

MEMBERS RECITAL MAY 19

CHAPTER PICNIC JUNE 30



Sforzando

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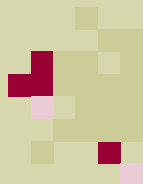
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Southwest Jersey Chapter American Guild of Organists



Anna Lapwood at A. C. Boardwalk Hall

Photo by Joseph Routon

Dean's Message -- by Jonathan Stark

What's She Got That I Ain't Got?

Anna Lapwood was here in America this month. Perhaps you have not heard of her? In a nutshell Anna Lapwood is a British concert organist, broadcaster, social media influencer, and university director of music. To some "social media influencer" can mean "all hat and no cattle." But that doesn't apply to Anna Lapwood. She is the real deal.

Anna Lapwood studied at Magdalen College, Oxford, where she was the first woman ever to receive an organ scholarship. At age 21 she became the youngest person in history appointed as director of music at an Oxbridge college when she became Director of Music at Pembroke College, Cambridge. She is an Associate Artist at Royal Albert Hall. She is a composer, and has created organ transcriptions of challenging works such as Britten's *Four Sea Interludes*. Besides organ, she plays piano, violin, viola, and harp; she was a harpist in the National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain. She was appointed MBE last year for her services to music. She's now 28.

.....continued on page 3

Sub-Dean's Report -- by Lawrence DePasquale, CAGO

As we are about to enter the Season After Pentecost, which begins on May 20 and ends with mid-day prayer on the Saturday before Advent I, we first celebrate Pentecost, the arrival of the Spirit, with our annual members' recital, this year at First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown, on May 19 at 4 PM. You will find a poster listing the many performers on the unique Marcussen organ, and we thank Joel Krott for hosting this event.

Then on Sunday, June 30 we look forward to our annual business meeting and picnic at the home of Evelyn Larter.

The Sundays After Pentecost make up the longest portion of the church year, where, in the Time of the Church, we focus on growing together in the life of God. Many denominations use readings that will focus on the life of Christ in his church, hearing of Jesus' healing the faithful and teaching his disciples. All that Jesus did was very invitational. He told his disciples to go out, preach, teach and baptize.

We are called in music ministry to do the same.
Nothing is going to happen if we all just sit there.
Go out. Come out. See you soon, we hope.



Deacon Lawrence De Pasquale



Take-aways from the Vocal/Choir Workshop with Lauren Athey-Janka—by Marilyn Rabbai

On Sunday afternoon, April 9, we gathered at Pitman United Methodist Church for a vocal pedagogy workshop presented by Professor Lauren Athey-Janka of Rowan University. As participants introduced themselves, we could see how diverse our comparative experiences were, with varied backgrounds in singing, conducting, and accompanying.

Our common goal was to learn more about healthy vocal production in the choral rehearsal, and Professor Athey-Janka was a passionately articulate advocate for healthy singing. She talked about her journey as a performer and educator, adding a personal note to some of the highlights listed in her extensive resume. Her explanation of the systems of the voice illustrated how those systems are optimally engaged to produce sound. She described singing as "a full-bodied experience," and explained the many factors that affect our production of vocal sound.

Particularly helpful were her demonstrations and suggestions for warm-ups, rehearsal techniques, exercises, and diagnostic tools. The interactive structure of this workshop allowed us to practice some of the basic ideas, ask questions and seek solutions for specific challenges we encounter in our rehearsals.

Professor Athey-Janka also talked about articulation, pronunciation, texts in multiple languages, and vocal physiology, providing a wonderful multi-page handout to help us remember key concepts. We had an opportunity to talk with her at the chili-fueled fellowship following the workshop.



Dean's Message, continued from page 1

On April 8 Ms. Lapwood played a recital on the 137 rank Mander organ at Princeton University Chapel. I attended with my colleague Erica Rose Smith who noted "Anna Lapwood was her version of Taylor Swift." The recital started at 8pm, the Chapel doors opened at 7pm, and Erica urged me to get us there early. Erica was right; when we arrived at 6:35, there were already 75 people lined up outside. A steady stream of concertgoers kept coming, by 8pm every pew in the Chapel was occupied. The Chapel officially seats 2,000. I estimate that there were close to 1,000 people there. Have you been to many organ recitals lately that drew 1,000 people?

