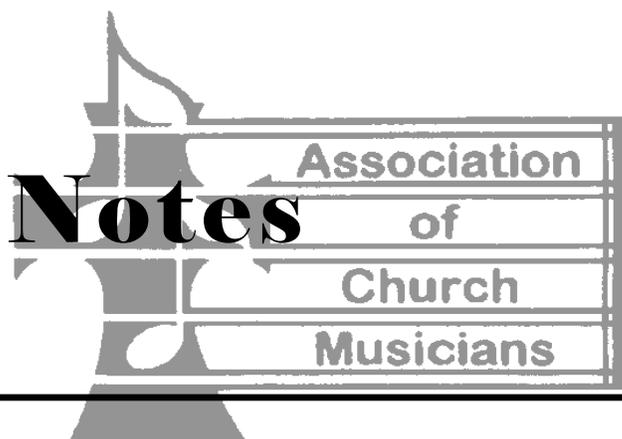


Church Music Notes

SEPTEMBER 2015



A Message from ACM President/AGO Dean, Deborah Krauss Smith



When it comes to encouraging churches or individuals to join ACM, or time to renew existing or lapsed memberships, we sometimes hear the comment, "I don't get anything out of ACM".

And then I ask myself, what do I personally find so worthwhile about ACM? After all, I have been a member of ACM for a long time. A really long time. Since its inception, in fact. The answer to that question for me is, because of ACM, I have colleagues and friends I likely would not have otherwise met. I think of it as a low-tech, more personal, LinkedIn. A bit intangible benefit of ACM perhaps, but hugely important, nonetheless. But the key was, it involved something *from* me, some active participation on my part, whether it was attending some ACM program offerings/events or helping out in some other capacity, such as serving on the board or playing in a members' recital.

I am very excited about the active participation of ACM members related to the up-coming Ruth Pilger Andrews Organ Scholarship fundraiser on October 2 at St. James Church in Madison. In a first-ever project of its kind for ACM, 18 members of ACM wrote and submitted their own works for solo organ, organ and violin, and organ and voices, all to be performed that evening, many by the composer him/herself. The planning of this event has also involved the time and energy of a very dedicated Scholarship Committee.

Want to up your game a little bit as it relates to participation in ACM? Simply attending this recital on October 2 and inviting others to join you would be a great place to start! As we read in the parable of the talents, "For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance."

Enjoy meeting your colleagues and friends at

ACM's Pre-"Season" Potluck



Sunday, August 30, 2015 ♦ 4 - 6 pm

♦ Tamarack Trails Clubhouse ♦

102-110 South Westfield Road; Madison, WI

(1-1/2 blocks north of the Mineral Point / Westfield Roads intersection)

Please bring a **dish to share** and your **own beverage**. Table service will be provided. RSVP by August 28 to ACM@MadisonACM.org.

Spouses / companions welcome!

Positions Open

Rock Prairie United Presbyterian Church is seeking an **organist** for Sunday mornings and special services. RPUPC is a multi-generational church with a variety of traditional and contemporary music. The organist coordinates the organ music for the service and typically includes preludes, postludes, hymn accompaniment, service music, etc. and filling in for the choir accompanist as needed. Salary is \$100 per service. Organ is a 2-manual Allen digital computer organ with foot pedals. Interested candidates should submit a cover letter, resume, and references by September 30, 2015 (8605 East County Road A, Janesville, WI 53546). Position available immediately. Contact RPUPC at 608-752-1172.

First Presbyterian Church of Waunakee is seeking a part-time **Adult Choir Director**. FPCW is a thriving, intergenerational church just outside Madison. Skills required for the director include experience in directing an adult choir, keyboard and vocal skills, knowledge of sacred choral music and experience in music selection for worship, ability to recruit for the choir and build Christian fellowship among the choir members, good organizational skills and ability to work positively with other musicians, church staff and church members. Most important is a deep passion for Jesus Christ and desire to bring others closer to Christ by enhancing worship with music. Please email your resume and cover letter to sgade@myfpc.org or mail to: First Presbyterian Church, 5763 County Road O, Waunakee, WI 53597.

For new listings and those from previous newsletters, visit our website : www.MadisonAcm.org

Submissions for job postings should be made to linda.warren@tds.net and ACM@MadisonACM.org.

Organist John Rafoth celebrates 50 years at Christ Presbyterian Church!

