

The Prelude ~ 2018 Summer Edition

The American Guild of Organists, Toledo Chapter

A message from our dean...

While you may be reading this in August, I am writing on June 21 just as summer is officially beginning. I hope you are all enjoying some more relaxed time as you rest and recharge! We don't usually have a summer edition of the newsletter, but your Executive Committee wanted to make sure you could begin early planning to attend some exciting programs in the upcoming year, even as many details are still to be worked out. Our committee met in early June, and we have come up with a diverse program that will provide great performances, professional education and development and fun opportunities to socialize with each other.

Our year will kick off on Sunday, September 2 at 4:00 p.m. (Labor Day weekend) with a concert at St. Aloysius Catholic Church in Bowling Green by an up and coming young artist, Mitchell Miller. Mitchell received his bachelor's in organ at Oberlin and is currently a student in Germany at the Hochschule für Musik und darstellende Kunst Stuttgart, pursuing a Master of Music in the studio of Prof. Dr. Ludger Lohmann. After the recital, we will have a potluck in the church hall.

October will feature two events. Our first event will be a concert by Aaron David Miller on Sunday, October 7 at Monroe Street United Methodist Church as part of their annual concert series, organized by Denise Mathias. Aaron is a well known performer and composer with local roots. We have enjoyed him in recent years in live, silent film accompaniments at Community Church of Christ in Whitehouse. We are hoping to work in a workshop of some sort with Aaron that weekend as well and will post information as it is available. Our annual Scholarship Auditions will take place at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, October 21 at Hope Lutheran Church Toledo and will be hosted by Pam Stover and coordinated by our Education Chair, Denise Mathias. Details coming soon!

Friday, November 9 will mark the return of our ever popular Progressive Dinner with sites to be announced. David Saunders and Charlotte Mariasy are busy scouting out locations in the Sylvania area. We hope you will bring an adventurous ear and a ready appetite!

After a brief recess in December as our members focus on busy service schedules and hopefully some family time, we will resume our program in January with a 12th Night celebration on Friday, January 12 with our host Charlotte Mariasy at St. Rose Catholic Church in Perrysburg. We will include a member's recital of favorite Advent/Christmas/Epiphany pieces, so look for more information to come on playing something for all of us to enjoy.

February will bring us an All-Bach concert at a time and place yet TBD. Dennis Johns and Dennis Blubaugh will be working to present a concert featuring organ works and one (or possibly even two) cantatas by the master. This will be a great opportunity for those who love to sing to join forces in working together to present some seldom performed works by perhaps the greatest composer of organ and church music of all-time. More to come!

March will feature our annual Student Concert, again at Hope Lutheran, hosted by Pam and Denise as we present the winners of our scholarships as well as any other students wanting a chance to perform. Again, more information will be coming in future communications.

On Saturday, April 27, David Saunders and Pam Stover will be coordinating a series of workshops dealing with professional concerns including: current copyright issues, tax concerns, and labor/contract issues. There have been many changes in how these issues are approached by employers and the government. Many of us make our living or at least a large part of our income as professional musicians, and these topics will be of great interest to our members. The workshops will be on the campus of the University of Toledo, with details, including time, exact place and presenters, to be announced soon. We will wrap up our programming year with our annual AGO Banquet at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Maumee, hosted by Dennis Johns on Friday, May 17. Details will follow. I hope

to see many of you at these events! Have a great summer!

-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
David Saunders, Sub-Dean	734-558-6146 deasaun@msn.com
Melissa Flowers, Secretary	419-455-4408 fgkmusicstudio@gmail.com
Pam Stover, Treasurer	618-525-9709 pamela.stover@utoledo.edu
Joan McConnell, Membership Chair	419-455-4666

MEMBERSHIP

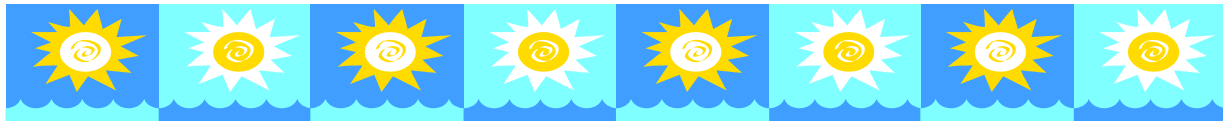
Membership is open to all who are interested in the organ. To become a member of the Toledo Chapter, contact Joan McConnell, Membership Chair.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

WEBSITE

www.toledoago.org

**JOB POSTINGS...**

Director of Music Ministry - Providing musical leadership for congregation, this part-time position serves as lead organist (year-round), choir director (9 mo), and supervisor of music ministry for Trinity Episcopal Church, Findlay. Organist and choir director positions may be independent. 419-422-3214 or trinfin@att.net.

