

Lehigh Valley Chapter

# American Guild of Organists

February 2024



## Chapter Officers 2023–2024

Dean: Eric Gombert  
610-435-1641  
[egombert@stjat.org](mailto:egombert@stjat.org)

Sub Dean: Janice Butz  
610-882-9388  
[janicebutz@gmail.com](mailto:janicebutz@gmail.com)

Secretary: Linda Maule  
610-258-5006  
[maule@ptd.net](mailto:maule@ptd.net)

Treasurer: Stephen Bueker  
610.438.3766  
[sfbueker@rcn.com](mailto:sfbueker@rcn.com)

## Executive Committee

Luke DiGiacinto (2024)  
Susan Frickert (2024)  
Robert Riday (2025)  
Michael Fister (2025)  
Marissa Deshler (2026)  
Jeffrey Raub (2026)

[www.lvago.org](http://www.lvago.org)

## Upcoming Events

### January Jumpstart

Saturday, January 27, 2024  
Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church  
625 Montgomery Ave, Bryn Mawr, PA 19010  
8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. (Registration begins at 8:00 a.m.)

Hurry to [register](#) soon since space is limited!

### Bach Marathon

Sunday, March 3, 3:00 p.m.  
Location TBA

---

## CHECK OUT THESE UPCOMING EVENTS LOOK FOR MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW

**Sunday, March 3, 3:00 p.m. Bach Marathon** The concert is tentatively scheduled for performance at Muhlenberg College's Egner Chapel. We are looking for players. If interested, please contact Luke DiGiacinto at [lukedig94@aol.com](mailto:lukedig94@aol.com).

**Sunday afternoon in April. Date TBA. Theatre Organ Social** at the home of Bob Riday and Gary Raish.

**Sunday, May 19, 4:00 p.m. Young Artist Recital, Banquet & Annual Meeting** Featuring organist Sarah Palmer, a student of Alan Morrison at the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia. Location TBA.

## One Hundreth Anniversary Events

As you can see from the photos, the 100th anniversary celebration of our LVAGO Chapter was a great success! **Katelyn Emerson's** September recital, based on the church year and held at St. Anne Catholic Church in Bethlehem, was stunning as she performed works by Demessieux, J. S. Bach, Bruhns, Rheinberger, Brahms, and concluded with Francis Jackson's brilliant Toccata, Chorale and Fugue. At the conclusion of the recital, she premiered the chapter's commissioned organ work composed by Michael Bedford, *Partita on St. Anne*. It was a delight to have Executive Director James Thomashower bring greetings from National AGO. At the previous day's event, members had a chance to learn about *Playing for a Lifetime*, as Katelyn Emerson shared insightful information on healthy techniques and practice strategies during the morning's masterclass.



**Katelyn Emerson Recital.** Front row: Janice Butz, Katelyn Emerson, Jane Errera, James Thomashower  
Back row: Linda Maule, Robert Riday, Susan Frickert, Eric Gombert, Michael Krentz

The celebration continued in November as we were inspired by a hymn festival led by **Tom Trenney** at St. John's Lutheran in Allentown. With the theme *Sing Glory to the Name of God*, we raised our voices in song and praise. Our commissioned organ work was performed a second time as the prelude. Following the festival we journeyed around the corner to the Americus Hotel to enjoy a delicious meal and further festivities. Board member Bob Riday served as the master of ceremonies; the anniversary certificate was presented by Regional Councilor Wayne Wold to chapter Dean Eric Gombert and Michael Bedford, composer of our commissioned work.



