Catherine (Cathy) Cargill Koch



ABOUT THE ARTIST

Catherine (Cathy) Cargill Koch's musical began playing the organ at the age of 12, when she would walk to the Franklin Methodist Church daily after school to practice the organ. She became the church's organist following the resignation of the previous organist in 1967. She held this position until her graduation from Franklin High School in 1971, after which she pursued a degree in music education and organ performance at Bucknell University. Catherine furthered her studies at Syracuse University's School of Visual and Performing Arts, earning a master's degree in the same fields.

For the past 38 years, Catherine has been the organist at the Manlius United Methodist Church in Manlius, New York. She has also served as a substitute organist for various churches in Central New York, including her home church in Franklin.

Beyond her role as an organist, Catherine enjoyed a 44-year career as a music teacher in both public and private schools until her retirement in 2020. She taught music theory, studio music, and directed choirs, including barbershop, men's, and mixed choruses. She also led guitar clubs and musicals, and was a guest choral conductor and accompanist for All-County and All-City performances. Catherine has presented workshops, given performances at All-State conventions, professional development days and college music education classes. Additionally, she maintained a private studio for voice, piano, and guitar lessons.

In retirement, Catherine continues to share her love of music by teaching her grandchildren piano and guitar, accompanying their school chorus concerts, and playing piano for church services at several senior retirement homes. She also supports local school districts by accompanying choral and orchestra concerts.

Catherine finds her greatest joy in selecting, preparing, and playing music for church worship, praising God through the majestic compositions of the great masters. She considers it an honor and privilege to contribute to worship services, giving glory to God through her music.

ABOUT THE FRANKLIN UMC

The Franklin United Methodist Church (UMC), located in Franklin, Massachusetts, has a rich history dating back to 1853 when the first Methodist class meeting was organized. These first gatherings of Methodists met in the Franklin Town Hall. The current facility, dedicated in 1873, has largely retained its original charm. The memorial stained glass windows were installed in 1903 and a pipe organ in 1905 adding to the church's beauty and historical significance. Additional classroom space and a kitchen were added in the 1930s.

Through its Community @FranklinUMC programs, the Franklin United Methodist Church seeks to build community by providing opportunities for neighbors to meet, serve, and share with one another. These interactions help forge the bonds of of understanding and friendship, strengthening the foundations of the community.

To learn more about the church and upcoming community programs and events, visit *franklinumc.org*.