



November 2024

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Next Meeting

Notes From the Dean

November 2024

Greetings, Pittsburgh Chapter Members and Friends!

October got away from me, so I am writing this much later in the month than normal, and in fact right after I had an injection of medicine in my right eye to treat my macular edema.

I've had this problem for almost 11 years. Why do I tell you this? Well, soon we will celebrate Thanksgiving. And I am very thankful that this condition can be treated!

It was good to again gather for our "September" Chapter meeting at Calvary Episcopal Church in Shadyside *on October 7th*. Good food was followed by wonderful hymn singing, led by several of our own chapter members. And we then gathered again on October 28th at St. Bernard Roman Catholic Church (St. Michael the Archangel Parish) in Mt. Lebanon. Because of the way the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays fall this year, we will not meet again as a chapter

until January 27th. So enjoy a couple of meeting-free months to cook and give thanks and celebrate.

But fear not: you still have a chance to meet up with your colleagues on Friday, November 8th when the Organ Artists Series presents Chelsea Chen at St. Bernard Roman Catholic Church

(St. Michael the Archangel Parish) in Mt. Lebanon. You won't want to miss this wonderful young concert organist! Please check out www.organseries.com for more information!

And very important news from National: a re-designed website including the long-awaited replacement for ONCARD is now live! They are still uploading information to the new membership database, and all of us need to login to www.agohq.org and update our information! I have prepared an eBlast message that you should have received during the last week in October.

This is simply a copy of the email message I received from James Thomashower, the AGO Executive Director. I'm not sure if his email just went just to us Deans, or the entire chapter membership, so I thought it would be useful to send this out to everyone!

In other news...

The Chapter Nominating Committee is now in place and will come up with a slate of candidates for the Spring 2025 Chapter Elections. My thanks to Ellen Gross, Alan Lewis, and Cynthia Pock for taking on this important task! Please help them by saying yes if you're asked to run for an office in our Chapter!

It is VERY important that you stay current with your membership dues. This may be a bit tricky for the time being because of the switch over of membership systems at National, but please do your best!

A Happy and Blessed Thanksgiving to each of you!

Jeff Gray

Dean

PIT AGO POSITIONS AVAILABLE

October 22, 2024

Third Presbyterian Church

5701 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh 15232

Third Presbyterian Church is seeking a permanent part-time (10-12 hours/week) organist. Duties include playing for one 11:00 service on Sunday with 9:00 choir rehearsal, plus holidays (Christmas Eve, Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday), and occasional weddings and funerals. The church has a four-manual 100 rank Allen attached to the swell division of a Moeller, plus a two-manual Allen in the chapel (used between June and August); there is also a Steinway grand in the sanctuary. The choir is a 12-voice professional chamber choir, conducted by the choir director. Organist does not have to program choral music and has access to an extensive library of organ music, plus possibilities for collaboration with outside musicians in the church chamber music series.

Salary is based on academic background and prior experience; some benefits are available.

Please contact Lenny Young, choir director: lenny@thirdchurch.org

Calvin United Presbyterian Church 311 Mulberry St., Scottdale, PA 15683

Calvin United Presbyterian Church is seeking an organist/pianist/choir director for its traditional Sunday morning services, in addition to observed holiday services. There are also opportunities to participate in wedding and funeral services taking place in the Church. A competitive salary is offered. Please contact Pastor Doug Yauger at dpyauger@yahoo.com, or by calling 724-322-3397.

The First Hungarian Reformed Church Of Homestead

416 Tenth Avenue, Munhall, PA 15120

The First Hungarian Reformed Church of Homestead is seeking a permanent part-time organist. Duties include playing for one 10:00 service on Sunday, plus holidays (Christmas, Christmas Eve, Maundy

Thursday and Easter), and occasional weddings and funerals. The church has an exquisite Schantz Pipe Organ in the organ loft along with a piano in the Sanctuary. The service is in English despite the name of the church and is a very simple service. Four hymns and four responses. Organist does not have to choose the hymns. Hymns are chosen based on minister's sermon message. Musical selections will be provided organist by Thursday of each week.

Salary is based on academic background and prior experience.

Please contact Lisa Toth-Maskarinec, Chief Elder at: 412-352-7077 or tothmaskarinec@gmail.com

Nativity Lutheran Church

4517 Mt. Royal Blvd. Allison Park, PA 15101

Nativity Lutheran Church in Allison Park seeks an organist for the following responsibilities: to accompany one Sunday morning service, special seasonal services, mid-week Advent and Lent evening services, and to assist the pastor in the planning of the congregation's worship life. In addition, the congregation may want to have a pop-up choir for Christmas, Easter, and festival Sundays. Nativity is a congregation that loves to sing while accompanied by our Moeller tracker organ. Send cover letter, resume, and inquiries to Nativity Lutheran Church at nativitylc@verizon.net