**Banquet MC, Robert Riday**



**Michael Bedford, composer of the chapter commissioned organ work *Partita on St. Anne***

Follow us on Facebook





Banquet Award presented by Wayne Wold to Eric Gombert



Eric Gombert, Michael Bedford and Tom Trenny



100th Anniversary Banquet attendees

## 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](mailto:sfbueker@rcn.com).

<i>Dale Bonenberger</i>	<i>Mon–Fri</i>	<i>917 328-9041</i>
<i>Ruthann Brandt</i>	<i>Mon–Sat</i>	<i>610 262-3304</i>
<i>Janice Butz</i>	<i>Mon–Fri</i>	<i>610 882-9388</i>
<i>Alan Birney</i>	<i>Sun–Sat</i>	<i>610 653-8097</i>
<i>Ellen Erb</i>	<i>Mon–Sat</i>	<i>570 350-0343</i>
<i>Charles Glandorf</i>	<i>Mon–Sat</i>	<i>610 416-1055</i>
<i>Eric Gombert</i>	<i>Mon–Sat</i>	<i>610 435-1641</i>
<i>Gail Hanzl</i>	<i>Mon–Sat</i>	<i>610 264-5859</i>
<i>Susan Hartney</i>	<i>Mon–Sat</i>	<i>610 360-6934</i>
<i>Michael Huffman</i>	<i>Sun–Sat</i>	<i>610 794-6056</i>
<i>Joe Kaczmarek</i>	<i>Mon–Sat</i>	<i>484 433-4336</i>
<i>Jacqueline Kuba</i>	<i>Sun–Sat</i>	<i>570 386-4480</i>
<i>Michael Kuhnert</i>	<i>Mon–Sat</i>	<i>215 536-4345</i>
<i>Cristina Dinella Makowicz</i>	<i>Sun–Sat</i>	<i>585 732-8017</i>
<i>James Matz</i>	<i>Sun–Sat</i>	<i>610 367-8094</i>
<i>Linda Maule</i>	<i>Mon–Sat</i>	<i>610 258-5006</i>
<i>Richard McIntyre</i>	<i>Mon–Sat</i>	<i>908 283-4691</i>
<i>Jeffrey Raub</i>	<i>Saturday</i>	<i>484 541-8322</i>
<i>Michael Seroka</i>	<i>Mon–Sat</i>	<i>570 516-7207</i>
<i>Barbara Thomson</i>	<i>Sun–Mon</i>	<i>908 591-4499</i>
<i>Bruce Tonkin</i>	<i>Sun–Sat</i>	<i>610 220-5457</i>
<i>Matthew Wary</i>	<i>Mon–Sat</i>	<i>610 743-0921</i>
<i>Stephen Ziminsky</i>	<i>Mon–Fri</i>	<i>610 417-2669</i>
<i>Freda Zimmerman</i>	<i>Mon–Fri</i>	<i>610 381-3089</i>

## Positions Available

Organist (1)

**Church:** Community Evangelical Church, 51 Green Valley Road, Sinking Spring, PA 19608

**Website:** [communityec.org](http://communityec.org)

**Contact:** Karen Blanchard, [karen@communityec.org](mailto:karen@communityec.org), 610-670-1942

**Weekly services:** 1

**Ensembles:** Adult Choir 14, Not responsible for directing

**Instruments:** 3 manual Allen

**Music budget:** None listed

**Weekly attendance:** 220, Traditional and contemporary services

**Position fill date:** ASAP

**Deadline:** None listed

**Total hours per week:** 2.2 hours

**Salary:** \$8,000–\$9,000

**Weeks vacation:** 2

**Benefits:** book/music allowance, sick leave

**Notes:** The responsibility of the organist is to provide a prelude and postlude, accompany 3 hymns on average per service, play quietly under prayer, play quietly under communion, once or twice a year accompany the choir, play for any special services (possible services: Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Hymn Sing, Thanksgiving Eve, Christ Eve Eve, Christmas Eve, etc). These services change from year to year and advance notice is given.

All hymns and corporate worship music is planned by the Director of Worship Arts and given to the organist at least 2 weeks in advance of the service. The only music planned by the organist is the preludes, postludes, special music, and simple and unobtrusive music under prayer and communion.



### Newsletter Editor and Webmaster

Mark Dennis, 484-666-8511  
[vmdennispa@juno.com](mailto:vmdennispa@juno.com)

### Placement Service

Please visit the Placement page on [www.lvago.org](http://www.lvago.org)  
 for information and the  
 Placement Service Information Sheet.

### Newsletter Deadline

Thursday, March 21, 2024