

Mixtures

The Organ of the Binghamton Chapter, AGO



DECEMBER 2012

DEAN'S MESSAGE . . .

We are all familiar with these words adapted from the prayer of St. Richard of Chichester. "Day by day, of Thee 3 things I pray: to see Thee more clearly, love Thee more dearly, follow Thee more nearly." Note that "see" is first in the sequence. I recall the Rev. Dr. Anna Carter Florence telling musicians gathered in Nashville for the AGO Convention this summer that they should be "transparent." Since then I have struggled to understand how "transparency" applies to the church musician. Can it be that music serves as a window? The mystery of God incarnate in a tiny baby is difficult to put into words. Music comes to the rescue. Whether the soaring notes of *Messiah* or the quiet strains of *Silent Night* accompanied by candlelight, music is a window that enables us to glimpse the divine. Wishing you all a season of wonder and joy,

Polly



DECEMBER'S CHAPTER EVENT . . . Our annual post-holiday gathering will be held on Sunday, Dec. 30, 5 p.m. at Nirchi's Restaurant, 215 Washington Ave., Endicott (next to Wendy's at the corner of Washington Ave. and Main St. (17C), Endicott. Friends and spouses are welcome. Reservations can be made via email: *rsvp*at*binghamtonago*dot*org* or telephone 237-0125. The deadline for reservations is Wednesday, Dec. 26.

DEAN

Polly Wendling
754-0378

NEWSLETTER

Polly Wendling
pro tem 754-0378

PLACEMENT

Jean Hensler
748-7285

WEBSITE

Richard Hedgebeth
www.binghamtonago.org



CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

Saturday, **Dec. 1 - 4 pm** *Holiday Organ Concert* with Jonathan Biggers and the Ithaca Brass and Percussion at United Presbyterian, 42 Chenango St., Binghamton; hymns, carol arrangements, Craig Phillips, Reger, Bach

Sunday, **Dec. 2 - 3 pm** Free concert by Greene Chamber Singers at First Congregational Church, 28 No. Chenango St., Greene, NY. Reception to follow. Music by Mozart, Susa, Lauridsen

Wednesdays, **Dec. 5, 12, & 19 - Noon** *Advent Meditations* followed by Homemade Soup Luncheon at Montrose Presbyterian Church, 72 Church St. (Rt. 29), Montrose, PA. See page 5 for complete lineup.

Sunday, **Dec. 9 - 3 pm** Singing Boys of Pennsylvania Christmas Concert, United Presbyterian Church, 25 Church Street, Cortland; supper following with the singers (free will offering)

Friday, **Dec. 21** & Saturday, **Dec. 22, 8 pm** Performance of *Messiah* by the Downtown Singers at the Helen Foley Theater, Binghamton H.S., 31 Main Street.

Saturday, **Dec. 29 - 7:30 pm** Theater organist, Jim Ford, will accompany silent portions of *The Artist*, a 2011 Academy Award-winning film, at the Forum.

Sunday, **Dec. 30 - 5 pm** - Post Holiday Gathering at Nirchi's, 215 Washington Ave., Endicott. Reservations to Richard Hedgebeth by Dec. 26 (237-0125) or email: *rsvp*at*binghamtonago*dot*org*.

Saturday, **Jan. 12 (7:30 pm)** and Sunday, **Jan. 13 (3 pm)** *Ceremony & Celebration for Twelfth Night* by the Binghamton Madrigal Choir at Christ Episcopal Church, 10 Henry St., Binghamton

Friday, **Feb. 8 - 6 pm** Clergy/Musicians Dinner at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Chenango Bridge

Friday, **March 8** - Master Class with Katie Pardee at BU Fine Arts Bldg., Rm 21

Saturday, **March 9 - 4 pm** Katie Pardee organ recital at United Presbyterian, 42 Chenango St., Binghamton

Saturday, **March 16 - 10 am to 12:30 pm** Pipes, Pedals, and Pizza at United Presbyterian, Binghamton