Ms. Lapwood played pieces by living composers Kristina Arakelyan and Philip Glass, three movements from Hans Zimmer's score for the movie *Interstellar*, a *Suite* by Florence Price, and her own transcription of Debussy's *Clair de Lune*. And as if to prove her mastery of "conventional" repertoire, she also played Durufle's *Prelude et fugue sur le nom d'Alain*. She explored the full gamut of registrations on the big Mander organ. Her technique is brilliant, her musicianship is impeccable.

So what? Look at the ads for concert management agencies in TAO and you'll see many organists with brilliant technique and impeccable musicianship. Last year I attended a recital by Levente Kuzma in Philadelphia. Mr. Kuzma played Liszt's *Variations on Weinen, Klagen, Sorgen, Zagen* on a Fisk tracker— not the most congenial instrument for Liszt's music — and gave a dazzling performance. There were 35 people there.

Yes, Anna Lapwood is young and blonde and pretty, and has a charming (to American ears) RP accent. She's warm and engaging and personable. But 1,000 people didn't turn out just to see an attractive young Englishwoman with a congenial personality. What's she really got that others ain't got?

Here's a clue: as an encore, Ms. Lapwood offered the audience a choice between something from *Phantom of the Opera* and *Test Drive* from *How to Train Your Dragon* (composer John Powell). *Test Drive* was the overwhelming audience choice. And her performance was greeted by enormous audience approval. Anna Lapwood understands how to connect with non-organists, and even with non-musicians.

In the early 20th century Edwin Lemare was the most highly paid organist of his day, sometimes playing for audiences of 10,000. Much of what he played were orchestral transcriptions and his own light and popular compositions. It's no coincidence that Lemare's time was also the zenith of public esteem for the pipe organ. Anna Lapwood is showing us something important. Will we pay heed?

Soli Deo gloria.

Matters of Note -- by Cathy O'Neill



Hospitality

Thanks to Bill Mitchell for hosting the April meeting. After our member's recital in May there will be a reception. We will be having finger foods. Anyone who would like to donate cracker and cheese, dips and chips, veggie or fruit trays, cookies, or anything else please let me know in advance. Cathy 856-214-1928

Cares and Concerns

A note was sent to Ruth Fink. I will also be sending a get-well card to Jonathan who is having an elective procedure before the end of April. If you know of anyone else who would appreciate a card, please let me know at 856-214-1928 or cmo125@aol.com



*The Southwest Jersey Chapter
American Guild of Organists
presents its*

ANNUAL MEMBERS' RECITAL



**Layla Joshi, David Doan, Irina Nenartovich, Misty Fiske,
Vernon Williams, Glenn Rodgers,
Christopher Daly, Matthew Smith**

Hosted by Joel Krott

Sunday, May 19, 2024 at 4 PM

First Presbyterian Church

101 Bridgeboro Rd., Moorestown, NJ

The Nominating Committee of the Southwest Jersey AGO chapter is pleased to propose the following slate of nominees for the 2024 chapter elections:

Dean Jonathan Stark
Sub Dean David Reich
Secretary Cathy O'Neill
Treasurer Chuck Gibson

Executive Committee Members at Large, Class of 2027
Misty Fiske
Joanne Owen
David Rhody
Matt Smith

We thank these members for their willingness to serve our chapter. Please take the time to cast your vote in favor of their nominations.

Respectfully submitted,
Evelyn Larter, Chair
Christopher Daly, Irina Nenartovich, Cathy O'Neill, Theresa Savage

SOUTHWEST JERSEY CHAPTER
AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS
ELECTION BALLOT 2024

Please complete your ballot, do not sign it. Place it in an envelope, sign your name across the back flap, and mail *by May 15th* to:

Evelyn R. Larter, CAGO, Teller of the Election
507 Daretown Road
Elmer, NJ 08318-2724

