

Lehigh Valley Chapter

American Guild of Organists

April 2016

April 2016



Chapter Officers 2015 – 2016

Dean: Michael Krentz
610-861-7669
mekrentz@gmail.com

Sub Dean: Andrew Long
610-704-7805
along2214@gmail.com

Secretary: Eleanor Focht
610-782-9386
eeforgan@aol.com

Treasurer: Stephen Bueker
610.438.3766
sfbueker@rcn.com

Executive Committee

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

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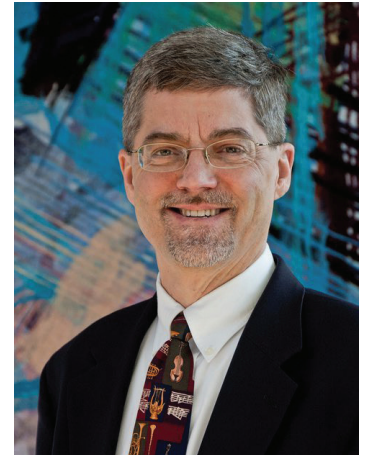
Deans' Mixtures

Alleluias are still echoing in my head, and they will fill up the songs we sing in my congregation all through the 50 days of the Easter season, right up to Pentecost on May 15. For many of us, even though there were extra services and extra rehearsals leading up to Easter, the Christian “high holy days” are the easiest time to be musicians working in the church. Especially on Easter morning the lights are bright, the flowers beautiful, the people come, they sing.

And then life returns to normal. Which means that this is precisely the time we need to “step up our game,” to settle in for the not so grand times, the times of mourning, the everyday times. In these times, more than the festival times, our music is what is needed.

Take some time in these early spring days to think about some things. What

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April Meeting

Choral Workshop with Michael Kemp

Techniques for choir directors and singers

Sunday, April 24, 2016, 2:00 pm
Nativity Lutheran Church, Allentown

Dean's Mixtures

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words will you give your people to sing — both your choirs and your congregation? How will your music help people pray to God, or thank God, or tell what wonders God has done?

When the flowers are gone, and the pews are only half full (or less), it is easy to sink into the doldrums. Remember, then, that your music is a gift — to your people, and also to you. Think outside yourself, about what you can give your people.

And hum a few of those alleluias in your head throughout the year.

Michael Krentz, Dean

April Meeting

Attention Choir Directors and Singers!

Choir leaders and participants, please join us April 24th at Nativity Lutheran Church, 4004 Tilghman Street, Allentown. Michael Kemp, choral composer, author, and clinician, will lead our April program based around volunteer singers, blend, and getting the most from each voice. The day is two-fold, and we need both participants and listeners!



Those singing will meet at 2:00 pm. Mr. Kemp will lead short informational sessions and rehearsals through the day to apply his teaching. (There will be short breaks for fellowship and sustenance!) At 5:30 pm, Michael and the combined choir will lead a brief closing Hymn and Anthem Festival, open to the public, and celebrating the experiences of singing as one. We ask area churches to advertise our 5:30 pm closing event.

Mr. Kemp's repertoire list is

- *God So Loved the World* (Stainer)
- *Yes, My Jesus Loves Me* (McDonald)

- *Prayer for Today* (Tucker/Kemp)

These selections are available at Young's Music Store in Allentown at a 25% discount to any participating singers or choirs. Contact them to set up pick-up or delivery of your music! (610-437-5881) Simply let them know you are a participant in the AGO Choral Workshop on April 24th.

Please contact Drew Long (along2214@gmail.com) with any questions or to get your name added to the participant list! We're looking forward to this time with Michael Kemp, and he is very excited to visit our chapter.

Nominating Committee

It is the time of the year when we will be looking for people willing to serve in leadership of our chapter. Each year we elect our officers (Dean, Sub-Dean, Secretary, and Treasurer) to a one year term, and two board members to three year terms.

If you are interested in serving, please contact your Dean or any member of the Executive Board.

