



# Lorain County Chapter American Guild of Organists

[www.lcago.org](http://www.lcago.org)

Vol. 60, No. 3 • Spring 2015

## James Kibbie Organ Recital

April 19, 3:00 p.m.

Peace Community Church, 44 E. Lorain St., Oberlin

LCAGO is co-sponsoring James Kibbie in a free recital on April 19 at Peace Church in Oberlin. James Kibbie is Professor of Organ at the University of Michigan and concertizes throughout North America and Europe. He has been hailed as playing with “consummate clarity, brilliance and grandeur.” The concert will include music by Bach, Distler, and Hindemith, among others.

The Bozeman-Gibson organ at Peace Church was built in 1984 for SUNY in Stony Brook. It is an evocation of an organ built by Gottfried Silbermann in 1741 in Grosshartmannsdorf, Saxony. The instrument sustained water damage in 1993. After storage, restoration, and more storage, the organ was installed in Peace Church and named in honor of David and Sigrid Boe. David was long-time Professor of Organ at Oberlin and also Director of Music at First Lutheran. Sigrid was a pillar of the Oberlin community.





## From the Dean

Dear Colleagues,

I hope you all had a fulfilling Holy Week and Easter. For many of us this is one of the busiest times of the year, and hopefully a time when our congregations appreciate us the most! It is an honor to be able to play such an important role in people's lives.

I hope you have had the time to look at the proposed new operating procedures, sent in the mail and highlighted below. Your executive committee has spent many meetings hammering out language to describe a healthy structure for our small group. My special thanks go to Bob Ebert, who gave us the spark for this idea, and has been instrumental at carrying it through.

Best wishes,

*Brian*

## Chapter News

### Annual Meeting

Our annual meeting will take place on Sunday, May 31, 3:00 p.m. at Community United Methodist, 680 N. Abbe Rd., Elyria. We will spend some social time together watching a DVD about the Wanamaker organ in Philadelphia, and then elect officers, plan programs for next year, and vote on the proposed new operating procedures.

A copy of these operating procedures should have reached you in the mail by now. Working on these procedures has been a long-term project of your executive committee. Currently, our chapter is technically operating under a set of bylaws from the sixties (which we just rediscovered over the summer!). For the most part, though, we have been operating loosely according to the national operating procedures. Upon looking at these national procedures in detail a few years ago, the executive committee became aware that they were unsuitable for a chapter of our size (there were more positions to be filled than we have members!). So the executive committee set to work modifying them, and finished that job at their meeting on February 28.

The operating procedures as proposed have a lot of "legalese," but in essence suggest three main changes to how we've operated recently:

1. Keeps the four-member executive committee (Dean, Sub-Dean, Secretary, Treasurer) but also specifies five "floating" positions: membership coordinator, program chair, newsletter

Chapter News continued on page 4

## Job Openings

### **Grace Lutheran Church, Oberlin—Organist**

Organist wanted at Grace Lutheran Church in Oberlin. Lutheran or similar liturgical familiarity/playing experience is preferred. Time commitment is one traditional 1-1.5 hour service on Sunday mornings, and one additional 30 minute service on Wednesday evenings during Advent and Lent. Music responsibilities include prelude and postlude, hymns, and liturgy. Instrument is a two-manual Bedient pipe organ. Please send resume with pertinent church and accompanying experience to [graceoberlinpastor@gmail.com](mailto:graceoberlinpastor@gmail.com).

### **North Ridgeville First Congregational UCC—Choir Director / Organist**

North Ridgeville First Congregational UCC is looking for a part-time Choir Director/Organist to lead our church with song and music during our worship service each Sunday and special services. The ideal candidate will have a background as a Choir or Music Director in an educational or spiritual environment with a varied repertoire. Responsibilities include working with the pastor and choir in the selection of music for the worship service, ordering music for the choir, directing the choir during rehearsal once a week, lifting up the congregation each Sunday morning during the worship service and submitting an annual music budget to the Stewardship Committee for approval. The choir performs 9 months out of the year (usually September through May). Salary is negotiable based on experience and qualifications. For consideration, please email your resume and cover letter to the church at ([secretary@fccalive.org](mailto:secretary@fccalive.org)). The church is an Equal Opportunity Employer. All responses will remain confidential.