On a summer Sunday in 1965, when he was just a few years out of the Lawrence Conservatory of Music, John Rafoth sat down at the organ for his first Sunday service at Christ Church. And it was a beautiful June Sunday this year as the Christ Presbyterian Church family celebrated John's Rafoth's 50th anniversary at CPC!

Fifty years! That's roughly 2600 Sunday mornings, some 2000 Thursday night choir rehearsals, 50 Christmases, 50 Easters, countless hours of practice, and church weddings, memorial services, and other significant events. John's Organ Pre-Service on Sundays and other festival days of the church year attracts an ever-growing audience. Christ Church celebrated its 150th birthday in 2001, making us 164 years old in 2015. John has been organist here for almost a third of that time! It's important to note that for at least 35 of those years, John *also* worked full time as Band Director at Madison West High School, where he built one of the finest band programs in the state. In an age when most of us can expect to change jobs several times during our working days, 50 years in one place is truly significant!

In 2005, during the celebration of John's 40th anniversary, church member Pete Hammond spoke of John's particular role in his own worship life: "As one who can't even read music...I continue to be helped in becoming more of what Christ died for through the gift of historic Christian music. Thanks be to God for our loyal, gentle, steady, patient musical priest and friend, John Rafoth!"

Congratulations, John, from all your friends and colleagues in ACM, and thank you to Kathy Otterson for submitting this story and photo for the newsletter.

Upcoming Concert

Zion Lutheran Church will be hosting a concert series this year, and ACM member **Jared Stellmacher** is **playing an organ recital at 6:00pm on Sunday, October 11**. The concert is free, donations will be gratefully accepted.

The church is located at 2165 Linden Ave, Madison, WI 53704 and more information is available by calling the church at (608) 244-1847.



Business Name

Keep in Touch...

Send submissions for

Church Music Notes to:

Linda Warren

P.O. Box 45765, Madison, WI 53744-5765
or by e-mail to linda.warren@tds.net

Deadline for newsletter submissions is September 15 for the October 2015 issue.

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



Substitute list coordinator and registrar

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linda.warren@tds.net

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Father Michael Vanderhoef,
Assumption Greek Orthodox
Church, Madison, (608) 354-8873

www.MadisonACM.org
ACM@MadisonACM.org

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Cathedral Parish of St. Raphael, Madison

Scholarship Committee

Plan to attend the organ recital October 2, 2015, at St. James Catholic Church in Madison at 7:30 p.m. This year's recital will consist of original compositions from area organists. While most of the compositions are written for organ, there will be some compositions that include instruments and voices. These compositions will be published in a book that will be made available at the recital. **ACM members who attend the recital and are current in their membership fees will receive a free copy of the publication. If your membership, which was due July 1st, is not current, please submit it before September 30th.** A copy of the membership form is on the ACM website. Post the attached poster at your churches, forward it to your church office to include in upcoming bulletins and newsletters, or send it to your friends via email. If you are interested in providing refreshments, please contact one of the committee members.

In addition to the original composition publication, the committee will have organ, choral, piano, and other sacred music from its library available at the recital. You may purchase this music by making a donation to ACM. If you have music to donate, please contact a committee member. At last year's recital, organ students and teachers found several musical treasures to take home with them.

The committee awarded a scholarship to Michael Mills in July. Michael has been an active member in ACM for several years and participated in the last three organ recitals. Michael graduated from high school in June and will be attending the U of Kansas this fall to study organ and church music. Congratulations, Michael!

The Scholarship Committee

John Daane – 325-2821

Bruce Bengtson – 257-0377, bengtson@luthermem.org

Julie Shipe McClain – 938-2008, juliesm@uwalumni.com

Deborah Krauss Smith, ACM President, ex-officio member

John Krueger, ACM Treasurer, ex-officio member

**** Please help us generate publicity for this concert by printing and posting the poster on page five of this newsletter ** THANK YOU!**



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Church Music Notes

SEPTEMBER 2015 — VOLUME 33, ISSUE 1

GET YOUR **FREE**
BOOK OF ORGAN COMPOSITIONS

written by members of ACM, for solo organ, organ and violin, organ and voices!

Of course, there's a catch (or two):

1. You or your church must be current on ACM dues. (They were due July 1st.)
2. You must be present at the October 2 recital/fundraiser at St. James Church.

Your membership will be verified against a current list of paid memberships.

