



OCTOBER 20 at 4 PM

# Sforzando



VOLUME 14, ISSUE 2

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OCTOBER 2024

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## Southwest Jersey Chapter American Guild of Organists



Rowan University

Photo by Gary Langel

## Dean's Message -- by Jonathan Stark

### Auferstehung und Erneuerung

As a Music Education major at Hartt College in the 1970's, I sang in the Hartt Chorale. During those years the Chorale performed Gustav Mahler's Second Symphony with the Hartford Symphony Orchestra. The Second Symphony is immense – 1 ½ hours long. It is a choral symphony, the chorus joins on the last movement which itself is over a half hour long. The Symphony is nick-named "Resurrection" after the last movement's text, an examination and celebration of resurrection and afterlife. The text begins:

Auferstehen, ja auferstehen wirst du,  
mein Staub, nach kurzer Ruh!

Rise again, yes, rise again,  
Will you, my dust, after a brief rest!

Participating in a performance with a huge orchestra and chorus is a stirring, deeply emotional experience. For a nineteen-year-old student from Bucks County this was heady stuff. I've listened to the Symphony many times since college and have always been thrilled, but never felt the need to perform it again – one Resurrection per lifetime is enough!

.....continued on page 3

## Sub-Dean's Report -- by David Reich

We had a great start to our program season with an excellent presentation on the use of an iPad for score notation and performance. A HUGE thank you to Laura Nolan (2022 Rowan Voice & Music Education graduate) for a thorough and engaging demonstration of the Forscore app for the iPad. And thanks to First Church of Christ, Scientist - Haddonfield for hosting us.

Please plan to attend our Annual Guild Service on Sunday, 10/20/24 at 4:00 P.M., led by Canon Richard Wredes at the Episcopal Church of St. John the Evangelist, 1720 Old Black Horse Pike, Chews Landing. Choral music under the direction of Larry De Pasquale and Tudor era music offered by the Rowan University Collegium Musicum under the direction of Lourin Plant will make this a memorable service. The congregation of St. John's is graciously providing a Tudor inspired menu for our repast following the service.

On Saturday, 11/2/24 we gather at Haddonfield United Methodist Church at 29 Warwick Rd, Haddonfield for a master class led by Dr. Caroline Robinson, beginning at 10:00 a.m. The following evening, Sunday 11/3/24 at 7:00 p.m. we have the opportunity to enjoy Dr. Robinson's recital presented at HUMC as the church's annual Mi Wha Lee memorial organ recital.

Regrettably, I must tell you that I am moving to Syracuse, NY at the end of December to pursue an outstanding job opportunity, and so am resigning my position as Sub-Dean. I am very grateful for all the experience, mentorship and opportunities I have received through my membership in this chapter. I appreciate the support of our members and the relationships I have formed. I have already secured the position of organist at Camillus First United Methodist Church, and Jonathan has provided me with helpful insights about the tonal resources of the instrument. It is exactly this kind of generosity that makes our chapter special. I hope each of you makes the most of the good work done by the Program Committee, and that you support the chapter with your participation. With gratitude, **David**

## Matters of Note - by Cathy O'Neill



### Hospitality

The October meeting will be our annual guild service at the Church of St John the Evangelist. After the service the church will be hosting a dinner.

Since the November meeting is early this year, I wanted to let you know what we will be having. As usual for the Saturday morning workshop there will be coffee and donuts to enjoy. We will be cohosting the reception after the recital on Sunday. There will be finger foods only and please let me know in advance what you will be bringing. If a few people can stay and clean up after the event that will be appreciated. The dates for that event are November 2nd and 3rd.

### Cares and Concerns

A get-well card was sent to Gail Gassaway after elective surgery. David Reich was sent a thank you card for his contributions to our chapter. As always, please let me know if a card should be sent to a member, cmo125@aol.com or 856-214-1928. Thanks Cathy

# Dean's Message, continued from page 1



The pipe organ at St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Philadelphia where I am organist has been dead since July 12, but resurrection is anticipated. A new blower has been installed, but not electrically connected. The organbuilder suspects the old electrical wiring may have contributed to the previous blower's demise. To avoid risking a brand-new blower (they're expensive), the wiring should be upgraded. But the electrician's estimate was higher than expected. Coming on top of the significant cost for the new blower, I was afraid the church might balk at spending more. But no fear, Vestry and our priest have approved the wiring upgrade. Praise the Lord, organ music will soon be resurrected at St. Mary's.

The AGO, and our chapter specifically, are not dead. Resurrection (*Auferstehung*) is not required. But renewal (*Erneuerung*) is certainly in order. Our chapter currently has 69 members; 6 of those are dual-chapter folks whose primary chapter is elsewhere. 77% of our members are age 65 or older. Of course I have nothing against senior citizens (I'm 68). But common sense indicates an organization that is more than three-quarters seniors might not exist in another 15 years. Across the river the Southeastern Pennsylvania AGO chapter has closed. It's membership had dwindled to approximately 20 members. Finding it too difficult to sustain an AGO chapter that small, they've voted to close; the remaining members will join the Philadelphia chapter. I don't want to see that happen to us.

