

PipeNotes

American Guild of Organists – Milwaukee Chapter

P.O. Box 11731

Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53211

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Come Celebrate With Us

As we turn 100!

American Guild of Organists Milwaukee Chapter

1919 –2019

NORTH CENTRAL REGION

JUNE 16 -19

2019



MILWAUKEE 100 YEARS AGO

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Registration is now open!

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Early Registration ends February 18th!

Chapter Directory
www.agomilwaukee.org
chapter@agomilwaukee.org

Chapter Officers
Dean

Sheri Masiakowski
414.403.1046
chapter@agomilwaukee.org

Co Sub-Dean

Audrey Rhinehart, CAGO
262.670.9566
John Schubring
414.727.6103
subdean@agomilwaukee.org

Secretary

Nicole Moritz
414.625.0318
Nicole.r.moritz@gmail.com

Treasurer

Steven Jensen
414.688.7838
SJJ0923@aol.com

Registrar

David Beyer
414.871.6307
registrar@agomilwaukee.org

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Dean Rosko
William Lieven
Fr. Tom Lijewski
Joel Schwartz

Region VI Councilor

Dr. Karen Black
Waverly, IA
Karen.black@wartburg.edu

Education

Mary Newton, CAGO
mayanewton@yahoo.com

Professional Development

J. Gordon Christensen, AAGO
mrc@chase3000.com

Wisconsin District Convener

Jeffrey Verkuilen, FAGO
jeffverkuilen@new.rr.com

Upcoming 2018 – 2019 Programs For The AGO Milwaukee Chapter

March 9, 2019 • 9:30 am

Organ Crawl

Come join us in visiting five organs around the Shorewood and Whitefish Bay area, featuring instruments by the Berghaus Organ Company, the Holtkamp Organ Company, and the Aeolian-Skinner Organ Company. Churches include: Luther Memorial Chapel, Plymouth Congregational, United Methodist Church of Whitefish Bay, Christ Church Episcopal and Our Savior Lutheran Church of Whitefish Bay

May 5, 2019

100th Anniversary of the Milwaukee Chapter
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Member's Recital

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PipeNotes is Published Monthly submit information to the editor via email at,
pneditor@agomilwaukee.org.

The Deadline is the 20th of the preceding month



Luther Memorial Chapel

2019 AGO Milwaukee Chapter
Organ Crawl
March 9, 2019

Organs in and around
Shorewood and Whitefish Bay

Schedule:

9:30 am - Luther Memorial Chapel
3833 N. Maryland Ave
Shorewood, WI

10:30 am - Plymouth UCC
2717 E. Hampshire St
Milwaukee, WI

Lunch on your own

1:00 pm - United Methodist Church of Whitefish Bay
819 E. Silver Spring Dr
Whitefish Bay, WI

2:00 pm - Christ Church Episcopal
5655 N. Lake Dr
Whitefish Bay, WI

3:00 pm - Our Savior Lutheran
6021 N. Santa Monica Blvd
Whitefish Bay, WI



Plymouth UCC



Christ Church Episcopal



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From the Archives

Liz Walloch, Archivist/Historian

For the Glory of God

This month's article from the archives features three church organ dedications from the early years of the Wisconsin chapter, 1946, 1951 and 1952. As I reviewed the information on these pipe organ dedications, I paused to consider these three congregations. Each congregation had more than their share of meetings on the subject, asked the questions-- "should our congregation invest in a new pipe organ or rebuild the existing instrument, where will the funds come from or should we repair our existing instrument as it is deemed necessary?" The task before each church was neither a fast nor an easy answer of "yes" or "no." As you arm chair travel through these dedications, the sung words were enhanced through the beauty of these pipe organ instruments.

We start our arm chair travels back to October 27, 1946 for the first organ dedication crawl. The Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Redeemer located on 19th and Wisconsin Avenue in Milwaukee is dedicating their newly enlarged Austin Pipe Organ. At 4 pm, Dr. O. M. J. Wehrley will play the dedicatory organ recital. The organ which is being dedicated to the Glory of God was originally a two manual instrument built by Austin in 1920, and was presented to the Church by Mrs. Emelie Nunnemacher. It was originally dedicated on November 20, 1920. The Choir division was later added as a gift of Mrs. C. F. Hase and Miss T. Hilty, and was dedicated on June 10, 1923.

During the past several months the organ has been enlarged by the addition of a completely new Swell division consisting of twelve ranks of pipes and also several new additions to the divisions, including the Chimes and Pedals. A new modern four manual Austin console now controls this fine instrument.

