

CRESCENDO

MAY 2006

VOLUME LXVIII, NO. 9

NEWSLETTER OF THE PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

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David Craighead to be honored at AGO Recital and Gala Benefit Reception in Philadelphia

Celebration of Master Teacher, Brilliant Performer, Distinguished Church Musician, Valued Colleague, and Friend Will Benefit AGO Endowment Fund

The American Guild of Organists (AGO) will sponsor a Recital and Gala Benefit Reception honoring organist DAVID CRAIGHEAD on Monday, May 22, 2006, at 7 p.m. at the Chestnut Hill Presbyterian Church, Philadelphia, Pa.

Performers will be Diane Meredith Belcher, AAGO, Ann Labounsky, FAGO, and Mark Laubach, all of whom are former Craighead students. AGO President Frederick Swann will serve as master of ceremonies. The cost is \$100 per person; all proceeds will be placed into the AGO Endowment Fund in David Craighead's honor. Tickets may be purchased from AGO National Headquarters by telephone (212-870-2311, ext. 4308), e-mail <gala@agohq.org>, or online at <www.agohq.org>. The gala is sponsored by the AGO Development Committee, Bruce P. Bengtson, AAGO, director. Major funding is provided by Roy F. Kehl, FAGO and Pemcor Inc. Additional support is provided by Mr. and Mrs. Lewis M. Steele Jr.

The AGO's lively concern for education and outreach prompted the formation of the AGO ENDOWMENT FUND in 1994. The purpose of this fund is to expand programs for leadership development among AGO members; educate new organists; and cultivate new audiences for organ and choral music. Tax-deductible contributions to the Endowment Fund are invested in perpetuity to produce continuing income support for essential Guild educational programs and projects.

DAVID CRAIGHEAD was born in Strasburg, Pa., on January 24, 1924. His father was a Presbyterian minister; he received his first music lessons from his mother, who was an organist. At an early age he showed great interest in music and especially his favorite instrument, the organ. At age eighteen, he became a pupil of Alexander McCurdy at the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia, where he received the Bachelor of Music degree in 1946. During his four undergraduate years, he served as organist of the Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church. In 1944, he was accepted as a touring recitalist by Concert Management Bernard R. LaBerge (now Karen McFarlane Artists), making his first transcontinental tour shortly thereafter. In his last year at the Curtis Institute, Mr. Craighead joined the faculty of the Westminster Choir College in Princeton, N.J. The following September, Mr. Craighead was appointed organist at the Pasadena Presbyterian Church in California. Among his duties were biweekly organ recital broadcasts and the accompanying of numerous oratorios and other musical performances.

From the summer of 1948 through 1955, Mr. Craighead taught in the music department of Occidental College in Los Angeles. From 1955 until his retirement in the summer of 1992, he was both professor of organ and chair of the organ division of the keyboard department at the Eastman School of Music, University of Rochester, N.Y. He was organist at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Rochester. Mr. Craighead has maintained a balanced career as both performer and teacher. Many of his students now hold positions in colleges and churches across the country. He has played recitals at seven AGO National Conventions, and at the International Congresses of Organists held in London,

Continued on page 8

CRESCENDO, the official bulletin of the Philadelphia Chapter of the American Guild of Organists, is published monthly, September through June. All material for publication must reach the Editor by the 1st day of the month preceding the date of issue, i.e. November 1 for the December issue. This must be type written and e-mailed (text supplied in an attachment), or mailed. A hard copy should be included for display ads. Submissions become the property of the Philadelphia Chapter of the AGO and will not be returned unless accompanied by a self-addressed and stamped envelope. **CRESCENDO** reserves the right to make editorial changes and to shorten articles to fit space limitations. Articles in *Crescendo* reflect the views of the writers and not necessarily those of the Guild. All advertising must be arranged through the Advertising Manager.

Advertising Rates

| Camera-ready: | One-Time | Season |
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| 1/8 page: | \$40 | \$285 |
| 1/4 page: | \$70 | \$530 |
| 1/2 page: | \$85 | \$630 |
| full page: | \$140 | |
| Professional card: | N/A | \$60 |
| (members only; no phone numbers) | | |

Composition/Design, add \$95 per ad

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Visit our website at www.agophila.org

The deadline for the next issue, June 2006,
will be May 1, 2006.

...

MAY 2006

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CRESCENDO

VOLUME LXVIII, NO. 9

D E A N ' S L E T T E R

There are lots of items to write about this month. It seems everything costs something. It's all big league stuff and well worth it, but I wish we could have spread the news of this out over several months. Ah, well!!

May of 2006 is a significant month for organ culture in Philadelphia. The brochure announcing the Kimmel Center's coming season arrived at the end of March. The pages advertising the series of organ concerts heralds a new and hopeful era for the music of an instrument which has never really had much of a secular audience. The organ is traditionally not a concert hall instrument. While the reasons for this history are legion, the organ as a musical instrument is finally making its debut on the Philadelphia concert hall stage.

We will do everything we can as a chapter to make these concerts a success. I suggest ordering your tickets now. The easiest way is to go to www.kimmelcenter.org and go to the Kimmel Center's impressive online interactive brochure. Ticket prices for the series of three organ concerts range from \$54 to \$78: pretty affordable. (I ordered my own seats online as I wrote this missal.) While there you'll notice the credit given to the Philadelphia "branch" of the American Guild of Organists. That's us. The chapter is covering the artist fees for these concerts. Let your friends and choir members in on this too. Hopefully the excitement of this first season of solo organ concerts will translate into sustained support for similar concerts over the coming years.

As you have heard, AGO National is throwing a concert and gala reception (they always call it a gala when it's expensive.) at Chestnut Hill Presbyterian Church on Monday, May 22. The event benefits the national AGO Endowment Fund and honors David Craighead. Diane Meredith Belcher, Ann Labounsky, and Mark Laubach, all former Craighead students, will play a concert at 7:00 after which the price of admission gets you into the Gala. Fred Swann, AGO President, will officiate. You can see the ad regarding this elsewhere in this issue for the price. Gulp. I'll be there, and hope you will be as well.

