

Lehigh Valley Chapter

American Guild of Organists

September 2019

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Chapter Officers 2019–2020

Dean: Thomas Dressler

570-710-2752

tom@thomasdressler.com

Sub Dean: Jane Errera

610-865-4837

janeerrera@aol.com

Secretary: Erin Petrella

484-863-9052

erinpetrella@gmail.com

Treasurer: Stephen Bueker

610-438-3766

sfbueker@icloud.com

Executive Committee

Janice Butz (2020)

Luke DiGiacinto (2020)

Eric Gombert (2021)

Jackie Kuba (2021)

Linda Maul (2022)

Robert Riday (2022)

www.lvago.org

Dean's Mixtures

Happy start of the season, everyone!

As I prepare to launch the choir season at my church, I find myself thinking back to my recent vacation time, and wondering how I could maintain a little of that wonderful feeling of letting things go. There's a wonderful book by Herbert Benson called *The Relaxation Response* that goes into detail on the health benefits of physical relaxation. I've read the book, but I become wrapped up in so many things when it gets busy at church that I find it difficult to let go and open myself to relaxation. A broken kitchen faucet may have shed some light on one thing that might help!



Organists and singers are aware of how our bodies affect our musical ability. We know that tension or weakness in almost any part of the body affects our organ playing or our singing. We work with our students and our singers on releasing stress so our bodies can relax and function well to produce good music. "Right, yes...how does this relate to a kitchen faucet?"

Last week I realized that my kitchen faucet was broken. It must have been gradual, because I didn't notice it for awhile, but eventually it became

Continued on page 2

September Program

Congregational Favorites!

Members' Recital and Brunch

Saturday, September 14, 10am

St. Thomas UCC

902 East Macada Rd., Bethlehem

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

pronounced enough for me to notice that when I'd let the water run to get hot, there was water seeping out onto the counter. This had to be fixed, and so I went to the hardware store and bought a new faucet. The box said "easy installation," which I took at face value. (Why not?)

Well, it would have been easy if the sink was not sitting on top of a cabinet, with hoses in the back that are difficult to reach, and two small doors in the front that I could not entirely fit through. I had to twist and contort, lie on my back, on my side, sit on my feet... you name the contorted position, and I probably tried it in order to get the old faucet off and the new one on. I succeeded, yes, but the next day... THE NEXT DAY...!! Achy body, achy body, achy body...

I knew I had had to twist and turn a lot, but it had been quite awhile since I fixed anything that difficult to reach. It surprised me that I ached so much. I think years crept up on me without being noticed. And what the achiness pointed out to me was that I was too inactive for those years! Especially in recent years, I have spent time sitting to practice, sitting at my desk, sitting in meetings, sitting, sitting, sitting... The broken faucet showed me that I have become so wrapped up in my work that I am not moving enough, not exercising enough. And guess what the Mayo Clinic website says about exercise! "Exercise in almost any form can act as a stress reliever. Being active can boost your feel-good endorphins and distract you from daily worries." I realized that a good resolution for me would be to take the time (30 minutes is not that hard to find, as long as it's a priority) to move around more.

I got out an old book I used to use (I was quite physically active when younger) and did some basic toning exercises that I thought were laughably easy years ago. Not now! So obviously, these easy movements are going to do me some good at this point. The moral here, I think, is that it doesn't matter whether it's even simple stretching or moving around, just pushing our boundaries a bit with physical activity, at whatever level we can manage (even simply stretching out the arms, bending the spine a bit, going for a walk, etc), has got to have benefits both to our stress level and relaxation, and also to our physical ability to play the organ and/or sing.

My self-help resolution for the coming year is to do my best to keep with more simple moving around. Whether this, or something else, is your method of self-care, now is the time to think over ways to care for ourselves in the upcoming season, especially during the most busy, stressful times.

I wish you a wonderful season, with great ways to relax!

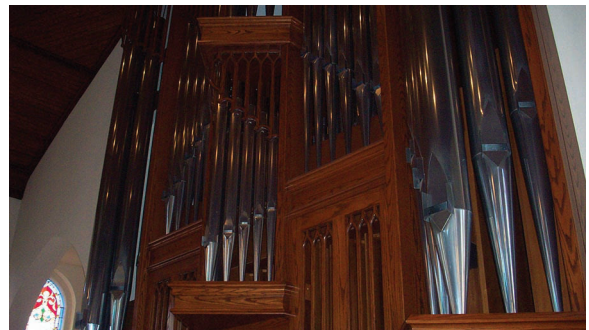
Tom Dressler, Dean

September Program

2019–20 Season Kick-off Gathering!
Saturday, September 14, 10:00 AM
St. Thomas UCC, Bethlehem

Congregational Favorites!

