

DECEMBER
2023

Mixtures



Binghamton Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

DEAN'S MESSAGE...

I'm writing this just after Thanksgiving, which was indeed a time of gratitude for me. My beloved Sarah has been recovering slowly but steadily from major back surgery. Thankful for skilled surgeon and medical team. We were able to host my younger daughter for Thanksgiving. Thankful for her energy and joyful humor. The weather cooperated for her travel from Washington, DC.

Thankful for safe flight service to and from Binghamton airport. She saw my "new" home in Binghamton for the first time, and was able to make friends with the chihuahua mix which lives with Sarah and me. Thankful for a protective dog which realizes that a visitor is friendly after just half a day.

I'm also thankful for everyone who had a part in making our Young Artist concert a fine success, especially Jean Henssler, Andy Chadwick, Becky Mebert and numerous others. And thankful to those who helped move part of the chapter music library to Larry Hoey at Sayre, PA. Jean and Andy again, plus John Holt and Nancy McNamara. There are still boxes of organ music at Main Street Baptist Church, which we may move and consolidate with organ music which is being stored at Trinity Memorial Church (both in Binghamton). More details to come in the New Year.

Finally, I have been compiling the results from the survey I started this past summer. I'll share full details with the executive committee at our next meeting, but one theme was clear. Chapter members value the connections with other chapter members, socially, professionally and otherwise. So our next chapter event should be an ideal opportunity to enrich those connections. I have been to

Needful Things before - it is a wonderful emporium of craft items, antiques, and more. I encourage you to browse before our gathering in the café within the same building. Further details on page 2.

Best wishes to all as we enter the Christmas season!

Hilton



Joseph Ossei-Little

United Presbyterian Church, Binghamton - 11/11/23

UPCOMING EVENTS...

- ♦ *Lessons and Carols for Christmas - Madrigal Choir of Binghamton*
Saturday, December 2 - 3:00 pm, Emmanuel Episcopal Church, 37 Main St., Norwich, NY
Sunday, December 3 - 4:00 pm, Church of the Holy Trinity, 346 Prospect St., Binghamton. See page 4 and more info at <http://www.madrigalchoir.com>
- ♦ Sunday, December 3 - 2:00 pm, Handbell and Organ Concert, United Church of Cortland, 25 Church Street, Cortland. Whitechapel Ringers directed by Diane Ames; Organist/Paulette Fry. Handbell arrangements of seasonal music interwoven with compositions on the same tunes by the organist. Free. Reception following.
- ♦ Sunday, December 3 - 7:00 pm, Candor Community Chorus Christmas Program and Carol Sing-a-long, Christ the King Presbyterian, 75 N. Main Street, Spencer, NY
- ♦ Tuesday, December 5 - 11:30 am, - Luncheon get-together at Your Needful Things and Vintage Vibes Café, 136 E. Service Road, Binghamton. Reservations are required (deadline December 1) by contacting Polly - (607) 754-0378 or bwending@stny.rr.com
- ♦ Wednesday, December 20 - 12 Noon, - Advent/Christmas Program at First Presbyterian Church, 367 Church Street, Montrose, PA. Organist, Richard VanAuken and Pianist/Evelyn VanAuken. Soup and bread lunch following the program.
- ♦ Sunday, January 14 - 5:00 pm, Our post-holiday dinner at Cortese Restaurant (West Room) 117 Robinson Street, Binghamton

AGO HOLIDAY LUNCHEON...

Let us come together for food and conversation!

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5 - 11:30 AM
YOUR NEEDFUL THINGS & VINTAGE VIBES CAFÉ
136 E. SERVICE ROAD
BINGHAMTON

Reservations are required right away! Contact Polly at (607)754-0378 or bwending@stny.rr.com.

FROM YOUR REGISTRAR...

We welcome a new member to our local chapter - Randall Frye, who has accepted the music director position at Trinity Episcopal Church, Bing. Welcome, Randy!

REV. DAVID WERLY, CHAPTER CHAPLAIN...

As many of you are aware, our Binghamton AGO chapter chaplain, Rev. David C. Werly, has not been in good health the last several years. He has been semi-retired from active ministry at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Chenango Bridge since November 2021.

On this past October 11, 2023, he had open heart surgery at Strong Memorial Hospital in Rochester. Also, they installed a permanent pacemaker and a permanent defibrillator. Plus, he needed a new heart valve and to have the septum wall of his heart trimmed.

At times it was touch and go...three times they had to "paddle" him. We thought we had lost him. But the Lord was good to him and to us, who are his church family.

Now at the end of November 2023, he is getting stronger, and is able to drive and participate in church on a limited basis. We know he is better because already he is determining how many lighthouses he is going to visit in the near future!

Lee Roseboom

A NOTE FROM THE COMPOSER...

I have just had a new collection of organ settings published by Lorenz, "MY LORD, WHAT A MORNING". This set of Spirituals I wrote during Covid after reading Eileen Guenther's book, "In Their Own Words"...which was a beautiful inspiration for these settings. Included are the title song (of course), There is a Balm in Gilead, Steal Away, etc. This would make a nice Christmas gift for an organ friend (or yourself), or is so very appropriate for use during Lent, which is early this year. I am using these settings as Preludes and Offertories, and have also used them as a Music Meditation during Lent with a narrator telling the story of each hymn. Publishers have been hurt so badly during Covid; I am thrilled to see that slowly we are coming back and so happy that this has finally been published. It can be ordered directly from Lorenz Publishing Co., Stanton's Music Store, Lois Fyfe, or your favorite music source. We are always looking for something just a little different - and I hope this lovely collection will fill that need for my friends and colleagues.

Roberta Rowland-Raybold



*The Madrigal Choir
of Binghamton*
Presents
**Festival of
Lessons & Carols**

Saturday, December 2, 2023
3:00PM
Emmanuel Episcopal Church
37 W. Main St., Norwich, NY

Sunday, December 3, 2023
4:00PM
Church of the Holy Trinity
346 Prospect St., Binghamton, NY

Bruce Borton, Artistic Director
with Theresa Lee-Whiting Guest Conductor
Guest Artists - Simple Gifts,
Paul Sweeny and Barbara Kaufman

Tickets - \$20.00
Online at www.madrigalchoir.com
or at the door.
Students with ID are free

Concert Sponsor
SUPPORTING THE ARTS OF
BROOME AND CHENANGO
COUNTIES



EXIT READY FRONT AND CENTER
BINGHAMTON OFFICE:
607-724-3948
GREENE OFFICE:
607-673-0530



*45th
Season!*

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