



EN CHAMADE



Winchester Chapter American Guild of Organists

January 2020 Newsletter

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ebentgen@mac.com

Our website:

winchesterago.com

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THE DEAN'S MUSINGS

CELEBRATING A NEW YEAR

A sure way to extend the holiday season is to celebrate the Twelve Days of Christmas. Why have just one day when it can be extended for almost two weeks? (are you cringing at THAT thought?!). For the WAGO, we have traditionally celebrated each other and the passing of the performance endurance test known as *ADMASYEARLY* (for **Ad**vent/**Ch**rist**mas**/**New Year**/Epiphany relatively close to but definitely after January 6.)

For 2021 our ZOOM gathering will **be Friday, January 8 at 7:00 PM for a Nog 'n Nibble Party. Bring a snack and something to sip.** It will be a light-hearted romp through some fun activities:

- Covid Carols or expanding your repertoire during quarantine
- A Virtual WAGO Choir performance of "Carol of the Covid Bells" - text by Wayne Wold
- An original play titled:

*A Legendary Tale of How Three Wise Men
May have Discovered their own Gift of the Great Epiphany*

This one-act play will feature about eight of your colleagues. Its intent is earnest and is in contrast to the first part of the evening's entertainment. The Christmas Story is dramatized from the point of view of the Wise Men. Please plan to come and bring a guest. Copies of words, songs and a play program will be sent to you before the party.

All humor aside, our virtual **Lessons and Carols** to this point has been a **huge success**. We have individual testimonials from people who said the program meant the world to them because they have not been to their church for such a long time. And, many return to listen again. The program will remain on YouTube through January 6. I have emailed both Robyn (WATTS) and Vicki (Winchester Rescue Mission) who have acknowledged significant donations. Please continue to send an invitation to your friends, family, neighbors and church community to get to know the WAGO through this extraordinary audio/visual concert. Go to winchesterago.com.

As we begin a new year, pray that we and all those we love continue to be vigilant in how we take care not to get the Covid-19 virus. These weeks are literally the darkest times. Hold tight to caring for one another. Believe that this too shall pass and find light somewhere in your life. The brilliance of gold shines brighter against a dark night.



With blessings and hope,

Linda



NEW ADDRESS: (Please note in your **WAGO Member Directory**)

Laurie Dieffenbach
229 Farmwood Lane
Berkeley Springs WV 25411



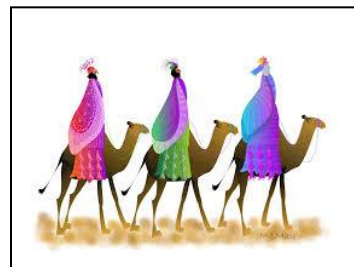
Celebrate Epiphany with the WAGO



Friday Evening

January 8, 2021

at 7:00 PM



Virtual Zoom Link will be sent out the week of the meeting

"Nog and Nibbles"

**- you are invited to bring
your favorite holiday drink and some snacks**

Program will feature:

- **Update** on our **Lessons and Carols Program** for the community
(**share any reactions** from friends and family)
 - **A rollicking rendition of**
"Twas the Night" read by **Dr. Steven Cooksey**
 - **A short play** about some **Wise Men** searching for the **Epiphany**. It features **8** of your colleagues in costume
 - **Covid Carols:** a few original carols by member **Marilyn Shenenberger** (and others); **Group Participation**
 - **Finale:** a virtual choir performance
of **Wayne Wold's "Carol of the Covid Bells"**
performed by members of the **Board and Program Committee**



Please join us and invite friends.





THREE INVITATIONS



From: Jens Korndoerfer <jkorndoerfer@gsu.edu>

Date: 12/4/20 3:34 PM (GMT-05:00)

Subject: **Organ Studies at Georgia State University** - Full Tuition Graduate Assistant Ships Available

Greetings,

We are inviting applications to our thriving organ program at Georgia State University, both for undergraduate and graduate degrees.