We all have those organ arrangements that we just love to play. We almost hesitate to play it this week as a prelude or during communion because it means we'll have to put it back on the shelf for awhile. For me, one of those pieces is a simple arrangement of *Rhosymedre*. But... how about those pieces or arrangements that someone or several members of the congregation have commented on positively? Whether it is a simple, "that prelude today was beautiful", or the more complex "let me tell you, that song during communion today brought back layers of memories for me. Thank you."



How about choosing one or two of those pieces that have caused church members to approach you? Or an arrangement of a hymn you just know allowed one of those special moments during worship to occur, because you could feel the emotion your music generated in the room.

Continued on page 4

Save these 2019–20 Dates for the Lehigh Valley Chapter, AGO

Saturday, September 14th 2019 at 10:00 a.m. Our annual Season Kick-off Gathering!

“Congregational Favorites!” a members’ recital of music they love to hear and you love to play
Complimentary brunch prepared by the church
St. Thomas United Church of Christ
902 East Macada Road, Bethlehem, PA 18017

Saturday, October 19th 2019 at 10:00 a.m.

Music-Reading Workshop with Mark Schweizer of Saint James Music Press (www.sjmp.com)
Lunch prepared by Social Tea Caterers (\$15) or bring your own
After lunch, Mark will feature his “Liturgical Mysteries” series – fun for all!
West Side Moravian Church
402 Third Avenue, Bethlehem, PA 18018

Sunday, November 17th 2019 at 3:00 p.m.

Hymn Festival with Wayne Wold
St. John’s Evangelical Lutheran Church
37 South 5th Street, Allentown, PA 18101

Sunday, January 19th 2019 at 3:00 p.m.

“Potluck!” a members’ recital of whatever you want to play
A members’ potluck supper of whatever you want to bring
Light of Christ Lutheran Church (formerly Messiah Lutheran)
2020 Worthington Avenue, Bethlehem, PA 18017

February 2020 Date and Time TBA

“Pedals, Pipes, and Pizza” – a program to introduce young people to the organ
Location TBD

Sunday, March 15th 2020 at 3:00 p.m.

Annual Bach Marathon
St. John’s Evangelical Lutheran Church
37 South 5th Street, Allentown, PA 18101

April 2020 Date and Time TBA

Organ Crawl

Sunday, May 31st 2020 at 4:00 p.m.

Annual Young Artist’s Recital presenting Emily Amos, Audience Prize winner, 2018 Albert Schweitzer Competition
Annual Banquet and Annual Meeting
DeSales University
2755 Station Avenue, Center Valley, PA 18034

September Program

Continued from page 2

Our first LVAGO event of the new season will be on Saturday, September 14, 10:00 AM, at St. Thomas UCC, 902, East Macada Rd., Bethlehem, 18017. FYI East Macada is between Center (Rt 512) and Linden (Rt 191) Streets, about a mile south of Route 22. Organist/Choir Director at St. Thomas is J. Christopher (Chris) Malocheski. Members are invited to play one or two relatively short pieces on the [Schantz at St. Thomas \(1993 II/23\)](#). This is not a formal recital, but rather a time to share some favorite music with our colleagues and friends in an informal, relaxed atmosphere. Brunch will be provided by congregation members of St. Thomas.

Those interested in playing please contact new executive committee member Bob Riday at:

bobriday@gmail.com

570-460-3980 cell—yes I text!

(or leave a message if no answer.)

Member Directory

It is time for another chapter directory! Please be sure to check and update, if necessary, your contact information. Updated contact info may be emailed to the chapter treasurer, Steve Bueker, at sfbueker@rcn.com. Thanks!

Parlor Organ For Sale

1895 Estey Chapel/Parlor organ

Stops: Bass Coupler, Sub Bass 16ft., Viola 4ft., Viola Dolce 4 ft., Melodia 8 ft., Dolce 8 ft., Harp Aeolienne 2 ft., Melodia Forte, Viola, Flute Forte, Dulciana, 8 ft., Diapason 8 ft., Vox Jubilante 8 ft., Flute 4 ft., Choral 8 ft., Treble Coupler.

