

OCTOBER / NOVEMBER 2016

[www.agokalamazoo.org](http://www.agokalamazoo.org)**GUEST ORGANIST JONATHAN RYAN***Halloween Night and Beyond*

In collaboration with the Michigan Festival of Sacred Music, we are delighted to bring concert organist Jonathan Ryan to Kalamazoo. Three events are being offered on October 31 and November 1. All will take place in **First Baptist Kalamazoo**.

**Monday 31 October**

6:00 p.m. Kid-Friendly Halloween Concert

8:00 p.m. **Formal Concert****Tuesday 1 November**

10:00 a.m. Master Class

There will be a “Trunk or Treat” event from 5-6 p.m. in the adjacent First Congregational parking lot. All are then invited next door (costumes welcome) at 6 p.m. for a FREE kid-friendly concert (30 minutes). Works will include two Bach pieces – Toccata in D Minor and “Gigue” Fugue – Boëllmann’s Toccata from *Suite Gothique*, Elfes (Opus 7) by Bonnet, two of Calvin Hampton’s Five Dances (1982), and Dupré’s *Placare Christe servulus* (Opus 38 No. 16).

The evening’s main event will begin at 8 p.m. The program includes Leo Sowerby’s Pageant, three Bach pieces from *Clavier-Übung III* (BWV 678, 686, 684), Philip Moore’s Pastorale (2015), Duruflé’s Prelude and Fugue on the name of ALAIN (Opus 7), Franck’s Prière (Opus 20), Ride on a High Speed Train (2011) by Ad Wammes, and Dupré’s “The World Awaiting the Savior” from *Passion Symphony* (Opus 23).

**Jonathan Ryan**

Jonathan Ryan’s two-day residency will conclude on Tuesday morning, November 1, when he will present a FREE master class at 10 a.m. also in First Baptist. The class will be hosted by Dr. Karl Schrock.

Ryan is a multi-prize winning organist. Lauded for his strong communicative skills in a variety of styles, exceptional use of the instrument’s capabilities, and bold programming, he has emerged as one of North America’s premier young concert artists. With a repertoire spanning the 16th- to 21st-centuries, he has performed at celebrated venues, festivals, and conventions throughout North America and Europe.

Ryan serves as Associate Director of Music in one of the largest music programs of the national Episcopal Church at Christ Church in Greenwich CT where he combines his passions for conducting, performing, and teaching with his love of sacred music.

We thank Betsy Start, MFSM Executive Director, for making these events possible.

Because we are co-sponsoring the event,

**SW Michigan Chapter members  
in good standing will be admitted FREE.**

You will need to get your pass at the ticket desk where they will have a list of our members.

Your guests will need to purchase tickets  
(\$15 – \$5 students).

## OUR DEAN'S MESSAGE

*Stephen White, PhD*

As the colors change and the leaves begin to fall away, I am reminded that we, too, go through transitions both personally and professionally. If you are like me, my professional focus must turn toward Advent, Christmas, and the new years (both liturgical and calendar) even while having a strong desire to stay personally rooted in the presence and comfort of warmer temperatures, vibrant colors, and the consistency of "Ordinary Time." In the process, getting "ahead" of myself mentally and emotionally seems to be a barrier to experiencing the Holy in the "present" of my life.

I have decided, amidst this season of "change," to revisit a text by Mark Galli: Beyond Smells and Bells; the Wonder and Power of Christian Liturgy. In the second chapter, he states:

*"The church calendar is not about the cycle of life, e.g. school or sports or harvest time, but about the movement of history toward a glorious goal. We celebrate the past events of salvation history not merely to remember them, but to note how they infuse the present with meaning and power, and point us to our future hope."*

Whether we personally subscribe to the Christian faith or some other faith/belief tradition, I believe we can be informed by a consistent rhythm through a sense of renewal; the juxtaposition of Fall (dying away) and ending of the liturgical year with the excitement/energy of the new years (liturgical & calendar) and the anticipation of what the re-birth of Spring will hold. As church musicians and believers in the power of music in and through worship, it may often be difficult for us to be truly "present" in the wonder and power of the liturgy – that consistent part of our journey toward a glorious goal. I urge you to take time to evaluate how your personal faith impacts, and is impacted by, the movement of the various seasons, their seemingly odd juxtapositions, and the ways through which your calling as a musician (and/or music lover) gives "meaning and power, and points you to your future hope." **Soli Deo Gloria!**

### **Kathryn Lowe Scholarship Applications**

due on November 1

contact Dr. Stephen White

[steve@stthomasbc.org](mailto:steve@stthomasbc.org) or 269 965-2244 x15

## DECEMBER GATHERING PREVIEW

### *Annual Christmas Concert and Party*

We will be blessed to return to the hospitality of First Congregational Kalamazoo for this year's Chapter Christmas Concert on Tuesday, December 6, at 7 p.m. The program will be announced to the public, and this year our member performers will be more visible to the audience, as we help celebrate the church's *newly moveable* organ console! Reveling at the Musselman home will follow the concert. Start planning what taste treat you might bring to share. More details will be included in our December newsletter.

