



Sforzando



VOLUME 14, ISSUE 3

PAGE 1

NOVEMBER 2024

Southwest Jersey Chapter American Guild of Organists

IN THIS ISSUE:

Dean's Message
1 & 3

**Sub-Dean's
Report**
2

Matters of Note
2

Photo Gallery
3 & 4

**Positions Available/
Substitute List**
5

Members Info
7, 8, 9

**Chapter
Emergency Fund**
10

Upcoming Chapter Events

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

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

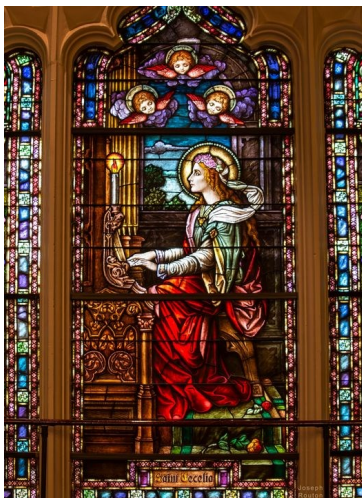
Caroline Robinson

Haddonfield United Methodist Church

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

Executive Committee Meeting

via Zoom



St. Cecilia playing the Organ Photo by Joe Routon

Dean's Message -- by Jonathan Stark



Do It Right the First Time!

Last week, the pipe organ at St. Mary's Episcopal in Philadelphia was put back into working order after 14 weeks of down time. And this coming Saturday, Dr. Caroline Robinson is teaching a master class at Haddonfield United Methodist Church. (Alright, you're thinking, Jonathan's finally lost it and can't string two logically related thoughts together...) But there is a relationship here.

The organ blower at St. Mary's burned out on July 12. It cost almost \$14K to replace. St. Mary's spent another \$6.5K on wiring upgrades. The previous wiring didn't meet code and may have contributed to the demise of the old blower. Before the electrician could begin work, he and I spent five hours tracing out old wiring conduits and identifying abandoned circuits and equipment that hadn't been properly removed by previous electricians. If wiring had been done right the first time, St. Mary's might have avoided the need for a new blower. And current electrical work wouldn't have been hindered by the accumulated shortcuts and mistakes of hasty previous work.

.....continued on page 3

Sub-Dean's Report -- by David Reich

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**

PROGRAM COMMITTEE LEADERSHIP FOR 2024-25

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.

Matters of Note - by Cathy O'Neill



Hospitality

As usual we will be having coffee and donuts before the master class at Haddonfield Methodist church on Saturday November 2nd. I hope to see you there. There will be a reception following the recital on Sunday. We are cohosting this with the church. We are asking for finger foods only and please let me know in advance what you will be bringing. I would also appreciate it if a few members can stay after the reception and help cleaning up. Thank you. Cathy 856-214-1928 or cmo125@aol.com

Cares and Concerns

A note was sent to Ruth Fink. Please let me know if I should send a note or card to a member. Cathy 85-214-1928 or cmo125@aol.com

Dean's Message, continued from page 1

In the summer of 2023 I attended a one-week course on Injury-Preventive Keyboard Technique by Barbara Lister-Sink. We spent a week learning how to play one note(!) in an efficient, tension-free, relaxed and natural way. It is incredibly liberating. Dr. Lister-Sink pointed out few keyboard musicians are taught how to play our instruments correctly. We play with unnecessary muscular involvement and resulting tension, and we're mostly unaware of it. There's a saying attributed to J. S. Bach: "*There is nothing to playing the organ. You only have to hit the right notes at the right time and the instrument plays itself*" Old JSB was both right and wrong. Organ playing is simple, but not easy. Laying the physical foundation for keyboard technique is critical: i.e. doing it right the first time. Much of it involves not doing, but doing only. The correct physical foundation facilitates and frees technique which in turn liberates musical ideation and creativity.

In recent years I've attended or played for master classes by Cherry Rhodes, Isabelle Demers, Nathan Laube, Nichole Keller, Damin Spritzer, Malcolm Bauer, Alan Morrison, Paul Jacobs, and Ken Cowan. Each one of these teachers emphasized some aspect of effective keyboard technique through efficient physical approach. Many of them also taught about effective mental techniques for learning new music, and playful ways to practice to accomplish the most in the shortest time. I'll wager that every one of these teachers would agree on the need to cut straight to the essence, to focus our bodies and minds on only that which contributes to the final musical result, to do it right the first time.