Last month I wrote about a young person I met who is very interested in pipe organs, but had never heard of the AGO. At Monday evening's meeting the Executive Committee moved to establish the "Helen Carrell Gift Memberships for Young Organists" program. Funded by a small portion of the bequest from Helen's estate, the program will provide a one-year gift membership to young people who are emerging organists or interested in the organ. Any chapter member can propose a young person for a gift membership; the Executive Committee will review and approve all proposals. In addition to the young person I met, I recently learned of two others who may be candidates for this program. Know of a young person who might be interested in the organ? Want to fan the flames of that interest? Propose them to me for a gift membership, and I'll work with you and the Executive Committee to approve it. This is one way we can obtain a brighter future for our profession.

Soli Deo gloria.

## Upcoming Chapter Events

Sunday, October 20 at 4:00 P.M.

### ***Annual Guild Service***

Episcopal Church of St. John the Evangelist, Chews Landing

Saturday, November 2 at 10:00 A.M. Master Class

Sunday, November 3 at 7:00 P.M. Recital

### ***Caroline Robinson***

Haddonfield United Methodist Church

Monday, December 2, 7:30pm-9:00pm

### ***Executive Committee Meeting***

via Zoom

## PROGRAM COMMITTEE LEADERSHIP FOR 2024-25

As mentioned in his SubDean's column, David Reich is stepping down from the office of SubDean effective October 1. (More details are in David's column.) This news elicits mixed feelings: it is wonderful that David can take advantage of a great opportunity for his professional advancement, but the Chapter is also losing a leader.

In our Chapter the SubDean chairs the Program Committee. The Program Committee's work is essential to our Chapter, thus it is very important that there be a Chair for the Program Committee. On Monday night the Executive Committee met and moved to appoint two acting Co-Chairpersons to lead the Program Committee in the absence of a SubDean from October 1 through June 30 next year. Will Powell and Vicki Nichols have stepped forward to be the Co-Chairs and will lead the Program Committee. The Executive Committee, on behalf of the entire Chapter, wishes to thank Will and Vicki for stepping forward to fill this vital role.





*Southwest Jersey Chapter  
American Guild of Organists*

# ANNUAL SERVICE OF WORSHIP

## The Lord's Supper

*Celebrated in the style of Tudor Era Music  
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Deacon Lawrence De Pasquale, Organist

Lourin Plant, DMA, Musical Director



*Followed by a Parish Hall reception of Tudor Era appetizers  
prepared by the Episcopal Church Women of St. John's Church*

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**OFFERING PLATES WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR DONATIONS TO THE  
CHAPTER'S SCHOLARSHIP FUND FOR TRAINING NEW ORGANISTS**

***Sunday, October 20, 2024 at 4 PM***

***The Episcopal Church of St. John the Evangelist  
1720 Old Black Horse Pike, Chews Landing NJ 08012***





THE MI WHA LEE MEMORIAL ORGAN RECITAL PRESENTS

# Dr. Caroline Robinson



**SUNDAY, NOV. 3, 2024  
AT 7PM**

Haddonfield UMC Sanctuary

Dr. Caroline Robinson has been featured as a solo recitalist across the United States, in cities including New York City, Boston, Cambridge, Los Angeles, and Kansas City. She has also performed in England, France, and Germany. Her playing has been broadcast multiple times on American Public Media's *Pipedreams*, *Pipedreams LIVE!*, and Philadelphia-based public radio station 90.1 WRTI's *Wanamaker Organ Hour*. She has been a featured performer at conventions of the Organ Historical Society, the East Texas Pipe Organ Festival, and the American Guild of Organists.

Dr. Robinson is a laureate of the 2018 National Young Artists Competition in Organ Performance (NYACOP) and holds First Prize from the 11th annual Albert Schweitzer Organ Festival (2008) and from the 10th annual West Chester University Organ Competition (2010).

Caroline Robinson is Assistant Professor of Organ at the University of Michigan. Previously she served as Organist and Associate Choirmaster at the Cathedral of St. Philip in Atlanta. There, under the direction of Canon Dale Adelman, she shared organ playing and accompanying responsibilities and led the cathedral's RSCM-based Chorister program.

Dr. Robinson completed her undergraduate work at the Curtis Institute of Music, where she studied with Alan Morrison. Caroline holds the Doctor of Musical Arts and the Master of Music in Organ Performance and Literature from the Eastman School of Music, where she studied with David Higgs.

