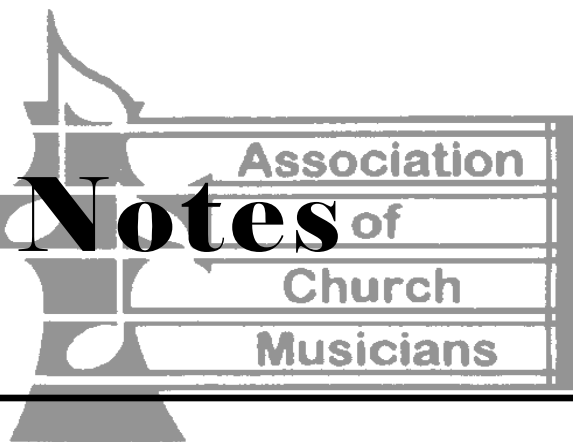


Church Music Notes

MARCH 2008



American Guild of Organists National Convention comes to Minneapolis

The Twin Cities Chapter of The American Guild of Organists (TCAGO) invites you to the 2008 AGO National Convention in Minneapolis and Saint Paul. The TCAGO last hosted a national convention in 1980. Since then, many new organs have been installed in the area giving the Twin Cities an amazing collection of fine instruments. The steering committee has spent the last four years preparing an exciting convention and looks forward to sharing it with you.

Convention highlights include more than 20 organ concerts, the St. Paul Cathedral Choir from London, newly commissioned works, the U.S. Premiere of the Te Deum by Siegfried Matthus, Pipedreams Live!, an Olivier Messiaen Pedagogy Track, more than 65 workshops, AGO Composer of the Year Stephen Paulus, the NYACOP & NCOI Competitions and much, much more!

The convention hotel, the Hilton, is conveniently located in downtown Minneapolis and is easily accessible from the airport by a light rail system. The Twin Cities has a rich and diverse arts community including music, theatre, visual arts and many multicultural offerings. In Minneapolis, there is the new Guthrie Theater, the recently enlarged Walker Art Center and Sculpture Garden, the Minneapolis Institute of Arts and the American Swedish Institute. Saint Paul has the Fitzgerald Theater, the Ordway Center for the Performing Arts, a new Minnesota History Center, and the new Science Museum. Additionally, there are wonderful fine dining opportunities and many parks, lakes and trails.

The TCAGO is excited to host this convention and offers a warm welcome to all. For more information, go to the conference website at <http://www.ago2008.org>.



Venues for the AGO Convention include the House of Hope Presbyterian Church and its 1979 Fisk mechanical action pipe organ, pictured above.

Association of Lutheran Church Musicians Announces Regional Meetings

Region I: The Church: Called, Gathered, Enlightened – June 30-July 3, 2008 - Worcester, MA

This conference will be a feast for the eyes, ears and spirit at Trinity Lutheran Church in Worcester, MA, including the exquisite Noack organ in a reverberant worship space. The conference will feature Martin Jean in recital on the Taylor and Boody organ at Holy Cross College and a Hymn Festival led by Rick Erickson on the Skinner organ at All Saints Episcopal Church. Worship will begin and end our days and conference chaplain, Reverend Amandus Derr, Pastor of Saint Peter's Lutheran Church, Lexington Ave., New York City will offer insights to deepen our understanding of that which unites us.

(continued on page two)

ALCM Regional Conferences Continued:

Region II: Hungry . . . Fed . . . Satisfied July 13-16, 2008 - Savannah, GA

Centered completely within the beautiful historic district of Savannah, GA, the Region II conference participants will enjoy the best of this elegant city. All venues, attractions, and lodging options will be within an easy walk of each other. The conference will be centered around Ascension Lutheran Church on Wright Square. Venues within a short walk from Ascension include Christ Church Episcopal, Independent Presbyterian, St. John Episcopal, First Baptist, and Wesley Monumental Methodist. Lodging options include the historic Mulberry Inn and Holiday Inn Express. Comfortable and air-conditioned dormitory options through the Savannah College of Art and Design are also available on a first come basis.

Region III: Let All the Peoples Praise You! June 29-July 2, 2008 - River Forest, Illinois

Held on the campus of Concordia University, events will include a hymn-sing and workshop led by acclaimed Mennonite musician Mary Oyer; a field trip to Hyde Park with an organ recital at University of Chicago's Rockefeller Chapel; and workshops and worship at the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago and area churches. Concordia University's campus features a stunning chapel and organ and air-conditioned accommodations. Nearby hotels offer further housing options.

