

The Clarion



Newsletter of the Fairfield West Chapter AGO

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November 2019



Festival Choir of 70 with conductor Tom Trenney at CT Choral Festival. Thank you Craig Symons for presenting and allowing us to co-sponsor this program!

Fairfield West Chapter Events 2019-20

Date TBA – January
Epiphany Party

Site to be announced

Saturday, April 25 at 11 a.m.

Conducting from the Console Workshop

Featuring Dr. Andrew Henderson, from Madison Ave. Presbyterian Church, NYC, and the new Klais organ at Saugatuck Congregational Church Westport

June 7, 2020 – Time TBA
Annual Business Meeting and Social

Bertucci's Restaurant, Darien

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CALENDAR –November 2019

Saturday, November 2 at 5 PM

Concert - The Kingdom Choir – The London-based gospel choir, known to audiences around the world through their show-stopping rendition of Stand By Me at the Royal Wedding of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle, brings their message of love, hope, and inspiration to Westport on their first-ever North American tour. Tickets at www.chtwestport.org/tickets. Reception follows in the Great Hall. Christ & Holy Trinity Church, 75 Church Lane, Westport. (203) 227-0827.

Sunday, November 3 at 3 PM

Concert – Music on the Hill - The Festival Chorus and Community Children's Chorus will premiere "...in the world ...on the earth," a new choral work by Ellen Dickinson, incorporating songs of the Wabanaki Nations of Maine and Canada, as well as original poetry. The Festival Chorus will also premiere "Change and the Eternal Song" by chapter member Edward Thompson for choir, soprano solo, and harp, featuring and dedicated to Wendy Kerner, harpist. The composer writes, "...it is about the nature of Life itself which seems to be changing on a daily basis... I found that the lyrical, poetic, mystical language of Rainer Maria Rilke (1875-1926) expressed these concepts in a beautiful way." St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, 36 New Canaan Rd, Wilton.

Sunday, November 3 at 5 PM

Choral Evensong - Music of Howells (Gloucester Service), Philips, and Willan. Dr. Kola Owolabi, Nigerian-Canadian organist, currently the Professor of Organ at the University of Michigan, plays the service and a 30-minute recital on the Wilhelm Organ. Trinity Episcopal Church 651 Pequot Ave, Southport.

Sunday, November 3 at 5 PM

Choral Evensong - Adult Choir of St. Paul's on the Green will offer a service of Choral Evensong for All Saints, with music of Tallis, Victoria, and famed Estonian composer Arvo Pärt, featuring his setting of the Beatitudes. Organ Scholar Abe Wallace will perform J.S. Bach's famous *Toccat, Adagio, and Fugue* as a prelude beginning at 4:45. St. Paul's on the Green, 60 East Avenue, Norwalk

Sunday, November 3 at 5 PM

Choral Evensong - St. John's choir of trebles and adults will be directed by Nathan Lively and guest organist, Janet Yieh, associate organist of Trinity Church, Wall Street. Preces & Responses: Radcliffe, Canticles: Brewer in D, Anthem: O How Glorious-- Philip Stopford, Psalm 149: Smart. The retiring collection benefits the choir's 2021 trip to the U.K. St. John's Lutheran Church, 884 Newfield Ave, Stamford.

Friday, November 8 at 7 PM

Organ Recital – Jo Deen Blaine Davis will play works by Alma Hamilton, Bach, Bovet, Vierne, and Candlyn. All are invited. Childcare provided. Reception follows. The Congregational Church, 23 Park Street, New Canaan, CT

Sunday, November 10 at 2 PM

"Pipe Dreams" Movie - The New Haven chapter is sponsoring a screening of the movie "Pipe Dreams", which follows five young organists as they compete in the Canadian International Organ Competition in 2017. Attendees will also get a chance to meet one of the competitors, Alcee Chriss III. Alcee recently took up the position of University Organist and Artist in Residence at Wesleyan University. Alcee is also the new Minister of Music at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Ridgefield.

The screening will take place at Cinemark in North Haven, CT on Sunday, November 10 at 2pm. Tickets must be purchased in advance. Seats are limited, so it is important to book early. Tickets and more details are available at <https://tickets.demand.film/event/8976>.

Sunday, November 10 at 5 PM

Concert - Phillip Moore's *Requiem* sung by the Christ Church Singers.
Christ Church, Greenwich, 254 E Putnam Ave,

Friday, November 15 at 7:30 PM

Disco Night! – DJ Ralphie will be spinning the best tunes of the era. Fun for all ages! Bring friends and family for this step back in time! Donations accepted for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance to aid those affected by Hurricane Dorian. First Presbyterian Church of New Canaan, **178 Oenoke Ridge**.

