

The Prelude ~ January 2019

The American Guild of Organists, Toledo Chapter

A message from our dean...

I pray that you have all had a wonderful Christmas and New Year. I'm sure it's a law somewhere that a January newsletter article must include some talk of new resolutions, and since I don't want to break the law, I'll give it a shot. I tend to take a long time to learn a new piece of music if it is of any considerable complexity, and with always having to focus on music other than my "fun" personal choices, bigger projects can take quite a while. When I began playing the organ in 2010, I decided that I would take on the goal of learning all of the J.S. Bach "Kirnberger" Chorales. Being a very linear thinker, I decided I would take them on in BWV number order. Even though some of them were probably not written by Bach, I determined to do the entire BWV catalogue from 690 to 713a. Because some of them have variations, that meant 29 different pieces. Of course, there was always other music to learn for choir accompanying, Solo & Ensemble accompanying, church services, other music for preludes, etc. But as I begin 2019, I am working on the last piece, BWV 713a!

That makes me curious about what kind of goals others in our chapter have taken on. Have you set yourself a goal of working on a complete set of music by a particular composer? Or perhaps on preparing for and taking the AGO Service Playing Certificate or even a more advanced certificate? I would encourage you, as we begin a new year, to either keep making progress on a current goal or start a new one. Make it something that will push you and keep your perspective of the organ fresh. If anyone is interested in pursuing the Service Playing Certificate, let me know. Perhaps we can encourage each other with a small group.

On the 12th Day of Christmas, my true love said to me, "Go to the AGO 12th Night Celebration at St. Rose, Perrysburg on January 11!" I hope you will make an effort to come out and join us for what will surely be a fun time. You can find some new music for the season, and there will be a white elephant gift exchange. Check out the details in this newsletter. Then, in February, plan on coming to our Bach Fest and hear two of Bach's beautiful Cantatas, BWV 1 and BWV 125, along with a few of his organ pieces. Our singers will be under the direction of Dr. Richard Schnipke from BGSU, along with BGSU student soloists and the Millenia String Quartet.

Finally, I wanted to extend my congratulations to all of our members who played on the Dutch Cabinet Organ at the Toledo Museum of Art. It is a very interesting organ to have a chance to play! Also, congratulations to Neil Kraft and Tom Curry for their fantastic recital in Monroe this past November!

-Dennis Johns, 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.

Toledo AGO Contact Info

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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 Davis, Secretary.

WEBSITE

www.toledoago.org

**JANUARY CHAPTER EVENT**

“Here we come a-wassailing among the
leaves so green,
Here we come a-wand'ring so fair to be
seen.

Love and joy come to you, and to you
your wassail, too,

And God bless you, and send you a
Happy New Year,

And God send you a Happy New Year.”

The Toledo chapter of the AGO is proud to announce its “12th Night Celebration” on January 11, 2019 at St. Rose Catholic Church in Perrysburg, Ohio. The party begins at 7:00 p.m. with members sharing their favorite Advent, Christmas and Epiphany music on the two-manual tracker organ at St. Rose Church. Other highlights of the night include a white elephant exchange. Please wrap your treasure in gold paper. Don’t purchase anything....just re-gift or bring a “treasure” you know someone would like!

Traditional 12th night food and drink will be provided including wassail punch and a king cake.

This is a night you won’t want to miss! Please contact Charlotte Mariasy at mariasy@saintrosoline.org if you would like to play a piece for the group.

JOB POSTING: Part-Time Director of Music Ministries

Grace Lutheran Church, 705 W. State Street, Fremont, OH 43420

Reports to: Senior Pastor

Overview:

The Director of Music Ministries is to lead musicians and the congregation to grow as disciples of Jesus Christ through music, worship and fellowship. The Director must be creative, energetic, flexible and open to all types of music along with having a growing Christian faith. The Director will inspire and drive growth and variety of music initiatives; and must be able to work independently and prioritize workload.

