

November 2006

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CENTRAL ARKANSAS CHAPTER –
AGO

The Clarion

“Sing-a-Long” Messiah

The November program of the Central Arkansas Chapter of the American Guild of Organists will feature selections from the Christmas portion of Handel’s beloved oratorio *Messiah*, “sing-a-long” style.

The program, which is free and open to the public, will commence at 7:30 p.m. and will be held at Lakewood United Methodist Church, corner of Topf and Fairway, North Little Rock. The punchbowl begins at 6:00 and the dinner at 6:30. Dinner reservation information may be found below.

You are encouraged to invite your choir members, family, and friends. Bring your score (any edition) and join in singing under the direction of Nancy Fleming, Director of Choral Studies, Hendrix College. Soloists for the program are: Suzanne Bannister, Amy Lufler, Brian Carpenter, and Shawn Charton. Accompaniment will be provided by members of the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra and the Little Rock Wind Symphony. Dr. Kay McAfee will be at the organ.

Lakewood UMC has about 30 scores for use. If you have choral scores in your library please bring them (marked with your church stamp for safe return) for audience members to use.

This is a perfect opportunity for our chapter to gain recognition in our community with a “fun” program for all. Again, please invite everyone you know to come sing. No rehearsal required. Just a great evening of fellowship and making music together. See you Friday, November 17 at Lakewood!

Dinner Reservations

Dinner reservations for the Friday, November 17, event may be made by calling Ann Johnston at (501) 661-1943 (please leave your reservation with whoever answers) or by e-mail: don_annjohnston@sbcglobal.net

Deadline for reservations is NOON, Tuesday, November 14. Reservations are \$10.00 per person.

Menu: Roast Pork Loin, Roasted Potatoes, Mixed Vegetables, Salad, Rolls, Dessert, Coffee and Tea

Chapter Officers 2006-2007

Phil Bordeleau, Dean	pbongreene@aol.com	(501) 374-2794
Wayne Simpson, Sub-Dean	wes@nicholsandsimpson.com	(501) 661-0197
Elizabeth Plowman, Secretary	eplow@aristotle.net	(501) 225-1483
Virginia Strohmeier-Miles, Treasurer	vdean@aristotle.net	(501) 868-8705
Betty Anderson (2007)	parkhillpres@sbcglobal.net	(501) 753-9647
Robert Lindley (2008)	robert@stjames-umc.org	(501) 225-5419
Lynn Payette (2009)	lynnpayette@prodigy.net	(501) 623-1654

From the Dean

November means we're half way through a busy fall season. Already two AGO programs are behind us and two are ahead. Thank you to Ansley Fleming and the First United Methodist church of Little Rock for hosting us as well as their sponsorship of British organist Phillip Scriven at the October meeting.

For something completely different this month we are excited to be partial sponsors of the *Messiah* Sing-a-Long at Lakewood United Methodist Church on Friday evening, November 17th at 7:30 PM. This event will feature string players from the Arkansas Symphony, soloists, Nancy Fleming conducting, and Kay McAfee at the organ. Most importantly, we want YOU to come with your Messiah scores! Having been an audience participant in the past, I know the fun that comes from singing great music with people who share a love for an important work.

We hope more people will make a full evening out of this fun Friday night affair. With so many of our guild being involved in rehearsals and teaching on week day nights we are hopeful that more folks will take advantage of this event taking place on a Friday evening. Come meet and greet your fellow guild members. Lakewood United Methodist Church has completed extensive renovations and this event is one of the first ways they are publicly gathering with the community at large to celebrate their renewed sanctuary and fellowship hall.

I also want to announce an additional programming note as well as a substitution in the line up for the Spring. Our March 13th meeting will be the harpsichord and organ duet program at St. Michael's Episcopal church. Originally this was to be presented by Kathleen Scheide and Lynne Payette, both of Hot Springs at the time of the programming. However, Kathleen the featured harpsichordist has accepted a position teaching at Westminster Choir College. So, Kathleen has graciously shared her repertoire with yours truly, the Dean, who will play the harpsichord. And since that now puts an hour's worth of distance between me and the organist originally scheduled, Lynne has graciously deferred to allow Tim Allen, the new organist at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral in Little Rock, to play the organ part. Tim's cathedral and my cathedral are but a few blocks apart so getting ourselves together to practice will be far easier.

And in the vein of continuing to sow the seeds of organ interest, on Saturday, Feb 10th at 10 AM, André Duvall, a piano major at Henderson State University and interim organist at Lakewood Methodist, will present an info-concert of harpsichord and organ duets at St. Michael's, geared for young piano students. This "precursor" program is especially designed as a hands-on encounter with young piano students and other young music makers in the hopes of attracting more audience members for the guild, as well as potential musicians for our region.

The December Meeting, as a reminder, is a Friday evening, December 29 concert featuring Jonathan Biggers. Dr. Biggers is an outstanding recitalist who will appear at the First Presbyterian Church, Little Rock, as part of the generous musical gift to the community by Dr. Richard Hixson, as his birthday present to himself and all of us.

With so much to look forward to, we hope folks will be part of this special season of varied music making.

See you next Friday—Dean Phil Bordeleau

Handel's *Messiah* - Some Historical Facts

- † Was composed in 21 days following a stroke which resulted in partial paralysis.
- † Was composed to benefit charity in Dublin, Ireland, 1742.
- † Premiered in London a few weeks later and so moved King George II that he stood for "The Hallelujah Chorus" - a custom that survives to this day!
- † Was performed annually at Easter, under the direction of Handel himself, as a benefit for his favorite charity - The Foundling Hospital.
- † Revived Handel's career and boosted his popularity to "super-stardom."



