

MAY 2017

www.SWMichiganAGO.org**BACH AROUND THE BLOCK**
30th Annual Collaboration

Monday 8 May at 7 p.m.
 Beginning at First Congregational Kalamazoo
 Continuing to First United Methodist
 Concluding at St. Augustine Cathedral

Once again it's time to crawl around Bronson Park visiting several Kalamazoo organs. Coordinated by Tom Fielding, this year's theme is "A Few Fugues for the Festival." Six chapter members will perform including Steven Flick, Brooks Grantier, Glenn Getty, Al Bolitho, Thomas Fielding, and John Ourensma.

Our Bach Around the Block collaboration with the Kalamazoo Bach Festival Society has been one of our most successful outreach programs attracting 200-300 people annually. The evening will conclude with a reception at St. Augustine Cathedral.

*The actual printed program
 has been included both as page 4 and
 as a separate document (for more clarity).*

OUR DEAN'S MESSAGE
from Dr. Stephen White

Dear Colleagues,

It's hard to believe that we are so near to the end of another program year. Many exciting things have taken place this year, and we are poised to continue making a positive impact in Southwest Michigan. Plans are already underway for our 2017-18 program year and we are always looking for ways to grow both our chapter membership.

We are fortunate to live and work in an area that has many wonderful organs, performance/worship spaces, and enthusiastic audiences. But as fortunate as we are, we must all do our individual part in spreading the word and encouraging greater participation in all of our guild activities. I would challenge each of us to

extend a personal invitation to at least five people to attend the Bach Around the Block program on May 8. While the audience is generally quite large for this event, just imagine what it could be!

As we move to the end of the year, we also have the annual election of the officers who lead our chapter. We have been blessed with a very solid group of individuals who have worked diligently behind the scenes to make everything work smoothly. While we all might find it "easier" if the same folks continued to serve year after year, we must realize that life events cause necessary changes and, quite frankly, fresh faces with new ideas can be very healthy for chapter growth and development.

Executive Committee Updates: This year we need to replace three positions on the board: Councilor (three-year term), Sub Dean, and Treasurer. The executive board meets four times annually to set programming and budgets, to administer scholarships, to shape the internal/external image of the chapter, and to discuss programs and issues from across the Guild that may have a more local impact.

If you have ever been interested in serving in this capacity, I would love to hear from you. I have formulated a nominating committee comprised of Janet Hill, Brooks Grantier, and myself, and it will be necessary to present a slate of officers to the voting members of our chapter by the end of May. I am especially interested in hearing from some of our newer members – what drew you to the Guild? What ideas do you have for programming and chapter growth? How do you believe you could be of service to our chapter?

I believe that anyone who has served the Guild as a chapter officer would agree that they have gained a broader understanding of what the AGO has to offer its members and the broader community, and that their membership in the Guild has been made more valuable by this executive board experience. I do hope you will consider accepting this call to service.

Soli Deo Gloria!
 Stephen White, Dean

JUNE GATHERING PREVIEW *Milwood United Methodist Kalamazoo*

Do anticipate a Monday, June 5, dinner meeting, our installation of officers, and an opportunity to share and peruse anthems.

5:30 p.m. Social Time
6:00 Catered Dinner
7:00 Officer Installation Service
7:15 Choral Reading Section

Instructions for making a dinner reservation will be sent at a later date. The important item at this time is to invite you to participate in the choral reading part of the program. Please note this message from our sub-dean, Elizabeth Bruce.

Do you have a choral piece that you and your choir LOVE? If so, we would enjoy nothing more than to have you share it with us at our end-of-the-year choral reading session! Here is what we need:

- * Unison / 2-part / SAB pieces that would work for a summer choir or small group.
- * Children's choir pieces at both the beginning and intermediate levels.
- * Some SATB, although we want to make sure that we are inclusive of ALL types of choir programs – no matter if you have one bass and fourteen altos, or a 40-person chorus, we want you to take something away from this event that you can use at your church.
- * One more request for our choral reading sharers: please be or supply your own accompanist.
- * Finally, if you are, indeed, willing to bring an anthem for this session, please email Elizabeth Bruce (ekent1231@gmail.com) to let her know.

Thank you!

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SUMMARY *from Secretary Kay Ensfield*

Reports were presented and accepted.

Programming for the June meeting is coming along. In the May newsletter Elizabeth plans to ask people to bring a choral piece that works well for them. Anthems could be SATB, SAB, two part, or arranged for children. Members bringing music should either be prepared to accompany the piece, or bring an accompanist. We will also have Officer Installation at

the June meeting. The nominating committee for next year was discussed. We will need a new sub-dean, a new treasurer, and a new councilor to replace Helene Stuurwold whose term expires in June.

Bach Around the Block update: Tom reports that things are coming along fine. The theme will be "fugues." The program will begin at First Congregational, move to First United Methodist, and end at St. Augustine. There will be a light reception at St. Augustine after the last section of the program.

Student chapter members will again eat for free at the June meeting as long as they make a reservation. People who make a reservation for a meal and then do not come will still be expected to pay for the meal as we order meals from a caterer and must pay for all we order. This rule includes student members who make a reservation and do not come even if they otherwise would eat for free. [For future years, we are recommending that as part of the budget process each May the matter of free meals be revisited. In other words, they may not always be free, depending on the annual upcoming budget.]

We have had our **first application for a David Sly scholarship**. We awarded \$500 to Nathan Johnson, a high school student of Karl Schrock who wants to go into church music.

The **next meeting** will be Monday, May 15, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. at St. Luke's Kalamazoo.

