

January 2018

The American Guild of Organists

San Francisco Chapter Newsletter

Dean's Column

by William Vaughan

Happy New Year!

"What is your New Year's resolution," people always ask. I ask you the same question this New Year. My reply has always been that I do not have a specific resolution. Each year I try to be a better person, a nicer person, a more patient person, a more spiritual person.

Here is a New Year's prayer for us, (adapted from a prayer written by Deborah Meister in Living Faith).

Letting Go, Going Forward

We stand on the threshold of a new calendar year. Before taking a step into tomorrow, let's remember to bless this past year for all of our experiences – all we found and all we lost. The change we see tomorrow will only be the date on the calendar unless we let go of what weighs us down today. When peace controls our hearts, there is no room for regret, grudges or ill will. The Body has one heart, and it speaks with love, embraces God's creation including self. When I have difficulty accepting and forgiving someone, I pray, "Loving God, bless _____, who challenges me the most, and change me." I am grateful for God's patience and grace in hearing this repeated prayer. Let go of anything weighing you down and step across the threshold of this New Year with open arms.

Then, too, at the start of each New Year, we look back and reminisce over the many gifts we received throughout 2017. I am most grateful for so many gifts this past year. It continues to be a delight serving you as dean of the chapter. I get to interact with so many of you on a regular basis. We have had some wonderful chapter events this season. Our November event, the Master-less Class at St Luke's in San Francisco, was a treat. I thank Burt Weaver for talking about the history of the organ. I also thank Jim Aylward, Jason Jia, Michael Page and Chase O'Connor Olson for their inspiring playing. Afterwards, we had a pizza lunch in the hall. We had such great fellowship at this event. We also looked through the organ library of Newton Pashley. I took a few of his scores. I did not really need them, because I can get them all on line, but I wanted these old tattered scores that I know Newton used those many years at the Legion of Honor. I thank Steve

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January Concert at Grace

Sunday, January 28, 4:00 p.m.

Reception to follow



Members' Recital

from Eric Choate

On Saturday November 18th, four of our chapter members performed for a "Master-less Class," an event we've now had for two consecutive years at St Luke's Episcopal Church. Before any notes were played, we began the event by hearing remarks from Burt Weaver, who was the music director at St Luke's who oversaw the installation of their magnificent Aeolian-Skinner op. 1350. Burt spoke about the history of the instrument and the parish. Following Burt's remarks, we heard performances from James Aylward, Jason Jia, Chase Olson, and Michael Page. The versatile organ featured works by composers including Bach, Reger, Darke, Pachelbel, and Aylward, and those in attendance were invited to share constructive feedback after each performer. Following the masterless class, we shared a pizza lunch together. The Guild extends their thanks to Steve Repasky and St Luke's Episcopal church for hosting this wonderful event.

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Submission deadline for the February issue is January 10

San Francisco Chapter of the American Guild of Organists
2017–2018 Program Year

Sunday, September 24

St Mary the Virgin Church, San Francisco

~ Opening Event ~

4:15 – Evensong and
Installation of Officers,
5:00 – Catered Dinner (\$35)

Saturday, October 28

St Mark's Lutheran Church, San Francisco

~ Luther's 500-year Celebration ~

10:00 – Rehearsal for choir
11:30 – Lunch
12:15 – Rehearsal with instruments
1:00 – Hymn Festival
2:30–6 – Oktoberfest

Saturday, November 18

St Luke's Episcopal Church, San Francisco

~ Masterless Class ~

10:30 – Members play for one another
12:00 – Lunch (\$15)

Sunday, January 28, 2018

Grace Cathedral, San Francisco

~ Jonathan Ryan ~

4:00 – Organ Recital
Reception to follow

Monday, February 19

St Mark's Episcopal Church, Berkeley

~ Presidents' Day Workshop ~

10:00 – Choral Reading Session:
Sacred works by Bay Area composers,
and Organ Music sale
12:00 – lunch (\$15)

Saturday, March 3

First Presbyterian Church, Oakland

~ Improvisation Masterclass ~

10:00 – Masterclass with
Jonathan Dimmock
and John Karl Hirten
12:00 – Lunch (\$15)