Job Functions:

- Direct all music functions of Grace Lutheran Church in Fremont, Ohio as an active member of the church's leadership team
- Work closely with the Pastor and the Worship Committee by actively participating in the worship planning to select and coordinate all worship music activities for all services throughout the Christian year
- Provide service music on Saturday evenings, and two services on Sunday mornings and other planned worship services or events
- Provide appropriate music for services on Christmas Eve, Ash Wednesday, Holy Week, evening Advent services, evening Lenten services and other special services as requested
- Collaborates and assists with continued development of newly formed monthly Contemporary Service
- Provide leadership and support to coordinate the following:
 - Lay Volunteer Director(s) of two Children's Choir
 - Lay Volunteer Director(s) for the annual Children's Musical
- May be need to attend regular meetings of the Church Council
- Director of Bell Choir from September through second week in June in worship services and special services.
- Direct the Chancel Choir from September through the second week in June, in worship services and special services, including, but not limited to: Christmas Eve, Ash Wednesday, Holy Thursday, and Mother's Day
- Recruit new members for the choirs and seek to improve the music program on an ongoing basis through fellowship and spiritual growth
- Help to create new level of choral performances using outside resources such as college choirs.
- Lead special ensemble performances for major holidays especially for Christmas and Easter
- Maintain the music library and supervise the maintenance of all instruments (organ, pianos, keyboards, hand bells, etc.
- Determine and submit the annual budget requirements for the music program and administrate the expenditures of the approved budget
- Perform all other duties as assigned –funerals, weddings, etc.

Basic Qualifications:

- Bachelor of Music degree preferred
- Keyboard skills: organ required, piano required
- Previous experience and working knowledge of choral rehearsal techniques and conducting

Additional Qualifications:

- Oversee maintenance of 1941 Aeolian Skinner organ and Steinway grand piano.
- Must be able to build and maintain relationships through effective communication
- Demonstrated knowledge of Lutheran theology, liturgical practice, and use of music in worship
- Understand or have the ability to learn guiding laws regarding music (i.e. copyright, recording, etc. CCLI)
- Strives to maintain professional, cooperative, and respectful relationships with leadership team and members of the congregation
- Must possess excellent interpersonal skills and be cooperative, congenial, service oriented, and a team player along with the ability to work with frequent interruptions
- Must have the ability to organize, prioritize and multi-task, communicate clearly and effectively, work independently, exercise good judgment and follow written and verbal directions

Work Environment:

- Working hours are some daytimes, evenings and weekends – Sunday mornings and other times as required; the workweek will be negotiated as the position requires



2018-2019 Toledo AGO Chapter Events**Organ Recital – Mitchell Miller**

Sunday, September 2, 4:00 p.m.
 St. Aloysius Catholic Church, Bowling Green
 Potluck for AGO members following recital

Organ Recital –Aaron David Miller

Sunday, October 7, 4:00 p.m.
 Monroe Street United Methodist Church

Annual Scholarship Auditions

Sunday, October 21, 2:00 p.m.
 Hope Lutheran Church, Toledo

CHANGED EVENT:**Organ Recital—Tom Curry and Neil Kraft**

Sunday, November 11, 3:00 p.m.
 IHM Motherhouse Chapel
 610 W. Elm Ave. in Monroe, MI
 Patriotic and four-hand organ music

12th Night Celebration

Friday, January 11, 7:00 p.m.
 St. Rose Catholic Church, Perrysburg
 Members' organ recital of favorite Advent
 and Christmas pieces

All-Bach Concert

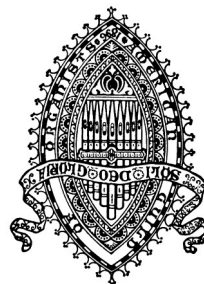
CHANGED DATE: Sunday, February 17, 2:00 p.m.
 St. Michael's in the Hills Episcopal Church
 A concert featuring Bach's great organ works
 and cantatas

Annual Student Recital

Sunday, March 10, 2:00 p.m.
 Hope Lutheran Church, Toledo

April Event—TBA**Toledo AGO Spring Banquet**

Friday, May 17, Time TBA
 St. Joseph Catholic Church, Maumee



Toledo Chapter AGO