

The Cipher

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE
FORT WAYNE CHAPTER,
AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS
SEPTEMBER, 2023



NOTE: Deadline for the October Cipher is September 25

Submit information to David Hendricksen
at revoxfan55@gmail.com

From the Dean

We had a wonderful kick-off to the 77th season of the Fort Wayne AGO chapter this past Friday evening at Franke Park with nearly 40 members and guests in attendance. Following dinner, catered by Jamison Meats, Sub-Dean Matt Johnston gave us an overview of the upcoming season, and Noah Vancina made a presentation about the 2025 Regional Convention which we will host in Fort Wayne.

Thanks to everyone who brought copious amounts of organ and choral music to give away. The remainder will be donated to the organist training programs at Concordia Seminary. Concluding the evening, there were gift bags for all, and a group photo was taken by the lake. Thanks to Matt Johnston for all of his work in putting the evening together!

Our next gathering is on Monday, September 18 at St. Mary Mother of God Catholic Church, at the corner of E. Jefferson Blvd. and Clay St. downtown. Bring some newer or unique pieces to share that you like to use for funerals and weddings!

All who would like to gather at 5:30 pm for dinner, we will meet at Acme Bar, 1105 E. State Blvd. Dinner is on your own and reservations can be made on our chapter website, www.fortwayneago.com. Click on chapter events, then September, then scroll

to the reservation form at the bottom of the page. I hope to see you then!

Tim Robison

Upcoming 2023-2024 Chapter Programs

Here are the rest of the events we have preliminarily scheduled for the season (more details will follow in each month's issue of *The Cipher*):

Monday, September 18, 7:00 PM

St. Mary Mother of God Catholic Church
What's New in wedding and Funeral Repertoire?
Optional dinner at 5:30 at Acme Bar

October

Dr. Craig Cramer at Zion Ev. Lutheran Church

- Saturday, October 7, 10:00 AM—noon:
Workshop and demonstration: *The Bach Neumeister Chorales*
- Sunday, October 8, 3:00 PM: Organ recital

Saturday, November 11, 10:00 AM

Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church, St. Mary's Avenue
What Every Organist Should Know About Vocal Production

Dr. David Hendricksen will present information we need regarding vocal production and diction.

Session will be followed by a tour of the new organ console with Tammy Schaaf and David Laisure.

Optional lunch at Tower Bar & Grill, 11:45

December

Mini-Advent Recitals on YouTube

Organists will have an opportunity to record themselves or be recorded to be included in 1 of 3 “mini recitals posted on the new Ft. Wayne AGO YouTube channel. Further details TBA.

Friday, January 5, 6:00 PM

Epiphany Party at Tim Robison's residence. Food & drinks provided; feel free to bring wine to share.

Saturday, February 10, 10:00 AM

Trinity English Lutheran Church
Organ Music of David N Johnson
Dr Daniel Schwandt discuss and demonstrate

March Orgel Kit & Grand Page demonstrations. Details TBA.

Saturday, April 13, 9:30 AM

St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church
Chant-based Repertoire for the Organ
Dr. Jennifer Pascual, organist at St. Patrick's Cathedral, NYC

May

Organ crawl to Richmond, IN. Details TBA

June 3-7 Germanfest organ recitals

July *Follow the Pipes*. Details TBA

**September & October
Choral and Organ Events**

*Please send information about October and November events by September 25 to David Hendricksen at revoxfan55@gmail.com for the October issue of The Cipher. Events listed in approximate 3-hour driving radius of Fort Wayne. Local events in **bold**.*

Sunday, August 27, 3:00 PM Marilyn Keiser, organ recital, Christ Lutheran Church, Kokomo, IN

Friday, September 1, 12:10 PM Daniel Schwandt, organ recital, 2004 Schantz/Aeolian-Skinner IV/94, Trinity English Lutheran Church, Fort Wayne

Sunday, September 3, 3:00 PM Richard Perry, organ, Hot Horns! & “Pipes” Immanuel United Church of Christ, Indianapolis

Saturday, September 9, 8:00 PM Bruce Bengtson, organ and Andrew Balio trumpet, 2021 Fritts III/85, Hillsdale College, Hillsdale, MI

