

OCTOBER / NOVEMBER 2017

www.SWMichiganAGO.org

OCTOBER

*Sounding Light Choral Ensemble***Saturday 14 October**

7:00 p.m. Concert (see ticket info in last paragraph below)

A collaboration with **St. Luke's Episcopal** Kalamazoo (247 W Lovell St), this concert will feature guest conductor/composer Jake Runestad and a performance of his "The Hope of Loving," a moving composition for string quartet and chamber choir.

In addition to the Runestad composition, the concert will include folk hymns, spirituals, and music by J. S. Bach, Kim André Arnesen, and Tom Trenney.

Led by its founder, Tom Trenney, *sounding light* is committed to offering its members a spiritual and holistic approach to ensemble singing. Recently honored with the invitation to perform at the 2017 National Convention of the American Choral Directors Association, *sounding light* has been privileged to sing with Anton Armstrong, David Davidson, Joseph Flummerfelt, Stacey Gibbs, and Alice Parker, and has premiered works by Carmen Cavallaro, David DiChiera, Jake Runestad, Tom Trenney, and Anne Wilson.

Tom Trenney is Minister of Music to First-Plymouth Church in Lincoln, Nebraska, where he leads four adult choirs, accompanies the congregation in worship, and preaches. **Jake Runestad** is an award-winning composer of music for orchestra, choir, wind ensemble, chamber ensembles, and opera. Having worked with leading ensembles around the world, he has established himself as a distinguished young composer of "highly imaginative" (Baltimore Sun) and "stirring and uplifting" (Miami Herald) musical works.

This concert is FREE for current AGO members (be sure your membership is currently active). If you wish to bring a guest, tickets are \$15 and may be purchased in advance or at the door. Contact Carrie Groenewold for more information music@stlukeskalamazoo.org.

NOVEMBER

*Organist Kevin Vaughn***Friday 3 November**

7:00 p.m. Concert (free will offering)

Saturday 4 November

10:00 a.m. Master Class (light refreshments at 9:30)

The Michigan Festival of Sacred Music and the Sacred Music at the Cathedral concert series will present organist Kevin Vaughn in concert on Friday, November 3, at 7 p.m. in **St. Augustine Cathedral** Kalamazoo (542 W Michigan Ave). Dr. Vaughn will then present a master class on Saturday, November 4, at 10 a.m. Light refreshments will be served at 9:30.

Assisted by members of Early Music Michigan, Eric Strand, artistic director, the featured work on the Friday concert will be the *Messe de la Toussaint* by Gaston Litaize. Saturday master class access will be via the east parking lot door. Please do not plan to use the W Michigan Ave doors. The master class is free.

Kevin Vaughn is director of music and organist at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in South Bend, Indiana, and instructor of organ and harpsichord at Goshen College, Goshen, Indiana. An active member of the American Guild of Organists, Kevin currently serves as Dean of the St. Joseph Valley (IN) Chapter and holds the Guild's Colleague certificate. His research and lecture recitals focus on French organist/composer Gaston Litaize (1909-1991), especially his organ Masses.



Tom Trenney



Jake Runestad



Kevin Vaughn

MESSAGE FROM OUR DEAN

Stephen White, PhD

Thank you to everyone who was able to make the trip up to Grand Rapids to participate in the joint service/dinner with our colleagues from the Grand Rapids, Holland, and Muskegon-Lakeshore chapters. While it was rather warm (that may be an understatement), a huge congratulations and thanks go to Huw Lewis and the choir from St. John's Episcopal (Detroit) for such a wonderful service of Choral Evensong, and to Peter Kurdziel, Dean of the Grand Rapids chapter for putting together such a splendid event. I have a feeling there may be more collaborations in the future.

As our calendar year speeds along into October and November, I would encourage you to participate in the events/activities and bring friends along to the concerts – some wonderful music will be shared and master classes are always a good way to sharpen skills and gain insight (even if you aren't on the bench). As mentioned in my last message, the Dean's Task Force on membership will be meeting soon to discuss ways of growing our membership – if you have any thoughts or suggestions, please don't hesitate to send them my way.

There are many musical opportunities in our area and I hope we each are able to take advantage of being in the audience for some of them – not only does it send a message of support to our colleagues, but also provides us an opportunity so rarely taken.....to sit and enjoy. I look forward to seeing you!

Soli Deo Gloria!

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY UPDATE

Our 2017-18 directory/yearbook is now a project in process. If you are a member-in-good standing, you will be included. In the meantime, we would like to welcome a new member:

Jared Montgomery (stu)
207 N Kendall Dr Unit B
Kalamazoo 49006
montclef88@yahoo.com
586 588-1395

Organist – Chapel Hill United Methodist Portage

OUR PROGRAM YEAR CONTINUES

Invitations to be involved

December 4 (Monday)

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

Invitation: If you are interested in being a performer on this program, contact Carrie Groenewold at (785) 766-4543 or music@stlukeskalamazoo.org.

Also: Please begin pondering which of your favorite holiday treats you would like to share when we gather at the Musselman home after the recital.

February 17 (Saturday)

10:00 a.m. **Pedals, Pipes, and Pizza**
Prince of Peace Lutheran Portage
for middle school and high school students who are interested in the organ

Invitation: If you currently operate a piano studio, please contact Carrie Groenewold so she can work with you to invite your piano students. Also contact Carrie if you have a passion for recruiting young organists, so you can be involved in this event. (785) 766-4543 or music@stlukeskalamazoo.org.

Kathryn Lowe Scholarship Applications

due on November 1

contact Dr. Stephen White

steve@stthomasbc.org or 269 965-2244 x15



**In Memory of Clarence Small
1924–2017**

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**.

**500th Anniversary of the Reformation
October Art Festival Continues**
Prince of Peace Lutheran Portage
(1747 W Milham)

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
JANET HILL, Organist

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" with the **Sounding Light Choral Ensemble** on Saturday, October 14, at 7 p.m. in St. Luke's Episcopal Kalamazoo (247 W Lovell St). *More information on page one.*

ELIZABETH BRUCE Spooktacular Sounds Recital on Sunday, October 15, at 3 p.m. in First Presbyterian Kalamazoo. The family-friendly event will feature some "scary" organ pieces. Costumes are welcome and an indoor "Trunk or Treat" candy-sharing reception will follow the concert. Free.

GRAEME SHIELDS Organ Recital on Friday, October 20, at 7:30 p.m. in Peace Lutheran South Haven (06321 Blue Star Memorial Highway). Pre-concert lecture at 7 p.m. Titled "Form Reform" the program will observe the 500th anniversary of The Reformation. Free. Click on this link for more information.
<https://www.vitalorganproject.com/events/2017/10/20/form-reform>

Ecumenical Community-wide Reformation Service in the Wings Stadium Events Annex 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). *More information on page one.*

Kevin Vaughan Master Class on Saturday, November 4, from 10 a.m. to noon in St. Augustine Cathedral Kalamazoo. *More information on page one.*

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 information 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. in 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 information 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.

Ss. Peter and Paul Choral Scholars on Tuesday, January 9, at 7 p.m. in St. Augustine Cathedral Kalamazoo (542 W Michigan Ave). This is a Sacred Music at the Cathedral "bonus concert" during the national convention of the Conference of Roman Catholic Cathedral Musicians. The ensemble is a professional liturgical choir from Naperville, Indiana. Free.