

## Contact Us

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### Eugene Chapter Website

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### AGO National Headquarters

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## LETTER FROM YOUR DEAN

Dear colleagues and friends,

May the peace and joy of this Christmas season bring many blessings to each of you!

Can you imagine a Christmas service without music? The music that you provide for your congregations is important year round, but especially so during Advent and Christmas! Whether you're playing an ancient Gregorian chant or a delightful Noel, music is crucial. As you are hard at work preparing for so many services, remember to take time for yourself to revive. Get extra rest and spend some time in nature.

This morning at church, we sang a new hymn by Marty Haugen. Its central theme was: *Choose hope*. It seems to me that Haugen has once again touched the heart of our times with his new hymn. Our country is in a time of transition, to put it mildly. For a long time, I've thought that hope was something that – well, you either have it, or you don't. It hadn't occurred to me that I could "choose" it.

Our chapter will be treated to our own creative hymn singing in February. Be sure to check out the details in the **AGO Eugene Chapter Schedule** on page three. You're also invited to get to know Dr. John Jantzi, who is featured this month on page two in our Member Spotlight. I've known John for many years during his long tenure at First Christian Church.

Finally, I encourage you to print out a couple of copies of this newsletter – one for yourself, and one to pass along to a friend. Let's get more people reading about organs as well as listening to them!

Karen Williamson, Dean



## ADVENT ORGAN RECITALS

Fridays in December bring a series of noon Advent Organ Recitals at First United Methodist Church in Eugene.

The series begins with Barbara Baird playing on December 2. Julia Brown will play on December 9 and 16. The series will wrap up with a Young Artist Showcase, featuring Zachary Duell, an organ major at Willamette University and Sarah Massie, a high school freshman in Corvallis.

A pdf of the flyer for this series accompanies the e-mailed version of this newsletter. Please help publicize these events by printing and posting. And, take a few moments out of your busy day, and relax with some fine music on the newly expanded Hochhalter pipe organ.

## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: JOHN JANTZI

### *What led you to becoming an organist / choir director?*

When I was 12, the pastor's wife wanted me to start playing piano for church services at a little Mennonite church on the Oregon coast. I was not a child prodigy and felt I was not good enough, but she insisted



and gave me a pile of classical and sacred music for worship that I practiced diligently every week to learn how to accompany and improvise on hymn singing and special music during the service. When I attended Seattle Pacific to get my BA as a voice major, I took organ lessons with a wonderful performer and improvisationalist, Lester Groom

and started playing for services at first a Lutheran church where I learned liturgical services and then a big Presbyterian church. I also used to love attending compline services and organ concerts at St. Marks Cathedral. One time I heard an all Bach concert at St. Marks on the new Flentrop organ performed by the famous Swiss organist and recording Bach artist, Lionel Rogg. His interpretation and performance made Bach's music come alive in a way I had never heard before and made such a huge impression on me that after graduating, I travelled to Switzerland to study with Lionel at the Geneva Conservatory. I learned organ concert repertoire with Lionel for three years and also a year with Pierre Second, the masterful French organist of St. Pierre cathedral who had studied in Paris with Jehan Alain and studied under Marcel Dupre. That led to a lot of competitions, performing and working in Europe for 12 years. .

### *What are you most proud of in your work, or what aspect do you enjoy the most?*

Perhaps my most memorable occasions as a performer were the opportunities as a conductor. While studying in Geneva, I had the prestigious position of cantor/organist at the American Episcopal church. A wonderfully talented choir and budget that offered opportunities to conduct major works by Britten, Bach, Handel and even opera! After completing my degree at the conservatory, I moved to Frankfurt Germany where my day job was a Music Specialist for the US Army. I loved directing and conducting musicals, shows, and talent contests in the theaters. On the weekends and evenings, I was the music director/organist of the largest US military chapel outside the US. I directed the catholic and protestant choirs and ensembles, started a recital series, and directed more operas and musicals with the combined military and german community, even taking our shows on tour to other military facilities. The highlight for me were the commissioned concerts by the V Corp Commander for the German community and dignitaries where I got to conduct major Oratorios and Cantatas with a 100-voice German/American choir accompanied by the Wiesbaden and Mainz opera orchestras. That was what led me to study conducting with Helmut Rilling and John Elliott Gardiner in Stuttgart one Summer. After the fall of the Berlin Wall, I decided to move back to Oregon to continue conducting studies with Helmut Rilling three summers at the Bach Festival and complete graduate studies in conducting and theory at the U of O.