TWO LONGTIME MEMBERS RELOCATING *Phil Niece and Paul Flyger*

Phil Niece and his wife Kathy are now in Evansville, Indiana. In Phil's words, "After 40+ years we are moving close to our grandchildren." He is going to miss his guild member colleagues, and we are going to miss him as well. While with our chapter, he has served on the Executive Committee, and stepped forward to help us with the 2013 regional convention when he headed up our exhibitor recruitment effort.

Paul Flyger is relocating to Oregon, also to be closer to his family. Born in South Dakota, Paul ended up in Michigan after having also lived in Utah, Arizona, and California. He has resided in Southwest Michigan 28 years and has been organist at First Congregational Saint Joseph for 24 of those years. He has served our chapter faithfully as a board member and treasurer; he also did sacrificial work in several roles as we prepared to host the 2013 regional convention. We wish Paul godspeed and thank him for his significant contributions to our chapter.

PIPE ORGAN ENCOUNTERS *POE Sessions for 2017*

From the National AGO: Eight summer programs for teens and adults will be supported with generous funding from the Associate Pipe Organ Builders of America, the American Institute of Organbuilders, the Jordan Organ Endowment, and the NEA. Here is a list of dates and locations.

POE (for ages 13-18)
June 11–16 Sioux Center, Iowa
July 16–22 San Diego, California
July 16–21 Hartford, Connecticut
July 23–27 Winchester, Virginia

POE Advanced (for grades 9–12)
June 25–30 Birmingham, Alabama
July 23–28 Seattle, Washington

POE (for adults)
June 25–30 San Antonio, Texas

POE Technical (for ages 16–23)
July 9–14 Berkeley Lake, Georgia

Complete information for each session can be found at www.agohq.org/education/poe.

ORGANizer CALENDAR

*Please send entries to cdayday@chartermi.net as early as you wish. They will be entered in a master calendar and shared in each issue as space permits. Chapter member names are noted in **SMALL CAPS**.*

Kalamazoo Bach Festival Week begins May 5 and continues through May 14. It includes our Thirtieth Annual Back Around the Block Organ Crawl beginning at 7 p.m. on Monday, May 8, in First Congregational Kalamazoo. See details on page one. For a complete listing of Bach Festival events visit www.KalamazooBachFestival.org or call (269) 337-7407

Choral Evensong on Sunday, May 7, at 5 p.m. in Saint Thomas Episcopal Battle Creek (15 E Van Buren St). Begins with a 4:30 p.m. Organ Prelude by STEVEN FLICK. Sung by The Treble Choristers & Ladies of the Choir conducted by STEPHEN WHITE: Responses by A. Prentice, Canticles by P. Moore, Anthem by W. H. Harris. Freewill offering.

The University Chorale (from Western Michigan University) on Tuesday, May 16, at 7 p.m. in Milwood United Methodist Church Kalamazoo (3919 Portage Rd) under the direction of Dr. Kimberly Dunn Adams. Normally on Sunday afternoons, this Milwood Series concert was scheduled to be the kick-off concert for the Chorale's spring tour of Northern Europe and the Baltic States. Freewill offering.

Steven Flick and Friends Organ Recital on Friday, May 19, at 7 p.m. in First Baptist Church Kalamazoo (315 W. Michigan Ave). Free

Stephen White Organ Recital on Sunday, May 21, at 5 p.m. in Saint Thomas Episcopal Battle Creek (15 E Van Buren St). Freewill offering.

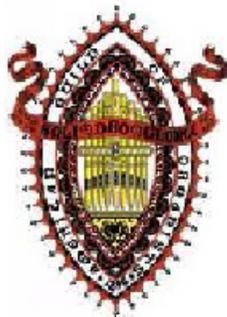
Choral Evensong for Pentecost on Sunday, June 4, at 5 p.m. in Saint Thomas Episcopal Battle Creek (15 E Van Buren St). Begins with a 4:30 p.m. Organ Prelude by STEPHEN WHITE. Sung by an Eastern Deanery Choir: Responses by R. Sheppard, Canticles by ERIC STRAND, Anthem by O, Gibbons. Freewill offering.

March Organ Crawl Revisited

Pictured below is the 1940s Möller console at First Congregational Charlotte which was one of the instruments visited during the March organ crawl in Olivet and Charlotte which we shared with colleagues from the Greater East Lansing Chapter.

We thank chapter member **Steven Schrier** for this and other photos taken to document the day's activities.





2017

The American Guild of Organists
Southwest Michigan Chapter

BACH AROUND THE BLOCK XXX • 8 MAY 2017
"A FEW FUGUES FOR THE FESTIVAL"

First Congregational Church

Tocatta, Adagio et Fuga in C-Dur, BWV564

Steven Flick, organist Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Hillsdale

"A Fugal Miscellany on B-A-C-H"

Fugue in E \flat minor, BWV867

Fugue in A minor, BWV958

Fughetta in C minor, BWV961

Fugue in B minor (on a theme of Albinoni), BWV951a

Brooks Grantier, FAGO, retired director of music Trinity Episcopal, Marshall

First United Methodist Church

Praeludium et Fuga in f-moll, BWV534

Glenn Getty, student at Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo

Tocatta et Fuga in F-Dur, BWV540

Al Bolitho, retired organist, First Congregational Church, Battle Creek

St. Augustine Cathedral

Fantasia et Fuga in c-moll, BWV537

Thomas Fielding, director of liturgy and music, St. Augustine Cathedral, Kalamazoo

Praeludium et Fuga in Es-Dur, BWV552

John Gurensana, director of music, First United Methodist Church, Hillsdale