



The Tulsa Tracker

Newsletter of the Tulsa Chapter,
American Guild of Organists
September, 2020

Dear Chapter Members and Friends,

We hope this edition of The Tracker finds you healthy and well at this time.

We are pleased to present three online programs this fall. The first is a workshop on hymn-playing led by **Adam Pajan** at First Presbyterian Church on September 12 at 10 a.m. This workshop will be streamed on our YouTube channel and it will be shared as a resource by the national office of the AGO. We are grateful to Elizabeth George, Director of Member Engagement and Chapter Relations, for the interest she has shown in our programming! Thank you to chapter members **Terry Cast** and **Broc Hite** for playing in this workshop.

Many churches and schools in our community continue to be closed to the public. This is a challenging time for us all, and we hope that our online offerings will be a source of refreshment for you all.

Regards,

Joseph Arndt and Jacob Drengler

Dean and Sub Dean



HYMN PLAYING WORKSHOP presented by **Adam Pajan**
Saturday, September 12 from 10:00am to 12:00noon at First Presbyterian Church

Hymn Playing 101 ... and 102!

Even though hymn playing is the bread and butter of most professional organists' lives, intentional, elegant hymn playing often takes a back seat to repertoire in the academy. Vierne's *Sixth Symphony* is surely a masterwork, but most of us will find ourselves playing Nicaea, Hyfrydol, Duke Street, and Lobe den Herren 50 times to 1 over the fabulously difficult Finale. This workshop will rewind to the basics of hymn playing, seeking to articulate those things already commonly practiced and clearly define an approach to hymnody that places the organist at the forefront of musical leadership. Basic reharmonization techniques and registrational schemes oriented towards making the music come to life will ensure that those who have been playing hymns for five or fifty years will have something new to take home and share with their congregations.

Find the link to the livestream at the Chapter Website: www.tulsaago.org

Or find the livestream at the Chapter's YouTube channel:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzZrCylmiL71r9c4NFs_Vhg

Calendar of Virtual and In-person Events:

Music at Midday, Season Six • Streams on Wednesdays at 12:00noon at situlsa.org

Sept 2 – Adam Pajan, Organ

Sept 9 – Joseph Arndt, Organ

Sept 16 – Adam Pajan, Organ

Sept 23 – Music of Buxtehude with **Stephanie Raby**, baroque violin; **Eric Smith**, viola da gamba;
Joseph Arndt, organ; **Nicholas Garza**, countertenor

Sept 30 – Adam Pajan, Organ

Weekly Recitals • Every Friday at 7:00pm

Broc Hite is continuing his bite-sized "Weekly Acorn" series, now counting over a dozen programs. The solo recitals are typically 5 to 10 minutes long and are presented via Facebook Premiere. In September, enjoy the end of the Chopin Scherzos and Beethoven Sonata Op. 14, No. 1, each Friday evening. You can find the archives on his Website: brochite.com/weekly-acorn or on Facebook: facebook.com/BrocKeysPedals

Silents Please! • Saturday, Sept 5 at 11:00am

A new silent movie series with live theatre organ accompaniment has been announced in Oklahoma City. Buster Keaton's 1927 classic film *The General* will be presented at no charge for the inaugural event.

The Rodeo Cinema, 2221 Exchange Ave, Oklahoma City or call 405-235-3456 for information

Hymn-Playing Workshop Saturday, Sept 12 at 10:00am

Led by **Adam Pajan**, the event will be livestreamed from First Presbyterian Church at agotulsa.org

Second Saturday Silents • Saturday, Sept 12 at 11:00am livestreamed www.circlecinema.org and click on Events.

The 1923 Buster Keaton comedy *Three Ages*, plus a funny Felix the Cat silent cartoon, will be accompanied by Bill Rowland on the 1928 theatre pipe organ.

Coming in October:

Organ Recital • Friday, Oct 2 at 7:00pm

Terry Cast, Organist with **Steve Haefner**, trumpet. Open to the public (face coverings and physical distancing required) and live-streaming at thekirk.online.church. Kirk of the Hills, 4102 E 61st St, Tulsa

Tuesdays at Trinity at 12:05pm

Returning on October 6 by livestream at trinitytulsa.org

47th Annual Concert • Sunday, October 11 at 4:00pm

Organist **Ron Pearson** in Recital, in-person with proper precautions, and livestreamed at firstchurchtulsa.org
First Presbyterian Church, 709 S Boston Ave, Tulsa

From our friend, Dr. Eileen Guenther, past president of the National AGO:

Music publishers and dealers are on my mind! With the uncertainty of schools and churches these days, and the lack of face-to-face conventions, musicians are ordering less music than ever. Like any business, if publishers don't have business, they can't stay in business! I encourage colleagues to make even a small order personally or for their institutions - the publishers could use "some love" these days!



