The week before Christmas goes by in a whirl; many of you have the same experience. So I missed the announcement on Wednesday evening that the National Cathedral was cancelling in-person services due to COVID. My friend and colleague Fr Peter at St. Mary’s, Roxborough shared that news on Friday afternoon before our Christmas Eve Mass. Later Friday evening at St. Andrew’s in Mt Holly, Fr Andrew informed me the Episcopal Diocese of NJ had sent a letter “advising” parishes to go online only for Christmas Eve. Well, it takes a couple of miles to stop a loaded super-tanker, and it takes more than a few hours to deflect an in-person Christmas Eve service with guest singers and instrumentalists. The show went on, albeit fully masked, and may God’s grace protect all of us from infection.

It’s back. What? Is this COVID surge number four? I lost track. But consider how much better off we are now compared to...
Sub-Dean’s Report -- by Lawrence DePasquale, CAGO

Deck the hall with antiseptic; fa la la la la la. Take good care. Don’t be a skeptic; fa la la la la. Masking up is still important; fa la la la la la. Stay well-tuned. Don’t be discordant; fa la la la la la.

If the Good Lord made a duck, or allowed it to evolve from another life form, and he watched it walk away, he surely has a sense of humor. Picture it. And so with the continuing virus and its recent mutation, we continue great care. One great concern is for those who are wind players and singers who had COVID a year ago and are sharing with me their current inability to manage the musical phrases they could formerly play and sing, and singers have expressed their frustrations of cracking voices, somewhat dependent on vowels, and lowered vocal lifts. I often consult one of my colleagues from the Biology Department at Rowan University, who wrote and taught the virology course to pre-medical students. She firmly believes that our planet will continue to experience the virus with continuing mutations for at least another year. Human aerosol is the contributor, and interruption of transmission is achieved only by preventing the virus to attach itself to a human cell, meaning continued distancing, masking, and continued frequent sanitary practices, particularly not touching our faces.

At the time of circulation of this newsletter issue, our chapter does plan an in-person meeting on Saturday, February 12 at 10 AM at Trinity Episcopal Church, 207 W. Main St., Moorestown, Past Dean Vernon Williams, hosting. The study topic will be Psalm Singing, led by Dr. Martin Tel, who holds the C.F. Seabrook Director of Music position at Princeton Theological Seminary. His responsibilities there are facilitating music for daily worship, lecturing in church music, and directing the seminary choirs. He is senior editor of Psalms for All Seasons: A Complete Psalter for Worship (Faith Alive 2012). He also served on the editorial committees which produced Lift Up Your Hearts (Faith Alive 2013), a new hymnal for the Christian Reformed Church and Reformed Church in America, and the Spanish–English bilingual hymnal Santo, Santo, Santo/Holy, Holy Holy (GIA 2019). His topic will be “Singing Holy Week Through the Psalter,” explaining the following: “The gospel writers leaned heavily on the Psalms to tell the story of Jesus, particularly with detains of his suffering and death. Ironically, many congregations make short shrift of the psalter during Holy Week. After a brief overview of different approaches to congregational psalm singing, we will together experience examples of psalms that could be sung congregationally during Holy Week, both from inside and outside the lectionary.” This meeting will be in workshop form beginning with an approximately 50 minute lecture followed by a break, followed by an hour of mostly singing. We will likely gather in the parish hall of Trinity Church where distancing is best offered in a fairly live room so that we will hear each other without distancing being an issue. No food or beverages are permitted in the parish hall at this time because of the virus. Please take your breakfast before arriving.

Any changes to this event will be updated in the February newsletter, including the possibility of a virtual meeting if necessary. Discussion on those changes will happen at our January Executive Board meeting. Please continue with the utmost care. Any “less serious symptom” mutation will only increase the general severity of the pandemic with greater numbers. Be well and consult your general practitioner with any questions.

Matters of Note

Hospitality: Recently I had the opportunity to spend a few days at the Von Trapp family lodge in Stowe Vermont. The lodge is still run by members of the Von Trapp family. The movie version of the “Sound of Music” is about 90% fiction but the real version is much more interesting. I wish all of you success with your holiday services. Merry Christmas and best wishes for 2022.

