

November 2017

The Guilder

The Newsletter of the Columbus Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

www.agocolumbus.org



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

Sharing the AGO on Facebook

By Tyler Robertson

Have you noticed more activity on our Facebook page lately? Following a recent Executive Board meeting, it was decided to increase the number of postings on Facebook in order to better publicize the various organ and choral offerings around town. Currently our AGO Columbus page is followed by more than 250 individuals, most of whom will see our posts on their news feed.

Did you know that *you can help* increase the viewership of our posts? Simply pressing the “like” button on a post or “sharing” it to your own news feed will allow many more people to see it.

Have you ever attended a wonderful recital or concert and thought it would be great if more people would have come? It is our hope that Facebook can be one tool which helps notify ourselves and friends of programs worthy of our time.

Currently, the events posted are those which are on the AGO Columbus calendar. If you have an organ or choir related event that is not listed on the calendar and you would like to get the word out, please let me know by contacting me at: TylerWRobertson@gmail.com.



Find us:
[Columbus Chapter AGO](https://www.facebook.com/AGOColumbus)

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Submissions for the next *Guilder* are due by November 5.

The December issue will be published on or by November 15 and will include concert dates from November 16 to January 1.

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Thomas Gerke

The Dean's Comments

Autumn! I enjoy the sight of colorful leaves against a deep blue sky. It distracts me from thoughts of the coming winter, but also foretells of the coming holidays of Halloween, Thanksgiving, and Christmas. As a Lutheran and organist for a Lutheran church, All Hallows Eve is special this year. On October 31, 1517, Martin Luther attached his 95 Theses for Disputation on the Castle Church door in Wittenberg, marking the beginning of the Protestant Reformation. This October 31 marks the 500th anniversary of that event and the 50th anniversary of productive

dialogue towards closer communion between the Roman Catholic and Lutheran churches.

I have visited Wittenberg, Germany, three times. My visit in 1996 stands out. Being there on a Sunday morning our group attended the church service at St. Mary's church, the church where Luther was priest/pastor. At that service I experienced hymn playing I have never experienced before nor since. The playing by the organist was solid, but with great flair. We sang four hymns in German from the hymnals in the pews. Every stanza was played in a different yet recognizable style, such as chorale, trio sonata, toccata, cantus firmus in various voices, etc. We in the pews felt our singing was well-supported. It was one of those unexpected yet wonderful experiences.

Former Chapter Dean Laura Silva responded to the Dean's Message in the October Guilder. She recounts her favorite memory of an unexpected yet wonderful event as follows: "The Feb. 6, 2005, program was Pizza and Pipes at Broad St. Presbyterian. We had a lot of kids, mainly from the Adcocks' organizing a busload. Part of our program was a performance of 'Dinosauria: a Mesozoic Menagerie for Organ and Narrator' by Robin Dinda. I will never forget James Yeager donning sunglasses at the start of the Tyrannosaurus Rex movement for performing his rap. Bravo!" Thanks for sharing this, Laura. By this time you should have received your copy of the 2017-2018 Membership Directory. If not, or you need to report a correction, please send that info to me.

By the time you receive this issue of the Guilder, two chapter programs will have recently occurred. I assume that Matthew Bickett will have played a wonderful recital as winner of the Great Lakes Region AGO Quimby Contest for Young Organists. Also, Jeremy Bankson will have presented a workshop on developing improvisation skills. I hope many of you were able to attend these chapter events. Many thanks to Matthew Bickett and Jeremy Bankson for sharing their talents.

2018, the 100th anniversary celebration year for the Columbus Chapter, is near. The chapter has a grand year-long schedule of special events planned. You likely have seen these events listed in the centerfold of the

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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.

Membership Directory. You are invited to support these events by attending, bringing guests, and donating. Please consider making a donation to support the 100th anniversary events by sending a check to chapter treasurer Al Adcock. Your donation is tax-deductible and appreciated.

