



# **BOMBARDE!**

**Newsletter of the Greater Kansas City Chapter –  
AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS**



**December 2018**

**Dean:** Dr. Elisa Bickers [elisa.bickers@villagepres.org](mailto:elisa.bickers@villagepres.org) · **Sub-Dean:** Boyd Ahrens [boydlee@aol.com](mailto:boydlee@aol.com)  
**Bombarde Editor:** Keith Sandrock [bombarde@kicago.com](mailto:bombarde@kicago.com)

## **From the Dean**

*“Twas the night before Advent and all through the Guild  
The organists were frazzled, anxiety-filled.  
The folders were filled with the season’s best tunes,  
And conductors dreamt dreams of our choir-less Junes.”*

I’m just kidding. I love Advent! It’s busy, and as usual I find myself behind on my preparations for various concerts and worship services that so populate this season. But still – this season undeniably communicates that something’s coming – something good. At minimum, December 25 will come and then be done, and we can exhale into January, which is surely a more relaxed time of the year. But at maximum, what are we expecting to find at the end of the Advent tunnel?

I find myself reflecting on the meaning of Advent differently, lately. When I was a child, our home was filled with warmth and expectant joy. We listened to a cappella Christmas music while decorating the tree with ornaments collected from far and wide. My grandmothers came and thus our bellies were plump with heirloom cookies. We gleefully used a felt Advent calendar that my mom made when we were little – for every day, you reached into a pocket and pulled out a symbol of Christmas and snapped it onto a felt tree. I didn’t even know that chocolate Advent calendars existed until I was an adult, and somehow, they’re not as satisfying as those little felt pieces from my youth.

As an adult and a professional, traditions went by the wayside.... After all, that “most wonderful time of the year” is in fact “the stress, stress-iest season of all” for the professional church musician, even if a joy-filled one. Time spent making cookies could be better directed toward practicing, couldn’t it? Or better yet – SLEEPING! And I can’t make a felt Advent calendar – my fingers need to rest, not work harder. I didn’t realize that our home was basically devoid of Christmas tradition until my daughter was born, and then I realized that it’s not just my duty to help create the magic and expectancy of Christmas for the church and community – it’s also absolutely necessary to give those gifts to my family. Because Advent doesn’t just happen.... For the most part, we don’t simply find ourselves along a journey towards something life-changing. It takes intent: a willingness to live differently, to sing different songs, to look down the road in expectation of something that will transform us.

In these days, we haven’t a choice but to look to be transformed. The border is a disaster, from every perspective; trust in police is shaken; our leaders cannot carry on civil conversations, much less accomplish anything on our behalf. And what of our precious environment, our very home? Is it as bad as some say, perched on the precipice of disaster?

To be Advent people, we must be preparing ourselves and our folk for something wonderful to happen... Now, more than ever, we need a silent night and some joy to this world. Our families and our congregations need peace and hope to emanate from our music and from our hearts and hearths. You who are weary from the toil of ushering in Christmas with your efforts, hear this: every note matters. Every moment of practice is holy, because you are working to bring your finest to people who are searching for something this season. And when you want to howl in frustration because people chatter during your prelude and postlude, try to be at peace; someone was listening, and someone was moved by your gift. I guarantee it.

Merry Christmas, friends.

Elisa~

## **100th Anniversary of the Armistice**

Our chapter participated in a worship service of remembrance to honor the men and women who sacrificed so much in the war that was "to end all wars." The treaty that was signed took effect 100 years ago on November 11, 1918 and ended an extremely grueling and gruesome war involving many countries of the world.

The Road Home was a program first produced and presented for the National AGO Convention in Kansas City in July of 2018. It was well received at that time, and it became apparent that it would be



a very appropriate program to again present on the actual 100th Anniversary of the peace accord. With the help of several financial sponsors, including our own Chapter, it was again presented at Atonement Lutheran Church in Overland Park on November 11, 2018. Our chapter members actively involved in the program were: Elisa Bickers, Lara West, Michael Bauer and Rick Deasley.