By now you've received your engraved invitation to the Chapter's Season Finale: Friday, June 9, with PDQ Bach/ Peter Schickele at the Union League. I won't bore you with the details again. You know what they are. It will be a celebration not to miss and a closing of a momentous year. Send your reservations in now.

Then there's the Pipe Organ Encounter the last week in June and the Chicago Convention the next week. What a ride!

Every musical instrument has qualities which work for and against its power to generate sound which becomes music. There are things the organ can and cannot do, but this is true of any instrument. The great size and immobility of the organ have heavily tied it to structures which house it. Unlike any other instrument, the organ must be incorporated into the very concept of its home, its *raison d'être* tied directly to that of the building itself. No other instrument enjoys this benefit or suffers this curse.

It is often referred to as The King of Instruments. The organ has the resources and the awesomely arrogant power to lead large groups of people in song and their worship of God. Its mighty sound is a metaphor for the Almighty in music. (Eeee! Manuals!) As instruments go, it has a huge ego. Indeed, an organist playing the Kimmel Center's Fred J. Cooper Memorial Organ can effortlessly drown out all the passionate playing of hundreds of the world's finest musicians pushing their instruments to their acoustical limits.

The vision behind the building of a new concert hall in Philadelphia was eventually hammered out to include an organ. The decision was never a forgone conclusion. Now that it's there, the organ's significant presence can work to create an entirely new audience for its music. The playing field has been raised, literally! Organists have been begging for centuries to be left outside to play. Now, in Philadelphia, they're out! Only thing is, if the organ is to play, it must learn how to get along with the rest of the kids.

Jeff Fowler

PS: Don't forget to send your ballot in and vote for chapter officers. It matters!



Jeff Fowler

REGISTRAR'S CORNER

JOE LEWIS, REGISTRAR

DUES FOR 2006-2007 ARE NOW DUE

At your earliest convenience, please send in your Membership Renewal Form to my address, along with your check made payable to **Philadelphia Chapter A.G.O.**

Kindly check that your personal database information printed on the back is accurate and make changes where necessary to update our records. Remember, if you work for a church, synagogue or other institution that pays your dues, please double check that their Treasurer has my correct address in their computer, since a few members' forms in the past have still been incorrectly sent to the home of our former Registrar, now deceased. I thank those who have already sent in their forms. The membership year ends on June 30th, so please take a few minutes today to rejoin the chapter while you are thinking about it. Rates are listed below:

| | |
|---|---------|
| REGULAR Voting Member | \$84.00 |
| SPECIAL Voting Member (age 65 & over, under 21, or disabled) | \$60.00 |
| FULL TIME STUDENT (copy of valid school ID required) | \$32.00 |
| PARTNER (2nd member at same address, no TAO subscription) | \$60.00 |
| DUAL | \$33.00 |
| DUAL STUDENT (copy of valid school ID required) | \$12.00 |
| CHAPTER FRIEND (Non-voting Member) | \$42.00 |

PATRON CONTRIBUTIONS

We have been very fortunate this past membership year to have a continuing base of generous members who have funded our Chapter above and beyond the listed dues rates. These patron gifts have enabled us to do so much more, and we gratefully thank all those who have supported us in the past and who plan to contribute more gifts to augment the work of the Guild for 2006-2007. Your generosity is most appreciated.

Continued on page 8

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

JOSEPH LEWIS, REGISTRAR

Want to join the Philadelphia chapter of the American Guild of Organists?
Need to report AGO Directory changes on your current membership?
Need to purchase a set of chapter mailing labels for your next music event?

Contact our Registrar, Joe Lewis at:

49 North Spring Lane
Phoenixville, PA 19460
610-935-0895
spiele88@icdc.com

PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

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ALLEN POPJOY, COORDINATOR

610-269-7069

email: apopjoy@msn.com

This list is published as a courtesy to the chapter membership. Only members of the Philadelphia AGO Chapter available for regularly-scheduled services are listed. Although the AGO assumes no responsibility for the musicianship or reliability of substitute organists, Guild certificates and other degree programs indicate preparation beyond the minimum.

| Substitute | Location | Phone Number |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Robert A. Bader | Philadelphia | 215-413-0326 |
| Barbara K. Browne | Gladwyne | 610-896-8561 |
| Dr. Norman Caldwell-Coombs | Philadelphia | 215-849-1514 |
| Rev. Gerard P. Carey | Philadelphia | 215-313-9497 |
| Linda Carlson | Philadelphia | 215-969-5412 |
| Paul J. Carroll | Philadelphia | 215-378-9723 |
| David W. Christianson | Media | 610-565-3549 |
| Robert E. Cohen | Media | 610-566-7671 |
| Rosemary Colson | Philadelphia | 215-848-1995 |
| Robert Frederick | Philadelphia | 215-755-7648 |
| Justin Hartz | Yardley | 215-321-6385 |
| R. William Howell | Lakehurst, NJ | 484-868-0883 |
| James D. Ingles* | Ardmore | 610-658-5813 |
| Dorothy M. Jennings | Feasterville | 215-357-1910 |
| John I McEnerney | Doylestown | 215-794-7388 |
| Dr. Mardia Melroy | Maple Glen | 215-646-1975 |
| Jason B. Noll | Broomall | 610-355-0585 |
| Joanne K. Owen | Pilesgrove, NJ | 856-769-3212 |
| Dennis Schmidt | Newtown Square | 610-353-0318 |
| Jane Dougherty Smith | Haddonfield, NJ | 856-428-5334 |
| H. L. Smith II+ | Radnor | 610-688-0291 |
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| Glenna M. Sprang | Boothwyn | 610-497-4135 |
| Janet L. Tebbel | Philadelphia | 215-848-3915 |
| Elaine Ellis Thomas | Downingtown | 610-380-8781 |
| Dr. Karen L. Thomas | Yeadon | 610-259-1043 |
| Mary Louise Varricchione-Lyon | Doylestown | 215-348-9507 |
| Rev. Curt H. von Dornheim | New Hope | 215-862-5479 |
| Karen Whitney | Philadelphia | 215-424-8450 |

*organ only, no conducting

+Weekdays only

CRESCENDO

TIMOTHY M. EVERS, COORDINATOR

215-348-4004, x117

email: tim-evers@comcast.net

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FORM

Please include the following information when submitting items for the Event Calendar. The due date for publication is the first day of the month prior to the event.

