



**SAN JOSE PIPINGS**  
 SAN JOSE CHAPTER OF THE AGO  
 December 2008      [www.agosanjose.org](http://www.agosanjose.org)



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*Merry Christmas*

**DEAN'S MESSAGE**

*Have you ever felt Useless?*

*We organists are very good at multi tasking. Very good. Almost too good for our own good.*

*We can carry 3 different musical lines using three different sounds on one keyboard.*

*We can watch the music AND the conductor AND change our registration, all in one beat.*

*We can pray and find the next page and scoot back on the bench all without an audible rustle.*

*But, during the holidays we can find ourselves a bit useless. We don't have the time, energy, resources or mental bandwidth to complete every task we see that could be done. On occasion, we forget to keep the most important task at the top of our list.*

*So, as December chugs into high gear, as we edit our to-do list, I encourage you to keep the most important things at the top. Keep looking for what is important. Tell those around you what you value. Do those tasks first. Feel useful.*

*Noel*

*Melanie Cervi, Dean* ♪

**FUTURE CHAPTER PROGRAMS**

**No December Chapter Event**

**JANUARY CHAPTER EVENT:**

**On Sunday, 25 January at 4:00 PM at the West Valley Presbyterian Church, 6191 Bollinger Road, Cupertino.** This event is being organized by **Berdie Bowlsby**. Contact here at (925) 479-0244 or [bowlsby@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bowlsby@sbcglobal.net) for further details and sign up student.

*Andrew Birling, Sub Dean.* ♪

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## CHAPTER NOVEMBER CHORAL EVENT

### With Thanks & Praise

We gathered as a chapter on Sunday, November 9, 2008 at Immanuel Lutheran Church on Moorpark to pause for thanks and praise. It was a glorious afternoon. The building rang with great music, the air was filled with poetry and song, and all were able to participate (even the infant settling in for a nap). A heartfelt thank you goes to **Andrew Birling**. He brought the idea of such a service with him from Minneapolis. He coordinated the music, the readings, the musicians, and a multitude of other details. Thank you Andrew!

Thank you to Immanuel for the use of their wonderful space. It's always a treat to create music in the great acoustics. We were able to comfortably fill the pews with wonderful musicians and listeners. Please thank the parishioners when you see them.

We should soon be able to enjoy the wonderful sermon given by our Chapter Chaplain, **Dr. Lynn Bailey**. He asked the question: "Or did He sing?" and proposed his answer. Please look for his thoughts on our website and take time to read them. We are fortunate to enjoy Pastor Bailey's knowledge and incite.

Please take time now to make a note next September to enter the date for With Thanks & Praise 2009 on your calendars. It will be worth the wait and time spent.

Melanie Cervi 🎵

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## STUDENT RECITAL

### Berdie Bowsby

Coming up is our 5th annual Student Organ Recital. We are looking for organ students to participate of any age – young and old alike. This can also include AGO members. We want to provide a place for organ students to play their pieces that they are working on, and also to encourage one another in the field of organ playing.

This year the recital will take place at **West Valley Presbyterian Church** in Cupertino. The church has a new 3 manual Allen organ. The date is set for **Sunday, January 25, 2009 at 4:00 PM**. The deadline for sign-ups is Dec. 1st. If you have any questions, please contact me. 🎵

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### Board Meeting

The next meeting is Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> January, 2009 at 7:30 PM,  
**Lutheran Church of Our Savior, 5825 Bollinger Road,**

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## OPEN POSITIONS

### Joint Venture Churches. Almaden Valley United Church of Christ and Episcopal Church in Almaden, 6581

Camden Ave. San Jose, 408/268-0243, are seeking an **Organist**. Part-time. Salary \$10-12,000, benefits negotiable. 2 Sunday services, 2 adult choirs (rehearse separate nights). State-of-the-art 3-manual Phoenix digital organ, one Sunday off per month, four weeks per year vacation. Email resume and references to: [music\\_search@jointventurechurches.org](mailto:music_search@jointventurechurches.org) by October 30. See [www.avucc.org/music\\_search](http://www.avucc.org/music_search) or [www.eca-sj.org/music\\_search](http://www.eca-sj.org/music_search).

**First Presbyterian Church, Hayward** is seeking a part-time **organist**. Sanctuary has two Rodgers 3-manual organs, Steinway B Grand Piano and Steinway upright Please email me, [williamgile@msn.com](mailto:williamgile@msn.com), or call, 510-538-0442, cell number 510- 421- 4194, home 510-538- 5632.