When I moved to Columbus, it was Jean Blosser who personally invited me to become a member of the Columbus AGO Chapter. You likely know people who are not, but should be, members. Please issue an invitation to them to come with you to chapter events and to join the chapter. Membership info is found at www.agohq.org. If you like, send me their names and contact info.

The Columbus chapter is a non-profit, volunteer organization. There are several people who donate many hours to make the chapter successful. They do their jobs well. Please thank them.

With warm regards,
Tom Gerke
Dean, Columbus Chapter AGO

Announcement from Bunn-Minnick

After 48 years of building, restoring, enhancing, and tuning pipe organs in the eastern half of the United States, Bunn-Minnick Pipe Organs announces that it will close its doors at the end of December, 2017. We would like to thank each of our valued customers and friends for all of their support through the years. So many cherished relationships have been made, and we couldn't have done it without you. *Best wishes to everyone in the Columbus Chapter AGO and beyond!*

New Member Directory Addition

Mr. Hayden Michael Glasgow
1177 Freshman Dr.
Westerville, OH 43081
Email: hayden.glasgow00@yahoo.com
Phone: 614-841-9709

Note: If you change your address, phone, or email, please contact the Columbus Chapter Registrar, Stan Osborn. It is especially important that you keep your email address up to date, since that is how we send most of our communication. Stan Osborn, 316 Teryl Dr., Mount Vernon, OH 43050, 614-337-0434, stanosborn@earthlink.net.

Regional Convention Master Class Report #3

Editor's Note: This is the third of three reports from the members of the Columbus Chapter who played for master classes at our July 2017 Regional Convention. Mary Ann Stephens is currently in her eleventh year as Organist and Music Coordinator at Boulevard Presbyterian Church in Grandview Heights. She maintains a small, private piano studio and is Accompanist for Grandview Heights High School and Middle School Choirs. She holds a B. Music in Keyboard Pedagogy from Capital University, where she began her organ studies with Jan Linker.

Honestly, I don't know what made me check the yes box for the master class at the Regional Convention in Youngstown. Maybe it was a sense of duty. Maybe I thought I'd challenge myself to get nervous for something. Maybe I thought I'd never get picked. But I did. Now what?

I searched for just the right piece to play. Not Bach, because everyone would probably do Bach, but definitely something from the classical organ repertoire. Nothing too long, because each time slot was only about twenty minutes. Nothing too difficult, because the clinician can only cover so much. Also, I wanted to enjoy the experience of playing the organ at St. John's.

Since I didn't really have any "major work" in progress, I settled on Buxtehude's "Tocatta in F Major." Short, sweet, easy to register, and I'd played it for many weddings. I figured I could use advice about being stylistically accurate in the improvisatory-sounding passages. I also figured that I didn't dare play the "Edited and Arranged by Dennis Eliot" version from *The Sacred Organ Journal* from which I learned the piece in the first place. I found another in a wedding music collection by Concordia, a respectable publisher, right? This was the best I could do. I only have one other Buxtehude book, and it's not in there.

By the way, while I have been serving in churches for about twenty-eight years now, I only studied organ for four years in college. I guess I am one of those who "serve in the trenches." I am a Practical Organist, as the magazine says. The longer I sat waiting for my master class turn, the more self-conscious I became.

When I finished the piece, the clinician commented that I was "dramatic." I don't know why she said this, but I would disagree. Jane Parker-Smith is dramatic. I'm happy behind the console. And there was comment made about my Concordia wedding collection book. And, of course *everyone* knows the Fugue that follows the Tocatta. (I didn't, because it wasn't in my less-than-official book.) I'd like to say I was enlightened by the clinician's wisdom, but for those of you who were in attendance, how many times did you really want to hear the opening two measures? A suggestion, maybe a quick demonstration, then on to the next thing, but we hardly got past the first two measures! Did I mention feeling really self-conscious?

