

# Mixtures

The Organ of the Binghamton Chapter, AGO



DECEMBER 2011

## DEAN'S MESSAGE



"It's the most wonderful time of the year," some folks say. One may argue that it's also the most exhausting time of the year, particularly for church musicians who, in addition to the traditional activities which accompany the season, must prepare special music, schedule extra rehearsals, and spend more practice time at the organ. How do they survive? Believe it or not, the ability to cope with the added stress may be built into the musician's vocation.

An article in the Fall issue of Upstate Health may help to explain this phenomenon. In "Unwinding with Music", seven medical students testified to the importance of music in helping them to relax and in keeping them connected to the human side of their vocation. Dr. Michael Iannuzzi, an instructor, stated that "because of the amount of work demanded of students, they often feel dehumanized. Music feeds the soul."

Perhaps it is music's ability to "feed the soul" that enables the church musician to survive the added pressures of the season.

Appreciate your ability to make music, whether playing the keyboard, singing, ringing bells, or strumming the ukulele. Not only are you benefiting from your God-given talent, but you are sharing the gift of music with those who may not be as fortunate.

May your holiday be filled with love, laughter, and beautiful music!

Polly

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### DEAN

Polly Wendling 754-0378

### NEWSLETTER

Polly Wendling  
pro tem 754-0378

### PLACEMENT

Jean Henssler  
748-7285

### WEBSITE

Richard Hedgebeth  
[www.binghamtonago.org](http://www.binghamtonago.org)



## CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

Sunday, **Dec. 4 – 4 pm** Christmas Concert by the Greene Chamber Singers at First Congregational Church, No. Chenango St., Greene. Piano/organ accompanist, Ellie Rugg. Selections include *Magnificat*, Mathias; *Nativity Carol*, John Rutter; *Christmas Cantata* with brass, Daniel Pinkham; *O Nata Lux*, Morten Lauridsen. Concert is free.

Friday, **Dec. 30 – 5 pm** Post-holiday dinner at the Spot Restaurant, 1062 Upper Front St., Binghamton  
Reservations to Judy Peterson by Dec. 28 (648-4667)

Saturday, **Jan. 7 – 9:30 am** AGO Board Meeting; place tba

Saturday, **Jan. 14 – 10:30 am** “Music for the Funeral Service” at Ogden-Hillcrest United Methodist, 1062 Chenango St., Binghamton

Saturday, **Feb. 11 – 10:30 am** “Introduction to Hauptwerk” at 413 Karin Drive, Vestal

Friday, **March 2 – 7 pm** Sing-along at Hilltop Retirement Home, Deyo Hill Rd., Johnson City

## Seasons Greetings

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<http://westminsterorganworks.com>

Stuart Organ Company welcomes tuning and maintenance opportunities and would be pleased to schedule a visit to your church. We wish you the very best for this holiday season and the coming year.





**DECEMBER CHAPTER EVENT** – Post-holiday gathering for dinner at the Spot Restaurant, 1062 Upper Front Street, Binghamton; **Friday, Dec. 30 at 5:00 p.m.** Spouses, friends and significant others are welcome! Make your reservation with Judy Peterson by Dec. 28 (648-4667).



**JANUARY CHAPTER EVENT** – Roberta Raybold-Rowland and Lee Roseboom will present “Music for the Funeral Service” at Ogden-Hillcrest United Methodist Church, 1069 Chenango St., Binghamton, **Saturday, Jan. 14 at 10:30 a.m.** Hear a sampling of music appropriate for both the liturgical rite of burial and the celebratory service which commemorates the life of the deceased. A handout of appropriate repertoire will be distributed.



**FEBRUARY CHAPTER EVENT** – Jean Henssler and Richard Hedgebeth will present “An Introduction to Hauptwerk,” a digital organ concept, on **Saturday, February 11 at 10:30 am.** at the home of Jean Henssler, 413 Karin Drive, Vestal.



Joan Kellam will lead a sing-along at Hilltop Retirement Home on Friday, **March 2 at 7 pm.** AGO members are encouraged to attend and add their voices to those of the residents. As in the past, we will meet afterwards at Friendly’s for ice cream and conviviality.

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**WELCOME** to our new members, Yancey Moore and Patricia O’Connell.

**ADDITIONS to YEARBOOK:** (The last page is a blank for entering additions.)

**Yancey Moore**, Organist/Choir Director, Maine Federated Church  
 PO Box 122  
 2621 Main Street  
 Maine, NY 13802

**Patricia O’Connell**, Church musician & student, St. Paul’s Episcopal, Owego  
 132 Southside Drive  
 Owego, NY 13827

**CHANGE TO YEARBOOK:** **Vella Melzer** retired from her position at St. Cyril’s on Nov. 1 and is now available to substitute.

## Wilma Jensen's Master Class

The master class given by Wilma Jensen on Nov. 21 was well attended by the Binghamton Chapter. The entire time was devoted to helping 4 young students with their playing technique. One of our members said it was the best master class he had ever attended. For those who were disappointed that there wasn't enough time for the hymn-playing portion of the workshop, be sure to read the information on the handout. There is a wealth of information on playing hymns musically. We were comforted by Wilma's promise to return.



### **Christmas Concert** by the Greene Chamber Singers

Music by *Mathias; Rutter; Pinkham; Lauridsen*

**Sunday, Dec. 4, 4:00 pm**  
First Congregational Church, Greene NY