

En Chamade

Newsletter of the Northwest Arkansas Chapter,
American Guild of Organists
November 2017



November Event

A ROGERS ORGAN CRAWL MUSIC & THE REFORMATION

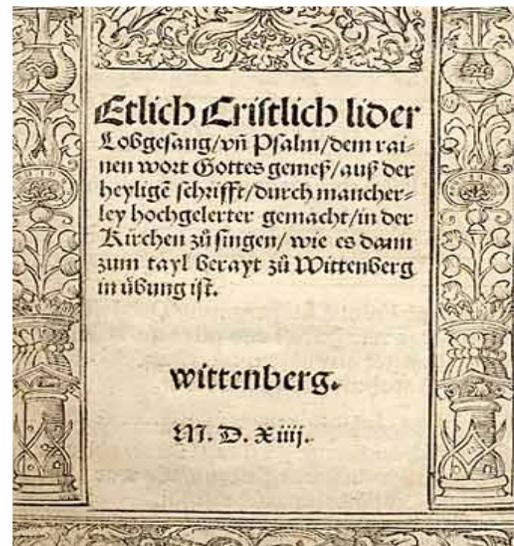
Saturday, Nov 11, 9:30am – noon
First Stop: Peace Lutheran Church
805 W. Olrich St., Rogers

“I intend to make vernacular psalms for the people, that is, spiritual songs so that the Word of God even by means of song may live among the people.”

—Martin Luther, 1524

The Lutheran chorale is one of the most phenomenal collateral aspects of the Reformation. This small musical creation which led ultimately to the transformation of congregational song had its conception in 1523, as the Reformer expressed his deep respect for some of the older German hymns and his desire to find poets who would write new hymns in proper devotional style which would serve as an accessible conveyance of new Reformation theology. Luther personally took on the challenge as well, and before the year was over, several hymns by Luther and friends were printed and distributed. By late summer of 1524, Luther had written twenty-four of the thirty-six hymns that would come from his pen.

Martin Luther versified the Psalms, translated and adapted Latin hymns, improved and spiritualized German folk-songs, and wrote original hymns. And the congregations of the time enthusiastically joined in.



Title page of first Lutheran Hymnal

Lutherans historically have not taken this musical revolution lightly. In 1617, church officials declared a *Jubeljahr*, a “jubilee year”, culminating with a three-day celebration October 31 through November 2. Celebrated musicians, most notably Heinrich Schütz and Michael Praetorius, were commissioned to compose the most dramatic choral, organ, and brass offerings imaginable. Subsequent anniversaries have been marked with similar festivity, though the 400th year passed with little fanfare, as in

1917 the world was embroiled in the Great War.

Our upcoming NWACAGO event will focus on selected hymns from the Reformation's early years as we experience organs of contrasting styles installed in Rogers churches. We will begin at Peace Lutheran, with some minor refreshments, a discussion of historical background, and a demonstration of the Goulding & Wood organ (1980). We shall then proceed to 1st Presbyterian, where the Kilgen tracker (1916) rejuvenated and expanded by Roy Redman (1985) will be heard. The final venue will be Central United Methodist, where organist Marilyn Lee will assist in showing the chapel organ and the lavishly endowed instrument by Temple Organ Company (2007) in the worship center. This grand Romantic organ will provide an

appropriately lush-to-fiery send-off for the day.

As one can imagine, these organs provide all sorts of opportunities. Composers will range from Praetorius to Karg-Elert, from Weckmann to Faulkes, interspersed with samples from Buxtehude, Krebs, Mendelssohn, Krebs, and, of course, a bit of Bach along the way.

Those who wish to have an after-glow lunch together may proceed Mimi's Café. The restaurant is requesting a headcount by 5:00 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 9. Please email me at ewhitmor@jbu.edu or call/text 479.549.8247 to confirm a spot.

**I look forward to seeing you!
*Ernest***

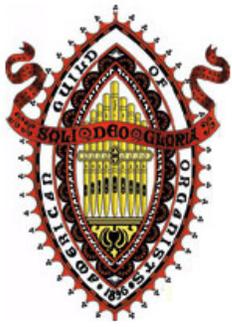
FAYETTEVILLE RECITAL

Scott Montgomery, Associate Director of Music and Organist at Central United Methodist Church, Fayetteville, played a stunning recital on the 1972 Moeller organ Thursday, October 26. *Festival Toccata* by Percy Fletcher was the full organ opener, showing off the Moeller voices great and small, as well as Mr. Montgomery's world-class technique. Sweelinck's "*Mein Junges Leben*" *Variations* had period colorings. Expert feet and nimble fingers moved Bach's *Toccata in F* at a good tempo. Strings and flutes suited *Arabesque No. 2*, Debussy, from the piano original. Four-part pedal anyone? Try *Variations de Concert*, Op. 1 of Joseph Bonnet. Joe Utterback's *Joshua Fit the Battle of Jericho* was demanding and jazzy, with fun syncopation. A different harmonic idiom sounded in Langlais' *Hommage à Frescobaldi*. A darker work was the Widor *Andante Sostenuto* from *Symphonie Gothique*, a bit of calm before the concluding storm: *Concert Variations on the "Austrian Hymn"* by John Knowles Paine. How many trackers survived its concluding pedal fusillade?