### *Do you express your creativity in any other ways besides the organ and choir directing?*

Teaching has always been a part of my musical life. I started giving piano lessons in High School and actually put myself through college by teaching over 30 students a week! While at the UO I had a graduate teaching fellowship for seven years directing opera and teaching theory classes. I feel fortunate to now have balanced my teaching at UO and privately students with my performance life in church music, directing the Eugene Gleemen, keyboard performed with the Oregon Mozart Players, and until recently, the Chorus Master and director of the Artist Mentor Program of Eugene Opera for over 20 years.

## SUMMER ORGAN MUSIC ACADEMY

Lutheran Music Program has selected Kenneth Miller to serve as the Regina Holmen Fryxell and Patricia Schad Lege Chapel Organist at the 2017 Lutheran Summer Music Academy & Festival (LSM) from June 25<sup>th</sup> to July 23<sup>rd</sup> on the campus of Valparaiso University in Valparaiso, Indiana. Miller currently serves as Assistant Professor of Church Music and Organist and Choirmaster of the Chapel of the Apostles at the School of Theology at the University of the South in Sewanee, TN.

As a member of the artistic faculty, Miller will maintain a private organ studio, teach the Introduction to Pipe Organ elective class, and serve as a member of the LSM worship team. In addition to serving as primary organist for all LSM worship services, Miller will also perform as a soloist and with the LSM Bach Cantata.

Lutheran Summer Music is a four-week residential training and performance program. Each summer, LSM brings together 150+ 8-12 grade band, orchestra, choir, keyboard and organ students from the U.S. and abroad in a supportive, intentional community.

AGO members from the Eugene Chapter are invited to refer students for the 2017 convening of Lutheran Summer Music Academy. All students using the application code **AGO200** will receive an automatic \$200 tuition discount. Other merit and need-based assistance is available.

For more information, go to [lutheransummermusic.org](http://lutheransummermusic.org) or contact Dietrich Jessen and Kristina Rodel, Admissions Directors at (888) 635 - 6583 or email at [admissions@lutheransummermusic.org](mailto:admissions@lutheransummermusic.org).

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## PIPE DREAMS ON KWAX-FM

Michael Barone, host of Pipe Dreams is heard on KWAX-FM on Sunday mornings at 10 a.m. and at 8 pm. The program can also be heard anytime streaming on the world-wide web. More details at: [www.pipedreams.publicradio.org](http://www.pipedreams.publicradio.org).



The Organ Loft is a radio program about choral and organ music, particularly music of the Pacific Northwest. The program is hosted by Roger

Sherman, the Associate Organist of St. Mark's Cathedral in Seattle. The Organ Loft features music of Pacific Northwest choirs, organs, composers and organ builders. The programming is half organ, and half choral music.

This program is underwritten and sponsored by your Eugene AGO Chapter on KWAX-FM and the University of Oregon radio network (webcast: KWAX-FM Homepage) on Sundays at 6 PM.

Eugene, 91.1 KWAX-FM      Redmond, 88.5 KWRX-FM  
Florence, 91.5 KWVZ-FM      Canyonville, 92.3 KWRZ-FM

and on these translators:

Bend 98.9	Cottage Grove 101.9	Corvallis 92.9
Newport 91.3	Reedsport 90.9	Salem 92.9
Sunriver 90.9	Sutherlin-Oakland 107.1	Roseburg 97.9
		Glide 105.3

# AGO EUGENE CHAPTER

## 2016-2017 Schedule

Friday, December 2 - 9 - 16 - 23 - Noon  
Advent Organ Meditations  
First United Methodist Church  
1376 Olive Street - Eugene

Sunday, January 22 - 4 p.m.  
"King of Instruments" Concert  
Introduction to the workings of the pipe organ.  
Concert presentation by AGO members.  
Mormon Church on 3550 West 18th - Eugene

Saturday, February 25 - 1:00 p.m.  
Program: Presentation of Original Hymn  
Texts written by Robert Cullinan.  
United Lutheran Church, Eugene

Saturday, March 4 - 11 - 18 - 25 - 2 p.m.  
Lenten Organ Meditations on the Brombaugh  
Presented by Chapter Members & Guests  
Episcopal Church of the Resurrection  
3925 Hilyard Street - Eugene

Saturday, April 29 - time t. b. a.  
Handbell workshop with Clinician Beth Mays.

May - to be announced

Sunday, June 4 - 5 p.m.  
End of the year Meeting / Potluck / Election  
Songbrook Clubhouse

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## WITH HEART AND VOICE

*With Heart and Voice* is a radio program that spans the full range of Western classical music from the Gothic period through the 21st Century. There are occasional surprises from the non-western tradition. The program is hosted by Peter DuBois, an active organist who teaches at the Eastman School of Music. This program originates from Rochester, New York, and is broadcast Sundays, 11 am and 7 pm on KWAX-FM.

