our building. Then you and your installation staff members were delightful to work with as we figured out the best way to install

the various speakers and all the wiring, and followed up with sound checks once everything was installed.

Continuing your excellent service, you have stayed in contact with our church representatives and our organist to make certain we are satisfied with the performance of our new organ – coming back as needed to adjust settings. We are grateful for that personal touch!

Thanks again for all you have done to help us achieve our goal of purchasing a new organ!

Sincerely,  
Rev. Hal Weemhoff, Pastor  
Michelle Freeman, Organ Campaign Chair

## Concerts & Workshops You Won't Want to Miss

**Monday, July 11, 2011, 10:00 am - MIDI workshop** with Joel Hurley. Joel is from the Allen Organ Company, and will demonstrate the new Allen MIDI Vista Navigator and how it can benefit you. Workshop is at the Canton Evola store, 7170 Haggerty Road. Please email or call Donna Shinn, info listed below.

**Sunday, July 24, 2011, 2:00 pm - Dedication concert** at St. Stephens Episcopal Church, 10585 Hamburg Road, Hamburg, MI. 48139 Concert will feature Rick Cucchi and Lance Luce playing the church's new Allen L-4 organ.

**Saturday, August 13, 2011, 1:00 pm - MIDI workshop** with Lance Luce showing the new Allen MIDI Vista Navigator. Workshop will be held at Our Savior Lutheran Church, 123 W. Irwin Street, Bad Axe, Michigan, 48413. Please RSVP to Donna Shinn, info listed below.

**Sunday, August 14, 2011, 1:00 pm - Dedication concert** at Our Savior Lutheran Church, 123 W. Irwin Street, Bad Axe, Michigan, 48413. Concert will feature Rick Cucchi playing the church's new Allen C-15 organ.

**Saturday, August 27, 2011, 10:00 - Hymn Playing and Registration workshop** with Aram Basmadjian. Aram is an “Allen Artist” and has toured the world playing concerts and conducting workshops. This workshop is for all levels of organists, and will be very informative for anyone who finds themselves on the bench of a church organ. The workshop is being held at St. Malachy Parish, 14115 Fourteen Mile Road, Sterling Heights, Michigan, 48312. Please RSVP to Donna via email or phone.

Please keep an eye on our newsletters and our emails to keep you updated on the next workshop available to meet your needs. If you are not on our list of contacts and are not receiving our emails with our most recent upcoming workshops and concerts, please contact Donna Shinn at [donna.shinn@evola.com](mailto:donna.shinn@evola.com) or phone (734) 455-4677 extension 16.

## Life Long Dream Come True for David Ullin

Good things come in small packages” and “Good things come to those who wait”. Both of these apply for David Ullin of Utica, Michigan. David has been a theatre organ enthusiast his whole life, and has always wanted an Allen Theatre Compact organ for his home. A visit to David’s living room tells the story. He has theatre organ pictures, books, magazines, record albums and CD’s on his shelves and walls. Even more impressive was the collection of Allen theatre organ materials including a copy of the book written by Jerome Markowitz, Founder of the Allen Organ Company. I think the finishing touch for me that day was when David served me a cup of coffee in a mug with the Allen organ company logo on it.



David Ullin and Lance Luce

I have known David for 30+ years having met him at several of the theatre organ clubs in the Detroit area. After he attended one of our workshops at Evola Music, he told me of his desire to own an Allen theatre compact organ. On a subsequent visit to the store, he showed me a picture of a vintage one that he had seen on an online auction site. The organ in the picture was of older technology, but it was the size that he was looking for.

Then David told me about the more recent version of this spinet sized theatre organ that used digital sampling technology. There was only one problem; The Allen organ company stopped making it in 2005! David asked if I could inquire with the company and see if they knew of any that might still be available in dealer inventory anywhere in the country. After asking Joel Hurley, the district manager that handles Michigan and the surrounding area, I got an answer neither David nor I were expecting.

The response was that they still had all of the design plans and specifications, and if David so desired, they could build him a custom theatre organ from scratch! After all these years, David was going to fulfill his lifetime dream of a brand new Allen Theatre Compact Organ!

The Evola Music moving crew had the pleasant task of bringing the organ to it’s happy new owner! The organ is the perfect size for its new space and it sounds beautiful. The pipe ranks that Allen has sampled for its theatre organs are superb, and the tibias and voxes warble just as they should for this genre of an organ. Evola Music and the Allen Organ Company have made a life-long dream come true. And, I might add, it was a pleasure doing so. - Lance Luce

## Allen Owner’s Appreciation Dinner a Success !

On January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2011, Evola Music hosted its FIRST Allen Owner’s Appreciation Dinner. This was the first of what we hope will become a regular event. We were pleased to have a dozen churches represented who have been satisfied owners of Allen Organs for many years. Our desire was for our longtime Allen Owners to know that their loyalty to Allen Organ and Evola Music is much appreciated!

We shared a delicious meal together, handed out some prizes to the church with the oldest organ, the friends who traveled the farthest to attend the event, the church organist with the longest length of service, etc. We then moved into the sanctuary of Central Woodward Christian Church to enjoy a demonstration on their brand new 4 manual Allen pipe combination organ.

Some of the comments we received after the event were...

*“...thank you for inviting us to your appreciation dinner...I really enjoyed the entire evening...the food was very good and the people attending were very friendly...I enjoyed the organ explanation and especially the part regarding the various methods a church could use to pay for the instrument! I was also surprised at the sound of the pipes. How beautiful!”*

*“...it was my pleasure to be a guest at the dinner and great introduction to the beautiful new organ...thank you for including me in such a delightful evening and the food was scrumptious!”*

*“...thanks for having the dinner – it was very enjoyable, chatting with people from other places. Wish it were possible to do more of that. Are more events planned for the future?”*

Well, as a matter of fact, YES! We try to have ongoing workshops and events where you can interact with other church musicians as often as possible. Please check this newsletter, your mailbox and your email for the next available event sponsored by Evola Music.

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*Workshops planned, see inside for details*

EVOLA MUSIC CHURCH ORGAN DEPARTMENT

*Cut That Out ! - and we'll mail you a gift!*

Mail this back to us completed (print please), and we'll send you a CD of organ music, free, for your feedback. Thank you in advance

Name or Name of Church \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> We use an organ in our worship service  | <input type="checkbox"/> We use a piano in our worship service           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> We use a keyboard in our worship service  | <input type="checkbox"/> We use a _____ in our worship service           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> We would like you to send information on digital organs                               | <input type="checkbox"/> We would like you to send information on pianos |
| <input type="checkbox"/> We would like you to send information on keyboards                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> We would like you to send information on _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Our organ is old and needs service or replacing                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Our piano is old and needs service or replacing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Our keyboard is old and needs service or replacing                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Our _____ is old and needs service or replacing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> We have some musical instrument needs in our church, can you help us raise the money? |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> We would like to have a free, no obligation, consultation. Please contact us.         |  |