Cares and Concerns: Nothing to report but please let me know if someone would appreciate receiving a card. Cathy cmo125@aol.com

Welcome to renewing member, Irina Nenartovich. She has a new address as of January and is available for funerals and subbing on Sunday after 10:30 am. Please add her contact information to your directories: Irina Nenartovich, CAGO 122 Heath Rd, Medford, NJ 08055 Email: irinanenartovich@gmail.com Phone: 856-321-3465

...continued on page 3
Matters of Note:

....continued from page 2

Congratulations! Layla Joshi (age 13) will be attending the Pipe Organ Encounter hosted by the Hartford AGO chapter June 26 - July 1, 2022.

Vikram Joshi (age 11) made his Harpsichord continuo debut on December 18 with the Baroque Chamber Players Orchestra - an ensemble within the Center for Gifted Young Musicians at the Temple University Music Preparatory Division. He played the Concerto in G major by Luigi Taglietti and movement IV of the Concerto in G major for viola by Georg Philip Telemann. On December 12, Layla played piano for the Andante movement of Piano Trio 39 “Gypsy” by Joseph Haydn.

Programs at a Glance

(See Sub-Dean's Report on page 2 for details)

Saturday, January 15, 2022:
January Jumpstart sponsored by the Philadelphia Chapter AGO
Bryn Mawr Presbyterian

Saturday, February 12, 2022:
Workshop: Singing the Psalms with Dr. Martin Tel, Princeton Theological Seminary Trinity Episcopal, Moorestown NJ

March 2022: Girard College Organ Crawl and Tour date TBA

Saturday, April 30, 2022: Chapter Retreat Discovery House, Hammonton NJ

May 2022: Color and Character in French Organ Music date and location TBA

June 26 2022:
Annual Picnic and Meeting at the home of Glenn and Cindy Rodgers

Shared by Evelyn Larter: Bach from Home!
Three festivals, ten historic locations, hundreds of artists and many concerts – this characterizes the Bach region of central Germany. Now the Thuringia Bach Festival, the Leipzig Bachfest and the Köthen Bach Festival have created a joint streaming platform to make these experiences available to Bach fans who are not able to attend them live.

"We are responding not only to the pandemic restrictions but also to an issue which has been around for a long time" explains Christoph Drescher, Director of the Thuringia Bach Festival. "In terms of climate change we have been seeking alternative ways to enable Bach fans around the world to access the gift of authentic Bach locations, even if they are unwilling or unable to travel to Germany."

With the new platform bachfromhome.live the three festivals have now found the answer. The website connects streams from festival concerts with a growing archive of past concerts and inspiring information about the ten historic locations in 'Bach land'. Alongside these broadcasts international Bach fans are encouraged to chat with each other and to get in touch with the artists and festival organizers.

Discover Bach’s home by attending digital concerts in your own home, and get in touch with Bach lovers from all over the world. There is a lot to explore:

www.bachfromhome.live

...continued on page 5
Presenters will be: Tom Trenney, Renée Anne Louprette, and Eileen Hunt. We are grateful that Tom Trenney is able to join us as one of our featured presenters in lieu of the Cherwiens, who are facing some health uncertainties. Other clinicians will be Jeff Brillhart, Mark Miller, Shelly Moorman-Stahlman, and David Story. (Click to register, below, to see more information.)

After you register, you will receive another email in December with all the details about sessions and times. You will have the chance make your selections which will allow us to assign rooms according to interest. This is particularly important in light of COVID and social distancing recommendations. Included in the modest fee:

- Coffee/tea, boxed lunch, 2 receptions, and choral session scores
- Organ Historical Society shop - bring your Christmas money

Free Music Table - please bring music scores and CDs you no longer want

You may REGISTER HERE!

Clair Rozier, Planning Committee Chair and Bruce Marshall, Registrar
for the entire JJS22 Planning Committee

*By registering, you agree to appear in videos and photos for use by our Chapter for non-commercial use. If you do not agree, please still register but contact Grace Kraybill, Communications Coordinator at communications@agophila.org

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**SHENANDOAH UNIVERSITY’S**

**2022 CHURCH MUSIC INSTITUTE**

In-person Two-Week Conference Event
Visit www.su.edu/cmi to learn more!

