

# The Clarion



Newsletter of the Fairfield West Chapter AGO

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## **Fairfield West Chapter Events 2019-20**

Many thanks to Robert Kwan for hosting our Twelfth Night Party on January 12. It was great to get together with some new members, and recently returned members.

### **Saturday, April 25 at 11 AM** **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.

#### **Important!**

Given the nature of the program, in order for Dr. Henderson to demonstrate his methods, we will need a good representation from the chapter if not from some of your choir members as well to form a choir.

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

Bertucci's Restaurant, Darien

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## **CALENDAR –February 2020**

### **Sunday, February 2 at 5 PM**

**Candlemas** –Celebrated by the Christ Church Singers with Ayleward's responses, the Magnificat and Nunc dimittis from Brewer's Evening Service in D, Byrd's *Hodie beata virgo*, and seasonal hymns. Christ Church Greenwich, 254 E Putnam Ave, Greenwich.

### **Saturday, February 8, at 7 PM**

**Bluegrass Coffeehouse** - Tennessee Mountain Fox Chaser, 8:00 PM Hitch & the Giddyup, 9:00 PM Open Bluegrass Jam. This family-friendly event is hosted by First Congregational Church, 103 Main St, Ridgefield, CT. Admission is \$10 per person and \$5 for performing musicians. Beverages and light snacks will be available for sale.

For more information go to: <https://www.facebook.com/events/865969193861283/>

### **Sunday, February 16<sup>th</sup> at 4 PM**

**"Children will listen"....Tales of ol' Broadway** - A romp through some Broadway musicals from Porter to Sondheim, with Victoria Esposito, Aram Tchobanian, Denise Esposito, Michael Trnik and Alma Hamilton. St Leo Parish, 24 Roxbury Rd., Stamford 06902.

### **Friday, February 21 at 7 PM**

**Silent Movie with Live Organ** Buster Keaton's comedic masterpiece "The Navigator" with live organ accompaniment by guest organist Jackson Borges. Tickets \$10. All pro All are welcome! Round Hill Community Church, 395 Round Hill Road, Greenwich. For more information contact Director of Music Leslie Smith ([leslie@roundhillcommunitychurch.org](mailto:leslie@roundhillcommunitychurch.org)) All proceeds from concessions and ticket sales support the Music Ministry at RHCC. Film duration: 59 minutes.

### **Saturday, February 22nd, 7:30pm.**

**Concert** - Choral Chameleon sings their tour program "If I Left the Zoo" This award-winning choir will sing an eclectic program that is very engaging. Their conductor, Vince Peterson has won the Chorus America prize for Adventuresome Programming and has garnered seven commissions from Chanticleer for his Arrangements. Unitarian Church in Westport (10 Lyons Plains Road in Westport). Tickets at the door or on line at: <https://uuwestport.org/choralchameleon/>

### **Sunday, February 23 at 5 PM**

**Evensong for the Feast of the Transfiguration-** Rev. Peter Thompson, Priest Associate at St. Bart's, NYC, will be the guest homilist. Janet Yieh will be joining the choir as guest director/organist. Music will be Stanford in G, Radcliffe's Prayers and Responses, and Wood's "O Thou the Central Orb". St. John's Lutheran, 884 Newfield Ave, Stamford

**Thursday, February 27 at 12:15 PM**

**Organ Recital** – Cr. Craig Scott Symons, Minister of Music, First Congregational Church, Greenwich  
To showcase the recent work/additions done on the First Congregational Church of Greenwich 1978 Austin pipe organ, the church will present a Lenten Organ Recital Series. Each Thursday, from February 27 to April 2, Greenwich organists will present a free, 30-minute recital from 12:15-12:45 in the Meetinghouse. Following the recital, there will be a simple lunch of soup and a sandwich in the Auditorium, which is also free, Donations accepted. First Congregational Church, 108 Sound Beach Ave, Old Greenwich