Region IV: Seasons of the Church - Seasons of Life: June 27-30, 2008 - San Francisco, CA

The theme of our Region IV Conference connects the seasons of the church's worship and ministry with the seasons of our life in God's world. The venue for the event will be St. Mark's Lutheran Church and the newly renovated (if not luxurious!) Cathedral Hill Hotel in the heart of the city. Noted author and theologian Gail Ramshaw is the keynote theme speaker and will also lead an open conversation at her workshop. Organist and composer Aaron David Miller will lead us in song at a special Hymn Festival on our theme. He will also lead a workshop on improvisation at the organ. For more information contact Randy Knutson at randyknutson@sbcglobal.net or by phone at 209-368-9484.

Upcoming Events

Sunday, March 2nd, at 8:00 & 10:30am, the Choir at St. Peter's Lutheran Church, 303 Park Street, Arlington, will pay a belated tribute to Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707) with a performance in English of his cantata, "Jesu Meine Freude," with guest instrumentalists from the Madison area. For more information, please call 608-635-4825.

Thursday, March 13, 7:00pm, Kantorei, the Chapel Choir from Valparaiso University in Valparaiso, Indiana, will present a concert at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 1021 Spaight Street in Madison. An alumni reception will follow the performance. Kantorei is a select religious choir of 48 voices which serves as a choir of the Chapel of the Resurrection, specializes in festive liturgies, and sings a diverse repertoire of sacred music. The Kantorei sings regularly for Sunday services and other services at the chapel. The group is pictured at right.



Saturday, March 15, 3:30pm, Mark Brampton Smith will present a concert at St. Luke's Lutheran Church, 7337 Hubbard Avenue, Middleton. The program will include organ works by Bach (including the Toccata and Fugue in d minor), and piano arrangements by Mark Hayes from his collection "Gospel Classics." All are invited to enjoy the sounds of the church's Schlicker organ and grand piano and everyone is also welcome to attend the 5:00pm worship service following the concert.

Positions Open

Small north side Madison church is looking for a part time organist/pianist needed for Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings. Ability to direct small vocal groups and bell choir a plus. Possibility to make bell choir director a separate position. For more information please call 608-438-5303 or e-mail kuhnke2@charter.net

For more listings, including those from previous newsletters, please visit our website:
www.madisonacm.org.

Church Music Notes is the newsletter of the Association of Church Musicians, Madison Chapters of Choristers Guild and the American Guild of Organists

Keep in Touch...

Send submissions for

Church Music Notes to:

Linda Warren

P.O. Box 1611, Madison, WI 53701-1611

or by e-mail to linda.warren@tds.net

Deadline for newsletter submissions is March 15 for the April issue.

Other correspondence should be sent to:
ACM, P. O. Box 5321, Madison, WI 53705



Substitute list coordinators and registrars

Karen and Linda Warren
608-824-9068
linda.warren@tds.net

Chaplain, Pastor David Susan
Immanuel Lutheran Church,
Madison (retired)
608-246-4216

www.madisonacm.org
ACM@madisonacm.org

ACM Board of Directors

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Cantus to Present Concert in Madison

On Sunday, April 20 at 7:00pm, Minnesota's premier men's vocal group Cantus will perform at the First Congregational United Church of Christ, 1609 University Avenue, Madison, WI, 608-233-9751. This will be a fund-raising event for Porchlight, one of the Madison-area organizations that works to end homelessness.

Gaining recognition as one of America's finest professional male vocal ensembles, Cantus enjoys a vigorous schedule of national tours, subscription concerts in the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and Saint Paul, innovative residencies and outreach programs, and recording. Rehearsing and performing without a conductor, the ensemble's repertoire spans many periods and genres, including chant, Renaissance and Baroque music, contemporary works, art song, folk, spirituals, world music, and pop. Cantus is pictured below.

Cantus tours have included performances throughout the United States, Canada, and Europe. The ensemble has appeared as a special guest with the Minnesota Orchestra, and has a long-standing performing relationship with the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra. As a non-profit organization, Cantus is an active proponent of music education, encouraging people of all ages - especially men - to sing. Its members are frequent clinicians at festivals, schools and universities throughout the country. For two summers, the organization has collaborated with the Mount Calvary Academy of Music in Excelsior, MN to host Camp Cantus, an exciting musical day camp for children, high school students and adults.



The American Guild of Organists is pleased to announce a reduction in the cost of dues, for new members only, for the remainder of the 2007-2008 membership year. Voting membership is open to all who are interested in the organ and choral music fields. No examination is ever required for membership. Those who join AGO during February or March may pay \$40.00 for regular membership, \$27.50 for over 65 or disabled, and \$18.00 for students.

To take advantage of this offer, print the ACM membership form off our website (go to www.madisonacm.org, click on About ACM, and open the pdf file at the top of the page). Fill in and mail with your check to ACM at Box 5321, Madison, WI, 53705.



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