



The Prelude

April 2015

MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN...

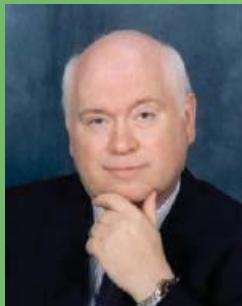
Just maybe, by the time you read this, Spring will have sprung! I hope that our Easter and springtime church festivals will be met with great weather. Hope "springs" eternal!

It is also time to have a serious springtime REALITY CHECK as regards our Toledo AGO Chapter. According to my count, we have 103 names in our current directory. Of our total membership, only 31 are regular members. At last count, we have lost 21 members (who didn't pay any dues) since last year. We DID gain 8 new members! But, more than half of our members are Seniors, Chapter Friends, or Students.....and we certainly value them and are delighted to have them in our membership. But, we also must note that those membership designations feature discounted dues. All of this means less income for the Toledo Chapter to be applied to programming, scholarships, and other expenses. If you've been reading the TAO, you will be aware that this is a national trend and not unique to our chapter.

Because of this, we were not able to follow our custom last fall of putting our usual chapter contributions toward the Scholarship Fund. We could possibly handle future programming in the following way: we could drop back from our usual 8 programs per year to maybe 4 or 5 – two in the fall and two in the spring? It is most likely this spring that our general fund will drop below \$1000, which will certainly impact next year's programming. And, sadly, we would have to remove names from our directory and email list of those non-contributors who we have just been carrying along.

I encourage you to read carefully the letter our treasurer, Pam Davis, inserted into this newsletter about dues and the Guild's new "rolling membership" program. Also, closely read the news in the February TAO about the state of the Guild nationally. It is interesting reading!

Thanks so much to all involved in the student recital program at St. Aloysius Church in Bowling Green on March 8th. Thanks to the performers and for the substantial audience that came out to support them! We now look forward to the concert by internationally known organist Gail Archer on April 26 at Monroe St. UMC, noted elsewhere in this publication.



My apologies for this "doom and gloom" message, but I think you need to know the situation. Please let me or one of the board members know if you have any thoughts and programming recommendations that we could consider for next year! Happy Easter and Passover!

Neil Kraft, Dean

Toledo AGO Contact Info

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Nancy Russell, Membership Chair	419-874-0379 navon@wcnet.org

MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open to all interested in the organ. To become a member of the Toledo Chapter, contact Nancy Russell at navon@wcnet.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

To submit articles, news, concerts, or vacant positions, contact:

Email: Kathy Rupp
kathy.rupp744@gmail.com

Newsletter: Melissa Flowers
mflowers@findlaysmichael.org

WEBSITE

www.toledoago.org



NEXT AGO EVENT:

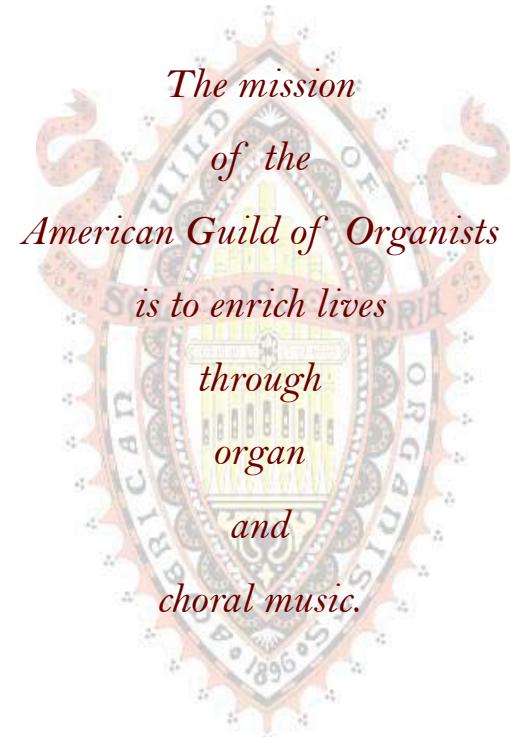
Gail Archer, Organist

Sunday, April 26, 2015 - 4:00pm

Monroe Street UMC, Toledo

Gail Archer is well known as an inspiring and accomplished performer. A recent review in *The Diapason* states in regard to a recent recording, "It takes a great technique to play the organ works of Liszt; Gail Archer is certainly up to the task and does so brilliantly."

Don't miss this exciting recital by a virtuoso player!



From our Treasurer:

The AGO National Council has established **new dues rates for all dues categories**. The new rates will appear on the **April 1** renewal notices that AGO Headquarters will send to current chapter members renewing for the 2015-2016 membership year. These rates are **\$100 for Regular members; \$75 for Special members; \$40 for Student members; and \$75 for Partners**. The new rates reflect a **\$3 increase in each membership category**, with **\$2 being retained by each chapter and \$1 allocated to National Headquarters**. The Toledo Chapter Friend rate is now **\$39**, reflecting the **\$2 national increase to chapters**.

