

Organ Shoes Restock Update

Spring restocks are running late. Sizes that are out of stock will arrive September 10th.

What to do? Organists wear special shoes and Beth needed to replace her organ shoes.



Elizabeth's Mary Jane organ shoes ready for deserved retirement.

OrganMaster Shoes advised on their Facebook page in July that an error at the factory followed by Covid 19 decimating their workforce resulted in their men's Oxfords and women's Mary Janes in both black and white leather not being made on time. In addition, they reported that shipping is slow.

Sound familiar? But who would have thought organ shoes would be in short supply?

Mary Janes in Beth's size were not available, regardless of color. However, the men's black oxford shoe was available in her smaller size. If you are ordering a men's shoe for a women remember women's shoe sizes generally run two sizes smaller. So, a women's size 8 shoe would be a size 6 in a men's shoe. We had to return the two pairs in 7 ½ and 8, but OrganMaster will exchange shoes until the

right fit is found, as long as they are not scuffed or blemished.

The men's organ shoes are considered unisex and are sometimes preferred and worn by women. Unlike the Mary Janes the unisex men's black shoe can be dressed up with different color laces or kept formal with black laces.

OrganMaster shoes are made by Capezio a company also known for its dance shoes. Dancer's shoes are very similar to organ shoes. Organists need to be able to feel the pedals under their feet. Some organists prefer the thin finished leather sole on dance shoes over the brushed leather sole offered by OrganMaster Shoes.

Not unlike shoes designed for various sports, a typical organ shoe has certain important characteristics.

1. HEEL-- ¾ to 1 ¼ -inch in height. The heel surface should allow the heel to slide easily forward and back on the naturals without leaving marks. Leather is usually best.
2. SOLE-- thin leather (softer is best), timed so as not to protrude beyond the sides of the foot. The sole should slide easily up and down the keys, keys, and from sharp to natural.
3. INSTEP—the heel and sole should be offset as to allow one to “straddle” from one natural to another.
4. UPPERS—flexible, lightweight, leather, or synthetic. The uppers should slide against each other without sticking. Baby powder can often help sticky shoes to slide

more easily against one another.

5. FIT—laces or a strap should hold the shoe snugly to the foot.



Men's organ shoes are considered unisex and can be dressed up with different color laces.

Organ shoes should be round and a bit narrow where the toes are and have a round, elevated heel, a shoe like this enables the organist's feet to glide over the pedals. Good organ shoes allow the organist's feet to learn the topography of the pedal board by feel.

Sources:

Organ Shoes

<https://www.organ.byu.edu/ORSHOE.html>

Shoes, Parts I, II, III, IV, and V
<http://www.organbench.com/419797270/3768414/posting/>

**15-20 minutes
of Pre-Service
Music ahead of
each Sunday
Morning
Worship Service.
Come or tune-in
early.**

Looking Back

Just two years ago we were embarking on a major fundraising campaign to restore McAllister's Holtkamp Pipe Organ. The work to be completed in five phases encompassed all the organ's 1075 pipes and a restoration of Great, Swell, and Pedal divisions of the organ plus the organ console.

One year ago, the organ's large façade pipes of the Pommer stop in the "wings" of the organ were brought down, and their stoppers were put in place before being raised again and tuned. The wind reservoirs were reinstalled allowing the organ to draw breath and sound again. With the wind reservoirs in place the focus of the restoration turned to the restoration of the organ console and replacement of the organ's old piston board and the organ's power supply.

Today, McAllister's restored Holtkamp pipe organ is a regular part of our Sunday Worship Service. It is easy to forget the many hours of skilled work by Thomas Rohlf and the months long fundraising effort and generous contributions by so many members and friends that make it so.

A Timeout in the Balcony

Sunday, December 6th, 2020, marked the inauguration of our new livestreaming equipment in the balcony of the church. This Sunday, August 29th, Pastor Jim will use his phone to broadcast the service. The livestreaming equipment in the balcony will be back in service during the Labor Day weekend Sunday Service on September 5th.

Thank you for your faithful support of McAllister Memorial Presbyterian Church!



We have several ways to support the many ministries at McAllister Memorial. Please pick the one that is most convenient for you. Thank you!

GIVE ONLINE

It's easy to give online at McAllister. You can make a one-time gift or a recurring gift using tithe.ly. Scan the QR code below with your phone or go to this link <https://tithe.ly/give?c=898167>

GIVE IN-PERSON

Simply stop by the office any weekday to drop off your check. Collection plates can also be found at the back of the sanctuary.

GIVE BY MAIL

If you would like to give by mail, you can mail your checks to the following address:

McAllister Memorial Presbyterian Church
900 N. Alleghany Avenue
Covington, VA 24426

[Grab your reader's attention with a great quote from the document or use this space to emphasize a key point. To place this text box anywhere on the page, just drag it.]



We wish our organist
Elizabeth (Beth) Leitch Dreszer
A Happy Birthday!
...and a well-deserved day off.