**Tom Trenney**
Week One: June 19-24, 2022
Adult Choir Techniques & Repertoire

**Andrea Baxter**
Week Two: June 26 - July 1, 2022
Children’s Choir Techniques & Repertoire

**Dr. Wayne L. Wold, Director**
SouthWest Jersey Chapter Scholarship Program

-- by Lawrence DePasquale, CAGO

Our chapter’s scholarship program exists to serve area congregations by increasing the number of capable organists and to insure the continuation of the classical church music profession.

As a reminder, the program is structured as 14 one-hour lessons scheduled at the mutual convenience of the instructor and student, ideally on the organ where the student practices, or at least one a month where the student practices. The lessons and public jury must take place within 4 months. The practice instrument must have a minimum of two 61-note keyboards and a concave, radiating 32-note pedalboard, with all keys functioning. The student must have legs long enough to reach the pedalboard and have intermediate piano skills (meaning and understanding of meter signatures, chords, key signatures, and the ability to read G and F clefs).

The audition for this program is on piano. Applicants will be asked to prepare and perform a simple Bach keyboard work, also one movement of a sonata by Mozart, Haydn, Beethoven, Clementi, or Kuhnau, and also one hymn written in traditional four-part harmony. The applicant will be asked to sight-read two short pieces; one will be in common meter.

At the conclusion of the 14 one hour lessons, a jury is required with the teacher and at least two additional chapter members present. The jury will consist of the following:

Two of these three chorales: Ein feste Burg, Lobe den Herren, Herzlich tut mir verlangen
A hymn will be sight-read, pedaling not required
The tune Old Hundredth in any of its traditional forms, copy provided to the committee
One pedal alone passage of a chorale, minimum 15 measures
A trio chorale
A prelude or fugue from the collection Eight Little Preludes and Fugues

The instructor is appointed by the local chapter. Accepted applicants are responsible for securing a pair of Organmaster shoes and required music. Instruction may happen any time provided all activities are completed within four months. Candidates of all ages who meet the above criteria are welcome. Please contact Lawrence De Pasquale at ldorg59@yahoo.com with questions and to express interest.

Editor’s note: See next page for the current brochure. Please feel free to print out and encourage qualified applicants to submit this form.

Allen Organ Model GW 4 George Wright Custom Four Manual Organ: $25,000.00. For Sale by Woodstown Presbyterian Church, 46 Auburn Road, Woodstown, NJ 08098. Phone: (856) 769-2977 Contact: Terry Haaf Cell: (609) 685-5510 Email: terrylhaaf@gmail.com

Description of accessories:
* 16 Walnut Speaker Cabinets
* Allen Ensemble Console Controller
* Allen MDS-Expander II
* Allen Multiple Midi System Record/Playback System with memory including over 500 professional recorded church and concert transcriptions
* Four Conn Instrument Company Pipe tone cabinets
* Console controlled for MIDI pipe ranks
* Diane Bush lighted and adjustable music rack and a digital Toy Counter
* 16 Audio Channels
* Bench

Shipping: Shipping is the purchaser's responsibility.

Condition: Used but in great working condition. All original manuals are intact. Sellers note: This organ has been under an annual service contract by an authorized Allen Organ Company, however, in full disclosure the backup clock battery needs replacing and some of the plug-in extensions (train/horse/wolf sounds) do not work, but we feel that with the fair asking price, these items can easily be repaired. The organ can be reviewed by potential buyers by making an appointment with our church musical director.

--Serial # TH19308 (2015 Valuation by Stadele’s Allen Organs, Branchburg, NJ $68,700.00)

News from Furman University: The 2022 Furman University Church Music Conference will take place on Thursday–Friday, January 27–28, and will feature guest clinician Stephen Darlington. Director of Music Emeritus of Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford, and Professor of Music Emeritus at Christ Church College, the University of Oxford, Professor Darlington is one of the outstanding church musicians of our time. During the conference, he will lead two on-campus rehearsals of conference attendees, focusing on three splendid English anthems to be performed at the concluding Evensong service on Friday night. He will also conduct an open rehearsal of Furman’s acclaimed choral ensembles, the Furman Singers and Furman Chamber Choir; present lectures on the English Choral Tradition and the Sacred Music of Tallis and Byrd; and lead a choral reading session. During the Friday Evensong, he will conduct the Furman Singers, as well as a Festival Choir consisting of conference attendees, the Christ Church Parish Choir, and the Furman Chamber Choir. Church Music Conference: Church Music Conference | Music | Furman University

Hartness Organ Series: Please refer to the Events Calendar
The Scholarship

The Organ Scholarship of the Southwest Jersey Chapter of the American Guild of Organists provides a term of 14 introductory organ lessons for qualified persons wishing to begin study of the organ.

