

# MIXTURES



December 2015

## DEAN'S MESSAGE:

I hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving. Now before you do anything else, grab your calendars and mark down some events going on THIS weekend.

\*On **Friday, December 4 at 8:00 pm**, Jonathan Biggers will present his annual Holiday celebration "First Friday Organ Concert" at United Presbyterian Church in Binghamton. Organ solos will include Craig Phillips's *Toccata on Antioch* (Joy to the World). The audience will be invited to sing four Christmas and Advent carols accompanied by special introductions and reharmonizations (as only JB can do). Jonathan will be joined by Timothy Perry (clarinet) and Margaret Reitz (piano), along with a French horn quartet, and two Vocal soloists from the Tri-Cities Opera. Admission will be \$5.00 at the door. This event is always well attended, well received, and should not be missed.

\***Saturday, December 5 at 3:00 pm** – In case you are looking for something to do on Saturday, Tim Perry will be leading the Binghamton University Symphony Orchestra and Chorus in Carl Orff's wonderful and monumental *Carmina Burana* in the Anderson Center. (There is no pipe organ involved, but this should be a terrific performance.)

\*On **Sunday, December 6 at 2:00 pm**, Nancy Wildoner will be playing a recital celebrating recent restoration work on the Aeolian Skinner organ (done by our own Richard Hedgebeth) at First Congregational Church, Binghamton. The program includes works of Searle Wright (former organist of the church), J.S. Bach, César Franck and Leroy Anderson.

\***Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 pm**: The Greene Chamber Singers will present a concert of seasonal music at First Congregational Church, 28 N. Chenango Street, Greene. This year the choir will be joined by the Borderline Brass Quintet for *A Winter's Night* by Cecelia McDowall. The concert will also include numbers by Paul Mealor, Will Todd, and John Rutter. The concert is free and open to the public.

Sadly, Nancy's recital and the Greene Singers concert overlap.

Congratulations to Roberta Rowland-Raybold. In Christopher Cook's article, Fallback Position, in the November issue of TAO, page 48, he praises Roberta's new publication *Winter Solstice: Carols for Organ*. Johanna Masters wrote to me to point out the article and to tell me that she now owns the collection and thinks it is "really wonderful". She will be playing several selections from it for Advent and Christmas. Check with Roberta to find out if there is still time to get the collection before Christmas.

Congratulations to Jean Hensler who performed Sigfrid Karg-Elert's Chorale Improvisation on In Dulci Jubilo on each of the two Madrigal Choir's Lessons and Carols performances this past weekend. The 1941 E. M. Skinner pipe organ at the Church of the Holy Trinity was the perfect organ for Jean's sensitive registrations. This impressive work, though beginning quite innocently, ends with a spectacularly triumphant flourish through which Jean was able to show her impressive musical ability. Also she led the audience of over 200 in three seasonal hymns, using specially selected harmonizations and introductions. Her own introduction to We Three Kings was particularly charming. I must also say that the choir performed admirably.

Note that our chapter's end of the year dinner will not be held until the beginning of the New Year (January 3, 5:00 pm at the Spot Restaurant). Don't wait for January's issue of Mixtures. Go ahead and put it on your calendar as long as you already have it out.

Have a wonderful holiday season.

John

## MEMBER RECITALS...

December 6<sup>th</sup> at 2pm: Nancy Wildoner is playing a recital celebrating the recent work on the Aeolian Skinner organ at First Congregational Church, Binghamton, Dec. 6 at 2:00 PM. The program includes works of Searle Wright (former organist of the church), J.S. Bach, César Franck and Leroy Anderson.