The new dues rates will take effect on April 1 for those who join the Guild for the first time either as Chapter members or as Independent members, or who reinstate as either Chapter members or Independent members after their memberships have lapsed.

Separately, the National Council has authorized the National Headquarters to initiate a “**rolling membership year**” for those who are joining a chapter for the first time or reinstating after their membership has lapsed. This means that a member’s expiration date will be one year from the date on which the member joined; i.e., on the anniversary of the join date. Under this plan, **all current chapter members will retain their July 1-June 30 membership year as long as they renew by September 1**. For new and reinstating members, however, the membership year will commence on the first of the month in which the member joins the Guild. Independent members, like TAO subscribers, have always followed a rolling membership year and will continue to do so.

When you receive your invoice you have 3 options: renew online, send your renewal to national, or send your renewal to me, Pam Davis, Community of Christ Lutheran Church 6517 Finzel Rd Whitehouse, OH 43571. I will then send your renewal to national. **If you ever need a copy of your invoice** you can get it online or contact me, Pam Davis, at music@commofchrist.org or 419-346-0279, and I will send it to you. And, please, contact me if you ever have any questions.

Pam Davis, Treasurer



Hillsdale First United Methodist Church in Hillsdale, Michigan, will present **Bradley Hunter Welch**, well-known organ virtuoso and accomplished church musician from Dallas, Texas, in concert on Sunday, April 19 at 4:00 PM. Bradley will play a varied and accessible program with a special emphasis on sacred repertoire. It's the second program of Hillsdale First's 2015 Community Concert Series.

Dear Colleagues:

I'd like to invite you to attend a solo organ recital, which I will perform, on Sunday April 19 at 4pm at First Congregational Church of Ann Arbor. The program will feature all baroque works by Georg Muffat, Girolamo Frescobaldi, Heinrich Scheidemann, Johann Gottfried Walther, J. S. Bach and C. P. E. Bach.

It would be great to see you if you're free that afternoon.

Best Wishes,

Kola Owolabi

Associate Professor of Organ
University of Michigan



The Findlay Arts Partnership presents...

Josh Brodbeck, Organist



Friday, April 17, 2015

6:30pm Demonstration, 7:30pm Concert

St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church

750 Bright Road, Findlay, OH

This event is free to the public. Good-will donations will be accepted.

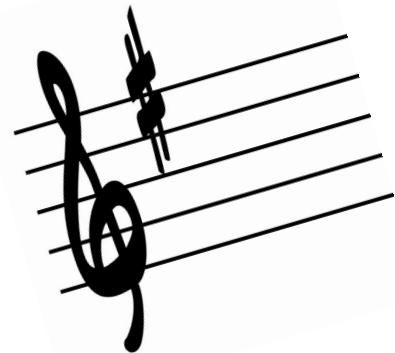
Joshua Brodbeck began his concert career in Slovenia, Europe at the age of twelve. Since then, he has given many concerts throughout the United States. Mr. Brodbeck has studied with Steve Jacoby and international concert organist Todd Wilson. In 2007, Mr. Brodbeck won the Indianapolis American Guild of Organists Young Artist competition. Also in 2007, he was the recipient of Keller award for outstanding performance at Capital University. In 2008, Mr. Brodbeck won the Perrini award for performance. In 2009, he won the Evansville American Guild of Organist Young Artists Competition and received second place in the Region V American Guild of Organist Young Artist Competition in Detroit. His performances have been featured on television and public radio. Mr. Brodbeck holds the Colleague certificate from the American Guild of Organists. (The American Organist, October 2009) He serves as Director of Music at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Upper Arlington, Ohio, where he is nicknamed "Herr Kapelle Meister." Mr. Brodbeck is also the Organist-in-Residence at the Methodist Theological School of Ohio.

TOLEDO AGO PROGRAM YEAR

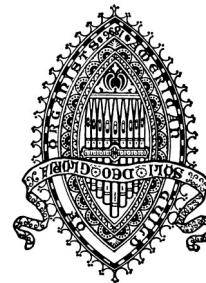
Sunday, April 26, 2015 – Concert Organist Gail

Archer -4:00 PM at Monroe Street UMC in
Toledo. Co-sponsored with the Church and
Chapter. Denise Mathias, host.

Sunday, May 17, 2015 – Spring Program and
Dinner (on the road!) Touring a very
comprehensive musical instrument collection
in Dundee, MI. Dinner will follow at a local
restaurant.



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Toledo Chapter AGO
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