At the end of my time, I thanked the clinician for her thoughts, and she said to just keep having fun with what you do, and suggested that I purchase the Breitkopf edition of Buxtehude, conveniently available at the hotel, which I did. But the "just keep having fun" part gnawed at me. I do have fun. I love to play the organ, but it's not a hobby I do in my spare time. It's my job and my ministry. I have to say this comment undermined my confidence for weeks afterward. The more I thought about it, the more I wished that I hadn't volunteered for the master class at all.

Then, I made myself reflect on anything positive from the experience and here are those thoughts: As organists, guild members, and teachers, we should always be willing to support those who have a passion to learn. The guild has struggled in the past to overcome the image of an elite group of musicians. We should always be mindful to meet people where they are in their learning—not where they might be if they didn't have families, jobs, school, housework, paperwork, etc. Not many of us are monks who do nothing but practice. Finally, encourage and be encouraged to strive for excellence, not perfection. Whether you have a Ph.D. in F Major Scales or haven't had a formal lesson in thirty years, striving for excellence is something that every single person can do.

2017~2018 Directory Advertisers

The Columbus Chapter would like to warmly thank our 2017-2018 Directory Advertisers. Let's all show our thanks and support for them in this coming year.

Advertiser	Contact
Asbury Organ Academy	sallyjcasto@gmail.com
Bunn=Minnick	www.bunnminnick.com
Central College Presbyterian Church	www.ccpc.us
First Congregational Church	www.concertsatfirstchurch.org
Holtkamp Organ Company	www.holtkamporgan.com
Jason Hiester	740-815-4451
Lancaster Chorale	www.LancasterChorale.com
Muller Pipe Organ Company	www.mullerpipeorgan.com
Northwest Christian	www.northwestchristian.org
Peebles-Herzog	www.PeeblesHerzog.com
Piano Technicians Guild	www.ptgcolumbus.org
Prince of Peace Lutheran	www.princeofpeacedublin.org
Richard Fitzgerald	www.richardkfitzgerald.com
Sacred Music Institute of Central Ohio	jkeefe@pcj.edu
St. John's Worthington	www.StJohnsWorthington.org
St. Joseph Cathedral	www.cathedralmusic.org
Trinity Lutheran Seminary	mschwarz@TlSohio.edu
Worthington Presbyterian	www.worthingtonpresbyterian.com

Voices from the Past

The Historical Sub-Committee of the 100th Anniversary Committee—Tom Gerke, Carol Hofer, Ron Kenreich, Jan Linker, Nancy Rennecker, and Larry Rhoades—has pored over documents from the Columbus Chapter's early history, including a book of handwritten minutes that begins in 1916 and ends in 1932. Over this next year, in preparation for our chapter's 100th anniversary in 2018, they would like to share snippets of our past.

Programs of Note in the 1950s and 60s (gleaned from issues of the *Gilder*):

December, 1958. Recital by Virgil Fox at Mershon Auditorium, presented by OSU Celebrity Series.

March, 1966. Dr. Erik Routley, distinguished English clergyman and church musician, will present a lecture on "Church Music Today" in Bexley Hall, Capital University, April 29, 1967.

February, 1968. One of the highlights of the 50th Anniversary celebration of the Central Ohio AGO Chapter will be the performance of Catharine Crozier with the Columbus Symphony at Mershon Auditorium on February 23 and 24, 1968. Miss Crozier's program with the symphony will be Delamarter's "Concerto in E Major" and Samuel Barber's "Toccata Festiva."

Concerts and Other Events

The Columbus Chapter's on-line calendar may be found [here](#).

Jim McLaughlin, Organ Recital

Sunday, October 15, 3:00 p.m.

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

234 N. High Street, Hillsboro 45133

<http://www.masmhillsboro.weebly.com>

Mr. McLaughlin is Artist-in-Residence at Zanesville Central Trinity UMC. This is his fifth appearance on the Music at St. Mary's Concert Series.

