

Utah Valley Chapter American Guild of Organists

The mission of the American Guild of Organists is to enrich lives through organ and choral music.

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The Dean's Message

November 2015

Dear Members and Friends,

I recently re-read the preface to Frescobaldi's *Fiori musicali 1635* and found it inspirational.

To The Reader: It was always my endeavor – by means of the talent which God has given me – to be of assistance in my work to eager students of the musical profession. I have always proved to the world, with my printed works of Capricci and all kinds of Inventions, in score and in tablature, that it was my most ardent wish that all who see and study my work should reap satisfaction and profit from it. Concerning this book, I should like to say that my main purpose has been to assist organists.

I was struck by a few things. First, he recognizes that his talent comes from God. Second, he desires to use that talent to help and serve others. Third, it sounds like Frescobaldi is a member of the American Guild of Organists! Frescobaldi expressed the sentiments of my heart and what I hope each of us feels, a desire to use our talents to teach and edify others.

As always, many of our monthly events are intended as outreach to the community, awareness of and introduction to the organ, and education for the novice and experienced organist. This year we have two events geared toward motivating and educating youth. The Youth Scholarship Audition program will take place February 20, 2016 and the POE (Pipe Organ Encounter) will be held in July 25-30, 2016. Please be sure to read the details found in the newsletter about these two events. Information is also available at our website: uvago.org. I encourage everyone to invite youth to participate in these two events. The youth are our future and it is important that we do all we can to use our talents to help and teach them. Like Frescobaldi, each of us may say, "It was always my endeavor – by means of the talent which God has given me – to be of assistance in my work to eager students of the musical profession."

I am grateful for all who assist in this great work of "organ!" I recognize that some of you sacrifice a lot to help in this cause. Thank you for offering your talents and experience!

Most gratefully, Sheri

Upcoming Events

Chapter Activities

- Nov 6 Liturgy Class with Fr. Peter Van Hook, St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 50 W 200 N, Provo, 7 pm. Learn how the liturgy and music come together in the Catholic and Episcopal tradition.
- Dec 13 Christmas Hymn Sing & Fireside, Spanish Fork Stake Center, 1006 E 200 S, 7 pm. Come hear special Christmas organ music, several choirs, and sing favorite organ accompaniment.
- Jan 9 Organ Crawl at First United Methodist Church, 203 200 E, SLC, 10 am. Come see, hear, and play the newly re-built 3 manual organ by Bigelow with David Chamberlin as guide.
- Feb 20 UVAGO Young Organists Scholarship Audition and performance, Sharon Stake Center, 545 South 800 East, Orem 9 am.
- March 18 Bach Recital, Provo Central Stake Center, 7:30 pm.
- April 23 Super Saturday, Harris Fine Arts Center, BYU, 8 am - 3 pm
- May Closing Social: Frank & Franks
- July 24-30 Pipe Organ Encounter, sponsored by UVAGO and SLAGO, Organists ages 13-18 take lessons, attend master classes, and attend concerts.

Organ Recitals and Events

- Nov 6 Richard Elliott, Salt Lake Tabernacle, 7:30 pm
- Nov 8 [Christopher Houlihan](#), Cathedral of the Madeleine, SLC, 8 pm
- Jan 17 [Thierry Escaich](#), Cathedral of the Madeleine, SLC, 8 pm
- Feb 14 [Daniel Roth](#), Cathedral of the Madeleine, SLC, 8 pm

Thank You!

We wish to offer a heartfelt thanks to Anna Judkins for her service as the BYU Student Representative. Anna has graduated from the Y with a bachelor's degree in organ performance and Kyrsten Anderson, an organ performance major, will now serve in that capacity. We look forward to working with Krysten and are grateful for her willingness to help. Thank you Anna and Kyrsten!

Volunteers Needed

- Join the POE committee! Contact Sheri Peterson or Lori Serr.
- Edit the chapter newsletter and manage the chapter listserv in 2016. Contact Miranda Wilcox.