LOCATION INFORMATION:

Venue _____

Address _____

Telephone # _____

Email address _____

Web site _____

EVENT INFORMATION:

Date _____

Time _____

Name of Event (include performer, instrument, brief details)

☐ Free ☐ Free-will offering ☐ Tickets sold for (\$) _____Location is handicapped accessible? ☐ YES ☐ NOChild care provided during concert? ☐ YES ☐ NO

Concert location nearby which public transit lines: _____

Submitted by _____

Telephone # _____

Email _____

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CHAPTER EVENTS

Saturday, September 24, 2005, 9:00 AM

A New Organ and a New Carillon

Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church

Friday, October 28, 2005, 8:00 PM

John Scott, Organist

St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Germantown, Philadelphia

Monday, November 14, 2005, 7:30 PM

Jonathan Ambrosino, Lecturer

Lenape Valley Presbyterian Church, New Britain, PA

Monday, January 2, 2006, 7:00 PM

Annual 12th Night Chapter Party

Home of Roy Harker, Philadelphia

Saturday Morning, January 14, 2006, 9:00 AM

Philadelphia's Annual January JumpStart

Overbrook Presbyterian Church, Philadelphia

Friday, February 3, 2006, 8:00 PM

Scott Myers, organist

Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church

Friday, February 17, 2006, 7:30 PM

Philadelphia Legends III

Celebrating the Legacy of Organ Culture in Philadelphia

Paul Jones / Tenth Presbyterian Church, Philadelphia

Saturday, March 11, 2006, 10:00 AM

Wanamaker Organ Crawl

Lord & Taylor Department Store

Sunday, April 23, 2006, 7:30 PM

NEOS Jazz Ensemble

Wayne Presbyterian Church, Wayne, PA

Friday, May 12, 2006, 8:00 PM

The Philadelphia Orchestra, Christoph Eschenbach conducting

Dobson Organ, Olivier Latry, organist

Premier of the World's Largest Concert Hall Organ

Friday, June 9, 2006, Closing Event

Annual Dinner featuring Guest Speaker P.D.Q. Bach/ Peter

Schickele at the Union League, Philadelphia

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Receive Crescendo by Email

All members who would prefer to receive Crescendo by email, instead of the traditional paper edition, please contact Communications Coordinator Roy Harker at AGOPhiladelphia@aol.com

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POSITIONS AVAILABLE

ALLEN POPJOY, COORDINATOR

610-269-7069

email: apopjoy@msn.com

ORGANIST

Christ United Methodist Church
1020 South Valley Forge Road, Lansdale, PA 19446

We are searching for an organist who is proficient on both the organ and piano with the ability to lead hymn singing from both the United Methodist hymnal and the "Faith We Sing" supplement. This important part-time ministry is available in July 2006 and serves a 350-400 worshiping congregation that is both active and vibrant. The organist will be joining a large church staff, including director of music, directors of children's choirs/bell choirs.

The organist provides music for two Sunday morning worship services and evening services on Ash Wednesday, Holy Thursday, and Christmas Eve. The organist also serves as accompanist for Wednesday evening adult and youth rehearsals, and accompanist for Tuesday evening children's choir rehearsals on an as-needed basis. Attend bi-monthly staff meetings. Weddings and funerals negotiated separately.

Our organ was rebuilt & expanded in 1988 using Peterson Electronics Multiplex system. The organ is a 3 manual Moller with 2 chambers housing the Great, Swell & Pedal Divisions. Both chambers are under full expression with the Choir Division fully prepped, but not installed at this time. The organ has full Midi capability with recorder & transposer.

We invite interested candidates to send your resumes to the above address or call the church office at 215-855-1643 and ask for Rev. Gary Knerr, Pastor or Suzanne Williams, Director of Music. If you prefer, email your resume or inquiries to: Christ.church@netzero.net.

ORGANIST/PIANIST

Cochranville United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 417, Cochranville, PA 19330

Organist/Pianist needed for Sunday worship service with possibility of position expanding. For further information, call Sue Downing, 610-593-4296. Send resumé to Cochranville United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 417, Cochranville, PA 19330. Resumé may also be faxed to 610-593-6222 or e-mailed to cumc1@zoominternet.net.

ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR

Centennial Evangelical Lutheran Church, 1330 Hare's Hill Road
P.O. Box 840, Kimberton, PA 19442

Organist/Choir director needed for 9:00 a.m. traditional worship service. One adult choir (sings ten months of the year with one evening rehearsal per week) and a bell choir. Three-manual Allen Renaissance organ. Send resumé to church mailing address above, or e-mail it to info@centenniallutheran.org.

Church phone: 610-933-1528

Church FAX: 610-933-3983

ORGANIST

Skippack Church of the Brethren
520 Collegeville Road, Collegeville, PA 19426

Part-time church organist for Sunday morning worship services. May possibly

serve during other services later on. Potential to eventually lead special music programs, working with music director to plan weekly services, serve at weddings or funerals, and develop new programs. Will consider a student, provided that student is able to play a traditional church organ. For further information, contact Liane Worthington, Skippack Church of the Brethren, 610-489-6707

CHOIR DIRECTOR/ORGANIST (PART-TIME)

First United Methodist Church of Phoenixville
865 South Main Street, Phoenixville, PA 19460

First United Methodist Church of Phoenixville, a mid-size church, seeks a Choir Director and an Organist. One person could fill both positions if qualified! The position entails planning, organizing, and facilitating a program of music for the church in conjunction with the pastor and organist.

