

Lehigh Valley Chapter

American Guild of Organists

May 2018

May 2018



Chapter Officers 2017–2018

Dean: Thomas Dressler

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Sub Dean: Jane Errera

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Secretary: Erin Petrella

484-863-9052

erinpetrella@gmail.com

Treasurer: Stephen Bueker

610-438-3766

sfbueker@rcn.com

Executive Committee

Aram Basmadjian (2018)

Gloria Snyder (2018)

Susan Hartney (2019)

Robert Richelderfer (2019)

Janice Butz (2020)

Luke DiGiacinto (2020)

www.lvago.org

Dean's Mixtures

This month we bring our program year to a close with our annual recital, banquet, election and installation. Please plan on attending! Reservations for the banquet should be made by May 15. Please, see the registration form mailed with this month's newsletter.

The recitalist this year will be Clara Gerdes, a student at Curtis who studies with Alan Morrison. She has received several first prizes at organ competitions, including the AGO-Quimby Mid-Atlantic Regional. She's performed at St. John the Divine in New York City and at the Washington National Cathedral, among other places in the east. She is one of two organ scholars at St. Mark's Church in Philadelphia and will be on the faculty of the Philadelphia POE this year.



Also, just a reminder that at the banquet we elect and install officers and board members. The nominating committee has nominated Jackie Kuba and Eric Gombert to fill the positions of Gloria Snyder and Aram Basmadjian, who are going off the Executive Committee this year. We thank Gloria and

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May Meeting

Annual Recital, Meeting & Banquet

Clara Gerdes, Organ

Sunday, May 27, 2018, 4pm

First Presbyterian Church

3231 W. Tilghman Street, Allentown

*Dean's Mixtures**Continued from page 1*

Aram for all they have done for our chapter! The nominations include the same officers as this year. Please come and support the chapter with your vote!

As I write this, we are in the beginning stages of organizing our own POE for the summer of 2020. I think this is a wonderful outreach and service to our profession; but I also think it will serve to bring vitality and activity to our chapter, bringing us together to accomplish a rewarding and beneficial task. I'd love to see this vitalization become something more permanent that lasts beyond the time of the POE. Our membership is diverse, with many talents. You don't have to be on the Executive Committee or an officer to be involved! We can form committees to work on various issues related to the chapter, and how wonderful it would be to see more people becoming involved in diverse ways! One area in particular that could use many heads is that of publicity. These days, the mechanics of publicity are constantly changing, and it has become a struggle to get information to the public. But there are other areas, too, that could allow involvement without a huge commitment. Possibilities might include helping with hospitality at monthly meetings, perhaps working on one specific social media presence, or perhaps other areas. Think about what you like to do that would vitalize the chapter and contact me with your thoughts! We are heading into exciting times for our chapter. Let's redouble our efforts to encourage one another and keep the spirit of wonderful organ music that originally hooked us into our profession!

—Thomas Dressler, Dean



Clara Gerdes, organist, will be our guest recitalist at our May 27, 2018, annual meeting.

April Meeting Report



Organ crawl participants at St. John's Lutheran, Easton

Saturday, April 21 was a perfect day; with clear, warm spring weather; to explore some of our local area pipe organs. On that day organ crawl participants got to play and hear three "hidden gems" and one pipe organ well known to local audiences.

The day began at St. John's Lutheran Church, Easton where our host was church member, Jim Van Horn. The organ is a 1967 II/14 Walcker tracker that the church purchased in the early nineties and thoroughly refurbished at the time. A particular delight to play, the action is light and responsive.

Our second stop was St. Thomas UCC in Bethlehem, home to a 1993 II/23 Schantz organ. Host Christopher Malocheski provided a demonstration of the organ as well as a sideshow displaying pictures of the organ's interior and a printed detailed stoplist. Warm sounds emanate from behind a handsome, imposing façade.

After a lunch break, we headed for Saints Simon and Jude in Bethlehem which features a 1977 II/23 Casavant. Though of modest size and stock design, this organ acquits itself very well in the gracious acoustic of the nave. Our host was Jean Cunningham.

The last stop for the day was at St. John's Lutheran Church to us. The 1993 IV/87 Reuter is well known to most of us. This was a chance to actually play it! Host, Eric Gombert helped the participants navigate the huge console with registration assistance.

Photos and stoplists of these and other pipe organs are available on the Organs page on www.lvago.org.

—Mark Dennis, Editor

Speak to One Another of Psalms

A Workshop in Allentown, PA , June 16, 2018

Hearts · Hands · Voices

2018

Local workshops for church musicians

sponsored by the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians

The Association of Lutheran Church Musicians is sponsoring a workshop for parish musicians, pastors, and others interested in worship and worship planning on Saturday, June 16, 2018, from 9:30 am to 3:30 pm. The workshop will take place at Christ Lutheran Church, 1245 Hamilton Street, Allentown; it will explore the Psalms and their use in Christian worship. We will look at how the Psalms shape our worship and form us in faith, and consider ways to enliven the singing of Psalms for congregations and choirs. The day will certainly be of interest to Christians in a wide array of denominations, as the Psalms are central to all of us! (You need not be a member of ALCM to attend.) Sessions will include:

- *The Psalms and Christian Worship* (plenary session)
- *Singing the Psalms with Assemblies*
- *Psalms for Choirs: A “Do It Yourself” Choral Reading Session*
- *Psalms: The Language of Faith Formation*

Leaders for the day include:

- Andrew Lutz-Long, Director of Music Ministries at Trinity Lutheran Church, Perkasio, PA
- The Rev. Dr. Jennifer Phelps Ollikainen, pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church, Perkasio, PA and editor of ALCM’s journal *CrossAccent*
- The Rev. Linnéa Clark, pastor of St. John’s Lutheran Church in Melrose Park, PA
- Dr. Michael Krentz, instructor and Dean of the Philadelphia Chapel at United Lutheran Seminary and Director of Music at Christ Lutheran Church, Allentown, PA.