Due to the retirement of our **Senior Choir Director** after 35 years, the Church Council of St. Paul UCC, Oak Harbor, is accepting inquiries of interest regarding this position. It is a salaried position for nine months, with each month averaging two rehearsals on Sunday mornings and two church services during which the choir sings.

St. Paul, Oak Harbor, is a 650 member congregation with a strong tradition of music ministry. The Sr. Choir is an SATB ensemble comprised of 15-18 committed and talented singers, most of whom can sight read. The person who would be an excellent fit as the director would possess a passion for enthusiastic worship and for a variety of choral music that contributes to and supports a meaningful worship experience; and a desire to lead others in praising God and sharing the joy and meaning of the Christian message in song. She/He would be joining a staff that includes directors of a Youth Choir, Children's Choir, and Handbell Choir; as well as 3-4 organists and other accompanists. He/She would also be invited to be part of an active Worship and Music Team, which meets quarterly. It is preferred that this person be experienced, but exceptional individuals who are not will be considered.

Inquiries and/or statements of interest about the position should be addressed to Rev. Dave Voll, Senior Pastor - 419-898-0852 or pastordave@stpauluccoh.org. A job description is available.

First Presbyterian Church, Bowling Green, Ohio**Position Announcement****Choir Director**

First Presbyterian Church in Bowling Green, Ohio has a position opening for a Church Choir Director.

The Choir Director suggests, plans and develops the choral and other musical repertoire in frequent consultation with the church Pastors and the Organist for weekly Sunday and other worship services (e.g., Christmas Eve, Easter). The Choir Director directs all choir rehearsals, and choir and soloist participation in all worship services. The Choir Director maintains the church library of choral music and adds to that library when necessary. The Choir Director recruits, hires, and supervises paid student section leaders throughout the collegiate academic year. The Choir Director organizes and directs choir rehearsals as well as rehearsals for soloist singers and musicians. The Choir Director attends and participates in meetings of the Worship Committee, advising Committee members on upcoming choir repertoire, and soloist or instrumental music. The Choir Director also coordinates the church music calendar with other ministries of the church such as Christian education, and special events, this position runs from August 1 through May 31.

Applicants for the position must have at minimum a bachelor's degree in music and demonstrated choral direction experience relevant to traditional, classical, and contemporary church music. Applicants must have a strong and solid faith in God, and understand the role of music in the worship experience as a form of ministry. The applicant should demonstrate enthusiasm to work collegially with the pastors, other church staff members, members of the congregation, and the youth of the church. The Choir Director should respect, encourage, and strive to develop the choral talents of choir members and be able to document prior experience in that aspect of choral leadership.

To apply, please send a letter of application that contains your contact information, a description of your work experience, and statement about why you are interested in this position, addressing in particular how your experience fits the requirements and characteristics described above.

Candidates are encouraged to submit video examples of choral conducting work, if possible. In addition, please includes the names, addresses, and contact information (phone number and/or e-mail address) of three persons who can serve as references for you.

Please mail your application materials to:

First Presbyterian Church
Attn: Christopher S. Dunn, Search Committee Chairman
126 South Church Street
Bowling Green, OH 43402



Organ Recital

Mitchell Miller

Winner of the 2017 Cleveland AGO Quimby Competition for Young Organists



Sunday, September 2, 4:00 p.m.

St. Aloysius Catholic Church, Bowling Green

Sponsored by
The Toledo Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

Freewill offering

September Recital Announcement (for bulletins, newsletters, etc.)

Mitchell Miller, winner of the 2017 Cleveland AGO Quimby Competition for Young Organists and graduate student at the Hochschule für Musik und darstellende Kunst Stuttgart in Germany, will be presenting an organ recital on Sunday, September 2, 4:00p.m. at St. Aloysius Catholic Church in Bowling Green. The recital sponsored by the Toledo Chapter of the American Guild of Organists and is free and open to the public.

