

MIXTURES

December 2021



DEAN'S MESSAGE...

Merry Christmas everyone. I know you will all be busy with your holiday services, rehearsals, and programs, but we do have events coming up soon that I hope you will be able to attend.

*****Jean Hensler** will present “A Christmas Fantasy,” an organ recital on **Sunday, December 5, 2:00pm** at United Presbyterian Church in Binghamton. This is our chapter’s main event for the year. It is being co-sponsored by United Presbyterian Church. Even though the recital will be live streamed (<https://upcbgm.org/youtube/>), it is also the first recital that we have sponsored since pandemic that invites a live audience to attend, so I hope you will be able to come. (NOTE: Masks and social distancing will be required). Admission is free, but free will offering plates will be available. Jean will be playing a program of Christmas carol settings: Gigout, *Rhapsodie sur des Noels*; Chapman, *Away in a Manger*, and *Bring a Torch, Jeanette Isabella*; Karg-Elert, *Choral-Improvisation on In Dulci Jubilo*; Bédard, *Huron Carol*; Burkhardt, *O How Joyfully (O Sanctissima-Sicilian melody)*; Saint-Seans (arr. Diane Bish) *Praise Ye the Lord of Hosts (from the Christmas Oratorio)*; Scott, *A Christmas Fantasy*. There will be no reception afterwards at the church, but we have reserved a private dining room at the Spot Restaurant for a Dutch-treat dinner for anyone who wants to attend. If you want to come to the dinner, please contact me (607-770-9865 or jholt@stny.rr.com) some time before the recital so we can add you to the list. Jean did a radio interview with Bill Snyder regarding the recital which can be accessed at: <https://wskg.org/arts/music-for-the-season-at-united-presbyterian-church/>

*** **Craig Johnson** will lead **BRIO** in a concert on **Sunday, December 19, 3:00 pm**, at Endwell United Methodist Church at 3301 Watson Blvd, in Endwell. (See more information below)

***On **January 2, 5:00 pm** our chapter will hold our end-of-year dinner at the Spot restaurant on Upper Front Street. I will need to know how many are coming, so please let me know (607-770-9865 or jholt@stny.rr.com) if you plan to attend.



Jean Henssler at the Console of
United Presbyterian Church's
Guilbault-Therien Organ

Although I will be sending out reminder notices in advance of each of these events, mark your calendars now so you can plan to attend them all.

THANKS to **Patti O'Connell**, our Mixtures editor, for all the work she put in to bring us this year's Mixtures issues; AND

THANKS to **Richard Sheasley**, our registrar, who manages our membership records each year, and publishes our chapter Directory. The Directory is now available, AND

THANKS to **Peggy Sniezek**, our website master, for getting our website (binghamtonago.org) up and running; AND

THANKS to the Executive Committee for its planning of our year's events.

CONGRATULATIONS to: **Tim Smith** and his guest artists who presented a delightful concert, "A Celebration of Live Music" on November 7 at Trinity. AND to

Robbie Oldroyd, our newest member, who performed an extraordinary, 24-hour Hymnathon benefit on November 27 at his church in Troy, PA. (see details below)

John



Binghamton AGO Members attending English Organ DVD Presentation

From the Registrar...

The Binghamton Chapter's Yearbook/Directory has been either given or mailed to each of our active members. Your membership card for 2021-2022 was included. Please email me if you have any corrections or other comments.

Ann Slocum noticed that her email was not listed and has requested that it be published in Mixtures. As requested, aslocum4@stny.rr.com

I hope you will be able to attend Jean Henssler's Christmas Fantasy at United Presbyterian Church, 42 Chenango Street, Binghamton at 2:00 PM. THEN, the get-to-gether moves to The Spot Restaurant, 1062 Upper Front St., Binghamton for reception/dinner. We have reserved a separate room. Please notify John Holt by email or phone with your reservation.

Also, mark your calendars for the annual Post Holiday Dinner on January 2, 2022 5:00 PM again at The Spot Restaurant, where the menu is full of choices!

Richard

Your Editor's Message...

Wow! Can you believe it is already “that” time of the year again!

It's Advent! Yay!

You thought I was going to join the chorus of “Christmas is baaaaaack,” singers, didn't you? Be honest...

They make me wonder just where Christmas went for all those poor people who lost Christmas and must now declare it is back.

Meanwhile...back to Advent. A good friend asked me if I wanted to go to a Christmas display here in Owego last Friday and I immediately replied, “NO!” It is not Christmas or even the first of Advent yet. I am not prepared; my torches aren't out of their boxes and my gifting and cooking not even started. Advent is a day-by-day process towards the joy of celebrating Christmas...when it gets here!

