

American Guild of Organists

November 2014

November 2014



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Gloria Snyder (2015)
Gail Hanzl (2016)
Judith Love (2016)
Thomas Busteed (2017)
Matthew Wary (2017)

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Dean's Mixtures

There's a pattern to the Dean's Mixtures columns: start off with something about the time of year (in the church, or in nature), or about the weather, then talk about the recently completed program, then pump up the next program.

This one will be exceptional in only one way: I've never written that introductory paragraph before!

So on to talking about our last program, which was graciously presented by Stephen Williams. He led us through some segments of the DVDs "The Genius of Cavaille-Coll." We looked at and listened to segments demonstrating Cavaille-Coll organs of various sizes and from various stages in his career. It was like a wonderful little organ crawl, and all without leaving the Allen Organ Company showroom. Our host there was Aram Basmadjian. Thanks to both Aram and Stephen for a job well done!

Continued on page 2



November Meeting

Friday, November 7, 2014
7:30 pm

Christine Clewell, organ

Assistant Professor of Organ and Keyboard
at Indiana University of Pennsylvania

American music in honor of Veteran's Day

Works by William Bolcom, John Knowles Paine
Dan Locklair, Emma Lou Diemer, Larry Visser

St. John's Lutheran Church
32 South Fifth Street, Allentown

Dean's Mixtures

Continued from page 1

Now on to November, when we will present Allentown native Christine Clewell in recital at St. John's Lutheran Church in Allentown. The program is on Friday, November 7, beginning at 7:30 p.m. Because the program is close to Veteran's Day, Christine will be focusing on American organ music. Her program will include works by William Bolcom, John Knowles Paine, Dan Locklair, Emma Lou Diemer, Larry Visser, and maybe some Charles Ives. You will hear some very familiar things, some "different" treatments of very familiar things, and some new things!

Christine is Assistant Professor of Organ at the Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP). There is a biography of her later in this newsletter. Please take a look at it, and then come to the recital on November 7 – and bring along a few people; veterans will especially enjoy the concert!

Michael Krentz
Dean

Christine Clewell

Christine Clewell is Assistant Professor of Organ at the Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP) where she teaches organ, piano and applied theory skills. Dr. Clewell serves as the music department's keyboard area coordinator and is the faculty advisor to the Carol Teti Memorial Organ Scholarship Committee (CTMOSC), a non-profit organization that raises scholarship money to attract students to study organ at IUP and partially underwrite their tuition. Dr. Clewell was awarded degrees from Susquehanna University and IUP. As a recipient of a Rackham Minority Fellowship, she earned her doctoral degree from the University of Michigan. In addition to teaching, she is Adjunct Organist at Zion Lutheran Church in Indiana, PA. As an active church musician and recitalist, her experience is extensive, having served in several positions throughout the United States of America. Recital venues include Heinz Memorial Chapel (Pittsburgh) and The Kotschmar Organ Series (Portland, ME), and the



Washington National Cathedral. Dr. Clewell is a member of the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians, Organ Historical Society, and the American Guild of Organists Pittsburgh Chapter, serving in these capacities: the Executive Committee, its competition coordinator, and a member of the Pittsburgh Organ Academy. She is also a dual member of the LVAGO. In April 2013, Dr. Clewell's written proposal was selected by the American Guild of Organists to house a high quality organ at IUP for educational and performance purposes. The two manual, mechanical action instrument was built by R. J. Brunner & Co. of Silver Spring, Pennsylvania. It was commissioned to be built for the private home of Ronald G. Pogorzelski and Lester D. Yankee formerly of Bucks County, Pennsylvania. The organ was bequeathed to the Guild in 2010. Christine is honored and delighted to be a guest of the Lehigh Valley Chapter of the AGO.

Meet Our Members: Brian C. Snyder

Brian C. Snyder was born in Bethlehem and grew up in Nazareth. He attended Nazareth High School where he participated in all choral groups, largely as an accompanist. He also participated in District, Regional and State Chorus both as a singer and accompanist. In 5th grade he began piano lessons and in 8th grade organ lessons from Floyd Schlegel. He has been playing in churches professionally since age 18.

After growing up in Nazareth, Brian lived in Easton, Allentown, Tamaqua, Hamburg and is now back in Allentown since 2012. He is currently at Faith Presbyterian Church of Emmaus as organist and Senior Choir Director. Since 1987, he has been a baritone with the Bach Choir of Bethlehem.