Sunday, September 10, 8:00 PM Kevin Vaughan, organ recital, 2016 Fritts IV/93, Basilica of the Sacred Heart, Notre Dame

Saturday, September 16, 6:30 PM Kola Owolabi, organ recital, 1990 Wolff IV/70 and 1993 Taylor & Boody III/50, Christ Church Cathedral, Indianapolis

Sunday, September 17, 4:00 PM, Paul Jacobs, organ recital, 1990 Casavant IV/88, Hyde Park Community United Methodist Church, Cincinnati, OH

Friday, September 22, 12:15 PM Jeremy David Tarrant, 1992 Pilzecker IV/96, St. Paul's Cathedral, Detroit, MI

Saturday, September 23, 10:00 AM Felix Hell masterclass, Central United Methodist Church, Lansing, MI (free, but registration required; see article)

Sunday, September 24, 3:00 PM Felix Hell, organ recital, 1993 Jaeckel III/64, Central United Methodist Church, Lansing, MI (ticket required; see article)

Sunday, September 24, 3:00 PM Jan Kraybill, organ recital, Christ Lutheran Church, Kokomo, IN

Sunday, September 24, 3:45 PM Josef Kotowicz, organ recital, 2008 Martin Ott III/41, First Presbyterian Church, Ypsilanti, MI

Tuesday, September 26, 7:00 PM Cherry Rhodes, organ recital, 2015 Casavant III/54, Hope College, Holland, MI

Friday, September 29, Noon Josef Kotowicz, organ recital, 1966 Noehren III/70, First Baptist Church, Ann Arbor, MI

Sunday, October 1, 4:00 PM Quire Cleveland choral concert, St. John Catholic Church, Trenton, OH

Thursday, October 5, 12:10 PM Trent Sims, organ recital, 1962 Casavant IV/85, Westminster Presbyterian, Church, Dayton, OH

Saturday, October 7, 10:00 AM Craig Cramer, workshop, Zion Lutheran Church, Fort Wayne

Saturday, October 7, 10:00 AM James O'Donnell, lecture/discussion, Westminster Presbyterian Church, Dayton, OH

Sunday, October 8, 3:00 PM Craig Cramer, organ recital, Zion Lutheran Church, Fort Wayne

Sunday, October 8, 4:00 PM Kimberly Marshall, organ recital, 2004 Fritts II/54, DeBartolo Performing Arts Center, Notre Dame

Sunday, October 8, 4:00 PM James O'Donnell, organ recital, 1962 Casavant IV/85, Westminster Presbyterian, Church, Dayton, OH

Sunday, October 8, 3:00 PM Craig Cramer, organ recital, Zion Lutheran Church, Fort Wayne

Thursday, October 12, 12:10 PM John Sherer, organ recital, 1962 Casavant IV/85, Westminster Presbyterian, Church, Dayton, OH

Friday, October 13, 7:30 PM Camerata Singers, choral concert, Sauder Concert Hall, Goshen, IN

Saturday, October 14, 8:00 PM Craig Cramer, organ recital, 2021 Fritts III/85, Hillsdale College, Hillsdale, MI

Sunday, October 15, 2:00 PM, Wesley Hall, organ recital, 1990 Casavant IV/88, Hyde Park Community United Methodist Church, Cincinnati, OH

Sunday, October 15, 7:00 PM, Philippe Lefebvre, organ recital, 2021 Quimby III/65, Trinity Episcopal Church, Indianapolis

Friday, October 20, 7:30 PM Apollo's Fire presents Handel's *Israel in Egypt*, Sauder Concert Hall, Goshen, IN

Sunday, October 22, 3:00 PM Chamber Choir & Concert Choir, Sursa Hall, Ball State University, Muncie, IN

Nunc Dimittis

Ellsworth Smith, who was instrumental in forming the Embassy Theatre Foundation to help save and restore the theatre itself, as well as the Grand Page Pipe Organ installed there, died on August 10. A memorial service will be held at the Embassy on September 17 at 4:30 PM, with visitation beginning at 3:00 PM. The obituary can be found here: Ellsworth Smith Obituary (2023) - Kendallville, IN - Fort Wayne Newspapers (legacy.com)

Joys and Concerns

- Congratulations to chapter member, Parker Maas and his wife, who recently welcomed their first child.
- Congratulations to chapter member Matt Johnston and his wife who are expecting their third child in October.
- Please keep in your thoughts and prayers Bob Hobby, who has been diagnosed with a rare, yet very treatable form of cancer. He is not a current chapter member but has been in the past.

