

# *PipeNotes*

**American Guild of Organists – Milwaukee Chapter**

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*The American Guild of Organists  
Milwaukee Chapter*

*Wishes You A  
Blessed Holiday Season*



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inspiration for the soul  
inspiration for the mind

**January Jubilee**  
inspiration for the body

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**January Jubilee 2017**

**Great Lakes Region**

**Fox Valley (IL) and Southwest Suburban Chapters**

Saturday, January 28, 2017 | 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Northern Illinois January Jubilee

Emmanuel Episcopal Church

203 South Kensington Avenue

LaGrange, IL 60525

Director: Karl Bruhn

Email: [karl.bruhn.ago@gmail.com](mailto:karl.bruhn.ago@gmail.com)

[www.foxvalleyago.org](http://www.foxvalleyago.org)

**North Central Region**

**Wichita Chapter**

Saturday, January 28, 2017 | 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church

525 N. Broadway St.

Wichita, KS 67214

Director: Christopher Shaw

Email: [shawcm@gmail.com](mailto:shawcm@gmail.com)

[www.agowichita.org](http://www.agowichita.org)

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[pneditor@agomilwaukee.org](mailto:pneditor@agomilwaukee.org).  
The Deadline is the 20<sup>th</sup> of the preceding month

## STRESS and Relaxation

'Tis the merry month of December and I'm sure the accent is on the first syllable topic title, **stress**. All plans are in serious motion. Octavos in folders, choirs warming up, woodwind reeds soaking and children and brass mouth-pieces are a-buzz. We know the process (been there from a few up to many times); we try to prune the plans for our own energy and time. In our congregations who is willing, available and able? Cantors, ensembles — who will cover the Advent Evenprayer, the carols at a social gathering, the staff Christmas luncheon? Are the accompanists/choral director in place and briefed for all rehearsals? As this comes together the tension piles up. Possible material for an octavo? *My Lord, What a Season . . .*

I	I	I	V
F	—	C	
I	IV	V	I
F	Bb	C	F
V	V	III	vi
C	A	dm	G
I	IV	V	I
F	Bb	C	F

There is a direct parallel with all the music we present. None of it has interest unless there is both tension and relaxation. What would a simple tune be without a V<sup>7</sup> before the tonic chord and the magnetic force of the leading tone? Bland — a baked potato with no salt and pepper, butter, sour cream, cheese, scallions. Okay, okay - enough. Spice in right proportion enhances flavor as that half-step “ti” presses us onward to “do” in music. Spice (good, creative tension) is the zip in life.

Creative tension opens the door for sensitivity to the elements that make music come alive. The question is — how can our minds influence our feelings to interpret this as energy, not panic? The opposite is also a danger. When we become lackadaisical because this is the 20th verse of *Amazing Grace* for the weekend, communicating joy in the resurrection is a tough challenge.

Tension or stress can be energy/interest or panic. Boredom is reflected in dulled response.

Music through the centuries has applied tension like jalapeños, so that resolving on a V<sup>7</sup> has become whimpy. Our tolerance (or appreciation) for dissonance is at ever-expanding highs. It's not likely that we offer many of the challenging pieces to our congregations. On the interpersonal level abrasive challenges appear whether we want them or not. There comes a breaking point when patience is thin and the best-laid plans are on crash-course, both musically and personally.



In the midst of this how do you relax?

What rests your mind, body, spirit?

. . .

So that with peace in your soul

you want to return

This Advent, during your intensive preparation, leave room for God to walk with you . . .

Have a Blessed Christmas,

Sheri

Watch the web-site for information on January's **Cavaille-Coll DVD Series Socials**. Gather for an evening or two—watch these magnificent DVD's; bring something edible to share and reconnect with friends during the doldrums of winter.

## December 2016

4 (Sun) 3:30 A Procession of  
Lessons and Carols for Advent  
The Cathedral Church of All Saints  
818 E. Juneau Ave  
Milwaukee, WI

7 (Wed) 12:15 Pius High School Madrigals  
The Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist  
812 N. Jackson St  
Milwaukee, WI

11 (Sun) 2:00 Karen Beaumont, Organ  
St. John's Lutheran Church  
804 W. Vliet St  
Milwaukee, WI

11 (Sun) 5:15 "Veni Emmanuel"  
Lessons and Carols  
The Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist  
812 N. Jackson St  
Milwaukee, WI

13 (Tues) 7:30 Gail Archer, Organ  
Church of the Gesu  
1145 W. Wisconsin Ave.  
Milwaukee, WI

14 (Wed) 12:15 Steve Joyal, Piano  
The Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist  
812 N. Jackson St  
Milwaukee, WI

17 (Sat) 7:00 An evening of  
Readings and Carols  
The Cathedral Church of All Saints  
818 E. Juneau Ave  
Milwaukee, WI

21 (Wed) 12:15 Gino De Luca, Baritone  
Micha Batcho, Organ  
The Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist  
812 N. Jackson St  
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## *A Note from the Sub-Dean*

With Thanksgiving just past and a blessed Advent upon us we awake to the promise of Emmanuel, “God with us”, salvation come into the world!

With our American Guild of Organists chapter formed and active we look to the opportunity of garnering your thoughts, ideas and talents. You have so much to offer!

Planning has begun for the 2017-2018 program year. Two main themes for performance events have come forward; a fall 2017 Reformation event and a spring 2018 peace/justice/unity event. When you hear these two ideas what comes to mind: performers, venues, art, literature, dance, multi-media? Do these themes inspire you to want to share the excitement with your colleagues, community, friends and family?

When my extended family gathers together for big events, we often all bring our own “special” dishes. There are expectations. It wouldn't be the same without mom's meatballs, aunt Roxie's cheesy potato hashbrown casserole, and grandma's sour cream raisin pie. The first year my new sister-in-law came she brought crock-pot mushrooms. What? Hmmmm - new, delicious, yummy. Thanks for bringing something different! Thanks for not worrying about what you “should” bring or what we might think about your offering. Thanks for creating a new tradition!

We want you to bring your ideas to the table! There is much to share. We all have different backgrounds, traditions and experience to draw from.

So, what do you think? Reformation. Peace/unity/justice. Where could these ideas lead? With your help we hope to produce a program that is beyond our initial thoughts and that can incorporate the perspectives and talents of many.

May these blessed seasons of Advent and Christmas bring you much peace and joy!  
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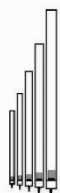
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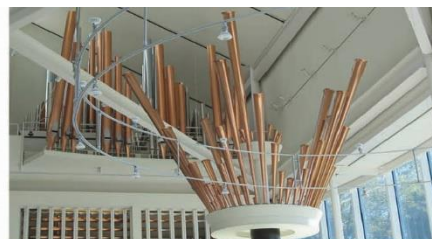
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Feb. 4      Feb. 11  
Feb. 18     Feb. 25

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