Yes, I have purchased a few gifts and our Fraser Fir Christmas tree...but it is NOT in the house yet. I journey through Advent one day at a time...from my Grandmother's Ceramic Christmas tree to the Christ Child placed in the manger on Christmas Eve.

You are all very special musicians to me, and I wish you the most blessed Advent and Christmas...when it gets here!

Your Humble Editor,
Patti



Granny's ceramic Christmas tree, fired in 1957

NEWS and NOTES...EVENTS...

Sunday, December 5th, 2:00 pm: “*A Christmas Fantasy*” Organ recital by Jean Henssler. It will be held at United Presbyterian Church, Binghamton. A Free Will Offering will be accepted.

Sunday, December 12th, 4:00 pm: Trinity Episcopal Church, Binghamton, presents The Cayuga Vocal Ensemble. Music by Praetorius, Distler and Howells. Masks are required. This is a ‘pay what you wish’ performance.

Sunday, December 19th at 3 pm: Concert by BRIO will be held at the Endwell Methodist Church. Craig Johnson, Director. There will be good parking and good social distancing. See poster below...



Sun., December 19, 3 p.m.
Endwell United Methodist Church
3301 Watson Blvd., Endwell, NY

Celebrate the birth of our Savior
in music: choral anthems and
instrumental pieces plus
congregational carol singing!

Featured guest artists:
Jean Henssler, piano & organ • *Ghislaine Stewart*, violin • *Fitzroy Stewart*, piano
• *Kathy Karlsen*, oboe & English horn •
Stephanie Borrmann, cello

Craig Johnson, founder and director
Carolyn Corse, accompanist

Free will offering • Please wear a mask

Learn more about BRIO on Facebook!

Sunday, January 2, 2022! 5:00 pm: Binghamton Chapter of the AGO will hold its end of year/beginning of the new year dinner at the Spot restaurant on Upper Front Street.

MEMBER NEWS...

On Friday November 26th, **Robert Oldroyd**, presented the Fourth Annual 24-Hour Hymnathon at the First Presbyterian Church of Troy, PA. He performed over 700 hymns. This performance is part of a fundraising campaign for the Pipe Cleaning and Pipe Addition Project. The Aeolian-Skinner, op. 1084 III/17(21) has not had its pipes cleaned in 70 years. Once the funds are raised, **Tim Smith** will remove and clean pipes but also add pipes to the organ.

Fortunately, the toe boards for four ranks are ready to be drilled and have pipes. The ranks for this project include: 1 1/3' for the Great, 2 2/3' Nazard and 2' Principal for the Choir, 4' Principal for the Swell and 16' & 8' Bourdon for the Pedal.

As part of our fundraising campaign, people can purchase a pipe in memory or in honor of someone.

Here is the pipe schedule:

- 1 1/3' \$25.00 a pipe
- 2' Principal \$25.00 a pipe
- 2 2/3' Nazard \$25.00 a pipe
- 4' Principal \$50.00 a pipe
- 8' Bourdon \$50.00 a pipe
- 16' Bourdon \$100.00 a pipe

Donations can be sent via check to:

First Presbyterian Church
1030 West Main Street
Troy, PA 16947

or online through the church's secure online giving portal: <https://tinyurl.com/giveFPCTroy>.

The church's Facebook site is: <https://www.facebook.com/TroyPAPresbyterian/>

Thank you for your support of this project and the preservation of an historic organ.

CHURCH MUSICIAN OPENING...

Open Position: Church Musician

Where: Nineveh Presbyterian Church

PO Box 115

2997 NY-7

Nineveh, NY 13813

The Nineveh Presbyterian Church, (PCUSA), Nineveh, NY, is looking to hire a church musician to begin work January 1, 2022.

The church has a baby grand piano and a pipe organ in the sanctuary along with a studio piano in the social hall. It also has three octaves of handbells. Due to the pandemic, both the bell and vocal choirs were inactive. We are now looking for leadership to get both of these groups back up and running. Most recently, individuals and small groups of three or four have performed with recorded or piano/organ accompaniment. An electronic keyboard is available for the church pond side service which takes place each August.

The congregation has an average worship attendance of 35. In addition to Sunday worship, the church musician is expected to assist with worship leadership for its special services which last year included a Christmas Eve Service, a Service of Tenebrae on Maundy Thursday, and the yearly pond side service in August.

The salary is commensurate upon training and experience. Any interested persons should respond with a one-page resume to:

The Rev. Richard S. Tosh
c/o Nineveh Presbyterian Church
PO Box 115
Nineveh, NY. 13813

**Merry Christmas to All and a
very Happy New Year!**

DEAN John Holt - 770-9865

Sub Dean and Placement Jean Hensler - 748-7285

Newsletter Patti O'Connell peoconnell1@gmail.com

Website Peggy Sniezek www.binghamtonago.org