You may also vote by email to Evelyn at erlarter@juno.com by *May 18th*

DEAN – Vote for one

____ Jonathan Stark
____ (write-in choice) _____

SUB-DEAN – Vote for one

____ David Reich
____ (write-in choice) _____

TREASURER/REGISTRAR - Vote for one

____ Chuck Gibson
____ (write-in choice) _____

SECRETARY – Vote for one

____ Cathy O'Neill
____ (write-in choice) _____

EXECUTIVE BOARD CLASS OF 2027 – Vote for four

____ Misty Fiske
____ Joanne Owen
____ David Rhody
____ Matt Smith
____ (write-in) _____
____ (write-in) _____
____ (write-in) _____
____ (write-in) _____

*The College/Community Chorus of Rowan College of South Jersey
presents its annual*

Spring Concerts

Featuring

*Maurice Gardner's setting of Kumbaya
Alfred Tennyson's Crossing the Bar
Howard Hanson's Song of Democracy
Peter Wilhousky's setting of Battle Hymn of the Republic*

R. William Powell, Guest Director

Sunday, May 5, 2024 at 4 PM

**First Baptist Church of Haddonfield
124 Kings Highway East, Haddonfield**

Tuesday, May 7, 2024 at 7:30 PM

**Trinity United Methodist Church
351 North Delsea Drive, Clayton**



*Lawrence De Pasquale, Director
Theresa Savage, Accompanist
Lisa Parker, Administrative Assistant*

FREE WILL OFFERING



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The Chorus operates under the Gloucester County Cultural & Heritage Commission,
funded by the RCSJ Gloucester Campus.



The Moon Ascending

Philadelphia
Voices of Pride

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
Daniel Schwartz

CONCERT DATE

Saturday, June 1, 2024
8:00 PM

LOCATION

The Church of the Holy Trinity
1904 Walnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Gabriel Fauré's *Requiem*
Ralph Vaughan Williams' *Dona Nobis Pacem*



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PIANO

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5/17 WAYNE, PA

5/19 CHERRY HILL, NJ



Application

DATE

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY, STATE, ZIP

PHONE

BEST TIME TO CALL

EMAIL ADDRESS

Your Place of Practice

NAME OF PRACTICE LOCATION (Church, Temple, etc.)

STREET ADDRESS

CITY, STATE

TYPE AND BUILDING OF ORGAN (if known)

Your Keyboard Background

YEARS OF PIANO STUDY

LIST ANY PREVIOUS CLASSICAL ORGAN STUDY

Your Goals and Musical Background

Please include on a separate sheet a brief statement of your goals and objectives for organ study and an outline of your musical background and experience.

Purpose

The organ scholarship awarded by the AGO is necessary in order:

- 1. To serve the congregations by increasing the roster of capable organists.
- 2. To foster an appreciation for sacred classical organ repertoire.
- 3. To encourage more musicians to meet the standards and ideals of the American Guild of Organists.
- 4. To ensure the continuation of the church music profession.

History

In the 1980's a decline in the number of qualified organists and in the number of new organ students became a concern for churches and Guild chapters across the country.

Inspired by an innovative "floating organ academy" begun in South Dakota and described in an article in *The American Organist*, AGO member Helen Taylor founded the Southwest Jersey Organ Scholarship program in 1988 as a way to help solve this problem. The first committee members were Marilyn Rabbai, Barbara Knight, Joyce Ann Routon, and Larry DePasquale.

Since its inception, more than two dozen organists have successfully completed the program. Many of these new organists have gone on to successful careers in area churches.

The Southwest Jersey Chapter is pleased to continue this tradition of service to its churches and to the art of organ playing.

AGO Code of Ethics

Approved by the AGO National Council January 27, 2017

Preamble/Preface

The American Guild of Organists encourages its members to embrace and practice the following values as core ideals that Guild members aspire to cultivate in their ethical and professional conduct.

Value 1. Responsible Conduct toward Those Whom We Serve (including but not limited to clergy, supervisors, congregants, choir members, students, children, et al.). Members shall:

- o Treat those whom they serve in a professional manner, with dignity, compassion, civility, and respect.
- o Show respect to those whom they serve, regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, age, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, marital status, socio-economic status, disability, or medical condition.
- o Avoid any sort of abusive behavior, whether verbal, physical, sexual, psychological, emotional, or other.
- o Refrain from disclosing confidential or sensitive information about others obtained in the course of professional service, unless disclosure serves a compelling professional purpose or is required by law.