Bellevue United Presbyterian Church

457 Lincoln Ave. Bellevue, PA 15202

Bellevue United Presbyterian Church is seeking a part-time (10 hours/week) music director to lead the choir and provide music to enhance the worship experience on Sunday mornings. This person should have a strong faith background and experience in leading musical groups. The job would include, but not be limited to:

- Provide Prelude and Postlude, and occasionally an Offertory
- Lead the choir in choir practice on Wednesday evenings, and on Sunday mornings for a brief rehearsal before worship
- Choose music appropriate to the skill level of the choir, and foster each singer's musical growth
- Collaborate with musicians to include guitar and drum with hymns on a semi-regular basis
- Work with Pastor to choose and play hymns that encourage group singing in a worship-filled way
- Be available for extra services in the liturgical year, such as Holy Week and Christmas Eve

-Play for funeral services and weddings, as needed

To apply (or obtain further information), please call Paul Cusick at 412-860-4283.

Musical Events

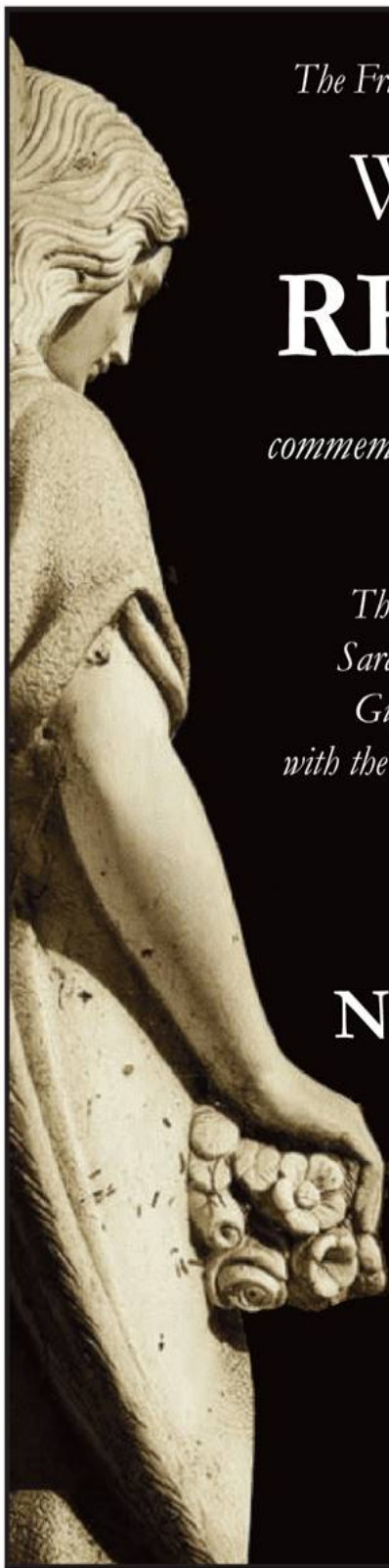
Requiem for All Saints

Sunday, November 3, 2024, at 3:00 p.m.

In recognition of All Saints' Day, traditionally observed November 1, and, particularly, in memory of those who have entered eternal rest in the past year, the Shadyside Presbyterian Church Chancel Choir, with chamber orchestra, presents Gabriel Fauré's Requiem in liturgical context, with Communion, during a Service of Remembrance on Sunday, November 3, 2024, at 3:00 p.m. You are invited to join us for this afternoon of music, reflection, and remembrance.

For more information, call 412.682.4300, or visit www.shadysidepres.org.

Event Location: Shadyside Presbyterian Church, 5121 Westminister Place, Pittsburgh, PA 15232



The Friends of Music at Calvary present

W.A.Mozart REQUIEM

commemorating all the faithful departed

*Presented liturgically by
The Calvary Choir, with soloists
Sarah Nadler, Chelsea Cockburn,
Guy Russo, & Richard Teaster
with the Rev. Bonnie-Marie Yager-Wiggan
preaching*

**Sunday,
November 3, 2024
at 5 p.m.**

CALVARY
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

315 Shady Avenue (at Walnut Street)
East Liberty, 15206
www.calvarypgh.org



Bach St. Mark Passion

Devotees of Bach's music—and really, what organists aren't, to some degree?—may well be aware of the “lost” Passions believed to have been written by the master. Contemporary or early retrospective accounts of his life and music attested to his having written as many as five passion-settings, but by the time his music was being published only the St. John and St. Matthew versions were available to editors.

Already by the mid-19th century, when the great Bach-Gesellschaft edition was being compiled, it was very plausibly theorized that one of these, a St. Mark Passion, was closely based on Cantata 198, a piece from 1727 marking the death of Christiane Eberhardine, Queen of Poland and Electress of Saxony. The printed libretto of a St. Mark Passion performed in Leipzig in 1731 makes clear that it was of quite modest proportions: apart from the recitative that conveys the story, the piece was comprised of only two principal choruses, six arias, and an unusually large number of chorales. The choruses and three of the aria texts in the libretto turn out to correspond perfectly in metre and scansion to movements from the mourning-cantata, and details somehow preserved concerning the scoring of the lost St Mark confirm that it corresponds precisely to the idiosyncratic scoring of Cantata 198—particularly its addition of two violas da gamba and two lutes to the usual ensemble of strings and winds.