Congratulations to Rebecca te Velde on this new publication:

Coming Oct. 1st (probably about a month later in the U.S.): Oxford Hymn Settings for Organists Vol. 7 – Holy Communion. 34 pieces on tunes suitable for the celebration of Holy Communion by U.S. and U.K. composers. <https://global.oup.com/academic/product/oxford-hymn-settings-for-organists-holy-communion-9780193400665?lang=en&cc=gb#> Click on the sidebar "Table of Contents" for the complete list of tunes and composers, including our own Michael Bedford!

Don't Quit. Keep Playing

Ephesians 5:19

*"as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves,
singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts,"*

Greetings to you from Tulsa!

Hello, my friends. I hope this message finds you rested and blessed during this season of Ordinary Time. My name is The Rev. Dr. W. Lee Domenick. Please feel free to call me Lee, but never late for dinner! I have been asked and accepted the chaplain's position. I want to thank you for this wonderful opportunity to walk and serve with each of you during this unusual time. I am grateful to God for this journey that we will walk together. I have been ordained for twenty years and now serve as rector of Trinity Episcopal Church in Tulsa, Oklahoma. I am a classically trained 1st Tenor, and music has been and will always be an essential part and piece of my life and spiritual walk. I am not sure how the chaplain functioned in the past, so I would like to make myself available to you as someone you can speak with, confide in, and willing to walk with you through times of celebration, times of frustration, and all times of your professional and spiritual life.

We find ourselves in uncharted territory during this particular time, perhaps finding new/old ways to make music. My prayer is that if you are making a difficult decision in your life, you will always choose to keep playing.

When the house lights dimmed, the concert was about to begin, the mother returned to her seat and discovered that her child was missing. Suddenly, the curtains parted, and spotlights focused on the impressive Steinway on stage. In complete and utter horror, the mother saw her little boy sitting at the keyboard, innocently picking out "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star."

At the moment, the great piano maestro made his entrance, quickly moved to the piano, and whispered, "Don't quit. Keep playing." Then, leaning over, Paderewski reached down with his left hand and began filling in the bass part. Soon his right arm reached around to the other side of the child, and he added a running obbligato. Together, the older maestro and the young novice transformed what could have been frightening into a wonderfully creative experience. The audience was so mesmerized that they could not recall what else the great master played, only the classic, "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star."

Perhaps that's the way it is with God. What we can accomplish on our own is hardly noteworthy. We try our best, but the results aren't always graceful flowing music.

However, with the hand of Maestro, our life's work can truly be beautiful. Next time you set out to accomplish great feats, listen carefully. You may hear the voice of the Maestro, whispering in your ear, "Don't quit. Keep playing."

May you feel, in this time, God's arms around you, and know that God's hands are there, helping you turn your attempts into true masterpieces. Remember, God doesn't seem to call the equipped; rather, God equips the 'called.' The path together is more accurately measured by the lives we touch than by the things we acquire.

May God bless every one of you in this time and be with you always! Remember: "Don't quit. Keep playing."

- Father Lee+



Tulsa Chapter Programs - Fall, 2020

HYMN PLAYING WORKSHOP presented by **Adam Pajan**
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ORGAN TONAL DESIGN WORKSHOP by **Adam Pajan**
Saturday, October 17 from 10:00am to 12:00noon at St. John's Episcopal Church

"But I need a Rohrschalmei!" - Understanding Tonal Design in Mainstream Traditional Church Music Instruments
How often do we see or hear of a scenario where an organist insists on having their one favorite stop on an instrument before supplying it with something more practical? Worse yet, how often have organs been removed or neglected because the organist at the time of design insisted on having a specific style of organ that may or may not be sympathetic to the congregation it serves? In this hour, we will take a survey of tonal design in organs in mainstream traditional music programs from 1900 to the present, tracing changes in aesthetic trends and noting the necessities of a service-playing instrument. After a review of what "belongs" in specific divisions and why, we will design an organ of 30 stops jointly by committee, seeing where our collective knowledge, experience, and preferences take us.

OKLAHOMA CITY - TULSA CHAPTER EXCHANGE RECITAL
Friday, November 6 at 7:00pm

Melissa Plamann, organ and **Joseph Wenda**, Oboe
St. John's Episcopal Church

All programs will be live-streamed – mark your calendar to “be there” with friends.

All are welcome!!



AGO Membership Renewal:

Many chapter members have already renewed their membership, and your support is greatly appreciated. If you haven't done this yet, please take a moment to renew!

Don't forget to check the Chapter Friends, Substitute and Teacher Listings on the last page. If anything is incorrect, please let me know! Karen.rich.tulsa@gmail.com



Yamaha Electone CSY-1 organ available in Broken Arrow. Was my grandfather's and in the family for decades. Works well, though volume level seems stuck. Includes the bench and some documentation. Listed online for \$75, but make me an offer.

