

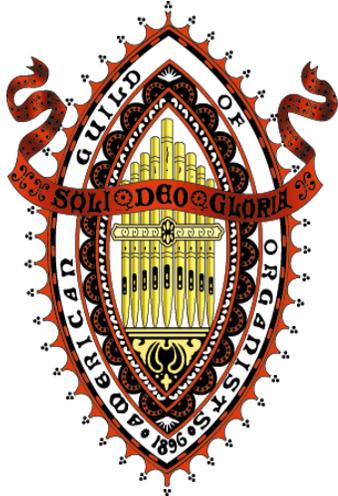
November 2018

www.harrisburgago.org

The Clarion

American Guild of Organists – Harrisburg Chapter

From the Dean



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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Harrisburg
Chapter
of the
American
Guild of
Organists.



Dear Colleagues,

On Sunday, October 14, we had a fantastic recital played by organists from the Harrisburg, Lancaster, and Reading AGO Chapters. It was held at Salem Lutheran Church in Lebanon. Salem is home to two fine organs. The first is a Miller organ, pretty much intact from 1888. It consists of three manuals and pedal (58, 27 note compasses), 31 ranks, and 1,705 pipes. The second is a Skinner organ, also pretty much intact from 1927. It is also three manuals and pedal (61, 32 note compasses), 29 ranks, and 1,951 pipes of great Skinner color.

We were expertly represented by some of our wonderful organists: Tyler Canonico, Ray Edmison, Christopher Prestia, and Dan Stokes. Thanks to them for some splendid playing. It was a treat to share time with our neighboring organists, all of whom played well. There were many from the congregation there, so I think we did a good job of showing them that their two historic organs are worth continuing to maintain.

In September, chapter member Shawn Gingrich led a seminar on handbell ringing with the Hershey Handbell Ensemble. It was such a fun morning! The Ensemble started off the morning with a stellar performance. Then Shawn took us through several handbell anthems and talked about bell ringing technique from both the beginning ringer's viewpoint as well as the new director's viewpoint. We ended the day with some sight-ringing, with Shawn and me at the organ and piano, respectively. Thanks to all of them and First UMC Hershey for so graciously hosting.

Our next program is with **Mark Miller**. He's going to work with us on gospel techniques. He is a former organist of the Riverside Church in NYC; a highly sought after published composer, worship leader, and workshop presenter; attended Yale and



Mark Miller leading students at Drew University

Julliard for organ performance; and is a gem of man. He knows how to put gospel playing in "organist terms," so we'll all walk out of the workshop with a new bag of tricks we can incorporate right away in our service playing. This is a valuable skill for organists of every denomination so I hope to see you all there. It will be **Saturday, November 10, at 10:00 a.m.**, at Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, 2000 Chestnut Street, Camp Hill.

Grace and peace,
Brett

Kenneth Walker—Member of Honor

At the Annual Banquet and Meeting in May, chapter member Kenneth Walker was recognized as a member of honor of the Harrisburg Chapter.



Former dean Shawn Gingrich presenting Kenneth Walker with the certificate of honor (photo by Rick Zentmeyer)

Ken joined the Harrisburg Chapter in the mid 1960s at a meeting at Pine Street Presbyterian Church.

His vocation was that of a Business Education teacher in the New Bloomfield High School for four years and then continuing in the Carlisle High School for forty two more years. A graduate of Shippensburg State Teachers College with a Bachelor's Degree in Education and Temple University with a Master's Degree in Education, Ken taught a total of 46 years. He retired in 2004 at the end of that school year.

As of Palm Sunday of this year, he has been the organist at St. John Lutheran Church in Boiling Springs for 55 years. Before taking organ lesson at Shippensburg with Dr. James Weaver and at St. Patrick's Cathedral with Bernard Wert, Ken studied (of all things) Hawaiian guitar (at his mother's insistence) piano, trumpet, and drums. As of this year, Ken has been the organist at 489 weddings!

Both music and travel have been Ken's hobbies. He has traveled to Europe eight times, including the Scandinavian countries and the Soviet Union, Mexico, South America, Puerto Rico, Bermuda, and other Caribbean Islands, Israel, and Canada as well as all over the United States.

Prior to over 30 years as Secretary of the Chapter he served on the Board for several years. He has attended a number of National and Regional Conventions of the AGO over the years.

Ken lives in South Middleton Township with his housemate, Lady Katherine Victoria, a German Shepherd Norwegian Elk Hound mix!

Congratulations and thank you Ken!

Lunch Bunch

We always have such a great time together at our monthly networking lunches. Please plan to attend our next luncheon on November 14th at 11:30 a.m. We will meet at the Perkins Restaurant, 7 Erford Drive, Lemoyne (in front of the Radisson). Please email or phone Doris Savage no later than the preceding Monday, November 12th if you plan to attend. Email dorisagohbg@comcast.net or telephone (717) 697-4042.

