



The Bombarde

The Official Newsletter of the Detroit Chapter
of the American Guild of Organists

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A Note from the Dean

Happy Thanksgiving to all.

The celebration of the Beatification of Fr. Solanus at Ford Field brings one thought to mind regarding thankfulness. Fr. Solanus would always thank God for a particular healing or blessing before it occurred. Although difficult to put into practice, the peaceful spirit that must result by putting that kind of confidence in God ahead of time and thanking him no matter what the outcome is certainly impressive and rare. So, no matter what issues we may be facing, let us be thankful. Maybe we could pray for others around us and throughout the world, realizing that we are not alone in our less-than-perfect human condition.



Speaking of those in need of our prayers, I received an email from former Dean, Carolyn Thibideau, that Rev. Dr. George Portice, husband of AGO member, Carol Portice, died this past month. Carolyn Thibideau has known Rev Dr. Portice and his wife, Carol, for some time. So, I asked Carolyn if she would write a few words for the membership. She writes as follows:

Our thoughts and prayers are with AGO member, Carol Portice in the loss of her husband, the Rev. Dr. George Portice last month. Dr. Portice has served as Senior Pastor at University Presbyterian Church in Rochester, MI. Carol has served University Presbyterian Church as Music Director and Organist. Services for Dr. Portice were held at the church on November 3rd. The leadership of these two outstanding individuals has

produced a dynamic church with excellent pulpit and graded music program. Dr. Portice had planned to retire in February, and Carol fulfilled her retirement plans on Nov. 12. Carol has served as an active member of the AGO Board. Plans were to move to Pennsylvania in their recently purchased home. Carol plans to follow through with their plans for retirement. God speed, Carol in your retirement and in your new location in Pennsylvania.

Also, Carolyn has sent me [information regarding a piano scholarship](#), which I promised to include in the Bombarde. Please note the information in this issue regarding the piano scholarship being offered by the Tuesday Musicale of Greater Pontiac, Michigan.

Regarding scholarship opportunities, note that Jean Randall is the contact person for our annual Detroit Chapter Scholarship. Auditions are being held at St. Paul's UMC, Rochester on Monday, February 5, 2018, at 6:30 p.m. Contact Jean Randall at 586-801-3962 or send your email to music@stpaulrochester.org. Jean also has sent along information regarding our next event, our Annual Epiphany Dinner. This year we will be gathering at Fort Street Presbyterian Church on Monday, January 8, 2018, for a Slows BBQ meal, organ demonstration of the recently restored organ by James and Marilyn Biery, along with ample open console time. I hope to see all of you there.

Finally, We are in need of an Detroit Chapter Archivist to take care of our archival material. Mary Whittmore is no longer able to be our archivist; she has served in this capacity as far back as I can remember. Thank you Mary. Is anyone interested in taking over this important responsibility? Please contact me at prowseronald@shms.edu. Thank you.

God bless and have a Happy Thanksgiving.

Ronald Prowse, Dean
Detroit Chapter AGO

Chapter News

2017-2018 Chapter Programs

December 2017

No program

Monday, January 8, 2017

Epiphany Dinner, Fort St. Presbysterian Church

- 6 PM arrive, meet & greet, open console
- 6:30 PM dinner
- 7:30-8:15 PM demonstration of the organ by Jim and Marilyn Biery
- 8:15-8:45 PM open console, tours, gabbing, etc.



- Out by 9 PM
- Host: Marilyn Biery
- Reservations required: Call (586) 801-3962, text, or email Jean Randall (music@stpaulsrochester.com)

**THE DETROIT CHAPTER AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS
ANNUAL EPIPHANY BANQUET
6-9 PM MONDAY, JANUARY 8, 2018**

**FEATURING: THE SWIFT MEMORIAL ORGAN IV/60
ORGAN DEMONSTRATION BY: JAMES AND MARILYN BIERY
SLOWS BBQ, SOFT DRINKS, COFFEE, AND TEA
AMPLE OPEN CONSOLE TIME**

**FORT STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
631 WEST FORT STREET, DETROIT, 48226
GUARDED PARKING**

**Cost: \$35 per person
Students with valid ID: \$20**

**RESERVATIONS REQUIRED
Call, text, or e-mail: Jean Randall
586 801-3962, music@stpaulsrochester.org**



**Monday, February 5, 2018, 6:30 PM-?
Detroit Chapter Scholarship Auditions
St. Paul's UMC, Rochester**

Saturday, February 10, 10 AM

Why Should I Take Those Tests??