G.F. Handel

Dr. Charles Burney, 18th century music historian says: "*Messiah* has fed the hungry and clothed the naked, fostered the orphan, and enriched succeeding managers of Oratories more than any single musical production in this or any other country."

Treasurer's Report

Balance on Hand - October 24 \$4,645.71

DEPOSITS

2 Memberships \$167.00
31 Dinners \$310.00

TOTAL \$487.00

EXPENDITURES

Postage for Clarion \$39.00
FUMC/LR—Dinners \$330.28
Postage for Directory \$52.20

TOTAL \$421.48

BALANCE ON HAND \$4,711.23
AS OF November 7, 2006

Submitted by Virginia Strohmeier-Miles, Treasurer

Need a Sub?

As of November 7, 2006

All Services

Jess Anthony
Carol Majors
Elizabeth Plowman
Ann B. Rye

Weddings and Funerals

Betty Anderson
Nathan Beethe
Phil Bordeleau
Robert G. Carson
Lyndon Finney
Lyle Rupert
Virginia Strohmeier-Miles

Pipedreams
with Michael Barone
Sunday Afternoons
12:30 p.m.
KLRE 90.5 FM
Sponsored by CACAGO and
Nichols & Simpson Pipe
Organ Builders, Inc.

Job Openings

***First UMC (Hot Springs)** - Two full time positions: Traditional Music Minister and Contemporary Worship Leader. Contact Rev. Bud Reeves at (501) 623-6668 for more information.

***First UMC (Nashville, AR)** - Part-time Choral Director. Contact Rev. Russell Hull at (870) 845-3030 for more information.

***First Presbyterian Church (Hot Springs)** - Part-time Organist. Contact Rev. Susan Arnold at (501) 624-5646 for more information.

***Lakewood UMC (North Little Rock)** - Part-time Organist/Assistant Director of Music. Contact Bob Bidewell at (501) 753-6186. Position available January 2007. Deadline for applications is November 15.

***Amboy UMC (North Little Rock)** - Part-time Organist. Contact Rev. David Ashcroft at (501) 804-1186 for more information.

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**P.O. BOX 2765
LITTLE ROCK, AR 72203-2765
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Return Service Requested

Concerts, Workshops, and Special Services

***Organ Dedicatory Concert.** Christ the King Catholic Church, Little Rock. Saturday, November 18, 7:00 p.m. Featured artist is James Diaz. A reception will follow the program.

***Candlelight Carol Services.** Greene Chapel, Hendrix College, Conway. November 30, December 1 and 2 at 7:30 p.m. December 3 at 4:00 p.m. Featuring the Hendrix College Choir, Nancy Fleming, Director. Reservations are required - call (501) 450-1495 beginning November 20. The choir will also be on tour December 15, 7:30 p.m., Trinity UMC, Little Rock. No reservations required for tour performance.

*** Vivaldi “Gloria”.** First Presbyterian Church, Camden. Sunday, December 3, 3:00 p.m. Featuring the Chancel Choir; soloists Addie Bosanko and Emory Molitor; organist Dr. Kay McAfee; under the direction of Victoria Harden.

***Holiday!** Trinity United Methodist Church, Little Rock. Sunday, December 3, 3:00 p.m., Monday, December 4, 7:00 p.m. and Thursday, December 7, 3:00 p.m. Featuring the River City Men’s Chorus under the direction of David Glaze. Free and open to the public.

***A Service of Advent Lessons and Carols.** Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, Little Rock. Sunday, December 3, 5:00 p.m. Featuring the Cathedral Choir of Men and Women under the direction of Tim Allen, Organist/Choirmaster.

***A Service of Advent Lessons and Carols.** Cathedral of St. Andrew, Little Rock. Sunday, December 3, 7:00 p.m. Featuring the Cathedral Choir, Youth Chorale, and handbell ensembles. Phil Bordeleau, Organist/Choirmaster.

***Advent Organ Recitals.** First United Methodist Church, Arkadelphia. Mondays, December 4 and 11, 5:15 p.m. Music of Widor and Roger-Ducasse by organist Dr. Kay McAfee.

***Advent Organ Recitals.** Lakewood United Methodist Church, North Little Rock. Thursdays, 12:10 p.m. December 7 - André Duvall; December 14 - Lynn Payette; December 21 - Bob Bidewell.

***A Russian Christmas.** Second Presbyterian Church, Little Rock. Thursday, December 7, 7:30 p.m. Featuring the Little Rock Wind Symphony; soprano soloist JoAnn McDade; conducted by Dr. Karen Fannin. Tickets available at the door for \$10 each.

***How Far Is It to Bethlehem?** First Presbyterian Church, Little Rock - Friday, December 8, 7:30 p.m. Pulaski Heights United Methodist Church, Little Rock - Saturday, December 9, 7:30 p.m. Featuring the Arkansas Chamber Singers under the direction of Dr. John Erwin. Tickets available at the door for \$15 each.

***Messiah Sing-a-Long.** First United Methodist Church, Arkadelphia. Monday, December 18, 5:15 p.m. Community choir; soloists Stephen Garner, William Higgins, Emory Molitor, Michelle Smith, and Michelle Owen; Dr. Kay McAfee, organ; conducted by Stephen Eaves, Director of Choral Studies, Henderson State University.