

THE WINDCHEST

OMAHA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS



JUNE 2020

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facebook

Please like the Omaha Chapter Facebook page. Information is posted regularly! Our page name is: Omaha Chapter of the American Guild of Organists.

FROM THE DEAN

“For the beauty of the earth....”

This is the time of year when the sky seems very blue, the flowers are blooming, the trees are their greenest green. The warmth of the air pulls us outside to breathe deeply. We go for walks to take it all in and get much needed exercise. Spring is a blessing as we see the earth come alive.

“For the joy of human love....”

And yet - there is a pandemic and we miss one another. Some have family to talk to - but it's the same family we've been talking to for 3 months! We miss being church together, worshipping together, singing together. Even as churches reopen, we are cautioned that singing is a major way of spreading this virus. That breaks my heart, as I'm sure it does yours.

“Friends on earth....”

Some of you have continued playing for live-stream services. Others are beginning to practice again. It will take time, maybe a long time, before our lives will be normal again. As we wait, remember that we have a God who loves and cares for us. I pray you know that well.

In the April TAO, AGO President Michael Bedford wrote about what we can learn from geese. Worthwhile to read! Two points we could use now:

Recognize and support one another - call, mail or email choir members or AGO friends.

Have the humility to seek help - if you need help, please call me. I will work with you to find the best person for you. This is hard friends!

I am honored to be the new Dean of the Omaha Chapter. Some extraordinary people make up the board for the next year. We will introduce ourselves further next month.

May the peace of God be with you.

Jean Johnson, Dean

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.

YOUNG ORGANISTS

If you missed Jeff Hoffman's presentation in April on Service and Program Planning, you would be doing yourself a favor if you watched it on FaceBook. Jeff spent a lot of time putting this together and it contains a wealth of information that would be beneficial for you, who are early in your careers. Did you know about Post-It-Notes tape?

2020-2021 SCHEDULE

Omaha Chapter Opening Meeting - September 13

Elizabeth George, the AGO Director of Member Engagement and Chapter Development will be our speaker. This will be held at Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church, 2650 Farnam. Organist Mark Jones will introduce members to the organ there. Outgoing board members J. Gordon Christensen, Gina Simpson, Dirk Lindner and Sonja Lundgren will be honored for their service to the Chapter. Time, dinner plans to be determined.

The remainder of the season will be announced once the new board can meet and finalize the details.

2020-2021 BOARD MEMBERS

Newly installed board members at a safe social distance!



Jeff Hoffman, Dr. Laura Rau, Dr. J. Gordon Christensen, Greg Johnson, Sr. Claudette Schitratti, David McCain, Jean Johnson, Stephen Bartelt

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regarding the
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lynettejanssen@cox.net

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Church, ELCA -**

Organist
Treyvor, Iowa
Contact Pastor Meyer at (402) 800-
7531
or cmeyerspl@gmail.com

CONGRATULATIONS DR. MARTY WHEELER
BURNETT

VTS Appoints New Faculty Member

ALEXANDRIA, VA - Following today's meeting of the Board of Trustees, Virginia Theological Seminary (VTS) announced the faculty appointment of Marty Wheeler Burnett, D.Min., M.Mus., as Associate Professor of Church Music.

"We were excited by the field of candidates we had to engage with, and we are delighted with the appointment of Dr. Burnett," said the Very Rev. Ian S. Markham, Ph.D., dean and president. "She will truly bring depth and commitment to this work."

Since 2007, Burnett has led and coordinated the music ministry at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral in Omaha, Nebraska. As Canon Precentor, she conducted the Cathedral Choir, Schola Cantorum, Requiem Choir, and Summer Choir, and served as director of the children's and youth choir program, Cantate Choral Academy. In addition, she oversaw the Handbell Ensemble and coordinated concerts and special music events. An award-winning educator, Burnett previously served as Director of Fine Arts and Associate Professor of Music at College of Saint Mary in Omaha. She currently serves as president of the Association of Anglican Musicians, an organization of musicians and clergy serving the Episcopal Church.

In 2010, she received her doctoral degree, with a liturgical music focus, from Sewanee: The University of the South. In 1988, she received her Master of Music degree (Organ Performance) from Rice University.

Burnett will move onto the VTS campus in the summer of 2020.

We are grateful to have had your talent, compassion, and encouraging spirit and smile among us for 17 years! May you be nothing but successful as you move on.

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