

Evansville Chapter of the American Guild of Organists Newsletter: March 2018



From the Dean

Welcome to our first Chapter Newsletter of 2018.

We had a successful Pedals, Pipes, and Pizza at UE this past Saturday morning with nine young pianists and organists enjoying the instruments and learning about the organ.

Though we all have busy lives please be sure to attend and invite guests to our upcoming events to help us reach as many people as possible. In this digital age, word of mouth and a personal invitation remain the most powerful tools for creating community.



2018 Pedals, Pipes & Pizza (Ben Luttrull, photographer)



In our worship service this past Sunday I had an experience where I was leading congregational singing alternately on the organ and piano. It was a clear lesson in the special ability of the organ to fulfill role of leading singing by large groups of people. The piano struggled to keep the crowd together, even on very well known congregational songs, and I could hear the worshippers doubting themselves as they lost their singularity of voice. By contrast, the organ, with its sustaining tone and ability to fill the room with beautiful, even when gentle, sound, buoyed the voices, trained and untrained alike, and bound the congregation to its purpose of singing the worship of God.

-Robert

Our Next Events:

Pedals, Pipes, and Pinot on Saturday March 3, 6:30 p.m. at St. Boniface Catholic Church on Wabash Avenue. BYOB or beverage of your choice. We will be up in the balcony with our host, Jeff Lyons, exploring the organ and introducing pianists to the organ. Invite a piano-playing friend! We will have a relaxed atmosphere and some hors d'oeuvres. Please RSVP, if attending, to evansvilleago@yahoo.com.



Confident Hymn Playing with Vince Carr on **Saturday, April 7** at Aldersgate UMC from 10 a.m.- 12 noon. Bring hymns to play, particularly Spanish hymns, and learn how to adapt what is on the page to the organ.

Annual Meeting and Service of Installation on Monday, May 7 starting at 5:30 p.m. at St. Lucas United Church of Christ.

News from the Executive Committee

In addition to taking an active role in organizing and running our season of events, the Executive Committee takes an active role in managing the Chapter finances, program planning for future years, and the day-to-day running of the chapter. One of our recent pieces of action was to move our sponsorship of Pipedreams to WKYU FM on Sunday evenings at 8:00 p.m. If you get a call from the Nominating Committee, please consider taking your turn to help run our chapter

Giesecke – Field Trip to Cedar Grove?

The Giesecke organ is erected in the Taylor and Boody Organbuilders shop awaiting restoration. One of the restorations to the organ will be the fabrication of a new pumping lever and mechanism. Is there anyone in the chapter who would like to take a field trip to Cedar Grove, Indiana to see a Giesecke that still has its original lever? Contact Robert who has had contact with the church there (now, sadly, decommissioned) to plan a trip to take pictures and measurements.



Membership

It's always a good time to join AGO. Encourage your organ friends and enthusiasts to join.

Opportunities to perform

We will have opportunities to perform at all three of the upcoming events. You may have a piece to play at Pedals, Pipes and Pinot, or a hymn for the workshop with Vince Carr, or at the service of Installation of Officers. Let us know!

Community Concerts and Events

- Friday 16 February, 7:00 p.m. Vera Quartet at Trinity United Methodist Church, Evansville
- Sunday 4 March, 7:00 p.m. Joan of Arc silent film at First Presbyterian Church, Evansville
- Friday 20 April 7:00 p.m. Michael Elsbernd (harpsichord) at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Evansville
- Saturday 21 April 1:00 Sr. Catharine Duenne, Junior Recital, at First Presbyterian Church, Evansville
- First Presbyterian Church First Friday series:
 - March 2 – Brendan Conner (IU MM student)
 - April 6 – Leah Martin (IU Senior)
 - May 4 – Collin Miller (IU Freshman)
 - June 1 – Katie Burk (IU DMA Candidate)
 - July 6 – Yumiko Tatsuda (IU PD student)
 - August 3 – Stephen Smith (IU MM student)
 - September 7 – Thomas Fielding