American Guild of Organists Certification Workshop

Location TBD

Sunday, March 4, 2018, 4 PM

Annual Detroit Chapter Members Recital

Sts. Peter and Paul Downtown

Host: Julie Ford

Saturday, April 21, 2018, 10 AM-3 PM

"Big Honkin' Organs on Woodward" Organ Crawl with lunch!

Details TBA

Saturday, April 28, 2018

Pedals, Pipes, and Pizza

St. Paul's UMC, Rochester

Host: Pete Townsend

Friday, May 11, and Sunday, May, 12, 2018

St. Paul's UMC, Rochester

Host: Pete Townsend

"A Weekend with Eugenio"

Eugenio Maria Fagiani will be with us at St. Paul's Rochester for one of our 30th birthday celebrations for the Walker organ. I am going to piggyback a masterclass and lecture on Saturday for interested folks. Eugenio is a well known organist / Composer / performer throughout Europe and the middle east. He is organist at the Cathedral in Bergamo and organist / concert coordinator at Santa Maria Sanctuary and Pilgrimage site at La Verna IT where he ha discovered many new organ works by Padre Martini.

Chapter Scholarship Information

The Detroit Chapter of the A.G.O offers three possible scholarships of \$400.00 are awarded in three categories: beginner, intermediate, and advanced.

Additional scholarships may be awarded. ALL scholarships are awarded at the discretion of the judges. The number of applicants, the amount of funds available, and the final opinion of the judges will affect these decisions.

Each scholarship will be made payable to the student's private organ instructor or educational institution.

A student may be a scholarship recipient a maximum of three times.

Scholarship winners will be chosen by the Scholarship Committee, composed of local qualified organists, as empowered by the American Guild of Organists, Detroit Chapter Executive Board.

[Full details and the Application Form available here.](#)

Best Wishes and Thanks to D. Frederic DeHaven

Fred DeHaven is moving to Vermont!

For many years, Frederic DeHaven has been an exemplary member of our Chapter. He set new standards for musical excellence during his long tenure (32 years!) at Christ Church, Grosse Pointe, and is nationally renowned for his skills.

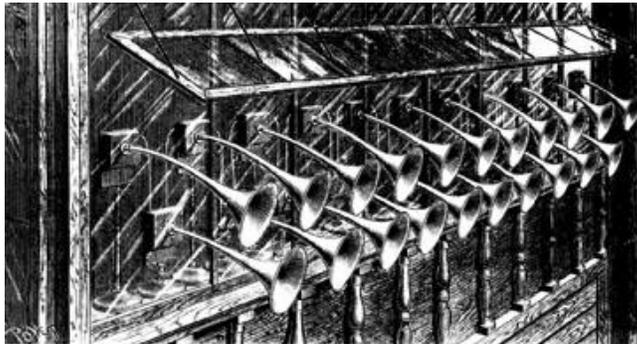
Fred has mentored and inspired many, many singers, organists and keyboard artists over the years. His generosity and many kindnesses have been an inspiration for all of us.

In his retirement, he has enjoyed substituting at numerous churches in the Metro Area. On Nov. 29 he and his wife are moving to Vermont, to be nearer their daughters.



We will miss you, Fred, but you will always have a place in our hearts. Our prayers and affection go with you!

Member News



Do you have news that you'd like to share with the Chapter? Please send your news by the 15th of the month to Gerald Furi at:

detroitago@gmail.com

for inclusion in the next issue of *The Bombarde*.

A New Look at Thanksgiving Hymns

From the author of the Hayden Konig mystery novels, Mark Schweitzer, and just in time for some insignificant holiday in the latter half of November we have the top ten hymn titles from "The Living Gowler"

When the Rolls are Cooked by Wanda

Up From the Gravy

Let There Be Peas on Earth

What a Friend We Have in Cheeses (all our Brie and Camembert)

