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FROM THE EDITOR

Regina Kettering, Editor (editor@pitago.org)

Thank God for the new year! As the clock ticks over to 2021, the entire planet will breathe a sigh of relief. (Here's the obligatory joke of hindsight being 2020.)

We have more to celebrate than just making it through another year, and another very strange Advent, Christmas, and holiday season. 2021 marks the official 100th year of the Pittsburgh Chapter of the AGO. We are celebrating the comradarie, the exchange of music, the education that makes our chapter special.

If you have missed one of our online meetings, you can view them on our YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCcMSqIOyMARCAhwC3oj-bow/videos>

The link takes you to our videos tab, where all of the uploaded streamed meetings have been saved.

We welcome articles about milestones of our chapter's history. Please submit article by the 20th of the month for inclusion in the newsletter.

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DEAN'S NOTES

by Chaz Bowers, Dean (dean@pitago.org)

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to each of you! It would seem that the fresh start of 2021 is anticipated by so many, perhaps more than ever before. 2021 marks a new beginning but also, God willing, a light at the end of the tunnel of this pandemic. I wish each of you a blessed and cheerful new year!

Our January meeting, due to both government restrictions at this time and space limitations of the Church of the Redeemer, will take place solely online. Please see Ken Danchik's article for more information. It is our continued hope to have some semblance of a meeting in person with live-streaming, if that possibility allows. However, we want to do so safely and in accord with state guidelines. Please continue to stay tuned for more details.

Additionally, our executive board meeting will take place on Zoom on Monday, February 8. This is a change from the original date of January 21 to allow Sr. Cynthia Pock and the Nominating Committee some additional time to compile the roster of candidates for our annual chapter election. More information about our upcoming chapter election will be sent to you in the February newsletter. Stay tuned for more details.

Each year, I often write to my choir members about some New Year's Resolutions that they might embrace in the coming year. They are

often simple things about marking their music as much as possible, arriving early, using the texts of the psalms, songs, and motets as a catalyst for personal prayer and reflection, turning in their music right away instead of holding onto for months on end, and other good habits that they might consider embracing for their own spiritual and musical benefit.

In this year of 2021, I'd like to take this opportunity to encourage each and every one of us, as organists, to consider again embracing daily practice without fail, even if just for a short time each day. In speaking with some of you on the phone these last nine months of this pandemic, one of the things I have heard repeatedly is that "I don't have anything to practice for right now." Let us practice now for both ourselves and, for those of us in ministry in the church, for God. How about if, for January, we each begin to learn a new prelude or postlude piece for the Easter season? I, myself, am considering learning John West's *Old Easter Melody (O filii et filiae) with variations* for the Second Sunday of Easter. If you care to join me in learning a new piece for the Easter season, please email me and let me know!

(chazbowers@gmail.com)

https://ks4.imslp.net/files/imglnks/usimg/c/c6/MSLP89368-PMLP183207-West_-_Old_East_Melody.pdf

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CALLING ALL COMPOSERS

by Ken Danchik, Sub-dean (sub-dean@pitago.org)

Join us 'virtually' on Monday, January 25, 2021, for a presentation by Don Franklin, assisted by Justin Wallace, focusing on the early works of J.S. Bach, including the Seven Toccatas (BWV 910-916), some early organ works and Book One of The Well Tempered Clavier.

Some questions to be explored include: What did Bach mean by the word Clavier? Were the toccatas intended solely for harpsichord? What adjustments did Bach make to adapt these works for organ? Is there any evidence of earlier sources for the toccatas as can be seen in the case of the first part of the Well Tempered Clavier?

The musical examples will be played on a variety of instruments including the Taylor and Boody English chamber organ at Westminster Presbyterian Church, a 17th

century style French harpsichord built by Keith Hill and a double fretted late 18th century German clavichord built by Werner Iten.

In preparation for this presentation, it may be helpful to take a look at these scores on IMSLP:

[https://imslp.org/wiki/Toccatas_for_Clavichord,_BWV_910-916_\(Bach,_Johann_Sebastian\)](https://imslp.org/wiki/Toccatas_for_Clavichord,_BWV_910-916_(Bach,_Johann_Sebastian))

Hope that we all can gather virtually in the New Year in good health and in thanks for our chapter's one-hundredth anniversary year!

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EVENTS

If your events are being moved online, please contact us with the relevant information AND A LINK (or where a link will be posted). In person events are subject to change, based on ongoing circumstances. Please contact the point person or website for relevant information.

