

# Notes from A Loft

October 2023

The American Guild of Organists

Tampa, Florida Chapter

*Celebrating 75 years!*

Hello members! Welcome to Fall!

Our chapter members enjoyed fellowship and food on a pleasant Sunday afternoon, September 15th. Stories were shared and friendships renewed. What a wonderful way it was to kick-start our year.

Our October Halloween event will be held at the Tampa Theater (711 N. Franklin Street, Tampa 33602) Friday, October 20th at 7:00 p.m. Steven Ball will accompany the dramatic/suspenseful silent film "The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari" Our chapter members can purchase discount tickets using the code TPAAGO on the theater website. I remember last year's Tampa Theater event where Steven was playing while we watched a Buster Keaton silent film. It is amazing how you are swept away by the movie and totally forget that there is an original LIVE organ performance happening! Plus, there's popcorn! Get your ticket soon as this may sell out fast! Contact me if you are interested in setting up a car-pool for this event.

Looking ahead, the annual Members Recital will be held on Saturday, November 11 at 4 p.m. at Palma Ceia Presbyterian Church (3501 San Jose Street, Tampa 33629) honoring Veteran's Day. It's not too early to think about playing on this program. Contact me at SLAFL@AOL.COM or text me at 813.997.7859 if you wish to participate and play the magnificent Cassavant at Palma Ceia. Thank you, Nancy Callahan, for hosting this event!

December is a hectic month for all musicians, so our board has scheduled an early Holiday Social on Friday, December 1st at Red Lobster on Dale Mabry in Tampa. We'll gather at 6 p.m. for cocktails, etc. and then plan to dine at 6:30 p.m. RSVP's should be sent to Rebecca Steinke by Monday, November 27 to rsvpAGODECEMBER@gmail.com with your name and the number in your party. Thank you Rebecca for coordinating this event!

In November and December, to make our chapter more visible in the area, we will be collecting canned or dry goods to be given to local food banks to help alleviate food insecurities for families in the Tampa Bay area. Bring your items and I will collect and deliver them to a local organization.

I look forward to seeing everyone at our upcoming events as we continue to celebrate 75 years of being a part of the American Guild of Organists! Soli deo gloria!

Stephen L. Allen, Dean

# AGO PROGRAMS

## 2023-2024

Save the dates and times where applicable.  
All other details will come as they are confirmed!

October 20, 7 p.m.– “The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari” at the Tampa Theatre  
Accompanied by Steven Ball

November 11, 4 p.m. – Member’s Recital  
Palma Ceia Presbyterian Church

December 1, 6p.m. - Holiday Social  
Red Lobster – Dale Mabry – Tampa  
RSVP to [rsvpAGOdecember@gmail.com](mailto:rsvpAGOdecember@gmail.com) by November 27

January 7, 2024  
Social with Clearwater and St. Pete Chapters  
101 Woodside in Clearwater 9Time TBA)

February  
Educational Programs on Organ and Choral Music

March 17, 4 p.m. - Bach Bash  
Hyde Park United Methodist Church

April  
Scholarship Auditions  
Bach Recital by Tom Ingui  
Election of Board Members

May  
Installation Service

***As a NEW project this year – our chapter will collect at each program non-perishable food items to be given to local food banks to help with the issue of food insecurities in the Tampa Bay area.***

***Your donations will be greatly appreciated!***



# Upcoming Concerts

## **United Methodist in Sun City Center**

- Sunday October 15th, 2023 – 3 p.m. - Organ Duet – Jonathan Poe and Teodora Mitze-Circiumaru.
- Sunday January 21st, 2024 – 3 p.m. - Piano Trio - Levi Mitze-Circiumaru - violin, Yoni Draiblate - cello, Teodora Mitze-Circiumaru - piano

First Presbyterian Church, Lakeland



# Peculiar Pipes

TOM INGUI'S HALLOWEEN RECITAL

FEATURING:

BOËLLMANN, SUITE GOTHIQUE

GREIG, PEER GYNT SUITE

DURUFLÉ, SUITE OP. 5

OCTOBER 29, 2023

3:00 PM | FREE



Scan for  
more details

175 LAKE HOLLINGSWORTH DR. | LAKELAND, FL 33801 | FPCLAKELAND.ORG





We receive many calls from chapter officers who are confused or have been misinformed about when a membership expires. I want to thank Phylcia Ross, CAE, manager of member engagement and chapter support, for clearly explaining the timeline that begins three months prior to a member's expiration. Please share this information with your members so that they fully comprehend that AGO payments are due by the *last day of the month before expiration*. For those of you who do not know how to access ONCARD, step-by-step instructions can be found [here](#). Each month a chapter officer should login to ONCARD to retrieve membership and dues reports. Your member roster should be analyzed, so that you can see who is coming up for renewal, who is about to be canceled and view expired members who you can encourage to rejoin. If you need help, please contact us!

## Understanding AGO's Renewal Timeline

### Three Months Before Your Expiration Date

An invoice is created for your next membership year. "Renew Dues and Subscriptions" appears on your ONCARD menu. Your status changes to "invoiced not paid" on your chapter's member roster. A renewal notice is sent from headquarters, either by email or postal mail depending on your preferences.

### Two Months Before Your Expiration Date

A second renewal notice is sent from headquarters, either by email or postal mail depending on your preferences.

### One Month Before Your Expiration Date

A third renewal notice is sent from headquarters by postal mail.

### 2 Weeks Before Your Expiration Date

Chapter officers receive notification of all members who have not yet renewed.

### Bill Due Date

AGO dues payments are due on the *last day* of the month before expiration.

### Expiration Date: Always the First of the Month

A membership expires, and a two week grace period begins at the time of expiration.

### Two Weeks After the Expiration Date

The grace period ends and memberships are marked canceled. If a payment is received after this date, delivery of *The American Organist* may be delayed.

# 2023 –2024 Officers –Tampa Chapter

## **Dean**

Stephen Allen

## **Sub-Dean**

Steven Ball

## **Secretary**

Michael Dougherty

## **Treasurer**

Van Howard

## **Members-At-Large**

Andre Botero -2026

Sylvia Chai -2026

Thomas Ingui -2025

Tony Sievert -2024

Rebecca Steinke -2025

Edwin Taylor -2024

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Rebecca Steinke, Webmaster

John Matthew Cowan, Social Media Coordinator

Please send any newsletter submission by no later than the 25<sup>th</sup> of the prior month for the next month's newsletter to Michael Dougherty at [mdougherty@hydeparkumc.org](mailto:mdougherty@hydeparkumc.org).

## Positions Available

Please send available positions to Michael Dougherty at [mdougherty@hydeparkumc.org](mailto:mdougherty@hydeparkumc.org) along with clear contact information for any inquiries

## Substitutes Available

(O –Organist, P –Pianist, O/D –Organist/Director, D –Director, V –Vocalist)

Please send updates or corrections to this list to Michael Dougherty at [mdougherty@hydeparkumc.org](mailto:mdougherty@hydeparkumc.org).

Inclusion in this list does not constitute the Chapter's endorsement of skills, and thus it encourages interviews with prospective substitutes. Those listed must be a member of the American Guild of Organists.

Mr. Stephen Allen	O/D	(813) 997-7859	Mon –Sat
Mr. Timothy Belk	O/D	(704) 309-0822	Sun, Tue –Sat
Ms. Cheryl Blackwell-Cox	O/P	(813) 465-3332	Sun -Sat
Ms. Sylvia Chai	O/D	(813) 390-0911	Sun –Sat
Mrs. Teodora Mitze-Circiumaru	O/P/D	352-251-9395	Mon-Sat
Dr. Christopher Combie	O	(813) 990-7369	Mon –Fri
Dr. Michael Dougherty	O/D	(813) 624-6768	Mon –Sat
Mr. Dennis Douglas	O	(813) 352-4748	Mon –Sat
Mr. John (Jay) Findlater	O/P	(313) 410-6478	Sun -Sat
Ms. Jan Ellis Highsmith	O	(813) 495-8905	Sun –Sat
Ms. Frances Johnson	O/P	(813) 730-4173	Sun -Sat
Mr. Cal Leferink	O/D	(813) 850-9845	Mon –Fri
Ms. Rebecca Steinke	O/D	(619) 841-8930	Mo, Tu, Th, Fr
Mr. Edwin Taylor	O/D	(203) 947-3497	Sun –Sat
Dr. Shawn Thomas	O/D	(850) 316-0321	Mon –Sat