Contact j_m_wiley@yahoo.com

Jonathan Wiley

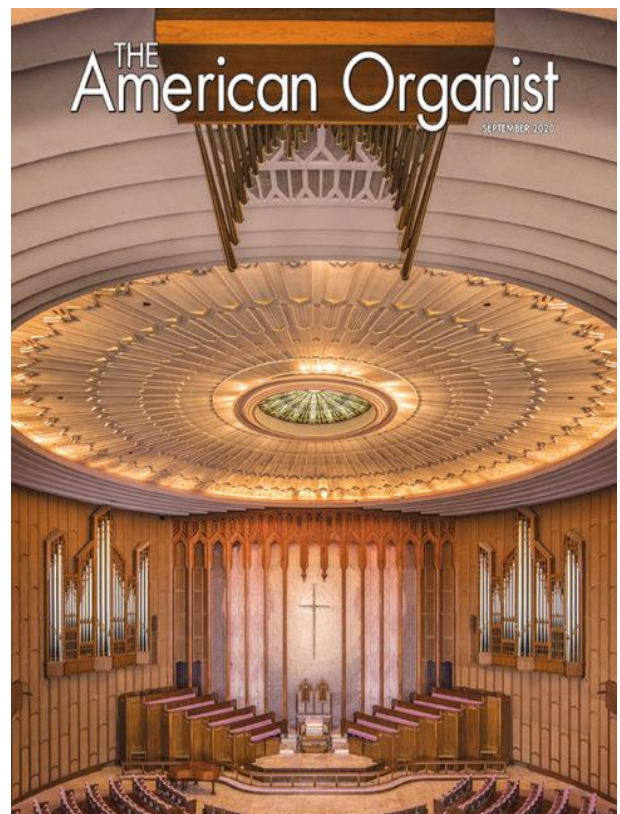
Have you seen the September issue of The American Organist?

The cover feature is the renovated organ at Boston Avenue UMC. The church is an architectural treasure, and the work completed by Foley-Baker only increases the beauty of the sanctuary.

One of the many perks of membership in the AGO is a subscription to TAO, either digital or print. The magazine continues to win awards for design, and the new format unveiled this month is clean and easy-to-read.

If you aren't a member, please consider joining the AGO – support the organization that supports organists and their work in so many ways.

Please visit www.agohq.org and check it out!



FRIENDS OF THE TULSA AGO – Thank you for your support!

BOMBARDE (\$200 and above)

Michael Bedford
Fred Elder
Red River Organ Company
Karen Rich
Bruce Wilkin
Nick Wilson

GREAT (\$100 - \$199)

Gerald Frank

SWELL (\$50 - \$99)

Ferne Howell
Stephen Kucera
Michael McCrary
Susan Panciera
Elmer Schmall
Richard and Peggy Ziglar

CHOIR (Up to \$49)

Joseph Arndt
Bruce Carrico
Michele Cowen
Jon Grigson
Rocky Kollmeyer
Gay Miller
Ron Pearson
Teresa Petray
Paul Pinkosky
William Shambaugh
Chris Winston

Add your name to this list! Donate to the Tulsa Chapter AGO!

Available to substitute:

CAFFEY, Carol	918-747-1714
CARRICO, Bruce	918-461-1376
COWEN, Michele	918-430-4235
HILLER, Karen	918-660-0506
KUCERA, Stephen	skkansas@gmail.com
MEYER, Colette	918-252-2561
PETRAY, Teresa	918-521-6556
SMITH, Vicki	918-607-3170

vickis2@cox.net

Teacher List:

BEDFORD, Dr. Michael	918-346-8104
BIGHLEY, Dr. Mark	918-269-4320
CANTWELL, Casey	918-809-9162
FRANK, Dr. Gerald	405-372-3357
KUCERA, Stephen	skkansas@gmail.com
PEARSON, Ron	918-584-4701
SMITH, Vicki*	918-607-3170

*Instruction in Harp also available

Visit our website: www.tulsaago.org

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609.618.2911

Jacob Drengler, Sub-Dean

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919.741.7685

Lyndon Meyer, Webmaster

lmeyer@churchofsaintmary.com

Members-at-Large

Stephen Kucera (2022)

Nick Wilson (2024)

Paul Pinkosky (2026)

Fr Lee Domenick, Chaplain

L Domenick@trinitytulsa.org

Fred Elder, Treasurer

fredelder@cox.net

Karen Rich, Secretary/Historian

karen.rich.tulsa@gmail.com

Mike McCrary, Auditor

michael-mccrary@utulsa.edu

Send items for inclusion in the October issue of the TRACKER by Friday, September 25 to Karen.rich.tulsa@gmail.com