

Principal Pipings

February 2019, Vol. 74, Issue 7



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Dean's Message

Happy February!

I hope you're staying warm indoors while you're reading this! I enjoy all types of weather, so I was glad to finally see some snow last week. Of course, it will be nice to have some spring weather come as well – it's just around the corner!

Thankfully, we had good traveling weather for everyone who came to Larry's house for our Twelfth Night Party in Winchester earlier in January. We had a great turnout and Larry was a gracious and welcoming host. Thanks Larry!

This month, we will be hosting our Pedals, Pipes, and Pizza event that you've heard me talk about for a while now. I am hopeful that we have a large group of students, and as I'm typing this we have ten students signed up so far. As I have said in the past, this event was how I was introduced to the AGO when I was in high school, so I'm glad we've been able to have this event to perhaps introduce more young people to the organ and the Lexington Chapter.

Our Executive Council is well along the way with planning next year's events, and I can't wait to tell you all the exciting ideas we have planned in the next couple of months. You won't want to miss these!

Take a look at the (very full!) calendar and see if there's an event or two you'd be interested in, including the Bach Marathon and the 20th birthday party for the magnificent Taylor and Boody organ at the Presbyterian Church in Danville. Happy Birthday! I hope to see you around at one of our many events this month!

James

Upcoming Events

- 02.02.19 **Pedals, Pipes, and Pizza (9:30am gather, 10:00am program)**
First Presbyterian Church and Christ Church Cathedral, Lexington, KY
- 02.01.19 **Celebration of the Arts, with performances by Allen Fletcher and Barbara Rogers**
7:30pm
Hunter Presbyterian Church, Lexington, KY
- 02.03.19 **Celebrating the American Spiritual**
11:00am
Christ Church Cathedral, Lexington, KY
- 02.10.19 **Laura Ellis, organ, Music on Main St. Concert Series in celebration of the 20th anniversary of the Taylor and Boody pipe organ, Opus 35 (1999)**
3:00pm
The Presbyterian Church, Danville, KY
- 02.12.19 **Zach Klobnak, Guest Recital, organ**
8:00pm
Ransdell Chapel, Campbellsville University, Campbellsville, KY
- 02.16.19 **Lexington Chamber Chorale, "Heart and Inspiration"**
7:30pm
Second Presbyterian Church, Lexington, KY
- 02.17.19 **Choral Eucharist with the Cathedral Choir, Visiting Conductor Series under the direction of Robert McCormick, St. Mark's Church, Philadelphia (11:00am) Concert, Vincent Carr, organ, Indiana University (3:30pm) Evensong with the Cathedral Choir (4:00pm)**
Christ Church Cathedral, Lexington, KY
- 02.19.19 **Jim McFarland, organ**
12:20pm
Ransdell Chapel, Campbellsville University, Campbellsville, KY
- 03.17.19 **Dr. Robert L. Bozeman, organ, Louisville, KY, and Lisa Lewis, organ, St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Anchorage, KY (3:30pm) Evensong with the Cathedral Choir (4:00)**
Christ Church Cathedral, Lexington, KY
- 03.26.19 **Jane Johnson, organ**
12:20pm
Ransdell Chapel, Campbellsville University, Campbellsville, KY
- 03.23.19 **Bach Marathon**
Maxwell Street Presbyterian Church, Lexington, KY
- 03.26.19 **Colleen Ames, Graduate Recital, organ**
8:00pm
Ransdell Chapel, Campbellsville University, Campbellsville, KY
- 03.30.19 **Lenten Lunch and Learning (9:30am gathering, 10:00am workshop, lunch provided)**
Maxwell Street Presbyterian Church, Lexington, KY

GREAT MUSIC

at Christ Church Cathedral
2018-2019



Visiting Conductor Series

Robert McCormick, St. Mark's Church, Philadelphia

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17

11:00am Choral Eucharist with the Cathedral Choir

3:30pm Concert by Vincent Carr, organ,
Indiana University

4:00pm Evensong with the Cathedral Choir



Concert & Evensong

SUNDAY, MARCH 17

3:30pm Dr. Robert L. Bozeman, organ, Louisville, KY
Lisa Lewis, organ, St. Luke's Episcopal
Church, Anchorage, KY

4:00pm Evensong with the Cathedral Girls Choir



Please visit www.ccllex.org to view the complete list of events.