Derry Presbyterian Arts Alive

"Swan Songs" Concert Features works of Brahms and Schubert

Noted New York City-based soprano Jennifer Groves and Central Pennsylvania's own Beverly Butts on clarinet will present works of Brahms and Shubert at 4 pm Sunday, November 18 in the sanctuary at Derry Presbyterian Church, 248 East Derry Road, Hershey. Ms. Groves and Ms. Butts will be accompanied at the piano by Sean McCarthy, Derry Church's Director of Music.

The concert is part of the church's 2018-19 Arts Alive Cultural Series. A free-will offering will be received. Handicapped parking and an elevator are available.

In the last years of his life, Brahms fell in love one last time: with the clarinet. His Sonata in E-flat contains some of most beautiful melodies you'll ever hear, performed by superb clarinetist Beverly Butts. Toward the end of his life, Schubert wrote his very last song cycle, the beloved Swan Songs sung here by acclaimed New York-based soprano Jennifer Groves.

Ms. Groves debuted at Derry Church in 2015 as a featured soloist in "An English Christmas" concert that drew an audience of more than 500 people. She has appeared in numerous opera, oratorio, and musical theatre productions throughout the United States. Critics have praised her "beautiful phrases and soft high notes" (Broome Art Mirror). Most recently she portrayed Rosa Bud in The Mystery of Edwin Drood at the Bijou Theater in Bridgeport, CT, described as "vocally spot on with acting chops to boot" by onstageblog.com. Other roles include Nedda with Regina Opera; Mabel (Circus Princess) and Papagena with Amore Opera; Laurey in Oklahoma! with Central City Opera; Gretel and Musetta with Crested Butte Music Festival; Lauretta (Gianni Schicchi), Gianetta (L'elisir d'amore), Barbarina (Le nozze di Figaro), and Sandman/Dew Fairy (Hansel and Gretel) all with Tri-Cities Opera where she was resident artist. She holds a Masters of Music in Opera from Binghamton University. She can frequently be heard as a soloist and member of the Schola Cantorum at St. Agnes Parish in Manhattan.



Beverly Butts has been a member of the Maryland Symphony Orchestra since 1983, and Principal clarinet since 1992. She holds a B.S. degree in

music education from Lebanon Valley College, a MM in performance from Michigan State University, and has worked towards a Ph.D. in music at New York University. Her teachers have included Frank Stachow, Dr. Elsa Ludewig-Verdehr, Leon Russianoff, Joe Allard, and Charles Neidig.

She is also principal clarinet with the York Symphony, and plays frequently with the Harrisburg Symphony. Other orchestras she has performed with include the Baltimore Chamber Orchestra, Millbrook Orchestra, Shippensburg Chamber Orchestra, and Symphony at Deep Creek. She has been a concerto soloist with the Maryland Symphony, York Symphony and the Hershey Symphony.

Teaching is another important part of her career. She has been on the faculty of Dickinson College, Elizabethtown College and York College of Pennsylvania. Currently, she is a member of the music faculty at Lebanon Valley College where she teaches clarinet, woodwind methods, classes in clarinet and saxophone pedagogy and literature. She also conducts the Clarinet Choir, Sax Ensemble, and coaches the Woodwind Quintet.

Sean McCarthy is Director of Music and Organist at Derry Presbyterian Church where he leads Music & Arts, a comprehensive program providing choral and instrumental opportunities for all ages. He has appeared in concert throughout the United States and holds the Doctor of Musical Arts in Organ Performance from The Benjamin T. Rome School of Music at The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., and Master of Music in Piano Performance from the University of Maryland, College Park.

The Arts Alive season will continue at 4 pm Sunday, December 9 with "An Irish Christmas" featuring Derry Church's Sanctuary Choir, Derry Ringers, youth and children's' choirs, guest soloists and orchestra. Complete season information is posted on derrypres.org/events/arts-alive.

Derry Presbyterian Church is affiliated with the Presbyterian Church (USA). Worship services are held on Sundays at 8:00 and 10:30 am and Tuesday evenings, 6:45-7:30 pm. For more information, call the church office at 717-533-9667 or visit derrypres.org.