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## ONCARD MEMBERSHIP

To join AGO / or pay dues: go to [www.agohq.org/oncard](http://www.agohq.org/oncard)  
See membership top left. Invite friends and colleagues to join as members of the guild, or as Friends which is only \$37.00

# UPCOMING CONCERTS

Thursday, December 8 – 8 pm  
**Eugene Symphony:** Korngold Violin Concerto, Dina Gilbert conducting and Elena Urioste, violin. Also works by Mozart, Stravinsky and Dukas. Ticket information at Hult Center Ticket Office, (541) 682-5000. Hult Center

Friday, December 9 – Noon to 12:45 pm  
**Advent Organ Recital** by Julia Brown. Suggested donation \$10 and a contribution of non-perishable foods for the local food bank. First United Methodist Church

Sunday, December 11 – 4:30 pm  
**Advent Lessons and Carols.** Central Lutheran Church

Sunday, December 11 – 6 pm  
**Eugene Symphony** performs soundtrack of the movie *Ama-deus* shown big screen above the stage. Ticket information at the Hult Center Ticket Office, (541) 682-5000. Hult Center

Friday, December 16 – Noon to 12:45 pm  
**Advent Organ Recital** by Julia Brown. Suggested donation \$10 and a contribution of non-perishable foods for the local food bank. First United Methodist Church

Friday and Saturday, December 16-17 – 7:30 pm and  
Sunday, December 18 – 3:30 pm  
**Oregon Mozart Players** perform Vivaldi, Bach and Boyce. Ticket information at (541) 346-4363. First Christian Church

Sunday, December 18 – 3 pm  
**Messiah Sing.** Handel's timeless work is sung by the audience with soloists singing the arias and recitatives, all accompanied by Delgani String Quartet. Linda Duffendack Oxley, conductor. Suggested donation \$10 and a contribution of non-perishable foods for the local food bank. First United Methodist Church

Sunday, December 18 – 4:30 pm  
**Advent Lessons and Carols.** Central Lutheran Church

Friday, December 23 – Noon to 12:45 pm  
**Advent Organ Recital** by Young Organists Sarah Massie (Corvallis) and Zachary Duell (Salem. Suggested donation \$10 and a contribution of non-perishable foods for the local food bank. First United Methodist Church

**Calendar** - Please send us information on your concerts so we can include in our newsletters. We love to support each other's concerts by helping to get the news out and by being at your programs. Let us know!

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## NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Announcements, articles or any news of interest to chapter members should be sent to [rickspro@value.net](mailto:rickspro@value.net). The deadline for the next newsletter is December 28.

## ORGELKIDS UPDATE



We are pleased to report that The Lane County Cultural Coalition, acting as agent for the Oregon Cultural Trust, has awarded its maximum grant of \$2500 to the Springfield Education Foundation. This grant will bring the Orgelkids program to Two Rivers / Dos Rios Elementary School third grade music students of teacher Dana Mahoney. This school is a Title 1 school.

The students will have the Orgelkids kit in the classroom for a week, during which time they will have an opportunity to assemble it, and learn the principles of a mechanical action pipe organ. An estimated 105 students will participate in this, the first program to use the newly created American Orgelkids pipe organ.

The second week of the program will include a field trip of these students to hear the pipe organ in the University of Oregon's Beall Hall where Dr. Barbara Baird will demonstrate this unique instrument. After the demonstration, the students will be school bussed to First United Methodist Church in Eugene.

After a lunch in the fellowship hall, Dr. Julia Brown will demonstrate the Petty portable pipe organ, and also the large Hochhalter sanctuary pipe organ.

The following week, the students and their parents and siblings will be school-bussed to the AGO presentation of King of Instruments at the Mormon church on west 18th street. There they will be able to show their parents the pipe organ they built in music class, and hear the presentation of still another large pipe organ.

The grant award covers all the expenses of the program described which will take place in January of 2017. The same program will be repeated in October of 2017, with the students' families being bussed to hear the three pipe organs, as before and to hear AGO's PipeScreams.

In addition to the grant from the Lane County Cultural Coalition, a supplemental grant of \$250 was awarded to support this program by the Springfield Education Foundation.

AGO members will have an opportunity to volunteer to assist in these programs. Please contact Karen Williamson for details.

The Benton County Cultural Coalition and the Oregon Cultural Trust have made a grant to bring Orgelkids program into Corvallis Title 1 schools. Students from Wilson and Lincoln schools will get to build a working pipe organ, followed by a field trip to visit the Noack pipe organ at First United Methodist Church in Corvallis, where they will be treated to a private mini-concert and demonstration by Craig Hanson

