OMAHA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

Tip of the Month

Dr. Peter Latona Recital

> Dates to Remember

Pedaling Around Omaha

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

From the Dean

Tip of the Month 2

2017 Season Research Project 3

Dr. Peter Latona 4.
Recital/Workshop

Dr. Peter Latona Bio Pedaling Around

Omaha

Meet Dana Sloan 6
Board Member
Committee Chairs



The Windchest

JANUARY 2017

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From the Dean...

Happy New Year! The once-a-year opportunity for listing of New Year's resolutions. Yes, most of us create a list of New Year's resolutions, seriously planning to implement them and keep them throughout the New Year. Our intentions are good, we have successful beginnings, then...?

The Dean's Column for January 2017 offers a suggested list of New Year's Resolutions for 2017, mot of which many members implemented as earlier New Year's resolutions that are already habit.

- 1. Read *Psalmody* daily. Study the Scriptures.
- 2. Learn one new composition or arrangement for each service you play or direct.
- 3. Professional reading:
 - The American Organist articles
 - Windchest articles
 - Music journals, articles, resources published by church related organizations.
 - Selected books.
 - Church news in the "Living Section" of the *Omaha World-Herald* Sunday edition.
- 4. Collaborate with other organists, choral directors, and programs.
- 5. Attend a Regional AGO convention in 2017.
- 6. Participate in and support chapter events, seminars and workshops.
- 7. Support and encourage community-wide music events and programs.
- 8. Send all music information for service folders and newsletters to secretary on schedule.
- 9. Invite your clergy and secretary to lunch.
- 10. Encourage weekly staff meetings with positive input, responses, and suggestions.
- 11. Facilitate expansion of your church's music program.
- 12. Offer to give organ lessons to one or more potential organists.
- 13. Recruit one (or more) new members for AGO.
- 14. Organize your music library.
- 15. Browse organ and sacred choral music displays in local and area music stores.
- 16. Commission a new organ or choral work.
- 17. Offer positive comments to choir members, cantors, instrumentalists and clergy.

Happy New Year!

Dr. Christensen, Dean



Tip of the Month



Augsburg Organ Library

Hymn Inventions



Hymn Prelude Library

Hymn Voluntaries for the Church Year



January Tip of the Month

Organists are continuously challenged locating appropriate music for specific Sundays and Feast Days of the liturgical year that is accessible and can be well prepared for the relevant service. At times, a considerable lot of research is required to locate suggested titles and arrangements. Unless the organist's library is well catalogued or indexed, research is time consuming.

One time saver is assembling a library that includes volumes published on the liturgical year, listing options by the seasons of the church year, such as Advent, Christmas, etc. The "Tip-of-the-Month" for January is small list of current resources that are of time-saving value in locating music appropriate for seasons in the church year.

• Aamodt-Nelson, Norma, et al, eds. AUGSBURG ORGAN LIBRARY. Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress: 2000-2014.

This is a formidable twelve-volume resource. Each volume includes about 30-36 titles, listed alphabetically by hymn-tune. Included with each tune title is the title of the modern hymn text and the composer/arranger, all late 20^{th} and 21^{st} century composers. Multiple entries are available under some titles. Beautifully edited, published on quality paper in a horizontal format.

The first five volumes are titled: ADVENT; CHRISMAS; EPIPHANY; LENT; EASTER. Three are titled by service: BAPTISM and COMMUNION; HEALING and FUNERAL; MARRIAGE. Three are by calendar season: SUMMER; AUTUMN; NOVEMBER.

Most of the music requires quality preparation time. Each volume sells for about \$50.00. The entire set can be purchased with a sizable discount. A good supplement to HYMN PRELUDE LIBRARY, listed as No. 5 below.

- Eatherton, Sam. HYMN INVENTIONS; 9 Chorale Preludes for the Church Year.
 Vols. 1, 2. St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House. 2008. Indexed by hymn tune and modern text title. Nine titles in each volume, including some liturgical year titles and special service titles.
- Gerike, Henry, ed. SONG OF THE GOSPEL, Vols. 1, 2. St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House. 2006. Indexed by tune and modern hymn titles. Volume I is based on 30 hymn tunes and texts by Martin Luther; vol. 2 is based on hymn contributions of Paul Gerhardt. Well edited on quality paper. Historic and current composers/arrangers. Some accessible; some challenging.
- Hegberg, Susan, ed. ORGAN LITERATURE FOR THE CHURCH YEAR. Belwin Mills: 1986. Eighteen entries represent about 12 classical composers. Format follows the liturgical year from Advent-Reformation.
- Hildebrand, Kevin, ed. HYMN PRELUDE LIBRARY. Missouri: St. Louis. Concordia Publishing House. 2012-continuing. This series relates to *LUTHERAN SERVICE BOOK:* 644⁰ the current hymnal of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. The series includes a chorale prelude of each hymn in the hymnal, published alphabetically by hymn-tune title. Eight volumes representing hymn tunes through the letter "S" are available. Each volume is available by subscription or purchase when published. Accessible arrangements by current composers. Is a good companion to the AUGSBURG ORGAN LIBRARY, listed above as No. 1. Well edited and bound on quality paper: \$50.00 per volume.
- McCabe, Michael. HYMN VOLUNTARIES FOR THE CHURCH YEAR. Ohio, Dayton: The Sacred Music Press; 2009. Six titles listed by modern text titles, followed by classic tune title. Well edited, published on quality paper. Accessible, well-composed, attractive arrangements. Some challenges.
- Powell, Robert J. NINE SERVICE PIECES FOR THE CHURCH YEAR. Pennsylvania, Shawnee Press, Inc. 1992. Advent-Holy Trinity; three general titles.
- Wyton, Alec, ed. CHORAL PRELUDES for the CHURCH YEAR from MAX REGER, Opus 67. New York: Carl Fisher. Eighteen titles representing Advent- Holy Trinity. Challenging.
- Stearns, Peter Pindar. SEVEN SEASONAL REFLECTIONS. Pennsylvania: Shawnee Press, Inc. One each for Advent-Pentecost. Challenging.