Eligibility

All applicants must possess the following qualifications:

♦ Must reside in the Southwest Jersey geographical area.
♦ Must have received little or no previous formal classical organ training.
♦ Legs must be long enough to reach the pedalboard.
♦ At least an intermediate piano proficiency (see audition requirements below).
♦ Basic knowledge of theory, including G and F clefs, key signatures, meter signatures, and chords.
♦ Must have access to an organ on which to practice. The organ console must either 1) conform to AGO standards having at least two 61-note manuals and a full pedalboard, or 2) conform to historical mechanical action standards.
♦ Must commit to completing 14 lessons and the jury within four to six months.

Inquiries

Address questions or inquiries to:

Vernon Williams
email: vwilliams@trinitymoorestown.org
phone: 856-235-0811

Application Procedure

Send completed applications to:

Vernon Williams
Trinity Episcopal Church
207 West Main Street
Moorestown, NJ 08057

In addition to the application form, applicants are asked to include on a separate sheet a brief statement of their goals and objectives for study and a summary of their musical background and experience.

The Audition

The audition is scheduled once the application has been received. Auditions will be played on the piano. No memorization is required.

Prepared pieces

♦ Any Bach Two-Part Invention or one selection from the Anna Magdalena Notebook
♦ One movement from a sonatina by Mozart, Haydn, Beethoven, Clementi, or Kuhnau
♦ One hymn written in traditional four-part harmony

Sight-reading

♦ Two short pieces: one in common time, the other in another meter

The Lessons

Lessons are arranged at the mutual convenience of the teacher and student, ideally on the organ where the student practices. In any event, at least one lesson per month will take place on the organ where the student practices.

Students will learn how to practice and will become acquainted with registration, articulation, and pedaling, through the practice and preparation of hymns, teaching pieces, and repertoire.

Students will be required to have appropriate shoes (as recommended by their teacher) before the second lesson.

Students will provide at their expense the necessary hymnal and books required by the teacher. (Generally hymnals may be borrowed from the student's church.) Photocopied music is illegal, contrary to the Guild's Code of Ethics, and may not be used.

The Jury

At the conclusion of the 14 weeks of study, the student will be required to play before a jury.

♦ Two of the following four-part hymns (at least one of the hymns must be played with pedal):
  - Nicaea, Lobe den Herren, Ein feste Burg, Hymn to Joy
  - New Britain, Amazing Grace, Herzlich tut mich verlangen (Passion Chorale)

♦ The Doxology (Old Hundredth) in any of the standard forms

♦ One pedal-alone passage of a Bach chorale or from a method book, at least 16 measures long

♦ A trio exercise or a chorale trio

♦ A prelude or fugue from Bach's Eight Little Preludes and Fugues
Application

DATE
NAME
ADDRESS
CITY, STATE, ZIP
PHONE
BEST TIME TO CALL
EMAIL ADDRESS

Your Place of Practice

NAME OF PRACTICE LOCATION (Church, Temple, etc.)

STREET ADDRESS
CITY, STATE

TYPE AND BUILDER OF ORGAN (if known)

Your Keyboard Background

YEARS OF PIANO STUDY
LIST ANY PREVIOUS CLASSICAL ORGAN STUDY

Your Goals and Musical Background

Please include on a separate sheet a brief statement of your goals and objectives for organ study and an outline of your musical background and experience.

Purpose

The organ scholarship awarded by the AGO is necessary in order:

1. To serve the congregations by increasing the roster of capable organists.
2. To foster an appreciation for sacred classical organ repertoire.
3. To encourage more musicians to meet the standards and ideals of the American Guild of Organists.
4. To ensure the continuation of the church music profession.

History

In the 1980’s a decline in the number of qualified organists and in the number of new organ students became a concern for churches and Guild chapters across the country.

