



American Guild of Organists

PIPELINE

VOL.6, NO. 5

February 22, 1990

ATTENTION !! ATTENTION !! ATTENTION !! ATTENTION !! ATTENTION!!

This Sunday, February 25 at 7:00 p.m.* the American Guild of Organists will be having their program entitled "Everything You Always Wanted To Know About HANDBELLS - A Hands On Experience." This program is designed for all people who have never rung a handbell in their lives. A brief history of the handbells will be given along with learning the proper ringing techniques and maintenance of the handbell. It is strongly suggested that all A.G.O. members attend. In many churches today, handbells are becoming very important to the worship experience. In our area, (the membership of the A.G.O.) there are over 50 sets of handbells alone. Everyone has been asked sometime to join or be a substitute in a handbell choir. If you take a look in the back of your A.G.O. magazine, most churches listing positions open are looking for organist/director. The director part usually has a handbell position with it.

At the meeting, the A.G.O. Handbell Choir will be playing four very unique pieces. The pieces to be performed are: "Sacred Harp Tune" by Smith, "Pick A Winner" by Gillis, "Land of Rest" by Garee, "Prisms" by Payn. The choir has been working very, very hard and deserves some recognition. If you are starting a handbell choir and/or have some people who might benefit from this program, invite them along. The program is open to any interested person.

Thank you all for making A.G.O. a great success by attending the programs offered. We hope to see ALL members present!!!!

* Note change of time.

Where: Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd
(Fellowship Hall)

When: 7:00 p.m.*

Why: Hands on experience with Handbells



A NOTE FROM THE DEAN

Greetings. It's hard to believe we are less than two weeks from Ash Wednesday and another busy time at church. I hope you will be able to participate in our upcoming programs on February 25, March 18, and April 22.

The handbell workshop this Sunday should be fun and educational. Note the time change. Judy Sanders and her workers are preparing a fun program and a chapter meeting will follow.

Probably the biggest event of the year will be the Children's Choir Festival on March 18 and our festival service which will be held at the Blue Cloud Abbey at Marvin, SD. We will talk about the transportation to this event at our February meeting.

In June, we are asking for chapter volunteers to assist with organ workshops which are being sponsored by Concordia College June 10-16.

During the first part of March, I am planning to be in Madison, WI for a couple of days to discuss AGO concerns with our regional councilor John C. Stowe. Please contact me if you have any concerns I should share with him. I will write a report about this in an upcoming newsletter.

I will be in Minneapolis studying organ, taking other classes, and reviewing humanities proposals on the main campus of the U of M in preparation for a new A.A. degree to offer on the Crookston campus. After March 1, my temporary address and phone number will be: 1944 Jefferson Ave., St. Paul, MN, 55105 - (612)699-7894. Please contact subdean Brad Steen for information at any time.

CHILDRENS CHOIR FESTIVAL

A Director's Workshop for the Childrens Choir Festival was held Sunday afternoon, January 7. Choirs represented at the workshop were from First Presbyterian Church, Fargo; First Lutheran Church, Fargo; First Presbyterian Church, Moorhead; Messiah Lutheran Church, Fargo; St. John Lutheran Church, Hillsboro, ND; Davenport Lutheran Church, Davenport, ND; and The Community Childrens Choir, Fargo.

Directors participating in the festival were very enthusiastic about the music selected for the festival concert and the plans for the March 18 event at Olivet Lutheran Church in Fargo. Each participant was supplied with a rehearsal tape of the music to be used in the concert.

Childrens Choir Festival committee members are calling additional directors to invite them to participate in the festival. Guild members are urged to follow-up these invitations by contacting childrens choir directors in their churches to remind them of the festival, an encourage them to participate with their choirs.

Childrens Choir Festival committee members are Ruth Fosson, Susan Clambey, Gary Thrasher, Marlowe Kulish, Otto Muecke, Marilyn Woods, Rod Rothlisberger, and co-chairpersons, Joan Bystol and Jack Close. Any of these committee members would be able to supply additional information about the festival.

APOLOGY

The editor of the A.G.O. newsletter wishes to express her apology to the members of the A.G.O. for the late newsletter. The computers were out for 3 weeks. Please accept her sincere apology.

