



LA PIPELINE

The monthly newsletter of the Los Angeles Chapter
American Guild of Organists

December 2023



OUR DECEMBER EVENT MONDAY, DECEMBER 4 - HOLIDAY PARTY

ST. PAUL'S COMMONS

FORMERLY THE CATHEDRAL CENTER OF ST. PAUL

840 Echo Park Ave. Los Angeles

Secure, covered parking underneath facility. Entrances on Echo Park and Laguna Avenues. Follow entry instructions on the keypad outside each gate.



Social Hour 6:15 | Dinner 6:45

Dinner this month is complimentary!

- Tri-tip au Jus
- Salmon with Pesto Sauce
- Roasted Potatoes
- Green Beans with Red Bell Peppers
- Mixed Green Salad
- Chocolate Dessert Cups
- Charcuterie Board Appetizer
- Wine and Soft Drinks
- Vegetarian entree available on request*

Holiday Program

Our festive program will feature the Von Beckerath Organ, a Soprano Soloist, an Early Brass Quartet, Two Hurdy-Gurdies, a Harpishord, and Costumed Carolers

**Please RSVP for dinner by
Friday, December 1**

RGSchertle@gmail.com or (323) 828-3633

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FROM THE DEAN KEVIN CARTWRIGHT

I would like to extend my best wishes to each of you for a Happy Holiday Season and a healthy and prosperous New Year. The Executive Committee and LA AGO leadership celebrate our “New Year” each July 1st, therefore we are currently in the middle of our program year and we still need your support. As we complete the calendar year, we are just over halfway toward our annual fundraising goal, and there is still time to donate to LA AGO before our fiscal year ends this spring. But why wait? Please consider the LA AGO while you are making your giving plans this holiday season, and as always, your gift will be acknowledged at the appropriate level in our donor list, published in each of our printed programs.

In addition to financial gifts, please consider donating your time and talent to the Los Angeles Chapter. Nominations for Members-At-Large, class of 2027, are now open, and many other volunteer opportunities are available including serving on the Nominating Committee, assisting us as Education Coordinator, Social Media Coordinator, and other positions. Please contact me at kevin.r.cartwright@gmail.com if you are interested in getting involved with the LA AGO in a leadership position.

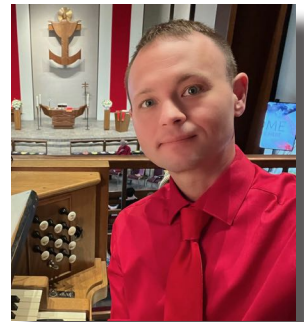
In the Jewish faith, Chanukah is known as the Festival of Lights. In fact, light has been an important part of the fall and winter season for centuries. In many religious and secular practices, the adornment of trees and altars with candles and lights is an important element of the season as our hemisphere gradually tilts away from the sun, the days shorten, and our sunlight is noticeably softer. As our traditions illustrate, the shortening of days and the absence of light require us to provide the light we lack from nature. Adorning things with lights and lighting the Menorah is excellent symbolism of this task required of us, but how many of us are willing to make the commitment to serve as an unconditional light in our darkening world?

I think you can infer by “darkening world,” I am not only referring to the waning of natural light this time of year, but also to the state of current affairs. Many of you, thinking especially my friend Charlotte Hsieh at Geneva Presbyterian Church in Laguna Woods, have made a commitment to bring light to your congregations and communities through music. When Geneva Presbyterian was attacked by a shooter not long ago, Charlotte knew exactly how she could contribute of her time and talent and immediately committed to bring healing and hope to her community through a revitalized recital series. Charlotte knew what her community needed and she knew how she could provide for her community by doing what she does best. There was no hesitation, just instant light. I was touched beyond words: to be a bold new light to shine out of the depths of such a tragedy. What determination and what love for her neighbors.

So how can we be a light in the darkness our society seems to be

experiencing? A walk through any fashionable clothing store is a stark illustration of where our society’s emotional health is today: black, white, gray, beige, perhaps some very darkened or muted earth tones. There is little color, there is little vibrancy, there is so little life, and there isn’t much light. Every news program seemingly follows the same theme and nature around us is gradually growing dark and cold. It can be easy to succumb to the growing darkness and descend into a place of sadness and lamentation, but this is where you and I can step in as liturgical musicians to bring light to the world around us.

