

## **A Letter From the Dean**

Dear Members,

It's been great to see so many members at our last two meetings - while the weather could have been better, it also could have been much worse, and we were happy to be able to meet in February twice - once at Hope College, to hear Dr. Huw Lewis give an entertaining and very helpful talk on teaching and learning, and this past Monday evening at 14th Street CRC, to hear Bob Batastini give his postponed talk on New Hymns. I'm sure if you were present at either of these events, you were glad you made the time! Bob showed us all some wonderful examples of new texts, helped make us aware of creative new authors of hymn texts, and hymn tune writers, and shared an optimistic perspective on singing and encouraging the church's song. We also had a good time singing together.

We are meeting again next week, at Second Reformed in Zeeland, to hear Jim Folkert speak with us about easy organ maintenance fixes. We all know Jim to be a faithful member of our chapter who, though he doesn't have formal education in organ building, has taught himself more than most of us know about how organs work, and since I for one am always embarrassed at how little I understand about how the mechanics of the organ function, I'm looking forward to this! So come prepared to learn something you didn't know before.

I'll include below some information about other opportunities coming up in the area in the coming months. Please keep our member's recital on your calendar, and let one of the board members know if you'd be interested in playing.

Stay warm, and best wishes!

Rhonda

## **New Chapter Member**

Please welcome and add to your membership directory:

Micah S. VanderHill

337 West 33rd Street

Holland MI 49423

micahvanderhill@gmail.com

616-403-6247

## **Second Reformed Church Sunday Evening Service Invitation**

The Second Reformed Church of Zeeland invites you to A Service of Scripture, Song, and Prayer for the Lenten Journey; Sunday, March 1, at 5:00 p.m. Guided by several of the epistle readings for Lent, we will sing songs and hymns old and new, and we will pause in prayerful reflection. Choral music will be sung by the Chancel Choir. Community members are invited to join the choir in singing Gilbert Martin's "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross". (A pre-service rehearsal begins at 4:00.) A time of fellowship follows the service in the Gathering Place. Come as you are. All are welcome. Second Reformed Church is located at 225 E. Central Ave., Zeeland, Michigan. If you have questions, please contact [music@srczeeland.org](mailto:music@srczeeland.org) or call the church office: (616) 772-2153.

## **Workshop on working with Aging voices**

On Saturday morning, March 7th, the Grand Rapids Chapter of National Pastoral Musicians (the Catholic church musician organization) is hosting a workshop on working with aging voices. Our presenter is Cal Langejans, director of the very young sounding Evergreen Chorale, comprised of singers over 50! Saturday Morning March 7, 9am – Noon, St. Paul the Apostle, 2750 Burton St., SE., Grand Rapids. For more information and registration details go to: [www.npm-gr.org](http://www.npm-gr.org)

## **Other area organ events**

Monday, March 16, 8pm, Calvin College Chapel -

The Grand Rapids AGO is sponsoring a concert as part of the Grand Rapids Bach Fest. Players from the Grand Rapids Symphony will be playing with four area organists (including Rhonda Edgington) Bach works for organ and orchestra (really, movements from some of the obligato organ cantatas). This is fabulous music that is not often performed!

Sunday, March 22, 3pm, Hope Church -

Rhonda Edgington will be playing her annual spring concert. This year, it will feature music for organ and other instruments, with local musicians collaborating with Rhonda on a diverse repertoire from Baroque to modern. Players are Amanda Dykhouse (violin), Sarah Southard (oboe/ English Horn), Brendan Bohnhorst (tuba), Julie Sooy (flute), and Matt Beck (marimba). One exciting feature of the concert will be the premiere of a suite written by Holland's own Steve Jenkins, for marimba and organ!

Sunday, April 19, 3pm, First Reformed Church (Free @Three series) -

Rhonda will be playing a concert with Greg Bassett, French Horn, resident of Holland and member of the West Michigan Symphony - Original music for Horn and Organ by Naji Hakim, Kerry Turner, and Rachel Laurin.

Our Members recital on April 11 will be at 3pm at Western Theological Seminary.

