

OMAHA CHAPTER OF  
THE AMERICAN  
GUILD OF  
ORGANISTS

SPECIAL  
POINTS OF  
INTEREST:

Recital Dates

Special Events

INSIDE THIS  
ISSUE:

From the Dean 1

Hymn Festival 2  
"Celebration of  
Psalms"

Tip of the Month 3  
National  
Convention

In the News... 4

Pedaling Around 5  
Omaha

Ancient Worship 6  
Schedule



# The Windchest

APRIL 2018

Celebrating 100 Years!

## From the Dean...

April and May are especially active months for the Omaha Chapter AGO! We are ending the 2017-18 season with four events, including two recitals by highly professional organists, a hymn festival played by chapter members, and our annual end-of-season banquet with a program presented by three members who have earned AGO certification this season.

### ORGAN RECITALS

Kola Owolabi, Associate Professor of Organ at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, will grace our series with a recital on the Casavant organ in Strauss Performing Arts Hall on the UN-O campus on Sunday, April 8, at 7:00 p.m. Everyone will want to hear this recital. Dr. Owolabi's repertoire includes works by Muffat, Sweelinck, J. S. Bach, Muffat, Eben, and Durufle. (Alert: the UN-O music facility is undergoing renovations. Not every entrance to the building is available, and parking continues to be a challenge. Watch the chapter's Face book and "Dean's Ciphers" for directions, including access to the building and concert hall).

On Sunday, May 20, Omaha AGO in collaboration with the Cathedral Art Project will, with pleasure, host Wilma Jensen in recital on the world-renowned Pasi at St. Cecilia Cathedral. This recital will begin at 3:00 p.m. Wilma Jensen is one of the world's most widely respected and recognized organists. Our chapter is honored to co-sponsor this recital—an event all of us will want to attend!

### CHAPTER EVENTS

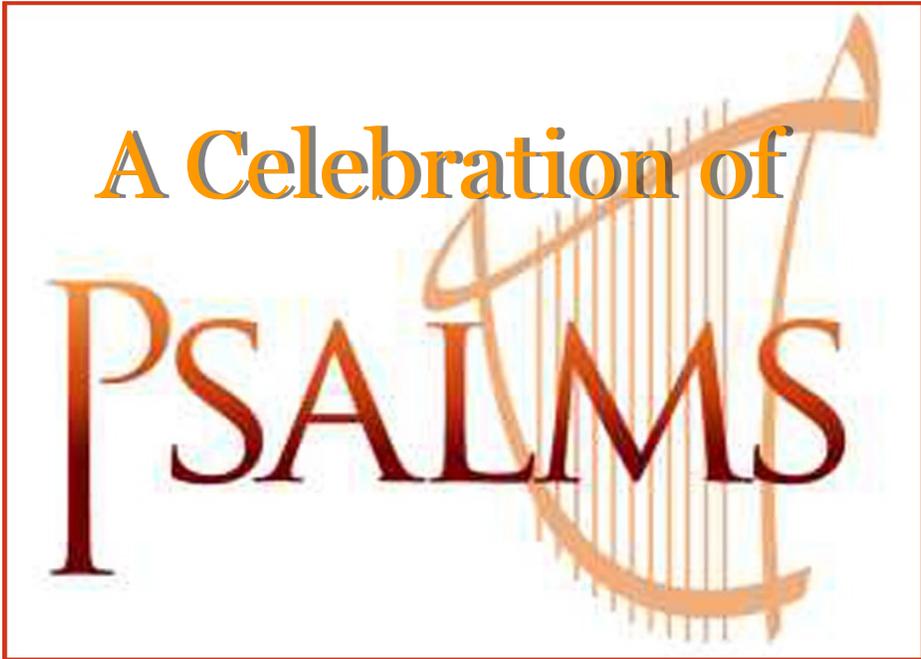
And on Sunday, April 15, Omaha AGO will present a Hymn Festival at Saint John Lutheran Church in Council Bluffs. Nine members will accompany hymnody based on the Psalms. Those nine members include Marty Wheeler Burnett; Tom Andrews, Timothy Schreiber, Julie Sandene, Gerald Oehring, J Gordon Christensen, Joan Ebersold, Dana Sloan and Jeremy Owens. Select hymns will be accompanied by a brass and timpani ensemble; one will feature a flute and oboe duet.

Our chapter's season Finale will be banquet on Monday, May 21 at 6:00 p.m. The banquet will be followed by a recital presented by three members who earned AGO certification this season, including Timothy Conner, Timothy Schreiber and Dr. Jeremy Owens. The event will be held at Dundee Presbyterian Church. Plans are to cater the meal.

