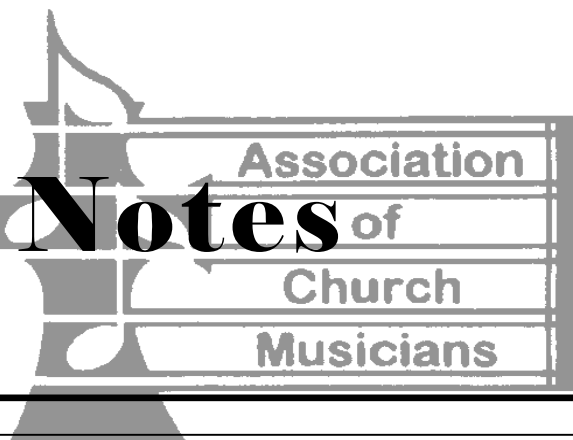


# Church Music Notes



**NOVEMBER 2011**

## President's Column

Dear friends –

I wish you all could attend the ACM Board meetings – there's nothing like it to feel plugged-in to the organization. Future newsletters will attempt to allow you to listen in to the conversation.

ACM member, Marlys Mittestadt is celebrating 50 years as organist at St. John's Lutheran Church, Madison. She is playing two recitals this fall – Nov. 12 and Dec. 10 – both are Saturdays at 11 am.

Nine ACM-ers met at St. Norbert's Church in Roxbury for a brief visit to that historic parish, and then walked across the parking lot to the Dorf Haus for the Bavarian Smorgasbord. After a pleasant evening of food and polka music, we rolled out the door to our cars and drove home through the pleasant Indian Summer night.

If you have an interest and ability in things financial, and would be interested in serving on the Ruth Pilger Andrews Scholarship Fund committee, get in touch with me to hear more.

Blessings on your work and witness.

Bruce Bengtson  
President, ACM

## Upcoming Events

**Sunday, November 27 at 2:00pm, Messiah Sing-a-long**

You are invited to join us for an afternoon of music and fun as the Sun Prairie United Methodist church plays host to a Messiah sing-a-long complete with chamber orchestra and guest soloists. For more information please visit the church's website at [www.sunprairieumc.org](http://www.sunprairieumc.org)

## Positions Available

**For more information, current listings and listings from previous newsletters, visit our website at [www.MadisonAcm.org](http://www.MadisonAcm.org).** Submissions for both online and newsletter job postings should be made to both [linda.warren@tds.net](mailto:linda.warren@tds.net) and [ACM@MadisonACM.org](mailto:ACM@MadisonACM.org).

**Choir Accompanist/Pianist:** Grace Lutheran Church in Monroe, WI is seeking a skilled pianist to accompany our adult choir at our Wednesday evening rehearsals (September through May). We sing at a few Sunday morning worship services every month and at special Holiday services throughout the year. For more information, or to submit a resume, e-mail Ann Herr at [ann.herr@hotmail.com](mailto:ann.herr@hotmail.com).

## Favorites from the Organ Bench—Deborah Krauss Smith

Welcome to a continuing feature in the ACM newsletter in which both ACM/AGO choral directors and organists are asked to share their "Five Favorites" with us. A "Favorite" may be a single work or a collection. Our request is "not to impress" but for suggestions that work on a weekly basis and could be in the repertoire of members. It is our hope that as you are contacted, you may respond with your favorites.

Deborah Krauss Smith has worked as an organist for over 40 years and is currently Organist/Director of Music at St. John's UCC in Monroe, WI. The congregation was established in 1862 by Swiss and German immigrants and still retains some of its Swiss heritage. Built in 1923 by Wangerin-Weickhardt of Milwaukee, the historic organ is relatively small with 2 manuals and 14 ranks. In addition to the usual specifications, there are two reeds, a lovely Voix Celeste, no mixtures, some mutation stops and several unified stops. It was one of the featured instruments on ACM's 2009 Alpine Organ Crawl.



### **All Creatures of our God and King** (Lasst uns erfreuen)

Setting by Hal H. Hopson, from "Five Preludes on Familiar Hymn Tunes"; Harold Flammer, HF-5123

Remember being told in theory class that parallel fourths are a big no-no? Hopson breaks that rule in a big way with this rhythmic and energetic piece...which is also easy! Changing meters, off-beat rhythms and unexpected harmonies, but very clear statements of the melody. Key of D. Great festive piece, usable in a lot of different situations.

### **Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee** (St. Agnes)

Setting by Emma Lou Diemer, from "With Praise and Love", Vol. II; Sacred Music Press

Very un-Diemer-like in that the piece is pretty straight-forward, the melody is obvious, and the harmonies rather conventional; nonetheless, a very beautiful, reflective setting written in the key of D-flat (five flats). Wonderful for introspective times like communion or funerals.

