



The Windchest

Newsletter of the Delaware Chapter,
American Guild of Organists

March 2020

Letter from our Dean

In the few months remaining in this AGO season, we have several events scheduled that I hope you will be able to attend, and each provides an opportunity to include guests who are not members of our chapter. More information is found elsewhere in this newsletter, but here is a quick summary.

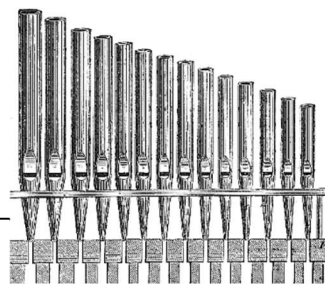
Saturday, March 21, 10:00 a.m., St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Newark. We encourage you to invite choir members to attend the presentation by Suzanne DuPlantis on "How to Sing for Life."

Saturday, April 18, 10:30 a.m. Our spring brunch will be held at the Chelsea Tavern in Wilmington. These informal get-togethers are always fun, and they provide an excellent opportunity to bring a friend who is an organ enthusiast.

Sunday, May 31, 6:00 p.m., Episcopal Church of Saints Andrew and Matthew, Wilmington. We urge you to invite clergy to hear Canon Victoria Sirota speak on "Too Deep for Words: Clergy and Sacred Musicians Working Together in God's Holy House" and to enjoy a delicious banquet.

I hope everyone stays healthy during this challenging time of a spreading virus.

—Bill Robinson



Delaware AGO Chapter Officers

Bill Robinson, *dean*

David Schelat, *subdean*

Linnea Raffaele, *secretary*

Twyla Evitts, *treasurer/registrar*

Members-at-large

Melissa Heieie

Joanne Hench

Steven Patchel, *newsletter*

Jane van Valkenburg

Chapter Event Dates Details inside...

September 14, Sat. 6:00 pm
Potluck and Recital
Hanover Presbyterian Church,
Wilmington

October 19, Sat. 10:30 am
Informal Brunch
Chelsea Tavern, Wilmington

November 9, Sat. 10:00 am
New Organ Music
Immanuel Church, New Castle

January 11, Sat. 8:30 to 3:00
January Jumpstart
Abington Presbyterian Church

March 21, Sat. 10:00 a.m.
How to Sing for Life
St. Paul's Lutheran, Newark

April 18, Sat. 10:30 am
Informal Brunch
Chelsea Tavern, Wilmington

May 31, Sunday 6:00 p.m.
Annual Banquet
Saints Andrew & Matthew

From our Sub-dean

**March Workshop: *How to Sing for Life*
Saturday, March 21 at 10:00 am,**

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Newark



Professional singer and voice teacher Suzanne DuPlantis will talk about and demonstrate techniques of waking up the body for singing, breath awareness and techniques for building better breath support, the joys and challenges of working with aging voices, and techniques for singing well as the voice ages. All of us, as a gathered choir, will sing selected repertoire together, as well as warmups and

exercises that may be useful in working with your own choir.

We encourage you to come and to bring members of your choir to this time of singing and learning with Suzanne. You will love her warm and friendly personality and take home lots of useful tips and information. We would love to have representatives of each church in the Wilmington area at this fun and important class. - David Schelat

**Too deep for words (Romans 8:26):
Clergy and Sacred Musicians
Working Together in God's Holy House
Sunday, May 31, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.**

Church of Saints Andrew and Matthew, 719 N Shipley St, Wilmington



Plan to join your AGO family at our closing banquet to hear Victoria Sirotta speak about the vocation of church musicians and their clergy partners. Please invite your pastor to attend with you, as this event is not only for church musicians, but for all musicians and clergy who minister in the church.

Dinner will begin at 6:00 with speaker and dessert to follow. Price is \$30/person. Again, please invite your pastor to come as your guest to this special event closing our program year.

SUZANNE DUPLANTIS is a professional singer and is Co-founder and Artistic Director of Lyric Fest, a thematic recital series in Philadelphia. She holds a Bachelor's Degree from Loyola University in her native New Orleans, a Master's in Performance and Literature from Eastman School of Music, and trained in opera at the Academy of Vocal Arts, earning an Artist Diploma and subsequently singing opera throughout the United States for over a decade. Suzanne has taught voice privately and at Haverford and Bryn Mawr Colleges since 2000, and has been the voice coach for Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church's Sing for Life choir since it was founded – a cherished part of her week. She greatly enjoys sharing her love of singing and her knowledge of vocal technique with singers of all levels, helping her students and choir members to get the most out of their voices.

VICTORIA R. SIROTA is an Episcopal priest, organist, lecturer and author, holds degrees from Oberlin Conservatory of Music, Boston University and Harvard Divinity School. She has taught at Yale Divinity School and Yale Institute of Sacred Music, The Ecumenical Institute of Theology at St. Mary's Seminary and University, and Boston University. Former National Chaplain for the American Guild of Organists, Chair of the Professional Concerns Committee for the Association of Anglican Musicians, and Coordinator of the 1990 National AGO Convention in Boston, she is the author of articles, reviews and texts for hymns, cantatas and song cycles. Her book *Preaching to the Choir: Claiming the Role of Sacred Musician* is available from Church Publishing. For nine years she served as Canon Pastor and Vicar at The Cathedral Church of Saint John the Divine in New York, and is currently Rector of Saint John's Episcopal Church in Getty Square, Yonkers, NY.