Blest be the Pies Combined

His Eye is on the Turkey

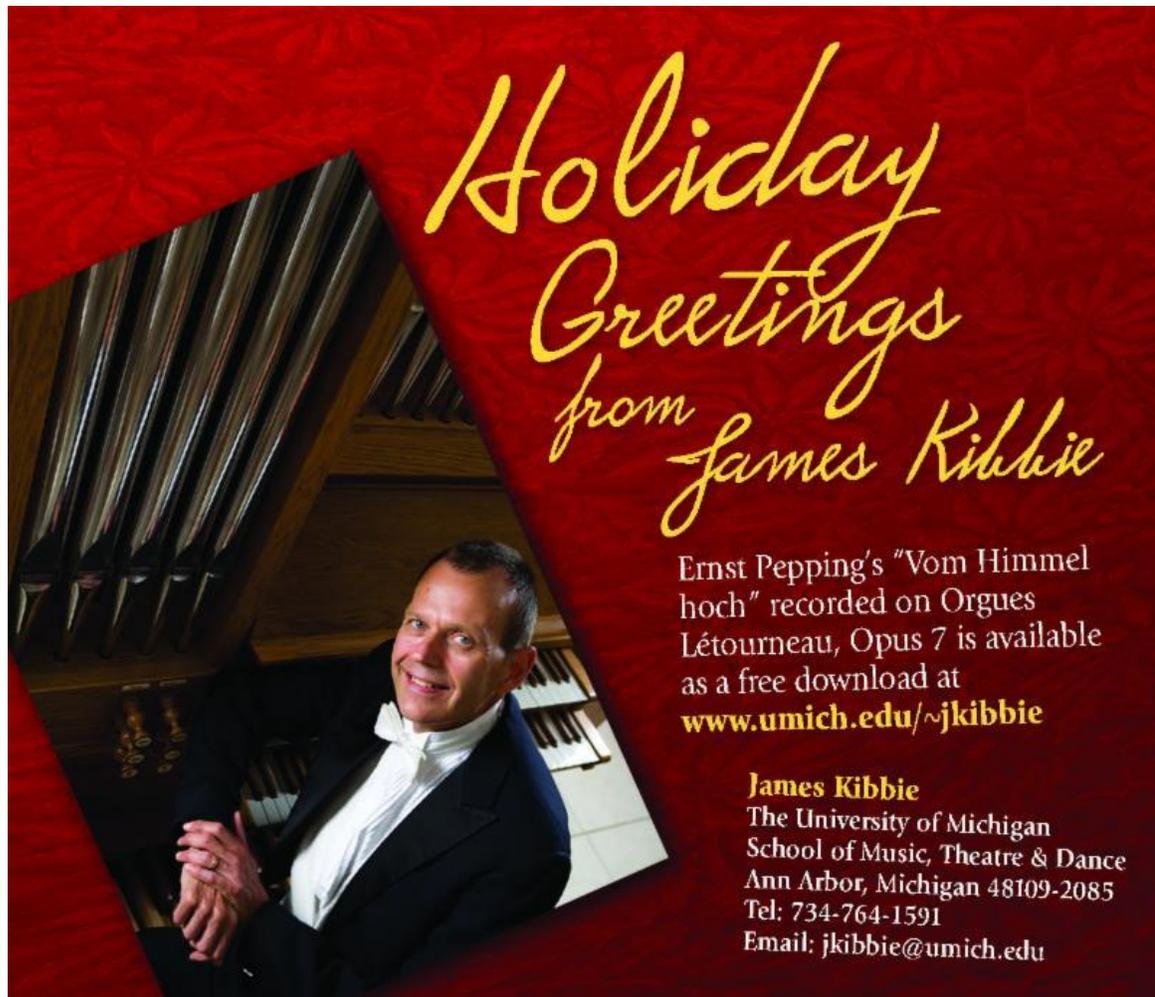
Come Thou Fount of Garlic Dressing

Take My Knife and Lima Bean

**Pass Me Not the Jellied Salad
Just As I Yam**

A Holiday Lagniappe from Dr. JKames Kibbie

[Click here to download the .mp3](#)



Holiday Greetings from James Kibbie

Ernst Pepping's "Vom Himmel hoch" recorded on Orgues Létourneau, Opus 7 is available as a free download at www.umich.edu/~jkibbie

James Kibbie
The University of Michigan
School of Music, Theatre & Dance
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109-2085
Tel: 734-764-1591
Email: jkibbie@umich.edu

From The Registrar

Meadow Brook Hall will be holding its 47th annual Holiday Walk from November 24 through December 23, 2017 and, as in the past, we would like to have our guests enjoy music from our 1917 Æolian Organ. Meadow Brook Hall's instrument is the largest Æolian residential organ still in original condition and is noted to have at least one stop that is unique and found nowhere else.

We have deeply appreciated the volunteer hours in past years of many of you, and feel the holidays just wouldn't be the same without you!!!! We rely entirely on volunteers from the community to staff our events and especially recognize your gift of time during this busy season.



This year the theme is "Landmark in Lights" with enhanced exterior lighting. Those of you that played last year will remember the excellent soups that Chef Pat provided for lunch, and I understand they're on again for this years for lunch (and evenings the last week). You are all welcome to partake, even if you are only doing a half day.

If you would like some practice time to re-familiarize yourself with the organ please contact me by email.