## **Regional AGO Convention in Indianapolis, July 12- 15, 2015**

A few of us are planning on attending the convention this summer. Regional AGO conventions are a great way to connect with colleagues in the area, hear good concerts, and be motivated by workshops, all within driving distance. If you register by the Early Bird cutoff date of February 28th your convention registration will be a low \$260 for Regular Members and \$245 for Special Members. For more details: [www.ago-racetoindy2015.org](http://www.ago-racetoindy2015.org)

## **Valparaiso, IN POE Scholarship Available**

If any of you have a student who might be interested, the Ann Arbor chapter has a scholarship available to attend. The Ann Arbor Chapter of the American Guild of Organists established a scholarship in 2008 in honor of Emerita Professor Marilyn Mason on the occasion of her 60th year on the faculty of the University of Michigan. Each year a scholarship of \$400 is made available to a young person between the ages of 13 and 18 toward the cost of attending a Pipe Organ Encounter (POE) sponsored by the American Guild of Organists in our region. Held in the summer months, a POE is an introduction for young persons who have had little or no previous experience with the pipe organ. The event includes lessons with renowned teachers, recitals by faculty and participants, workshops and visits to area pipe organs and organ builders. This year the scholarship will be awarded to an attendee of the Pipe Organ Encounter to be held in Valparaiso, Indiana July 5 - 10, 2015. An application for the

Marilyn Mason Young Musician's Scholarship is not an application to attend the POE and does not guarantee acceptance into it. For information about this summer's POE, consult the website of the American Guild of Organists: <http://www.agohq.org/education/poe/poe/> or the Ann Arbor Chapter of the American Guild of Organists: <http://www.annarborago.org>. Applicants for the Marilyn Mason Young Musician's Scholarship may download the Award Guidelines and Application for 2015 at the website of the Ann Arbor Chapter of the American Guild of Organists: [www.AnnArborAGO.org](http://www.AnnArborAGO.org). For more information about the Marilyn Mason Young Musician's Scholarship contact Gale Kramer by telephone 734.769.1466 or by email [gkramer@provide.net](mailto:gkramer@provide.net).

## **Job Opening**

First Presbyterian Church of Kalamazoo is seeking a part-time (20 hours) Director of Music. The Director of Music will coordinate with clergy and staff to schedule the music for weekly worship, seasonal worship and special church events. Primary responsibilities include leadership of the Adult Choir and supervision of other choirs (if not personally directing) through oversight of other directors and the organist.

We are a 670 member congregation with a rich musical heritage fundamental to our worship experience. Our vision is to create a future with a diverse program of arts and music that will further enrich the worship of all in our congregation. We are seeking an experienced and talented individual who will continue to provide the high standard and quality of music fundamental to our spiritual worship together. In addition, we are looking for a leader who is comfortable with the freedom to explore new ideas and options in collaboration with clergy and staff.

Candidates shall have a spiritual understanding of the worship experience and the role of music to unite us in common prayer and to proclaim the Word of God through song. Experience and education should be equivalent to a Masters Degree level. The candidate will have the ability to communicate, organize and work with a wide range of age groups and backgrounds. In collaboration with staff and clergy the Director will provide leadership and ideas to create an exciting future of high quality musical and artistic programming at First Presbyterian Church.

For additional information go to <http://www.kalamazoofirstpres.org>. Applicants should forward their resume to: Music Director Selection Committee, 321 W. South Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49007. The deadline for applications is February 28, 2015.

## **Chapter Officers for 2014-2015**

Dean - Rhonda Edgington  
Sub-Dean - Stephen Jenkins  
Secretary - Judy Koeman  
Treasurer – Gordon Bruns  
Board Member - Julia Collingsworth  
Hope College Student Board Member - Aaron Goodyke  
Webmaster - Rick VanOss  
Newsletter Editor - Paul Dalman  
Hospitality - Mike VanDoornik

Website – [hollandareaago.org](http://hollandareaago.org)

## 2014-2015 Calendar

2014-2015 Calendar		
Mon Mar 2	Jim Folkert - What to do Before the Organ Repair Person Arrives	7:30 p.m., Second Reformed Church, Zeeland
Sun Apr 12	Member's Recital	3:00 p.m., Western Theological Seminary Chapel, Holland
Fri May 15	End of Year Potluck	6:00 p.m., Home of Gordon Bruns