



The Worcester Organist

Official Newsletter of the
WORCESTER CHAPTER
AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

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VOLUME III, ISSUE II

A Message from the Dean



Congratulations, James David Christie!

Twenty-Five Years: Distinguished Artist in Residence and the Taylor & Boody organ celebrated 25th anniversaries on Sunday, March 21, 2010 at Saint Joseph Memorial Chapel, College of the Holy Cross.

This award-winning, 52-foot high, 10-ton instrument, designed in the tradition of 16th and 17th century Dutch and north German organs, was built in a two-year period by a team of craftsmen led by George K. Taylor and John Boody.

On the occasion of Johann Sebastian Bach's 300th birthday, March 21, 1985, James David Christie, world-renowned organist and Holy

Cross Distinguished Artist in Residence, performed the inaugural recital on the newly dedicated Taylor & Body organ.

For Bach's 325th birthday, Professor Christie paid him homage again with a program of the composer's works, including his famous Toccata and Fugue in D Minor. The occasion also served as an opportunity to celebrate Prof. Christie's quarter-century of service to the campus of the Holy Cross College as resident organist and teacher. For those who were not able to attend this recital, you may like to read through the program that was played:

Prelude and Fugue in E Minor (BWV 1104)

"Neumeister" Chorale Preludes

Wenn dich Unglück tut greifen an (BWV 1104)

Wir glauben all einen Gott (BWV 1098)

Herzliebster Jesu, was hast du verbrochen (BWV 1093)

Jesu, meine Freude (BWV 1105)

Allein zu dir, Herr Jesu Christ (BWV 1100)

Herzlich lieb hab ich dich, o Gott (BWV 1115)

Art of Fugue (BWV 1080)

Contrapunctus XI a 4

Contrapunctus XII a 4 (asst. by John Finney)

Rectus and Inversus

Contrapunctus XIII a 3 (asst. by John Finney)

Rectus and Inversus

Toccata and Fugue in D Minor (BWV 565)

Encore: *Liebster Jesu, wir sind hier* (BWV 706)

Thank you, Jim, our example and inspiration.

Ronna Davis, Dean

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Dean's Message

Front Cover

2010 Slate of Officers

Calendar of Events

Page 2

Placement Listings

Page 3

Placement Listings (Cont'd.)

AGO Contact Information

Page 4

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Ronna Archbold Davis

Dean

Bradford Hendrickson

Sub-Dean

Carolyn Graham

Treasurer

David Moulton

Secretary

Deborah O'Driscoll

Registrar

Rev. Thomas Garlick

Chaplain

MEMBERS AT LARGE:

Diane French

Thomas Ingrassia

Dawn Thistle

2010 Slate of Officers

The following is a slate of officers, nominated by the Nominating Committee, to appear on the ballot for affirmation:

Dean: Will Sherwood
 Sub-Dean: Brett Maguire
 Secretary: David Moulton*
 Treasurer: Lois Hagberg
 Registrar: Jean Breidenbach
 Member-at-Large: Randy Bloom
 Member-at-Large: Diane French*
 Member-at-Large: Tom Ingrassia*
 Member-at-Large: Kevin Mathieu

* Denotes nomination for consecutive term.

A ballot will be mailed to you. Please affirm the nominated individuals of your choice, and return said ballot in a self-addressed stamped envelope. Please be sure to include your name and return address on the envelope, as chapter by-laws invalidate any ballot received without this information.

Calendar of Events

April 25, 2010 at 2:00 p.m. – CHAPTER EVENT!

Annual Meeting of the Worcester Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. This brief meeting will convene in the lower chapel of the St. Joseph Memorial Chapel at The College of the Holy Cross just prior to the Philippe Lefebvre concert described below. The agenda is a treasurer, membership and publicity report and also the introduction of the slate of officers for election for the 2010 -2012 term. Voting and election ballot mailing procedures will be outlined.

April 25, 2010 at 3:00 p.m. – CHAPTER EVENT!

