



The Principal

NEWSLETTER OF THE LONG BEACH CHAPTER
OF THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

Volume 79, Number 1

September, 2024

The Dean's Corner

Welcome to the 2024-2025 season of the Long Beach Chapter of the American Guild of Organists! I hope you had a restful summer and are ready to dive into the many musical endeavors lined up for this fall.



We have an exciting array of programs lined up for the year, and I encourage you to take full advantage of the opportunities for musical growth and fellowship. Special thanks go to Sub-Dean Kyle Black and his Program Committee for organizing these events, making the contacts, setting the dates, and ensuring everything is in place for us.

Our first event is the Kick-off Party on Sunday, September 29, 2024, at 4:00 p.m., which will officially start our 2024-2025 program. It will be held at a private residence at 5676 Spinnaker Bay Dr., Long Beach, CA 90803. This event is open to all members, and we encourage you to bring friends along. It will be a potluck meal, so please remember to bring your favorite dishes to share.

Regarding the scholarships, I am pleased to announce the two winners of our 2024-2025 scholarships: Winston Bickhardt, a piano major at Loyola Marymount University and Nathan Parque, a piano major at Biola University. We are proud to support these talented young musicians and hope to continue fostering the next generation of organists. Your ongoing support and interest are greatly appreciated as we work together to nurture their growth.

Lastly, I'm honored to continue serving as your Dean for another year, and I look forward to collaborating once again with our dedicated Sub-Dean, Kyle Black. I'm also delighted to welcome Kent Eggert and Richard Metzler as our new Members-at-Large. I can't thank enough to all of you who continue to serve in your leadership roles – your dedication truly keeps our chapter thriving.

I look forward to seeing you all at the party!

Best regards,
Dr. Hyunju Hwang
Dean, Long Beach Chapter of AGO

LBAGO Program 2024-2025

Sunday, September 29, 2024 – 4:00pm

Opening Gathering

(Private Residence)

5676 Spinnaker Bay Dr., Long Beach, CA

Sunday, October 20, 2024 – 4:00pm

Recital: Rising Stars

First Congregational Church of Long Beach
241 Cedar Ave., Long Beach, 90802

Sunday, November 10, 2024 – 4:00pm

Member's Recital: Themes and Variations

Location to be determined

NO MEETING IN DECEMBER

Sunday, January 26, 2025 – 4:00pm

Member's Recital: Music for Occasional Celebrations in the Church Year

Cal Heights United Methodist Church
3759 Orange Ave., Long Beach, 90807

Monday, February 17, 2025

President's Day Organ Festival – Los Angeles

Monday, March 3, 2025

Recital: BACH-A-THON

Christ Cathedral
13280 Chapman Ave., Garden Grove, 92840

Sunday, March 9, 2025

Recital

(Artist to be Determined)

The Neighborhood Church
415 Paseo Del Mar, Palos Verdes Estates, 90274

NO MEETING IN APRIL

Sunday, May 18, 2025 – 4:00pm

Guild Service and Installation Officers

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church (ELCA)
12301 Magnolia St., Garden Grove, 92841

Two Concerts in September

During the recent organ renovations at Covenant Presbyterian Church, a Rodgers 3-manual digital instrument served as a stand-in. This month, the Rodgers is back at Covenant, not as a stand-in, but for a concert of Music for Two Organs, at 4:00 P.M., Sunday, September 15.

Peter Bates and David York will be performing on the two organs. Admission is free, and (as if any of us didn't know how to get to Covenant by now) the address is 607 E. 3rd Street (3rd and Atlantic), Long Beach.

Then, on the following Sunday, September 22nd, also at 4:00 P.M., the South Coast Brass Quintet and percussionist Paul Sternhagen will be joining David York for a concert of "Music for Brass and Organ," featuring selections from Gabrieli to Gershwin, and from Bach to The Beatles, at St. Gregory's Episcopal Church, 6201 East Willow St., Long Beach.

