

The Prelude

January 2018

The American Guild of Organists, Toledo Chapter

Dean's Message

Greetings! Happy New Year!

I'm finishing up this column just after Christmas and before the New Year. Whew! December is a busy time for organists and church musicians! Of course, I know you have all experienced it. It's always good to have a little bit of break after Advent and Christmas. (And sometimes it is rather short!) I hope you were all able to enjoy the holidays and spend some time doing what you enjoy!

With the New Year here, it's time to look at what we have coming up.

Part of the mission of the AGO is to share our love for organ music with others and to generate interest in the organ. Our next two programs will do this. So, please share with others about them. Others could include other organists, your church and its pastor and musicians, other musicians and colleagues and organ lovers.

Our January event focuses on aspects of (organ) service playing. Dennis Johns, our sub-dean, is planning and coordinating this program, which will be led by members of our chapter. The instruction offered in the sessions can serve both newer and experienced organists. It is open to all organists. Please share details about this program with other organists and churches. See the article in this newsletter for more details about this program.

In February, we are sponsoring a member's recital. It has been a while since our chapter has had a recital like this. We hope to attract those who love organ music and to generate interest in the organ from those who are less familiar with the instrument. But to do this, we need members to perform! So far, we only have three members signed up to play. Think about a piece or two that you'd like to "dust off" and share! See the accompanying article with information about the recital and how to sign up. The recital is on Sunday, Feb. 4—Superbowl Sunday; however, we will be done in time for everyone to get to their Superbowl parties! (Coincidentally, the Lima AGO chapter has held an annual recital on Superbowl Sunday for a number of years. The event has grown and become a much-anticipated, well-attended event!) Currently, our recital is scheduled for 4:00 p.m., but we may move that up a little. (The kickoff time for the game hasn't been announced yet.) We will keep you informed of any change in time.

Blessings to you now and throughout 2018!

—*Mark Mathias, Dean*



*The mission of the American Guild of Organists is to foster a thriving community of musicians
who share their knowledge and inspire passion for the organ.*

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MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open to all who are interested in the organ. To become a member of the Toledo Chapter, contact Joan McConnell, Membership Chair.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

To submit articles, news, concerts or vacant positions, contact Melissa Flowers, Secretary.

WEBSITE

www.toledoago.org

January Program on Registration and Service Playing...

Our program for January will be a seminar on registration and service playing. Dave Saunders will be presenting on basics of registration and five of our members (Neil Kraft, Sally Mossing, Joan McConnell, Paul Monachino and Ed Duling) will be sharing three pieces each from various seasons of the Church Year that we can use for our Sunday service playing. This will be geared towards those of us who perhaps have not had formal college organ training. Perhaps you are a beginner or, like me, transitioned from a piano background and need some foundational help in getting a handle on registration and repertoire. Maybe you don't have a regular church job but have occasion to substitute and you need something quick to play or you need to know how to approach an unfamiliar instrument for on-the-fly registration. Or, perhaps you are an old pro and just want a refresher, to hear new ideas or something different from what you always play. Or, maybe you just want to enjoy the wine, cheese and discussion afterwards! Join us at St. Rose Catholic Church in Perrysburg at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, January 19. Tell your students or others who would enjoy this program. See you there!

—Dennis Johns, Sub-Dean

Toledo Chapter AGO Events 2017 - 2018

Fri., Jan. 19, 7 p.m.

Registration and Service Playing

St. Rose Catholic, Perrysburg

This continuing education program, led by members of our chapter, will focus on aspects of playing the organ. It is open to all interested organists. Invite a guest!

Sun., Feb. 4, 4 p.m.

Member's Recital

Zoar Lutheran, Perrysburg

Members of our chapter will present an organ recital at Zoar Lutheran Church.

Sun., March 11, 3 p.m.

Annual Student Recital

Our Lady of Lourdes, Toledo

Our student scholarship winners and other organ students of our chapter members will perform on the church's 2-manual, 20-rank Schantz pipe organ.

Fri., April 13

Ghost Pipes

TBA

Neil Kraft and Mark Muller will lead us in an organ crawl at area churches. More details TBA.

Sun., May 6, 4 p.m.

Recital: Matt Bickett

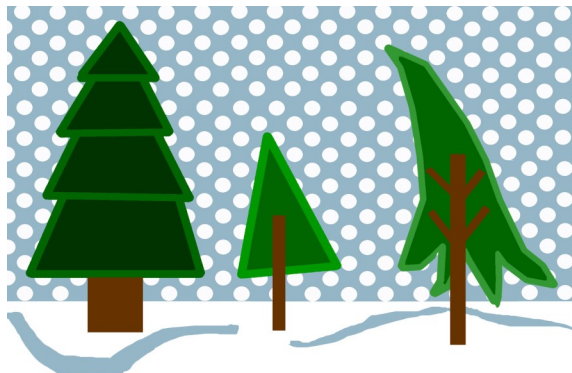
Monroe St. UM, Toledo

Our closing program of the year will feature Matt Bickett in recital. Matt is the 2017 winner of our region's AGO/Quimby RCYO (Regional Competitions for Young Artists). He gave a superb performance at the Winner's Recital in Youngstown in July.

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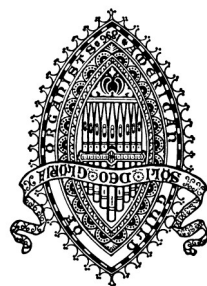
### February Program

On February 4 at 4:00 p.m., we are sponsoring a Member's Recital at Zoar Lutheran Church. Chapter members will play solo selections on the 3-manual, sixty-plus stop Rodgers/Ruffati (digital hybrid) organ. This is an opportunity for you to play a piece or two and to invite others to attend! We want to put our best foot forward, so begin thinking about what you might play and begin practicing! Hopefully we will have many who would like to play, so initially performers are asked to limit their selections to a maximum of 5 - 6 minutes (less is fine). To sign-up, contact Mark Mathias (419-708-6953, [msmathias@yahoo.com](mailto:msmathias@yahoo.com)).



**1929 Holtkamp Casework pipe organ for sale.** 6 ranks, 16 stops, Full pedal board. Unusual Ludwig's Tone in swell division. Organ was rescued from a church that closed and needs a new loving home. \$3,000. Contact 313-829-6602.

Monroe Street United Methodist Church invites interested singers to join them in the **Palm Sunday Chorus.** This year's work will be the *Four Sacred Pieces* by G. Verdi, performed in concert with orchestra on Palm Sunday evening. Rehearsals begin on Saturday, January 20, at 9:30 a.m. in the church sanctuary and continue on following Saturday mornings until the performance. For more information, call Denise Mathias, 419-473-1167, ext. 230.



Toledo Chapter AGO

THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS