

SEPTEMBER 2017

www.SWMichiganAGO.org

Guild Year Begins with a Festive Evening in Grand Rapids

MULTI-CHAPTER CELEBRATION *Choral Evensong and Dinner*

Sunday 24 September
Basilica of Saint Adalbert Grand Rapids
(654 Davis Avenue NW)

5:00 p.m. Evensong and Officer Installation
Dinner to Follow

Homilist: The Reverend Don E. Saliers, Phd
Chaplain of the American Guild of Organist

The Choir of Saint John's Episcopal of Detroit
Dr. Huw Lewis, FRCO, Conductor and Organist

The Majestic Brass of Grand Rapids

Our chapter is pleased to be part of a major West Michigan AGO event including the Grand Rapids, Holland, and Muskegon-Lakeshore chapters. The Grand Rapids chapter is covering the cost of the guest musicians, the overage on the dinner, and the stipend and travel expenses for our National Chaplain's participation. Each of us needs only to pay the dinner cost of \$20. The dinner is free for any member who is under age 30. Reservations are required.

We can RSVP our **dinner reservations** by emailing agodinner@grago.org or calling Errol Shewman at (616) 456-9232. Those who are under 30 are asked to indicate that when they RSVP. There is no need to send payment in advance; simply bring cash or check to the event.

**Dinner Reservation Deadline
is by the end of the day
on Wednesday, September 20.
\$20 payable when you arrive
(if applicable).**



Don E. Saliers
AGO National Chaplain



Huw Lewis
St. John's Episcopal Detroit

◆ SHARED TRANSPORTATION ◆

See the top of page three
if you could like to join a car pool
for this September 24 event
in Grand Rapids.

OUR NEXT MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY *Process For Who Will Be Included*

Because our membership dues are paid directly to the National AGO at varying times in the calendar year, we needed to decide "who" will be included in each year's directory. A procedure to do so was determined last summer by registrar Carrie Groenewold, editor Carl Doubleday, and dean Steve White.

If you are a member-in-good standing on October 1, you will be included in the new directory.

If you need to renew your membership between now and October 1, we will do our best to let you know. This effort will be a combination of emails and phone calls. If you do NOT hear from us at all between now and October 1, you have the right to assume that all is well and that you will be included.

MESSAGE FROM OUR DEAN
from Stephen White, PhD

I trust that each of you had a summer filled with rest and rejuvenation, and that you are ready to begin a new year of ministry with your choirs and other musicians. Our chapter year is starting in a slightly different way this year due to the combined event at the Basilica of St. Adalbert in Grand Rapids (see event and RSVP information on page one of this issue) In order to facilitate as many from our chapter going as possible, we would like to do ride shares for this event (currently known drivers are included on the next page). If you like to be added to this list of drivers, please let Carl Doubleday know and he will get that information out via email.

Several of our chapter members have moved away over the past few months (see item below my message), so our current chapter member roster is feeling a bit “leaner.” In order to explore ways of increasing chapter membership, I have agreed to develop a Dean’s Membership Task Force. This small group of individuals will brainstorm ideas for expanding our outreach. These ideas will be shared with the executive board for future programming and events scheduling. If you have any thoughts, please feel free to share those with me. In the meantime, each of you can play a pivotal role in spreading the word about the good things we, as AGO members, do. Each of us obviously feels strongly enough about the organization to continue our membership – so I hope I can count on you to invite others to come check us out. The Guild has several membership options (you don’t have to be an organist or have a church position), and there is certainly room for everyone in our organization.

I hope ride sharing will help us have a good showing for the combined event in Grand Rapids on September 24 – it looks to be an outstanding musical and social event. I hope to also offer more purely social opportunities for chapter members, so please pay attention to your email in-box and plan to participate!

Soli Deo Gloria!
Dean Stephen White

MEMBERSHIP NOTES

We know of these members who have relocated and will no longer be affiliated with our chapter: David Acton, Charles Collins, Garrett Collins, Paul Flyger, and Phil Niece. We wish them well and will miss them very much.

OUR 2017-18 PROGRAM YEAR
from Dr. Carrie Groenewold

We are making excellent progress on this program year. At this time we are able to confirm our fall events. The list features healthy collaborations amongst our chapter, other chapters, and various arts organizations from the community.

September 24 (Sunday)

Evensong, Installation of Officers, and Dinner
5:00 p.m. Evensong and Installation Service
Basilica of Saint Adalbert Grand Rapids
Dinner to follow. See details on page one.
in collaboration with the Grand Rapids, Holland, and Muskegon Lakeshore chapters

October 14 (Saturday)

7:00 p.m. “The Hope of Loving”
St. Luke’s Episcopal Kalamazoo
Sounding Light Choral Ensemble (Tom Trenney)
with guest conductor/composer Jake Runestad
in collaboration with St. Luke’s Episcopal Church

November 3 (Friday)

7:00 p.m. Organist Kevin Vaughn
St. Augustine Cathedral Kalamazoo
in collaboration with Early Music Michigan, the Michigan Festival of Sacred Music, and the Sacred Music at the Cathedral series

November 4 (Saturday)

10 a.m. to Noon Kevin Vaughn Masterclass
St. Augustine Cathedral Kalamazoo

December 4 (Monday)

7:00 p.m. Annual Members Christmas Recital
Second Reformed Kalamazoo
Christmas Party Follows (members & guests only)
Bill & Joanne Musselman Home

Soli Deo Gloria!

Sub Dean and Registrar Carrie Groenewold

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT
Participation Invitation

As mentioned above, our annual Christmas Concert is on Monday, December 4, on the four-manual Lauck instrument in Second Reformed Kalamazoo. If you are interested in being a performer, do contact Carrie Groenewold at music@stlukeskalamazoo.org or (785) 766-4543.

◆ SEPTEMBER 24 CAR POOLING ◆

If you are interested in riding with other members to our September event in Grand Rapids, contact one of these persons to make arrangements.

Battle Creek **Steve White** plans to depart the St. Thomas Church parking lot at 3 p.m. He has room for three others. Contact him at music@stthomasbc.org or (269) 339-4844.

Kalamazoo (southeast) **Graeme Shields** can bring three others. He will depart from the Milwood United Methodist parking lot at 3:45 p.m. Contact him at shields.graeme@gmail.com or (218) 360-0998.

Kalamazoo (northwest) **Janet Hill** is able to bring up to four persons. She will depart from the Harding's parking lot on West Main and Drake Rd at 3:45 p.m. Look for her across the lot opposite the Hardings entrance. Contact her at hillparadocs@gmail.com or (269) 544-2461.

Kalamazoo (downtown) **Tom Fielding** can bring one other person. He will plan to depart from a mutually convenient location TBD at 3:45 p.m. Contact him at tfielding@stakalamazoo.org or (269) 366-9015.

AN ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITY *Help Us Cover Our Directory Costs*

Registrar Carrie Groenewold has begun to solicit display ads for our yearbook/directory. If you, your church, or an affiliated organization you know would like to place a display ad in our new directory, the prices are \$35 (one-third page), \$50 (half page), or \$100 (full page). Carrie would love to hear from you via music@stlukeskalamazoo.org or 785 766-4543.

VARIATION ON A SUNDAY SUBSTITUTE Including an Instrumental Ensemble

The Antwerp Recorder Ensemble is now available for Sunday church services, either as featured music or as substitutes for an organist. The ensemble includes:

David Fischer, recorder
Rick Johnson, recorder
Mary Ross, Viola da gamba
Barbara Hong, harpsichord (electric), piano, organ

The ensemble will provide prelude, offertory, and postlude from a primarily Baroque repertoire, plus organ on hymns. A fee of \$150 includes all personnel. Contact Barbara Hong at (269) 344-2240.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ACTIONS *from Secretary Kay Ensfield*

During our Executive Committee's quarterly meeting in August, Registrar Carrie Groenewold reported that at this time we have 71 members. There are always some changes as people move in and out of the area, but this is fewer than we have had in recent years. As always, we encourage our current members to keep membership recruitment on their minds. We may be overlooking some logical candidates in our midst.

The new program season is coming along nicely. We developed a carpool plan for the September meeting to encourage attendance at that event in Grand Rapids.

Finally, we approved a \$200 donation from our chapter to the National AGO Annual Fund.

ORGANIZER CALENDAR

Please send entries to cdayday@chartermi.net as early as you wish. They will be entered in a master calendar and shared in each issue as space permits. Chapter member names are noted in SMALL CAPS.

Gala Organ & Choral Concert on Friday, September 15, at 7 p.m. in St. Thomas Episcopal Battle Creek (15 E Van Buren St). The program will feature past St. Thomas music directors Danford Byrens and Jacqueline Stilger, current music director STEPHEN WHITE, and the St. Thomas Choral Scholars. Freewill offering.

Music in the Greek Orthodox Church Today on Monday, September 18, at 7:30 p.m. in St. Thomas Aquinas Church East Lansing. Presented by AGO's Greater Lansing Chapter, the program is subtitled "Something Old, Something New, Something Borrowed, Nothing Blue." There is a Greek dinner (\$15) beginning with *hors d'oeuvres* at 6 p.m. Reservations by September 13 to barbara.hiranpradist@gmail.com are required for the dinner.

Folias Flute/Guitar Duo on Sunday, September 24, at 3 p.m. in Milwood United Methodist Kalamazoo (3919 Portage Rd). For this Milwood Series concert, flutist Carmen Maret and guitarist Andrew Bergeron will be joined by soprano Jessica Coe. The concert will include the first performance of two works including soprano composed by Maret and Bergeron. Freewill offering.

Organist James Kibbie on Sunday, September 24, at 3 p.m. in St. Mary Cathedral Lansing (219 Seymour St). The recital will include selections by J. S. Bach and feature Vierne's *Symphony No. 6, Op. 59*. For more information contact Tim Costigan at tcostigan@stmarylansing.org.

Organist Christopher Dekker on Friday, September 29, at 7 p.m. in St. Augustine Cathedral Kalamazoo (542 W Michigan Ave). Dekker is organist at Hillcrest Christian Reformed Grand Rapids. The program will open the new Sacred Music at the Cathedral season. Freewill offering.

University of Michigan 57th Annual Organ Conference from Saturday, September 30, through Tuesday, October 3. This year features the music of Vierne and honors the memory of Robert Glasgow. More information at knappcr@umich.edu.

Organ Recital and Choral Evensong on Sunday, October 1, in St. Thomas Episcopal Battle Creek (15 E Van Buren St). The organ recital by ERIC STRAND at 4:30 p.m. will be followed by Choral Evensong with the St. Thomas Choir at 5 p.m. Freewill offering.

Bachtoberfest on Thursday, October 5, at 7 p.m. in Bell's Brewery Kalamazoo presented by the Kalamazoo Bach Festival. Information at www.KalamazooBachFestival.org.

October Art Festival – Celebrating the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation
Prince of Peace Lutheran Portage (1747 W Milham)
JANET HILL, Organist
A reception will follow each event

Sunday, October 8 from 1–4 p.m.
“Scribes of Hope” Traveling
Calligraphy Exhibit
4 p.m.”The Power of the Word”
A Hymn Fest in Four Movements
Art, Music, and Readings

Sunday, October 15, at 4 p.m.
Vater Unser – Words and music
composed by Martin Luther
illuminating the Lord's Prayer for
Germans in the 16th century

Sunday, October 22, at 4 p.m.
“Sound and Spirit of Kalamazoo”
presented by the Michigan Festival
of Sacred Music, Elizabeth Start, Director

“The Hope of Loving” and the Sounding Light Choral Ensemble on Saturday, October 14, at 7 p.m. in St. Luke's Episcopal Kalamazoo (247 W Lovell St). Conducted by Tom Trenney and featuring guest conductor and composer Jake Runestad, the concert is part of our chapter's program season. More information will be included in our next newsletter. Free to current AGO members.

ELIZABETH BRUCE Organ Recital on Sunday, October 15, at 3 p.m. in First Presbyterian Kalamazoo. Free.

Ecumenical Community-wide Reformation Service in Waldo Stadium at Western Michigan University on Sunday, October 29 at 4 p.m. Observing the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation.

PipeSCREAMS!!!! on Sunday, October 29, at 5 p.m. in St. Thomas Episcopal Battle Creek (15 E Van Buren St). This is a continuation of what has become an annual tradition at St. Thomas.

Organist Kevin Vaughn on Friday, November 3, at 7 p.m. in St. Augustine Cathedral Kalamazoo (542 W Michigan Ave). Vaughn is organist at Goshen College in Indiana. Part of our chapter's program season, this concert is a collaboration with the Sacred Music at the Cathedral series and the Michigan Festival of Sacred Music. More program information will be included in our next newsletter. Free to current AGO members.

Kevin Vaughn Masterclass on Saturday, November 4, from 10 a.m. to noon in St. Augustine Cathedral Kalamazoo. Part of our chapter's program season, more information will be included in our next newsletter.

Organ Recital and Choral Evensong on Sunday, November 5, in St. Thomas Episcopal Battle Creek (15 E Van Buren St). The organ recital by STEPHEN WHITE at 4:30 p.m. will be followed by Choral Evensong with the St. Thomas Choral Scholars at 5 p.m. Freewill offering.

The Rose Ensemble with the Piffaro Renaissance Band on Wednesday, November 15, at 7 p.m. in Chenery Auditorium Kalamazoo. Presented by the Kalamazoo Bach Festival in collaboration with the Michigan Festival of Sacred Music and celebrating the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation. More at www.KalamazooBachFestival.org.

Organist Raúl Prieto Ramírez on Sunday, November 19, at 4 p.m. in First (Park) Congregational Grand Rapids (10 East Park Place NE). Presumed to be a free concert.

Jazz Pianist Jeremy Siskind on Sunday, December 3, at 3 p.m. Milwood United Methodist Kalamazoo (3919 Portage Rd). Holiday favorites *ala* jazz will be performed by this nationally recognized Yamaha® Artist. Formerly on the jazz faculty at Western Michigan University, Siskind is now on the faculty of Fullerton College in Southern California. Freewill offering.

Bachfest Christmas on Sunday, December 3, at 4 p.m. in Stetson Chapel at Kalamazoo College. The Bach Festival Chorus conducted by Chris Ludwa and the Western Brass Quintet. More at www.KalamazooBachFestival.org.

Festival of Advent Lessons & Carols on Sunday, December 3, at 5 p.m. in St. Thomas Episcopal Battle Creek (15 E Van Buren St). The St. Thomas Choirs will be directed by STEPHEN WHITE. Freewill offering.