Inspired by an innovative “floating organ academy” begun in South Dakota and described in an article in The American Organist, AGO member Helen Taylor founded the Southwest Jersey Organ Scholarship program in 1988 as a way to help solve this problem. The first committee members were Marilyn Rabin, Barbara Knight, Joyce Ann Routon, and Larry DePasquale.

Since its inception, more than two dozen organists have successfully completed the program. Many of these new organists have gone on to successful careers in area churches.

The Southwest Jersey Chapter is pleased to continue this tradition of service to its churches and to the art of organ playing.

AGO Code of Ethics

Approved by the AGO National Council January 27, 2017

Preamble/Preface

The American Guild of Organists encourages its members to embrace and practice the following values as core ideals that Guild members aspire to cultivate in their ethical and professional conduct.

Value 1. Responsible Conduct toward Those Whom We Serve (including but not limited to clergy, supervisors, congregants, choir members, students, children, et al.). Members shall:

- Treat those whom they serve in a professional manner, with dignity, compassion, civility, and respect.
- Show respect to those whom they serve, regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, age, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, marital status, socio-economic status, disability, or medical condition.
- Avoid any sort of abusive behavior, whether verbal, physical, sexual, psychological, emotional, or other.
- Refrain from disclosing confidential or sensitive information about others obtained in the course of professional service, unless disclosure serves a compelling professional purpose or is required by law.

Value 2. Respect for Our Professional Colleagues. Members shall:

- Maintain a professional attitude and act with integrity in relationships with colleagues, regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, age, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, marital status, socio-economic status, disability, or medical condition.
- Respect the reputation and diversity of colleagues.

Value 3. Integrity in Our Professional Work. Members shall:

- Honor and abide by the conditions and requirements of the job descriptions and work agreements to which they have knowingly agreed, so long as those provisions are in accord with all applicable federal, state and local laws.
- Follow, as applicable, the principles of professional conduct that are expressed in the AGO Code of Professional Standards.
- For the benefit of future generations of musicians and to preserve the instruments of our profession, we care to ensure that when playing an instrument, the institution’s expected practices and requirements for the care of the instrument and its venue are met.

Organ Scholarship
for beginning students

Organ Scholarship

presented by

The Southwest Jersey Chapter
of
The American Guild of Organists
A Hymn to Our Lady

An Organ Recital in Honor of the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, featuring great organ music from France by composers: Widor, Franck, Grigny, Boëllmann, Guilmant, Benoit, Bach/Gounod, Duprè, and Tournemire.

Vicki Nichols will be presenting this recital on Friday, February 11th, 2022 at 7:00 PM at St. Theresa’s Church 450 Radio Road, Little Egg Harbor, NJ. A light reception will follow.
2021–2022 SEASON

TOTTALLY TUBULAR
Carol Jantsch, Principal Tuba, Philadelphia Orchestra & Director
Sunday, September 26, 2021 @ 2:30pm
Pine Tavern Distillery, Monroeville, NJ

WORLD MUSIC FEST: A JAPANESE GARDEN
Yumi Kurosawa, Koto & Michiko Otaki, Piano
Friday, October 1, 2021 @ 7pm
Salem Community College, Carney’s Point, NJ

TUNES FROM THE CRYPT
Erik Meyer, Organist
Friday, October 22, 2021 @ 6pm
St. John’s Episcopal Church, Salem, NJ

PICS & PIPES - 1928 SILENT FILM "STEAMBOAT WILLIE, JR."
Starring Buster Keaton; Wayne Zimmerman, Organist
Saturday, November 13, 2021 @ 7pm
Alloway Baptist Church, Alloway, NJ

WINTER JAZZ - BRIAN BETZ QUARTET
FEATURING DENIS DIBLASIO
Brian Betz, Denis DiBlasio, Steve Varner & Dan Monaghan
Saturday, January 22, 2022 @ 7pm
Salem Community College, Carney’s Point, NJ

MIDIRI BROTHERS JAZZ ENSEMBLE - "THE GREAT AMERICAN SONGBOOK"
Joe & Paul Midiri and Friends
Saturday, April 23, 2022 @ 7pm
Salem Community College, Carney’s Point, NJ