Haddonfield United Methodist Church | 29 Warwick Rd, Haddonfield, NJ 08033  
Live-streamed: [haddonfieldumc.org](http://haddonfieldumc.org)

## 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](mailto: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):
 

<i>Nicaea</i>	<i>Lobe den Herren</i>
<i>Ein feste Burg</i>	<i>Olivet</i>
<i>Hymn to Joy</i>	
<i>New Britain (Amazing Grace)</i>	
<i>Herzlich tut mich verlangen</i>	
<i>(Passion Chorale)</i>	
- ♦ 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





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- Still Be My Vision: Hymn Arrangements* ~ for Cello
- Hear The News The Angels Bring: Christmas Music* ~ for Cello
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*Hosted by music alumnus Kenneth Carson*  
*and former music student Carl Ellinwood*

**Sunday, October 6, 2024 at 4 PM**

**First United Methodist Church**

**314 West Graisbury Avenue, Audubon, NJ**

# 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](mailto:lapajar@yahoo.com) or call 856-952-5132.

## Positions Available:

**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](mailto:cpdanesi@yahoo.com). (3/21)

**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)

**St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, Cherry Hill** - O/D, 10:00 service, rebuilding choir, 1982 and LEVAS hymnals, Contact Betsy Murphy at 856-424-2229 or [Office@stbart-cherryhill.org](mailto:Office@stbart-cherryhill.org). (5/24)

**First Presbyterian Church, Woodbury Heights** - O/D of the Adult Choir, 11:00 Service (10:00 Summer) 1 weekly rehearsal, Salary commensurate with experience. Please contact David Taylor at [dtaylor86@comcast.net](mailto:dtaylor86@comcast.net) or 856-906-1636 (9/24)

**St. Matthew Lutheran Church (ELCA), Moorestown** - O/D, PT 20 hours, Adult Vocal and Handbell Choirs, services 8:15 and 10:00. Contact Ethan Geehr at [stmatthew@stmatthew-lutheran.org](mailto:stmatthew@stmatthew-lutheran.org) (9/24)

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

Mary Johnson 856-332-8869 (Pine Hill) [mebayj47@yahoo.com](mailto:mebayj47@yahoo.com)

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

Robert Powell 609-220-3558 (Collingswood) [pianoboy88@hotmail.com](mailto:pianoboy88@hotmail.com)

Bob Scara 609-386-7268 (Burlington) [rvcara@aol.com](mailto:rvcara@aol.com), Roman Catholic services only

Katrina Wylie 856-217-9143 (Sewell) [KatrinaWylie6@gmail.com](mailto:KatrinaWylie6@gmail.com)

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

Misty Fiske, 302-535-6398 (Greenwich) [mistypenguins@gmail.com](mailto:mistypenguins@gmail.com)

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

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

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

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



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# Photo Gallery



Larry De Pasquale in recital at Rowan University



Layla Joshi and Matt Smith with Cherry Rhodes at a Philadelphia AGO master class on September 22 at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Chestnut Hill. Layla played Bach's Fantasia and Fugue in C minor, BWV 537; Matt played a movement from Bach's Trio Sonata No. 2 in C minor BWV 526.



David Reich presents Piascore music score management application



David and Laura demonstrate a forScore feature to Gae Finch and Evelyn Larter



Laura Nolan makes a point about the forScore music score app.

## Coda

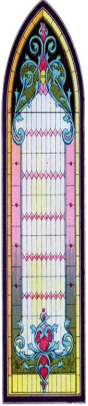
### Chapter Member Recital

On November 3rd at 2 PM Vicki Nichols will present an organ recital at Church of the Nativity R.C. Church 2677 Delsea Drive, Franklinville, NJ. She will play works by Sawa, Barte-Hanssen, J.S. Bach, Benoit, and Tournemire. There will be a free will offering and light refreshments following the recital.

### Cancellation

Because of the ongoing work on the Kimball/Gerger organ at St. John's Church, the Halloween concert "Tunes from the Crypt" has been cancelled for Friday, October 18, 2024. Mark your calendar for Friday, October 24, 2025 when MUSIC AROUND THE COUNTY will once again present this ever popular organ recital of spooky music for Halloween.

## 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. The chapter Executive 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. All cases of course will be confidential, any discussions in the Executive Committee will occur in executive (unminuted) session. There are two ways to contribute to this cause: 1) when renewing your membership via ONCARD, you may elect to contribute an additional amount to the Emergency Fund; you may also contribute via ONCARD at any other time by using the "Make a Contribution" option from the ONCARD menu; 2) you may also send your tax-deductible donation (as a check made out to SW Jersey Chapter AGO) to our Treasurer Chuck Gibson, marked for "Musicians' Emergency Fund." Mail to: 691 Willow Grove Road, Monroeville, NJ 08343-4529.*



***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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**Sforzando 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.**

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