Nicole Simental, Organist

Sunday, October 15, 3:00 p.m.

St. Joseph Cathedral

212 E. Broad Street, Columbus 43215

www.Cathedralmusic.org

Recently appointed Principal Organist and Assistant Director of Music of St. Joseph Cathedral, Nicole Simental makes her debut performance on the Cathedral's concert series. Winner of the Fourth International Goedicke Organ Competition at the Moscow Conservatory in Moscow, Russia, and co-winner at the First Sursa American Organ Competition at Ball State University, Miss Simental began her duties at the Cathedral last June.

Reformation 500th Anniversary Festival Worship Service

Sunday, October 22, 3:00 p.m. Prelude; 3:30 p.m. service

St. John Lutheran Church

6135 Rings Road, Dublin 43016

Central Ohio Circuits of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod will host an area-wide Reformation worship service with Preacher Rev. Nathan Esala. Guest musicians from several churches will perform.

Bach Vespers

Sunday, October 22, 4:00 p.m.

Trinity Lutheran Church

508 Center Street, Ashland 44805

www.trinityashland.org

Choral and instrumental musicians from Trinity Lutheran Church and the Ashland University Music Department present a worship service patterned after the order and flow of a Lutheran service from Bach's day. Featured music includes Bach's *Cantata #79 for Reformation: "God, Our Lord, Is Sun and Shield"* and the *Second Brandenburg Concerto in F Major*. Dr. Rowland Blackley of Ashland University will direct the choir and orchestra, and Dr. Timothy Guenther of Ashland University and Gethsemane Lutheran Church, Columbus, will preside at the organ. Pastor Eric Riesen of Trinity, Ashland will preach. Ron Marenchin serves as the Coordinator of Music Ministries at Trinity. The service is open to the public. A freewill offering will be received. A reception will follow. Staffed child care for children ages four and under will be available. The church building is handicap accessible.

Choral Evensong & Concert

Sunday, October 29, 4:00 p.m.

First Congregational Church

444 E. Broad Street, Columbus 43215

www.concertsatfirstchurch.org

Music of Herbert Sumsion, Bach's Cantata 80. Tyler Robertson, organist; Chamber Orchestra, Kevin Jones, conductor.

Please follow [this link](#) to listen to Pipedreams from American Public Media.



4 Hands, 4 Feet

Sunday, October 29, 4:00 p.m.

*Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
2001 Northwest Blvd., Columbus 43212*

engagedbygrace.org

British Organist Martin Kasperek and Joshua Brodbeck will play a program of organ duets. The program will include Wesley's "Organ Duet in C Major", "Sonata in D minor" by Gustav Merkel, and "Martyrs" by Kenneth Leighton. Martin Kasperek is currently the titular organist of the Collegial in St. Imier, Switzerland.

First Thursday Noontime Recital Series

Thursday, November 2, 12:15 to 12:45 pm.

*Asbury United Methodist Church
55 W. Lincoln Avenue, Delaware 43015*

Dr. Joseph Musser, Organist at First Presbyterian Church in Delaware, will be our soloist. As always, tables will be set and beverages provided for those who wish to enjoy lunch during the recital. Asbury is handicap accessible from its rear parking lot entrance. There is no admission charge.

Choral Evensong: Haydn's "Mass in d minor (Nelson)"

Friday, November 3, 7:30 p.m. Prelude; 8:00 p.m. Choral Evensong

*Gloria Dei Worship Center, Trinity Lutheran Seminary
2199 E. Main Street, Columbus 43209*

www.TLSohio.edu

Trinity Seminary Choir, Soloists, Chamber Orchestra; Carol Ann Bradley, Organist; May Schwarz, Director. Freewill offering. Free parking. Refreshments following.