In the text of “Hail, Gladdening Light,” John Keble translates, “Now we are come to the sun’s hour of rest, the lights of evening round us shine, we hymn the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit Divine.” In Matthew 5:14-16, we are commanded: “You are the light of the world. Let your light shine before people, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.” Ephesians 5:8 encourages us, “You were once darkness, but



Kevin Cartwright

now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light.” In Proverbs, we learn “A mitzvah is a candle, and the Torah is light,” (6:23) and, “A candle of God is the soul of man.” (20:27)

Regardless of your faith I invite you to carry out a “mitzvah” this season: to prepare a place where God’s glorious presence may dwell within you and shine as a light. Lauren Eichler Berkun of the Jewish Theological Seminary says: “This Hanukkah, may the burning candles of the menorah mirror the flaming candles of our souls, enlightened and enlivened by our commitment to God.” So carry your light into your music programs, share it with your fellow musicians, your congregations, friends, and families, and resolve to shine through the darkness around us as beacons of light, love, and hope. Make beautiful music, smile abundantly, embrace the symbolism by creating light and lighting candles, wear bright and festive clothing whenever possible, and be a light unto our world.

I look forward to seeing each of you at our upcoming Holiday Party hosted by St. Paul Commons (formerly the Cathedral Center) in Echo Park, and I am eager to see how each of you will bring your individual expression of light, love, and hope to our holiday celebration. Bring it all: bright colors, “ugly” sweaters (which I personally find beautiful), festive holiday attire, and bonus points if something you wear is light-up! Join me in the effort to be a gladdening light to all during this Festival of Lights, this Advent Season of a promised coming, and the upcoming Christmas Season of new birth and joy, morning stars, and guiding lights.

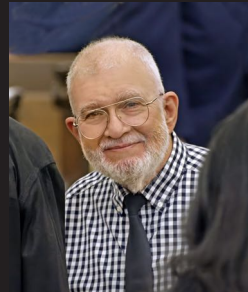
Soli Deo Gloria

OUR NOVEMBER EVENT

MEMBERS' RECITAL IN MEMORY OF RICHARD KIRTLAND

Monday, November 13, 2023

Click [HERE](#) to view the program.



Photos courtesy of
Wendell Benedetti

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LOGIN HELP

JOIN THE AGO!

Not a member? We invite you to join the AGO with a Los Angeles Chapter affiliation to receive access to our on-line directory, jobs listing, a subscription to The American Organist, and much more. Membership in the American Guild of Organists is open to all - professional organists and choir directors, students, and organ enthusiasts alike - regardless of musical ability or denominational affiliation. See our website for more information. <https://www.laago.org/membership>

Not ready for membership? You can join our non-member mailing list here: <https://www.laago.org/non-member-mailing-list>

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- Join the teachers list...or find a teacher
- Find a job (members only)...or post a job
- Download the directory (members only)
- View current and past newsletters
- Access the on-line calendar (always up to date!)
- Listen to LA AGO podcasts
- Browse fascinating historical photos
- ...and much more!

CALENDAR

Calendar items may be submitted on the LA AGO website at <https://www.laago.org/calendar-submit>. The Submission deadline to include in the newsletter is the 15th of the month prior to publication. Please review listing guidelines before submitting. Entries may be edited for size and content. Visit the on line calendar at <https://www.laago.org/calendar> for the most recent updates.

Mon Dec 4, 2023

6:15pm - 10:15pm LA AGO Holiday Party [LA AGO]

Where: St. Paul's Commons
840 Echo Park Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90026

Sun Dec 10, 2023

4:15pm - 5:30pm Advent Service of Lessons and Carols

Where: St James' Episcopal Church 3903 Wilshire Blvd Los Angeles CA 90010

Description: Advent Procession of Lesson & Carols, Choir of St. James', James Buonemani, director. Live-stream and On Demand at GreatMusicLA.org. Free.

7:30pm - 8:45pm Advent Lessons and Carols

Where: St. Edmund's Episcopal Church 1175 San Gabriel Blvd. San Marino, California 91108

Description: St. Edmund's Choir with guests from LA Opera and Master Chorale. Reception to follow. Free will offering.

Sun Dec 17, 2023

2pm - 3:30pm Organ Recital and Carol Sing

Where: Covenant Presbyterian Church 607 E. Third Street Long Beach, CA 90807

Description: Resident Organist Peter Bates plays seasonal organ works interspersed with carols sung by the audience. Assisted by Desiree Flores, mezzo-soprano. Free-Will Offering supports Minister of Music Discretionary Fund.