Minutes - Red River Valley Chapter - AGO January 21, 1990 - Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd

Following the John Eggert recital and reception, a brief business meeting was held with about fifteen members attending. The minutes of past meetings, as they appeared in the Newsletter were referred to. No treasurer's report was given, but one will appear in the next Newsletter. The yearbook is at the printers and will be mailed to members very soon. Dean French reported that he has written two grants which should be decided upon soon. They are the Dayton-Hudson Foundation and the North Dakota Arts Council and would assist in financing upcoming programs. The group was reminded about the Handbell program, February 25 at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Moorhead; the Children's Choir Festival, March 18 at Olivet Lutheran Church, Fargo; and the April 22 joint meeting with the South Dakota Chapter at Blue Cloud Abbey, Marvin, SD. The latter will feature the service of Evensong, according to member David Salmen. It was announced that our regional councilor, John Stowe, will be meeting with Guild members on February 11 at Bismarck. Many expressed a desire to meet him and suggested we finance his transportation to come to Fargo. Dean French was asked to inquire about this possibility. A brief discussion on current musician fees for serving at funerals was held but no action was taken. A few upcoming events are: Teen Organ Workshop and Adult Organ Workshop at Concordia College in June; Community Choir Concerts, February 20-21 at Thief River Falls and Crookston; a Church Music Workshop (date unknown) at Grand Rapids, MN with Hal Hopson; and the March 4, 4 p.m. dedicatory recital at Pontoppidan Lutheran Church, Fargo, on the new Johnson pipe organ, Peter Nygaard, recitalist.

Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Margery Possehl, secretary

HELP NEEDED FOR CHILDRENS CHOIR FESTIVAL

The Children Choir Festival committee has been meeting regularly, and individual members have been generous with their time and ideas to plan a successful community event.

As Sunday, March 18 draws nearer, the committee will need to call upon Guild members for assistance before, during, and after the festival. The following tasks have been identified where we will need help.

1. **Publicity/Marketing:** Posters and bulletin announcements will be mailed to church secretaries in the final weeks before the event. Please urge your church secretary to display the posters prominently, and include the announcement in the Sunday bulletin in your parish.
2. **Choral risers and instruments:** We will be transporting choral risers, handbells, and marimbas to and from Olivet. These need to be set up, taken down, and returned after the concert. We will need muscle power and trucks to transport these.
3. **Hosts/Hostesses:** The rehearsal will be at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 18. We want to have a Guild member meet each choir at the door, lead them to the gathering place, usher them into the worship space, and generally usher them through the rehearsal (including the processional and recessional), break period, and 4:00 p.m. festival performance.
4. **Refreshment break:** There will be a refreshment break between the rehearsal and performance. During this time, we will be providing singers with a simple snack and an opportunity to visit the restrooms. We will need assistance cutting and coring apples and serving these. Please offer your apple corer/cutter and your time during the rehearsal to prepare and serve this snack.
5. **Ushers:** Ushers will be needed to distribute programs, seat the audience, and collect the offering at the concert.

If you are called upon to serve in one or more of these capacities, please respond with a "yes". If you would like to volunteer, please call Joan Bystol or Jack Close.

DEDICATORY RECITAL

The Dedicatory recital of the new addition to the organ at Pontoppidan (by Lance Johnson Organ Company) will be Sunday March 4 at 4:00 p.m. at Pontoppidan Lutheran Church, 301 4th Street North, Fargo, ND. Peter Nygaard will be the guest organist. He will be playing works of Bach, Buxtehude, Alain, Vierne and Widor. The recital is open to the public. All members are asked to be present for this exiting event. See you March 4 at 4:00 p.m.

AGO FINANCIAL REPORT AS OF JANUARY 23, 1990

ASSETS

Three Month CD (Johnson Organ Grant) 1,492.00

INCOME

Member Dues (80)	2,983.00	
Bank Interest	73.68	
Hohman Concert Offering	233.20	
Hymn Festival Offering	219.52	
John Eggert Recital	94.00	
NDCA (Total \$2000.00)	1,300.00	
December Fund Drive	870.00	
	<u>5,773.40</u>	
		7,265.40

EXPENSES

National Headquarters Dues	1,524.00	
Checking Account Charges	12.40	
Hymn Festival	649.91	
Hohman's Concert	1,498.78	
Misc. (Printing/mailings, etc.)	1,652.70	
P.O. Box Rental	<u>28.00</u>	
		-5,365.79
		1,899.61
Outstanding Checks January 24, 1990		-125.38
Balance		1,774.23
Balance due from NDCA (Childrens Choir Festival)		+700.00
		<u>2,474.23</u>

As of 1/4/90 we were notified that our application for a 1990 grant from the City of Fargo has been received. "The panel will begin its deliberation in mid-January. You will be notified by letter about the decision on your application by February 28th with grant distribution before March 31st."



Thank You

A special thank you to fellow members of the Red River Valley Chapter of AGO for your generous gift in memory of our daughter and sister, Brynn. This money will be added to Messiah Lutheran's Handbell Fund.

Carolyn, Grant, Matt & Molly Hensrud

American Guild of Organists

RED RIVER VALLEY CHAPTER

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ORGANIZATION

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