Master classes are not just for concert organists and pianists or emerging virtuosos. Who has time to waste? The repertoire is vast, have any of us more than scratched the surface? For those of us employed in religious institutions, excellence and continuous improvement are moral obligations. Is there any choice but to do it right the first time?

I heard Caroline Robinson in recital in the summer of 2023. In that recital she played the Scherzo from Leo Sowerby's *Symphony in G*. (On a Klais tracker organ!) She played it flawlessly. I think she gets it. Dr. Robinson is giving master class this Saturday morning at Hadonfield United Methodist Church. Will you be there?

Soli Deo gloria

Photo Gallery

Pictured below: Reverend Kathryn Morgan, SWJAGO Chaplain, officiating at the installation of chapter officers; Rowan University Collegium Musicum; Larry De Pasquale, organist.

Thanks to Canon Richard Wrede, Deacon Ken Carpinelli, and the Church of St. John the Evangelist for hosting our Annual Guild Service. An offering of \$292 was received to benefit the SWJAGO Scholarship Fund.





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

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:

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)

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. (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 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 (9/24)

St. Paul's United Methodist Church, Willingboro - O/D, Adult Choir, Praise Team, Allen Organ, 10:30 service. A part time position requiring approximately 10 hours per week. Salary commensurate with experience \$25,000. Contact John Gamble, SPRL Chair, 201 Veterans Pky. Willingboro, NJ 08046. (10/24)

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

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

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

Robert Powell 609-220-3558 (Collingswood) pianoboy88@hotmail.com

Bob Scara 609-386-7268 (Burlington) rvcscara@aol.com, Roman Catholic services only

Katrina Wylie 856-217-9143 (Sewell) KatrinaWylie6@gmail.com

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) cmol25@aol.com

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

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



Beautiful Music for All Occasions



FLUTE, PAN FLUTE, PICCOLO, FLUTE ENSEMBLE

By Renowned Flutist, **BEVERLY PUGH**

(Member, Bay-Atlantic Symphony) Reasonable Rates

& Flute Lessons for All Ages & Levels

Ph: 856-455-1098 BevsPanFlutes@aol.com

www.BeverlyPughFlutist.com

Glenn L. Rodgers

Organist/Instructor/Conductor

South Jersey/Philadelphia

Cell Phone: 856 520-6609

Email: gcroddgers@aol.com



EVELYN LARTER: INSTRUMENTALS

Music for your advanced instrumental soloists,
available in digital download or physical print.

Evelyn's collections

Oh Night Divine ~ Six Christmas Carols for Viola and Piano
How Sweet The Sound: Hymn Arrangements ~ for Piano Trio
Noel Nouvelet: Christmas Music ~ for Flute
Carols for the King from Around the World
 Volumes 1 & 2 ~ for Clarinet
Five English Carols ~ for Flute
Consecration: Seven Hymn Arrangements ~ for Flute
Consecration: Seven Hymn Arrangements ~ for Violin
Still Be My Vision: Hymn Arrangements ~ for Cello
Hear The News The Angels Bring: Christmas Music ~ for Cello
A Rose E'er Blooming ~ for Violin
Oh Glory! Five Spirituals ~ for Piano Trio
Lord of All — Three Hymn Arrangements ~ for Flute and Piano Trio

www.evelynlartermusic.com

"Evelyn Larter has a knack for writing that is easy to put together, yet lacks nothing in terms of harmonic, melodic, and instrumental depth. I find her work deeply moving, spiritual, and satisfying."
 — David Kim, Concertmaster of The Philadelphia Orchestra



C.W. GIBSON, INC.
 PIPE ORGAN SPECIALTIES

Steve Jones
President

788 Piney Hollow Road
 Hamonton, NJ 08037
jones@comcast.net

(609) 970-9131

AGO Certified Members

Rae Ann Anderson, CAGO
 Miriam Bisbing, SPC
 Charlene Cranmer, AAGO, CAGO, SPC
 Lawrence DePasquale, CAGO
 Ruth O. Fink, AAGO, ChM
 Ethel H. Geist, CAGO
 Evelyn Larter, CAGO, SPC
 Marilyn Rabbai, CAGO, SPC
 David L. Rhody, SPC
 Glenn L. Rodgers, AAGO
 Joyce Ann Routon, CAGO, SPC