CHOIR DIRECTOR Responsibilities: The Choir Director directs the Chancel and Handbell Choirs at the 10:45 Sunday service, handles special seasonal programming, conducts once a week rehearsals, administers budgets, and oversees the youth music program. The position begins September 1, 2006. The choir year runs from September to mid-June.

Qualifications: Prior experience or training in directing and knowledge of sacred music are essential. Candidates must have a personal faith consistent with the United Methodist Church. A philosophy of how music contributes to the worship program of the church is desirable.

ORGANIST Responsibilities: The organist provides accompaniment for choir rehearsals and music for two Sunday services (including prelude, offertory, postlude, and accompaniment of choirs, vocalists and instrumentalists). Music for funerals and weddings are negotiated separately. The position is for twelve months with six weeks vacation. The Organist arranges for qualified substitutes for scheduled absences. The position begins September 1, 2006.

Qualifications: Prior experience or training in the field, a demonstrated ability to play the electronic organ (Rodgers3), and knowledge of sacred organ music are essential. Candidates must have a personal faith consistent with the United Methodist Church. A philosophy of how music contributes to the worship program is desirable.

Send resume to: Bill Akin (at church address)
Chair, Music Search Committee

ORGANIST

Nantmeal United Methodist Church, 359 Nantmeal Road, Glenmoore, PA 19343

One Sunday service, no choir. Pipe organ. Contact church office at 610-469-8655

ORGANIST

Woodside Presbyterian Church, Yardley, PA

Organist for the Sunday Classic service and to accompany the adult Classic Choir. Rehearsals are on Thursday nights (7:30-9:00) and Sunday mornings (9:30-10:45). Participation in several special services throughout the year and in our annual concert series, Sing for Joy, is also required. Wide range of musical styles involving both organ and piano accompaniments are sung. Large pieces with brass, bells, children's choirs, and the Classic Choir are done several times a year. Organ is a Rodgers 950 digital with three manuals.

Position is currently open. Salary is negotiable. A strong commitment to Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord and a passion to praise Him through music are essential.

Continued on page 7

Positions Available
Continued from page 6

To apply, call the church office at (215) 493-4145. Resumes can be faxed to (215)321-1779 or e-mailed to kamre@earthlink.net

ORGANIST

St. Paul's United Church of Christ
 104 Green Street, Sellersville, PA 18960
 Phone: 215-257-7268; Fax: 215-257-0902
 Web: st.paulsucc.net

With a rich musical history, St. Paul's requires a proficient Organist for two weekly Sunday services and one Wednesday evening adult choir rehearsal. Additional duties include participation in monthly staff meetings, coordination with choir directors, selection of hymns for worship, and accompaniment of church holy days throughout the year. Organ is a three-year-old Allen R-355, 3 manual, 64 stop digital organ with additional MIDI capabilities. Yearly salary approximately \$8,000.00. Flexibility possible with vacation time. Position open immediately.

Please contact church office.

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES

Woodstown Presbyterian Church
 46 Auburn St., Woodstown, NJ 08098
 856-769-2977

Seeking devoted person for part-time position to lead music ministry and to serve as organist/choir director (15 hours). Candidates should have strong knowledge of Ecumenical music with desire to participate in the spiritual life of the Woodstown Presbyterian Church. Organist for two Sunday morning services, direct/accompany Chancel choir (20 members), and provide accompaniment for youth choirs as needed. Competitive salary under AGO guidelines — negotiable based on experience and education. To apply: contact Pastor Jonathan at the Woodstown Presbyterian Church, 46 Auburn St., Woodstown, NJ 08098, 856-769-2977; or online at wpcpastor@verizon.net.

MUSIC DIRECTOR

First Presbyterian Church of Olney, Philadelphia

The First Presbyterian Church of Olney, Philadelphia, PA, is seeking a professing Christian with excellent interpersonal skills as its Music Director.

The position requires an individual who is musically trained, a skilled pianist, experienced in directing choral groups, and knowledgeable of diverse musical forms.

Salary/Compensation/Hours: 15 flexible hours per week, which includes 1 Sunday Worship Service; 1 month vacation; \$10,000 annually.

Contact: Florence McKeown
 Office@FPCOlney.org; 215-424-6809 (voice) 215-424-5052 (fax)

ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR

Baptist Church in the Great Valley, 945 N. Valley Forge Road, Devon, PA 19333

One Sunday service; extra holiday services throughout the year; two weekly rehearsals: one adult choir, one bell choir. 3 manual, 70 stop Moller/Walker hybrid pipe/digital organ with midi program. 10-15 hours per week; Salary \$15,000 with 4 weeks paid vacation. Please send inquiries to the church:

Attention: Art Namendorf, Minister, Phone: 610-688-5445
 Fax 610-688-8023

ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR

St. James Episcopal Church, Philadelphia

St. James is the sixth oldest church in Philadelphia (1760). The instrument is a two manual Schantz in excellent condition and perfectly suited for the colonial building. The position is for one Sunday service and one choir rehearsal per week. Compensation is \$15,000 to \$18,000/yr., depending on experience and ability, plus 4 paid vacation Sundays. Candidates should contact The Rev. C. Reed Brinkman at 215-727-5265 or by e-mail stjameskingsess@aol.com. A more detailed description of the congregation may be found on our web site: stjameschurchofkingsessing.com.

