

The Prelude

May 2018

The American Guild of Organists, Toledo Chapter

Dean's Message

Greetings,

Spring is here (at least on the day I'm writing this!), and things are getting busier. When you read this, our chapter will have voted on the new officers and executive committee members, and some of our current officers will be "retiring."

With that in mind, I would like to thank our officers Dennis Johns (sub-dean), Pam Davis (treasurer) and Melissa Flowers (secretary) for their work and commitment to excellence over the past two years. Dennis has helped to plan and organize our programs and has inspired us to be welcoming and encouraging to all organists. Pam has done a wonderful job "keeping our books" and learning and working with the AGO's ONCARD system (no small feat!). Melissa has published our monthly newsletter (it always looks great!) and has kept us all abreast of events by forwarding us announcements.

I would also like to thank the other active members of our executive committee for their assistance in preparing and presenting our programs this year and last. They are: Marilyn Blackney, Charles Brown, Peggy Dorr, Denise Mathias, John Roberts, David Saunders and Josh Wang. Marilyn will be rotating off the committee. And many thanks to Joan McConnell and Neil Kraft for their work and support for our chapter.

Many thanks to Neil Kraft and Mark Muller for leading us on our "organ crawl" to a few Toledo churches in April. A dozen of us enjoyed seeing the organs and playing them when possible.

Our concluding program of the year will be a recital by Matt Bickett, the winner of the 2017 AGO Great Lakes Regional AGO Young Artists Competition. Matt is a student at Oberlin. The recital will be on Sunday, May 6 at 4:00 p.m. at Monroe Street United Methodist Church. His impressive and varied program will feature works by Buxtehude, Bach, Mendelssohn, Gigout, Florence Beatrice Price, Rheinberger and Dupré. *Please invite someone to join us for this recital!*

I have been appreciative of your support for the programs we have offered this past year. Thank you for the opportunity to serve as dean of our active chapter. Best wishes to our future officers and executive committee members in their work!

Soli Deo Gloria!

—*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.*

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 Flowers, Secretary.

WEBSITE

www.toledoago.org

A Look Back . . .

Our chapter's 2017-18 program year began with a time of great fellowship and food at the Black Pearl Restaurant. In October, we held our annual scholarship auditions at Our Lady of Lourdes. Dr. Scott Hyslop (St. Lorenz Lutheran Church in Frankenmuth, MI) gave an interesting presentation on Paul Manz and his organ works at Community of Christ Lutheran a week later. Dr. Brad Pierson (UT) led our Sacred Choral Music Festival in November at Christ Presbyterian. He directed a chorus of 50; the service was enthusiastically enjoyed by nearly 150 people.

We started off 2018 with a seminar on registration and service playing at St. Rose Catholic Church; the program featured the expertise of members of our chapter. In February, we were treated to a "Super Organ Recital" at Zoar Lutheran, again presented by members of our chapter to a large and appreciative audience. Six students performed in our annual student recital at Our Lady of Lourdes in March; it was an enjoyable afternoon and showed off our young talent. In April, we went an organ crawl to St. Martin de Porres, St. Paul United Methodist, Immaculate Conception, Pilgrim Congregational and St. Petri Lutheran Churches. We'll end our year with Matt Bickett in recital at Monroe Street UMC and our annual banquet.



It's been a busy year, but a very successful one filled with great musical moments. We shared our music and love for the organ with each other and with our community. Thank you to members Neil Kraft, Denise Mathias, David Saunders, Dennis Johns, Sally Mossing, Joan McConnell, Paul Monachino, Ed Duling, George Blackney, Dennis Blubaugh, Omaldo Perez, Pam Davis and Charlotte Mariasy for their leadership and/or performance in these programs. (I apologize if I have forgotten anyone!)