Pete Townsend
MBH Organ Coordinator
248-375-9480
PTownsend@comcast.net

The List

* [Kirk in the Hills](#)

_ 1340 W. Long Lake Rd., Blfld Hills, MI
Sunday, Dec. 3, 7:30 pm
Advent Choral Conceert

Presenting part I of Handel's

Messiah, Advent and Christmas selections by John Rutter, William Mathias, Gustav Holst, and David Willcocks, including an audience sing of favorite carols

[Purchase Tickets](#)

* [Fort Street Presbyterian Church](#)

631 W Fort St, Detroit, MI 48226
Wed. Dec. 6, 13, and 20, at 12:10pm
Wednesday half-hour Concerts: Music of the Season

James Biery (12/6) , Marilyn Biery (12/13) and Stephanie Shapiro, oboe (12/20), all beginning at 12:10

* [St. James Episcopal Church](#)

355 W. Maple Rd., Birmingham, MI
Sun., Dec. 10, 4pm



Advent Lessons and Carols

*** Christ Church Grosse Pointe**

Sun. Dec. 10 4:30pm

Messiah by George Frideric Handel

[Purchase Tickets Here](#)

*** [Kirk in the Hills](#)**

1340 W. Long Lake Rd., Bldg Hills, MI

Sunday, Dec. 10, 6:00pm

Carol Festival

Presented by the Young Children's, Junior and Senior Boys' and Girls' Choirs, with carol singing by all.

A reception will be held immediately following the festival in Heritage Hall.

No Admission Charge

*** [Grosse Pointe Memorial Church](#)**

16 Lakeshore Rd., Grosse Pointe Farms

Sun., Dec. 17 at 5:00pm

The Christmas Story

Choir, Orchestra, Organ and Audience

*** [Kirk in the Hills](#)**

1340 W. Long Lake Rd., Bldg Hills, MI

Sunday, Dec. 17, 4:00pm

Service of Nine Lessons and Carols

Seasonal readings from the Holy Scriptures read by Kirk clergy and lay leaders with congregational carols and a variety of music sung by the Chancel Choir.

No admission charge; childcare is available for this service

Substitutes, Teachers, Builders, and Technicians

You are important to our calling, instruments, and future. Check the DetroitAGO.org website and see if you are listed correctly. To add your name or make corrections contact Pete Townsend at Registrar@DetroitAGO.org.

Positions Available

* St. Michael's Episcopal Church

20475 Sunningdale Park, Grosse Pointe, MI

Organist

St. Michael's is an Episcopal church located in Grosse Pointe Woods, MI with a small committed choir being led by our choir director. The choir rehearses on Wednesday evening and supports our 10:30am Sunday worship service. We are looking for an Organist who is grounded in traditional Anglican music but will embrace and diversify our musical selections to complement our religious services.

St. Michael's is fortunate to possess a newly-restored 3m E. M. Skinner pipe organ, Op. 705.

The primary responsibility of the Organist is to provide musical leadership and inspiration for the adult choir and congregation. Other responsibilities include being supportive of other music programs within the church, such as our children's musical activities and special seasonal services throughout the year.



The holder of this position would in conjunction with the Choir Director

- Work with the Rector to plan weekly worship content and select hymns for the service,
- Manage all members of the adult choir and the handbell choir, and other incidental musicians (including soloists and occasional orchestral players)
- Plan and schedule all repertoire for our various services where music is involved,
- Accompany the adult choir, the handbell choir, and our children's musical activities at rehearsals and services,
- Serve as primary organist/pianist for all worship services which use music, including various holiday services,
- Be available for occasional weddings and funerals (separate honoraria for these services),
- Help the Music team imagine and plan growth in our Music Department.

Qualifications: Training and experience as a church organist; ability to work well with choir director, singers, clergy and other church members; knowledge of choral and organ repertoire. Ability to assist in leading the choir while playing accompaniments is essential. Ability to improvise at the organ is desirable. A music degree in church music, choral conducting and/or organ performance is an asset.

Salary for this position is negotiable. This position is not full time.

Deadline for applications is January 15, 2018. Applications should include two letters of

references as well as a CV. A short list of candidates will be asked to come to St. Michael's for an interview and audition. It is hoped that the new appointee will be able to begin at St. Michael's Church by the first Sunday in February, 2018.

Resumes and applications may be sent by email to officestaff@stmichaelsgpw.org or mailed to

St. Michael's Episcopal Church
20475 Sunningdale Park
Grosse Pointe Woods, MI48236

For further information about us, please visit our website at www.stmichaelsgpw.org or telephone us at (313) 884-4820 .