Value 2. Respect for Our Professional Colleagues. Members shall:

- o Maintain a professional attitude and act with integrity in relationships with colleagues, regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, age, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, marital status, socio-economic status, disability, or medical condition.
- o Respect the reputation and diversity of colleagues.

Value 3. Integrity in Our Professional Work. Members shall:

- o Honor and abide by the conditions and requirements of the job descriptions and work agreements to which they have knowingly agreed, so long as those provisions are in accord with all applicable federal, state and local laws.
- o Follow, as applicable, the principles of professional conduct that are expressed in the AGO Code of Professional Standards.
- o For the benefit of future generations of musicians and to preserve the instruments of our profession, use care to ensure that when playing an instrument, the institution's expected practices and requirements for the care of the instrument and its venue are met.

Organ
Scholarship
for beginning students



presented by

The Southwest Jersey
Chapter

of

The American Guild of
Organists

The Scholarship

The Organ Scholarship of the Southwest Jersey Chapter of the American Guild of Organists provides a term of 14 introductory organ lessons for qualified persons wishing to begin study of the organ.

Eligibility

All applicants must possess the following qualifications:

- ♦ Must reside in the Southwest Jersey geographical area.
- ♦ Must have received little or no previous formal classical organ training.
- ♦ Legs must be long enough to reach the pedalboard.
- ♦ At least an intermediate piano proficiency (see *audition requirements below*).
- ♦ Basic knowledge of theory, including G and F clefs, key signatures, meter signatures, and chords.
- ♦ Must have access to an organ on which to practice. The organ console must either 1) conform to AGO standards having at least two 61-note manuals and a full pedalboard, or 2) conform to historical mechanical action standards.
- ♦ Must commit to completing 14 lessons and the jury within four to six months.

Inquiries

Address questions or inquiries to:

Vernon Williams
email: vwilliams@trinitymoorestown.org
phone: 856-235-0811

Application Procedure

Send completed applications to:

Vernon Williams
Trinity Episcopal Church
207 West Main Street
Moorestown, NJ 08057

In addition to the application form, applicants are asked to include on a separate sheet a brief statement of their goals and objectives for study and a summary of their musical background and experience.

The Audition

The audition is scheduled once the application has been received... Auditions will be played on the piano. No memorization is required.

Prepared pieces

- ♦ Any Bach Two-Part Invention or one selection from the *Anna Magdalena Notebook*
- ♦ One movement from a sonatina by Mozart, Haydn, Beethoven, Clementi, or Kuhnau
- ♦ One hymn written in traditional four-part harmony

Sight-reading

- ♦ Two short pieces: one in common time, the other in another meter

The Lessons

Lessons are arranged at the mutual convenience of the teacher and student, ideally on the organ where the student practices. In any event, at least one lesson per month will take place on the organ where the student practices.

Students will learn how to practice and will become acquainted with registration, articulation, and pedaling, through the practice and preparation of hymns, teaching pieces, and repertoire.

Students will be required to have appropriate shoes (as recommended by their teacher) before the second lesson.

Students will provide at their expense the necessary hymnal and books required by the teacher. (Generally hymnals may be borrowed from the student's church.) Photocopied music is illegal, contrary to the Guild's *Code of Ethics*, and may not be used.

The Jury

At the conclusion of the 14 weeks of study, the student will be required to play before a jury:

- ♦ Two of the following four-part hymns (at least one of the hymns must be played with pedal):

Nicaea *Lobe den Herren*
Ein feste Burg *Olfen*
Hymn to Joy
New Britain (Amazing Grace)
Herzlich tut mich verlangen
(Passion Chorale)

- ♦ The Doxology (*Old Hundredth*) in any of the standard forms
- ♦ One pedal-alone passage of a Bach chorale or from a method book, at least 16 measures long
- ♦ A trio exercise or a chorale trio
- ♦ A prelude or fugue from Bach's *Eight Little Preludes and Fugues*

Southwest Jersey Chapter



American Guild of Organists



2023-2024 Season



**Celebrating
15 years!**



Becks' Philadelphia Brigade Band

3:00pm

A Civil War Era Brass Band
featuring Guest Soloist,
Dr. Chris Troiano
First Presbyterian Church
88 Market Street Salem, NJ