Mitchell Miller Biography

A native of Cincinnati, OH, Mitchell Miller is currently a student at the Hochschule für Musik und darstellende Kunst Stuttgart, pursuing a Master of Music in the studio of Prof. Dr. Ludger Lohmann. Before coming to Germany, Mitchell graduated from Oberlin College and Conservatory with a Bachelor's of Music in Organ Performance and a Bachelor's of Arts in German. He studied organ with James David Christie, harpsichord and continuo with Webb Wiggins and Mark Edwards, and piano with Jonathan Moyer. Additionally, Mitchell studied clavichord with David Breitman in the spring of 2015, and with Oberlin's Distinguished Visiting Professor of Organ, Marie-Louise Langlais, in the fall of 2012. Most recently, Mitchell was awarded the prestigious William J. Fulbright Research Grant in order to study German Romantic-era organs and organ music as a student in Prof. Lohmann's studio. Previously he has garnered such honors as receiving first prize in the 2017 Tuesday Musical Scholarship Competition and the 2017 Cleveland Chapter Quimby Competition for Young Organists, being one of only five undergraduate organ majors from the US to be selected for the final round of the 2015 Taylor Organ Competition, and being selected as a finalist in the 2014 Arthur Poister Competition in Organ Performance. In addition to competitions, Mitchell is a frequent participant in master classes, having participated in classes with such esteemed teachers as Olivier Latry, John Grew, Harald Vogel, Nathan Laube, Michael Unger, and Renee Ann Louprette, among others. An active recitalist, Mitchell has performed at notable venues including Church of the Covenant (Cleveland, OH), Church of the Advent (Boston, MA), Calvary Episcopal Church (Cincinnati, OH), St. Mary's Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption (Covington, KY), First Congregational Church (Columbus, OH), The Brick Church (New York City, NY), and Musée des Augustins (Toulouse, France). In addition to repertoire, Mitchell greatly enjoys liturgical music and playing continuo. He was the Oberlin Sacred Music Intern at the Brick Church in New York City in 2016, participated in the 2015 Bach Aria Project in Boston, MA, as a continuo player, and was a student intern at the Church of the Covenant, Cleveland, OH, in 2013, where he worked with Jonathan Moyer.

Inviting all Toledo AGO members....

There will be a potluck for all Toledo AGO members following Mitchell Miller's recital on Sunday, September 2. Please plan to stay after the recital for fellowship, and bring a side dish or dessert to share!

AGO TOLEDO MEMBERS' DIRECTORY FOR 2017-18

Greetings! I have a few directory corrections for you. I hope I'm keeping track of them all; please don't hesitate to contact me when you find an error or have a change to make.

Mark Niese has joined our chapter. His directory info is:

Mark Niese	W 419-668-6044
26 Westwind Dr.	C 419-271-2820
Norwalk OH 44857	markn@stpaulchurch.org
Director of Liturgy/Music, St. Paul Catholic Church	
Available to substitute: Norwalk/Sandusky area	

We also welcome **Terry Jankowski** to our chapter:

Terrance Jankowski	CAGO	W 734-240-9693
9152 Grenoble Dr.		C 734-528-2628
Milan MI 48160		tjank220@aol.com
Dual member, Ann Arbor chapter		
Church Music Minister, IHM Motherhouse, Monroe MI		
Available to substitute Saturdays		

Margaret Weber, retired organist, has passed away.

Melissa Flowers is getting married on July 21! Her new information is:

Melissa (Flowers) Davis	C 419-455-4408
1920 Gold Dr.	fgkmusicstudio@gmail.com
Findlay OH 45840	
Organist, St. Michael the Archangel, Findlay	

I think this is all I have at this time. My goal is to publish an updated directory in time for our first chapter event in September. You can send me corrections any time, and thanks!

Wishing everyone a relaxing and enjoyable summer,

-Joan McConnell, Membership Chair

jmconne@heidelberg.edu

419-455-4666

Obituary - Margaret A. Weber (1917-2018)

Margaret Alice Weber was born February 17, 1917, on Giant Street in Toledo, OH, to Clyde Urban and Hazel Alpha (Harding) Weber. She had two brothers: Robert Clyde 1918-2005, and Wade Melvin, 1921-1993.