Cynthia S. Pound

c16oz@verizon.net

610 742 2454

Newtown Square, PA 19073

Sep–Oct Concerts

September 18 (Sunday) 4:00 pm; **Be Filled With the**

Spirit, St. John's Sacred Voices in Concert; Accompanied by Brass Quintet, Percussion, Organ, Piano; Susan Frickert, director; St. John's Lutheran Church, Nazareth; Tickets: Adults \$10, Students \$5; 610.759.0893; www.sjucnaz.org

September 29 (Sunday) 3:00 pm; **Allentown Band**; with Patricia Risley, mezzo-soprano; Omri Barak, trumpet; and Eric Gombert, organ; St. John's Lutheran Church, Allentown; Free-willoffering

September 29 (Sunday) 3:00 pm; **Listening to Music — Experiencing It More Vividly**; Thomas Dressler, lecturer; First Presbyterian Church, Allentown; Free-will offering

October 18 (Friday) 7:00 pm; **Amanda Mole, organ**; St. John's Lutheran Church Allentown; Free-will 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.

Dale Bonenberger	Mon—Fri	917 328-9041
Ruthann Brandt	Mon—Sat	610 262-3304
Janice Butz	Mon—Fri	610 882-9388
Stephen Cable	Mon—Sat	484 866-6019
Carol Dzurenda	Mon—Sat	215 538-7273
Kevin Freaney	Sun—Sat	610 283-1944
Pauline Fox	Sun—Sat	610 735-2037
Ellen Erb	Saturday	570 350-0343
Charles Glandorf	Sun—Sat	610 416-1055
Eric Gombert	Mon—Sat	610 435-1641
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
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
Erin Petrella	Sun—Sat	484 863-9052
Maria Prochnau	Sun—Sat	610 866-2560
Karen Scott	May—Sep	610 737-1701

Michael Seroka	Mon—Fri	570 386-2378
Brian Snyder	Mon—Thurs	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

Music budget: \$150
Weekly attendance: 125
Position fill date: July 7, 2019
Deadline: ASAP
Total hours per week: 5
Salary: \$8,500
Weeks vacation: 0
Benefits: None listed
Notes: None listed

Positions Available

Music Director (1)

Church: St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 500 Hillcrest Blvd, Phillipsburg NJ 08865, 908-859-1479
Website: stlukesnj.org
Contact: The Rev. Anne E. Kitch, anne@stlukesnj.org, 908-859-1479
Weekly services: 1
Ensembles: Adult Choir (7)
Instruments: 2 manual Allen, Young Chang upright, Casio keyboard
Music budget: None listed
Weekly attendance: 70
Position fill date: September 1, 2019
Deadline: September 15, 2019
Total hours per week: 5-7
Salary: \$9000
Weeks vacation: 0
Benefits: None listed

Notes: The Music Director is a ministry position with an emphasis on leading worship and working collaboratively with the clergy to nurture a growing Christian community. The Director selects music for each service in consultation with the Rector, plays the musical portions of the worship service on organ or piano, rehearses and directs the church choir, plans anthems and appropriate seasonal music offerings, and encourages congregational participation.

Organist (1)

Church: Concordia Lutheran Church, 2623 Brookside Road, Macungie, PA 18062, 610-965-3265
Website: concordiamacungie.org
Contact: Pastor Waldemar Vinovskis, 484-951-9441, wrvinovskis@gmail.com
Weekly services: 2, Wednesday evenings during Advent and Lent
Ensembles: Adult Choir (16), Youth Choir (12); Ensembles lead by music director
Instruments: 2 manual Allen

Organist (1)

Church: Pilgrim Presbyterian Church, 750 Belvidere Road, Phillipsburg, NJ 08865
Website: pilgrimpcusa.org
Contact: Chris Hart, Hartfamily@ptd.net, 908-674-0361
Weekly services: 1 service per month, special services
Ensembles: Worship Band
Instruments: III/17 Petty-Madden
Music budget: Not available
Weekly attendance: 75
Position fill date: September 2019
Deadline: None listed
Total hours per week: 3
Salary: \$250/week
Weeks vacation: None
Benefits: None
Notes: Pilgrim Presbyterian Church in Phillipsburg, NJ has an immediate opening for a part-time organist to play one Sunday morning worship service per month. Adult choir disbanded in June 2019. It will be up to the applicant whether or not they chose to assemble a "pick up" choir to sing on occasion. We have a Worship Band director for 3 weeks/month. The director is also responsible for coordinating the music with the organist on the Sunday for which the organist is responsible.

