

The American Guild of Organists

Windline—December 2020

Clearwater (FL) Chapter

www.clearwaterago.org

Bradley Swope, Dean

Thomas D. Huffman, *Windline* Editor

A More Passionate Advent

Preparations for Christmas are underway with a passion at my house. The tree is being set up and the outside icicle lights are doing their best to make a wintry look in this 78 degree weather. We need the joy of Christmas more than ever after the year we have been through, but perhaps the pain of the pandemic will give us a deeper experience of the Advent message:

Comfort ye, my people!
O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel.
The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.
Every valley shall be exalted and every mountain and hill made low.
And the Glory of the Lord shall be revealed.
Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free.

Let's be honest – we are pretty terrible at handling adversity. We are used to an easy life compared to most people who have ever lived. Many years I too lightly brush over the overwhelming despair recorded in the scriptures. This year, I can relate a little better. And isn't it interesting how present, past and future all mix together during Advent? Every year we go back and start the story again. This year, the themes of hope, peace, love and joy could not be more important as we wait to receive the Christ Child and for a future vaccine. May they both come quickly!

Peace and joy to you, as you help bring Christmas to life in your families and in your congregations,

Bradley Swope, Dean



THE TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

Building on the success of our virtual *PipeScreams* program, the chapter will produce a series of videos “The Twelve Days of Christmas.”

Starting on Christmas Day through Twelfth Night (January 5) we will post on YouTube and FaceBook a video recording of a piece of Christmas organ music played by chapter members. Shawn Thomas has volunteered to record the videos. We need 12 pieces of music recorded in the next two weeks.

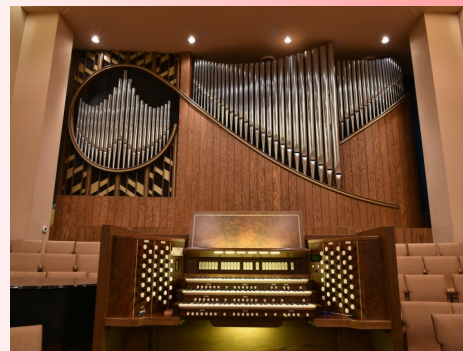
If you would like to be one of the performers, please get in touch with Shawn right away. His phone is 850 316 0321 and his email is shawn@poplargo.org. He will come to your church/home or venue of your choosing. Each performer will need to make sure that the piece is copyright clear/public domain or covered for streaming/podcast with a licensing service.



ART FOR FAITH'S SAKE CONCERT SERIES

Prince of Peace Lutheran in Largo begins their concert series in January. All programs are at 3:00 p.m.

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| Sunday, January 31 | Astralis Chamber Ensemble
Music for Flute, Trumpet,
and Harp |
| Sunday, February 21 | Three Organ Spectacular!
Music for Choir, Handbells
and three Organs |
| Sunday, March 28 | Ring Sarasota
Florida's premier Handbell ensemble |



CONCERTS AT PEACE MEMORIAL

The concert series at Peace Memorial Presbyterian Church in Clearwater continues. Some changes due to the COVID 19 pandemic are in place. Tickets or subscriptions



will need to be purchased and masks with social distancing will be required. To reserve your seat(s) please visit itickets.com or telephone 800 965-9324. For help in navigating these new procedures, telephone Timothy Belk, Director of Music/Organist at 800 479-8846.

The season continues with these 3:00 p.m. concerts:

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Sunday, December 13 | Suncoast Bronze Ringers |
| Sunday, January 10 | Aspen String Trio |
| Sunday, February 14 | Qol Quartet |
| Sunday, March 14 | Dexter Kennedy, Organ |

Peace Memorial Presbyterian Church

Timothy Belk, Director of Music Ministries

110 S. Fort Harrison Avenue, Clearwater

AWAITING A SAVIOR...

A Wednesday Noon Recital Series in the Advent, Christmastide and Epiphany Seasons featuring organ, piano, violin and voice for those seeking a quiet haven of peace.

Each Wednesday at noon

(follow CDC COVID-19 guidelines)

December 2 through January 6

SUBSTITUTES AVAILABLE

(O=Organist only; O/D=Organist/Director; D=Director only; V=Vocalist)

Please send updates or corrections for this list to Placement Coordinator Priscilla Ortoski by call (727) 845-4745 or emailing tap.tortoski1@verizon.net. Inclusion in the lists below does not constitute the Chapter's endorsement of skills, and thus it encourages interviews with prospective substitutes. Those listed must be a member of The American Guild of Organists.

