

Lehigh Valley Chapter

American Guild of Organists

October 2015

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Executive Committee

Gail Hanzl (2016)
Judith Love (2016)
Thomas Busteed (2017)
Matthew Wary (2017)
Aram Basmadjian (2018)
Gloria Snyder (2018)

www.lvago.org

Deans' Mixtures

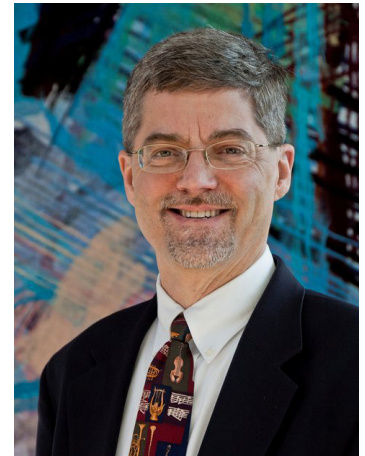
And they're off!

We hear that cry from the announcer at the race track; sometimes it feels like September is the start of a race for those of us who work with music for the organ and choirs, for music in the church.

Our LVAGO "race" got off to a wonderful start at our meeting on September 19. We heard a delightful program of music for organ and a second performer (another organist, a pianist, a sax, trombone, and trumpet player), both sacred and secular music, serious and light hearted. The music was a microcosm of all that we do in our various positions and callings.

We also enjoyed a delicious brunch coordinated by Gail Hanzl. The fellowship time gave us a chance to reconnect with each other — I certainly look forward to seeing many members at all of our chapter meetings, of hearing

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October Meeting

Improvise Today, Use It Tomorrow

Quick and easy improvisation techniques
Lead by Robert Riday, Steven Williams,
and Michael Krentz

Saturday, October 17, 10 am
Allen Organ Company, 3370 Route 100, Macungie, PA

Dean's Mixtures

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how you are doing, what exciting new things are going on, what your cares and concerns are.

And we're almost ready for the second "lap" of our race! Our October meeting, I hope, will be a very useful session on improvisation. Stephen Williams, Robert Riday, and I hope to give attendees some very practical ideas and techniques to use, especially as we engage with hymn tunes.

Mostly, we hope to help everyone overcome the very natural fear that almost always accompanies the idea of improvising. Sometimes it is scary enough to try to play the notes on the page; playing without notes on a page can be downright terrifying. Whatever your skill level or level of fear around improvising, we hope you will join us on October 17 for "Improvise Today, Use It Tomorrow: Quick and Easy Improvisation Techniques."

May God bless you and may you be a blessing to your people!

Michael Krentz
Dean

Looking Ahead

Saturday, November 21, 2015 9:00 am
Christ Lutheran Church, Allentown

Theological & Practical Hymn Playing with Karl Moyer

Karl Moyer returns to discuss more thoughts and practices and hymn playing for the church musician. This program pairs with the session from February 2015, but also stands alone.

Where Two or More are Playing

Where Two or More are Playing was the title of the first event of the new season for our Chapter. The concert was held on Saturday, September 19 at the Cathedral Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem, Stephen

Williams host musician, and featured members and friends playing two instruments. Participants included Robert Riday and Gary Raish offering piano and organ duets. Other performers included Pauline Fox, organ with Kaitlyn O'Brien, organ and also Joe Dorsch, baritone saxophone; Michael Krentz, organ with Caitlin Worrich, trombone; Matthew Wary, organ with Rodney Boyer, clarinet; Thomas Busteed and Michael Krentz played a P. D. Q. Bach organ duet; and Stephen Williams, organ with David Umla, trumpet. This writer appreciated the wide variety of interesting music presented by the talented members and friends of our Chapter. We enjoyed works by Mozart, Elmore, Irving Berlin and some original compositions among others. An enjoyable time of reconnecting during a luncheon coordinated by Gail Hanzl followed the concert.