### *Performers Still Welcome*

Several members are already scheduled to play. If you would like to offer up an Advent/Christmas/Epiphany work, please contact our subdean, Elizabeth Bruce, at [ekent1231@gmail.com](mailto:ekent1231@gmail.com).

## UPCOMING 2017 CHAPTER EVENTS

### *Calendar Nearing Completion*

We will have three more chapter events in the second half of our 2016-17 season. Not all of the details are finalized, but we can share this much information.

### **Pedals, Pipes, and Pizza**

Dr. Karl Schrock will host this February or March event in Dalton Center at WMU. Exact date TBA.

### **Bach Around the Block**

Our 30th annual (gasp) Kalamazoo Bach Festival collaboration will be held on Monday, May 8.

### **Year-End Dinner**

We will dine, have our officer installation ceremony, and a choral reading session on Monday, June 5, in Milwood United Methodist Kalamazoo.

## MIXTURES

### *Chapter Member News*

**Bill Musselman** was honored on Sunday, October 2, for his (first) 45 years as Organist and Director of Music at Trinity Lutheran Kalamazoo. Trinity has had only two organists in its last 70 years! Prior to Bill, another member of our chapter, **J. Clinton Jones**, served for 25 years. **Soli Deo Gloria!**

**Mark Wells** has created a new choral group made up of both new and longtime singers in the Battle Creek area. The group has been named the Battle Creek Master Singers. Its first concert is set for Sunday, October 30. Details are in the *ORGANizer* calendar.

## ORGANizer CALENDAR

**Battle Creek Master Singers** on Sunday, October 30, at 4 p.m. in First Presbyterian Battle Creek. Under the direction of MARK WELLS, this ensemble's premier concert will include guest artists Ed Zentera, trumpet, and AL BOLITHO, organ. Freewill offering.

**Organist Gail Archer** on Friday, November 4, at 7 p.m. in St. Augustine Cathedral Kalamazoo (542 W Michigan Ave). A Sacred Music at the Cathedral guest artist, Archer is on the faculty at Barnard College of Columbia University. Her program will include works by Buxtehude, Bach, Schumann, Fanny Mendelssohn, and Joan Tower, as well as Reger's massive *Ein Feste Burg* Chorale-Fantasia. Freewill offering.

**Choral Evensong** on Sunday, November 6, at 5 p.m. in Saint Thomas Episcopal Battle Creek (15 E Van Buren St). Sung by the St. Thomas Choir directed by STEVE WHITE. Freewill offering.

**Christmas in Kalamazoo** on Tuesday, November 29, at 7:30 p.m. in Centerpoint Church Kalamazoo (2345 N 10th St). This concert features the Kalamazoo Ringers, Kalamazoo Brass, and Kalamazoo Male Chorus, as well as special seasonal arrangements for the combined ensembles. Freewill offering.

**Burdick-Thorne Quartet** on Sunday, December 4, at 3 p.m. in Milwood United Methodist Kalamazoo (3919 Portage Rd). Concluding the 2016 Milwood Series, this concert by the Kalamazoo Symphony's resident string quartet will include music from the Hampton String Quartet's long-ago-popular "What if Mozart wrote *Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas*" album. Freewill offering.

**Festival of Lessons and Carols** on Sunday, December 4, at 5 p.m. in Saint Thomas Episcopal Battle Creek (15 E Van Buren St). Sung by the St. Thomas Choir directed by STEVE WHITE. Freewill offering.

**Bachfest Christmas** on Sunday, December 4, at 4 p.m. in Stetson Chapel at Kalamazoo College. A community tradition since 1970, the concert will feature the Bach Festival Chorus conducted by James Turner, the Arcato Chamber Ensemble conducted by Andrew Koehler, and organist ERIC STRAND. Ticket information at 269 337-7407 or [www.KalamazooBachFestival.org](http://www.KalamazooBachFestival.org).

**WMU Choral Christmas** on Sunday, December 4, at 4 and 7:30 p.m. in First Presbyterian Kalamazoo. Choirs (and conductors) include University Chorale (Kim Adams), Cantus Femina (Dee Gauthier), and Collegiate Singers (Ken Prewitt). Instrumental collaborators will include organist KARL SCHROCK. Tickets (\$15/\$12/\$5) are available at the Miller Auditorium ticket office as well as "at the door."

**Kalamazoo Ringers Christmas Concert** on Sunday, December 11, at 4 p.m. in Grace Harbor Church Kalamazoo (811 Gorham Lane). Under the direction of Jan Van Valey, this year's program is titled "Christmas Journeys." Freewill offering.

**WMU Brass Celebration of Christmas** on Sunday, December 18, at 3 p.m. in the Dalton Center Recital Hall. This longtime holiday favorite features the Western Brass Quintet and Friends. Tickets (\$15/\$12/\$5) are available at the Miller Auditorium ticket office as well as "at the door."

cartoon compliments of Barbara Hong