**Cambrian Park United Methodist Church** is seeking a **part-time music director** with strong vocal technique and choral conducting skills, who can also play piano and/or guitar and has experience working with church music programs. Leads weekly rehearsal night and Sunday worship, plus extra services during the Christmas and Easter seasons. This person would be a great team planner, co-collaborator and someone who is interested in growing the church's music/ music theater program. BA or MA in music required, plus good interpersonal, communication and leadership skills. No health benefits. Normal paid vacation accrues to four weeks per year. Compensation meets AGO standards. Contact: Pastor Charlotte Bear at [pastorbear@aol.com](mailto:pastorbear@aol.com) 408-341-5438

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## THIS YEAR'S COMING PROGRAMS

**December – No event**

**Sunday 25 Jan 2009 – 4 PM** – Student Recital

**21 or 28 Feb 2009 – 9:30 AM to 2 PM** – Mind, Body and Soul: A Day to Rejuvenate

**Saturday 14 Mar 2009 – 9 AM** –Pizza Pedals & Pipes

**Sunday 17 May 2009 – 4 PM** – Annual Meeting & Installation/Officers' Recital 🎵

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## The Christmas Organ Music of Dr. Franklin Ashdown

On Tuesday, **December 9, 7 PM.**, **James Welch** will present a recital of Advent and Christmas-based organ music by the well-known composer **Franklin Ashdown**. The concert is part of the annual Christmas Creche Exhibit, now in its 21<sup>st</sup> year, at the LDS Church, 3865 Middlefield Rd., Palo Alto. The church has a 2-manual 1981 Schoenstein For more information on the exhibit, see <http://christmascreche.org/>. All events are free.

The composer will be in town for this recital and will also play one of his own compositions. Come meet Dr. Ashdown and enjoy the amazing Christmas Creche display. See the November Newsletter, page 4.

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## New AGO Web Site

NEW YORK CITY — The AGO has launched a new Web page to connect academic institutions offering instruction and degree programs in organ, choral conducting, and sacred music with prospective students, their parents, and guidance and career counselors. See [www.agohq.org/education/schools.html](http://www.agohq.org/education/schools.html).

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### FRASIER ORGAN SCHOLARSHIP 2009

Chapter members: please consider applying for, or encouraging an eligible organ student to apply for, the Frasier Organ Scholarship this year. As a reminder, the scholarship is open to current chapter members and to organ students studying with or sponsored by current members (previous winners are not eligible). The Frasier Organ Scholarship will be awarded on the basis of demonstrated talent and potential, and must be used for specified continuing education in organ studies. The scholarship amount is \$1000.

You can find last year's qualifications/requirements for the scholarship on our website; the 2009 application and hymn list will be posted there by January 2009. [[www.agosanjose.org](http://www.agosanjose.org) -- Under "What's New," click on "Frasier Organ Scholarship"] If you have questions about the scholarship, please contact Valerie Sterk (408-249-5705; [valeriersterk@gmail.com](mailto:valeriersterk@gmail.com)). The **deadline** for sending the application (application form and two recommendations) is **March 20, 2009**; the auditions will be in mid/late April (after Easter); and the winner will be notified by May 1. Please encourage any potential scholarship applicants now!

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## MEMBERS ACTIVATES

### Kay Lee

What can a devious husband, a devious organ teacher, and a devious Chapter Dean do to an unsuspecting wife, student, and chapter member? Well, they surely did surprise and fluster Kay Lee on her October birthday! After a seemingly calm dinner at home, doorbells started ringing. In came Jim Welch, Melanie Cervi, Libby Codd, Pat Milstead, and 4 of our neighbors! Jim played a Happy Birthday Theme & Variations on our Allen organ downstairs. And then we moved upstairs to our "new" 1941 Aeolian-Skinner pipe organ (which was recently installed and hardly anybody knew about). Jim played a mini-concert of 4 pieces by Bach, Galuppi, J. Christopher Pardini, and Widor. Everyone was delighted. Melanie & Libby sampled the organ afterwards. We enjoyed some sweet goodies and had a very fun surprise evening.

### Here's the party announcement:

All chapter members are cordially invited to the home of **Kay & Mitchell Lee** on Sunday, **January 4, 2009**, for a **12th "Night" party**, from **2-5 p.m.** Kay will supply a main entree and hot apple cider. Members may bring side dishes, salads, goodies, or desserts. Bring your organ shoes and music you'd like to play

and share. RSVP to Kay Lee using Kay's information in our chapter directory. Please come and enjoy some after-Christmas festivities!

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## CD of Sacred Vocal Music

Dr. Daniel Harrison, former chapter member, along with his daughter Collen has produced anew CD. This is sacred vocal music with piano accompaniment produced by Mrs. Colleen Harrison Brunson (my daughter) and myself.

Colleen has a Bachelor's Degree in voice and piano from Santa Clara University, and a Master's Degree in voice from Arizona State University.

Along with a couple of arias from Handel's Messiah, there are included a number of traditional sacred songs, and some lesser known, but very beautiful songs.

Perhaps you would like to use these for Christmas presents, or maybe just for your own enjoyment. The music is beautiful.

Please contact me at [musicdoc44@yahoo.com](mailto:musicdoc44@yahoo.com) or at (408) 489-1468. The price is \$15.00

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## Campbell United Methodist Church Christmas Advent Musical Events Musical Feast!

Mark your calendars, and plan to attend any of the following events at CUMC during December. With all of the hustle and bustle going on during the month, an hour or two (or ten!) can be a great way to relax, refocus and re-energize for the "Hectic Holidays."