Gloria Snyder



2016 National Convention in Houston, Texas

Registration for the 2016 national convention, to be held in Houston, Texas from June 19-23 opens on October 15, 2015. For more information, visit the convention website at www.AGOHouston2016.com.

October Concerts

October 11 (Sunday) 3:00 pm; **Marisa Deshler, organ**; St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Bethlehem; Freewill offering

October 11 (Sunday) 8:00 pm; **Lyra**, Russian Vocal Ensemble of St. Petersburg; Emmanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church, Souderton; \$5 Donation

October 13 (Tuesday) 12:10 pm; **Andrew Long, organ**; Muhlenberg College organist with instrumentalists; St. John's Lutheran Church, Allentown; \$5 Donation

October 18 (Sunday) 3:00 pm; **Christopher Johnson**,

organ; Director of Music and Organist, Riverside Church, NYC; East Stroudsburg United Methodist Church; Free; Reception following
October 20 (Tuesday) 12:10 pm; **Dan Simpson, poet;** **Jim Meck, pianist;** With Glenn Hofman, saxophone; St. John's Lutheran Church, Allentown; \$5 Donation
October 25 (Sunday) 4:00 pm; **Hill-to-Hill Brass,** with Stephen Williams; Cathedral Church of the Nativity; \$10 Donation
October 27 (Tuesday) 12:10 pm; **Jeffrey Fowler, organ;** Christ Church Ithan, Villanova, PA organist; St. John's Lutheran Church, Allentown; \$5 Donation

Positions Available

Director of Music/ Organist (1)

Church: St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 1185 Summerhill Road, Auburn , Pa. 17922, 570-754-7350
Website: www.SummerHillLutheran.org
Contact: Rev. Kathleen Ash-Flashner, 570-754-7350, revash@wildblue.net
Weekly services: 2
Ensembles: Adult Choir — 12, Youth Choir — 0 , Handbells — 10
Instruments: Muller 2 manual pipe organ, upright piano , keyboard
Music budget: \$500.00
Weekly attendance: 110
Position fill date: January 1, 2016
Deadline: November 15, 2015
Total hours per week: 13
Salary: \$12,000.00 – \$18,000.00
Weeks vacation: 4
Benefits: book/music allowance, secretarial assistance, continuing ed
Notes: None listed

Minister of Music (1)

Church: Grace Lutheran Church, 660 N Charlotte Street, Pottstown, PA 19464. 610-323-9320
Website: www.gracechurchpottstown.com
Contact: The Rev. Karen M. Sease , gracepottstown@gmail.com , 610-323-9320
Weekly services: 1
Ensembles: Adult Choir — 10, Praise Band — 4, Handbells — 9, Junior Choir — 5, Kid's Music — 5, Festival Orchestra — 10 – 15
Instruments: Allen (IV/102)

Music budget: \$2000
Weekly attendance: 75
Position fill date: 12/15 – 1/16
Deadline: November 1, 2015
Total hours per week: 15
Salary: \$18,000 – \$20,000
Weeks vacation: 4
Benefits: book/music allowance , secretarial assistance, continuing ed
Notes: Grace Lutheran Church of Pottstown, PA offers a blended style worship experience, pulling music from the breadth and depth of Christian song including chants, German chorales, American folk, and contemporary hymns and praise songs. Applicants should enjoy working as part of a ministry team. It is important that candidates work well with all ages, have a working knowledge of church music, and be able to pass all criminal background checks.

Organist (2)

Church: St. Peter's Union Church of Lynnville; 5129 Schochary Road; New Tripoli, PA 18066
Website: None listed
Contact: Karin Bowman, 484-239-9709, addiem@ptd.net
Weekly services: 1
Ensembles: None listed
Instruments: 2 manual pipe organ
Music budget: \$400
Weekly attendance: 20 – 40
Position fill date: fall
Deadline: None stated
Total hours per week: 2.5
Salary: \$3,000
Weeks vacation: 2
Benefits: None
Notes: At present, we have no choir. If a choir is started, children's choir, special music, etc; the organist will be compensated accordingly.