*Celebrating the return home of the soldiers, with the Störling Dance Theater, and the Te Deum Chamber Choir.*

### **REMEMBER**

**There is no chapter meeting and program scheduled for this month.**



## **Save these Dates: Upcoming Events**

**Monday, December 3, at 1pm** - Community of Christ Temple, 201 S River Blvd, Independence, MO 64050 - Daily Prayer for Peace 25th Anniversary. Every day for the past 25 years, people have gathered in the beautiful sacred space of Community of Christ Temple to pray for peace in our world and specifically for a different nation, people, or group in our world each day. All are welcome to join in song, meditation, and prayer in this 30-minute worship service every day, but especially on this significant anniversary.

**Sunday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, at 5pm** – Central United Methodist Church, 5144 Oak Street, Kansas City, MO 64112 - The Kansas City Boys Choir and the Kansas City Girls Choir celebrate the season with a winter concert "Let It Snow, Let It Snow, Let It Snow." The choirs will perform Leonard Cohen's "Hallelujah," "O Come All Ye Faithful," "The First Noel," Hark the Herald Angels Sing, and Amadeus Mozart's "Dona Nobis Pacem (Grant Us Peace)." The choirs will also perform two original compositions -- "Let It Snow," written by Byron Hyde, a Boys Choir alumnus, and "I Can't Believe it's Christmas Time Again," written by Choir Director Ah'Lee Robinson. The choirs will also be joined by special guest Kent Crockett II, a Kansas City musician. Audience members will be invited lend their voices to the choir's rendition of "Joy to the World." Concert admission is \$15 for adults and \$7 for youth. Tickets may be purchased at the door, or online at [www.kcboychoir.org](http://www.kcboychoir.org) or [www.kcgirlschoir.org](http://www.kcgirlschoir.org) For more information, please call 816-474-7464.

**Friday, December 14, at 12:10pm** - Westport Presbyterian Church, 201 Westport Rd, Kansas City, MO 64111 - Jan Kraybill, organist: "On This Day Earth Shall Ring." The many diverse voices of Westport Presbyterian's gem, the Pasi pipe organ, will join to celebrate the sounds of the season, via the fingers and feet of Jan Kraybill. Come hear holiday works across generations and geography — from 1500 to the present, from oceans away and from our own continent — in this wide and wonderful world!

**Wednesday, December 19<sup>th</sup>, 7pm** – Helzberg Hall in Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts, 1601 Broadway, Kansas City, MO 64108 – Handel's Messiah – Composed in a mere 24 days, Handel's Messiah continues to be the composer's most popular work and may well be the most performed classical work of all time. The Spire Chamber Ensemble and Baroque Orchestra returns to Helzberg Hall just in time for the holidays to perform this masterpiece with period instruments like you have never heard before...inspiring, dazzling, joyous. This is a Christmastime concert experience not to be missed! [Click HERE to purchase tickets for this event.](#)

**Sunday, February 3, 2019, at 2:30pm** - Community of Christ Auditorium, 1001 W Walnut St, Independence, MO 64050 - Super Bowl Sunday Organ Concert XX: "On the Shoulders of Giants." Jan Kraybill will present her 20th annual Super Bowl Concert, honoring many of the inspirational people who have influenced music in this historic venue. If (when!) the Chiefs make it to the Super Bowl, she will play a piece in their honor too — an offer she's made every year for two decades — perhaps the 20th time will be the charm! Free admission, free parking, 5800 seats available.

## Substitutes Available for You

Substitutes listed are members of the local organ guild. The people who hold AGO certificates have passed requirements of the National American Guild of Organists for various levels of service playing and choral conducting. However, the GKCAGO is not an endorsement agency for service provided by the persons listed here. To learn proficiency of substitutes, feel free to ask them for references. Feedback regarding the hiring of GKCAGO substitutes is welcome and encouraged. Please send feedback to John Schaefer [canonjohn40@gmail.com](mailto:canonjohn40@gmail.com).

