

The American Guild of Organists

Windline—January 2022

Clearwater (FL) Chapter

www.clearwaterago.org

Dr. Shawn Thomas, Dean

Thomas D. Huffman, *Windline* Editor

From the Dean:

*The old year now has passed away;
we thank you, O our God, today
that you have kept us through the year
when danger and distress were near.*



Until this year, I have found the German chorale *Das alte Jahr vergangen* ist very perplexing. The text, which is a prayer of thanksgiving, has a melancholic bent to it which Bach so masterfully conveys in his setting found in the *Orgelbüchlein* (BWV 614).

Take a couple minutes to listen to this recording and follow along with the score (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eRpFScfi_wc). We all can relate to the recurring chromatic gesture in the accompaniment. 2021 was a year of ups and downs, risings and fallings, essentially moving in tiny steps along the way. Yet again, most of us are pondering what 2022 might bring. My New Year question for you is this: How can the Clearwater Chapter of the American Guild of Organists remain relevant and engaging in 2022?

A familiar concept we became accustomed to in 2021 was “supply chain disruptions.” It has finally caught up with the organ industry. Our members recital originally scheduled for February 6, 2022 will now take place on April 24 (the second Sunday of Easter). What an exciting opportunity to dedicate this new instrument with your favorite Easter prelude or postlude!

Our Musical Twelve Days of Christmas has been a success. As of this writing on the fifth day of Christmas, the five videos published thus far have a total viewership of nearly 350. Thank you again to all performers for such wonderful recordings. Invite friends and family to tune in to our YouTube channel each night at 5pm thru January 5 (<https://tinyurl.com/clearwaterAGO>).

Best wishes for a healthy and musical 2022,

Shawn Thomas, Dean

Calendar

(Chapter programs in **bold**)

- December 25-
January 5** **A Musical 12 Days of Christmas.**
Go to: <https://tinyurl.com/clearwaterAGO>
- Wednesday, January 5 Christmastide Noon Recital
Peggy BeVille, Organ
Peace Memorial Presbyterian, Clearwater—12:00 p.m.
- Sunday, January 9 Mana Saxophone Quartet
Peace Memorial Presbyterian, Clearwater—3:00 p.m.
- Sunday, January 16 Astralis Chamber Ensemble (Flute, Trumpet and Harp)
Prince of Peace Lutheran, Largo—3:00 p.m.
- Sunday, February 13 Jazz pianist, Johnny Varro
Peace Memorial Presbyterian, Clearwater—3:00 p.m.
- Sunday, February 20 Three Organ Spectacular
Prince of Peace Lutheran, Largo—3:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, March 2 Ash Wednesday Recital**
Peace Memorial Presbyterian, Clearwater
- Tuesdays in Lent Lenten Recitals (various churches TBA)**
3/8, 3/15, 3/22, 3/29, 4/5
- Sunday, March 13 Erik Wm. Suter, Organ**
Peace Memorial Presbyterian, Clearwater—3:00 p.m.
- Sunday, March 20 Ring Sarasota!
Prince of Peace Lutheran, Largo—3:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, March 30 Sacred Music Concert — featuring organ music of Zipoli
Jesuit High School, Tampa—7:00 p.m.
- Saturday, April 2 Workshop with the Seipp/Sheets**
Trumpet and Organ Duo—11:00 a.m.
- Sunday, April 3 Seipp/Sheets Concert—3:00 p.m.
Prince of Peace Lutheran, Largo
- Sunday, April 24 Members recital (rescheduled from February 6)**
St. Ignatius of Antioch RC Church, Tarpon Springs—3:00 p.m.

Twelve Days of Christmas

December 25-January 5

The recordings of our Musical 12 Days of Christmas can still be accessed on YouTube at the link: <https://tinyurl.com/clearwaterAGO>. Many thanks to all the players for participating and to Dean Shawn Thomas for doing many of the recordings.

THE DIAPASON

JULY 2020



Pilgrim Lutheran Church
Carmel, Indiana
Cover feature on pages 18-20

Monthly publication of interest to organists and choral directors. To request a free sample, contact Jerome at jbutera@sgcmail.com.