## Pipe Organ Encounter at Valparaiso

Valparaiso University and the Northwest Indiana chapter of the AGO are sponsoring a Pipe Organ Encounter July 5-10. A POE is an introduction to the pipe organ for young people ages 13-18 who have some experience in piano. There will be private and group instruction, as well as visits to organs and organ builders. Throughout their experience, they will associate with other young musicians, chapter members, the best and brightest organists in the area and teachers of national renown. Please pass the word on to any interested students. For more information, visit [www.valpopoe.org](http://www.valpopoe.org).

editor, webmaster, and nominating chair. Each of these “floating” positions will be filled by a member of the executive committee. This keeps the committee small to conserve volunteers, but ensures that these essential tasks are done.

2. Formalizes the election process and brings it in line with national guidelines. The complete details are in section 6, especially #1 and #2. The main changers here include adding a nominating committee (the nominating chair and two other members) that actively recruits members to leadership; and voting in writing rather than by voice. The executive committee hopes this will lead to more people being involved in leadership and ensure that elections are fair.
3. Institutes 2-year terms for all officers. Given the complexity of the election process as described in #2 above, it doesn't seem necessary to hold elections every year.

Please familiarize yourself with this document. We will discuss it at our annual meeting, and you may vote then or by mail before then. Please contact any current member of the executive committee with any questions.

### **The Feast of Pentecost: Celebrating the Creator Spirit**

Heather Kirkconnell, Oberlin graduate and LCAGO member, will present a musical and artistic celebration of God the Creator on Sunday, May 24th at 4pm at First Congregational United Church of Christ, 330 Second Street Elyria, OH. The program is free and open to the public, and will feature works by Emma Lou Diemer, Jean-Baptiste Robin, and Olivier Messiaen. There will be a reception and time for fellowship following the recital, featuring artwork in celebration of the Creator Spirit.

### **Psalm Fest**

LCAGO members and their church choirs are invited to participate in Psalm Festival at the Church of the Covenant in University Circle, Sunday, May 3 at 5:00 p.m. The festival will celebrate a 2000-year Psalm tradition: Hebrew, Gregorian, Genevan, Anglican, Lutheran Chorales, Anthems and more. There are two rehearsals: Thursday, April 30, and Saturday, May 2. This event is co-sponsored by AGO Cleveland. Contact Jonathan Moyer ([jonathanwmoyer@gmail.com](mailto:jonathanwmoyer@gmail.com)) for more information.

## 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.

## Substitute Organists

**Robert R. Ebert, PhD**

[rebert@bw.edu](mailto:rebert@bw.edu)

(440) 353-3362

**Harold E. Slocum, MD**

[heslocum@gmail.com](mailto:heslocum@gmail.com)

(440) 775-2482

## Contact Us

**Lorain County Chapter, American Guild of Organists**

[www.lcago.org](http://www.lcago.org)

[info@lcago.org](mailto:info@lcago.org)

Brian Wentzel, FAGO, Dean • [brian@firstlutheranlorain.org](mailto:brian@firstlutheranlorain.org) • (440) 244-6286

Marty Bruner, SPC, Sub-Dean • [billandmartybruner@gmail.com](mailto:billandmartybruner@gmail.com) • (440) 322-9749

Ira Cooper, Treasurer • [ira@rumc-parma.com](mailto:ira@rumc-parma.com) • (440) 365-7691

Robert Ebert, Secretary • [rebert@bw.edu](mailto:rebert@bw.edu) • (440) 353-3362

Please email any newsletter information to the Dean.