Wednesday, April 18

St Mary's Cathedral, San Francisco

~ Katelyn Emerson ~

7:00 – Organ Recital
Reception to follow

Sunday, May 20

St Stephen's Church, Belvedere

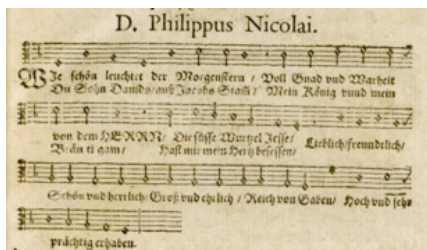
~ Concert and Annual Dinner ~

4:00 – Young Organists and
Dominic Pang (competition winner)
5:00 – Annual Dinner (\$35)

Steve's Corner

by Steve Repasky

Three pieces for Epiphany:



Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern, BuxWV 223 by Dietrich Buxtehude. Various editions available on IMSLP.

Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern, no. 29 in 30 Kleine Choralvorspiele, op. 135a by Max Reger. Available on IMSLP in various editions.

How Brightly Shines the Morning Star by Otto Olsson. Available in the Standard Series of Organ Compositions, no. 31, ed. by

Robert Leech Bedell or no. 2 in Olsson's "Tolv orgelstycken över Karalmotiv," op. 36.

The Epiphany hymn, "How Brightly Shines the Morning Star," appears in many contemporary hymnals. The Buxtehude setting is multi-sectional and may be played in its entirety or broken up for a shorter postlude. Let your congregation jig down the aisles in the jaunty 12/8 ending. If your congregation does not know this hymn, it is ideal for a small choir. There is a small echo section that lends interest which may be done in choir dialogue format.

In contrast to Reger's large-scale choral fantasy on this hymn tune, the one-page setting found in his 30 small chorale preludes is a charming and lighter composition.

My favorite treatment of this hymn tune in a Brahmsian style is by the Swedish composer, Otto Olsson. It is well worth the effort of tracking down a copy of this piece either via Inter-Library Loan for the Bedell edition or ordering his 12 organ pieces on chorale tunes, op. 36 through SheetMusicPlus.com.

San Francisco AGO Chapter Recital Series Donors

The San Francisco Chapter of the American Guild of Organists thanks the following people for their support of the 2017–2018 Recital Series.

Bombarde (\$1000+)

Contra Costa Performing
Arts Society Organ
Workshop

Tuba Mirabilis (\$500-\$999)

Trompette en Chamade (\$250-\$499)

John Agraz
Patricia During
Jonathan Dimmock and
George Emblom
Thomas Flesher
Father Robert Rien
Jason M. Surles
Arthur West
Timothy Zerlang

Clarion (\$100-\$249)

Claramae J. Co
Charles Corum
Gregory De Santis
Douglas Franks
Jud Hammon
John Karl Hirten
James Martin
Lilyane Moulton
Natsuko Murayama
Chris Nichols
Helen Pereira
Ann Sorenson
Christoph Tietze
William Vaughan
Robert Walker

Hautbois (\$50-\$99)

Angela Kraft Cross
Richard Ditewig
Elizabeth Forsyth
David Howitt
Stephen Luzmoor
W. Wayne Ritchie
Stewart Scharch
William Visscher

Krummhorn (\$25-\$49)

Eugene Albright
Simon Charles Berry
Alan Black
Robert H. Douglass
Steven C. Gray
Lois Nelson
Terry O'Connor
Marian E. Ott
Elisabeth Vache Pintar
Eric Stevens

Vox Humana (\$1-\$24)

Gail Burnett
Patricia Harre
Vlada Volkova-Moran

Thank you very much for your donations!
There is still plenty of time to send in a tax-deductible gift.

Dean's Column, *from front page*

Repasky and the parishioners of St Luke's for opening their doors to us.

Because our Special Projects Committee gave some money to Orgelkids, Erin Scheessele, who oversees Orgelkids USA, sent



the kit to me to use for a week here at Assumption school. This was the week of Thanksgiving. There wasn't enough time to advertise this occurrence in the November newsletter though. The following pictures show how the children just loved putting the organ together, playing AND pumping it, and taking it apart. The smiles on the children's faces say it all.