ORGANIST/MUSIC DIRECTOR

First United Methodist Church of Bristol
 201 Mulberry Street, Bristol, PA 19007

Part-time organist/music director wanted for small but active congregation. Responsibilities include directing vocal and bell choirs, playing organ for Sunday traditional service, and working with contemporary service. Looking for a candidate with a strong Christian commitment and experience with organ and directing choral groups. 2-manual Moller pipe organ. Position available immediately. Salary \$9,000; 2 wks paid vacation. Contact: Rev. BK Mullen-Holtz, 201 Mulberry St., Bristol, PA 19007 (215) 788-4509 revfumcb@voicenet.com

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC/ORGANIST

Neshaminy-Warwick Presbyterian Church
 1401 Meetinghouse Road, Hartsville-Warminster, PA 18974

The Director of Music/Organist will provide music leadership for worship and direct the adult choir at two Sunday services. An experienced musician is preferred, but all will be evaluated on their talents. The organ is a 25-rank, two-manual Hook & Hastings pipe organ, completely rebuilt in 1990.

Salary is \$20,000-\$24,000. Benefits include health insurance and continuing education funding. Resumes should be sent to the church address or e-mailed to nwpcsec@comcast.net. Please send to the attention of Donald Winey, Chair of the Leadership Development Team.

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

The Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd
 1530 Foulk Road, Wilmington, DE 19803

An active, caring congregation with a strong music program seeks a Director of Music (organist and director of choirs). The part-time professional position is available beginning July 1. Responsibilities include leading all aspects of music worship. Contact Joanne Ohnmacht at cyjo62@verizon.net or (302) 477-1836.

ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR

Mt. Airy Presbyterian Church
 13 E. Mt. Pleasant Ave., Philadelphia PA 19119
 (215) 247-1303; Fax (215) 247-0292

Responsibilities: one rehearsal and one service per week; planning and preparation. We have a small but capable adult choir. Advanced training in organ performance, piano, and choral direction required. Instrument is a 1949 Casavant pipe organ. We are a multiracial, multigenerational congregation going through a period of transition. Flexibility and the ability to teach and to perform diverse musical styles required. Salary: to be decided, depending on background, experience, and the length/scope of position. Permanent position possible in the future.

For further information, send resume to:
 Organist Search Committee Attn: David Rapp

Continued on page 8

*Positions Available
Continued from page 7*

ORGANIST / DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

First Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia,
201 S. 21st Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103
215-567-0532

First Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia is seeking an Organist / Director of Music who will have responsibility for all aspects of the music program at an historic Center City church with a long tradition of musical excellence. One weekly service with additional services as required. Responsibilities include conducting a professional chancel choir, planning and coordinating an established concert and recital series, and developing a music education program for the congregation. Requirements include superior organ performance skills, strong improvisational ability, and demonstrated mastery of the four manual Reuter organ (as part of the audition process). Applicant should also be an experienced choral conductor with a thorough knowledge of sacred choral repertoire. Knowledge and understanding of Reformed liturgy and music traditions a strong plus. Must be able to work collegially with church staff and to recruit and motivate lay volunteers. Competitive salary and benefits package within AGO guidelines. For more information on the church and its organ, visit www.fpcphila.org and www.reuterorgan.com/opus2199.htm. Mail resume to the Music Director Search Committee at the church address, or e-mail to jesse.garner@fpcphila.org.

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*David Craighead to be honored
Continued from page 1*

Philadelphia, and Cambridge, England. Recognized as one of America's great organ artists, David Craighead was voted the 1983 International Performer of the Year by the New York City Chapter of the American Guild of Organists.

In June 1968, Mr. Craighead received an honorary Doctor of Music degree from Lebanon Valley College, Annville, Pa., and in 1975, was the first recipient of the Eisenhart Award for teaching excellence at Eastman. His most recent award has been an honorary Fellowship in the Royal College of Organists, London, England. Recordings include a 1968 Artisan LP disc of compositions by Franck, Mendelssohn, and Messiaen. He has subsequently made two recordings for the Crystal Record Company. The first includes works of Samuel Adler, Paul Cooper, and Lou Harrison. The second includes *The King of Instruments* by William Albright and the *Sonata for Organ* by Vincent Persichetti. He also made two recordings for Gothic: one of late nineteenth-century American composers, and the other of Albright's *Organbook I* and *Organbook III*. His most recent recording, for Delos, features the Second Sonata by Max Reger and Louis Vierne's Sixth Symphony.

Mr. Craighead was married to organist Marian Reiff Craighead for 47 years. Until her death in May 1996, they presented concerts for organ duet in numerous cities nationwide, and completed a recording, *The Craigheads at Asbury*. The Craigheads have two children, a son, James, and a daughter, Elizabeth Eagan; and two grandsons, Christopher and Jeffrey Eagan.

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*Registrar's Corner
Continued from page 3*

SUB LIST FOR 2006-2007

This year we are requesting that in addition to checking off the box on the Renewal Form indicating that you would like to be on next year's Sub List, that you also directly contact the Sub List Coordinator, Allen Popjoy at 610-269-7069 or apopjoy@msn.com to inform him of any special conditions or terms involved with your subbing and to confirm your desire to be advertised on the list in both the Crescendo and on the chapter website. This dual contact method will greatly help all involved in the sub listing process. Don't forget that a fresh, new sub list starts every September.

MEMBER UPDATE

Here is an additional name, address and other contact information for a new member since the 2006 Membership Directory went to press. Please greet her and make her feel welcome at our upcoming events:

Ms. Riyehee Hong, 3723 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia PA 19104, w215-386-0234x122, riyeheeh@philadelphiacathedral.org

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Lewis, Registrar
49 North Spring Lane, Phoenixville PA 19460-2621
h610-935-0895
joe.lewis@agophila.org

• • •

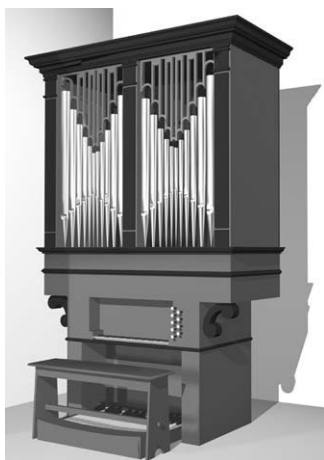
Advertising in Crescendo

Have you ever taken a moment to read the rates for advertising in the "Crescendo"? When you do, you will find that they are a bargain! Of course, the Calendar of Events page will always be free of charge to members, but why not consider placing an ad to highlight a special service or concert that you are hosting? Consider helping our fellow musicians, i.e. harpists, brass players, string ensembles, etc. to place an ad stating their profession — a benefit to us all. Of course, placing your own professional card offers a means of support and recognition for our profession.