POSITIONS

Organist - Beverly Heights Presbyterian Church in Mt. Lebanon (Pittsburgh), PA, is seeking to hire a part-time organist/accompanist for ministry leadership. Qualified candidates would have experience playing traditional protestant service music, hymns and a repertoire of sacred and classical music. Duties include playing for the traditional service on Sundays, accompanying the choir, attending rehearsals on Thursday evenings and assisting the Director of Music and Senior Pastor in musical aspects of services and events. Additional responsibilities include special services (Vespers, Christmas Eve, Ash Wednesday, etc.), accompanying children's choirs and directing a tone chime choir. As this is a ministry leadership position, qualified candidates would submit a statement of faith and affirm all EPC (Evangelical Presbyterian Church) Essentials and Ethical Affirmations for Leaders prior to scheduling an interview. To inquire about the position, please contact Elissa Winkler, Director of Music and send a resume to elissa@beverlyheights.org or 1207 Washington Road, Pittsburgh, PA, 15234.

Organist/Director – New Hope Lutheran Church in Economy Borough, Freedom, PA (Beaver County) is seeking to hire a part-time Organist/Choir Director. If interested or for more information, send résumé to newhopelutheranchurch@comcast.net or call 724-869-1187.

Organist - The United Presbyterian Church of New Kensington, is looking for a part-time organist to play on Sunday mornings for a Traditional worship service. Also, additional worship services would include, Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday and Christmas Eve. There are no choir duties involved with this position. Interested candidates should email their resume to Pastoroffice@TUPCNK.org or mail them to The United Presbyterian Church of New Kensington, 601 5th Avenue, New Kensington, PA 15068

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SUBSTITUTES

It is the policy of the Pittsburgh Chapter of the American Guild of Organists that only current members in good standing may list their names on the Substitutes List. Employers may contact organists directly or ask the coordinator for assistance. The AGO assumes no responsibility for the musicianship, reliability, or conduct of substitute organists, and background checks are the responsibility of the employer. Persons listed as available substitutes may be required by employers to present clearances; e.g. Child Abuse History Clearance; Pennsylvania State Police Criminal Record Checks for Employment; and/or Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Fingerprinting.

Services: W-Weddings, F-Funerals, E-Evenings, S-Saturdays, L-Liturgical Only, N-Non-Liturgical

Substitute Organists Available for Sunday Mornings

ALEY, PHILIP	412.302.8653	WFE
ANDERSON, GERALD	412.251.6718	WFELNS
BOHONOK, OREST	412.886.3291	WFES
BROWN, JUDITH	240.522.5070	WFES
CAFARO, ROSS	412.885.1625	WFES
EARNEST, Dr. WAYNE N.	724.206.8854	WFESLN
HILL, THOMAS	512.421.1484	WFES
JANKO, RAY	724.325.7449	WFES
JUSTHAM, MARY ANN	724.335.7792	WFES
JESTER, BILL	412.304.7010	ES
KRANTZ, DOUGLAS	724.554.3314	WFS
LA RUE, ELIZABETH SPC	412.999.4812	WFESLN
LINDSEY, III, C. DENNIS	918.409.6467	WFES
MASTERS, SARA	412.266.5821	WFES
MISLIN, DAVID W.	617.223.1270	WFES
PARK, HAEHYUN	734.657.0869	WFESLN
ROEDERER, CHARLOTTE	42.853.6647	WFES
ROLLET, TONY	412.726.8569	ES
RUBRIGHT, SANDY S.	724.994.8872	WFE
SKROUPA, DANE	724.265.4840	FLN
STIPCAK, VALERIE	724.388.1038	WFES
SZEREMANY, RICHARD, AAGO	412.327.6254	WFES
WILL, NICHOLAS. AAGO	412.566.9597	WFES

Substitute Organists NOT Available for Sunday Mornings

AIKINS, CANDICE	724.568.2640	WF
BRUHN, LYNN	724.733.8111	WFE
COCHRAN, NICOLE	724.799.1373	WFES
DANIELS, J.R.	412.389.6658	WF
HAMMER, MICHAEL	217.766.4230	WFES
HENRI, LAURA	412.418.7392	WFESL
KARDOS, MICHELLE	724.757.0972	WFELSN
MCGRATH, ROSE	937.719.2391	WF
MILLER, JANE	412.526.6618	WF
PINKERTON, RICHARD	412.561.2015	WFE
RASLEY, DON	724.487.7303(D) 724.283.4829(E)	WFES
REILAND, MICHAEL	412.882.5521	WFE
RIZZO, ELMIRA, CAGO	724.612.2029	WFES
SCHALL, STEPHEN	412.215.2971	WFE
SPENCER, GEORGE	412.731.3324	WFE
STROBEL, JOYCE MOON	412.366.0074	WFES
TYILLIAN, JON	724.456.5135	WFES
WALLACE, JUSTIN	412.531.0525	WFES

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American Guild of Organists, Pittsburgh Chapter
c/o East Liberty Presbyterian Church
116 Highland Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15206

PLEASE notify the registrar of changes in contact information.
IF YOU NEED TO PAY YOUR DUES---PLEASE DON'T DELAY! Contact
WWW.AGOHQ.ORG