New Hymn Concertato Premiere

Sunday, November 5, 11:00 a.m. Worship Service

*All Saints Lutheran Church
6770 N. High St., Worthington 43085*

A newly-written hymn concertato for congregation, choir, organ, brass, and timpani composed by Robert Hobby based on the hymn "Oh Holy Spirit, Enter In" from the Lutheran hymnal ELW using the tune WIE SCHOEN LEUCHTET will be premiered. Robert Hobby was commissioned to write this hymn concertato by the All Saints Lutheran Church Chancel Choir in honor of Tom Gerke's forty years as organist at All Saints Lutheran Church and accompanist for the Chancel Choir.

Reformation Hymn Festival

Sunday, November 5, 4:00 p.m.

*All Saints Lutheran Church
6770 N. High St., Worthington 43085*

Concerts at All Saints presents the All Saints Lutheran Church Chancel Choir, directed by Lauren Grangaard, with organists Tom Gerke and Jan Sprecher, in a Reformation Hymn Festival. One of the hymns will be a hymn concertato, newly-written by Robert Hobby for congregation, choir, organ, brass, and timpani for the occasion of the 40th anniversary of Tom Gerke as organist at All Saints Lutheran Church and accompanist of the Chancel Choir. Pastor Michael Weaver will provide commentary. A free-will offering will be taken.

Music for Harp and Organ

Tuesday, November 7, 12:15 p.m.

*First Congregational Church
444 E. Broad Street, Columbus 43215*

www.concertsatfirstchurch.org

Jeanne Norton, harp; Kevin Jones, organist.

Camarata Trio: Piano Trios by Beethoven and Mendelssohn**Sunday, November 12, 3:00 p.m.***St. John's Episcopal Church**700 High Street, Worthington 43085*

Comprised of Otterbein piano faculty member Suzanne Newcomb and Kenyon string faculty members Ariane Sletner and Luis Biava, all three of the trio's musicians perform in the Columbus Symphony Orchestra, with Mr. Biava serving as principal cello. From 2014-16, Camarata performed the complete Piano Trios of Mozart and Beethoven at a series of ten concerts at Mozart's Café in Clintonville. The trio's inclusion of a contemporary work on each recital earned it a grant from the Johnstone Fund for New Music. In 2016, Camarata presented its entire contemporary repertoire, including works by Augusta Read Thomas, Jennifer Higdon, Elliott Carter, Leonard Bernstein, Arvo Pärt, and more, at the Garden Theatre in the Short North. They completed last year's concert season with two recitals at the Orange Johnson House in Worthington, hosted by the Worthington Historical Society, with Suzanne performing on the newly refurbished 1824 Tröndlin fortepiano. We invite you to enjoy excellent music in a beautiful and historic space. There is no charge for admission to the concert; a freewill offering will be taken to support the Music Series.

Nicole Simental, Organ Recital**Sunday, November 19, 4:00 p.m.***Central College Presbyterian Church**975 S. Sunbury Road, Westerville 43081*

Ms. Simental is the new associate organist at St. Joseph Cathedral in Columbus. She is an active concertizer and has won numerous competitions, including the first prize at the International Goedicke Organ Competition at the Moscow Conservatory. The concert is free, but a freewill offering will be taken. Refreshment will be served in the fellowship hall following the concert.

Choral Evensong**Sunday, November 19, 4:00 p.m.***First Congregational Church**444 E. Broad Street, Columbus 43215*www.concertsatfirstchurch.org

Music of Ayleward and Stephen Caracciolo. Tyler Robertson, organist; Kevin Jones, conductor.

28th Annual Zanesville Handbell Festival**Sunday, November 19, 7:00 p.m.***Grace United Methodist Church**516 Shinnick Street, Zanesville 43701*<http://www.facebook.com/Thursday-Music-Club-190108687674933>

Local handbell choirs perform individually and together with guest director Jane Irvine. This concert ushers in the holiday music season. A freewill offering is taken to cover concert expenses. The Thursday Music Club sponsors this concert.