Besides playing the organ Brian worked in the restaurant supply business from 1987 through 2012. In 2003 he learned the wonderful game of contract bridge. Since then he has been offered opportunities to run duplicate bridge games. This allowed him to leave the restaurant supply business and now makes a significant portion of his living doing that.

Welcome, Brian, to the LVAGO.

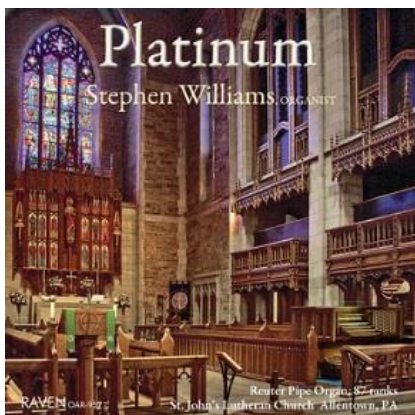
Check out LVAGO activities on Facebook



<https://www.facebook.com/groups/LVAGO/>

A CD You Should Have

Our past Dean Stephen Williams has completed 24 years as Director of Music, Organist, and concert impresario at St. John's Lutheran Church in Allentown (he is now at The Cathedral Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem). Many of us have enjoyed his fine concerts on the outstanding 87 rank Reuter organ over the years.



Fortuitously, RavenCD has released a disc titled *Platinum: Stephen Williams, organist* which showcases both the instrument and the wonderful way that Stephen played it. Included on the disc are very familiar pieces by J. S. Bach, Cesar Franck, Felix Mendelssohn, and Louis Vierne (and more!).

The disc is available from St. John's Lutheran Church. To order one (or ten!) email or call the church office at stjohnslutheran@rcn.com or 610-435-1587. If the CDs are mailed, they are \$17 each (\$2 handling and postage). If they are picked up at the office or at a concert, they are \$15 each. All proceeds will benefit the ongoing Arts at St. John's concert series.

This is a CD you will listen to more than once; it may just find a place in your car where you can hear it repeatedly, and recall fondly the wonderful combination of organ and organist that St. John's and Stephen provided us for many years.

Michael Krentz

November/December Concerts

November 5 (Wednesday) 12:05-12:30 pm; **Lars Potteiger, jazz piano**; Noonday Recital; Trinity Lutheran Church, Reading

November 7 (Friday) 7:30 pm; **Christine Clewell, organ**; Admission: \$10 donation; St. John's Lutheran Church, Allentown

November 9 (Sunday) 3:00 pm; **All in Good Time**; Lehigh Valley Harmonizers Barbershop Quartet; Admission: Freewill offering; St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Bethlehem

November 9 (Sunday) 4:00 pm; **Peter Richard Conte, organ**; Wanamaker Grand Court Organist with Andrew Ennis Flugelhorn; Admission: \$18 Adults, \$15 Students and Seniors; Soup and Sandwich Supper, \$8; St. John's United Church of Christ, Nazareth

November 12 (Wednesday) 12:05 – 12:30 pm; **Nora Suggs, flute**; **Stephen Williams, organ**; Noonday Recital; Trinity Lutheran Church, Reading

November 19 (Wednesday) 12:05 – 12:30 pm; **Justin Huie, tenor**; Noonday Recital; Trinity Lutheran Church, Reading

November 22 (Saturday) 7:30 pm; **Pennsylvania Sinfonia Orchestra**; Ashu, saxophone; Admission: \$10 - \$30; Tickets: 610-434-7811; First Presbyterian Church, Allentown

November 23 (Sunday) 3:00 pm; **Alexander Frey, organ**; Admission: Freewill offering; Reception; First United Church of Christ, Reading

December 6 (Saturday) 8:00 pm; **The Bach Choir of Bethlehem**; C. P. E. Bach *Magnificat*; Admission: \$35 Adults, \$9 Students; Tickets: 610-866-4382; First Presbyterian Church, Allentown

December 7 (Sunday) 10:15 am; **FPCA Chancel Choir and Youth Choirs**; Vivaldi *Gloria* with soloists, chamber orchestra and organ; Admission: Freewill offering; First Presbyterian Church, Allentown