Director of Music/Organist (2)

Church: Dryland United Church of Christ, 4415 Newburg Road, Nazareth, PA 18064, (610) 759-4444
Website: http://www.drylanducc.org
Contact: Joyce Hittinger, 610-866-6516, oljer@rcn.com
Weekly services: 1 – 2
Ensembles: Adult Choir — 12, Youth Choir — 4,

Handbells — 10 (Not responsible for handbells)
Instruments: Allen organ, Yamaha Clavinova, Charles R. Walter piano
Music budget: \$1,200
Weekly attendance: 80 – 100
Position fill date: October 2015
Deadline: TBD
Total hours per week: 6 – 10
Salary: \$12,000 – \$13,000
Weeks vacation: 4
Benefits: None
Notes: None

Music Director (2)

Church: Hope Lutheran Church, 240 South 8th Street, Tatamy, PA 18085, 610-252-5181
Website: <http://www.hopetatamy.org>
Contact: Deb Frace, 610-417-7070, bdmjfrace@rcn.com
Weekly services: 1
Ensembles: Adult Choir — 17
Instruments: 3 manual Allen Renaissance Quantum
Music budget: \$1,000
Weekly attendance: 95
Position fill date: Immediately
Deadline: None listed
Total hours per week: About 9
Salary: \$8,000 – \$12,000
Weeks vacation: 2, 2 sick/personal
Benefits: Book/music allowance, Secretarial, Sick leave, Private office
Notes: As a Lutheran congregation, our services always follow a form of liturgy but we would like to experience some more contemporary mixtures within our music. We have a strong, talented choir but have plenty of room for growth and a desire to form a youth and children's choir.

Organist/Choirmaster (2)

Church: St. Gabriel's Episcopal Church, 1188 Ben Franklin Hwy East (Rt. 422), PO Box 396, Douglassville, PA 19518
Website: <http://www.stgabriels.us>
Contact: The Rev. Dr. David R. Green, Rector, 610-385-3144, office@stgabriels.us
Weekly services: 1, except for certain times of church year
Ensembles: Adult Choir — 10, 1 paid section leader and funding for 1 more
Instruments: 3 manual Allen MDS-70S with Hauptwerk

digital sampling of a 1928 E. M. Skinner organ
Music budget: \$2,000
Weekly attendance: 110
Position fill date: September 15, 2015 (EXTENDED)
Deadline: September 15, 2015 (EXTENDED)
Total hours per week: 10.75
Salary: \$15,500 – \$16,500
Weeks vacation: 4
Benefits: None listed
Notes: Familiarity with the Episcopal liturgy and seasons of the Christian year is a plus. The candidate must be competent in organ playing and choral directing, possess a working knowledge of sacred choral music, ability to work effectively with adults, children/youth (or those who work with them) and ability to be sensitive and responsive to the capabilities, needs and interests of the parish family, and open to various musical styles and settings committed to enhancing and developing the musical programs of the parish. Funerals and Weddings will require extra planning and rehearsals not included in above hourly calculations, and will be compensated by the families involved.

Organist/Choir Director (2)

Church: Cedar UCC, 3419 Broadway, Allentown, PA 18104, 610-395-6332
Website: None
Contact: Rev. Lee Schleicher, 610-395-6332, cedarucc@juno.com
Weekly services: 1
Ensembles: Adult Choir — 8, Handbells — 7
Instruments: 3 manual Walker digital organ
Music budget: \$300
Weekly attendance: 45
Position fill date: ASAP
Deadline: None
Total hours per week: 9.2
Salary: \$15,700
Weeks vacation: 1 first year
Benefits: None
Notes: None

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Newsletter Editor and Webmaster:

Mark Dennis, 610-867-0385, vmdennispa@juno.com

Placement Service: Please visit the Placement page on www.lvago.org for information and the Placement Service Information Sheet.

Newsletter Deadline: November: Thursday, Oct 22, 2015