The Adult choir was disbanded in June 2019. It will be up to the applicant whether or not they choose to assemble a "pick up" choir to sing on occasion.

We have a Worship Band director for 3 weeks/month. The director is also responsible for coordinating the music with the organist on the Sunday for which the organist is responsible.

Organist and/or Director of Music (1)

Church: Schwarzwald Lutheran Church, 250 Church Lane Road, Reading, PA 19606

Website: www.schwarzwaldlutheran.org

Contact: Diane V. Hafer, Office Administrator; 610-779-3480, administrator@schwarzwaldlutheran.org

Weekly services: 1, special services/holiday

Ensembles: Senior Choir (15), Junior (8), Cherub (6), Handbell (12), Ladies' Choir (10), Men's Choir (10)

Instruments: 3 manual Allen Q370

Music budget: \$400 (music), \$1,200 (summer camp)

Weekly attendance: 130 – 150

Position fill date: ASAP

Deadline: ASAP

Total hours per week: Organist— 10, DoM — 15

Salary: Organist — \$12,000, DoM — \$15,000, Combined position — \$27,000

Weeks vacation: 4

Benefits: book/music allowance, secretarial assistance, music library assistance, continuing ed

Notes: None listed

Director of Music (1)

Church: Christ Church United Church of Christ, 75 E. Market St., Bethlehem, PA 18018, 610-865-6565

Website: www.christucc.org

Contact: Deb Brogan (Office Administrator), 610-865-6565, deborahbrogan@christucc.org

Weekly services: 1, An additional service is optional

Ensembles: Adult Choir (25), Youth Choir (6), Handbells (10)

Instruments: 4 manual Moeller/Allen

Music budget: \$6,000

Weekly attendance: 135

Position fill date: Immediate Opening

Deadline: 10/1/19

Total hours per week: 15 – 20

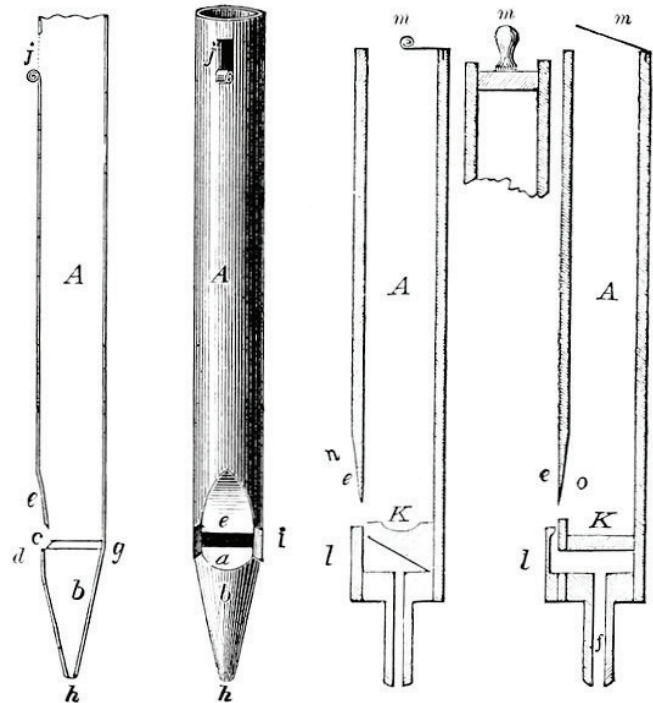
Salary: \$18,750 – \$25,000

Weeks vacation: Accrued at the rate of one-half day per month

Benefits: book/music allowance, secretarial assistance

Notes: The ideal candidate will: (1) Provide a broad array of musical styles for all age groups (a blend of contemporary and traditional), (2) Be proficient with keyboard (piano for anthems, preferably organ for hymns and responses), (3) Be able to lead and develop an adult choir, plus youth and children's musical groups, and (4) Understand the role of music to enable faith formation and a spiritual worship experience. The ability to lead the existing Bell Choir

is a definite plus. We have performed both Christmas and Easter Cantatas with orchestral accompaniment for many years. Our congregation is in the process of relocating, so we seek someone who adapts easily to change. Christ Church has a Safe Conduct policy and background checks are needed. Please apply, including cover letter or resume, directly to the church.



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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, September 19, 2019