December 7 (Sunday) 4:00 pm; **Philadelphia Handbell Ensemble**; Holiday concert; Admission: \$5 - \$10 donation; Trinity Lutheran Church, Perkasie

December 7 (Sunday) 6:00 pm; **Trinity Musicians in Concert**; Desserts after concert; Admission: Freewill offering; Trinity United Church of Christ, East Petersburg

December 13 (Saturday) 7:30 pm; **Pennsylvania Sinfonia Orchestra**; Camerata Singers, Handel *Messiah*; Admission: \$10 - \$30; Tickets: 610-434-7811; First Presbyterian Church, Allentown

Continued on page 4

November/December Concerts

Continued from page 3

December 13 (Saturday) 7:30 pm; **Valley Choral Society**; Patricia Conrad, director; Admission: Tickets at reduced rate before concert date \$13 [\$15] General, \$8 [\$10] Senior, \$6 [\$8] Student; Trinity Lutheran Church, Perkasio

December 16 (Tuesday) 7:30 pm; **A Festival Service of Nine Lessons and Carols**; St. John's Lutheran Church, Allentown

December 19 (Friday); 7:30 pm **Vox Phila**; Choral group; Admission: \$10 donation; St. John's Lutheran Church, Allentown

December 21 (Sunday); 6:00 pm; **The Thirteen**; Early musica choral ensemble; Matthew Robertson, director; Admission: Freewill offering; St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Pennsburg

December 21 (Sunday) 7:00 pm; **Messiah Sing-Along**; Christmas portion, Choruses Hallelujah, Worthy is the Lamb, Amen; Admission: \$10 donation; Cathedral Church of the Nativity, Bethlehem

December 21 (Sunday) 7:00 pm; **Christmas at Fifth and Chestnut**; Four choirs of Trinity present music of Advent through Christmas; Admission: \$5 - \$10 donation; Dinner at 5:30 pm; RSVP at least 1 week prior; Trinity Lutheran Church, Perkasio

Looking Ahead: January Program

January Jumpstart will be held again on Saturday, January 17, 2015 at Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church. The program will run from 8:45 am to 3:15 pm. Featured artists are Michael McCarthy, National Cathedral Director, Cathedral Organist Benjamin Straley and singers from the National Cathedral Choir.

Positions Available

Organist/Choir Director (2)

Church: St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Williams Township, 2745 Morgan Hill Road, Easton, PA, 610-252-3571

Website: <http://www.stjohnswilliams.com/>

Contact: Kathleen Mathews, 610-533-8133, kathleen.mathews@rcn.com

Weekly services: 1

Ensembles: Adult Choir (6)

Instruments: 2 manual tracker, upright piano, keyboard

Music budget: \$200

Weekly attendance: 40-60

Position fill date: ASAP

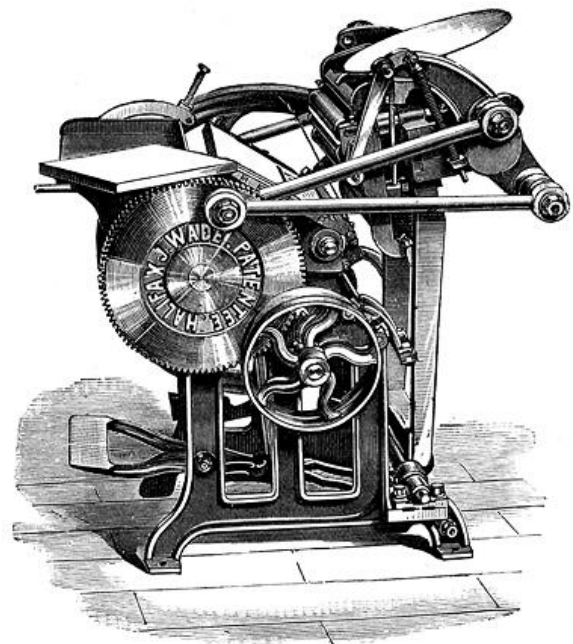
Deadline: None

Total hours per week: 4

Salary: \$8,967.00 (starting)

Weeks vacation: 4

Benefits: secretarial assistance, music library assistance



Newsletter Editor & Webmaster

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Placement Service

Please visit the Placement page on www.lvago.org for information and the Placement Service Information Sheet

Newsletter deadline

(January/February issue)

Thursday, December 18, 2014