The Worcester Chapter AGO and the College of the Holy Cross will co sponsor an organ recital by Philippe Lefebvre at the St. Joseph Memorial Chapel at The College of the Holy Cross. Mr. Lefebvre will perform works of Bach, including his own transcription of Bach's most bravura work, the Chromatic Fantasia and Fugue, and Mendelssohn, interspersed with three improvisations in different styles. Mr. Lefebvre is internationally regarded as the finest improviser in France. He was the first place prize winner on organ improvisation competitions in Chartres and Lyon, and he serves today as organist at Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris.

April 30, 2010:

The Scholarship Committee is again offering financial awards in the form of scholarships to students of the organ. Deadline for application has been extended to April 30, 2010. The committee is urging teachers to inform their students of this opportunity. We welcome letters of intent for the year 2010-2011. Send to: AGO Scholarship Committee, c/o Janeen Baker, Chair, 44 Leominster Rd., Princeton, MA 01541. (Regulations and procedures can be found under Educational Outreach on the chapter's website, www.worcesterago.org.)

May 2, 2010 at 5:00 p.m.

Dedication of Southfield Organ, formerly 1974 Casavant organ from the former Saint John's Episcopal Church, Worcester. Mark Dwyer, Organist. Saint Michael's on the Heights Episcopal Church (340 Burncoat St., Worcester). Free admission, reception to follow. For more information, contact the church office at 508-853-9400.

May 8, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. and May 9, 2010 at 3:00 p.m.

"Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" by Andrew Lloyd Webber, presented by the "Arts on the Green" series and the Music Ministry of First Congregational Church of Shrewsbury. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$5 for children age 16 and under.

May 16, 2010 at 3:00 p.m.

"Jolly Old England" presented by the Master Singers of Worcester under the direction of Malcolm Halliday. In a program celebrating the range of English music from the past to the present, the Master Singers present four anthems by Tudor composers Gibbons, Philips and Tallis, as well as folk settings, and part songs by later composers including Holst and Stanford. The Worcester Children's Chorus will present songs by Andrew Carter and join the Master Singers for the final work, "Songs and Cries of London Town" by the living composer Bob Chilcott. Tickets are \$25 general admission, \$20 students and seniors. For tickets or information, call 508-842-1349.

Placement Listings

Saint John's Episcopal Church (Director of Music Ministry) 3 Pleasant St., Sutton, MA 01590

Vibrant Episcopal parish is seeking an organist/pianist/choir director to play one service each Sunday and to accompany our dedicated SATB volunteer choir. Dynamic liturgy. Nice space. Inviting, young parish community. Mann & Trupiano, Southfield tracker organ (21 ranks), installed in 2007. Piano in sanctuary. Please contact The Rev. John D. Betit at 508-865-3103 or johnbetit@st-johns-sutton.org.

First Congregational Church of Holden, UCC (Choir Director) 1180 Main St., Holden, MA 01520

Responsibilities include 3-5 hours weekly, which includes a 10:00 a.m. Sunday worship service with adult choir. Choir rehearsal is at 7:00-8:30 p.m. on Thursday evenings, and 9:00-9:30 a.m. on Sundays. Select anthems, choral prayer responses, offertory responses, and benediction responses. The choir sings from the first Sunday after Labor Day to mid-June. The choir does not sing on the Sunday after Christmas. Direct the choir for special services, including but not limited to Easter, Christmas Eve and Maundy Thursday. Applicant should be proficient on the keyboard (piano and/or pipe organ). Position available immediately. Salary up to \$6,300 with two months vacation (July and August) plus 2 paid personal days. Additional time off is negotiable. For a complete job description, contact Chuck Noyes, Music Committee, at 508-829-9044 or cc.noyes@verizon.net. (E-mail is preferred.)