The first time I put it together, I started with two students. It took us one hour to assemble it. When these two students took it apart, it took ½ hour. Those two students then helped the next two students put it together. It only took ½ hour to assemble it. Once I knew the ins and outs of the kit, it was very easy to assemble. Later, I had six children putting it together. I thought that was too many. They got in each other's way.

In the end, the children were fascinated with the various parts,



which are all made of very durable wood. The kit also comes with a pipe which has a moveable stopper so the children can see how to tune an organ. If you ever would like to have the kit sent to you on loan, just let me know.

I realize I am always writing about the children I teach here at Assumption school, but they are tangible examples for me, and hopefully for you, as how music can influence a child's life.

On December 12, we had our annual Christmas concert at Assumption School. I held it in the church even though most of the music the students sang was secular. (They learn so much sacred music for various Masses, that I feel they need to experience other music.) The children sang to a packed house. We had each grade, K-8, sing an anthem or two, plus the parish children's choir, plus an off-shoot choir from 5th grade.

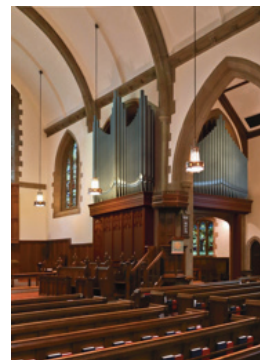
Many students in each grade are progressing so quickly that many students wish to form a choir within their class. That has happened in 8th Grade and now 5th Grade, (4th and 6th Grades wish to do the same).

This 5th Grade choir has 9 students who have really excelled in music. At the end of November, I gave them a 4-part a cappella

Schoenstein to Boston

from Jack Bethards

Under construction at Schoenstein & Co. is a three-manual, 25-voice, 31 rank organ for Church of the Redeemer, Chestnut Hill, a suburb of Boston and former home of E.M. Skinner. The organ is designed strictly for the Anglican service with a wealth of Diapason tone and English-style reeds topped by an unenclosed Tuba. An unusual feature is the 32' Open Wood to low F located at the West End of the nave. The organ façade was designed to blend rather than compete with the elegant architecture of renowned architect, Henry Vaughan. Installation will be mid-year 2018. The Rector of Church of the Redeemer is the Rev. Michael B. Dangelo. The Director of Music is Michael S. Murray.



Editor's note: For work progress on this instrument, see: <https://schoensteinop172.wordpress.com/>

piece to learn on their own. We practiced during recess and lunch a few times a week, and they sang it from memory perfectly at the concert. I gave them a pitch then I sat down and enjoyed their music.

We also sang two sacred pieces. One was John Rutter's arrangement of "I Saw Three Ships," sung by 8th Grade, SSATB. Since it was the first night of Hanukkah, the other piece was "Hanukkah Shalom," sung by the whole school. I feel it is very necessary for the children to learn about other religions through music.

Children frequently have come to me with suggestions for their class to sing. I always say it has to be a piece of "real" choral music. They are learning what that means in an age where the music they listen to is a solo voice with a background track.

These experiences that I have spoken about in this article empower me to keep on teaching our youth the joys of choral music. We need a literate future for our church choirs.

On December 14, I was able to attend the Christmas concert by the Mormon Tabernacle Choir in the Conference Center in Salt Lake City. Oh, wow what an incredible production it was! Richard Elliott's playing of the choral arrangement of Widor's *Toccata* and *I Saw Three Ships* brought down the house. I was impressed when we, the audience, all 21,000 of us, joined in the singing of "Jingle Bells." We all stayed in rhythm. It was truly an amazing concert on a very, very cold evening. I am blessed to live in sunny California.

Wishing you a very Happy New Year!

