

# ORGEL ZEIT

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## Mission Statement

- To promote the organ in its historic and evolving roles
- To encourage excellence in the performance of organ and choral music
- To provide a forum for mutual support, inspiration, education, and certification of members



## DEAN'S LETTER

I encourage all Guild members who have any interest in the future of church music to attend our February program. We must continue to encourage and promote the study of organ to children at this crucial time. The American Guild of Organists has proclaimed that 2008-2009 is to be the International Celebration of the Organ. "An Organ Spectacular" event on October 19, 2008 is being planned nationwide to promote the organ. The York Chapter is planning to hold an organ event that day as part of this celebration.

To help encourage and promote interest in organ study for children, I am working with Menchey Music Service, Inc. and the Allen Organ Company. York AGO chapter member, Matt Baldwin and I are designing and implementing a new organ program in South Central Pennsylvania in the near future. This organ initiative program is called "**Keys for KIDS**". Basically speaking, the program will offer children the opportunity to receive either a used Allen organ (depending on availability) for use in the student's home and or rental of a new 2 manual Allen organ. To help fund this endeavor, our chapter will offer financial backing in the form of scholarships to fund the rental of an organ plus provide organ study at Menchey's store location in York. York Chapter has received nearly \$2000 in gifts from Mt. Zion United Church of Christ, York and plans are to use this as seed money to support the project. In addition, partnering with the Guild will be churches that will be able to apprentice an organ student as a way to secure and ensure the availability of future organists as a way to secure their own future by investing in the talents of their youth in their congregations. Matt and I are working to seek additional funding to support this program from local businesses and individuals, the National AGO Endowment fund as well as grants from the Federal government. The Cultural Alliance of York has already agreed to financially support the program in the form of "action grants".

To launch the **“Keys for KIDS”** organ initiative program, 7 yr old organ student Carter Ishler who currently studies the organ with me, will be our “poster” child. Recently, Carter and his family came to Menchey Music Store in York to see the Allen organs. Menchey Music Co. will offer Carter a used 2 manual Allen organ for use in his home for FREE! The organ initiative will be engaged to secure funding from Carter’s home church to support his study. The Guild will support Carter and his continued study by offering to waive the cost of moving and transportation.

This program in a nutshell offers the opportunity for KIDS to have used electronic organs placed in their home at no charge or the opportunity for the student to rent a new digital Allen organ at a substantial saving through the partnership cooperative.

This will undoubtedly be beneficial and crucial in the long run for the continued promotion of organ study to children. This will help to alleviate the problems faced with the inaccessibility of churches for organ students to go practice. By offering this opportunity, a student and their family would financially be able to afford to study the organ. Rental prices of organs funded through the program would cost less than to rent a piano or as much to rent a band or orchestral instrument.

Finally, the “Keys for KIDS” program will be introduced and launched as a way to encourage participation for children to register and participate in our upcoming April 19th “PEDALS, PIPES AND PIZZA” organ promotion event.

I am hoping that the “Keys for KIDS” program that Matt Baldwin and I have designed could be used as a model for the AGO National Headquarters to implement nationwide.

If you know of any children at your churches or in your schools that could benefit from this program, please have them contact me and invite them to the Pedals, Pipes and Pizza. If you have interest in teaching children the organ, plan to attend Wayne Leupold’s workshop on February 9<sup>th</sup>. Wayne will offer many interesting ideas to encourage organ study. I’ll be happy to discuss the organ initiative program as it unfolds.

Take a look at the smile on Carter Ishler’s face as he sits at the Allen organ he will be receiving.

Victor Fields, Dean





# February Program

## Teaching Beginning Organ to Children and Adults

### by Wayne Leupold

Advent Lutheran Church, 1775 East Market Street  
February 9, 9:00 a.m.—12:00

*Discover the Organ®*, published by Wayne Leupold Editions, Inc., is a new beginning keyboard and pedal method for organ with which a student of any age can begin to develop basic keyboard skills at the organ. No prior piano/keyboard or musical training is required. It is designed especially for upper elementary and middle school students. Through this new, unique curriculum, with its diverse yet coordinated components, young organists develop at a deliberate but steady pace, and a solid foundation in musicianship and keyboard technique is established. While the method focuses primarily on developing comprehensive manual skills, elementary pedal concepts also are introduced.

The first year materials, entitled *Discover the Basics®: A Beginning Series for Any Keyboard Instrument*, comprise four successive books (A, B, C, and D). At the end of *Book D*, the student progresses to the two basic series of *Discover the Organ®, Level 1: Basic Organ Repertoire and Modern Keyboard Technique*. Five optional series are also available for additional enrichment: *Christmas Season at the Organ* (simplified hymns and arrangements), *Easter and Pentecost Seasons at the Organ* (simplified hymns and arrangements), *Organ and One Instrument*, *Pedal Primers*, and *Repertoire with More Pedal*.

The organ can hold a very great fascination for young children. With this new method, a child's fascination and interest can be immediately channeled and focused so that very young students, as early as the third grade, can actually be playing the organ. (This is a much earlier age than is traditional for beginning the organ). A pilot test-teacher program, now in existence for several years, has been proving that such an approach will work.

