

JUNE 2018

www.SWMichiganAGO.org

BACH AROUND THE BLOCK *31st Annual Collaboration*

Monday 4 June at 7 p.m.
Beginning at First Baptist Kalamazoo
Continuing to First Presbyterian
Concluding at St. Luke's Episcopal

Once again it's time to crawl around Bronson Park to enjoy the music of J. S. Bach. Coordinated by Tom Fielding, this year's theme is "Lost Souls: The Miscellaneous Works of J. S. Bach." Six chapter members will perform: Eric Strand, Graeme Shields, Mark Wells, Alexis Young, Janet Hill, and Carrie Groenewold.

Our Bach Around the Block collaboration with the Kalamazoo Bach Festival Society has been one of our most successful outreach programs attracting 200-300 people annually. The evening will conclude with a reception at St. Luke's.

*A copy of the program
has been included as page 3 of this issue.*

ANNUAL ELECTION REPORT *Candidates Announced*

Ballots for our annual election were mailed on May 23 to those qualified to vote (regular, special, and young organists members). The candidates are:

Dean – Dr. Stephen White
Sub Dean – Graeme Shields
Secretary – Kay Ensfield
Treasurer – Curt Flowers
Councilor (ending 2021) – Deborah Rafferty
Councilor (ending 2019) – Jared Montgomery

Rebecca McClaren Craft continues as a Councilor (ending 2020), Dr. Carrie Groenewold will continue as Registrar, Dr. Tom Fielding as BAB Coordinator/Website & Publicity, Carl Doubleday as Editor, and The Rev. Canon William Spaid as Chaplain.

OUR DEAN'S MESSAGE *Stephen White, PhD*

It is somewhat difficult to believe that June is already upon us – but the calendar on the wall (as well as the temps) don't lie – summer is nearly here.

We end this program year in good shape – with financial health, a broader diversity of ages in attendance at chapter functions, and a slate of officers ready and willing to serve the chapter. You will have noticed that consistent themes of my messages this year were that of greater member participation in chapter functions and the personal outreach to others in the community. If I am completely honest, it seems I have failed in this aspect of chapter leadership because my messages did not motivate/inspire a greater number of our members to actually attend chapter functions or invite newcomers to check us out. This is a personal disappointment because I do honestly believe that each of us wants to see the organ (and organists) maintain a visible place in our artistic and spiritual culture – that said, I don't believe we can be upset with a decline in interest if we aren't willing to do our part in the promotion of our art.

I was excited to see six college-aged organists/enthusiasts at our April meeting and the opportunity they took to have discussions with those of us with more "experience." I believe we have a responsibility to be mentors to the younger generation of organists and that those in our chapter eagerly desire these types of connections. I was also pleased with the free music exchange. The browsing was enthusiastic!

As many of us head into a period of greater rest and relaxation over these next few months, I do hope we can spend some time contemplating what the Guild means to us and how we can be more engaged in its mission. As always, if you have programming ideas or thoughts on how the chapter can grow and inspire others, please let a member of the executive board know – this is OUR chapter and each of us benefits from its success. Until the fall . . .

Soli Deo Gloria!

MIXTURES

Two of our student members graduated from Western Michigan University this spring. Both study with Dr. Karl Schrock. Their future plans deserve mention.

Daniel Tucker will be attending the Yale School of Music to pursue a Master of Music degree in Choral Conducting and a Certificate in Sacred Music from the Yale Institute of Sacred Music. All Yale School of Music students are awarded a full-tuition scholarship as well as a stipend for living expenses. Besides his conducting studies, Daniel plans to keep taking organ lessons as well. **Congratulations!**

Alexis Young has received the 2018 Pogorzelski-Yankee scholarship for first-year graduate organ study from the National AGO. This is a nation-wide competition and only one scholarship is awarded annually. She will be attending the Eastman School of Music where she has been awarded two additional merit-based scholarships. **Congratulations!**

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SUMMARY *from Kay Ensfield*

Time was spent finalizing the ballot for our annual election of officers. **Tom Fielding** was lauded for his six years of Executive Committee service and thanks were given that he will continue as our Bach Around the Block coordinator as well as our Webmaster and Publicity Chair. [**Carrie Groenewold** completed her term as Sub Dean and, thankfully, will continue to serve the chapter as our Registrar.]

There were no Katy Loew scholarship applicants at this quarterly meeting.

Kind thoughts were shared for Carolyn Hiestand whose father passed away and for Carrie Groenewold whose father has been quite ill. [Also, since the last board meeting, Esther Manni's husband passed away.]

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN EVENT *58th Annual Organ Conference*

This fall's well-known conference will be held from September 30 to October 2. The topic focus will be: "Women's Impact on Organ, Harpsichord, Carillon, and Sacred Music." For more information:

www.smt.d.umich.edu/departments/organ

EDITOR'S NOTE: In checking this link, I discovered a surprise. The student on this website's homepage is former WMU piano/organ student Emily Solomon.

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**.*

Feast or Famine on Saturday, June 2, at 8 p.m. in Chenery Auditorium Kalamazoo. Kalamazoo Bach Festival Finale featuring Walton's *Belshazzar's Feast* and *Requiem for Those Who Died of Famine* by Yevhen Stankovych. Bach Festival Chorus and Kalamazoo Philharmonia. More information at www.KalamazooBachFestival.org.

Organ Recital and Choral Evensong on Sunday, June 3, in St. Thomas Episcopal Battle Creek (15 E Van Buren St). A 4:30 p.m. recital by STEPHEN WHITE will be followed at 5 p.m. by Choral Evensong with The St. Thomas Schola Cantorum. Freewill offering.

Choral Evensong on Sunday, June 17, at 5 p.m. in St. Thomas Episcopal Battle Creek (15 E Van Buren St). The service will be sung by the St. Thomas Choir. Freewill offering.

Solemn Choral Eucharist on Sunday, June 24, at 11 a.m. in St. Thomas Church (Fifth Avenue in New York City) sung by the St. Thomas Choir Battle Creek. Conducted by STEPHEN WHITE with organist ERIC STRAND. The St. Thomas Choir will also sing **Choral Evensong** at 4 p.m.

OUR MISSION

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.



2018

The American Guild of Organists
Southwest Michigan Chapter

BACH AROUND THE BLOCK XXXI, • 4 JUNE 2018
"LOST SOULS: THE MISCELLANEOUS WORKS OF J. S. BACH"

First Baptist Church

Partiten: O Gott, du frommer Gott, BWV767
Eric Straud, Director of Worship, Music and the Arts, First UMC, Grand Rapids

Ach Gott und Herr (chorale and prelude), BWV714
Gazene Shields, Organist, Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church, South Haven

First Presbyterian Church

Ricercar a 6 (*Musikalisches Opfer*), BWV1079
Mark Wells, Director of Music, St. Philip's RC Church, Battle Creek

Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott, BWV720
In Dulci Jubilo, BWV751
Valet will ich dir geben, BWV735
Alexis Young, Principal Organist, St. Michael's Lutheran Church LC-MS, Portage

St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Fuga sopra il Magnificat, BWV733
Janet Hill, Director of Music, Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, ELCA, Portage

Pièce d'orgue, BWV572
Carnie Groenewold, Minister of Music, St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Kalamazoo