2019-20 DELAWARE CHAPTER PROGRAMS

How to Sing for Life

Saturday 21 March 10:00 AM
St. Paul's Lutheran Church
701 College Ave. Newark
Vocal workshop led by
Suzanne DuPlantis

Spring Brunch

Saturday 18 April 10:30 AM
Chelsea Tavern, Wilmington
Informal time to share with
colleagues and friends.
Eat, talk, share stories.

Annual Banquet/Presentation

Sunday 31 May 6:00 PM
Saints Andrew & Matthew
Annual Members' Banquet
Catered supper followed
by a presentation from
Rev. Victoria Sirota

NOTABLE CONCERTS & EVENTS

MARCH

Sunday 15 March 4:00 PM
Organ Recital by David Christopher
Saints Andrew and Matthew
719 N Shipley St, Wilmington

Sunday 22 March 3:00 PM
Christ Church Choir Lenten Concert:
Music for Voices & Viols
Christ Church Christiana Hundred

Sunday 22 March 3:00PM
Songs for Peace
Choirs of SilverSide Church
and Hanover Church,
SilverSide Church, Wilmington

Saturday 28 March 7:00 PM
From the Manger to the Cross:
Silent Film w/ Live Accompaniment
Jackson Borges, organist
1912 film, considered an artistic
triumph of cinematography, with live
organ improvisation.
Covenant Presbyterian Church

APRIL

Sunday 5 April 3:00 PM
Palm Sunday concert
Orchestra and 70-piece choir
St. Helena's Catholic Church

Sunday 5 April 5:00 PM
Choral Evensong for Palm Sunday
4:30 Prelude: David Hearn
Christ Church Christiana Hundred

Thursday 16 April 12:30 PM
Anna Meyer flute
Erik Meyer, organ
First & Central Presbyterian

Sunday 19 April 3:00 PM
Tempesta di Mare in Concert
Christ Church Christiana Hundred

Friday 24 April 7:30 PM
Rising Stars of the Organ Series
Students from the Curtis Institute:
Organ works by Women Composers
Saints Andrew and Matthew

Sunday 26 April 4:00 PM
Evensong and Supper
Immanuel Church, Highlands

Sunday 26 April 5:00 PM
Easter Lessons and Carols
Dr. Robert W. Lehman, guest director
Christ Church Christiana Hundred

Thursday 30 April 12:30 PM
Daniel Carunchio, piano
David Schelat, organ
Music of Saint-Saëns and Franck
First & Central Presbyterian

MAY

Sunday 3 May 4:00 PM
The Wilmington Handbell Ensemble:
"Originals" – Closing the Arts at
Covenant season with these master-
ringers as they celebrate their
20th Season together.
Covenant Presbyterian Church

Saturday 8 May 7:00 PM
Delaware Choral Arts Concert
The Cry of Jeremiah
by Rosephanye Powell
Old American Songs
by Aaron Copland
Kimberly Doucette, Guest Conductor
Augustine Mercante, Countertenor
Brian Carter, Baritone
Rob Kennan, Piano
Saints Andrew and Matthew

Sunday 10 May 5:00 PM
Choral Evensong for Mother's Day
4:30 Prelude: Bryan Dunnewald
Christ Church Christiana Hundred

Thursday 14 May 12:30 PM
Center City Chorale:
Oh Shenandoah
First and Central Presbyterian

Saturday 16 May 7:30 PM
Mastersingers Concert
Britten: Rejoice in the Lamb
Langlais: Messe Solennelle
Siegfried: Shaker Songs
David Schelat, conductor
Marvin Mills, organist
First and Central Presbyterian
Tix @ marketstreetmusicDE.com

Sunday 17 May 3:00 PM
Piffaro Spring Concert:
"Shock of the New"
Immanuel Church Highlands

Sunday 17 May 4:00 PM
Hymn Sing with the SsAM Choir
Sundays at 4 Series
Saints Andrew and Matthew

Saturday 30 May 7:30 PM
Rising Stars: Samantha Koch
Maleingreau: Symphonie de Noël
Reger: Wie schön leuchtet
Saints Andrew and Matthew

Sunday 31 May 3:00 PM
Tempesta di Mare Concert:
The English Orpheus
Christ Church Christiana Hundred

JUNE

Sunday 7 June 7:00 PM
Jazz Vespers
Saints Andrew and Matthew

Sunday 7 June 5:00 PM
Choral Evensong for Trinity Sunday
4:30 Prelude: David Brensinger
Christ Church Christiana Hundred

FREE House Organ

A Moller Artiste house organ located in Bridgeville DE, can be seen and played, available for free! Free professional help is available to dismantle, move, or install. Contact Steve Bartley, spbartley865@gmail.com More info can be found at <https://delaware.craigslist.org/search/sss?query=pipe%20organ&sort=rel>



SUBSTITUTE LIST

KEY: (S) Sunday, (C) choir, (HB) Handbells, (SS) Special Services, (W) Weddings, (F) Funerals

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