



Lorain County Chapter American Guild of Organists

www.lcago.org

Newsletter for October 2012

Vol. 58, No. 2

John Ferguson Hymn Festival

November 11, 4:00

Messiah Lutheran, Fairview Park

John Ferguson, Professor Emeritus of Music, St. Olaf College will lead a Hymn Festival on Sunday, November 11, 4 pm at Messiah Lutheran Church in Fairview Park. The festival is co-sponsored by Cleveland AGO, Lorain County AGO and Messiah Lutheran Church.



SONGS OF PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

with organ, choirs, brass, readers and more

You and your church choir are invited to be a part of the choir for the festival. The rehearsals required for all singers are Saturday, November 10: 10-12:30; and Sunday, November 11: 2:30 - 3:30.

Packets of hymns for the service are available for directors. Basic notes and rhythms are to be learned in advance of the Saturday rehearsal. All AGO members are invited to join in even if their church choirs do not participate. If you and/or your choir are interested in participating please e-mail [Brian Wentzel](mailto:Brian.Wentzel@lcago.org) and let him know approximately how many singers you will be bringing. Also helpful will be numbers of women's and men's voices or numbers by voice part.

We are also planning a "Lunch with Ferg" following the Saturday rehearsal. John Ferguson has dozens of great stories about church and school music. It will be an enjoyable time to lunch together and talk with one of our leading church musicians. Lunch will be available for a modest charge for AGO members only.



From the Dean

Dear Colleagues,

Our new AGO mission statement talks about enriching lives through organ and *choral* music. Interesting statement for a guild of *organists*! But it is true that singing is essential to much of our music making, whether it be leading congregational singing, directing or accompanying a choir, or singing as a cantor or soloist.

I attended a concert this past month at Oberlin by *Seraphic Fire*, a professional chamber choir from Miami, Florida. They were amazing—probably one of the best choirs I have ever heard, live or on recording. Diction, blend, intonation, balance: you name it, it was perfect, all from a group of only 13 singers (that's the same size as my church choir). I sat there with chills for much of the concert. It made me realize again how central and foundational the human voice is to music making. Singing is the basic form of music, and one might even say that all good music making takes its cues from good singing.

This concert renewed my enthusiasm for choral singing and refreshed my spirit. May all of you find similar renewal and refreshment!

Brian

Chapter News

Time to renew your membership

If you haven't done so already, it's time to renew your AGO membership! Now is the time to do it! If you've lost your form, you can [get one on the website](#).

Boar's Head Feaste

Our December LCAGO program will be to attend the Boar's Head Feaste put on by Elyria High School at [DeLuca's Place in the Park](#).

The event is December 7. Seating begins at 6:30pm, and the Feaste starts at 7. The cost is \$30.00 per person, which includes full dinner and dessert.

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Oberlin Events

October 4, 8:00, Warner **Oberlin Sinfonietta**

Timothy Weiss, conductor. Program includes: George Perle: Critical Moments; Igor Stravinsky: Septet; Georges Enescu: Chamber Symphony, Op. 33; Olivier Messiaen: Oiseaux Exotique. Free admission.

October 5, 4:30, Kulas **Jupiter String Quartet**

A performance by the Oberlin College and Conservatory Quartet in Residence - the Jupiter String Quartet. Béla Bartók: String Quartet No. 1 ; Johannes Brahms: String Quartet in C Minor, Op. 51, No. 1. Free admission.

October 7, 8:00, Kulas **Recital of Baroque Music**

Guest artists Eva Legêne (recorder) and Wieland Kuijken (viola da gamba) join Oberlin faculty Catharina Meints (viola da gamba) and Webb Wiggins (harpsichord) for an evening of Baroque music. Free admission.

October 10, 8:00, Kulas **David Breitman, fortepiano**

Breitman is director of the Historical Performance program at Oberlin. He plays a recital on this ancestor of the modern piano.

October 30-31, Bibbins 223 **Louis Vierne: His Life and Music**

A guest lecture by Brigitte De Leersnyder, internationally regarded as the preeminent Vierne scholar in the world. "Part I: the early years" is at 4:30, "Part II: the middle years" is at 6:00, both on the 30th. "Part III: the later years" is at noon on the 31st.

Other Area Events

October 5, 7:30, Kent United Methodist, Kent **Evensong**

Pastor Dave Palmer officiates and addressing us and our ministry as church musicians. Mary Ragna Yetter will be organist, and Dr. Frank Wiley will direct the Sanctuary Choir. Music of Mendelssohn, Stanford, Stainer, Batten, Stone, and Gardiner. Akron AGO event.

October 14, 3:00, First Lutheran, Lorain **Brian Wentzel, Organ Recital**

LCAGO Dean Music Brian Wentzel plays a recital of 20th- and 21st-century music on First Lutheran's historic Brombaugh organ. Appealing, moving, and just plain fun, the music on this program gives a sample of the diverse styles of music written for the organ in the last hundred years. Music of Langlais, Distler, Duruflé, and others. Free concert.

October 17, 7:30, St. John Cathedral, Cleveland **Daryl Robinson, Organ Recital**

Daryl Robinson won first place in the AGO's National Young Artists in Organ Performance competition, 2012. Music of Sowerby, Karg-Elert, Weir, Bach, Heiller, Hancock, and Liszt. The concert is free and there is free, secure parking in the Cathedral lot. Co-sponsored by AGO Cleveland.

October 28, 4:00, Lagrange United Methodist, Lagrange **Organ Demonstration**

A demonstration of Lagrange UMC's organ, including "what makes the Lagrange pipe organ unique" and "what Methodism did for the pipe organ."

Chapter News (continued)

There are 26 singers in Elizabethan costumes plus Queen Elizabeth, pages, a brass ensemble and Harpsichord, cello and recorders. The troupe does dances of the period and there is minstreling at the tables. A concert follows dinner.

Please RSVP to Brian by November 9 to reserve a spot. Spouses and friends are welcome!

Directory Advertising

This year we will be accepting advertisements in our yearly directory. Would you like to advertise a concert at your church? Would you like people to know about your music teaching business? Do you know of a person or company who would like to reach LCAGO members? If so, contact the Dean.

Job Openings

First Congregational UCC, North Ridgeville, is looking for an organist/choir director. Anyone who is interested may email Gayle Hannold (glhannold@juno.com) with their contact information, or contact the church directly: 36363 Center Ridge Road; North Ridgeville, OH 44039; Phone: 440.327.2921; Fax: 440.327.3647.

The **Episcopal Church of the Redeemer**, Lorain, has an opening for a short-term music director, from now through Christmas. There is a possibility of this turning into a longer-term position. They are looking for someone with skills as an organist, pianist, and choir director. A competitive weekly stipend will depend on experience and willingness to direct choir. Contact Mary Carson at mcarson1018@att.net and/or 440-610-0802.

Pipe Organ Available

A Wicks pipe organ is available in Lorain, Ohio. A 12 rank pipe organ dating from 1961 is available to interested churches. The price is negotiable. Please contact Dave Ritenaur at 258-8479.

AGO Mission Statement

The mission of the American Guild of Organists is to enrich lives through organ and choral music.

To achieve this, we:

- Encourage excellence in the performance of organ and choral music;
- Inspire, educate, and offer certification for organists and choral conductors;
- Provide networking, fellowship, and mutual support;
- Nurture future generations of organists;
- Promote the organ in its historic and evolving roles; and
- Engage wider audiences with organ and choral music.

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Please email any newsletter information to the Dean by the 20th of the month.