Positions Available

Trinity Presbyterian Church, Clearwater, FL is looking for a Tenor and a Bass section leader. Contact Gabe Irizarry, Director. 727-446-6210. Trinityclearwater@gmail.com

Northwood Presbyterian Church in Clearwater, Florida is seeking an Organist. A detailed position description may be viewed [here](#) or by visiting <http://northwoodpc.org/resources/career-opportunities/>. Interested candidates may send cover letter and resume to northwoodsearch@yahoo.com. Please place "Organist Position" in the subject line.

Chapter Officers—A Closer Look



Each issue of The Windline will include a brief biographical sketch of one of our Clearwater Chapter Officers. This month's focus is on Executive Board member, Carol Skinner Alexander.

Carol Alexander became a church musician at St. John's Episcopal Church in Clearwater as a volunteer, playing hymns on the piano for services in the cafeteria at Oak Grove Middle School. When the church built its sanctuary on Belcher Road and someone donated an organ, she became an organist. In later years, she served as Music Director at Good Shepherd Episcopal Church in Dunedin, and at Peace Memorial Presbyterian Church in Clearwater. She is currently serving at Good Samaritan Episcopal Church, also in Clearwater.

Carol is a graduate of the Oberlin Conservatory with a degree in Piano Performance, and continues to teach private students. She has studied organ with Michael Corzine and harpsichord with Carol Louwenaar, both at F.S.U. She received her Master's in Choral Conducting from U.S.F. and has directed the Shepherd Chorale, who sang at *Adventsing* in Vienna and toured Scotland, as well as the Clearwater Bach Choir, which, besides presenting a Bach Cantata each spring, magically transforms into the Specter Singers, who present Ghoultime Scarols at the annual AGO *Pipescreams* Concert.

Sponsored by AGO National

Click on the graphic below to register:





January 16, 2022

ASTRALIS CHAMBER ENSEMBLE

We are excited to welcome the Astralis Chamber Ensemble to Prince of Peace. This innovative and dynamic ensemble of trumpet, flute, and harp performs with much acclaim across the globe. Through creative programming and presentations on the works performed, Astralis aims to make classical music more accessible and for audiences to make a lasting connection to the music.



February 20, 2022

Three Organ Spectacular!

The Three Organ Spectacular makes a return appearance on our series. Organists Seth Bott, John Lowe, and Shawn Thomas will present an afternoon of music arranged for three organs. Special guest organist Peter Kinzie will present selections arranged for orchestral theatre organ. This concert features the Prince of Peace Festival Choir performing Louis Vierne's Messe Solennelle for Choir and Two Organs.



March 20, 2022

Ring Sarasota

Having missed attending concerts, plays, and movies during the pandemic, Ring Sarasota is ready to entertain audiences with some of their favorite music from the stage & screen. From TV favorites to classic westerns, and songs where audiences can hum along, the diverse repertoire includes such titles as "Let the Sun Shine In," "Over the Rainbow," and "The Addams Family." Not your traditional handbell choir, Ring Sarasota's 17 musicians utilize 111 handbells and 73 chimes during their performances.



April 3, 2022

Chuck Seipp & Randall Sheets

Trumpeter Chuck Seipp and organist Randall Sheets are two performers at the top of their craft. Both are high-profile musicians in their own right. Dr. Sheets is Ceremonial Organist for Arlington National Cemetery, and Dr. Seipp is Sergeant Major (retired) from The United States Army Band, "Pershing's Own" in Washington, DC. The Seipp/Sheets Duo crafts a unique and engaging concert experience for all ages, creating extraordinary connection with their audiences through custom arrangements of virtuoso, beautiful, entertaining, humorous, and patriotic selections for trumpet and organ.



Celebrate the return of the American Guild of Organists National Convention and reunite with your friends and colleagues at THE WELL-TEMPERED FUTURE, July 3–7, 2022. Go to the convention website: <https://agoseattle2022.com> to see information on Registration, Hotel, Schedule, Exhibitors and more. New information will be added in the coming months.

Online convention registration is now open! Use the link above or the navigation menu for “Registration.” Discounted guestrooms at the convention hotel and airfare discounts with a major U.S. carrier are available now.