*** Clarkston United Methodist Church**

6600 Waldon Rd, Village of Clarkston, MI

Principal Organist

The Principal Organist is a key member of the Music and Worship team at CUMC. He/she must support the overall mission of the church, be a spiritual leader, and a supportive team member. He/she should be called by God into this ministry and model the CUMC mission statement, "to vitally connect people to people and people to God."

Summary:

This position is a part time position (approximately 25 hours per week)

Bachelor's or advanced degree in organ/church music or equivalent work experience

Advanced organ and piano skills; comfortable with all styles of music

The organ is a 3-manual 48-rank Casavant installed by Lauck Organ Company in 1999

Sunday worship (8am-1pm)

Wednesday afternoon - Music Team planning, children & youth rehearsals

Thursday - Adult Choir rehearsal (6-9pm)

Friday & Saturday - Scheduled weddings

For more information and to apply, go to www.clarkstonumc.org and click on Employment Opportunities

* [Grosse Pointe Memorial Church](#), GPF

Assistant Minister of Music

Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, a 1200-member Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) congregation in Grosse Pointe Farms, Michigan, is seeking a 20-hour per week Assistant Minister of Music to assist James Biery in developing and enhancing its innovative music program, beginning in September 2017. The successful candidate will have significant training and ability in organ and piano playing and conducting, and will be comfortable working with a wide range of ages. GPMC's music program includes a semi-professional adult choir, children's choirs, a bell choir, and an active concert series featuring performances by guests as well as in-house musicians. GPMC regularly offers special music presentations during worship, including cantatas, chancel operas, and hymn festivals. Undergraduate degree in music required; graduate degree preferred. Music facilities include a 66-rank Klais tracker organ, four Steinway pianos, and a newly-refurbished 48-bell carillon. For a detailed job description and more information, contact James Biery at jbiery@gpmchurch.org or 313-882-5330 x134. Applicants should submit a resume and three references. Position open until filled.

* **Director of Music Ministry**

First Presbyterian Church Tecumseh (PCUSA)

211 W. Chicago Blvd, Tecumseh, 517-423-3470

Director of Music Ministry (15-20 hours/week)

This position will provide oversight direction and development to our music and worship ministry, and will be directly responsible for the following:

1. Serve as organist and choir accompanist
2. Serve as cantor/ musical educator
3. Incorporate variety of musical genres and cultural diversity in worship
4. Develop additional musical offerings: ensembles, choral groups, soloists, duets
5. Use of the church facility for independent lessons
6. Engage with the community through music outreach

Please submit a resume and recording of music by November 30 to: Mr. Kevin Burchett kburchett.kb@gmail.com

* **Organist**

[Troy First United Methodist Church](#)

Troy First United Methodist Church is looking for a part-time organist. Responsibilities include Sunday morning worship (one service @ 10:00 a.m.) and special services like Christmas Eve, Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday and two services on Easter Sunday morning. The person hired needs to be familiar with hymnody and classical organ repertoire. Weddings and funerals are on a service by service basis. The person

hired will not be responsible for the choir. The choir has its own accompanist. Troy First UMC has a membership of 550 with an average Sunday attendance of 225. Salary is open. Those interested should contact **Steve Kosinski, Music Director**

* **St. Paul United Church of Christ**

14600 Old US 12, Chelsea, MI 48118

Notice of Position Availability - IMMEDIATE

Job Description - Interim Music Director/Organist

Contact:

Sue Keezer, Music Ministry Chair

stpaulchelseasearch@gmail.com

734-358-3677

Active participation with the Pastor in worship planning and a sincere appreciation for Christian worship using traditional hymns and service music, as well as competence in leading intermixed contemporary Christian music. Planning and direction of chancel choir, bell choir and seasonal children's choir. Coordination of summer music. Attendance at all Sunday services, plus special services for Christmas Eve, Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday and Easter. Chancel choir meets September to mid-June with weekly one-hour rehearsals; bell choir meets seasonally with one-hour rehearsals, as arranged. Attendance as available for weddings and funerals. Supervision of all other musicians. All music under the oversight of the Pastor. Staff meetings required.

Rodgers digital organ, Yamaha baby grand piano, electronic keyboard, extensive choral library, and copyright fees provided. Facilities are available to organist for private teaching lessons and recitals without cost, subject to church calendar and Pastor's approval.

Position is interim with possibility of permanent hire. Church currently has an interim Pastor, and is actively searching for a permanent Pastor.

Position is part-time. Salary negotiated based on experience.

* **Waterford Central United Methodist Church**

3882 Highland Rd, Waterford Twp, MI

Two Part-Time Positions Available:

Director of Music and Organist/Accompanist

Click on the above links for a full job description and contact information for these positions.