Thank You Patrons & Contributors

Anderson, Rae Ann	Langel, Gary
Arndt, Ruthann	Larter, Evelyn
Bisbing, Miriam	Nichols, Victoria
Dishong, Mark	Obarski, Stephen
Doan, David	Owen, Joanne
Fenimore, William	Rabbai, Marilyn
Gardener, Robert	Rhody, David
Gassaway, Gail	Robinson, Christine
Hatzold, Renee	Rodgers, Glenn
Homon, Peter	Scara, Robert
Joshi, Layla	Stokking-Perry, Nancy
Kirk, Guy	Wylie, Katrina

Our Advertisers -

C.W.Gibson Pipe Organ Specialties; Evelyn Larter Music; RMcFarland@DafferOrgans; Beverly Pugh Flutist; Glenn Rodgers Organist



RODGERS PLAY

REMOTE CONTROL APP

Rodgers Play is a novel new tool that allows you to control your organ while away from the console. Now you can create a playlist of pieces to playback for services, events, or gatherings when an organist is unavailable.



FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Rob McFarland
 RMcFarland@DafferOrgans.com
 302-357-2101

Remotely control playback of hymns, preludes, and other onboard music

Create playlists, including with your own Rodgers recordings stored on a USB drive

Adjust tempo or transpose directly from the app

Available now on these models, more coming soon!



INFINITY
SERIES 347



IMAGINE
SERIES 239



INFINITY
SERIES 409



**MUSIC AROUND THE
COUNTY PRESENTS**

Pics & Pipes: Buster Keaton's "Seven Chances" (1925) Silent Film

**Featuring
Wayne Zimmerman, Organist**

Saturday, November 9, 2024

7:00pm

**Alloway Baptist Church
41 W. Main St. Alloway, NJ**

**FREE
CONCERT!**



facebook.com/MusicAroundTheCounty

musicaroundthecountysalem.com



The Concert is Free, but donations are gratefully accepted. For more information please contact Joanne Owen at (609) 420-0309 or by email: lbjkowen1982@comcast.net

Remembering All Souls

Requiem by Vernon Williams

Sung by the Chancel and Redeemer Choirs
joined by the choir of
Trinity Church, Moorestown, NJ

Sunday, November 3 at 5pm

More information

www.TheRedeemer.org/MusicSeries

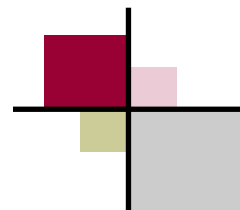


Episcopal Church of
The Redeemer

230 Pennswood Road
Bryn Mawr, PA 19010



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.

Looking Ahead

January JumpStart January 25, 2025

Andrew Senn, Coordinator

Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church

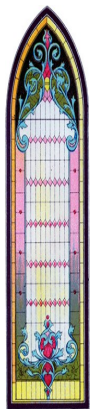
625 Montgomery Avenue, Bryn Mawr PA

LINK for JJ Registration: <https://pcagoo.wildapricot.org/event-5878865>

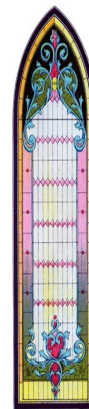
REGISTER NOW!



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.

EDITOR & PUBLISHER: Glenn L. Rodgers, gcroddgers@aol.com

OFFICIAL PHOTOGRAPHER: Joe Routon

REFERRAL & POSITIONS AVAILABLE COORDINATOR: Peter Homon, lapajar@yahoo.com, (856)952-5132

PROFESSIONAL CONCERNS COORDINATOR: David Rhody, drhody1@comcast.net; (856)795-6735

CHAPTER OFFICERS

DEAN: Jonathan Stark, jonstark47@gmail.com

TREASURER/REGISTRAR: Chuck Gibson, gibsonorgntnr@aol.com

SECRETARY: Cathy O'Neill, cmo125@aol.com

WEBSITE: www.agohq.org/chapters/southwestjersey

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.

gcroddgers@aol.com



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.

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):

<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