

The Prelude ~ March 2019

The American Guild of Organists, Toledo Chapter

A message from our dean...

As you read this, spring is almost here, and Lent has begun. Easter is fast approaching! It is definitely true that as you get older, the time seems to fly by much quicker. Last month we celebrated the music of J.S. Bach with a wonderful program featuring several of our members. I was struck by a couple of things on that day. First, it was another confirmation of something I've said before—each organ is unique and presents different challenges as well as its own unique sound. The instrument at St. Michael's in the Hills seemed to me to be very well suited for this program, and I had a lot of fun playing it. Second, it is always a treat to see (and hear) how many very talented people we have in the area and in our chapter. Each performer brought his/her own unique approach to the music. There was a nice variety of selections, which were especially enhanced by the guest vocalists. We had a nice turnout, and I received a lot of positive feedback from audience members. I hope everyone who participated (playing, singing or even just listening) found it to be a day well spent.

It can be easy to get into a groove (or even a rut) when we play the same instrument all the time, prepare within the same format week in and week out and never take the time to be listeners instead of performers. One of the joys of belonging to the AGO for me has been the opportunity to play many different instruments and to be inspired by our members when I hear them play and experience their different approaches to the organ. I would encourage you to take advantage of every opportunity to become more involved in the chapter. When programs offer an opportunity to play, take a chance and put yourself out there. Or if you play frequently at your church and never get to hear someone else, come out to the programs and be inspired. I know I always want to leave our programs and get to the organ for some practice time as soon as I can.

Coming up this month, we will have our Annual Student Recital on Sunday, March 17 at 3:00 p.m. The recital will be at Hope Lutheran Church, Toledo. Come and be inspired by the next generation of organists. I'm sure the students would appreciate and be inspired by the encouragement of a good audience. In April, we will be joining with the Ann Arbor chapter for an organ crawl in the Toledo area. They will finalize plans just after you receive this, so we will send out information within a couple of weeks.

Finally, the time is again approaching to elect new members to our Executive Committee. If you are interested in helping to shape our programming and take a leadership position in your chapter, let us know. You can contact me directly at my email if you are interested in being on the ballot. We will hold our elections next month. Current candidates are Paul Monachino, Neil Kraft, Dan Boyle and Christopher Nejvara.

-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

Dennis Johns, Dean	419-344-6905 dennisjohns@att.net
Tom Curry, Sub-Dean	503-380-6803 tomcurry1@hotmail.com
Melissa Davis, Secretary	419-455-4408 fgkmusicstudio@gmail.com
Pam Davis, Treasurer	419-346-0279 pameladavis965@gmail.com
Joan McConnell, Membership Chair	419-455-4666 jmconne@heidelberg.edu

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

March Chapter Event—Student Recital

Come on out to Hope Lutheran Church on **Sunday, March 17 at 3:00 p.m.** and support our student organists! Hope Lutheran is located at the corner of Indian Road and Secor. Our scholarship winners will be performing, and there is plenty room on the program for additional student performers. If you would like your student to perform, please get repertoire information to Denise Mathias (dsnivermathias@yahoo.com) by March 9. This is a great opportunity for students to get some performing experience in front of a supportive audience.

Hope to see you there!

-Denise Mathias, Education Chair

**In Memory...**

One of our Chapter Friends, Norma Ridener, just recently passed away. Norma was a longtime member and most recently was the organist at First St. John Lutheran in Toledo. Our condolences and best wishes go out to her family and friends.

Events

All are invited to attend the **Organ Dedication Concert** at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Maumee on March 24th at 3:00 p.m. Dennis Blubaugh, organist at Collingwood Presbyterian Church, and Jane Weber, organist at St. Paul's, will perform works by Bach, Handel, Near, Distler, Messiaen and more.

The organ has been recently restored and additional ranks were added by the Muller Pipe Organ Company to create a well-balanced and versatile instrument.

The concert is open to the public, and a reception will follow.

This summer, our Great Lakes Region will be hosting our biennial **Regional Convention**. The Grand Rapids (Michigan) Chapter will be hosting this outstanding event from Sunday, June 30-Wednesday July 3, 2019. You can find about everything you might be interested in knowing about the Convention on their very complete website. The website lists the Artists, Venues, Exhibits, Schedules, Scholarships, Registration, the Host Hotel, contacts, etc. It can be found at: <https://grago2019.org/>
We hope you can attend!

Job Postings

Faith United Methodist Church, in North Canton, Ohio, is seeking a permanent **Part-Time Organist**. Responsibilities include providing music for traditional services on Sunday morning and accompanying the Chancel Choir. The church has two traditional services on Sunday morning and the Chancel Choir rehearses on Wednesday evening. Additional duties include services during Lent and Advent as well as accompanying other musicians as needed. See the Organist Job Description for more details. The church has a 31 rank Schantz organ and Boston Grand Piano. Please go to <http://www.faithumchurch.org/job-opportunities.html> to see the complete job description and application forms.

Seeking **Soprano Section Leader** for Toledo church choir. Weekly rehearsals on Thursdays at 7:15 p.m.; Worship Services on Sunday at 10 a.m.; other occasional services. For further information or to apply, contact Mark Mathias @ Christ Presbyterian Church, 4225 W. Sylvania, Toledo 43623. (419-475-8629, ext. 205; markcp Toledo@gmail.com).

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,
 CHANGED TIME: 3:00 p.m.
 St. Michael's in the Hills Episcopal Church
 A concert featuring Bach's great organ works

Annual Student Recital

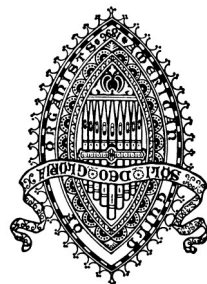
CHANGED DATE: Sunday, March 17, 3:00 p.m.
 Hope Lutheran Church, Toledo

April Event—Organ Crawl

Details TBA

Toledo AGO Spring Banquet

Friday, May 17, Time TBA
 St. Joseph Catholic Church, Maumee
 A Mexican Fiesta!



Toledo Chapter AGO