—Mark Mathias, Dean

May Recital Announcement

Organist Matt Bickett will present at recital on Sunday, May 6 at 4:00 p.m. at Monroe Street United Methodist Church in Toledo. The recital is sponsored by the Toledo Chapter of the AGO (American Guild of Organists) and the Monroe Street UMC's Concert Series. Matt, the winner of the 2017 Great Lakes Regional AGO/Quimby RCYO (Regional Competitions for Young Artists), is a student at Oberlin College and has been accepted into the conservatory's accelerated Master of Music in Historical Performance degree program.. His impressive program will feature works by Bach, Mendelssohn, Gigout, Florence Beatrice Price, Rheinberger, and will conclude with Dupré's *Symphonie-Passion*. A freewill offering will be collected.

Matt Bickett



Matt Bickett, from Portsmouth, Ohio, is a fourth-year student at Oberlin College and Conservatory, where he pursues a Bachelor of Arts in Religion and a Bachelor of Music in Organ Performance. While still a candidate for both degrees, he was accepted into Oberlin Conservatory's accelerated Master of Music in Historical Performance degree program. His work focuses on musicologically-informed approaches to historical styles of organ and harpsichord playing. He currently studies organ with Jonathan Moyer, harpsichord with Mark Edwards, composition with Elizabeth Ogonek, and conducting with Gregory Ristow, and has coached with Marie-Louise Langlais, George Ritchie, and Bruce Neswick.

Alongside his work at Oberlin College and Conservatory, Matt serves as Assistant Organist and Choirmaster at Christ Episcopal Church, Oberlin, where he plays for liturgies and assists in directing the semi-professional choir. In 2017, Matt established the Oberlin Cantata Project, a period orchestra and choir specializing in 17th- and 18th-century concerted vocal music. Recent performances have taken the ensemble to Cleveland venues where Matt led the group in performances of sacred cantatas by D. Buxtehude and J. S. Bach. As organist, he has performed at notable venues such as St. Mark's Episcopal Cathedral in Seattle, Washington; Trinity Episcopal Cathedral in Portland, Oregon; St. Columba Cathedral in Youngstown, Ohio; and in Cleveland, Ohio at Church of the Covenant and Trinity Lutheran Church. Recently, Matt was awarded the Presser Fellowship from the Presser Foundation and took first prize in the Great Lakes Regional AGO Quimby Organ Competition.

TOLEDO CHAPTER OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The election results are in! Congratulations to the newly elected officers:

Dennis Johns, dean
David Saunders, sub dean
Melissa Flowers, secretary
Pam Stover, treasurer

And, congratulations to the newly elected executive committee:

"Class" of 2021: Dennis Blubaugh, Tom Curry, Charlotte Mariasy

Thank you to all who took the time to mail or email your ballot. We have a great group of leaders for our upcoming year! If you have ideas or suggestions for the coming year's calendar, please let us know!

-Melissa Flowers, Secretary

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## FRIDAY THE 13TH ORGAN TOUR

On Friday, April 13th, twelve of our chapter members set off on a little organ tour around Toledo. It was our aim to check in on some pipe organs around town that we don't hear much about. It was a beautiful day, and we visited the following churches and organs:

- St. Martin de Porres Church, 1119 W. Bancroft St.  
(1920's Voteller-Holtkamp-Sparling organ)
- St. Paul United Methodist Church, 1201 Madison Ave.  
(Late 1800's Felgemaker tracker organ)
- Immaculate Conception Church, 434 Western Ave.  
(1920's Kilgen organ)
- Pilgrim Congregational Church, 1375 Sylvania Ave.  
(1971 Brombaugh tracker organ)
- St. Petri Lutheran Church, 3120 S. Byrne Road  
(1974 Casavant organ)

We stopped off for an enjoyable lunch at Grumpy's Restaurant in the "Henville" district of downtown Toledo. We also had a little time to spend browsing through the huge Libbey Glass outlet store. The organs were in a wide state of great repair to not-so-good repair, but all were an interesting experience and a lesson in various styles of organ building and history.