Chapter member and St. Petersburg Dean Michelle Thomas will be leading a workshop session on “Social Media Marketing for Chapters.”



CONCERTS AT PEACE MEMORIAL

All concerts at 3:00 p.m.



Sunday, January 9
Mana Saxophone Quartet

The award-winning Mana Saxophone Quartet presents "Made in America," an eclectic program of classical works and new commissions by American Composers.

The hit of last season, Johnny, and his Swing7, won't disappoint as they play more jazz favorites for our St. Valentine's Weekend Celebration!



Sunday, February 13
Jazz Pianist Extraordinaire, Johnny Varro



Sunday, March 13
Erik Wm. Suter, organist

A former organist of the Washington National Cathedral, Erik Wm. Suter performs an all-Bach program on the magnificent Casavant Organ.

*Peace Memorial Presbyterian Church
110 S. Fort Harrison Avenue
Clearwater, FL 33756
800 | 479-8846*

Clearwater AGO 2021-2022 Officers

DEAN:

Shawn Thomas

shawn@poplargo.org

BOARD MEMBERS

Carol Alexander (2022)

Mark Prater, AAGO, ChM (2022)

Bobbie Hoopes (2023)

Tom Hoehn (2023)

Linda Pointer (2024)

Brandon Vennink (2024)

GROM EDUCATION FUND

PETERSON SCHOLARSHIP

FUND

Tom Huffman, Chair

hufftom@aol.com

PLACEMENT

COORDINATOR

Priscilla Ortoski

tap.tortoski1@verizon.net

(727) 845-4745

SUB-DEAN:

Timothy Belk

SECRETARY:

Peggy BeVille

TREASURER:

Bob Booth

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY:

Edward Peterson

(727) 787-0922

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 calling (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.

Brent Douglas

(727) 459-7025 O, O/D

Grayce Hillman

(727) 642-7322 O, O/D, V

Roberta Hoopes

(727) 560-3962 D

Dr. Linda Pointer

(727) 441-1099 O, O/D

Dr. Sandra Rogers

(727) 560-2376 O, O/D, V

Donald Rolander

(727) 804-6314 (cell) O, O/D

AVAILABLE FOR EVENTS—NOT SUNDAY MORNING

Stephen Allen

(813) 968-7095 O, O/D

Peggy BeVille

(727) 726-8457 O

(727) 403-8166 (cell)