All of this was made possible through the many gifts of the congregation. A number of special gifts have been given as memorials. The Easter Offerings for a number of years have been set aside for this purpose. Some of the special gifts came from Mrs. Edna Wheaton provided the added bells in memory of her son, Lt. William Henry Wheaton, who gave his life for our country, while on service in China. The Dulciana Stop was provided in memory of Mrs. Helen White by Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Welch and daughter Ramona White.

The new four manual Organ Console was provided by Mr. and Mrs. Richard Laacke in memory of their mothers, Mrs. Emelie Laacke and Mrs. Fred Gerlach.

As our crawl continues, we say in the City of Milwaukee and travel from 1946 to June 3, 1951 to Emmaus Lutheran Church located at North 23rd Street. Here Mr. Hugo Gehrke, Organist will play a dedicatory recital at 8 pm. This completely rebuilt two manual organ was originally built by Hausmann Organ Company, 1915 rebuilt and enlarged by Charles (Karl) Besch, 1930. About a third of the old pipes have been retained, besides the console of 1938, no organ builder named. For the 1951 rebuild, Messrs. Eberle and Fiedler, Milwaukee organ builders have installed all new chests, wind-regulators, swellboxes, relays, tremolos and swell-engines and completely revoiced the old pipe work. The fine case and display pipes are from the original organ. The new organ was designed by Hugo Gehrke.

For our final crawl, we leave the City of Milwaukee and head down to Kenosha Wisconsin to St. Mark's Catholic Church. This organ dedication time travels back to December 21, 1952. A newspaper article in the archives from the "News" Kenosha Wisconsin wrote these highlights and specifications on this new pipe organ. The new \$11,000.00 pipe organ at St. Mark's is being dedicated at a special sacred concert Sunday, December 21, 1952 at 2:30 pm. Sister M. Theophane, O.S.F., from Milwaukee, is guest organist, and the church choirs featured in the program will be directed by Sister John, O.S.F.

This pipe organ was designed and built for St. Mark's Catholic Church by the Wicks Organ Company of Highland, Ill. The console has two rows of keys and a 32-note pedal keyboard. The organ is composed of great, swell and pedal sections. The pipes are in two chambers, each chamber having its own expression controlled by foot pedals.

There are eight sets of pipes in the organ and a combined total of 629 pipes. The pipes range from the size of a lead pencil to 16 feet in length. There is also a 21 note set of tubular cathedral chimes.

Our arm chair travels returns to the present year, 2019. The questions set before these congregations at the beginning of my article of "should our congregation invest in a new pipe organ or rebuild the existing instrument, where will the funds come from or should we repair our existing instrument as it is deemed necessary?" From these three dedications, the answer is "yes." These early dedicatory recitals are only one part of the rich local history of instruments for the Glory of God. The archives are filled with a wealth of material on additional dedications of new and rebuilt instruments that I could write further numerous articles on the topic. (*continues on page 7*)

(From the Archives Continued)

If you caught the word “crawl” being repeated throughout my article, it was for a very good reason. The annual “Organ Crawl” for the chapter is scheduled for March 9—9:30 am. This year’s featured instruments are in the communities Shorewood and Whitefish Bay. Join with music friends, experience a close up look and an opportunity to hear the beauty of three distinguished organ builders—Berghaus, Holtkamp and Aeolian-Skinner at five churches in these two communities.

NORTH CENTRAL REGION



GREAT MUSIC ON A GREAT LAKE

Jan Kraybill is a musical leader and dynamic speaker; a concert organist, pianist, and harpsichordist; an educator and organ consultant; and an enthusiastic cheerleader for the power of music to change lives for the better.

In addition to maintaining an active performing schedule, Dr. Kraybill is **Organ Conservator at the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts** in Kansas City, Missouri, USA, and **Organist-in-Residence at the international headquarters of Community of Christ** in Independence, Missouri. In these roles she plays and oversees the care of the Kansas City metro area's three largest pipe organs: Community of Christ Auditorium's 113-rank Aeolian-Skinner (installed in 1959) and Temple's 102-rank Casavant (1993), and the 102-rank Julia Irene Kauffman Casavant (2012) at the Kauffman Center's Helzberg Hall. Throughout her career Jan has performed as both a solo and collaborative musician, led international hymn festivals, taught workshops on a variety of topics, inspired audiences and congregations, and been a resource for those seeking to nurture their own creativity.

Featured Performer Jan Kraybill



While in high school in Colby, Kansas, Jan was invited to play her first European piano recital in Andover, England. Since then she has performed in many venues in the United States and abroad in Australia, Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Poland, Russia, South Korea, Tahiti, and the Netherlands. She has undertaken multiple tours of the United Kingdom, including organ concerts at the grand cathedrals of Chester, Exeter, and St. Paul's in London. In 2015 she designed and led a hymn festival at the International Gathering of Hymn Societies at Cambridge University.