April/May Concerts

April 12 (Tuesday) 12:10 pm; **John Arnold**, classical guitar; St. John's Lutheran Church, Allentown; \$5 Donation

April 16 (Saturday) 7:30 pm; **Pennsylvania Sinfonia Orchestra**; Allen Birney, Artistic Director; First Presbyterian Church, Allentown; Tickets: 610-434-7811

April 17 (Sunday) 3:00 pm; **Spirituals, Songs, and Stories**; Grace Spruiell Hochella, soprano and storyteller; Ken Purcell, guitar and piano; Christ Lutheran Church, Allentown; Freewill offering

April 19 (Tuesday) 12:10 pm; **Andrea and Hannah Langkamer-Smith**, vocalist and violinist; St. John's Lutheran Church, Allentown; \$5 Donation

April 24 (Sunday) 3:00 pm; **Song, Love, Light**; Concord Chamber Singers, featuring John Rutter's *Magnificat*; St. John's UCC, Nazareth; Admission: Tickets \$25 \$10 with student ID

April 24 (Sunday) 3:00 pm; **Lehigh University Soloists and Chamber Ensembles**; St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Bethlehem; Freewill Offering

April 24 (Sunday) 3:00 pm; **Fred Swan**, organ; Brown Memorial Park Avenue Presbyterian Church, 1320 Park Avenue, Baltimore, MD; \$15 Tickets, \$5 Students

April 24 (Sunday) 4:00 pm; **The Meistersingers**;
From Southern Lehigh High School, Matthew
Wehr, conductor; Cathedral Church of the Nativity,
Bethlehem; \$10 Donation

April 26 (Tuesday) 12:10 pm; **Muhlenberg College
student vocalists**; St. John's Lutheran Church,
Allentown; \$5 Donation

April 30 (Saturday) 7:30 pm; **The Camerata Singers**; A
Festival of Choral Music, Allen Birney, Artistic Director;
First Presbyterian Church, Allentown;
Tickets: 610-434-7811

May 1 (Sunday) 3:00 pm; **Thomas Dressler**, organ;
Associate for Traditional Worship, FPCA; Calvary
Lutheran Church, Laureldale; Freewill offering

May 1 (Sunday) 4:00 pm; **SATORI**; Nora Suggs,
director; Cathedral Church of the Nativity, Bethlehem;
\$10 Donation

May 6 (Friday) 7:00 pm; **Wittenberg Gospelchor**;
Gospel choir from the Castle Church, Wittenberg,
Germany, Thomas Herzer, director; Christ Lutheran
Church, Allentown; Freewill offering

May 6 (Friday) 7:30 pm; **Peter Richard Conte**, organ
and **Andrew Ennis**, flugelhorn; St. John's Lutheran
Church, Allentown

May 15 (Sunday) 4:00 pm; **SATORI Youth Concert**;
Winners of April student competition; Cathedral
Church of the Nativity, Bethlehem; \$10 Donation

May 22 (Sunday) 3:00 pm; **DeMarina Trio**; Clarinet,
Piano and Violin; St. Peter's Lutheran Church,
Bethlehem; Freewill offering

May 22 (Sunday) 4:00 pm; **The Cathedral Choir**;
2nd annual Spring concert; Cathedral Church of the
Nativity, Bethlehem; \$10 Donation

Looking Ahead: May

Our recitalist for our May 29th 4:00 pm meeting is James Roman, a graduate of Westminster Choir College of Rider University in Princeton, NJ, where he earned a dual undergraduate degree in Organ Performance and Sacred Music and is currently pursuing a master's degree in Organ Performance. Previously a student of Joel Krott and Ken Cowan, he now studies with renowned organist Alan Morrison and has had additional studies with Grethe Krogh in Copenhagen, Denmark. He is currently the Church Music Intern at the First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown in Moorestown, NJ. In 2006, 2009, and 2015 he participated in the FPC choir tours of Denmark and Sweden. Recently, he has performed with the

Westminster Symphonic Choir at Philadelphia's Kimmel Center and New York City's Carnegie Hall singing Verdi's Requiem, Beethoven's Symphony No. 9, Rachmaninoff's The Bells, Orff's Carmina Burana, Mahler's Symphony No. 2, Brahms' Ein deutsches Requiem, and the NYC premiere of Christopher Rouse's Requiem. He is also a member of Westminster Williamson Voices under the direction of Dr. James



Jordan. He has given numerous recitals in the New Jersey area as well as having performed in the 2013 AGO Region III Convention in Winchester, VA. In 2013, he was the co-winner of the Joan Lippincott Organ Competition for Excellence in Organ Performance. He currently resides in Princeton, New Jersey.

POE+ in Harrisburg

On July 10-14, 2016, the Harrisburg Chapter is hosting the only POE+ in the nation at the beautiful campus of Messiah College, Grantham, PA. For more information please see the accompanying flyer. You may also visit www.harrisburgago.org or www.agohq.org.