Peggy BeVille	(727) 726-8457 O (727) 403-8166 (cell)
Cheryl Brouette	(727) 453-0317 O
Brent Douglas	(727) 459-7025 O, O/D
Grayce Hillman	(727) 642-7322 O, O/D, V
Roberta Hoopes	(727) 442-8333 D
Matt Lancaster	(727) 313-5129 O
Mark Prater, AAGO, ChM	(727) 536-2698 O, O/D
Dr. Sandra Rogers	(727) 560-2376 O, O/D, V
Donald Rolander	(727) 392-4442 O, O/D (727) 804-6314 (cell)
Robert Shone, CAGO	(727) 789-6527 O, O/D rcshone@aol.com
Dr. Linda Pointer	(727) 441-1099 O, O/D
Herman G. (George) Fisher	(727) 339-3077 O (239) 398-4966 (cell)

AVAILABLE FOR EVENTS—NOT SUNDAY MORNING

Stephen Allen	(813) 968-7095 O, O/D
Tom Huffman	(727) 409-8726 O, O/D

Wednesday, December 16 at 6:30 PM
Saturday, December 19 at 6:30 PM



Sharing the Joy of Christmas!

TOS and the Palma Ceia Presbyterian Church are excited to announce this year's holiday concert featuring the Florida Orchestra Brass Quintet and the Palma Ceia and Hyde Park Presbyterian Hand Bell Choirs!

Due to safety concerns, we will not be performing as a chorus, but we will be singing along in spirit!

Guest appearance by Eric Ferring, Tenor soloist.

Location: Palma Ceia Presbyterian Church Courtyard
3501 West San Jose Street, Tampa Florida

Free Outdoor Concert

Enjoy this concert safely: wear face masks and practice social distancing.



Helen Ross was a friend of the Clearwater Chapter for many years—from the early days of the chapter. Helen served as dean of the chapter 1971-72 as well as serving several local churches including St. Brendan Catholic Church and St. Cecelia Catholic Church in Clearwater. Helen died November 9, 2020. The obituary follows:

ROSS, Helen Marie (Earl) of Largo, Florida, died peacefully in her home on November 9, 2020 surrounded by her seven devoted children. She passed to eternal life at 6:10 pm on the eve of her marriage anniversary to the late Hugh C. Ross, the love of her life. We fondly remember Helen as a grace-filled, loving mother and friend who authentically witnessed her deep faith in Jesus Christ and her devotion to his Blessed Mother Mary. She was born on August 28, 1929 in Battle Creek, Michigan, the second daughter of Elwyn and Bernadine Earl. Helen had three siblings who are now deceased, Joyce Elaine Earl, Fr. Marcellus (Richard) Earl, and Mary Anderson. She earned her Bachelor of Music degree at Michigan State University, specializing in voice and piano. Helen's talent filled her home with beautiful music, and she shared her musical gifts with the community as a cantor and Director of Music at St. Brendan Catholic Church and St. Cecelia Catholic Church. Survivors include her children, Alan Ross, Robin Fisher (John), Cindy Maynard (John), Fr. Isaac Francis (Christopher) Ross, Hugh A. Ross (Amy), Mary Griffin (Judson), and Katie Howe (Phillip); 14 grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. A funeral mass was celebrated 10:30 am Friday, November 13, at St. Cecelia Catholic Church. The family requests that donations in Helen's name be made to Fr. Isaac's religious order The Family of Jesus Healer, P.O. Box 292607, Tampa, FL 33687.

THE FLORIDA ORCHESTRA

The Florida Orchestra is offering live concerts (only at the Mahaffey Theatre). The Christmas concert highlighted in red below is offered free by livestream. Go to the website floridaorchestra.org for details and to watch the livestream.

Dec. 5-6	Tchaikovsky and Vivaldi for Strings
Dec. 5-6	American Heroes
Dec. 11-13	Holiday Pops
Dec. 16,17,20	Classical Christmas (free livestream)

SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

The Clearwater chapter maintains two scholarship funds: The Grom Educational and Scholarship Fund and The Peterson Scholarship Fund. You may easily make an end-of -year contribution to either of these funds or to the chapter's General Fund by clicking on the link "Donate" on the Chapter website: clearwaterago.org. This secure link allows payment by debit or credit card or by PayPal.

We acknowledge a recent gift to the scholarship funds by Dr. Sandra Rogers in memory of Don Hand.

Clearwater AGO 2020-2021 Officers

DEAN:

Bradley Swope
bradley@firstmethodistclearwater.org

BOARD MEMBERS

Tom Huffman (2021)
Don Rolander (2021)
Carol Alexander (2022)
George Fisher (2022)
Bobbie Hoopes (2023)
Timothy Belk (2023)

GROM EDUCATION FUND

PETERSON SCHOLARSHIP

FUND

Tom Huffman, Chair
hufftom@aol.com

PLACEMENT

COORDINATOR

Priscilla Ortoski
tap.tortoski1@verizon.net

SUB-DEAN:

Shawn Thomas

SECRETARY:

Dr. Linda Pointer

TREASURER:

Bob Booth

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY:

Edward Peterson
(727) 845-4745