We're Looking for a Few Good Organists

Our first Members' Recital will be "Themes and Variations," on Sunday, November 10, 2024, at 4:00 P.M. We are looking for 4-5 performers, with approximately 10-15 minutes of performance time each. If you're interested in performing on this or on a future Members' Recital, or have any questions, please contact Kyle Black, at kywblack@gmail.com

Classical Crossroads Announces its New Season

Classical Crossroads begins its season with a new Saturday afternoon series, "Classical Interludes" (replacing "First Fridays"). Still at First Lutheran (2900 W. Carson Street, in Torrance), the series begins on October 5, at 3:00 PM, with a program of Rising Artists & Rising Stars, from Chamber Music OC. The "Second Sundays at Two" series, at Rolling Hills UMC (26438 Crenshaw Blvd., in Rolling Hills Estates) begins on October 13, at 2:00 PM, with a piano recital by Robert Thies.

Admission is free, and concerts are also livestreamed, but reservations are required for in-person attendance. Email:

ClassicalCrossroads@Earthlink.net

by a day ahead and request to be included on the check-in list.

For more information:

<https://palosverdes.com/ClassicalCrossroads/>

Impressions of the 2024 AGO National Convention

Jay Rogers

The convention was wonderful in many ways, with terrific programs in excellent venues. Notably absent was Davies Symphony Hall, for undisclosed reasons.

Faythe Freese at Grace Cathedral was wonderful. She had dancers for part of the program, who were excellent but due to the sight lines, were difficult to see. All the programs were beautifully played, and some of the smaller venues (like St. Bede's in Menlo Park) showed that acoustics can be good even in a small space. There were a few places where the acoustics were disappointing, but most were good.

The closing concert at Stanford Memorial Church, by Kimberly Marshall, was another highlight.

There was a wide variety of workshops for any taste. One of the ones I attended was on using forScore with an iPad for page turns. I am in the process of learning how to use it, but it can save considerable bother once learned.

The number of exhibitors seemed somewhat fewer than previous years, but I had some interesting conversations with a number of people. I managed to not spend as much money on music as usual, though.

All in all, it was an enjoyable time, despite the outrageous prices in SF. Keep San Francisco green, bring money!

Submission Guidelines

Ladies and Gentlemen, this is *your* newsletter. I just put it together, and add my own comments at the end.

Remember, this is not an M\$-Word-based operation, and hasn't been since I took it over. So if you submit articles, announcements, job postings, and so forth in DOC or DOCX format, you're just making more work for me. If you send it as either plain text, RTF, or the body of a plain text email, would save me a great deal of time.

Likewise, if you have a full-page insert, such as a flyer, a PDF would be a good choice.

Pictures can be in JPEG, PNG, TIFF, or *any other format* that GIMP (GNU Image Manipulation Program) can read; ideal width for a column-wide image is 487 or 650 pixels; ideal width for a page-wide image is 1050 or 1400 pixels.

And finally, remember that a column-inch is one column wide, by one inch high. This entire article, including the header, is a bit under four column-inches.