Classified Ads

Collected by David Howitt

This information is provided as a service to SFAGO members and the employing institutions. Inclusion of information in this column does not imply endorsement by the SFAGO. Send **Job Referrals** items, **Substitutes Available** notices, and **For Sale** items to: dhowitt@sjbalameda.org. Deadline for the **February** issue is **January 10**. Online listings available at: www.sfago.org/jobs/

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

EAST BAY - BAYSIDE

PART-TIME CHOIR DIRECTOR/ACCOMPANIST – St Leo the Great Parish, Oakland St Leo the Great is seeking a qualified individual as a part-time Choir Director/Accompanist. The Choir Director will coordinate the choir and music selections and lead the choir and congregation for the 11:00AM Sunday Liturgy and other principal liturgies of the year (Christmas, Holy Week, Holy Days, twice yearly Penance Services, etc.). This will include the following:

- research, planning, rehearsal and performance
- direct the choir and congregations for principal parish liturgies
- cultivate and develop musical talent in the parish
- oversee the maintenance of music library and supplies

The Choir Director works collegially with the parish staff, the choir and with other resource people in the development of music for parish worship at the principal liturgies. **The position of Choir Director** requires a background in music performance, keyboard accompaniment, solo singing and congregational and choir direction. Knowledge of the Roman Catholic liturgy and of resources in liturgical music is essential. **The Position of Accompanist** requires knowledge of the Roman Catholic liturgy and proficiency on both piano and organ. Also required is the ability to work cooperatively with staff and parishioners. The disposition to work pleasantly with people and to encourage their faith through participation in the liturgies of a parish community are very important. This is a part-time position and does not include benefits. Interested applicants should send a letter of intent along with a resume to Fr. Joseph Nguyen, at frjnguyenstleo@gmail.com

SUBSTITUTES:

If you would be interested in having your name and telephone number on the website under 'Substitutes,' email me at billyv32@gmail.com. It would be open to anyone who would go to the website. The Board advised me to just have the telephone number, and not an email address because of scammers.

PENINSULA

ORGANIST/PIANIST/ACCOMPANIST - Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 149 Manzanita Ave., San Carlos 94070. Position is 3-5 hours per week. One Sunday service, 10:15 am followed by a choir rehearsal from 11:30-12:30. Additional services during the Lent, Holy Week, Easter, Thanksgiving Eve, Advent and Christmas seasons. There is a detailed job description on the church website. www.sancarloshtlc.org. If interested please email your resume to office@sancarloshtlc.org

FOR SALE / FREE

Andover organ, manufactured 1976, single manual, 6 stops (2 x 8, 2 x 4, 2 x 2) to be auctioned in January, 2018.; if interested, contact Margie Williams, margiew@sfsu.edu or (415) 338-6133. Information regarding viewing the organ if you are interested in bidding. The auction website is at <https://www.publicsurplus.com/sms/auction/view?auc=1977421>

FREE: First Unitarian of Oakland needs to give away their **1947 Austin organ** ASAP. It is already dismantled, crated and ready to pick up. Contact Eric Howe at howe@hnu.edu.

WANTED

WANTED: Grand piano with full sostenuto (middle pedal). Harold Pavelis 925-825-8259.

TEACHERS:

If you would be interested in having your name and telephone number on the website under 'Teachers,' email me at billyv32@gmail.com. It would be open to anyone who would go to the website. The Board advised me to just have the telephone number, and not an email address because of scammers.

SFAGO Newsletter is published monthly, August thru May, with a Summer issue for June/July, by the San Francisco Chapter, American Guild of Organists. Opinions stated herein are those of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect official policies of this Chapter. The deadline for receipt of all newsletter items is the 10th of the month preceding publication.

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all submissions due by 10th of the month preceding publication

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2017-2018
Last updated 08/13/2017

Bay Area Concert Calendar

Collected by Brian Swager

2018 January

Events, dates, times, and locations are subject to change without notice. Compiled from flyers, press releases, and listings submitted by members and organizations. SFAGO is not responsible for errors, although every effort is made to be accurate. Submission deadline for the **February** issue is **January 10**. Send event listings to sfagocal@gmail.com. For the most up-to-date calendar, visit www.sfago.org, click on **SFAGO Bay Area Concert Calendar**.

Recurring Venues

Churches and institutions offering programs on a regular basis have been assigned abbreviations so as to save space in our listings. Abbreviations are listed below with the full name of the venue. When no city is stated, San Francisco is assumed.