**Sunday
Sept 24**

Tunes from the Crypt

Erik Meyer, Organist
St. John's Church
76 Market Street, Salem NJ

6:00pm

**Friday
Oct 27**



Music for Harp & Flute



3:00pm

**Sunday
Nov 19**

Anna Ellsworth, Harp and Carol Joe, Flute
First Presbyterian Church
88 Market Street Salem, NJ

Pics & Pipes

7:00pm

A Laurel & Hardy FilmFest

Wayne Zimmerman, Organist
Alloway Baptist Church
41 W. Main Street, Alloway NJ

**Saturday
Dec 9**



Tuba Christmas

7:00pm

Celebrating 12 years of Tuba Christmas
in Woodstown, NJ!

**Sunday
Dec 10**

Jim Ludlam, Director
Woodstown Presbyterian Church
46 Auburn Street, Woodstown, NJ



Enchanting Instrumental Folk Music of Yore

Will Ott, Mandola, Hammered Dulcimer
First Baptist Church
117 South Main Street, Woodstown, NJ

3:00pm

**Sunday
Feb 25**



The Chestnut Brass

TBD - Clinic for Salem County Schools

7:00pm - Concert

**Friday
Mar 22**



Davidow Theatre
Salem Community College
460 Hollywood Avenue, Carney's Point NJ

The New Jersey Chamber Orchestra

Dr. Thomas Hong, Founder & Director
Davidow Theatre
Salem Community College
460 Hollywood Avenue, Carney's Point NJ

3:00pm

**Sunday
Apr 14**



A Tribute to John Williams

6:00pm

Jim Ludlam, Director
Davidow Theatre
Salem Community College
460 Hollywood Avenue, Carney's Point NJ



**Sunday
Jun 9**



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NEW JERSEY
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ON THE ARTS
www.njartsCouncil.org

Positions Available/Substitute List -- by Peter Homon

If you are available to substitute and would like to be included on this list, please contact Peter Homon, our Referral/Position Coordinator. Please forward or refer any items concerning positions available or substitute needs to Peter at lapajar@yahoo.com or call 856-952-5132.

Positions Available:

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Mt Holly – O/D, 10am Sunday service, 1936 Aeolian-Skinner II/23 organ, Adult choir, Handbell choir. Salary \$25,000-\$28,000. Contact Fr Andrew Hanyzewski at 609-267-0225 or saintandrewschurchmh@gmail.com for full position description (2/24)

Trinity Episcopal / Old Swedes Church, Swedesboro - O/D, 9:30 service, Tracker organ, no choir but an occasional soloist, salary \$10,400 per year. Contact Rev. Greg Wilson at revgregwilson@gmail.com. (10/23)

Pittsgrove Presbyterian Church, Pittsgrove - DOM, Duties include weekly choir rehearsals, praise band and managing sound system. Knowledge of contemporary and traditional church music essential. Salary range \$8,000 - \$12,000 contingent upon experience. Email ppcclerk1741@gmail.com. (8/22)

Luther Memorial Lutheran Church (Missouri Synod), Blackwood - O/D, no choir but would like to begin one, 3 manual Allen Renaissance, 9 a.m. svc. Contact Carlo Danesi 609-832-9702 or cpdanesi@yahoo.com. (3/21)

St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, Cherry Hill - Organist, 10:00 service, Allen, cantor (no formal choir), Contact Fred Astmann at 856-424-3820. (11/22)

Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church (naic), Abington, PA - O/D, Adult Vocal and Adult Bell Choirs, 9 a.m. service, 2M 20R 1963 Reuter, \$37,000 - \$47,000 salary. Contact Sherry Breslin Skp,brezl@gmail.com (8/23).