I thank Mark Muller for helping me make contact with churches and organize this outing. Everyone seemed to have a great time!

*-Neil Kraft*

## Renew your dues!

It's dues time again, at least for those of you who renew between May and September. 2018-2019 rates are below. If you are looking for the former partner rate, you now use the Regular or Special TAO online only rate. You should be receiving your renewal notices from national via email or regular mail (if indicated on your ONCARD membership information page). If you need assistance with your ONCARD page, please contact Pam Davis or Joan McConnell. You do still have the option of sending dues to the Treasurer (soon to be Pam Stover), and she will send it to national for you. Be sure to indicate membership type and any mailing changes.

You can log in to ONCARD at this link <https://www.agohq.org/oncard-login/> . Your user ID is your first initial and last name. Your password is the number on your TAO. To be honest, if you receive your TAO online only, I don't know how you see your ID number. You can contact Pam or Joan, and they can look it up for you. After May 30, Pam Stover will take over for Pam Davis.

## Chapter<sup>1</sup> & Independent Member Dues

|                                                      |       |
|------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| Regular-TAO Print & Online                           | \$105 |
| Regular-TAO Online only                              | \$97  |
| Special-TAO Print & Online (65 and over or disabled) | \$80  |
| Special-TAO Online only (65 and over or disabled)    | \$72  |
| Young Organist-TAO Print & Online (under 30)         | \$50  |
| Young Organist-TAO Online only (under 30)            | \$42  |

## Other Member Dues

|                                                      |        |
|------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| Dual Chapter Regular (paid to second chapter)        | \$41   |
| Dual Chapter Special (paid to second chapter)        | \$33   |
| Dual Chapter Young Organist (paid to second chapter) | \$18   |
| Chapter Friend Toledo rate                           | \$39   |
| Lifetime Membership*                                 | \$3000 |

\*Contact AGO National Headquarters for payment options and additional information

*-Pam Davis, Treasurer*







# BGSU COLLEGIATE CHORALE

IN CONCERT

**Basilica and National  
Shrine of Our Lady  
Consolation**  
315 Clay St  
Carey, OH

May 6th  
7:30PM

Join the **Bowling Green State University's Collegiate Chorale** in concert, on **Sunday, May 6, at 7:30 PM** at the **Basilica and National Shrine of Our Lady of Consolation**, 315 Clay Street, in Carey. Under the direction of Dr. Richard Schnipke, the Collegiate Chorale is a highly select mixed ensemble, consisting of twenty-four voices that performs a variety of advanced and exciting choral repertoire. During this year's spring tour, the group will be traveling to cities in the Midwest—including Columbus, Cleveland and Pittsburgh. Collegiate Chorale's tour repertoire includes selections by well-known composers J.S. Bach, William Byrd, and Craig Hella Johnson, as well as folk songs and spirituals, incorporating a variety of secular and sacred music. The concert is free and open to the public, and a free will offering will be collected to help with tour expenses.

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FOR SALE: Ahlborn-Galanti Angelus two manual organ with two Conn Pipe external speaker units. Excellent condition. Satin ebony finish. Please contact Tedd Munn at munn1@bright.net 419-784-0164 (Defiance, OH) for pictures and details.

Organist

Matt Bickett

in recital



Winner of the 2017 Great Lakes Regional AGO Quimby Organ Competition

Playing works by J. S. Bach, Mendelssohn, Gigout, Price, Rheinberger, and Dupré

Sunday, May 6, 4:00 p.m.

Monroe Street United Methodist Church

Sponsored by

The Toledo Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

Monroe Street United Methodist Church Concert Series

Freewill offering

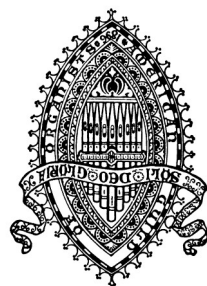
Toledo Chapter AGO Events 2017 - 2018

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.



Toledo Chapter AGO