The 1017-18 Season has been an especially attractive season, including considerable involvement by chapter members who have served on committees, hosted and/or developed programs, ushered, and performed for chapter events. Moreover, many chapter members have produced recitals, concerts, and seminars in their respective assignments, broadening the visibility of the organ and sacred choral music throughout the metropolitan area! It's been a good season! Thanks to each member of Omaha AGO for making this an extraordinary season for organ and choral music.

SOLI DEO GLORIA!  
PEACE AND GOOD WILL  
Dr. Christensen, Dean





# A Celebration of PSALMS

A

CELEBRATION

**OF PSALMS  
A Hymn Festival  
Presented by the Omaha Chapter AGO  
3:30 p.m. Sunday, April 15, 2018  
St John Lutheran Church  
633 Willow Ave in Council Bluffs**

A reception will follow  
A free-will offering will be received toward  
the chapter's raising \$1,000 to match a challenge gift. .

The Book of Psalms helps the reader experience sorrow, joy, hard times, hope and celebration. Organists for the festival will lead the congregation and choir through old favorites and new song as we think about our daily experiences. Organists participating are Marty Wheeler Burnett, Tom Andrews, Tim Schreiber, Julie Sandene, Gerald Oehring, J Gordon Christensen, Joan Ebersold Dana Sloan and Jeremy Owens.

The chapter is grateful for the work they are contributing for the festival.

**Please publicize this event in your church.  
Your enthusiasm is what will draw choir members  
and congregation to help us sing the song.**

Jean Johnson, Chair [jean.johnson.8@cox.net](mailto:jean.johnson.8@cox.net)

Jodi Korth is assembling the choir. [jodi.korth@gmail.com](mailto:jodi.korth@gmail.com)

Other committee members are Jerry Brabec, Ann Spangler, Gilbert Ward, Rick Richards and Laura Rau.





Omaha AGO  
Website

Kansas City  
2018

American  
Guild  
of  
Organists  
National  
Convention



## OMAHA AGO WEBSITE

Omaha AGO has a new Webmaster. Jeff Hoffman has agreed to serve a “second term” as Webmaster for our chapter.

Jeff has our Website up and running, bringing about several updates and changes. Look for a new dean’s article on the title page, a list of AGO and chapter goals based on the AGO Mission Statement, and visionary plans to implement stated short and long range goals.

Last summer, Jeff offered to enter the historic files, programs, and highlights of the 100 year history of Omaha AGO in computer files. Highlights of these historic files will appear on the Website, beginning immediately. The chapter was founded as the “Nebraska Chapter AGO” in 1917, renamed the “Omaha Chapter AGO” in the Mid-fifties. The very first program sponsored by the Nebraska Chapter was a choral program held at All Saints’ Church on December 9, 1917. It featured the choirs of All Saints and First Presbyterian Churches. This program is an example of historic items that will appear on the Website.

Included on the Website is a list of current Omaha AGO members. Only dues paying members have access to the membership list. Members gain access to the membership roster by entering a code. Contact Jeff at [buildandencourage@gmail.com](mailto:buildandencourage@gmail.com) or Dr. Christensen at [mrc@chase3000.com](mailto:mrc@chase3000.com) to learn the code.

Dear AGO friends,

Please send photos, videos, and news of events, students, and other items to Jeff Hoffman to share on the Omaha Chapter's Facebook page. You may send them to [omahaago@gmail.org](mailto:omahaago@gmail.org).

Thank you!



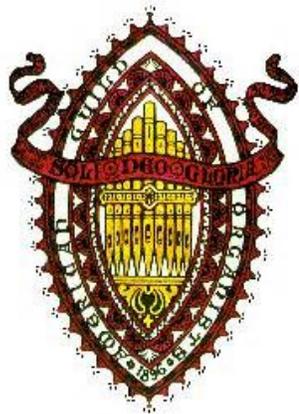
The next national convention of the American Guild of Organists will take place in July of 2018 in Kansas City. Look for information about artists in the August issue of *The American Organist* which should arrive around July 1. One of the best features of the convention is a second discount for early joiners. There has always been an Early Bird discount but now there is also a SuperSaver with a good discount. Here are the details:

Regular: \$495 Early Bird; \$435  
Seniors: \$450 Early Bird: \$395  
Students \$250 any time.

There will also be a Kansas City barbeque on July 4. Most national conventions have a banquet and you pay for it. In Houston, the banquet was \$60. In Kansas City the barbeque is included with your registration!

It's going to be a great convention. The steering committee is working very hard and it should be great! Hope to see you there!

## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL



'Tis the season for membership renewals, especially for members who have held AGO membership before the digital registration program was implemented. While several improvements have been made to ONCARD registration procedures, challenges continue to emerge.