**For more information on the Association of Church Musicians,
Positions Open, Membership and Upcoming Program Highlights,
visit our website at www.MadisonAcm.org**



American Guild of Organists

Madison Chapter

Choristers Guild

Madison Chapter

ORGAN RECITAL

Original Compositions

written and played by

ACM Members

Free-will offering in support of the
Ruth Pilger Andrews Scholarship Fund

Friday, October 2, 2015, 7:30 p.m.

Tracker Organ by Wadsworth Organ Co., 1863
Rebuilt by J. C. Taylor & Co., 1987

Good Shepherd Parish at St. James Church
1130 St. James Ct., Madison

www.madisonacm.org

Five Favorites

from Naomi Matthees, the current ACM Board vice-president and Director of Liturgy and Pastoral Music at Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary Church in Sun Prairie. Her adult choir has 24 members, singing mostly SATB literature.

Amazing Grace, by John Coates, Jr. SATB, Shawnee Press A1130

This is a jazzy arrangement which breathes new life into an old standard. Each of the verses has a different setting; a range of dynamics are used, and each section of the choir gets the opportunity to shine. Also available in TTBB, SSA, SAB, 2 part.

Be Thou My Vision, arranged by Hal Hopson. SATB, Brookfield Press / Hal Leonard 08740491

Much of this arrangement of the classic hymn is actually sung in two parts; the final verse is melody with soprano descant. An optional part for 2 C instruments adds much to the accompaniment. This is a very accessible arrangement which, once learned, can be reviewed on short notice and used for almost any occasion.

For the Beauty of the Earth, by John Rutter. SATB, Hinshaw Music HMC-550

This has become a favorite of my choir; we now sing it twice a year, in the autumn and in the spring. The timing can be tricky at times, and a good accompanist is needed, but it is a piece well worth learning!

In the Bleak Midwinter, by Harold Darke. SATB, ECS Publishing, 1.5160.

(Also available at Choral Public Domain Library, www.cpd.org.)

In December 2008, BBC Music magazine published the names of 50 favorite Christmas carols, based on a poll of some 50 choir directors. Darke's setting of Christina Rossetti's beautiful text was rated #1. There are two solo verses (I prefer to have the sections sing them instead), and two verses with full choir.

With a Voice of Singing, by Martin Shaw. SATB, J. Curwen & Sons / G. Schirmer 8103

"An oldie but a goodie"; I remember the adult choir at the church of my childhood singing this classic, and I had to teach it to my own choir. Includes a little counterpoint, and a lot of solid, joyful harmony. Good for the Easter season or another festive occasion.

Madison Area Community Chorus rehearsals resume September 15 & 17

Madison Area Community Chorus rehearsals for the new season begin on **Tuesday, September 15, 6:30-8:00pm** (planned for Middleton High School) and **Thursday, September 17, 7:30-8:45pm** (Immanuel Lutheran Church, 1021 Spaight Street, Madison). You need only attend one location each week and can alternate locations as needed...or attend both! Rehearsals are held on most Tuesdays and Thursdays.

New Singers Welcome! We are excited to welcome new singers in all voice parts and invite you to bring a friend or two with you! There is no audition required to join. Thank you for sharing and/or posting the attached flyer, much appreciated!

Here are some of the exciting events planned for the chorus:

Annual MADISON AREA COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL 2015...December 19 & 20, Middleton PAC

One of the highlights for the **Madison Area Community Christmas Festival** will be another outstanding Christmas cantata by the ever amazing choral composer Joseph Martin...appropriately titled "Festival of Carols!" Featured will be the Madison Area Community Chorus & Orchestra, choir soloists, Ringing Badgers Handbells Ensemble, audience Carol Sing, and more! Other highlights include selections from Messiah (For Unto Us, the Hallelujah Chorus) and more!

NEW Event: COMMUNITY DAY OF THANKS!...November 21 & 22, Immanuel Lutheran Church

Community Day of Thanks! is an area wide choral spectacular featuring choirs and singers from church and community choirs, with organ, brass, and the Ringing Badgers Handbell Ensemble. A musical feast of familiar and beloved thanksgiving songs in celebration of the season of giving thanks.

Enjoy the remaining days of Summer, I look forward to welcoming you to a great season of song with Madison Area Community Chorus!

Mark Bloedow, Artistic Director, Madison Area Community Chorus

Maestro Productions, Inc., Madison, Wisconsin, www.musicdirectormeb@gmail.com