166 Market Street • Lexington, Kentucky • 40507

January Event Report



Friends gather in the living room after dinner

On January 5th, Larry Sharp opened his home for the chapter and friends as he hosted a Twelfth Night Celebration. There was a full house with twelve chapter members present, as well as spouses and several choir members from Beaumont Presbyterian Church. Larry had a fantastic spread of food, and Annette Mathy and Mary Anna Stepp assisted with some treats of their own. Chapter members visited with each other and caught up with what everyone was doing and had recently done at their churches. Organ builder David Schroth and his wife Christina even made the trip from Louisville!

Thank you once again to Larry for hosting. Larry has always been very generous with his time and gifts to the Lexington Chapter, and this is just the most recent of his many kind acts. Thanks Larry!



L to R: David Schroth, Mary Anna Stepp, Annette Mathy, Ted Gentry, James Humlong, Kate Covington, Jane Johnson, Larry Sharp, Mark DeAlba, Grant Holcomb, Don SeEVERS

This month and next, we will have a feature article from our overseas members. This month, we hear about a recent choir tour with John Linker at the ChristChurch Transitional Cathedral in ChristChurch, New Zealand, originally published in the church's monthly publication "Cathedral Extra". John he has been Director of Music there since 2014, and was previously Organist and Choirmaster at Good Shepherd Episcopal Church in Lexington. Next month we will hear from Carolyn Craig and her Christmas experiences at Truro Cathedral in England.

"Travel and change of place impart new vigour to the mind."

"Luck is what happens when preparation meets opportunity."

--Lucius Annaeus Seneca, (c. 4 BC – AD 65), Roman philosopher

Seneca's words are just as relevant today as they were 2,000 years ago, as the Cathedral Choristers can attest after their recent tour of Australia and Japan.

While on tour, the Choristers were exposed to a variety of experiences and cultures that provided intellectual stimulation and new insights. In Australia we sang services in both the Roman Catholic and Anglican Cathedrals in Sydney. What an eye-opening experience for our boys to sing in such an acoustic that provided resonance and immediate feedback. Though we appreciate the intimacy of our own Transitional Cathedral, it doesn't provide feedback to the choir like these other places.

Whereas our usual daily choral service in our home Cathedral is Evensong, the daily choral service of St Mary's RC Cathedral is Choral Mass. Our Choristers joined theirs on a Tuesday afternoon to sing Britten's Missa Brevis in D, a mass setting that displayed new life for our boys when sung in the reverberant acoustic of the Sydney Cathedral. The host choir sang



The Choristers and John at St. Andrews Cathedral in Sydney

the Gregorian propers of the mass while our boys contributed two anthems on their own. Following the mass, the host Director of Music and I asked both groups together what they noticed about each other's singing. Top comments from the host choir were centred on their admiration of our crisp diction and ability to sing from memory. Our Choristers were enthralled with the host choir's ability to sing plainchant so flawlessly and were of course impressed greatly by the grand building they have the pleasure

of singing in.

Chapter News

Special Report Continued

St Andrew's Anglican Cathedral in Sydney is similar to Christchurch in the sense that they have their own choir school, and therefore their Choristers are a very unified group. In addition to singing a mid-day concert and Evensong on our own St Andrew's Cathedral, we were able to sing a rehearsal together with their boys, who were most gracious hosts to us. The two groups of boys sang together as well as separately. Together they blended beautifully, and separately they displayed their own characteristic sounds. It was a pleasure to hear the similarities and the differences between the two groups.

On arrival to Japan, our first engagement was a visit to Yokohama Jogakuin Secondary School. This school's English class makes an annual visit to Christchurch for intensive English study, so it was an honour to make a return visit to them. The private Baptist secondary girls' school, with a roll of about 800 students, made our Choristers feel very welcome. Our boys sang a 60-minute concert for their entire student body, and then spent the afternoon interacting with their English class, participating in traditional Japanese games, origami, and music. The reception our boys received was outrageously positive, an experience like none other.