For more information and to register:
(\$45/\$20 for students, including lunch),
alcm.org/event/allentown-pa/?instance_id=56

Liturgy Workshop

I’m giving a workshop on June 5 having to do with 19th century Lutheran and Reformed (UCC) Liturgy and what practical insights would be helpful for us today in the 21st century.

You all are welcome to register for the event using the link below! Please share this with others (the more the merrier!). Also, if you have any questions you hope I can cover as part of the workshop, please list them here!

mercergburgsociety.org/home/convocation2017/

—Thomas Busted

May/June Concerts

May 9 (Wednesday) 12:05 pm; **James Derr, organ**; Trinity Lutheran Church, Reading; Freewill offering

May 16 (Wednesday) 12:05 pm; **Geert Ruelens, piano**; Trinity Lutheran Church, Reading; Freewill offering

May 18 (Friday) 12:05 pm; **Reading High School String Ensemble**; Trinity Lutheran Church, Reading; Freewill offering

May 18 (Friday) 8:00 pm; **Silent Film with Organ Accompaniment: *The Swan***; Don Kinnier, organ; Emmanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church, Souderton; \$5 Donation

May 19 (Saturday) **Valley Choral Society**; Program marking Leonard Bernstein’s 100th birthday; Trinity Lutheran Church, Perkasio; Freewill offering

May 20 (Sunday) **Cathedral Choir Spring Concert**; Choral music drawn from choir favorites; Cathedral Church of the Nativity, Bethlehem; \$10 donation

May 23 (Wednesday) 12:05 pm; **Wyomissing High School Jazz Ensemble**; Trinity Lutheran Church, Reading; Freewill offering

June 17 (Sunday) 4:00 pm; **Noah Breneman, oboe**; Trinity Lutheran Church, Reading; Freewill offering

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
Janice Butz	Mon-Fri	610 882-9388
Stephen Cable	Mon-Sat	484 866-6019
V. Mark Dennis	Mon-Sat	610 867-0385
Carol Dzurenda	Sun and Sat	215 538-7273
Ellen Erb	Saturday	610 837-7426
Sr. Doris Gonzalez	Thurs-Sat	610 317-0695
Gail Hanzl	Mon-Sat	610 264-5859
Bryan Holten	Mon-Sat	585 633-8705
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
Dodd Lamberton	Sun-Sat	484 935-3505
Andrew Lutz-Long	Mon-Fri	610 704-7805
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	908 283-4691
Randall Perry	Mon-Fri	570 325-9440
Erin Petrella	Mon-Sun	484 863-9052
Shirley Platt	Sun-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-Sep	610 737-1701
Michael Seroka	Mon-Fri	570 386-2378
Brian Snyder	Mon-Thu	484 838-0977
Donald Vaughn	Mon-Sat	610 966-0682
Matthew Wary	Mon-Fri	610 473-8777
Stephen Williams	Mon-Fri	610 737-5196
Stephen Ziminsky	Mon-Sat	610 417-2669
Freda Zimmerman	Sun-Sat	610 381-3089

Placement

Music Director (1)

Church: St. Anne's Episcopal Church, 6667 Lower Macungie Rd., PO Box 368, Trexlertown, PA 18087

Website: www.stannesepiscopal.net

Contact: The Rev. Donald J. Schaible II, Rector
610-398-3321, rector@stannesepiscopal.net

Weekly services: 1

Ensembles: Adult Choir—5

Instruments: Allen Organ MDS 15/25

Midi Assistant System, Young Chang Grand Piano

Music budget: \$1,000.00

Weekly attendance: 55

Position fill date: ASAP

Deadline: Not listed

Total hours per week: 8

Salary: \$13,000–\$17,000

Weeks vacation: 0

Benefits: book/music allowance, AGO membership

Notes: The Music Director at St. Anne's will coordinate music ministry and work with the choir and congregation to inspire broader participation in the worship service. The preferred candidate will be able to: work as a member of a team, have excellent interpersonal skills, be positive, empowering, enthusiastic, play various genres of music, and teach as well as learn. Proficiency in organ and piano is preferred.

Organist (2)

Church: New Goshenhoppen UCC, 1070 Church Road, East Greenville, PA 18041

Website: www.newgoshucc.org

Contact: Dan Tuck, Director of Music, 215-275-8843,
dantent@verizon.net

Weekly services: 2

Ensembles: Senior Choir(20): organist accompanies.

Directed by others: Goshenhoppen Ringers(13), Joyful Ringers(6), Cherubs(4), Choristers(6), New Goshenhoppen Brass(11), New Gosh Orchestra(18)

Instruments: Lehigh Organ Company (III/30)

Music budget: \$1,000

Weekly attendance: 180

Position fill date: May 2018

Deadline: Not listed

Total hours per week: 12

Salary: \$12,750

Weeks vacation: 4

Benefits: None

Notes: None listed

Newsletter Editor and Webmaster: Mark Dennis,
484-666-8511, vmdennispa@juno.com

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

Newsletter Deadline: Next Edition: Thursday, 5/24/18