## **ABOUT TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SEVEN SPRINGS (TPCOSS):**

Trinity Presbyterian Church of Seven Springs (TPCOSS) seeks a Director of Music Ministry to join our vibrant pastoral and program staff. We are a theologically conservative PCUSA church with a traditional worship service. We have 340 members, with approximately 200 worshipping on Sunday. Because of the importance of music in our worship, a creative vision is essential.

Our Adult chancel choir has between 12 and 20 members. The handbell choir plays during worship every couple of months. There are 4 octaves of Mallmark Handbells, 2 sets of 3 octave Schulmerich choir chimes, and well as some Orff instruments. We own a comprehensive music library with various choral, handbell and instrumental music. The 3 manual Rodgers organ can provide solid congregational song support and has the versatility to play German Baroque as well as French Romantic repertoire.

### **POSITION SUMMARY:**

The Director of Music Ministries is responsible to lead, develop, and guide TPCOSS's music worship. This requires a self-starter who can plan, implement, and grow/enhance the church's overall music program. This position reports to the Head of Staff and works directly with the elder-chairperson of the Worship and Music Ministry Team. Currently there is one Sunday service at 10:00 am; music rehearsals take place on Thursday evenings. This position works closely with the Pastor/Head of Staff and the Elder chairperson of the Worship and Music Ministry Team.

### **QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Follower of Jesus Christ
- Bachelor's degree or above in some area of music (organ and conducting preferred) and/or experience in a church work setting
- Good planning, organizational, and communication skills
- Ability to develop music skills in others; to work with a range of musical talent; and to instill a mindset of worship through music
- Understand choral rehearsal techniques and conducting; have the ability to conduct from the console
- Excellent keyboard skills on both organ and piano; proficiency with handbells
- Ability to appreciate and implement a variety of musical styles

### **DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- Provide a quality music program for the church; direct and accompany the Chancel Choir; accompany vocal and instrumental soloists; direct an adult hand bell choir; and provide piano or organ music for hymns and other interludes during regular Sunday services, and special worship services i.e., Christmas, Lenten services, Easter, marriages and funerals.
- Provide for a qualified substitute when the Director of Music Ministries, with prior approval, is not able to attend a worship service, choir rehearsal, or if unavailable for a wedding or funeral
- Attend all Staff meetings and Worship & Music Ministry Team meetings.
- Recruit, support, and direct choir rehearsals  Research and purchase material for the



music program within budget limits, organize and care for the music library, and oversee the purchase and maintenance of the church's musical equipment in consultation with the Worship & Music Ministry Team Elder Chairperson

- Maintain licenses for use of print and online music
- Work closely with the audiovisual and sound system technician to ensure proper audio and visual levels
- Coordinate the hiring of contracted musicians and soloists to enhance the worship experience
- Encouraged to maintain membership in professional organizations to develop relationships with area musicians

### **COMPENSATION & TERMS OF EMPLOYMENT:**

This is a part-time position requiring 15-20 hours per week. The starting salary is \$26,000. There is the possibility of continuing education funds, contingent upon availability. The use of facilities for private teaching is permissible; the number of students allowed is subject to the approval of the Worship Committee.

### **APPLICATIONS & HIRING PROCESS:**

Resumes can be emailed to the search committee chair Deborah Haglen at: dhaglen@hotmail.com. Alternatively, they can be mailed to:

Trinity Presbyterian Church of Seven Springs  
ATTN: Deborah Haglen  
4651 Little Road  
New Port Richey, FL 34655

All resumes must be received for consideration by November 1, 2023. Please include 3 references as well as an audio file (MP3) or link to your YouTube Channel to demonstrate your skill and ability. The final search process will include an interview and audition. We plan to hire for this position with a starting date of January 1, 2024.