### **Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott** (A Mighty Fortress is our God)

Settings by Johann Walther and Johann Pachelbel; from "80 Chorale Preludes", ed. Hermann Keller; C.F. Peters Corporation

From this old standby collection comes two settings that, when played back-to-back, make a nice prelude and fugue. Start with the 16th-note manuals-only setting by Walther, followed by the Pachelbel fughette, which has less "motion" and states the melody in the pedal line. Two contrasting pieces, both in the key of D, that unintentionally work quite well together.

### **Cold December Flies Away** (Catalonian Carol)

Setting by Charles W. Ore, from "11 Compositions for Organ", Set V; Concordia 97-6107

The pedal chord clusters of Old Man Winter are no match for the energetic dance-like rhythms of the manuals, all of which build and eventually burst into a joyous statement of the carol. Unexpected ending in which December literally flies away...and will make your congregation smile. :-)

### **Festival Toccata**

Percy Fletcher; found in "Ceremonial Music for Organ" (Oxford) and other sources

A flashy forgotten gem from the early 20th century, this relatively easy piece begins with rapid firing of alternating 16th-note chords in the two hands over a pedal point. Key of C. Quite long (about 7 minutes) in its entirety, but can easily be modified for church use.

Church Music Notes is the newsletter of the  
Association of Church Musicians, Madison Chapters of Choristers

## Keep in Touch...

Send submissions for

**Church Music Notes** to:

Linda Warren

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or by e-mail to [linda.warren@tds.net](mailto:linda.warren@tds.net)

Deadline for newsletter submissions is November 15 for the  
December 2011 issue.

Other correspondence should be sent to:

ACM, P. O. Box 5321, Madison, WI 53705



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## More Music Available, Donations Always Welcome

Need some "new" music? On a tight budget? ACM has in the past several years received a lot of music for organ, music for piano and organ duet, and music for organ plus other instruments. There is standard repertoire as well as unusual works and titles no longer in print. There is also vocal and choral music. Contributors to the collection since the September newsletter include: Pam Girard, Lynn Lemberger, and Julie Shipe McClain. Thank you to all contributors!

Any ACM member is welcome to peruse the collection and make a selection. In return a donation of the member's choice is expected. This could be a good source of music for you or your students and an excellent way to support ACM as well. If you are downsizing your music library, please consider adding to this collection. For any questions or to make an appointment to visit the collection, please contact John Krueger (608.249.0679; [j.krueger@att.net](mailto:j.krueger@att.net)).

## MUSICA MAXIMA concerts at First Congregational Church, Beloit

All concerts are Sunday afternoons at 3:00pm. Everyone is invited; freewill offerings are taken to help in expenses. More information is available at [info@firstcon.org](mailto:info@firstcon.org), [maxyount@gmail.com](mailto:maxyount@gmail.com), (608) 365-9256

**Sunday, November 13, 3:00pm, German organist, Heinrich Walther**, will perform Franz Liszt's, Weinen, Klagen, in both the piano version and the familiar organ version. Then Herr Walther will perform his own transcription for organ of an orchestral piece by Max Reger, Symphonic Prologue to a Tragedy, Opus 108.

**Sunday, December 18, 3:00pm, Max Yount, harpsichord and organ, Dr. Beth J. Yount, harpsichord, and Dr. Susan Behrens, piano.** Program: J. S. Bach W T C II, Preludes and Fugues in b, a and D; Suite in F by Louis Couperin; Bach's Concerto in C Major for two harpsichords; Bach (organ) "Now Come, Savior of the Nations", Canonic Variations on a Christmas Song, "From Heaven Above to Earth I Come" and the Great G Major Prelude Jakob Hansen, baroque violin (Chicago), Eric Miller, viola da gamba (Madison), Anton Ten-Wolde, baroque Fugue; and familiar carols in arrangement for piano and organ.

**Sunday, February 5, 3:00pm, Driftless Baroque:** Jakob Hanson, baroque violin (Chicago), Eric Miller, viola da gamba (Madison), Anton TenWolde, baroque cello (Madison) and Max Yount, harpsichord (Beloit). A program of trio sonatas by Dietrich Buxtehude, and J. S. Bach's Sonatas nos. 2 and 3 for viola da gamba and harpsichord

**Sunday, April 15, 3:00pm will be a concert shared by two artists: Elaine Uffenbeck, organ, and Johanna Yount Baldwin, piano.** Elaine will perform César Franck's great Choral no. 2 in B Minor, and Fantasia no. 1 by Petre Eben. Johanna will perform Robert Schumann's Symphonic Variations, Op. 13, and five Preludes by Claude Debussy.