Trinity English Fridays in September

Trinity English Lutheran Church has announced it's series of "Fridays in September" concerts. Each program is free and begins at 12:10. A light lunch will be available for \$2.00 following the concert each week.

- Sept 1 Daniel Schwandt organ recital in the nave
- Sept 8 "Ragtime and Beyond" The Resonators Harp and Percussion Ensemble in the nave
- Sept 15 Music for Bassoons in the nave
- Sept 22 Kenneth Jiang plays his solo piano transcription of Rachmaninoff's Piano Concerto #3 in Wagenhals Hall
- Sept 29 Autumn and Winter Concerti from Vivaldi's Four Seasons in the nave

ECCE Choir Auditions

The ECCE Choir is an *a cappella* choir of Catholic young adults from throughout northeast Indiana and northwest Ohio, led by Jessica Schuster. Singers who are practicing Catholics, aged 18-30, and proficient in reading music can contact Jessica before September 13 for an audition. Jessica.schuster.155@gmail.com

FPC Announces Music Series

First Presbyterian Church of Fort Wayne has announced its Music Series for 2023-2024.

September 24 at 4:00 PM: Russian pianist Ilya Yakushev will present a recital in honor of Sergei Rachmaninoff's 150 th Birthday.

October 29 at 3:00 PM: Clarice & Sergio Assad Duo – Brazilian Jazz Vocals, Samba, Jazz Piano and Guitar. The Assad Duo is a Brazilian family jazz duo featuring voice and guitar in a variety of styles. This father and daughter combo have multiple recordings and Clarice is a Grammy-nominated composer.

November 12 at 4:00 PM Organ recital. Clara Gerdes Bartz was named the winner of the 61st Round of the National Organ Playing Competition (in March of 2022).

February 25 at 4:00 PM: Known as Indiana University's Ambassadors of Song, the Singing Hoosiers combine singing and choreography throughout their programs. They will perform numerous pieces from the jazz and Broadway traditions as well as current pop tunes and The Great American Songbook.

April 20 at 1:00 PM: The 62nd Round of the National Organ Playing Competition. Undergraduate and graduate organ students from across the country send in recordings from which three are selected to compete in-person as finalists. Begun by Jack Ruhl in the 1950s, this is hailed as the oldest continuous running organ competition in the United States.

Felix Hell recital, dinner & masterclass

We are thrilled to extend a warm invitation to all members of the American Guild of Organists to join us for a remarkable organ recital by the renowned artist Felix Hell. This promises to be an afternoon of exceptional music and inspiration that you won't want to miss!

Felix Hell is an internationally acclaimed organist, celebrated for his extraordinary virtuosity and captivating performances. Hailed as a prodigy at a young age, Felix continues to mesmerize audiences with his deep musicality and technical prowess. For a brief description of Felix and his impressive accomplishments, please visit his official website: www.felixhell.com

Here are the event details:

Recital: Sunday, September 24, 3:00 PM

Dinner: following recital

Masterclass: Saturday, September 23, 10:00 AM

Location: Central United Methodist Church, Lansing, MI

Ticket Information: To secure your place at this unforgettable recital, we encourage you to purchase your tickets in advance. You can conveniently do so at felixhell.eventbrite.com. When purchasing your tickets, don't forget to apply the code "AGO" at checkout to access the exclusive AGO ticket price.

Dinner: Following the recital, there will be a dinner available for attendees. You can purchase your dinner tickets alongside your concert tickets for added convenience. There will be a vegetarian option.