Fine Arts at First presents the APPALACHIAN WIND QUINTET in Concert

The Appalachian Wind Quintet will perform in concert on Sunday, November 4 at 4 p.m. at First Evangelical Lutheran Church, 21 S. Bedford St., Carlisle. Based in the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains in Hagerstown, Maryland, the award-winning ensemble is dedicated to presenting woodwind quintet literature from its earliest beginnings in the classical period to the present time. Brief oral program notes throughout the concert will give an enlightening historical context to each composition. Formed in 1987, the group is known for its superb musicianship, innovative programming, and highest professional caliber. It has commissioned and premiered works by American composers William Bland, Neal Corwell, Wayne Wold, and Mark McCoy to advance new works for wind quintet and has performed a great variety of concerts in the Mid-Atlantic region. Members of the Appalachian Wind Quintet are flutist Barbara Spicher, oboist Ed Stanley, clarinetist Rick Mogensen, bassoonist Scott Cassada, and French horn player Ed Schupp. The concert is free. A freewill offering will be received, and a dessert reception

will be held following the quintet's performance. For more information, call the church, 717-249-3310, visit www.firstlutherancarlisle.org or go to the quintet's website at www.appalachianwindquintet.com.

Area Events

Friday, November 2, 2018—7:30 PM

Market Square Presbyterian Church, 20 South Second Street, Harrisburg presents Organ Spooktacular Concert featuring Tyler Canonico, Ellen Hunt and Jordan Markham. Suggested donation of \$10.

Sunday, November 4, 2018—4:00 PM

First Lutheran Church, 21 S. Bedford St., Carlisle presents the Appalachian Wind Ensemble in concert. A freewill offering will be received. Call (717) 249-3310 or go to Fine Arts at First at www.firstlutherancarlisle.org for information. (See article on this page)

Sunday, November 4, 2018—6:00 PM

St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 22 S. 6th St., Lebanon—Requiem Mass for All Faithful Departed including *Requiem* by Gabriel Fauré—St. Luke's Festival Choir

Sunday, November 4, 2018—7:00 PM

Palmyra Church of the Brethren, 45 N. Chestnut St., Palmyra presents a Taizé Service.

Sunday, November 11, 2018—3:00 PM

Trinity Lutheran Church, 2000 Chestnut St., Camp Hill presents Principally Harps, two of America's finest harpists in concert. This concert is free. For information visit www.trinitycamphill.org.

Sunday, November 18, 2018—4:00 PM

Derry Presbyterian Church, 248 East Derry Road, Hershey presents "Swan Songs" with Beverly Butts, clarinet; Jennifer Groves, soloist, and Sean McCarthy, accompanist. In the last years of his life, Brahms fell in love one last time: with the clarinet! His Sonata in E-flat contains some of most beautiful melodies you'll ever hear, performed by superb clarinetist Beverly Butts. Toward the end of his life, Schubert wrote his very last song cycle, the beloved Swan Songs sung here by acclaimed New York-based soprano Jennifer Groves. Free-will offering. (See article pages 2-3)

Sunday, December 2, 2018—3:00 PM

Trinity Lutheran Church, 2000 Chestnut St., Camp Hill presents Messiah Sing-a-Long with Harrisburg Choral Society. This concert requires tickets. For information visit www.trinitycamphill.org.

Sunday, December 2, 2018—4:00 PM

St. Matthew Lutheran Church, 839 West Market Street, York presents the Wheatland Chorale in a concert entitled "Manger Songs"—Ticketed event

Sunday, December 2, 2018—6:00 PM

St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 22 S. 6th St., Lebanon—Advent Lessons and Carols—St. Luke's Festival Choir

Friday, December 7, 2018—7:30 PM

Mount Zion Lutheran Church, 2164 Mount Zion Road, York presents the Hershey Handbell Ensemble in concert. The concert is free with a free-will offering.

Saturday, December 8, 2018—7:00 PM

Atonement Lutheran Church, 5 Wyomissing Blvd, Wyomissing presents the Wheatland Chorale in a concert entitled "Manger Songs"—Ticketed event

(Continued from page 3)

Saturday, December 8, 2018—7:00 PM

Salem Lutheran Church, 99 York Road, Jacobus presents the Hershey Handbell Ensemble in concert. The concert is free with a free-will offering.

Sunday, December 9, 2018—3:00 PM

First United Methodist Church, 64 West Chocolate Avenue, Hershey presents the Hershey Handbell Ensemble in concert. The concert is free with a free-will offering.

Sunday, December 9, 2018—3:00 PM

Trinity Lutheran Church, 2000 Chestnut St., Camp Hill presents Cantus: *Lessons and Carols for Our Time*, Men's premier vocal ensemble. This concert is free. For information visit www.trinitycamphill.org.

Sunday, December 9, 2018—3:00 PM

First United Methodist Church, 64 West Chocolate Avenue, Hershey presents the Hershey Handbell Ensemble in concert. The event is free with a free-will offering.

Sunday, December 9, 2018—4:00 PM

Market Square Presbyterian Church, 20 South Second Street, Harrisburg presents Lessons and Carols featuring the choir of Market Square Presbyterian Church. Suggested donation of \$10.