These traces of evidence have led to various attempts at reconstruction across the last century. The greatest gap in the materials is, of course, the recitative through which the narrative would've taken place; in the surviving Passions, the music for the Evangelist and Jesus (as well as the other subsidiary characters) is so perfectly wrought and so distinctive that imagining another hand furnishing this music in Bach's stead would be impossible, or at least unwise.

This Spring, Pittsburgh's Chatham Baroque are presenting a new, hybrid realization of this illusory work, edited by Malcolm Bruno, in which the surviving musical components are united, not with also-ran recitative, but with a dramatic spoken rendering of the Gospel text. The resulting piece is, perhaps, more theatrical than we are accustomed to Bach's Passions being, but also more comprehensible, for an English-speaking audience, since the narrative is given in English, with the musical commentary (choruses, arias, etc) retaining the German original. In addition to Chatham Baroque, the performers

include the New York City-based ensemble The Sebastians, led by Jeffrey Grossman, singers Pascale Beaudin, Cody Bowers, James Reese, and Jonathan Woody, and the acclaimed British stage-actor Joseph Marcell as the Narrator.

The Pittsburgh performance is Friday, April 11, at 7:30 p.m., at the Carnegie Music Hall in Oakland. Tickets are already on sale, through the Chatham Baroque website (www.chathambaroque.org), with an early-bird discount in place through March 28. Why not organize a concert outing for your choir, or musical friends, to hear this lost-and-found-again work for the first time?

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

NAME	PHONE NUMBER	EMAIL ADDRESS	SERVICES
ALEY, Philip	412-302-8653	philwa66@verizon.net	WFE
ANDERSON, Gerald	412-251-6718	org723@gmail.com	WFESLN
CAFARO, Ross	412-885-1625	rpcafar@comcast.net	WFES
DOBBINS, Craig	412-400-5996	cdobbins620@gmail.com	FLN
EARNEST, Dr. Wayne N.	724-206-8854	musicmanwayne@outlook.com	WFESN
GROSS, Ellen	610-509-9028		FSLN
HILL, Thomas	512-421-1484	tom.hill.music.studio@gmail.com	WFES
JANKO, Ray	724-681-0874	rayjanko@gmail.com	WFES
KETTERING, Regina	412-477-5547	reginakettering@gmail.com	WFES
LA RUE, Elizabeth (SPC)	412-999-4812	aargon@hotmail.com	WFESLN
LINDSEY, III, C. Dennis	918-409-6467	c.dennis.lindsey@gmail.com	WFES
LYNCH, Robert	724-787-7447	RLLynch2013@gmail.com	WFES
PINKERTON, Rich (AAGO)	412-841-3937	rbpinkerton509@gmail.com	
REILAND, Michael	412-882-5521	mc081946@verizon.net	WFESLN
ROLLETT, Tony	412-726-8569	anthonyrollett@icloud.com	ES
RUBRIGHT, Sandy S.	724-994-8872	wpmaa@yahoo.com	WFE
SALMON, Michael	904-718.7622	oriolefish@gmail.com	WFEL
SHAW, Pamela (SPC, MA, MLS)	412-425-5962	pamelashaw2000@gmail.com	WFESLN
SHAW, Richard	386-846-0566		WFESLN
SKROUPA, Dane	724-265-4840	dgskroupa@yahoo.com	FLN

Substitute Organists *NOT* Available for Sunday Mornings

NAME	PHONE NUMBER	EMAIL ADDRESS	SERVICES
CLEMENS, Kevin M. (CAGO)	443-604-5072	kevinclemens@mac.com	WFES
CYNAR, Philip	412-926-6151		FL
DANIELS, J.R.	412-389-6658	jr@jrdaniels.org	WF
MILLER, Jane	412-526-6618	organistjane@yahoo.com	WF
RIZZO, Elmira (CAGO)	724-612-2029	erizz646@gmail.com	WFES
SCHALL, Stephen	412-215-2971	stephenschall@msn.com	WFE
SENAY, Bob	724-255-0488	rsenay@comcast.net	WFES
SPENCER, George (MSM, CAGO)	412-731-3324	spencer986@comcast.net	WFES
TYILLIAN, Jon	724-456-5135	jtyillian@gmail.com	WFES
VANDERLAAN, Brett (SPC)	301-919-1835	brettvanderlaan@aol.com	WFES
WILL, Nicholas (AAGO)	412-566-9597	nicholas.jos.will@gmail.com	WFES