Sunday, November 17 at 5 PM

Choral Evensong – Christ Church, Greenwich, 254 E Putnam Ave,

Saturday, November 23 at 7 PM

Silent Movie Night - with organist Juan Cardona. "The Mark of Zorro" with Douglas Fairbanks. Juan Cardona is the staff organist at the Thomaston Opera House. Tickets are \$20 at the door. Refreshments after the movie. Immanuel Lutheran Church, 18 Clapboard Ridge Rd., Danbury.

OTHER NEWS

Organist Needed

St. Francis Episcopal Church in Stamford is in need of a sub for a very simple (no choir, no pageant!) 5 pm Christmas Eve service at the newer church on 2810 Long Ridge Road. All music (traditional Christmas hymns) can be played on the excellent grand piano. A skilled college or high school student could handle this, if available, and I would coach them ahead of time. \$200. If interested, contact Stephanie Johnson, sjohns@optonline.net, 203 979 0867.

! FAIRFIELD WEST'S NEW WEBSITE !

Please check out our new and updated website here: <http://fairfieldwestago.com/>
Many thanks to Dr. Sean Jackson who has worked hard to put this together in a format that is more user friendly, allowing some of us to help update. Please check out all of the tabs and pages. If you have any questions or suggestions, please let us know.

Encore Organ Scholarship 2019-2020

The New Haven Chapter of the American Guild of Organists (AGO) strongly encourages and supports young people in learning to play the pipe organ. Succession planning is an important part of any profession and being an organist and church musician is no exception. We are seeking music students, ages 10 to 16, who are interested in studying with a qualified local organist. Scholarships will be given in an amount sufficient to pay for 10 hour-long organ lessons. More frequent, shorter lessons can be arranged if this is amenable to the teacher and scholarship recipient. Scholarship recipients will take part in a short recital at the end of the year of study. Scholarships will be awarded after the Chapter has reviewed the applications and auditions of all scholarship applicants.

Requirements:

- Applicants should be between the ages of 10 and 16 as of September 1, 2019 and have had at least two years of piano/keyboard study. We expect applicants to be able to read music with reasonable fluency and play the keyboard equally well with both hands.
- Applicants will be asked to meet with our scholarship committee for a short interview and audition. Applicants will be asked to play two pieces of contrasting styles. The applicant may choose to play on either the piano or organ. At least one of the pieces should be from classical repertoire (Baroque – Modern). The second piece may be any of the following genres: Classical, pop, jazz or a hymn.
- Auditions will be scheduled after review of all applications received. They will be held in November and/or December of 2019.
- Applicants may not be high school seniors at the time of application.
- Previous scholarship recipients are not eligible to apply.
- Scholarships are intended for study in New Haven County.
- Applications are due on September 30, 2019 along with a written recommendation by a music teacher.
- All questions should be directed to Jay Lindsay, Education Coordinator of the New Haven AGO Chapter. He can be contacted by email at jaylindsay1@gmail.com.

Other Events

The Waterbury Chapter AGO would like to invite AGO members from adjacent chapters to participate in our Youth Choir Festival with Gabriel Lovfall on **March 14, 2020**.

Repertoire list – Waterbury Chapter American Guild of Organists Youth Choir Festival – March 14, 2020

Gabriel Lovfall, director

Trinity Episcopal Church, Torrington

Praise the Lord Who Reigns Above – Jodi Lindh (Chorister's Guild CGA583) (Unison and optional handbells)

Everywhere I Go – Natalie Sleeth – (Chorister's Guild CGA171) (2 pt)

Pie Jesu – Mary Lynn Lightfoot (Heritage Choral Series 15/1227H) (2 pt)

Tumefurahi – Dave and Jean Perry – (Chorister's Guild CGA1462)

This Little Light of Mine – Mark Patterson – (Chorister's Guild CGA1108) (2 pt)

God Is Always There – Toni Sullivan – (Chorister's Guild CGA1590) (Unison)

How Can I Keep From Singing? – Paul Halley – (Pelagos PEL2034) (SSA) You may contact Bill Degan to get this music (dblopen32@gmail.com) since there is a 40 copy minimum when ordering from Pelagos. Please contact Toni Sullivan (sullivantt@gmail.com) to express your interest in the festival.