POE Highlights

by Anna Judkins

The planning for the POE has been progressing very well. We are excited about some of the faculty that will be joining us. We are working on the list, but so far we have Dr. Don Cook and Dr. Brian Matthias from BYU, Dr. Clay Christiansen from the Tabernacle. We have others that we are working with to confirm their plans for the summer. We are so excited for this event.

This event is going to inspire so many youth to take an interest in the organ. We need everyone's help in any way that they can. I hope that we can all find a way to contribute to this wonderful event.

Students are admitted to POEs on a first-come, first-served basis. Students should be aged 13-18, be interested in the pipe organ, and have piano or organ proficiency ranging from early intermediate to advanced.

In addition to learning about organ literature, history, pipe organ construction and design, improvisation and other related topics, participants have the unique opportunity to meet and interact with peers who have similar interests. Students also have individual and group instruction in the basic rudiments of pipe organ technique and service playing.

Information about POE registration is available [here](#).

Utah Valley AGO Youth Scholarship

The Utah Valley AGO chapter is pleased to announce a Youth Scholarship audition for organists and pianists who are 18 years old and younger.

Organists will audition for free organ lessons (if not currently studying with a teacher) or a master class performance (if currently studying with a teacher). Participants receiving the top score from each level will play in a winners recital sponsored by the Utah Valley AGO. A scholarship worth \$450 will be awarded to the top winner to attend a Pipe Organ Encounter (POE) to be held in Salt Lake City in July 2016. POE is an AGO nationally sponsored 4-5 day event, which introduces participants to the pipe organ.

Pianists who are 18 years old and younger may apply to play one original piece (no transcriptions or reductions) of their choice from the works of non-American composers. Pianists will audition for introductory organ lessons with a qualified AGO instructor.

More detailed information is available in the following documents available on the [chapter website](#):

Scholarship Auditions - Rules and Policies

Scholarship Application Form

Scholarship Repertoire List

The application deadline, including a \$25 entry fee, is January 15, 2016. The auditions will be held at the Orem Sharon Stake Center on Saturday, February 20, 2016. If you have any questions, please contact Lori Serr, Utah Valley AGO Education Chair, at 801-489-8222 or lori.serr@icloud.com.

Announcing the Dr. Frank W. Asper Student Recital Series

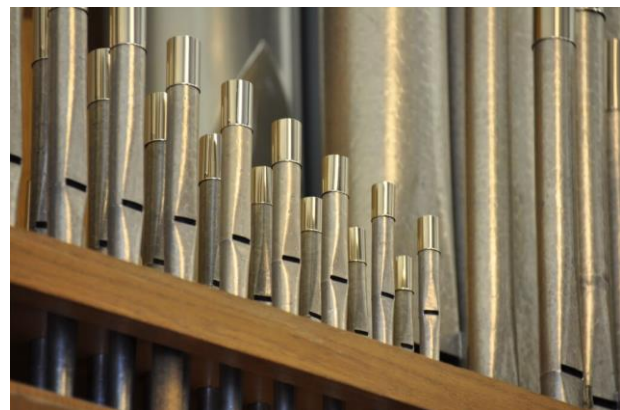
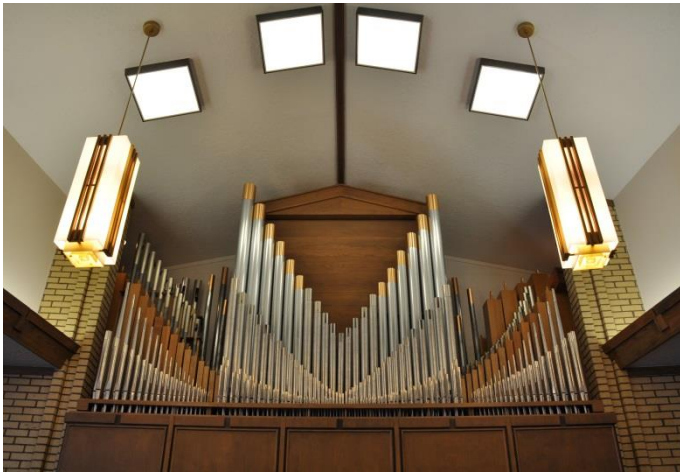
The Music Ministry at First United Methodist Church (FUMC) of SLC is pleased to announce as one of our signature organ recital series, the Dr. Frank W. Asper Student Recital Series. Any organ students, college, high school, etc., are welcome to perform their recital at First United Methodist Church of SLC beginning in February 2016. The recital would be co-sponsored with the teacher/school along with FUMC.