**Saturday, February 29 at 4 PM**

**“Pirates of Penzance” Sing-a – long** – Presented by St Paul’s Episcopal Church, Riverside and Troopers Light Opera. Members of Troopers and St. Paul’s Choir will take on the principal roles with the audience acting as the chorus. Admission is free with scores available for \$5.00 at the door. St Paul’s Episcopal Church Parish Hall, 200 Riverside Ave, Riverside, Ct 06878. For more information, go to: [www.trooperslightopera.org](http://www.trooperslightopera.org)

**March 2020**

**Sunday, March 1 at 3 PM**

**The Fontenay Chamber Players** -Music of Mozart, Ravel and Respighi. Concert is partially supported by The Suzanne LaFollette Culley Charitable Foundation. There will be a free-will offering. First Congregational Church, 103 Main St, Ridgefield. For more info: Kathleen Theisen, Interim Director of Music Ministries, FCC Ridgefield: [KathleenT@firstcongregational.com](mailto:KathleenT@firstcongregational.com)

**Wednesday, March 4 at Noon**

**Recital** – by Diana Benton, soprano. Part of Lenten Musical Moments each Wednesday during Lent. These contemplative recitals include communion and are open to the public. The Congregational Church, 23 Park Street, New Canaan. For more information, please contact Jody Blaine Davis at 203/966-2651 #827 or [music@godsacre.org](mailto:music@godsacre.org)

**Thursday, March 5 at 12:15 PM**

**Organ Recital** – Jonathan Vaughn, Associate Director of Music, Christ Church Greenwich  
See details in February 27 listing above. 108 Sound Beach Ave, Old Greenwich

**Saturday, March 7 at 7:30PM**

**The King’s Singers** – Acclaimed for their exhilarating virtuosity and irresistible charm, the British vocal sextet sings a program entitled, Finding Harmony, which explores the power of music to bring people together and effect social change. Tickets at [www.chtwestport.org/tickets](http://www.chtwestport.org/tickets). Reception follows in the Great Hall. Christ & Holy Trinity Church, 75 Church Lane, Westport. (203) 227-0827.

## **OTHER NEWS**

### **2021 UK Choir Trip**

St. John's Parish Choir (Stamford) is going to Peterborough Cathedral in the UK in August 2021 under the direction of Nathan Lively and organist Janet Yieh. Guest singers are welcome! The all-inclusive price of \$2,500 will cover air, food, lodging, and land travel. You only pay for souvenirs. Please email Nathan at [NathanKLively@gmail.com](mailto:NathanKLively@gmail.com) for a brochure and more details of the trip. If you cannot make this trip with our choir, please consider making a gift to support the cost of the trip by writing a check to St. John's Lutheran Church and putting "England 2021" in the memo line. Thank you for the support.

## **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](mailto:dblopen32@gmail.com)) since there is a 40 copy minimum when ordering from Pelagos. Please contact Toni Sullivan ([sullivantt@gmail.com](mailto:sullivantt@gmail.com)) to express your interest in the festival

### **George Mathison Memorial Scholarship Competition**

The Brooklyn Chapter of the American Guild of Organists will sponsor the Fifth annual George Mathison Memorial Scholarship Competition on Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

The 2020 competition will take place at Grace Church Brooklyn Heights, where competitors will play the church's 69-rank 2001 Austin pipe organ. The competition is open to both high school and college organists, with no age or locational requirements. College applicants must be taking organ lessons for credit through their schools and high school applicants must be taking organ lessons with a private teacher. The application deadline is **February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020**. The application and more information, including eligibility and repertoire requirements, is available at:

<https://www.brooklynago.org/scholarship-competition>

The size of awards made to winning competitors will total \$2,000, with awards of \$1,000 for first place, \$650 for second place and \$350 for third place. We're accepting tax-deductible donations, the proceeds from which will go entirely towards funding the prize pool for the competition. In addition to helping defray these students' academic expenses; we believe this competition is an excellent way to spread awareness about the American Guild of Organists and the organ generally. If you would like to make a donation, or if you have any questions or comments, contact: [dean@brooklynago.org](mailto:dean@brooklynago.org)