Jan has been featured at regional and national conventions of the American Guild of Organists (AGO), the Hymn Society in the United States and Canada, and other musicians' organizations, and has been heard on Kansas Public Radio and American Public Media's nationally broadcast program *Pipedreams*. She has collaborated as organist, pianist, and harpsichordist with many ensembles, including the Bach Aria Soloists, the Phoenix Chorale, the Kansas City Chorale, the Kansas City Symphony and Symphony Chorus, and several others.

Four solo CDs and several collaborative recordings are available. *Two by 2: Two Organ Symphonies on Two Magnificent Organs* features both of Community of Christ's pipe organs. *Rejoice and Remember: Piano Music for All Seasons* contains favorite hymn arrangements. *The Auditorium Organ: Fifty Years of Excellence* celebrated that organ's 50th anniversary in 2009. The first solo CD of the Julia Irene Kauffman Casavant, *Organ Polychrome*, was released by Reference Recordings in 2014. Jan has recorded for Reference with the Kansas City Symphony on several occasions; their most recent disc, containing Saint-Saëns' "Organ" Symphony, was nominated for a Grammy in 2015.

Dr. Kraybill earned piano performance and education degrees from Kansas State University in Manhattan, Kansas, and a doctorate in organ performance from the University of Missouri-Kansas City's Conservatory of Music and Dance. In 2010 she achieved the distinction of Fellow of the AGO, organists' highest certification level. In 2013 she was named Musician of the Year by the Kansas City Musical Club, and in 2014 the UMKC Conservatory honored her with its Alumni Achievement Award

Jan has served in many elected local, regional, and national roles in the AGO, The Hymn Society, and the Master Teacher Institute. She was Executive Director of The Hymn Society in the U.S. and Canada. She is a member of *Mensa*. Her extra-musical interests include antiques, lace making, and riding her Harley-Davidson with her husband, Allan.

Visit www.jankraybill.com for more information and Jan's concert schedule.

From NCAGOYO

North Central AGO Young Organists

CLERGY – MUSICIAN RELATIONSHIPS: TIPS TO MAKE THE MOST OF (UN)LIKE MINDS

...on establishing the relationship

Part of enjoying a healthy working relationship between organist and clergy is establishing a line of effective communication from the start. In a smaller organization, the clergy may be the only ones who keep records of liturgical practice in the past, familiar music of the congregation, and material used by the choir. Therefore, the clergy are often the best resource outside of other musicians for getting acquainted with a particular faith community. While you can gain a good appreciation for what has been done in the past based on service records or bulletins, it is more difficult to find out on your own what the clergy/musician relationship was like in the past and what the musical philosophy of the clergy currently is. As obvious as it may seem, sitting down with your clergy co-worker(s) and asking them about their vision for the musical direction of the congregation will go a long way to establish a symbiotic relationship.

Patrick Ernst, Vicar
Faith Lutheran Church
San Antonio, TX

...on communicating (from the bench)

As we all know, communication is the key to good relations in the workplace, but what about when clergy or congregants try to communicate while you are in the middle of playing a hymn or the prelude? I'm sure we have all gotten a pat on the back or a "thank you" at some point in our career. Once during a Bach prelude and fugue I was playing as a prelude, a congregant came up to the loft to tell me I was playing too loud. Another time, someone tried to strike up a conversation during the postlude. Most recently, I was told to "keep playing" while they served communion as I was playing a hymn. Let your choir know how you feel about other people talking to you while you're at the bench. That way you can try to block out any distractions and count on the choir to have your back. Stay calm and keep playing; if the conversation can wait, then ignore it until an appropriate time.

Phillip Radtke
Bethel Evangelical Lutheran Church
Minneapolis, MN



...on working with a vacancy pastor

A transitional period of change and "the unknown" can be a trying time for any congregation. In my current situation, we have been without a pastor for the past six months. During these six months, I have had the privilege of working with a wonderful vacancy pastor. Many thoughts— "Will he deliver a good sermon like our former pastor?", "Will I be able to work with him?", "Will he try to change too many things during the interim?" — come to mind as we wonder, "What's next?" As the church musician, my biggest worry was if I was going to be able to continue carrying out my musical responsibilities or if I was going to be micro-managed to the point of complete frustration. Thankfully, our vacancy pastor has been a wonderful resource for our congregation during this transitional time. The relationship that he and I have built over the past six months is one that I will treasure for many years to come. The fact that our vacancy pastor is semi-retired guaranteed us a person who comes with many years of experience in areas such as administration, worship planning, and preaching. This well-rounded experience is a recipe for success in a congregation that strives to reach out to its community with the Good News. Instead of wondering "what's next?", be thankful for the opportunities that are presented right now.

David Porth, Music Director
Pilgrim Lutheran Church & School
Menomonee Falls, WI