## PHOTO GALLERY...



**Mark Laubach Recital**

**Peter Sykes Recital**



## UPCOMING EVENTS...

**Friday, December 4th at 8:00 pm:** Jonathan Biggers will present his annual Holiday celebration “First Friday Organ Concert” at United Presbyterian Church in Binghamton. Organ solos will include Craig Phillips’s *Toccata on Antioch* (Joy to the World). The audience will be invited to sing four Christmas and Advent carols accompanied by special introductions and re-harmonizations as only JB can do! Jonathan will be joined by Timothy Perry (clarinet) and Margaret Reitz (piano), along with a French horn quartet, and two Vocal soloists from the Tri-Cities Opera. Admission will be \$5.00 at the door. This event is always well attended, well received, and should not be missed.

**Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm:** Organ Recital at First Congregational Church in Binghamton – see Member Recital

**Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 pm:** The Greene Chamber Singers will present a concert of seasonal music at First Congregational Church, 28 N. Chenango Street, Greene. This year the choir will be joined by the Borderline Brass Quintet for *A Winter's Night* by Cecelia McDowall. The concert will also include numbers by Paul Mealor, Will Todd, and John Rutter. The concert is free and open to the public.

### **Advent Lessons & Carols:**

#### **Sunday, December 20, 4:00 pm: St. Paul’s Episcopal Church in Owego**

There will be a service of Advent Lessons & Carols at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, in the village of Owego.

Please join us for this beautiful candlelight service marking the 4th Sunday of Advent in preparation for Christmas Day. Music includes Christmas hymns of Michael Praetorius, played by St. Paul's Canterbury Consort of Recorders; Organ Voluntary by Hugo Distler; Choir anthems by Peter Warlock, David Ashley White, John Stainer, Craig Phillips, and Harold Darke; plus plenty of familiar carols.

For more information or for driving directions, please contact Jean Radice, Parish Organist and Choir Director (\*jradice\*at\*Ithaca\*dot\*edu\*). St. Paul’s is handicap-accessible and parking is available on Liberty St. in Owego.

**Sunday, Dec. 20th at 3 pm:** ST. ANDREW'S AND FRIENDS Concert in Endicott. The Concert will feature selections from “Amahl and the Night Visitors” plus Special Music performed by singers and instrumentalists. The Program Director is Craig Johnson. There will be a free will offering.

## FROM OUR NEIGHBORS...

**From The Park Church 208 W. Gray Street Elmira, NY:**

Presents Two Advent Lunch Recitals:

**Thursday December 3, 2015 @ 12:10 PM** Featuring: Charlotte  
Cook, Organist

**Thursday December 17, 2015 @ 12:15 PM** Featuring: The Park  
Church Bell Choir. Following the short concert, a soup and  
Sandwich luncheon will be served in Beecher Hall. Tickets  
available at the door.

## ORGANIST POSITIONS:

Job postings are deleted in the online version of Mixtures

## ORGAN for SALE:

1971 Gress-Miles 14 Rank organ

St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Ithaca is selling a 1971 Gress-Miles 14 rank pipe organ. The instrument is in good condition and will be available after Christmas. Price is Negotiable. Contact Organist Erik Kibblesbeck. 607-725-1334



## CHURCH HUMOR:

**Thank goodness for all of the people in our Churches who put the weekly bulletins together! More of their fingers or mouths getting carried away...**

“Please place your donation in the envelope along with the deceased person you want remembered.”

“The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hostility.”

“Pot-luck supper Sunday at 5:00 PM — prayer and medication to follow.”

“The ladies of the Church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.”

“This evening at 7 PM there will be a hymn singing in the park across from the Church. Bring a blanket and come prepared to sin.”

“The pastor would appreciate it if the ladies of the Congregation would lend him their electric girdles for the pancake breakfast next Sunday.”

“Low Self Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7 PM. Please use the back door.”

“The eighth-graders will be presenting Shakespeare’s Hamlet in the Church basement Friday at 7 PM. The congregation is invited to attend this tragedy.”

“Weight Watchers will meet at 7 PM at the First Presbyterian Church. Please use large double doors at the side entrance.”

“And this one about sums them all up . . . . .

“The Associate Minister unveiled the Church’s new campaign slogan last Sunday: ‘I Upped My Pledge - Up Yours.’ “



# 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.

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