Sun Jan 14, 2024

4:15pm - 5:15pm Solemn Evensong

Where: St James' Episcopal Church 3903 Wilshire Blvd Los Angeles CA 90010

Description: Choir of St. James', James Buonemani, director. Live-stream and OnDemand at GreatMusicLA.org. Free.

Sat Jan 20, 2024

2pm - 4pm Organ & Choral Festival [LA AGO]

Where: Christ Cathedral 13280 W Chapman Ave, Garden Grove, CA 92840

Sun Jan 21, 2024

6pm - 7pm International Laureates Organ Series presents Ryan Chan, Organist

Where: St James' Episcopal Church 3903 Wilshire Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90010

Description: Live-stream and On Demand at GreatMusicLA.org. Free.

Sun Feb 4, 2024

7:30pm - 8:30pm Festival Choral Evening Prayer

Where: Church of the Good Shepherd 504 N Roxbury Dr, Beverly Hills, CA 90210

Description: Observance of the 15th Anniversary of Noack Opus 151. Choral music of Paulus, Howells, and other ecumenical sources. Organ music from the 17th-21st centuries. Parking free in Santa Monica Blvd. structures. <https://www.gsbh.org/directions>. Contact Terry Hicks, Music Director: thicks@gsbh.org, office #310-285-5425 x 1005. Free.

Sun Feb 11, 2024

4:15pm - 5:15pm Solemn Evensong

Where: St James' Episcopal Church 3903 Wilshire Blvd Los Angeles CA 90010

Description: Choir of St. James', James Buonemani, director. Live-stream and OnDemand at GreatMusicLA.org. Free.

Mon Feb 19, 2024

9am - 3pm Presidents' Day Organ Festival [LA AGO]

Description: Torrance and Palos Verdes area organs.

Sun Mar 10, 2024

4:15pm - 5:15pm Solemn Evensong

Where: St James' Episcopal Church 3903 Wilshire Blvd Los Angeles CA 90010

Description: Choir of St. James', James Buonemani, director. Live-stream and OnDemand at GreatMusicLA.org. Free.

Sun Mar 17, 2024

6pm - 7pm International Laureates Organ Series presents Nicole Keller, Organist

Where: St James' Episcopal Church 3903 Wilshire Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90010

Description: Live-stream and On Demand at GreatMusicLA.org. Free.

Sun Mar 24, 2024

4:15pm - 5:15pm Solemn Evensong

Where: St James' Episcopal Church 3903 Wilshire Blvd Los Angeles CA 90010

Description: Palm Sunday Solemn Evensong sung by visiting choir, ICantori of Walla Walla University, Dr. Kraig Scott, director. Live-stream and On Demand at GreatMusicLA.org. Free

Sun Apr 7, 2024

6pm - 7pm International Laureates Organ Series presents Adam Brakel, Organist

Where: St James' Episcopal Church 3903 Wilshire Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90010

Description: Live-stream and On Demand at GreatMusicLA.org. Free.

Sun Apr 14, 2024

3pm - 4pm A Celebration of Frederick Swann [LA AGO]

Where: First Congregational Church of Los Angeles 540 S Commonwealth Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90020 4pm - 5:30pm Path of Miracles by Joby Talbot

Where: St James' Episcopal Church 3903 Wilshire Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90010

Description: Choir of St. James' and guests, Maura Tuffy, Guest Conductor, perform this captivating music capturing the pilgrims' sights and stories of the Camino de Santiago de Compostela. Live-stream and On Demand at GreatMusicLA.org. Free.

Sun May 12, 2024

4:15pm - 5:15pm Solemn Evensong

Where: St James' Episcopal Church 3903 Wilshire Blvd Los Angeles CA 90010

Description: Choir of St. James', James Buonemani, director. Live-stream and OnDemand at GreatMusicLA.org. Free.

Sun May 26, 2024

6pm - 7pm International Laureates Organ Series presents Bruce Neswick, Organist [LA AGO]

Where: St James' Episcopal Church 3903 Wilshire Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90010

Description: Live-stream and On Demand at GreatMusicLA.org. Free. Co-sponsored by St. James Church and the Los Angeles chapter of the AGO.

Sun Sep 1, 2024

5pm - 6pm Choral Evensong

Where: All Saints' Episcopal Church (Beverly Hills, California) 504 N Camden Dr, Beverly Hills, CA 90210

Description: A service of Choral Evensong sung by the All Saints' Choir. June Nixon-Oculi Omnium, Humphrey Clucas - Preces & Responses, Joanna Forbes L'Estrange - King's College Service, C.V. Stanford - Coronation Gloria. Free.