### **These substitutes have passed various levels of AGO certification requirements:**

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Mary Bronaugh Davis, MA, CAGO<br>org                        | (816) 436-1419<br>(c) (816) 456-0343   |
| Nancy Custead, CAGO, B.S. Music Ed<br>org, piano            | (816) 590-9414<br><a href="mailto:nancustead@gmail.com">nancustead@gmail.com</a>               |
| Barbara Eichenberger, BM, CAGO<br>org, piano                | (816) 803-2516<br><a href="mailto:musicaltouch36@gmail.com">musicaltouch36@gmail.com</a>       |
| Stephen Kucera, CAGO, BM<br>org, piano, lit                 | (913) 568-3873<br><a href="mailto:skkansas@gmail.com">skkansas@gmail.com</a>                   |
| Linda Mann, BME, SPC<br>org, piano (Weddings/Funerals only) | (816) 353-4826<br>(c) (816) 289-9760   |
| Marjorie O’Konski, MM, MME, SPC<br>org, piano               | (785) 766-2545<br><a href="mailto:mjokonski@hotmail.com">mjokonski@hotmail.com</a>             |
| John Pitchford, MM, SPC<br>org                              | (913) 663-3768<br><a href="mailto:johnpitchford@kc.rr.com">johnpitchford@kc.rr.com</a>         |
| John Schaefer, AAGO, ChM<br>org, dir, lit                   | (816) 520-2084   |
| Claudette Schiratti, MM AAGO<br>org, dir, lit               | (c) (913) 530-0960<br><a href="mailto:cschiratti1@gmail.com">cschiratti1@gmail.com</a>         |
| Jerrold Tidwell, BM, MM, CAGO<br>org, piano, dir, lit       | (c) (301) 714-8030<br><a href="mailto:jerrold.tidwell@gmail.com">jerrold.tidwell@gmail.com</a> |

SPC = service playing certificate | CAGO = Colleague certification | AAGO = Associate certification | FAGO = Fellow certification  
org = organist | lit = liturgical worship | dir = choral director | piano = pianist

**The following have various degrees in organ or church music at the college or postgraduate level:**

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Joyce Berg, MM<br>org                                 | (816) 741-7388<br><a href="mailto:joyberg74@gmail.com">joyberg74@gmail.com</a>                         |
| John Deahl, MM<br>org, dir, lit, bass soloist         | (785) 250-4141<br><a href="mailto:johnldeahl@gmail.com">johnldeahl@gmail.com</a>                       |
| Stephanie Henry, DMA Choral Music<br>org, piano, dir. | (816) 678-6372<br><a href="mailto:shenry24@kc.rr.com">shenry24@kc.rr.com</a>                           |
| Sharon Hettinger, DMA<br>org, lit, dir, handbell      | (785) 842-2053<br><a href="mailto:slhett.sunflower.2016@gmail.com">slhett.sunflower.2016@gmail.com</a> |
| Ronald Krebs, BM, MM<br>org, lit                      | (785) 843-2622<br><a href="mailto:rkrebs@reuterorgan.com">rkrebs@reuterorgan.com</a>                   |
| Sarah Lyons, DMA<br>org, piano, lit, dir              | (309) 333-8745<br><a href="mailto:Sarah.orr.lyons@gmail.com">Sarah.orr.lyons@gmail.com</a>             |
| MacKenzie Reed, MFA, BM<br>org, piano, lit            | <a href="mailto:ivoryfistrule@gmail.com">ivoryfistrule@gmail.com</a>                                   |
| Ann Marie Rigler, DMA<br>org, lit                     | (816) 415-3792<br>(816) 415-7533   |
| Nancy Stankiewicz, BA<br>org, lit                     | (913) 642-8642   |

**The following also offer their services:**

|                                   |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Boyd Ahrens<br>org, lit           | (816) 453-8406<br><a href="mailto:boydlee@aol.com">boydlee@aol.com</a>                           |
| Betty Bauer<br>org, lit           | (913) 814-9021<br><a href="mailto:hababab@earthlink.net">hababab@earthlink.net</a>               |
| Doris Daniels<br>org, lit         | (816) 431-3244   |
| Phillip Grubbs<br>org             | (816) 721-2325<br><a href="mailto:pgrubbs@embassylandscape.com">pgrubbs@embassylandscape.com</a> |
| Edward Poston – KU student<br>org | <a href="mailto:edward.rposton@gmail.com">edward.rposton@gmail.com</a>                           |
| Marilyn VanderLinden<br>org, lit  | (816) 665-4441   |
| Margaret Werth<br>Org             | (785) 478-0256   |

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The absolute deadline for submissions to the Bombarde editor is the 20th of each month. Please email your information to [bombarde@kicago.com](mailto:bombarde@kicago.com).