CCL-O: Cath. of Christ the Light, Oakland
CSMA: Cath. of St Mary of the Assumption
FPC-O: First Presbyterian Ch, Oakland
GC: Grace Cathedral
SME-B: St Mark's Episcopal Ch, Berkeley
SPE-BU: St Paul's Episcopal Ch, Burlingame

2018 January

7 Sunday

4pm. Epiphany Lessons and Carols. Cathedral Choir School and Golden Gate Boyschoir & Bellringers. Free parking. Freewill offering. CSMA

5pm. Epiphany Lessons & Carols. Cathedral Choir of Men & Boys; Rudy de Vos, Director. CCL-O

14 Sunday

4pm. David Troiano, Organ; Jeffrey Lewandowski, Trumpet. Free parking. Freewill offering. CSMA

6:10pm. Frederick Jodry, Organ. Preceded by Evensong at 5:30. Reception follows. SME-B

21 Sunday

4pm. David Hatt, Organ. Local premiere of Joerg Abbing's transcription of Max Reger's *Mozart Variations*, Op. 132. Free parking. Freewill offering. CSMA

27 Saturday

5pm. Choral Evensong for St Paul. Susan Jane Matthews, Director. Music of Baynon, Rütli, and Stanford. Freewill donation. Reception. SPE-BU

28 Sunday

4pm. SFAGO CHAPTER EVENT. Jonathan Ryan, Organ. Reception follows. CG



Looking Ahead

February

4 Sunday

4pm. Friedrich Edelmann, Bassoon; Rebecca Rust, Cello. Free parking. Freewill offering. CSMA

11 Sunday

4pm. Gail Archer, Organ. Free parking. Freewill offering. CSMA

6:10pm. Rani Fischer, Organ. Preceded by Evensong at 5:30. Reception follows. SME-B

19 Monday

10am. SFAGO CHAPTER EVENT Presidents' Day Workshop. SME-B

25 Sunday

4pm. Frederick Burgomaster, Organ. Free parking. Freewill offering. CSMA

March

3 Saturday

10am. SFAGO CHAPTER EVENT Improvisation Masterclass with Jonathan Dimmock and John Karl Hirten. FPC-O

4pm. Choir School Concert. Susan Jane Matthews, Director. *Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day*. Music of John Rutter. Freewill donation. Reception. SPE-BU

4 Sunday

4pm. Jillian Gardner, Organ. Free parking. Freewill offering. CSMA

11 Sunday

4pm. Holes in the Floor Cello Quartet. Free parking. Freewill offering. CSMA

6:10pm. Christopher Keady, Organ. Preceded by Evensong at 5:30. Reception follows. SME-B

18 Sunday

4pm. Angela Kraft Cross, Organ. Celebrating Bach's 333rd Birthday. Free parking. Freewill offering. CSMA

25 Sunday

4pm. Philip Manwell, Organ. Free parking. Freewill offering. CSMA

April

8 Sunday

3pm. Paul Jacobs, Organ. Tickets \$28-\$38. sfsymphony.org Davies Symphony Hall

6:10pm. Adrian Gunning, Organ. Preceded by Evensong at 5:30. Reception follows. SME-B

18 Wednesday

7pm. SFAGO CHAPTER EVENT Katelyn Emerson, Organ. Reception follows. CSMA

May

12 Saturday

5pm. Choral Evensong for Ascension. Susan Jane Matthews, Director. Music of Rheinberger and Howells. Tickets for choir celebration dinner. SPE-BU

13 Sunday

6:10pm. Brendan Conner, Organ. Preceded by Evensong at 5:30. Reception follows. SME-B

20 Sunday

4pm. SFAGO CHAPTER EVENT Concert and Annual Dinner. St Stephen's Church, Belvedere

27 Sunday

3pm. Felix Hell, Organ. Tickets \$28-\$38. sfsymphony.org Davies Symphony Hall

June

10 Sunday

6:10pm. Rudy de Vos, Organ. Preceded by Evensong at 5:30. Reception follows. SME-B