NOVEMBER'S CHAPTER EVENT . . . The Kotylos' delightful duo concert on Nov. 16 was followed the next morning by a workshop on *Anthems for the Small Choir*. Participants were given a handout which listed anthems suitable for the small choir at various seasons of the church year. Andy and Andrea also suggested many ways the octavos could be adapted to the resources available. Among their suggested anthems for the Advent/Christmas season is Alfred Fedak's "*When God's Time Had Ripened*," for which there are 8 copies of an SAB arrangement in AGO's choral library. Several more anthems for the Christmas season are in the AGO library. You will find a complete listing on the chapter's website. The library is housed at All Saints Episcopal Church (797-3354). The secretary's current schedule (M-Th, 9-3) is subject to change, so please call Roberta Steflik before stopping by.



THANK YOU . . . to **Ellie Rugg** for coordinating the reception following the Kotylos concert on Nov. 16 and to all who brought refreshments; to **Carolyn Blake** for the donuts at Saturday's anthem workshop; to **Andrew** and **Andrea Kotylo** for both their entertaining recital and informative workshop; and to **Main Street Baptist Church** for hosting both events.



FEBRUARY 2013 CHAPTER EVENT . . . It is not too early to invite your pastor to attend the chapter's Clergy/Musician Dinner on Friday, February 8. It will be held at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Chenango Bridge. The dinner menu features lasagna and will be served at 6:30 p.m. Punch, cheese, & crackers will be available beginning at 6:00, so do come early for "meet and greet."

Please attend with or without your pastor. We'd like a large turnout for Ed Pettengill's multi-media presentation of his organ tour to England with Michael Barone of Pipe Dreams last spring. Please mail your reservation and check to Judy Peterson, 8 Poplar Hill Road, Binghamton, NY 13901. The cost to chapter members is \$10.00. The cost for clergy and spouse will be paid for by the chapter.

PEDALS, PIPES, AND PIZZA . . . Please circle Saturday, March 16 for this event, which seeks to introduce young pianists to the pipe organ. Do you have students or know children in your neighborhood or at church who may be interested in attending? Although focusing on the 8-12 year-old age group, it will certainly not exclude anyone who is interested. John Holt, Joan Kellam, Ellie Rugg, and Polly Wendling have begun planning for the event, which will be held at the United Presbyterian Church, Binghamton, 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.



A CHANCE MEETING (by Richard Sheasley) . . . As I entered the East Side Congregational Church, I heard a repeated chiming note and wondered what electronic alarm was on. The sound came from the Assembly Hall. I opened the door and saw **Gail Schmick** - tuning the upright piano! I introduced myself and she mentioned how much she misses the local chapter for she is a former member. She is still at the Unitarian Universalist Church (next to Lourdes Hospital) as the organist. Obviously, she is still tuning pianos also! She said that if anyone would like to call her and perhaps reminisce about musical sharings, please call her at 607-772-0426.

A NOTE FROM THE REGISTRAR . . . Please welcome Binghamton Chapter's newest member to our chapter, **Craig Johnson**. Craig is a well-known piano teacher in the Endicott area and can be found Sunday mornings at St. Andrews Anglican Church in Endicott, NY, where he is organist and music director. Richard Sheasley

**Parsons Pipe Organ Builders
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Parsons will be publishing a semi-annual newsletter. We are invited to be part of their mailing. If you are interested in receiving the newsletter, you will need to contact:

Ellen L. Parsons, Business Manager
Toll Free: 888-229-4920

Advent Meditations
Montrose Presbyterian Church
Each week at Noon

December 5

Lee Roseboom, Richard Sheasley, & Roberta Rowland-Raybold
of the American Guild of Organists, Binghamton, NY

December 12

Richard Van Auken, Organist
Evelyn Van Auken, Pianist

December 19

Sarah S. Bertsch, Organist
Ginny Bertech Quackenbush, Pianist

Homemade soup luncheons follow each meditation



Seasons Greetings

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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.