Sunday, December 9, 2018—4:00 PM

First Presbyterian Church, 140 E. Orange St, Lancaster presents the Wheatland Chorale in a concert entitled "Manger Songs"—Ticketed event

Sunday, December 9, 2018—4:00 PM

Derry Presbyterian Church, 248 East Derry Road, Hershey presents "Christmas in Ireland" with Sanctuary Choir, Children's Choir, Orchestra and Handbells. This holiday season, we invite you and your family to experience Christmas in Ireland. Come enjoy beautiful folk carols from the emerald isle, and join the combined choirs and orchestra in a sing-a-long of favorite carols. The second half of the program features highlights from Handel's Messiah, which premiered in Dublin. Sharing the stage will be Derry's 45-voice Sanctuary Choir, the Derry Ringers handbell choir and Derry's youth and children's choirs. An outstanding orchestra provides accompaniment. Free-will offering.

Friday, December 14, 2018—7:30 PM

Cornwall Manor Retirement Community, Freeman Auditorium, 1 Boyd St, Cornwall presents the Hershey Handbell Ensemble in concert. The concert is free with a free-will offering.

Saturday, December 15, 2018—7:00 PM

Cross Keys Village, The Brethren Home Community, Nicarry Meeting House, 2990 Carlisle St, New Oxford presents the Hershey Handbell Ensemble in concert. The concert is free with a free-will offering.

Sunday, December 16, 2018—3:00 PM

Trinity Lutheran Church, 2000 Chestnut St., Camp Hill presents Christmas at Trinity with choirs, bells, and orchestra. This concert is free. For information visit www.trinitycamphill.org.

Sunday, December 16, 2018—3:00 PM

St. Edward Episcopal Church, 2453 Harrisburg Ok, Lancaster presents the Hershey Handbell Ensemble in concert. The concert is free with a free-will offering.

Positions Available

Part-time organist/pianist: Centenary United Methodist Church, Harrisburg. One Sunday service (10:15). Applicant should be proficient at playing traditional organ music, leading congregational

hymn singing, and accompanying contemporary songs. Organ is a three manual Allen. Pay is weekly, up to \$125.00. Applicants should contact: Pauline Thrush (717) 763-4004 or send resume to Mrs. Thrush at the church address: 1010 Orchard Dr. Harrisburg 17113.

Music Director: St. James Presbyterian Church in Mechanicsburg is prayerfully seeking a church musician to serve as its next Director of Music. The church, which is affiliated with the PC(USA), worships at 10:15 a.m. on Sunday mornings. The music at this service is blended. The church has a piano, an organ and a new sound system; services usually include a worship band. Among the Director of Music's responsibilities will be: 1) to play for worship services 2) to direct the church's adult and youth choirs 3) to rehearse weekly with the adult and youth choirs 4) to coordinate when the worship band and other groups of musicians sing during worship services 5) to select music for services in conjunction with the Pastor 6) to practice music before it is played in worship 7) to serve on the church's Worship and Christian Education ministry group and 8) to collaborate and to communicate regularly with the choirs, congregation and staff. The Director of Music will be ultimately accountable to Session, which is the governing body of the church, and will be supervised by the Pastor. Choirs rehearse on Thursday evenings, and occasionally, additional worship services are scheduled throughout the year. For more information or to apply, please contact the church office at (717)732-7848 or e-mail the Pastor Ron Gilmer (rongilmer.pcusa@gmail.com).

Organist: Messiah UMC, Shippensburg, PA. is seeking an organist to lead the congregational singing, provide worship music, and accompany the Chancel Choir. Messiah Church has a Moller Organ, purchased in 1924, reconditioned in 1949 and 1969. In 2016, the church again reconditioned the organ including rewiring all relays and stop switching components, adding the Peterson ICS 400 system to provide memory, and adding 12 new Walker digital voices for Great, Swell, and Pedal. They are currently accepting applicants for the organist position, hoping to as soon as possible. Duties include weekly worship services at 9 a.m., Thursday evening Chancel Choir practice, and occasional services as needed. The organist does not play the last Sunday of each month and has two vacation weeks. For more information, call the church office at 717-532-4904. Resume with cover letter may be emailed to messiahumc@comcast.net with 'Organist Applicant' as the subject line or mailed to the church at 30 South Penn Street, Shippensburg, PA 17257.

Assistant Organist: Pine Street Presbyterian Church seeks applicants for the position of Assistant Organist. Primary responsibilities include accompanying the choir, playing hymns and service music, and organ voluntaries. P/T 15-20 hours/week. Salary commensurate with experience and education. For a full job description, if you have any questions, or to apply, e-mail Brett A. Terry, Minister of Music & Worship, at BTerry@pinestreet.org. Please include a résumé and cover letter if applying; no recordings are needed at this time.