March Meeting

Members and friends of the Lehigh Valley Chapter gathered at Egner Memorial Chapter on the campus of Muhlenberg College in Allentown for the annual Bach Marathon on March 13. The setting is particularly impressive because of the lovely architecture of the room and the magnificent three manual organ which has recently undergone a complete renovation by Berghaus Pipe Organ Builders. This year, as a slightly different focus, musicians were encouraged to offer selections by Johann Sebastian Bach and also compositions by other composers who were related to or influenced by Bach's life, teaching and compositions.

In addition to works by J S Bach, we also heard compositions by Buxtehude, Brahms, Mendelssohn, Marchand, Pachelbel, Carl Philipp Emanuel Bach, Haydn and Max Reger. Presenters played in twenty minute intervals beginning at 3:00 p.m. and continuing for four hours with an appreciative audience arriving and departing as their personal schedules permitted. Members of the Lehigh Valley Chapter and friends performing included Lou Carol Fix, Stephen Bueker and the Lehigh Valley Horn Ensemble, Pauline Fox playing with Joe Dorsch, Baritone Saxophone, Michael Krentz (chapter Dean and host for the occasion), Stephen Williams, Thomas Dressler and Andrew Long (chapter Sub Dean and coordinator for the program). It was a very satisfying way to commemorate the birthday anniversary of Johann Sebastian Bach.

Gloria Snyder

Organist Substitute List

If you would like to be included in the Organist Substitute List please forward your Name, Contact Information (phone/email) and Availability (Sundays, weekdays, etc) to Stephen Bueker, 2520 Clark Place, Easton, PA 18040; sfbueker@rcn.com.

Robin Bidwell	Saturday	302 593-0401
Ruthann Brandt	Mon-Sat	610 262-3304
Thomas Busteed	Mon-Sat	570-856-2078
Janice Butz	Mon -Fri	610 882-9388
Stephen Cable	Mon-Sat	484-866-6019
Kathleen Comito	Sun-Sat	610 866-4883
V. Mark Dennis	Mon-Sat	610 867-0385
Valerie Derstine	Mon-Fri	215 536-3020
Carol Dzurenda	Sun and Sat	215 538-7273
Ellen Erb	Saturday	610 837-7426
Muriel Folk	Sun-Sat	610 438-8556
Sr. Doris Gonzalez	Thurs-Sat	610-317-0695
Gail Hanzl	Mon-Sat	610 264-5859
Michael Huffman	Mon-Sat	610 433-6563
Joe Kaczmarek	Sun-Fri	484 433-4336
Jacqueline Kuba	Mon-Sat	570 386-4480
Michael Kuhnert	Mon-Sat	215-536-4345
Andrew Long	Mon-Fri	610 704-7805
Bud Martin	Sun-Sat	610 258-1196
James Matz	Sun-Sat	610 367-8094
Linda Maule	Mon-Sat	610 258-5006
John McEnerney	Sun-Fri	215 794-7338
Richard McIntyre	Mon-Sat	908-282-4691

Randall Perry	Mon-Fri	570 325-9688
Erin Petrella	Mon-Sat	484 863-9052
Shirley Platt	Mon-Sat	610 838-5202
Michael Pletcher	Sun-Sat	610 820-7554
Maria Prochnau	Sun-Sat	610 694-0525
Bruce Rohrbach	T,W,F and Sat	610 683-9496
Karen Scott	May-Sept.	610 737-1701
Michael Seroka	Mon-Fri	570 386-2378
Brian Snyder	Mon-Thurs	484 838-0977
Donald Vaughn	Mon-Sat	610 966-0682
Elizabeth Vaughn	Mon-Sat	610 966-0682
Matthew Wary	Mon-Fri	610 473-8777
Stephen Williams	Mon-Fri	610 737-5196
Freda Zimmerman	Sun-Sat	610 381 3089

Positions Available

Director of Music (1)

Church: Jordan UCC. 1837 Church Rd., Allentown, PA 18104

Website: www.jordanucc.org

Contact: Carmine Gagliardi, 610-966-0213, gagliace@ptd.net

Weekly services: 2

Ensembles: Adult Choir — 18, Handbells — 12

Instruments: 3 manual Allen

Music budget: \$2,900

Weekly attendance: 250

Position fill date: May/June

Deadline: April 15, 2015

Total hours per week: 20

Salary: \$25,000 - \$28,000

Weeks vacation: 2, 3 wks @ 5 years, 4 wks @ 10 yrs

Benefits: book/music allowance, secretarial assistance, sick leave, continuing ed

Notes: None

Newsletter Editor and Webmaster

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

Placement Service

See the Placement page on www.lvago.org for information and the Placement Service Information Sheet.

Newsletter Deadline

May edition: Thursday, April 21, 2016