St. Pauls United Methodist Church, West Deptford - O/D (Organist or Pianist), Thursday evening Adult Choir rehearsal, one service at 9:30, 2m Allen. Contact Pastor Dave Delaney, 856-845-6638. (1/24)

St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Ardmore - O/D, 8-10 hour workweek, 20 in choir plus 4 section leaders. For additional details contact Peter Phillips at pcphillips@comcast.net. (2/24)

First Baptist Church, Woodstown - O/D but the position can also be split. 9:30 service. Additional details on First Baptist Woodstown Website. Contact Pastor Tim Joyce at 856-769-0214. (2/24)

These musicians are available on Sundays and also for weddings and funerals other days:

Charlene Cranmer (Leesburg, FL) ctcranmer@comcast.net, July only

Mary Johnson 856-332-8869 (Pine Hill) mebayj47@yahoo.com

Joanne Owen 856-769-3212 (Woodstown area) lbjkowen1982@comcast.net

Irina Nenartovich 856-321-3465 (Medford) irinanenartovich@gmail.com (after 10:30AM on Sundays)

Bob Scara (Burlington) rvcara@aol.com, Roman Catholic services only

Katrina Wylie 856-217-9143 (Sewell) shopper561@comcast.net



These substitutes are available for weddings and funerals or Saturday work only:

Misty Fiske, 302-535-6398 (Greenwich) mistypenguins@gmail.com

Evelyn Larter, CAGO 856-358-1112 (Elmer) ERLarter@juno.com

Cathy O'Neill, 856-214-1928 (Sewell, NJ) cmo125@aol.com

Marilyn Rabbai, CAGO 856-589-3901 (Pitman) mwrabbai@verizon.net

Matthew Smith, 630-800-8967 (Philadelphia) matt.smith2011@att.net



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Lord of All — Three Hymn Arrangements ~ for Flute and Piano Trio

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— David Kim, Concertmaster of The Philadelphia Orchestra



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Evelyn Larter, CAGO, SPC

Marilyn Rabbai, CAGO, SPC

David L. Rhody, SPC

Glenn L. Rodgers, AAGO

Joyce Ann Routon, CAGO, SPC

For more information on Professional Certification requirements, procedures, materials and deadlines, visit the website of AGO National Headquarters: www.agohq.org

Patrons & Contributors

Arndt, Ruthann

Bisbing, Miriam

Cranmer, Charlene

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Fenimore, William

Finch, Gae

Fink, Ruth

Gardener, Robert

Gassaway, Gail

Hatzold, Renee

Homon, Peter

Kirk, Guy

Larter, Evelyn

Obarski, Stephen

Owen, Joanne

McFarland, Donald

Nichols, Victoria

Rabbai, Marilyn

Rhody, David

Robinson, Christine

Rodgers, Glenn

Scara, Robert

CHAPTER EMERGENCY FUND

Our Chapter has begun the sponsorship of a fund to provide short-term emergency aid to Chapter members who find themselves temporarily in need of assistance. No dues money will be used for this aid, but tax-deductible contributions will be welcome at any time. A committee of three, consisting of the Dean, the Chair of Professional Concerns, and another member of that committee, will award aid as the need arises. Any Chapter member may recommend a member in good standing who, for reasons such as illness or unemployment, deserves our help, by contacting the Dean or the Chair of Professional Concerns. All cases of course will be confidential. If you would like to contribute to this cause, please send your tax-deductible donation (made out to SWJersey Chapter AGO) to our Treasurer Chuck Gibson, marked for "Musicians' Emergency Fund." Mail to: 691 Willow Grove Road, Monroeville, NJ 08343-4529.

**A Note from the Editor**

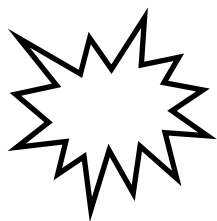
Storzando is published on the 1st of the month September through June.

Please submit all material to be included in the publication by the 25th of the preceding month.

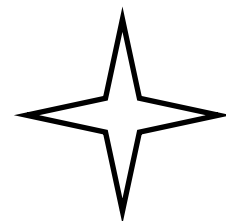
Thank you!

Glenn Rodgers, gcrodgers@aol.com

Programs at a Glance



Sunday, May 19 at 4 PM
Members' Recital, Joel Krott, Host
First Presbyterian Church, Moorestown



Sunday, June 30 at 3 PM
Annual Business Meeting and Picnic
Evelyn Larter, Host

Sforzando is the official publication of the SouthWest Jersey Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. The AGO is a multi-denominational, non-profit organization chartered by the Board of Regents of the University of the State of New York in 1896.

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WEBSITE: www.agohq.org/chapters/southwestjersey