DELAWARE WOMEN'S CHORUS
Joanne Ward, Director
Sunday, May 22, 2022 @ 4pm
First Presbyterian Church, Salem, NJ
EVELYN LARTER: SACRED INSTRUMENTAL

Music for your advanced instrumental soloists, available for digital download at www.evelynlartermusic.com

Evelyn’s collections
How Sweet The Sound: Hymn Arrangements ~ for Piano Trio
Noel Nouvete: Christmas Music ~ for Flute
Carols for the King from Around the World
Volumes 1 & 2 ~ for Clarinet
Five English Carols ~ for Flute
Consecration: Seven Hymn Arrangements ~ for Flute
Consecration: Seven Hymn Arrangements ~ for Violin
Still Be My Vision: Hymn Arrangements ~ for Cello
Hear The News The Angels Bring: Christmas Music ~ for Cello
A Rose E’er Blooming ~ for Violin

Coming soon: Oh Glory! Five Spirituals for Piano Trio

“Evelyn Larter has a knack for writing that is easy to put together, yet lacks nothing in terms of harmonic, melodic, and instrumental depth. I find her work deeply moving, spiritual, and satisfying.”
— David Kim, Concertmaster of The Philadelphia Orchestra

Steve Jones
President

788 Piney Hollow Road
Hammonton, NJ 08037
joness@comcast.net
(609) 970-9131
Positions Available/Substitute List -- by Peter Homon

Editor's Note: We are updating and hoping to expand our Substitute List. If you are available to substitute, please contact Peter Homon, our Referral/Position Coordinator. Please forward or refer any items concerning positions available or substitute needs to Peter at lapajar@yahoo.com or call 856-952-5132.

Positions Available:

St. Bartholomew's Episcopal, Cherry Hill - Interim Organist, 3 manual Allen Digital, 10:00 svc with a possible change to 10:30, $150.00 per service. Congregation uses 1982 Hymnal, LEVAS, and Praise Songs. Contact Jeffrey Kirk at jm125Kirk@gmail.com or 609-605-6245. (12/21)

Temple Lutheran Church, Pennsauken - O/D, 3 manual Rogers, adult choir with weekly rehearsal. Contact Carol Wohr at (M) 609-221-9286 or (H) 856-848-9389. (12/21)

First Presbyterian Church, Haddon Heights - Director of music (not organist), Direct choirs including handbells, 10 month contract, 20 hour week, some keyboard skills required. Info.Fpchh@gmail.com. (11/21)

Christ Episcopal Church, Riverton - O/D, 3 manual pipe, 9 a.m. service. No choir currently but new director will be asked to begin one. Contact Mrs. Pat King 856-393-7924. (9/21)

Luther Memorial Lutheran Church (Missouri Synod), Blackwood - O/D, no choir but would like to begin one, 3 manual Allen Renaissance, 9 a.m. svc. Contact Carlo Danesi 609-832-9702 or cpdanesi@yahoo.com. (3/21)

Lambertville Presbyterian, Lambertville, NJ - Organist/pianist Music Director - 3 manual pipe, baby grand as well as electric keyboard, vocal ensemble for holidays, 9:30 summer service, 10:30 winter, Contact Church Administrator Sue Mc Cloughan 609-397-0650 Lambertvillepresbyterian@gmail.com. (7/21)

These musicians are available on Sundays and also for weddings and funerals other days:

Charlene Cranmer 609-458-2993 (Southampton, NJ - July and August only) ctcranmer@comcast.net

Peter Homon, Jr. c-856-952-5132 (Merchantville) lapajar@yahoo.com

Mary Johnson 856-332-8869 (Pine Hill) mebayj47@yahoo.com

Irina Nenartovich 856-321-3465 (Medford) irinanenartovich@gmail.com

These substitutes are available for weddings and funerals or Saturday work only:

Evelyn Larter, CAGO 856-358-1112 (Elmer) ERLarter@juno.com

Cathy O’Neill, 856-0192 (Sewell, NJ) cmo125@aol.com

Joanne Owen 856-769-3212 (Woodstown) lbjkowen1982@comcast.net

Marilyn Rabbai, CAGO 856-589-3901 (Pitman) mwrabbai@verizon.net

CHAPTER EMERGENCY FUND

Our Chapter has begun the sponsorship of a fund to provide short-term emergency aid to Chapter members who find themselves temporarily in need of assistance. No dues money will be used for this aid, but tax-deductible contributions will be welcome at any time. A committee of three, consisting of the Dean, the Chair of Professional Concerns, and another member of that committee, will award aid as the need arises. Any Chapter member may recommend a member in good standing who, for reasons such as illness or unemployment, deserves our help, by contacting the Dean or the Chair of Professional Concerns. All cases of course will be confidential. If you would like to contribute to this cause, please send your tax-deductible donation (made out to SWJersey Chapter AGO) to our Treasurer Chuck Gibson, marked for “Musicians’ Emergency Fund.” Mail to: 691 Willow Grove Road, Monroeville, NJ 08343-4529.
AGO CERTIFIED MEMBERS

Rae Ann Anderson, CAGO
Miriam Bisbing, SPC
Helen C. Carrell, CAGO, SPC
Mark A. Cole, SPC
Charlene Cranmer, CAGO, SPC
Lawrence DePasquale, CAGO
Ruth O. Fink, AAGO, ChM
Ethel H. Geist, CAGO
Evelyn Larter, CAGO, SPC
Marilyn Rabbai, CAGO, SPC
David L. Rhody, SPC
Glenn L. Rodgers, AAGO
Joyce Ann Routon, CAGO, SPC

Patrons & Contributors

Arndt, Ruthann
Bisbing, Miriam
Carrell, Helen
Cranmer, Charlene
Dishong, Mark
Fenimore, William
Finch, Gae
Fink, Ruth
Gardener, Robert
Gassaway, Gail
Hatzold, Renee
Kirk, Guy
Larter, Evelyn
Obarski, Stephen
Owen, Joanne
Nichols, Victoria
Rabbai, Marilyn
Rhody, David
Robinson, Christine
Rodgers, Glenn
Scara, Robert
Stokking-Perry, Nancy
White, Kathleen

For more information on Professional Certification requirements, procedures, materials and deadlines, visit the website of AGO National Headquarters: www.agohq.org

Thank you,

Patrons, Contributors and Advertisers

Our next issue will be February 2022.
Deadline for articles, announcements, pictures and reports will be Wednesday, January 26.

S FORZANDO
March 2020. We're experienced. We know how to do this. We’ve practiced the full gamut, from online-only concerts and religious services, through every flavor of socially-distanced, limited-attendance, reduced-singing events, and back to the new “normal” (whatever that was). We’ve proven to ourselves that we and our institutions and performing groups can survive COVID lockdowns, and if there’s another one about to happen, we’ll survive this one too.

Meanwhile in this season of gift-giving, consider giving a gift to yourself. Take a break, take a little vacation. I have Sunday the 26th off at St. Mary’s, and won’t be playing at St. Andrew’s again until January 8. I hope all of you can do something similar. Occasional rest and relaxation are very necessary to continuing musical creativity.

Another idea for a gift to yourself - sign up for January Jumpstart hosted by the AGO Philadelphia Chapter on Saturday January 15 at Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church. The event is “designed to inspire you with the contributions of leaders in the profession in a relaxed environment. It’s also as much a time for reconnecting with colleagues and making new friends…” As well as rest and relaxation, education and inspiration and important in recharging our batteries.

The fee for January Jumpstart is $40 for AGO members. Per my employment agreement, my church employer will pay this fee as part of their support for my continuing education. I know this is not a benefit universally enjoyed by AGO members. Unfortunately some of you aren’t able to even have written employment agreements. I salute your perseverance in what could be difficult situations, and I have another gift suggestion: download the new AGO publication “Employing Musicians in Religious Institutions” at https://www.agohq.org/employing-musicians-handbook/ and share a copy with your employer. Although the AGO is prohibited by the 2017 FTC agreement from making explicit salary recommendations, there is much other information about the scope and value of musician’s duties that can be discussed. The “Employing Musicians” handbook is a wonderful resource for supporting discussions with your employer about both the value and quantity of your work. If you don’t have a copy, please gift yourself one today; it’s free!

COVID is ensuring we “live in interesting times.” Take care for yourselves, stay healthy, stay positive. This too will pass.

Soli Deo gloria.