To place an ad, contact : Rose Davis, Advertising Coordinator
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TUESDAY NOON RECITALS



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MAY, 2006

St. Mary's Episcopal Church,
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215-482-6300

ORGAN: 2 man., 24 rks., Patrick Murphy & Associates
(using portions of a 2 man, 5 rk, Moller)

HOST ORGANIST: Wesley Parrott

RECITALISTS: MAY 2 : Karen Whitney
9 : Anita Greenlee
16: Martha Johnson
23: Rosemary Hood
30: Wesley Parrott

NEXT MONTH (June): White Horse Village, Newtown Square, PA.

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VOX HUMANA

FLEISHER COLLECTION PREPARES DAVID RAKSIN WORK FOR ORGAN AND ORCHESTRA FOR KIMMEL CENTER CONCERT

WORLD'S LARGEST ORCHESTRAL LENDING LIBRARY READIES *A SONG AFTER SUNDOWN* BY LATE HOLLYWOOD COMPOSER FOR MAY 14TH PERFORMANCE WITH MICHAEL STAIRS AND THE MANNES COLLEGE ORCHESTRA

Kile Smith, Curator of the Fleisher Collection of Orchestral Music in the Free Library of Philadelphia, announced today the East Coast premiere performance of *A Song After Sundown* by the celebrated composer David Raksin (1912-2004). Michael Stairs, organist, will solo with the Mannes College of Music Orchestra, David Hayes conducting, on Sunday, May 14, 2006 at the Kimmel Center's Verizon Hall in Philadelphia.

In a collaboration with Kimmel Center Presents, the Fleisher Collection is recopying and editing the composer's manuscript for this performance on The Fred J. Cooper Memorial Organ, as part of the month-long Kimmel Center Organ Festival.

"With this project," Smith said, "the Fleisher Collection continues to fulfill its mission of uncovering unknown and rediscovering little-known treasures of the orchestral repertoire. That this is the work of David Raksin, composer of *Laura* and so much acclaimed music for film, makes it all the more special." The Philadelphia-born composer knew Edwin Fleisher, founder of the Collection, and the conductor William Happich, one of Fleisher's first assistants.

"The new organ has significantly expanded the repertoire and programming possibilities for Kimmel Center Presents," said Kimmel Center Vice President of Programming and Education Mervon Mehta. "We look forward to hearing the instrument's first notes at our organ festival in May, as well as the extraordinary range of very fine performers who will join us at our festival."

David Hayes conducts the Philadelphia Singers and the Mannes College of Music Orchestra in the Beethoven *Missa Solemnis* on this concert, Sunday, May 14th, at 3 pm at Kimmel Center's Verizon Hall. Tickets are available at 215-893-1999 and online at www.kimmelcenter.org.

The Edwin A. Fleisher Collection of Orchestral Music in the Free Library of Philadelphia is the world's largest lending library of orchestral performance materials, with over 21,000 titles. It is a unique source for many rare and out-of-print works, with large holdings of American, Latin-American, Swedish, Russian, and Moravian titles, and has a longstanding commitment to promoting new, noteworthy, and little-known orchestral music. Kile Smith co-hosts Discoveries from the Fleisher Collection the first Saturday of the month at 5 pm on WRTI 90.1 FM. The Collection is open Monday through Friday 9-5, and can be reached by phone at 215-686-5313, or by email at fleisher@library.phila.gov.

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PRELUDE AFTER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Long ago I was hired to play the organ at a church where many people actually arrived about fifteen minutes before the service to sit quietly and meditate. I played long lovely organ works in an almost-silent sanctuary.

That may seem like a fictional tale, the norm now being for churchgoers to arrive at the last minute and to hold loud animated conversations, not just in the narthex, but inside the sanctuary as well.

Some churches have attempted to deal with this reality by beginning the service with announcements followed by the prelude. The new pastor of the church I currently serve made this change as of January, 2006, it having been the practice at his former parish. I reacted with mixed emotions: on the one hand thinking it might be nice to have people seated and quiet as I played, and on the other being somewhat upset at having all attention focused on my "performance" — it had not seemed to be that before — and also because I feel that much great organ music is too long for this situation.

Offering up my perceived predicament to prayer, it came to me that this might be as much an opportunity as a problem. Since there would be spoken announcements at the start of the service, maybe I could follow that with a few brief comments on the organ music without it seeming to be a disruption. Pastor agreed and offered use of the pulpit and mike just a few steps from the organ. While I go back to the organ bench, he asks for their prayerful attention to the music. [If moving around like this is not desirable or possible, the person doing Announcements might read the comments instead.]

I concentrate my few sentences on some feature of the music, why it was chosen, or the chorale on which it is based, sometimes asking the people to open their hymnals and read the hymn text as I play. When the music is a bit dissonant or loud, I am able to alert them ahead of time. This seems to transform resistance or shock into at least some understanding of and appreciation for inclusion of music that has something a bit challenging to say.

Response so far has been favorable beyond my wildest expectations— people telling me enthusiastically how it makes the music so much more meaningful, and how much they appreciate my taking the trouble to do this for them. Certainly it encourages them to pay close attention instead of just letting the sound wash pleasantly over them. Each comment during Coffee Hour opens a further window for discussion, fellowship and learning.