JANUARY 2017 PAGE 3

2016-2017 AGO Season

PETER LATONA, ORGAN RECITAL/ WORKSHOP FRIDAY AND SATURDAY, JANUARY 20 – 21 RECITAL FRIDAY, JANUARY 20, at 7:30 p.m.

Saint Cecilia Cathedral 701 North 40th Street, Omaha

WORKHOP, SATURDAY JANUARY 21, at 9:00 am- noon Mid-Winter Church Music Workshop

Saint Cecilia Institute, Msgr. Graham Building, Room 201 3900 Webster Street, Omaha Co-sponsors are Cathedral Arts Project and the Archdiocese of Omaha Host: Marie Rubis Bauer

YOUNG ORGANISTS RECITAL SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18th at 2:00 p.m.

Morning Star Lutheran Church 331 S 85th Ave, Omaha Host: Bev McCollum.

CHURCH MUSIC) GIRLS' CHOIR CAMP MONDAY, MARCH 6, at 6:30 p.m.

With Robin Arcus, producer and director
The Cathedral Cultural Center
O'Donnell Lecture Hall
3900 Webster Street, Omaha
Members and Guests invited to this choral program
Host: Marie Rubis Bauer

THE ORGAN IN JEWISH REFORMED WORSHIP. Intro to Tri-faith Initiative MONDAY, APRIL 24, at 6:30 p.m. With Wendy Shermet, Cantor, presenter

Temple Israel 13111 Sterling Ridge Drive, Omaha Host: Julie Sandene

CLOSING DINNER and MEMBER CERTIFICATION PARTICIPANTS/ RECITAL MONDAY, MAY 22, at 6:00

Dundee Presbyterian Church 5312 Underwood Avenue, Omaha Hosts: Dr. Wayne Kalstrom J. Gordon Christensen



SACRED SOUND - A documentary about RSCM (ROYAL SCHOOL OF

Research Project To Be Conducted in 2017

A research project scheduled for early 2017 will be requesting participation from Omaha AGO members. Chapter member Jodi Korth will be conducting a program evaluation entitled "The Value of Professional Music Organizations: An evaluation of the Omaha Chapter of the American Guild of Organists," for a capstone project in culmination of her Master of Public Administration (MPA) through the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO). Jodi is the Director of Organ & Choral Music at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Gretna and was featured in an interview in the November edition of *Windchest*. In the beginning months of the year, members will be contacted through an online survey asking for their feedback on several areas related to their participation in the Omaha AGO. Specifically, the evaluation will explore how the Omaha AGO positively enhances the professional lives of its members and their profession in the areas of professional certifications, performance opportunities, and community value. More details, along with a formal request for survey participation will be shared in the coming months. Thank you in advance for your support of this project!



DR. PETER LATONA





REMINDER! MARK YOUR CALENDARS

RECITAL. FRIDAY, JANUARY 20 at 7:30

Peter Latona, organist at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington D. C. will present an organ recital at Saint Cecilia Cathedral on Friday, January 20 at 7:30 p.m.

WORKSHOP. SATURDAY, JANUARY 21 at 9:30-noon.

The two-part workshop session will focus on:

- (1) what makes for appropriate Liturgical Music and
- (2) making liturgical music, including improvisation.

The following morning, January 21, Dr. Latona will present the chapter's Mid-Winter workshop from 9:00 a.m. –noon in the Graham Building, Room 201, 3900 Webster Street, Omaha.

DR. PETER LATONA



Peter Latona (b. 1968) is the Music Director for the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception (Washington, D.C.), the pre-eminent Marian shrine of the Roman Catholic Church in the United States. Recognized as a conductor, composer, organist, improviser and teacher, he is dedicated to providing the highest standard in sacred music within the context of the Roman Catholic Liturgy.