Pilgrim Congregational Church, UCC (Music Director: Organist/Choir Director) 26 West St., Leominster, MA 01453

Part-time (up to 10 hours per week). Worship at 9:30 a.m. with adult choir. Senior Choir rehearsal one evening per week plus before worship service (September through May). Junior Choir rehearsal following church service each Sunday during the school year. Work with bell choir. Play for special services of worship (including, but not limited to Christmas Eve, Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday). Select organ music for worship; hymns selected by pastor. Annual salary of \$17-\$19K including social security, vacation and sick days. Steere & Turner organ (Op. 70, 1873), possibly the largest Steere & Turner instrument in existence today: 28 stops, 2 manuals, 33 ranks. Baby grand piano in sanctuary. Contact Robin Gallagher at 978-660-0567 or mrg1004@comcast.net, or contact Pilgrim Congregational Church at 978-534-5164 or pilgrimchurch1743@comcast.net.

East Longmeadow United Methodist Church (Music Director/Pianist/Organist) 215 Somers Rd., East Longmeadow, MA 01028; www.elumc.org

Immediate part-time opening. Plan and coordinate all music and anthems from diverse musical traditions for Sunday worship services in cooperation with pastoral staff, direct an established adult choir, build a youth music program for pre-K through high school. Lead in worship by providing piano, organ and/or keyboard music for church services and act as primary accompanist for assigned choirs, ensembles and soloists. Candidate should possess enthusiasm for worship and the ministry of music. Strong music skills are needed with emphasis placed on teamwork, people skills and creativity. Two rehearsals (weeknight and Sunday morning). Average of 10-15 weekly hours. Moeller pipe organ. Annual salary of \$12,000 to \$14,000 based on experience, 4 weeks paid vacation. Forward resume, including address, telephone number and/or e-mail address to the address above, or contact: Diane Chandler (Staff Parish Relations Team Leader) at spr@elumc.org, or Rev. Kelly Turney (Pastor) at 413-525-7416 or pastor@elumc.org.

United Presbyterian Church (Organist/Choir Director) 7 Spring St., Whitinsville, MA 01588; www.whitinpres.org

Seeking Organist/Choir Director for minimum of 8 hours per week with additional time required for special services. Playing on Skinner pipe organ and Gulbransen grand piano. Direct adult and children's choirs. Send resume to address above, or contact church office at 508-234-8220 or office@whitinpres.org.

Catholic Communities of St. Joseph & St. Pius X of Leicester (Director of Music)

Immediate part-time opening. Weekly commitment consists of two rehearsals and two Masses every Sunday; additional liturgies may be required throughout the year. Applicants should be proficient in organ and piano, possess a knowledge of the Catholic liturgy, and be willing to work with groups of all musical abilities, ages and styles. Please forward resume and references to Rev. Stephen D. Johnson, 759 Main St., Leicester, MA 01524.

(Additional listings on following page.)

Placement Listings (Cont'd.)

First Congregational Church (Organist/Choir Director)

138 Main St., Westminster, MA 01473; www.westcong.org

Part-time position (10-12 hours per week) in an active parish of 300 members. Provide music for one weekly service at 10:00 a.m. on Sundays, plus special holiday services (including, but not limited to Thanksgiving Eve, Christmas Eve, Maundy Thursday and Children's Sunday). Rehearse dedicated adult choir for 90 minutes on Thursday evening and before church service on Sunday mornings (September through June). Select and play preludes, offertories and postludes for services of worship. Select a variety of music for choral anthems, introits, prayer responses and benedictions. Input at staff meetings for worship planning. The music ministry includes a traditional worship service with blended elements. Proficiency in organ, piano and accompanying necessary. Quality digital Allen Renaissance organ. Grand piano in sanctuary. Position available January 2010. Response deadline: June 2010. For a complete job description, visit our web site (above). Submit letter and resume to Doug Washabaugh, Chair Organist Search Committee, c/o First Congregational Church, P.O. Box 477, Westminster, MA 01473.

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Chapter Calendar & Placement Listings
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*Calendar items must be submitted by the 15th of each month.
Placement listing fee is \$20.00 for 4 mos., payable in advance to:
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