I usually play the chimes and then a few quiet hymns as the choir gathers in the choir stall instead of processing, this change made so they are able to hear the announcements. This summer I plan to play some unlisted, unexplained longer works for at least my own pleasure before the announcements and the "official" prelude.

Submitted with the hope of encouraging someone else to try this,

Dorothy Fulton-Stevens

• • •

A MUSICAL ASCENT: It Was Enough Just To Play

By David L. James, Mt. Kisco, N.Y.

(reprinted with permission from *The Living Church*, 4 December 2005)

There are 26 steps from the plaza up to the front door of St. Peter's Church in St. George, Bermuda. Built in 1612, it is one of the oldest Anglican churches in continuous use in the New World. Guidebooks mention the antiquity and point out that the rafters in the ceiling look like an old ship.

Continued on page 13

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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email: tim-evers@comcast.net

TUESDAY, MAY 2, 12:00 NOON

AGO Tuesday Noon Recital. Karen Whitney, organist. St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Cathedral Rd. & Ridge Ave., Philadelphia (Andorra).

SUNDAY, MAY 7, 8:00 PM

St. Paul's Youth Choir. Tim Evers, conductor. Home Concert from their tour to Boston. St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 301 North Main Street, Doylestown PA 215.348.4004 x117 www.doylestownlutheran.org

TUESDAY, MAY 9, 12:00 NOON

AGO Tuesday Noon Recital. Anita Greenlee, organist. St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Cathedral Rd. & Ridge Ave., Philadelphia (Andorra).

SATURDAY, MAY 13, 5:00 PM

Gordon Turk, organ. The Organ Recital Marathon. Tickets: \$20, call Ticket Philadelphia 215.893.1999. Verizon Hall, The Kimmel Center www.kimmelcenter.org

SATURDAY, MAY 13, 7:30 PM

West Chester Ecumenical Choir & Immaculata Symphony, Roman Pawlowski - Conductor. Schubert: *Mass in G*; Beethoven: *Choral Fantasy* (Stephen Campitelli- pianist); Holst: *Psalm 148*. Tickets \$10, contact mmuzzo@westchesterumc.com. Handicapped accessible. West Chester United Methodist Church, High & Barnard Streets, West Chester, PA 610.692.5190 www.westchesterumc.com

SUNDAY, MAY 14, 4:00PM

Felix Hell, organist. Newark United Methodist Church, 69 EAST Main St., Newark, DE. Admission \$10. adults, \$5. students.

TUESDAY, MAY 16, 12:00 NOON

AGO Tuesday Noon Recital. Martha Johnson, organist. St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Cathedral Rd. & Ridge Ave., Philadelphia (Andorra).

FRIDAY, MAY 19, 8:00 PM

Abington Symphony Orchestra and Oratorio Choir. Haydn's *Te Deum* and Randall Davidson's *A Lutheran's Guide to the Orchestra*, plus other orchestral selections. Free-will offering. Free child care. Abington Presbyterian Church, 1082 Old York Rd, Abington PA 215.887.4580 www.apcusa.org

SATURDAY, MAY 20, 7:30 PM

Andrew Carter: *Benedicite* plus other works. The Wayne Oratorio Society, a ministry of Wayne Presbyterian Church. 200 voice choir & professional orchestra and soloists. Free will offering. Wayne Presbyterian Church, 125 E. Lancaster Ave, Wayne PA 610.688.8700 www.waynepres.org

SUNDAY, MAY 21, 3:00 PM

Katrina Benefit Concert. Choral concert to raise money for disaster relief. Featuring Choirs from: Family of God Lutheran, Buckingham; Good Shepherd Lutheran, Southampton; St. Paul's Lutheran, Doylestown. Free-will offering. Reception following. St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 301 North Main Street, Doylestown PA 215.348.4004 x117 www.doylestownlutheran.org

SUNDAY, MAY 21, 4:00 PM

Brad Winters, Organist, in a program of "Organ Favorites." Cornel Zimmer organ (2004). Free-will offering. Handicapped accessible. No childcare provided. Aldersgate United Methodist Church, 2313 Concord Pike, Wilmington DE 302.478.2575

SUNDAY, MAY 21, 4:00 PM

Spring Concert, Choir and soloists. Westminster Presbyterian Church, Pennsylvania Ave & Rodney St, Wilmington DE 302.654.5214 x121 www.wpc.org

SUNDAY, MAY 21, 6:15 PM

Spring Choral Service - Music of Mozart. Tenth Church Choir/Tenth Chamber Players. Worship Service - Philip G. Ryken, speaker. Free will offering Tenth Presbyterian Church, 1701 Delancey St, Philadelphia PA www.tenth.org/music

SUNDAY, MAY 21, 7:00 PM

"Song of Hope", Anne Wilson, Conductor. Chancel Choir in a Pennsylvania premiere performance of her original multi-movement work, "Song of Hope," composed in response to the September 11 attacks. Free will offering. Doylestown Presbyterian Church, 132 East Court Street, Doylestown, PA 215.348.3531

SUNDAY, MAY 21, 7:00 PM

Christopher Dock High School Touring Choir, Rodney Derstine, director. Free will offering. Zion Mennonite Church, Front St & Cherry Ln, Souderton PA 215.723.3592 www.zionmennonite.org

SUNDAY, MAY 21, 7:30 PM

Andrew Carter: *Benedicite* plus other works. The Wayne Oratorio Society, a ministry of Wayne Presbyterian Church. 200 voice choir & professional orchestra and soloists. Free will offering. Wayne Presbyterian Church, 125 E. Lancaster Ave, Wayne PA 610.688.8700 www.waynepres.org

TUESDAY, MAY 23, 12:00 NOON

AGO Tuesday Noon Recital. Rosemary Hood, organist. St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Cathedral Rd. & Ridge Ave., Philadelphia (Andorra).