An award-winning organist, Dr. Latona has performed throughout the United States, Europe and the Holy Land, has presented workshops on improvisation, and has released a recording, *An Organ Pilgrimage*, on the Raven label, featuring all four pipe organs at the Basilica. In 2012 he performed to an audience of one thousand having been invited as a featured artist for the *Festspiele Europaische Wochen* in Passau, Germany. As the conductor of the Choir of the Basilica, he released numerous recordings of sacred choral music, presented concerts in the United States and abroad, performed nationally for the

American Guild of Organists, National Pastoral Musicians Association, Conference of Roman Catholic Cathedrals, Church Music Association of America and internationally as a featured conductor in the *Festival Internazionale di Musica e Arte Sacra*. Among the recently completed recording projects is *Tu es Petrus: A Papal Tribute in Music* which commemorates the Papacy of Pope Benedict XVI and celebrates the Petrine ministry of Pope Francis and *Te Deum: The Sacred Music of Peter Latona* which was commissioned by the Knights of Columbus and features many of the works composed by Dr. Latona for the National Shrine. Active as a composer, Dr. Latona is published by Morningstar Music Publishers as well as Canticanova Publications, and G.I.A. His music has been featured in various media productions including Fr. Barron's well-known series *Catholicism*. He has received commissions from the Knights of Columbus, Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, the Diocese of Helena, as well as by the Archdioceses of Washington, New York and Philadelphia. His music was performed during the Apostolic visit of His Holiness Benedict XVI to the United States in 2008 and in each city visited by Pope Francis during his 2015 Apostolic visit to the United States. In recognition of this, Dr. Latona was awarded the *Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice* medal by Pope Francis. Dr. Latona also serves on the composition faculty of The Catholic University of America Benjamin T. Rome School of Music. Dr. Latona is a graduate of Bucknell University (B. Mus.), the Yale School of Music (M. Mus.), and the Manhattan School of Music (D.M.A.).

Pedaling around Omaha

TO BE ANNOUNCED BY OMAHA AGO

February 19 - Hymn Festival, David Schack, Sinai Lutheran Church, Fremont

March 19 - All-Bach Organ Recital, Marie Rubis Bauer, St, Cecilia Cathedral, Omaha





Sinai Lutheran Church announces the following dedicatory events for the new Juget-Sinclair organ, Op. 46:

- Hymn festival with David Schack and Paul Westermeyer, February 19
 - Recital, Michael Bauer, April 30
- All events are at 3:00 p.m. Sinai Lutheran Church is located at 950 E. 8th St. in Fremont.

Meet AGO Member Dana Sloan







AGO Board Members

Committee Chairs



Dana Sloan moved to Omaha in 1974 to become the first, full-time Minister of Music of the Presbyterian Church of the Cross. He retired from this position in 2014 after a 40 year tenure, the longest serving staff member in history of the church. He continues as Organist of the Church and Artistic Director of Vesper Concerts.

Mr. Sloan attended the University of North Carolina and holds degrees in music from The Ohio State University and the University of Illinois-Champaign/Urbana. Among his teachers were Wilbur Held, Gordon Wilson and Jerald Hamilton.

The music program at the church grew under his direction to include 2 adult choirs, a Youth choir, 2 children's choirs, 2 handbell choirs, quartets of both men's and women's singers and a large brass ensemble. These ensembles perform a wide variety of choral music in worship services on a regular basis. The larger of the 2 adult choirs sings at least twice a year with professional orchestral accompaniment. Other ensembles perform with instrumental accompaniment as the occasion demands.

The church is home to Vesper Concerts which he began in 1988 to celebrate the dedication of the church's McFarland-Beaudry organ, an instrument which was built originally by the Boston-area builder George Hutchings in 1895. This 2 manual, 31 stop,39 rank tracker organ is unique to the Omaha area. In the 29 year history of the Vesper Concerts (originally the Organ Vesper Series), a great variety of music has been performed by a large number of musicians, local, national and international. Several times the Series has been honored by mention in the Omaha World Herald as "Top 10" or "Honorable Mention Top 10" musical events of the season.

Mr. Sloan is active as a keyboard player and conductor. His repertoire of choral works and choral works with orchestra is extensive ranging from Bernstein's Chichester Psalms to Mozart's Requiem. In addition to his work in the weekly service playing, Dana has a wide repertoire of solo and ensemble music for organ, harpsichord and piano.

He would count among highlights of his career, performing as a harpsichord and organ soloist and ensemble musician with the Omaha Symphony and Omaha Symphony Chamber Orchestra. His travels have taken him across America and Europe. He would count among highlight during these travels playing exerpts of Widor's 5th Symphony (no, not the Toccata) at the church of St. Sulpice, playing Couperin at St. Gervais and Durufle and Poulenc at the Church of St. Etienne du Mont, all in Paris. He also played Handel at the church of St. Bavo in Haarlem, Holland. In this country, while on sabbatical, he had the opportunity to play many famous instruments in New York City, most notably at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine.

Dana is the father of two adult children, Ryan, an intensive care nurse in an Indianapolis hospital and Ashley, a special education teacher in Papillion. His two granddaughters live in Papillion.

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Secretary: Gregory Johnson Treasurer: Gina Simpson

Immediate Past Dean: David Schack

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