With the upcoming inauguration of The Wesleyan Heritage Organ in January of 2016, we are thrilled to honor Dr. Frank W. Asper with this recital series in his name. Dr. Frank W. Asper was the Director of Music at our church from 1924 until 1939. He conducted a thirty voice choir and performed short organ recitals every Sunday preceding church services. Dr. Asper was a Tabernacle organist from 1924 to 1965. During that time, he performed about 5,000 organ recitals for Temple Square visitors and played for more than 1,000 Mormon Tabernacle Choir broadcasts. He played an additional 5,000 recitals in the US, Canada and London, including many dedications of new organs. He taught piano, organ and theory, including at the McCune School of Music where he founded and conducted the McCune symphony Orchestra. At the age of 12, he played his first organ solo in the Assembly Hall on Temple Square. Dr. Asper studied in Berlin at the Sterns Conservatory and later graduated with honors from Boston's New England Conservatory. He had additional training at Boston University, the University of Utah and the Chicago Musical College. In 1930, Dr. Asper founded the Salt Lake Chapter of the American Guild of Organists (AGO). He was a Fellow with the AGO and was Dean of the Utah Chapter in 1937-38 and again from 1948-1951. He passed away in November of 1973 at the age of 81. (p. 5)



Opening Social at the Provo Stake Center with Jim Kasen

Photos by Kari Nay



The Wesleyan Heritage Pipe Organ at FUMC dates back to 1906. This instrument has more of its original components in their original location, thus with this distinction, is considered the oldest organ in Utah, Idaho & Nevada. The original organ had 33 ranks of pipes and was constructed by the George Kilgen and Sons Organ Company (1873-1939) of St. Louis, Missouri. Kilgen was a major organ builder, and at the time, constructed many noted organs, including the instruments at St. Patrick's Cathedral and Carnegie Hall in NYC. With age and deteriorating components, FUMC launched a fund-raising campaign to restore/renovate the organ back as close as possible to its original roots, keeping with its integrity, period and design. The organ project re-establishes the unique 1900's tonal style, the organ case, a rebuilt Austin "A" style console from 1930 and augmented the organs character with other vintage components most notably from another of the oldest organs in the region, the Salt Lake Masonic Temple. Bigelow & Co. Organ Builders of American Fork, Utah restored/renovated the organ. Known as Bigelow Opus 38, the organ has 3 manuals, 36 voices and 42 ranks. As part of the project, we have redesigned and opened up the front space in our Sanctuary. The front façade pipes have been stenciled by artisan Mr. Tony Devroude. Thus the look and feel and sound of the church and organ takes us back to 1906.

If a student and their teacher is interested in scheduling a recital please contact Scott R. Mills, Principal Organist, at: music@firstmethodistslc.org.



Resources for Organists

"The LDS Organist"
(created by Jennifer Morgan)
www.organlessons.blogspot.com

"Pedal Points"
(created by Florence Hawkinson)
www.ldsorganist.wordpress.com

[Pedals & Pipework](#)
(created by Nick Banks)

[Hymnal Trivia Quiz](#)
(created by Lella Pomeroy and James Welch)

David Chamberlin's hymn voluntaries
www.chamberlinmusic.com

Free music for the LDS organist
www.ldsorganist.org

Music for the LDS organist:
www.wardorganist.com

Resources for the LDS organist
www.ldsorganists.info

BYU organ information
www.organ.byu.edu

Local organ builder of fine mechanical action organs
www.bigeloworgans.com

AGO Salt Lake City Chapter
www.slago.org

AGO Utah Valley Chapter
www.uvago.org

AGO National Headquarters
www.agohq.org

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