It is surprising at this time, when there is a marked increase of interest in building pipe organs, that there is concurrently a shrinking supply of qualified organists to address the needs for public performances and church services. Part of the purpose of this method is to kindle interest in young people in a field in which there are not only great aesthetic rewards, but also financial and career possibilities as well.

### Teaching Beginning Organ to Children and Adults

This workshop for organists assists them (1) in recognizing the potential of teaching children and adults from the very beginning of their musical experience at the organ, and (2) by presenting recruitment ideas, teaching advice and teaching materials that will enable organ teachers to achieve this potential.

The content of this workshop would include the following:

1) an explanation of the pedagogical philosophy that is the basis of this method, including the method's approach to

(a) teaching music reading, (b) developing musicianship, and (c) establishing a solid keyboard technique;

2) a survey of all the materials currently available;

3) advice for all the levels regarding use of the various series especially with young children, as well as with adult beginners; and

4) both general and specific advice concerning how to use the materials with beginning students having had no previous keyboard training and with student pianists who would come to these materials with various levels of keyboard proficiency.

### *Events Calendar*

**Sunday, February 10, 4:00** - Barry Hannigan, piano, Mary Hannigan, flute, at First Presbyterian Church, East Orange street, Lancaster. [www.firstpreslanc.org](http://www.firstpreslanc.org)

**Friday, February 15, 12:30** - Todd Davis, organist, at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 31 S. Duke Street, Lancaster.

**Sunday, February 24, 4:00** - Victor Fields, organist, at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church 31 S. Duke Street, Lancaster.

**Sunday, March 4:00** - Music of Organ with Orchestra in Memory of Dr. Pierce Getz, Trinity Lutheran Church, 2000 Chestnut Street, Camp Hill. [www.trinitycamphill.org](http://www.trinitycamphill.org)

**Friday, March 7, 7:30** - Thiel College Choir, at Christ Lutheran Church, 29 S. George Street. 717-854-5589.

**Sunday, March 9, 4:00** - Nathan Laube, organist, at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 31 S. Duke Street, Lancaster. Mr. Laube is the artist pupil of Alan Morrison at the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia and assistant for the Wannamaker Grand Court Organ.

**Sunday, March 30 , 4:00** - Mary Preston, organist, Christ Lutheran Church. 29 S. George Street. Mrs. Preston is the principal organist and Lay Family Chair with the Dallas Symphony Orchestra. For more info, call 717-854-5589

## SUBSTITUTE LIST

*This list is published as a courtesy to chapter membership. Substitutes should be compensated according to the current rate available on the AGO national website.*

[www.agohq.org/profession/indexsalary](http://www.agohq.org/profession/indexsalary)

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William Wright	291-4012

## POSITIONS AVAILABLE

**Mt. Zion United Church of Christ** , 1054 Ridgewood Road, York

Looking for a Music Director to lead adult choir programs and plan music for special services. The choirs include the Senior Choir, Jubilation, The Belles and the Saints. Would also provide music direction for the church's Grateful Praise Service. Please respond to the church's personnel committee at [mtzionuccyorkpa@comcast.net](mailto:mtzionuccyorkpa@comcast.net) or mail resume to Mt. Zion UCC, 1054 Ridgewood Road, York, PA 17402

**Zwingli United Church of Christ**, 403 W. King Street, East Berlin

Music position available. For information please contact 717-259-0623.

Two manual Moller pipe organ..

## OFFICIAL YORK CHAPTER EVENTS

**Saturday, February 9, 2008, 9:15 am – 12:30 pm**  
**Advent Lutheran Church, 1775 E. Market Street**  
Workshop by Wayne Leupold

**Sunday, March 30, 2008, 4:00 pm**  
**Christ Lutheran Church, 29 S. George St.**  
Organ Recital - Mary Preston, Dallas Texas



**Saturday, April 19, 2008, 9:00 am – 12:30**  
**York County Heritage Trust, Christ Lutheran Church**  
**Trinity United Church of Christ, Capitol Theatre**  
Pedals, Pipes & Pizza  
Michael Britt, theatre organist

**Sunday, May 18, 2008, 3:00 pm**  
**Episcopal Church of St. John the Baptist, 140 N. Beaver St.**  
Student/Member Recital  
Hunt scholarship competition

## Chapter Members attend January Jumpstart

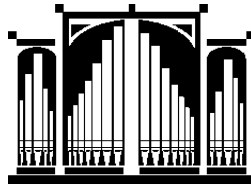
York Chapter members and friends prepare to board the return bus after a workshop for church musicians held at Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church, BrynMawr, PA. The group enjoyed a wonderful day, gathering many new ideas.



Pictured from left to right: Carolyn Smith, Byron Daudelin, Joann Luckenbaugh, Cheryl Huber, Karen Wire, Victor Fields, Rodney Barnett, Roy Wainwright, and Jonathan Noel.

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## GOOD NEWS!



Our chapter has received an additional \$400 from Mt. Zion United Church of Christ from Winnie Walters retirement. This brings our total to over \$1,700! This money will now be earmarked for our “Keys for Kids” program, as described in the Dean’s letter.

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Jesse L. Betlyon, Jr.  
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*— Hans Christian Andersen*

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# ORGEL ZEIT

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## PUBLICATION INFORMATION

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