Convention Photographs by Jay Rogers



Grace Cathedral, San Francisco, CA



Cathedral of Christ the Light, Oakland, CA



St. Bede's Episcopal Church, Menlo Park



Congregation Sherith Israel

More Convention Photographs by Jay Rogers



St. Paul's Episcopal Church



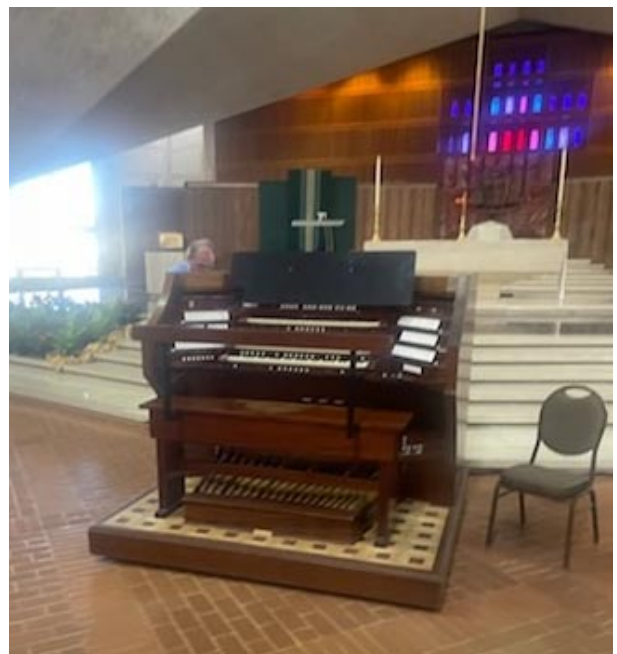
St. Ignatius Church



Trinity and St. Peter's Episcopal Church



Christian Science Church, Berkeley, CA



Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption, San Francisco, CA

Job Posting

Needed: Organist/ Pianist

San Pedro United Methodist Church
580 W. 6th Street
San Pedro, CA 90731
310-548-1001 (If interested, please leave a message
with your contact info.)

Organ Description: Built around 1925. 2 manuals, 12 memory levels, 15 ranks, computer system updated 2010

Duties and Responsibilities:

Rehearsal - accompany the Chancel Choir (usually Sunday mornings before the Service)

Worship Service - could include the Prelude, Offertory, Choir Anthem, Postlude, Hymns, and occasional Special Music. Could include Accompaniment for Church

Soloists or Small Ensemble. Provide background or other additional music during the service as pre-arranged; e.g., during Communion, or Young People's Time.

Organist/ Pianist:

Must demonstrate ability to accompany and follow the Conductor;

Must be able to choose music appropriate for each Worship Service;

Report maintenance needs of piano and organ;

Communicate regularly with the Pastor and Music Director.

Compensation: Negotiable-includes some paid Sick Leave and Paid Vacation Days. Additional compensation will be paid for special services including Christmas Eve, Maundy Thursday, and Concerts or other Special Events. Other than paid Sick Leave and Paid Vacation Days, there are no other regular forms of payment or benefits. Weddings and Funerals will be contract.

From the Press Room

James Lampert, Production and Distribution

(Any opinions expressed here are solely those of the author.)

Welcome back. Over the course of the summer, I've managed to replenish our dwindling supply of masthead sheets for this newsletter (which turned out to be one of the last print jobs run on what had been the International Printing Museum's operational Heidelberg "Windmill": only a few weeks later, it jammed severely, and had to be replaced with another "Windmill."

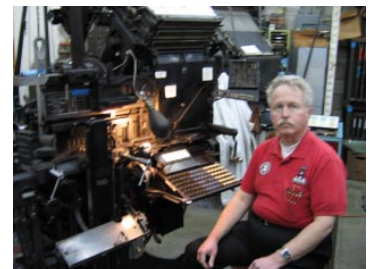
I'd like to thank Jay Rogers for his impressions and pictures from the Convention, and to remind everybody that this is *your* newsletter (I only print the thing). So if you have an event, *let me know about it, as David did with both of the September concerts that involve him*. If you have an October or early November event you'd like to promote, *now is the time to let me know about it!*

The summer also brought a spectacular organ-and-piano concert at Covenant. If you missed it, it's still available on YouTube, at

<https://youtu.be/CBtZmt8s2TI?si=RHD3djw0oedb0zIS>

As it happens, while I wasn't at the AGO Convention, I was at an entirely different convention this summer, right here in Long Beach, the first full week of August: I've been a card-carrying member of the National Model Railroad Association for my entire adult life, but this was my first NMRA Convention (and except for working a shift at the NMRA booth at a recent model train show at the Orange County Fairgrounds, my first NMRA event, *period*. I divided my time between prototype tours (including the Metro Red/Purple Line Shops), layout tours, and one day of "Modeling with the Masters" clinics.

James H. H. Lampert
Your Humble Typesetter



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2025

Dolly Ickler

2026

Robert Gaylord

2027

Kent Eggert and Richard Metzler

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