Master Class and Registration: For those eager to enhance their organ skills and knowledge, we are delighted to offer a Master Class led by Felix Hell. This session promises to be both educational and inspirational. Registration is required, but the Master Class itself is free.

To register for the Master Class or to receive more information, contact Mark Mitchell, Director of Music and Worship at Central United Methodist Church, Lansing, via email: at mark@lansingcentralumc.net or by phone at 517-719-2415.

For Sale

THE COMPLETE ORGAN WORKS OF J.S. BACH-- Published by Kevin Mayhew; Edited by Alan Ridout (1994)

The set contains four magnificent volumes in publishers' gilt maroon cloth-on-board. These fine, unmarked copies of the organ scores are contained in a pristine matching slipcase. The set contains the entire organ works of J.S. Bach, as well as an introduction to the music, notes on ornaments, along with several useful indexes.

Please contact Kathy Kaney for more details: kathykaney@gmail.com or text 501-99-6480

Positions Available

Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church seeks a regular organist for Sunday services at 9:30 AM. And until a regular organist is secured, substitute organists will be needed. If interested in either the regular position or substitute work, contact Deaconess Jeana Moe: email: dcsjeana@mtcfw.org; office: 260-203-3703 cell: 260-416-8472

Part-time organist/pianist, St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, 2305 Goshen Rd. 4-rank Schantz organ, Sunday service at 10:00. September-May there is a Sunday choir rehearsal at 9:00. Contact Pastor Dale Henderson at 483-9312 or pastordale@stmatthewslutheran.com

Interim Organist during maternity leave: October 15, 2023 to January 31, 2024. Bethany United Methodist Church. Organist plays Sunday service at 10:00, as well as accompanies choir rehearsal Thursdays at 6:30 and Sunday mornings at 9:40. Could be for an accomplished high school/college student. Contact Pastor Dan Douglas at dan.douglas@inumc.org or 260-485-5311

Full time Director of Sacred Music, Queen of Angels Parish, Fort Wayne. For information, contact: pastor@queenofangelsfw.org

Part-time Choir Director, Bethany United Methodist Church, Fort Wayne. One service on Sunday at 10:00 AM, Choir rehearsals Wednesdays at 6:30 PM and Sunday at 9:40. Currently the adult choir has 8-10 members, plus an accompanist. Contact Pastor Dan Douglas at dan.douglas@inumc.org or 260-485-5311. <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Bethany-United-Methodist-Church/159035314458156>

Peabody Retirement Community

The historic organ in the chapel at the Peabody Retirement Community in North Manchester has recently been repaired. Chaplain David Crowley [david.crowley@peabodyrc.org] would be interested in hearing from organists who may wish to present a musical program on the instrument. Some members may recall visiting this instrument on a pre-pandemic organ crawl by the Fort Wayne AGO chapter.

From our Webmaster

COLLEAGUES! We want to use our FWAGO website to list Northeast Indiana music events. If you are planning a concert series, a single concert, a hymn festival or other related event, we will be glad to list it on the website. Please email the information as a file attachment to: giglerm@aol.com. The file needs to be in pdf or jpg format and give complete information about the event – dates, times, locations – even a poster.

Fort Wayne Chapter Leadership

Elected positions:

Dean Tim Robison (2023)
Sub-Dean Matt Johnston (2023)
Secretary David Hendricksen (2024)
Treasurer Kathy Miller (2023)
At-Large: Irene Ator (2025)
Greg Childs (2024)
Michael Dulac (2025)
Wayne Peterson (2025)
Tamara Schaaf (2026)

Non-elected positions, appointed by the Board:

Chaplain: Rev. Dr. Anne Epling
Webmasters: Martin Gigler & Tim Robison
Scholarship Committee Chair: Fran Page
Germanfest, Follow the Pipes: Rosalie Bowker
Certification Coordinator Wayne Peterson
Program Committee Chair Matt Johnston
Newsletter Editor: David Hendricksen



Now is the time to act!

For more information, contact Wayne Peterson (waynehpeterson@yahoo.com; 260-423-1693) or explore the certification content on the AGO website

<https://www.agohq.org/certification/>

**Is Guild certification a
dream of yours?**