Additional engagements in Japan included the Choristers singing services in St Albans Parish in Tokyo and St Agnes Cathedral in Kyoto, as well as a concert in the chapel of Rikkyo University in Tokyo. All of the events were very well attended. I was later told by the Director of Music at Rikkyo that our concert there drew the largest crowd in recent memory, rivalled only their organ dedication concert in 2013.

All of these experiences will form precious lifetime memories for our Cathedral Choristers, and will help these boys to be more rounded, better-informed adults later in life.

No Internet search, YouTube channel, class, or even book could compare with physically being in these places soaking up the sights, sounds, and smells. Thank you to all who have supported in myriad ways to make this happen. Your investment will pay dividends to the betterment of society in the future.

New vigour certainly has been embraced by many young minds, and most certainly preparation and opportunity have converged to make these young people very lucky indeed.

The tour was one of the final acts of Assistant Organist Harry Meehan, who has been with us for just over two years. Harry played an integral part to the tour, not only musically, but by his leadership and sheer height: he was often called on to lead the group in transit as he towers over everyone! All best wishes to Harry as he moves to Dublin this month and undertakes the study of medicine. Christchurch is all the richer from his numerous artistic contributions.

- Submitted by Dr. John Linker

Chapter News

Around the chapter...

Don't forget to think about heading to Grand Rapids to the 2019 Regional Convention. In addition to almost a dozen organ recitals and concerts, they will feature handbells, brass, carillon, and the theatre organ. There will also be some familiar faces to the Lexington Chapter, including recitals by Nicole Keller, Katelyn Emerson, and Ken Cowen. You can find more information on their website at www.grago2019.org.

Do you know a young organist that wants to further their organ skills with great teachers around the country? Consider a Pipe Organ Encounter! Early registration is now open for several of these POEs around the country in Cape Cod, Massachusetts, St. Louis, Missouri, and Seattle, Washington. For the first time, there will also be a POE in Europe, in Helsinki, Finland. Also available are a POE Advanced for high school students already well versed in the organ, held in Houston, Texas, and a POE Technical for those ages 16 to 23 that are interested in learning about organ building. More information can be found through links available on www.agohq.org.

Are you familiar with the radio organ program Pipe Dreams? The January 21st program (program #1903, "Pipe Organs Alive") features our own Dr. Schuyler Robinson playing Healey Willan's "Prelude on *Slane*" on the magnificent organ at Christ the King Cathedral in Lexington from his concert in May 2017. Also featured on the Cathedral's organ is Yun Kim, one of the recitalists from our 2011 Regional Convention and most recently an instructor at our 2016 POE. You can find this recording on the Pipe Dreams website (www.pipedreams.publicradio.org), and it will be on the front page. While you're there, use the search feature to find older recordings of a couple of other Lexington organs and organists. Congratulations to Schuyler on this beautiful recording!



GREAT MUSIC

at Christ Church Cathedral

2018-2019

Evensongs

3:30pm Concerts

4:00pm Evensongs with the Cathedral Choir

September 30

February 17

November 4

March 17

January 20

May 19



Friday, December 7

7:30pm George Frideric Handel's *Messiah*
with the Cathedral Choir

For ticket reservations visit
www.ccclex.org/messiah



Sunday, December 16

7:00pm A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols
with the Cathedral Choir

Friday, December 21

Noon *A Ceremony of Carols* by Benjamin Britten
Elaine Cook, harp, and the Cathedral Girls Choir



Palm Sunday, April 14

4:00pm Gabriel Fauré's *Requiem* with the Choir of
Men and Boys



*Please visit www.ccclex.org to view the
complete list of events.*

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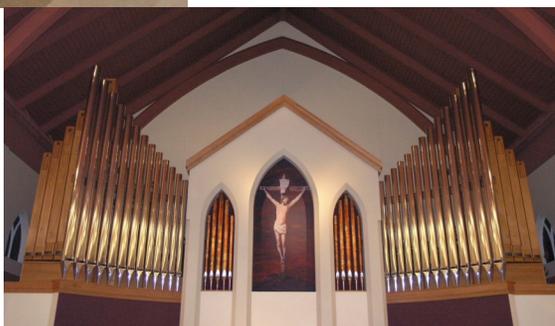
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