**Friday, 5 Dec**, 12:30 PM, Advent Organ Recital, **Melanie Cervi**

**Friday, 5 Dec**, 8:00 PM, "Sing Noel", **Ladiesong**, [www.ladiesong.com](http://www.ladiesong.com)

**Sunday, 7 Dec**, 7:30 PM, Holiday Concert, **San Jose State University Choirs**, [www.music.sjsu.edu](http://www.music.sjsu.edu)

**Wednesday, 10 Dec**, 11:00 AM, Music Teachers' Association of California Concert, **James Welch**, [www.mtac.org](http://www.mtac.org)

**Friday, 12 Dec**, 12:30 PM, Advent Organ Recital, **Melody Bast**

**Friday, 12 Dec**, 8:00 PM, Holiday Concert, **Orchard City Community Chorus**

**Saturday, 13 Dec**, 8:00, "An Orthodox Christmas", **Bay Choral Guild**, [www.baychoralguild.org](http://www.baychoralguild.org)

**Sunday, 14 Dec**, 4:30 PM, Tidings of Joy IV, Holiday concert with Choirs, Handbells, Strings and Harp

**Friday, 19 Dec**, 12:30 PM, Advent Organ Recital, **Andrew Birling and Mary Ann Gee**

### Save the Dates, Chapter Events!

**25 Jan, 2009**, 4:00 PM, Student Recital, West Valley Presbyterian Church

**28 Feb 2008**, 9:30 AM. to 2:00 PM, "Mind, Body and Soul: A Day to Rejuvenate", Dealing with Conflict, Healthy Playing, Lunch and Worship CUMC

To Receive this Newsletter by Email, send an Email to [kitalbot@pacbell.net](mailto:kitalbot@pacbell.net). Email Newsletters are in Color.

## Music Calendar

### Locations

**CSMA:** Cathedral of St Mary of the Assumption, 1111 Gough St., San Francisco

**GC:** Grace Cathedral, 1100 California St. San Francisco

\* Chapter Member

### Every Saturday & Sunday

**Organ, 4 PM,** Calif. Palace of the Legion of Honor, Lincoln Park, 34<sup>th</sup> Ave & Clement St., San Francisco

**Grace Cathedral,** 1100 California St. San Francisco

**Dec. 7, 13, 14, 20 & 21, 3 PM.;**

**Dec. 22, 7 PM. – A Cathedral Christmas** – A San Francisco tradition! Celebrate the season with the Choir of Men and Boys with orchestra, featuring their signature performances of sacred masterpieces and yuletide classics. Tickets range from \$15 - \$50, **GC**

**Annual Creche Exhibit, The Church of Jesus Christ of**

**Latter-day Saints,** 3865 Middlefield Rd., Palo Alto **Dec. 6-10, 7 PM. Noon to 9 PM, free**

**Dec 6, 7PM** – Gunn High School Chamber Singers

**Dec 7, 7PM** - The Valparaiso Singers

**Dec 8, 7PM** – Mormon Tabernacle Choir (pre-recorded)

**Dec 9, 7PM** – James Welch Organ Concert (Frank Ashdown Christmas Music), see page 3

**Dec 10, 7PM** –Stanford Institute Choir

**Campbell United Methodists,** 1675 Winchester Boulevard, Campbell, **free**

They have nine events planned from 5 Dec to 19 Dec, see pg. 3.

### November

#### **30 Sunday**

**Messiah Sing-along, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints,** 771 W. Fremont Ave., Sunnyvale **6:30-8:30 PM,** Featuring \***Diane Keller,** organ, **Christopher Koelzer,** piano. Free General seating. Doors open 6:00 PM. Bring a score in you have one. For infor [www.sunnyvalesing.org](http://www.sunnyvalesing.org).

### December

#### **5 Friday**

**Organ Christmas Concert,** Come for a fun and interactive concert where children of ALL ages participate with the organ to "ring"

in the Christmas season, **LDS Chapel, 1655 Kirk Dr. San Jose, 7 PM**

#### **7 Sunday**

**No Recital, CSMA**

**The Valparaiso Singers,** Annual Creche Exhibit, **The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints,** 3865 Middlefield Rd., Palo Alto **4:30 & 7:30 PM, free**

#### **8 Monday**

**A Brass & Organ Christmas** – The Bay Brass and organist Benjamin Bachmann (organ), conducted by Michael Morgan (conductor). Program includes Copland's "Fanfare for the Common Man" and Berlin's "White Christmas" Tickets range from \$15 - \$50, **7 PM, GC**

#### **14 Sunday**

**Vytenis Vasyliunas** (Germany), organ, Peter Warlock Sonata, **CSMA, 3:30 PM**

#### **21 Sunday**

**Christopher Tietze,** organ, **CSMA, 3:30 PM**

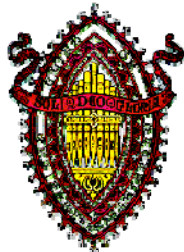
#### **28 Sunday**

**David Hatt,** organ, **CSMA, 3:30 PM**

# American Guild of Organists

## San Jose Chapter

582 Dublin Way, Sunnyvale, CA 94087



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FIRST CLASS