

THE WINDCHEST

OMAHA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS



OCTOBER 2022

RAMBLINGS FROM THE DEAN

The Omaha area is truly enriched by the quality of many of the instruments in our places of worship. Of course, we immediately think of the Pasi at St. Cecilia and the Casavant at St. Wenceslaus. But there are many more, and the congregations that maintain and use these instruments are to be commended. To mention a few, I recently subbed and played two fabulous instruments: the gorgeous four-manual at Dundee Presbyterian and the beautifully refined three manual at Kountze Memorial Lutheran. There is also a tonally rich organ at Pacific Hills Lutheran, and if my memory is correct, Dr. Charles Ore from Seward was instrumental in its design. Countryside Community has a fine new organ, which is awaiting generous donors to complete its Choir Division. I am sure all of you could add to this list.

A number of you have asked me if I know what is happening with the organ at the now closed Westminster Presbyterian. There is good news. It is being repurposed and will be installed in the music room at Joslyn Castle. It is always good when pipes are salvaged.

One concern, of course, for all of us is the servicing of our organs. We are blessed to have several fine technicians in the area, and they are certainly in high demand. And, of course, Bedient Organ is down the road in Lincoln. For digital organs, Richard Walker from Keyboard Kastle shared with me as he was repairing my home organ that he is pretty much the main and only service technician for Allen (and others) in the Midwest. He is concerned what will happen when he retires some day. Hello, young people. Not only is there a need for young organists, but there is a need for organ technicians, both pipe and digital. By the way, the guts of my digital look more like a computer than a musical instrument, and we had to send the CPU all the way to the east coast to get repaired.

Not only do we have a rich variety of good organs in the metro, we have an amazing list of programs and concerts. It was wonderful to see so many of our chapter members at the Peter Sykes recital Sunday and about 20 of us at his master class on Monday evening. But there is a lot more coming up. Mark Kurtz is playing a refurbished instrument at Rockbrook Methodist October 2. **OUR CHAPTER'S RECITAL FEATURING OUR OWN TIMOTHY SCHREIBER IS COMING UP ON THE 9TH AT ST. WENCESLAUS.** Brent Shaw is playing a recital at Pacific Hills Lutheran on October 30. And 3:00 p.m. is an excellent time for us to recover from our Sunday morning duties and sit in the pew to enjoy hearing someone else play—except for Mark, Tim, and Brent!! Attached also is the flyer for Tim's recital. Please print a few and hand them out.

I want to commend three of our members for taking certification exams this past spring. Though there were no new certifications, all made progress on the process. They are an inspiration for the rest of us to consider seeking an AGO certification.

And congratulations are in order for our Sub-Dean Laura Rau and her husband who are learning what it means to be parents of a newborn. I wonder when Laura will start giving Alban music lessons!

We have another chapter program coming up on Saturday, November 12, at 10:00 a.m. at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral titled “Choral Techniques for Organists.” I am sure we will all learn something.

We have had limited music exchanges at some of our recent events. However, we are planning a massive music exchange October 10-15 at the relocated Keyboard Kastle, 12216 K Plaza in the L Street Market “between ROSS and Old Navy.” Thanks to Greg Johnson for hosting this. If you have music you no longer want or need, bring it there early in the week. However, the goal is to have members build up their libraries and diminish the stacks of music by the end of the week.

So fasten your seatbelts and get ready to enjoy the ride as we experience a lot of music in the coming weeks. More details on upcoming events is below in the newsletter.

Stephen R. Bartelt, Dean

WELCOME NEW MEMBER Thad Call. Thad lives in Elkhorn and is very much involved in the music programs of the LDS denomination. Thad has already attended chapter events. We are happy to have you in our chapter.

POSITION AVAILABLE: Trinity Episcopal Cathedral is seeking a regular accompanist for Wednesday night rehearsals. Rehearsals are from 7:30 – 9:00 p.m. at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral: 113 N. 18th St., Omaha, NE 68102. Compensation is \$75 per rehearsal. Please contact Alex Hoefling (music@trinityepiscopal.org) if you are interested.

UPCOMING EVENTS

MARK KURTZ IN RECITAL—Sunday, October 2, 3:00 p.m. at Rockbrook United Methodist Church, 9855 West Center Road. Our chapter member is playing Rockbrook’s recently renovated Austin 30-rank organ. Mark said he playing many selections from what we call “standard repertoire.” The recital is sponsored by the church.

TIMOTHY SCHREIBER featured in Omaha Chapter's sponsored recital, Sunday, October 9, 3:00 p.m. at St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church, 15353 Pacific Avenue. Our chapter member, former student of "Dr. C," organ major at KU, and accomplished recitalist, Timothy is currently serving as Kantor (Music Director) at Risen Savior Lutheran in Basehor, Kansas.

Toccata in D Minor Bux WV155

Dietrich Buxtehude

Chorale Preludes

Vater Unser in Himmelreich BuxWV 219

Nun Komm, der Heiden Heiland BuxWV 211

Komm, Heiliger Geist, Herre Gott BuxWV 199

Passacaglia in D Minor BuxWV 161

Aus tiefer Not schrei ich zu dir BWV 686

J. S. Bach

Variationen uber Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland

Anton Heiller

Fugue from Praeludium et Fuge in D BWV 532

J.S. Bach

A reception for Timothy will be held following the recital.

A door offering for our chapter Scholarship Fund will be received.

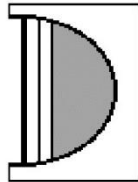
MUSIC EXCHANGE: The week of October 10-15 provides organists with an opportunity to donate music no longer needed and more importantly to build up their libraries. The chapter will be getting out some significant scores we have had in storage. Come and peruse extensively and take a lot home with you. Location: the relocated Keyboard Kastle, 12216 K Plaza in the L Street Market "between ROSS and Old Navy." Be sure to thank Greg Johnson while you are there for hosting the exchange.

BRENT SHAW featured in recital, Sunday, October 30, 3:00 p.m. at Pacific Hills Lutheran Church, 90th and Pacific Streets. Brent is a dual member of our chapter and the Lincoln Chapter. Sponsored by the church, this is their first concert in their 2022-2023 Concert Series. Considering the date and the host church, most likely we suspect this recital will be heavy on "Reformation" music. We'll find out when we hear Brent's recital. By the way, many of us have heard him play the carillon at UNO for their annual Fourth of July concert.

"CHORAL TECHNIQUES FOR ORGANISTS"—PRESENTED BY Alexander Hoefling, Saturday, November 12, 10:00 a.m. at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, 113 N. 18th St. Organists are often asked to serve both as accompanist and as director. Alexander Hoefling, interim choral director at the Cathedral will offer techniques and skills to assist us when working with small groups of singers.

JAMES KEALY in recital, Sunday, November 13, 4:00 p.m. at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, 6001 A Street, Lincoln. Part of the Lincoln Organ Showcase, the Lincoln Chapter is sponsoring this award winning and internationally recognized artist.

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Note new address for Keyboard Kastle
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