



AGO Toledo

bridging our musical past and future...



The Prelude

September 2019



Happy September, everyone. School has started. Choir rehearsals are in full swing and a new program year is ready to kick into gear for the AGO! We start off with an organ crawl/dinner in Fremont on Friday, September 20. Tom Curry has put together a great evening for us beginning with dinner at Grace Lutheran Church (705 W State St, Fremont, OH 43420) at 6:30. Ham, scalloped potatoes and all the fixings for just \$10.00! From there we will progress to St. Joseph Catholic Church (709 Croghan St) and then finish up at St. John's Lutheran (212 N Clover St). We would expect the evening to last approximately 2 to 2 ½ hours.

One of the most enjoyable aspects of becoming an organist for me has been the fact that every single instrument is different. We all have our preferences, we get used to our instruments or we like certain makers, we have our opinions about digital vs. pipe vs. hybrid, number of manuals, placement in the church, etc. But each instrument presents the challenge to create art; beautiful, worshipful music using the tool and space at hand. The organ we play can have such a great affect on our selection of repertoire, how we register, and so many other details we have to consider. Yes, I know every piano is different in some ways (quite often in tuning or condition!) but it's not really quite the same thing.

I have had so much fun playing, seeing, and of course listening to such a wide variety of instruments in our area. That has been one of the big benefits to being in the AGO. I was fortunate enough to play a couple of instruments in Europe this summer on our choir trip and to hear several others. It really brought home an appreciation for the variety that is out there, for historical instruments, for the luxury of practicing on an instrument before you play it, and for standard AGO pedal boards! I hope you will take the opportunity to hear the three organs we will visit at this first event of the year! There will be other chances throughout this year to see, hear-and yes-play on an instrument you've never tried. Take advantage of the opportunities you have to get out there and do it if you've never done it. As my wife likes to say, "Opportunity is not a lengthy visitor." If we haven't heard you play in a while (or ever) make this the year you give it a shot!

Dennis Johns, Dean

2019-2020 Chapter Programs

Friday, September 20, 6:30 PM - Dinner (\$10.00 at the door) and Organ Crawl in Fremont, beginning at Grace Lutheran Church, 705 W State St, Fremont, OH 43420) at 6:30. (see details in the Dean's column).

Sunday, October 13, 3:00 PM Scholarship Auditions
St. Lucas Lutheran Church, 745 Walbridge Ave, Toledo.
(see article in this issue)

Sunday, November 17, 3:00 PM - Member's recital at the Dominican Motherhouse in Adrian, MI. St. Catherine Chapel and Holy Rosary Chapel. Those interested in performing should contact [Denise Mathias](#) by November 10. Kindly plan to perform only about 5 minutes on either instrument. Further details complete with organ specs will appear in the October *Prelude*.

Sunday, January 12 – Area Composers Forum. *Location and time TBA.*

Sunday, February 2, 3:00 PM - Hymn Festival on the themes of Epiphany. Collingwood Presbyterian Church, 2108 Collingwood Blvd. in Toledo's Old West End. Guarded parking is available in the Floyd Street Lot adjacent to the church across from the church's Floyd Street entrance. A Program of traditional congregational hymns sung by the congregation/audience and led by organ and choir, using the church's 66 rank Holtkamp organ and a choir of singers from area churches. Choir materials will be made available in December and participating singers will rehearse together at 2 PM on Feb 2 at the church before the Hymn Festival at 3 PM.

Sunday, March 22 - 3:00 PM
St. Lucas Lutheran Church, 745 Walbridge Ave, Toledo.

Friday, May 1, 6:00 PM - Banquet and Organ Concert.
First Presbyterian Church, Maumee. Dinner at 6:00 PM followed by a concert by former Toledo AGO Scholarship recipient Stephen Smith at 7:30. The concert is open to the public. Stephen is Director of Music at St. Joan of Arc Parish in Powell, Ohio. He completed his Master's degree in organ at Indiana University in May, 2019.

From Denise Mathias, Scholarship Chair

Our Scholarship Auditions are coming up in October, with the application deadline October 4. The application can be accessed by clicking [HERE](#). Included in this issue of the Prelude is the application form and requirements. Remember, first time applicants may audition on piano. Information has been sent to area piano teachers and the Toledo Blade. Please do share the information with colleagues and friends that you think may be interested, or may know someone who is interested! The application is posted on the Toledo AGO website, as well.

We are always working to fund our scholarships and donations are gratefully accepted. Think of your donation as an investment in the future of the King of Instruments. Some folks aver that the organ is outdated, but we who play and keep up with the organ world know that is not true!! We can be proud to remember that our scholarships have helped many students over the years who are currently working organists!

A good look at the TAO and organ activities for young people around the country show that youth and adults are interested in playing and only need our support to help guide and teach them. Scholarships enable youth and adults to study and help support the teachers as well. Encourage the next generation to study and learn this marvelous instrument, the organ!

Toledo AGO offers two special scholarships to area students, the Mary Anderson Award (high school) , the Gene Trombla award (adult). There is also additional award money, so we are *not* limited to only two scholarships.

Even if you don't have a student participating, you are welcome to attend the auditions. St. Lucas Lutheran Church is excited to host and we anticipate quite a few church members attending. Mark your calendar for Sun., Oct. 13, 3:00 p.m. See you there!

Positions Available

Director of Music/Organist
First Congregational Church, Wellington, OH
Contact Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay (440) 647-3308

Director of Music & Liturgy.
St. Aloysius Catholic Church Bowling Green, OH
Contact Denise Foos, (419) 352-4195 or businessmgr@stalbg.org.

Newsletter Submissions

If you have items that you wish to appear in the Newsletter, please e-mail the information to Paul Monachino by the 25th day of the preceding month to toledoago419@gmail.com.

Toledo Chapter AGO website

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Our mailing address is:

Toledo Chapter AGO
2535 Collingwood Blvd
Toledo, OH 43610-1432

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