Mr. Montgomery has a comfortable audience persona. Short talks introduced each work, much appreciated. Winner of numerous prizes (Lilian Murtagh Memorial (first prize) and Audience Prize of the AGO National Young Artists Competition; AGO Region V Competition; Louise Miller Scholarship), he is a member of the Concert Artist Cooperative and has several CDs out.

—Sam Donelson

P.S. The October 2017 issue of TAO has a notice, p. 24, by the John Paul Buzard Pipe Organ Builders about their new organ for Central United Methodist, due in Advent, 2018.



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From the Sub-Dean...

Activities continue in church, school, at work -- and through AGO! Just recently several members joined the large crowd gathered at a Reformation Hymn Festival, First Presbyterian Church in Bentonville, for a rousing afternoon of song, organ, brass ensemble, hand bells, and pipes & drums. This is perhaps what is meant by "a joyful noise," which was also tuneful and stirring. After a pipe and drum procession, the service opened with prayer and Ralph Vaughan Williams' "All People That on Earth Do Dwell." Subsequent hymns were chosen to reflect the meditations offered on the "five solas" of Reformation theology: sola gratia, sola scriptura, sola fide, solus Christus and soli Deo gloria. Adding to the festivity was the presence of composer John Srutkowski whose arrangement of "Amazing Grace" featuring pipes, percussion, and

brass was memorable indeed. The service closed with Rutter's "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God." A generous and delicious reception followed the event, capping off a beautiful afternoon.

*Remember our **UPCOMING ORGAN CRAWL**, as described elsewhere in the newsletter. Please **DO** make copies of the attached poster to circulate freely among your choir members, church congregation and any lovers of organ music. Help spread the word!*

After the Crawl, let's gather informally for lunch, at Mimi's Café in Pinnacle Hills. RSVP to Ernest at 479.549.8247 or ewhitmor@jbu.edu

See you on the 11th!

Jeannie

From the Dean...

Scamming, Hacking, and Spoofing

Our chapter, along with many others, has been the target of several different scams. Fortunately, we were highly suspicious, and only lost our personal time to investigate and report the incidents. However, it brought up some important points that I thought I should share, in case it might help you to avoid both sophisticated and less sophisticated attempts to part you from your money!

The worst thing that can happen to your email account is when a hacker gains read-write to your email account. I'm sure that everyone knows these usually start with computer worms that are typically activated by clicking on dubious email attachments. But this isn't what happened to us.

We were attacked by someone spoofing, which means to impersonate by tricking an email server, without actually hacking an account. These attempts are typically flagged by Gmail, Hotmail, and other such providers, but not always. Someone was able to send an email that appeared to come

from my email address, but it clearly didn't originate from my account, since it wasn't in my sent documents. In these cases, a very clever scammer spoofed my email address to send an email to our past treasurer, Charlie Rigsby, to request a payment to be sent to a third party. They used information gleaned either from our local AGO site, or a site at AGO HQ, to piece together a scam that could easily have worked, if we weren't careful.

The latest attack was less sophisticated, with someone using a made-up email address, to impersonate me requesting a payment from our current treasurer. Since we implemented aliases on our local Website, the only source I can identify is that the hacker used just the information on the AGO HQ Website. I have since asked them to update their site using our aliases. So even though we did everything in our power, we still are vulnerable.

We take information security in our chapter seriously. We don't distribute our email list to anyone requesting it, even if it's a trusted source. However, we are always glad to advertise events on the behalf of members. You might notice that we use BCC to hide the email address of members whenever we do a mass mailing. Even an innocent use of your email address, forwarded one too many times, could land your email address in a spam list or into a hacker's hands.

What can you do, besides not clicking attachments? If you suspect someone's email account is hacked, text them or call them up. We use the telephone to verify payment of bills in our chapter. Beyond that, protect your email address at all costs! A common technique is to guard your primary email account to friends, colleagues, and organizations you trust. Use additional email account(s) for anything else. You can easily shut these accounts down and open a new one if it gets hacked, or the marketing email becomes unmanageable.

One final hint you might find helpful, from time to time, is to use a spam prevention tool. If you want to get information from someone who requires you to join their email list, but don't want to be on it for life, consider my favorite, SpamGourmet.com. Check it out by creating a handy email alias to trick the scammers! This can be useful to get information one time, like described above, or to get off of a mailing list when clicking unsubscribe doesn't work. Simply switch your email address to your Spam Gourmet alias, and the email flow will stop!

What are your experiences with scamming? Do you have a story to tell, with any lessons to pass forward to our members? I'd like to know!

Peace,
Broc