TUESDAY, MAY 30, 12:00 NOON

AGO Tuesday Noon Recital. Wesley Parrott, organist. St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Cathedral Rd. & Ridge Ave., Philadelphia (Andorra).



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First Presbyterian Church of Olney

William J. Gatens, D. Phil., F.A.G.O., Ch.M.

Church of the Good Shepherd, Rosemont
Congregation Adath Jeshurun, Elkins Park
American Record Guide

Roy Harker

Church of Saint Asaph
Bala Cynwyd, Pennsylvania

Vox Humana
Continued from page 10

Tourists climb the steps every day to look at the rafters.

We were no different except that my wife Cathy's terminal cancer made us navigate the steps much more slowly, one step at a time, stopping to rest on each one. Finally we entered the front door where four or five people at a time would walk in to look around for a few minutes and then leave. Occasionally a few sat briefly in the coolness of the pews before descending the steps.

While most others looked at the ship rafters, Cathy made a slow but steady bee line for the organ (which was locked). Chemotherapy had robbed her of her strength week after week...until sitting on the organ bench for her usual four hours daily practice time became impossible. She wouldn't play a service without practicing and working on registration. So finally she stopped what she had loved doing since she was a teenager.

There was an older woman in a long, blue, flowered print dress talking to another woman who was cleaning around the altar. I told them my wife was a church organist and asked if they knew what kind of organ they had. The older woman said it was a fairly new Casavant and that she could open it for Cathy to play. I thought she would go to get the key, but instead she fished a small key on the end of a piece of twine from her dress pocket and opened the organ.

While we knew many of the hymn numbers in the 1982 Hymnal, the English hymnal "Hymns Ancient and Modern" was different. I turned to the index to search for familiar first lines. The woman asked what I was looking for. I replied "The King of Love My Shepherd Is," and she said #197! I thought that must be one of her favorites since she knew the number by heart. I placed it in front of Cathy, and she began to play. When she finished, I started to look again. The woman asked which hymn I wanted. I said "Immortal, Invisible, God-only Wise," and she said #372. Another lucky guess? I turned the page in the book in front of Cathy, and she opened up some stops with this great hymn.

Without looking in the index this time, I asked the woman for "Dear Lord and Father of Mankind." She said #184. It finally dawned on me! I asked her if she were the organist here, and she said, "Yes, for more than twenty years." I asked for "O God Our Help In Ages Past." It's #165, said the soft voice behind me. Like taking a new car out on an empty highway in the early morning, Cathy opened up the Casavant until it rattled the rafters.

Over the years Cathy would ask me, "Is playing the organ enough?" When you have trained at one of the great conservatories in the U.S. and played some of the greatest organs in the world, playing an old clunky organ in a small Episcopal church sometimes seems not very rewarding. When you have worked hours on a Bach prelude, and people greet friends during the prelude like noisy neighbors meeting at a soccer game, organ playing in a small church can be discouraging! "Is it enough?" was her existential question. Is playing a church organ enough to do with my life? I always answered YES, and tried to give examples of the importance of music in the lives of brides, widows, and worshippers.

It had been ten months since she had played the organ, the longest time she had been away from the bench in more than forty years. Although she was tiring, she wanted to play some more. I said "Alleluia, Sing to Jesus," and the woman said #399. We worked our way through "Almighty Father Strong To Save," "Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken," and (Cathy's favorite!) "Praise,

My Soul, The King of Heaven." Each time I said the first line and heard the woman's soft voice giving the number in my ear.

Finally Cathy stopped and said, "I miss it so much, but I can't play anymore." The old woman told her, "You have a great gift." Cathy said, "Oh, I just play hymns." Then I said, "Turn around and look."

When she turned, she covered her mouth with both hands and started to cry. There were 60 to 70 people sitting in the pews listening to her play. The empty old church was interesting enough for people to climb the steps to look around and then to leave in a few minutes. But when the pipe organ began to sound, like a magnet pulling on the souls of all sorts and conditions of people, the tourists were drawn to enter and sit and listen to the great hymns of the Church!

I helped her off the bench, handed her cane to her, and said, "Yes, it IS enough!" It was the last time she ever played the organ. Perhaps it was the best.

• • •

Chaplain's Corner

"So worship God acceptably with reverence and with awe."

Hebrews 12:28

At our church for Lent we studied in small groups Rick Warren's book "The Purpose Driven Life". It's a very practical book that makes you dig deep inside of yourself to discover what is the purpose of one's life. I would like to share with you some of his thoughts on worship.

Warren believes there is a right and wrong way to worship. According to the verse from Hebrews above there are four characteristics of worship that please God. I will share two of them with you in this column.

1) God is pleased when our worship is accurate: not that every note has to be right or every word pronounced exactly right. Too often we base worship on our opinions of God. These opinions are derived from being politically correct and comfortable images of God. In John 4:23, Jesus converses with the Samaritan Woman, "True worshippers will worship God in spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshippers that God seeks." In order to worship in truth, it must be based on how God is revealed in the Bible.

2) God is pleased when our worship is authentic. The spirit mentioned in Jesus' conversation with the Samaritan Woman was not the Holy Spirit, but our spirit. The question is whether our worship is superficial or heartfelt. Are we going through the motions or is it what our life is about? This is when the emotion of the music including text when it is present connects with us in a way that lifts us closer to God. It is when we are totally focused on communicating with God. If we desire to be closer to God, our hearts, heads and spirits respond to God.

These two characteristics raise some questions for me. Is it worship if we play or sing an almost note perfect service without it being any kind of response to God? I believe in any style of music we use for worship we can get lost in the notes and not be focused on God. In the end worship is more than just music, worship is the way we live our lives. It's not always about what we want, but more about what God wants. Stay tuned for the next two characteristics.

• • •

Katherine Reier, Circulation Coordinator
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NEWSLETTER OF THE PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

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