She first attended Auburndale School, then the Sylvania Schools, graduating from Burnham High School in 1934. She has been honored by inclusion in Sylvania Schools Hall of Fame. Her piano teachers were Constance Gauthier and Elmer Gertz. Mary Willing was her instructor in organ, music theory, and composition.

There followed many summers of study: 1936, Washington University, St. Louis; 1948 with Marcel Dupre at the University of Chicago; and many summers at the Organ Institute, of Andover and Methuen, Massachusetts, where the faculty included renowned organists, among them E. Power Biggs, Arthur Poister, Ernest White, Carl Weinrich, and Fritz Heitmann. The Organ Institute's summer session in Northern Europe to visit and study organs was awarded her as a winner of a test in musicianship. Margaret held Associateship in the American Guild of Organists, by examination. She earned two degrees at University of Michigan: Bachelor's in Composition, 1962, and Masters' in Organ, 1964. Principal instructors there were Leslie Bassett and Marilyn Mason. She was elected to Pi Kappa Lambda, music honors. Margaret taught at Mary Manse College and the University of Toledo, both part time positions, as well as privately. She was an active member of several music organizations. In 1936 she began her lifelong association with the Toledo Choral Society as accompanist, first under director Mary Willing, then Samuel P. Szor. The Toledo Choral Society performed her Three Sonnets of John Donne in 1987. She was elected to membership in the National League of American Pen Women, the Northwest Ohio Chapter of which presented a concert of her compositions to honor her at age eighty. She was President of The Piano Teachers Association, 1954-1956, and was Dean of the Toledo Chapter, American Guild of Organists, 1957-1959. She was an active, performing member of Monday Musicals, of the European Club, and of the Toledo Alumni Chapter, Mu Phi Epsilon.

She has also been organist in Toledo places of worship: St. Paul's Methodist, Ashland Avenue Baptist, Congregation Shomer Enumin and Epworth United Methodist Church. She continued to play in retirement years in several churches. Margaret has written many compositions: for organ, piano, chorus, and solo voice. They, along with her original poems will be kept at the Main Branch of the Toledo Public Library.

Margaret is survived by her nephew, Richard Weber, nieces Alice Jessip and Pamela Luster, all of the Kansas City, Missouri area, and by niece Dawn Switzer, of San Pedro, California.

Margaret's Life will be celebrated Thursday, July 26, 2018, 10:00 a.m. at the St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Toledo. Margaret was laid to rest with her family at Toledo Memorial Park.

The University of Toledo Department of Music is renovating its pipe organ.

After years of sitting silent, the Durst organ in UT's Center for Performing Arts is being renovated. Mark Muller has located a compatible used console that, with new wiring, will solve most of the deterioration problems with the organ. The renovation will also include a repair of pipes and tuning, will restore the organ for both student instruction/practice as well as a variety of performances in the Recital Hall. At the current time, Dr. Pam Stover teaches several UT organ students at Hope Lutheran and it is difficult for them to schedule practice time there and impossible for them to perform for performance lab or other opportunities at UT. There is currently quite a bit of interest in the pipe organ and Dr. Boyd wants all of the piano majors to also take organ lessons. We all realize that there is a shortage of well-trained church organists and giving these students a working pipe organ on campus will encourage more to study organ.

We are asking for your support in assisting us with this costly endeavor, as we have been hit with yet another budget "take-back" and are looking at about a \$10,000 shortfall on completing this project by the time school starts. Your tax-exempt donation of any amount would greatly benefit this effort, and alleviate the financial stress on the department's many other educational responsibilities and initiatives. Checks may be written to "UT Music" and sent to - UT Department of Music, 1910 West Rocket Drive, Toledo, 43606 - or call our office at 4191-530-2448. Thank you for supporting Music at The University of Toledo.

Here is a sneak peak at some of our upcoming chapter events for 2018...

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, 3:00 p.m.

Hope Lutheran Church, Toledo

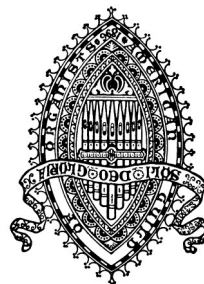
Progressive Dinner

Friday, November 9, time TBA

Sylvania area churches

Our next newsletter will be the September *Prelude*. Please submit your articles for the September *Prelude* by August 15. I plan to send the published newsletter out by August 20. Thank you for your help!

-Melissa Flowers, Secretary



Toledo Chapter AGO