



Lorain County Chapter American Guild of Organists

www.lcago.org

Newsletter for May 2013

Vol. 58, No. 9

John Sherer, Organ Recital

May 5, 3:00 pm

First Lutheran, Lorain

John W. W. Sherer has been hailed by critics as “a terrific musician.” Reviewers have praised him for his “great creativity and élan” and proclaimed, “As usual, Sherer communicated both the demanding and subtle qualities of the program through utilizing both his remarkable virtuoso technique and his sensitive musical sense to serve the requirements of the music.” Dr. Sherer has performed numerous recitals throughout the United States and England, including several for regional and national organist conventions.



Since 1996, Dr. Sherer has been the Organist and Director of Music for The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago, recently selected by *USA Today* as one of the top ten places in America to be “enthralled by heavenly music.” This dynamic church has a 126-rank Aeolian-Skinner organ and ten choirs and instrumental groups including The Morning Choir, a twenty-six voice professional ensemble and Tower Brass, a professional octet. Dr. Sherer manages an active concert series at the church with over eighty events each year. In addition to his work at Fourth Presbyterian Church he is Music Director of the Chicago Chamber Orchestra, has done numerous lectures and clinics on church music and is a published author and composer. He currently serves on the board of the Chicago Chapter of the American Guild of Organists.

This free recital is co-sponsored by LCAGO.



From the Dean

Dear Colleagues,

As the school/church year draws to an end, I hope you'll take the chance to attend one of the many interesting concerts happening this month. All the concerts listed on the next page are free, and many feature the competition-winning organ students from Oberlin highlighted on page 4.

I also hope to see many of you on May 5 at our next LCAGO program, an organ recital by John Sherer at First Lutheran, Lorain.

John is a wonderful musician and a dear friend and mentor. He holds the prestigious position of Organist and Director of Music at Fourth Presbyterian Church in Chicago, home of the largest pipe organ in that large city. Our chapter is co-sponsoring his recital and providing a reception afterwards.

Brian

Chapter News

Upcoming LCAGO events

May 5, 3:00: John Sherer, Organ Recital

This recital will be at First Lutheran Church, Lorain, at 3:00. Dr. John W. W. Sherer is Organist and Director of Music at Fourth Presbyterian Church, downtown Chicago, named by USA Today as one of top ten places in America to be "enthralled by heavenly music." This concert is co-sponsored by [FIRST•music](#).

June 23, 4:00: Annual Meeting and Potluck Dinner

Our annual membership meeting and picnic will be at [Elyria Community United Methodist Church](#), 680 N. Abbe Road. We will meet at 4:00 in the gazebo (we can go inside if the weather is bad). We will share a salad and dessert potluck. Please RSVP to [Carol Sharrock](#) with what you will be bringing. Besides the chance to socialize and enjoy one another's company, we

Chapter News continued on page 4

Oberlin Events

May 3, 6:30, Finney

Sang-gil Travis Gu, Organ Recital

Artist Diploma student performs Romantic and 20th-century organ works. Music of Franck, Vierne, Litaize, Langlais, Bonnal, Tournemire, Messiaen and Duruflé.

May 3, 8:00, Fairchild and Finney

Jessica Park, Organ Recital

Oberlin Senior plays a recital starting in Fairchild and moving to Finney. Music of Scheidemann, Froberger, Sweelinck, Storace, Langlais, Alain, and Vierne.

**May 5, 2:00, Asia House Quadrangle
Indonesia Gong Concert**

Rare chance to hear two different ensembles from Indonesia: Javanese *gamelan* and Sumatran *talempong*.

May 5, 8:00, Finney

Musical Union, College Choir, and Treble Ensemble

Jason Harris directs Duruflé's Four Motets and Requiem, and Fauré's Canticum de Jean Racine.

May 8, 8:00, Finney

Oberlin Orchestra

Raphael Jimenez conducts Berg's Violin Concerto and Brahms' Symphony No. 1.

May 25, 9:00 am, Warner

Organ Demonstration

James David Christie and Wesley Hall demonstrate the Flentrop Organ.

May 25, 4:00, Finney

Organ Demonstration

James Davie Christie and Sanggil Travis Gu demonstrate the Fisk Organ.

Other Area Events

**May 5, 3:00, First Lutheran, Lorain
John Sherer, Organ Recital**

Dr. John W. W. Sherer is Organist and Director of Music at Fourth Presbyterian Church in downtown Chicago. This free concert is sponsored by LCAGO and [FIRST•music](#). More details are on page 1.

May 12, 2:00, Church of the Covenant, Cleveland

Organ Dedication

James David Christie plays the dedication recital for the new Richards, Fowkes gallery organ. Jonathan Moyer will present a lecture about the new instrument at 11:30am.

Job Opening

The [Episcopal Church of the Redeemer](#), Lorain, is seeking a Music Director for a 7-8 hour per week position. Redeemer is a vibrant, welcoming, and musically flexible congregation. The choir rehearses on Sunday mornings. Salary will be competitive based on experience.

Responsibilities: Accompanying congregational singing on organ and piano; choosing appropriate choral music and directing the choir; collaborating with pastor.

For more information or to apply, send e-mail to the Rev. Mary Carson at redeemerchurchoffice@centurytel.net. Applications should include a resume and references.

will hold our annual meeting, which will include election of officers, decisions about programs for next year, and discussions about the future of our chapter. Please join us!

Executive Committee Meeting

Your Executive Committee met together on April 15. We discussed, among other issues, our upcoming programs for this year, programs for next year, and the future of our chapter. These discussions will be continued at our annual members meeting on June 23. We hope you'll join us!

Visit to Leek Organ Company

Members of LCAGO met at the Leek Organ shop in Oberlin on Saturday morning, April 20. We had a wonderful time as James Leek and his staff showed us around the shop. Various parts of the historic organ from Wellington's First Congregational UCC were laid out around the shop and being restored. We saw and heard about restoration of the chests, trackers, and leather, among other aspects. We marveled at the ingenuity of their hand-crafted jigs, created, for example, to make hundreds of wire hooks of exactly the same shape and size. The end of the tour featured a short slide show illustrating how the pipe organ works. Many thanks to the Leek staff and to all who attended.

Oberlin Organ Students Excel in Competitions

This news from James David Christie:

Oberlin had 100% of its organ majors who competed this spring in the American Guild of Organists/Quimby Regional Competitions for Young Organists take First Prize in the chapter level competitions!

Congratulations to:

Jennifer Bower - St. Louis Chapter

Nick Capozzoli - Pittsburgh Chapter

Alcee Chriss- Dallas Chapter

Jillian Gardner - Buffalo Chapter

Mitchell Miller -Cleveland Chapter

Justin Murphy-Mancini - Hartford Chapter

Jessica Park - Minneapolis/St Paul Chapter

Both **Katelyn Emerson** and **Sanggil Travis Gu** competed in the North American Round of the Mikael Tariverdiev International Organ Competition. They were among four competitors to the finals in Kaliningrad, Russia, in September. There they will compete with winners from rounds in Germany and Russia.

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.