For the upcoming registration year, National has provided some changes, simplifying the procedure for both new and renewal membership enrollment. Step-by-step directions are offered at each phase of registration, options are more clearly stated. Moreover, the applicant is reminded of items overlooked, missed or incomplete, before the application is forwarded to National AGO headquarters.

Questions? Members are encouraged to communicate with the national office regarding registration needs by calling (212) 870-2310; email: [info@agohq.org](mailto:info@agohq.org); or by contacting your local chapter leadership.

Registration challenges? Contact National, Gina Simpson or Dr. Christensen for direction and help!

And be persistent! Your membership is important not only to the chapter, but for opportunity for you own professional growth and development as well.



Sinai Festival Sounds, concert series of Sinai Lutheran Church in Fremont, brings the 2017-2018 season to a close with the Lincoln Early Music Consort on May 6 at 3:00 p.m. The free program will include background and demonstrations of instruments not often heard in live performance, and will include music ranging from the 13<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> centuries.

The Lincoln Early Music Consort was formed in 1990 for the purpose of performing Medieval and Renaissance music on recorders, krummhorns and the occasional cornamuse. Since then they have added Celtic and Sephardic music to their repertoire and have expanded their collection of period replica instruments. The collection now includes viols, gemshorns, sackbuts, psaltery, hammered dulcimer, shawm, hurdy gurdy and Renaissance flute as well as percussion including bells, tabor and dumbek. The ensemble regularly plays Christmas and spring concerts at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church in Lincoln as well as other performances. Members include Carole Goebes, Paul Burrow, Jean Henderson, Genevieve Randall, and Bob Haack.

Sinai Festival Sounds concerts are supported by freewill offerings and other generous donations. An anonymous donor has offered matching funds up to \$1,000 for donations made to the series at this event. Sinai Lutheran Church is located at 950 East 8<sup>th</sup> Street in Fremont, NE.



*Pedaling  
Around  
Omaha*



**Sunday April 8, 2018**  
**7:00 p.m. Kola Owolabi**  
Organist from the University of Michigan,  
*Hosts: Omaha AGO and UNO Music Department*  
*Location: Strauss Performing Arts Hall,*  
*University of Nebraska,*  
*Omaha Dodge at 62<sup>nd</sup> Street*  
*Casavant Organ*



**Association of  
Lutheran  
Church  
Musicians**

**Save the date: June 22-23, 2018!**

The Association of Lutheran Church Musicians will be offering mini-conferences in multiple locations during 2018 in lieu of the larger regional conferences. One of these events will be held at Sinai Lutheran Church, 950 East 8th Street in Fremont, NE on June 22-23. The conference features Brett Epperson as choral clinician, an organ reading session by Lara West, and other topics that will be of special interest to musicians in parishes with limited resources. The conference is open to all interested musicians regardless of denominational

AGO Board  
Members

**CURRENT AGO BOARD  
MEMBERS  
2017-2018**



Committee Chairs

Dean: J Gordon Christensen, AAGO  
Sub-Dean: Marie Rubis Bauer  
Secretary: Gregory Johnson  
Treasurer: Gina Simpson  
Immediate Past Dean: David Schack  
Members - at - Large:  
Claire Eason: 2015/16 -2017/18  
Jean Johnson: 2016/17 - 2018/19  
Sonja Lundgren: 2017/18 2019/20

**COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

Education (AGO Certification)	Sally Hodges
Chapter Historian	Claire Eason
Organ Historian	David McCain
Membership	Julie Sandene
Membership Directory	Gina Simpson
Professional Concerns	Jerry Brabec
Programming (2017-2018)	Marie Rubis Bauer
Publicity	J Gordon Christensen
Referrals	Julie Sandene
Webmaster	Mayumi Naramura
<i>Windchest</i> Editor	Claire Eason
<i>Windchest</i> Publisher	Rosemary Paul



# Compline at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral

113 N 18<sup>th</sup> St • Omaha, NE 68102 • (402) 342-7010

The second Sunday in October, November, January, February, and April at 7:00 p.m.

## *Ancient Worship For the Modern Soul*

Oct 8<sup>th</sup> • Nov 12<sup>th</sup> • Jan 14<sup>th</sup> • Feb 11<sup>th</sup> • Apr 8<sup>th</sup>  
7:00 p.m.

Compline – night prayer – is the final worship of the day in the monastic system of daily prayers. Dating from the fourth century, this contemplative office focuses on spiritual peace. No words are spoken; worshipers bathe in beautiful, timeless music. Compline is less about “doing” and more about “being.” You will be invited to light a candle, offer prayers, and be still in God’s presence.

