

# MIXTURES



February 2021

## DEAN'S MESSAGE...

Greetings,

With Lent approaching, I offer my best wishes for all of you who are preparing for the season and hope that you will be able to overcome all of the obstacles and perplexities of these pandemic times. We are all looking for the day when we can return to our normal lives and be able to get together again for our AGO events, all still pending for the moment.

And speaking of Lent, congratulations to Roberta Rowland-Raybold for her publication (Augsburg Fortress Press), *The Road to Resurrection*, which contains her compositions for Lent and Easter. She has not only been busy composing, but also giving guest lectures (see page 71 in the February TAO), and recording videos (see her Candlelight Concert at [https://youtu.be/g3JXiv\\_3nzQ](https://youtu.be/g3JXiv_3nzQ) )

Also, congratulations to Jean Henssler, whose November 15 recital (see p. 70 in February TAO), *An Evening in Paris*, on YouTube has reached almost 1000 views. Check it out at: <https://upcbgm.org/youtube/organ-recital/>

Your prayers will be appreciated for Esther Wilcox, who is in isolation at Elizabeth Church Manor due to the flu (not COVID 19), and for Johanna Masters, who is still in Connecticut with Tim and her beloved “support dog” Ranger. She still has two weeks of treatments left, but will stay in Connecticut for a while longer to be near the treatment center in case there are any issues that need attention. Let’s surprise them with Get Well cards!! Addresses

Are in the Binghamton AGO Directory! (Thank you, Richard!)

The webinar described below: "Know Your Value: Introducing the AGO's New Employment Guide for Church Musicians" will be TOMORROW, Monday, February 1 at 5:00 pm. Those of you who are interested in participating and receive Mixtures electronically will have time to register at: <https://www.agohq.org/employment-handbook/>.

**While we wait for normal times to come back, take care of yourselves. Mask up, wash your hands, keep your distance, and "get shot" when it is available.**

John

### **Sub-Dean's Message...**

Jean Henssler tells us there is a company out of Vermont, *Beau Ties of Vermont*, that is making high quality face masks with musical designs, among a host of others! They include a pocket for filters for the extra layer of protection needed with the new virus strains. Filters and masks can be found at <https://www.beautiesltd.com>

### **RECENT EVENTS ... RECITALS and CONCERTS GONE VIRTUAL...**

1. Andy Kotylo's Lessons and Carols at St. Paul's in Philly:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uP0PBvUZGiY>

Notes on the organ by Joe Kotylo: St. Paul's organ is really interesting. Yes, the whole thing is in Vermont for renovation. The instrument you hear is a Walker digital copy playing from the old console. It's truly remarkable. Walker already had most if not all the organ sampled. They have been using those samples for years. They were able to provide a digital copy within a relatively short period of time. Andy tells me it's not perfect but pretty convincing. Russell is also building a new console. I think completion of the project is a good two years off.

2. Jean Henssler's recital at UPC: [upcbgm.org/youtube/organ-recital](http://upcbgm.org/youtube/organ-recital)

3. (from Rich Sheasley) Jonathan Scott on a Lewis organ:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H6NHbqsYEBg>

4. (from Mike Hudak) J.S. Bach documentary titled "Encountering Bach"  
<https://youtu.be/iOMZHmk15e4>

5. Roberta Rowland Raybold's "Winter Solstice" 12/21 Concert

## News from Roberta R.R.....

Greetings,

During this Pandemic we are all wishing for music that is new and uplifting. My latest collection, "THE ROAD TO RESURRECTION" from Augsburg Fortress contains settings of hymns for organ for the Lent and Easter Season which includes such tunes as "Christ, Be Our Light," "Pange lingua," "Crucifer," and "Raabe." Some things that may be newer in organ repertoire. If you or your contacts are looking for something new, by ordering this from Augsburg, you will add fresh literature to your worship services and support our publishers during this difficult time.

Thank you for letting me share this information with you . . .

Roberta Rowland-Raybold  
Dean, Grand Strand AGO Chapter  
Organist/Dir. Music  
St. Stephen's Episcopal Church  
North Myrtle Beach, SC

## Request for Information...

Good afternoon, Everyone.

I have a survey/discussion question for all our AGO member colleagues.

I'm interested in hearing how other organists/choral directors are addressing their church choral programs during this pandemic.

As we continue to learn more about the virus SARS-CoV-2 and the risks of singing, how are our colleagues handling their choral programs and singing in churches?

Other than "virtual" participants, does anyone have an active choral group operating at this time?

If so, how do they handle rehearsals, contact tracing, 6' spacing, masks, etc.???

I personally have tabled all my choral programs for the time being.

While this has been an incredibly difficult decision for me personally, I'm compelled to carefully weigh the health risks to our congregants and choir members given the immense amount of community spread of COVID.

I'd love to hear how others are handling this situation in their churches.

With every best wish,

Larry Hoey

[larryhoey.music@gmail.com](mailto:larryhoey.music@gmail.com)

**DEAN John Holt - 770-9865**

**SubDean and Placement Jean Hensler - 748-7285**

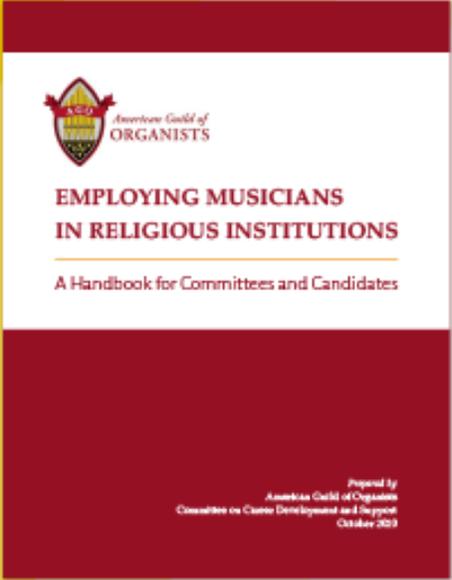
**Newsletter Patti O'Connell [peoconnell1@gmail.com](mailto:peoconnell1@gmail.com)**

**Know Your Value:**  
Introducing the AGO's New Employment  
Guide for Church Musicians

**Monday, February 1st at 5pm EST**

A webinar and panel discussion about employment  
issues and AGO. Join the conversation on Zoom,  
Facebook Live and Youtube!

 American Guild of  
ORGANISTS



Dear Chapter Leaders,

I want to remind you of a truly exciting webinar, **Know Your Value**, taking place on Monday, February 1st at 5 pm EST. Join panelists Vincent Carr, Councillor for Education, James E. Thomashower, Executive Director, Eric Birk, Executive Assistant, Leslie Wolf Robb, Councillor for Communications and Vicki Schaeffer, Councillor for Membership, as they take a deep dive into the AGO's newly released handbook: **Employing Musicians in Religious Institutions: A Handbook for Committees and Candidates**.

Register here <https://www.agohq.org/employment-handbook/>.

Warm regards,  
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