Cheryl Brouette

(727) 453-0317 O

Tom Huffman

(727) 409-8726 O, O/D

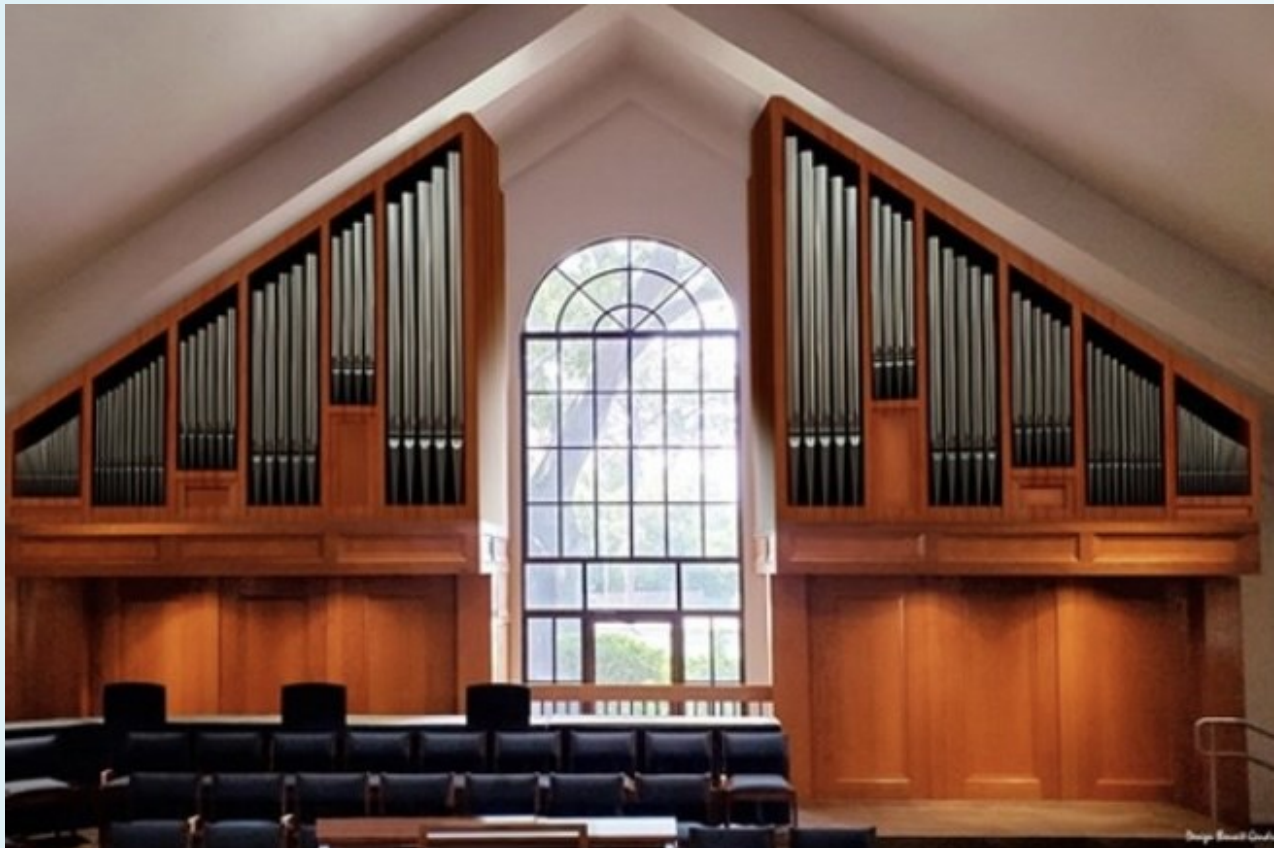


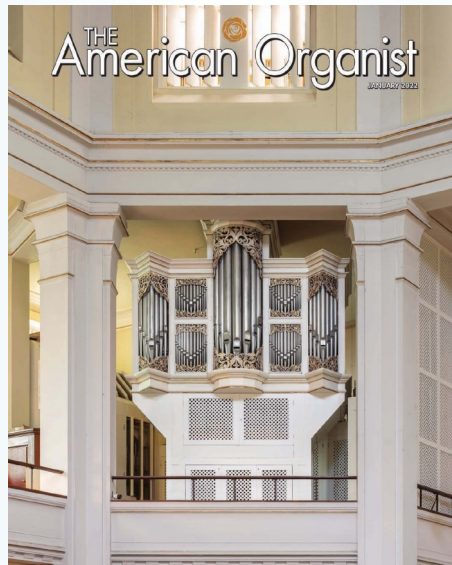
New Casavant for St. Alfred's Episcopal

Kevin Johnson, Organist/Choirmaster at St. Alfred's is excited to share the following news:

At the end of November 2021, St. Alfred's Episcopal Church, Palm Harbor signed a contract with Casavant Frères of St. Hyacinthe, Quebec for a new organ of Three Manuals, 28 Stops, 33 ranks in Four Divisions: Swell, Great, Antiphonal, and Pedal. The organ is due to be completed in early 2023.

As part of this project, the church has also established The Rev. David R. Moores Center for the Arts. The Rev. Moores was the Rector of St. Alfred's when the new church building was constructed. He was a very talented preacher and musician who fostered the arts at St. Alfred's. Under Rev. Moores direction, planning for the new church building included careful consideration of creating a favorable acoustic and space for a pipe organ. The Rev. David R. Moores Center for the Arts will seek to provide opportunities for the training of the next generation of church musicians and artists as well as offer concerts featuring the new instrument to the wider community.





The American Organist, January 2022



In an effort to grow the community of younger musicians in the pipe organ field, the American Guild of Organists has declared this year the “Year of the Young Organist”. Through the sharing of performances by young musicians and the publication of resources, we hope to bring more visibility to the new generation of musicians. Additionally, 1 year of free Guild membership is now available for all current, lapsed, and new members under the age of 30.