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## Church Music Notes

NOVEMBER 2011 — VOLUME 29, ISSUE 3

### Membership Renewal Update

As of October 6, 70 churches, listing a total of 217 people, have renewed membership in the Association of Church Musicians for 2011-2012. In addition 8 people have registered as individual members and 49 people have membership in the Madison chapter of the American Guild of Organists. If you or your church have not renewed membership, please do so as soon as possible. ACM membership for 2010-2011 totaled 80 churches and 10 individuals. AGO membership totaled 48. **You can find renewal forms on the ACM website: [www.MadisonACM.org](http://www.MadisonACM.org).**

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Association of Church Musicians,  
Positions Open, Membership and  
Upcoming Program Highlights,  
visit our website at  
[www.MadisonAcm.org](http://www.MadisonAcm.org)**

## 'Messiah' unites choirs for two performances

**Saturday, November 12, 7:30pm, Church of the Nativity, Dubuque**

**Sunday, November 13, 2:00pm, Queen of the Rosary Chapel, Sinsinawa Mound**

The "Messiah" Concert is a longstanding tradition in the tri-state area. The Dubuque Chorale performed it in their inaugural season 40 years ago and has performed it every five years since. The Sinsinawa Civic Chorus is presenting its 20th annual performance of Handel's masterwork this year. To celebrate, the two choirs will join forces with the University of Dubuque Chorus and a full orchestra to present "Messiah" Celebratory Concerts. The first concert will be held Saturday, Nov. 12, at the Church of the Nativity in Dubuque at 7:30pm. The second will be Sunday, Nov. 13, in Queen of the Rosary Chapel at Sinsinawa Mound at 2:00pm. A freewill offering will be accepted. Dr. Robert K. Demaree will direct the performance. He is the current director of the Dubuque Chorale and was the tenor soloist at the first "Messiah" concert performed at Sinsinawa Mound in 1992. Demaree shared what it means to be returning to Queen of the Rosary Chapel. "I have been in love with the Sinsinawa sanctuary since my first trip there in 1992. Since Handel's 'Messiah' is probably the most famous and beloved choral work ever created, it is exceptionally meaningful for me to have the opportunity to bring it to life in this sacred space." He is equally excited about performing in Dubuque, saying, "The Church of the Nativity is a truly unique site for this performance—it is such a beautiful, open, airy space. The acoustic is lovely—it amplifies the sound in a warm way and helps minimize notes that aren't quite perfect." Each choir is rehearsing individually. They will gather as a group to practice under Demaree's direction closer to the concert dates. The Sinsinawa Civic Chorus of 35 people is directed by Sister Marie Juan Maney, OP, a role she has had for the entire 20 years of the choir's existence. The University of Dubuque Chorus has 39 members and is directed by Dr. Charles Barland. The Dubuque Chorale has 80 members. The orchestra is also a collaborative effort. Kevin Price-Brenner, orchestra contractor, has paired professional musicians, four or five of them being University of Wisconsin-Platteville (UW-P) music faculty, with about a dozen of the most advanced UW-P music students. The professional musicians will mentor the students as they rehearse, providing valuable experience and knowledge. Demaree sees the partnership for these events as important for the tri-state area. "One of the things that engendered this event was a spirit of sharing and cooperation between several cultural and educational institutions in our area. . . . It's a wonderful statement of common interest, common love of the arts, and common dedication to something that's bigger than ourselves." As an extension of that partnership, the soloists will all be members of the three choirs. For more information on the concerts, contact Sheila Heim at (608) 748-4411. Church of the Nativity is located at 1225 Alta Vista Street. Sinsinawa Mound, the Motherhouse for the Sinsinawa Dominican Sisters, is located in southwest Wisconsin on County Road Z, off Highway 11, about five miles northeast of Dubuque.

### **Also at Sinsinawa Mound:**

**Mondays November 28, December 5, December 12 and December 19 at 7:00pm**

Advent Taize Prayer: Prepare your heart for the gift of Christ's birth in the simple, meditative prayer chants of Taize music. The communal singing of this ecumenical worship, led by Sister Mary Ellen Winston, OP, will draw you into a deeper prayer experience at this most holy of seasons. Please join us. For information, call Sister Mary Ellen at (608) 748-4411, ext. 843. There is no fee.

**Sunday, December 4, 3:00pm, enjoy a concert, "Family Fireside,"** in the auditorium. The Sinsinawa Strings Orchestra will play Advent music and other tunes to welcome in the holiday season. The audience can show their holiday spirit during a sing-along. The 30-piece orchestra is comprised of musicians from the tri-state area. A freewill offering will be accepted. For information, contact Sister Dorothy Hughes, OP, at (608) 748-4411, ext. 883.

For more information on these and other activities at the Mound, contact Guest Services at (608) 748-4411 or visit our website at [www.sinsinawa.org/moundcenter](http://www.sinsinawa.org/moundcenter). Sinsinawa Mound, the Motherhouse for the Sinsinawa Dominican Sisters, is located in southwest Wisconsin on County Road Z, off Highway 11, about five miles northeast of Dubuque.