Graduate assistant ships in collaboration with local churches provide free tuition, a generous stipend, and first-rate immersion into the day-to-day work of large music ministries.

The comprehensive curriculum prepares students for a career in church and concert and includes classes in organ performance (Jens Korndörfer), service playing and improvisation (Oliver Brett), choral conducting (Deanna Joseph) and harpsichord.

Lessons are taking place on the outstanding tracker and electro-pneumatic action organs at [Peachtree Road United Methodist Church \(Mander, IV/135\)](#) and [First Presbyterian Church of Atlanta \(Klais/Schlueter, IV/112, and Klop, II/14\)](#). Students have regular access to those instruments and other fine organs in other churches in Atlanta.

More information on the program (including audition requirements and dates) can be found at <https://music.gsu.edu/organ-performance-2/>

If you know of anyone who might be interested in applying, I would be happy to hear from them. Please feel free to give the prospective student my email address and/or phone number.

My very best wishes in these difficult times,

Jens Korndörfer, D.Mus.
Artist Affiliate (Organ)
Georgia State University
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ANNOUNCING THE FABIAN SCHOLARSHIPS FOR UNDERGRADUATES

I am thrilled to announce that Mercer will now offer highly qualified undergraduates the **Fabian Scholarships**, *awards that will cover all expenses* (tuition, room & board, etc.) plus provide *additional financial support for summer study abroad*. Mercer also awards numerous other academic and music scholarships. Our undergraduates receive a strong liberal arts education and also have excellent courses in music history, theory, counterpoint, conducting, keyboard skills, service playing, and organ literature. In addition, there are opportunities to study collaborative piano, composition, harpsichord, improvisation, piano, and voice, and to sing in outstanding choirs.

ASSISTANTSHIPS FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS

All graduate students receive *assistantships* and *significant reduction of fees*. Many receive *full tuition remission*. The graduate program is small and gives students *extraordinary* faculty and university resources.

A THRIVING UNIVERSITY

Mercer students receive an outstanding *well-rounded* and *balanced education* at an institution that emphasizes strong academics and values the arts. Organists sing with the *acclaimed Mercer Singers* and also have the opportunity to collaborate with students in the **McDuffie Center for Strings**, one of the most *lauded* string programs in the country.

MORE INFORMATION

Please let me know if you have students who may be interested in Mercer. If you are a prospective student, please contact me directly at mitchener_je@mercer.edu.

Best wishes,

JACK MITCHENER, DMA

Professor of Organ & University Organist
Director, Townsend-McAfee Institute of Church Music
Chair, Keyboard Department
MERCER UNIVERSITY

Organist & Artist-in-Residence,
THE EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL OF ST. PHILIP, ATLANTA

Represented by Phillip Truckenbrod Concert Artists



From: Timothy Olsen <timothy.jon.olsen@gmail.com>

Date: 12/8/20 5:09 PM (GMT-05:00)

To: "Olsen, Timothy" <olsent@uncsa.edu>

Subject: **Piedmont NC AGO/UNCSA HS Organ Competition/Festival**

Dear Colleague,

After much consideration and planning, we have decided to go forward with the **10th Annual High School Organ Festival & Competition** co-sponsored by the Piedmont NC AGO Chapter and UNC School of the Arts in Winston-Salem, NC.

I would be grateful if you would please share the announcement below with your members through email, newsletters, social media posts, etc., and particularly with any high school students and their teachers. I will also be posting multiple times about this on social media, and am happy to share that with your chapter if you have a social media site. I encourage members to share this information on their personal pages if they feel comfortable doing so.

My sincerest thanks for sharing this, and all best wishes for the upcoming holidays.

Timothy Olsen
Kenan Professor of Organ
University of North Carolina School of the Arts
Associate Professor of Organ, Salem College
Cantor, Augsburg Lutheran Church
Winston-Salem, NC

Announcement:

The **10th Annual High School Organ Festival & Competition**, co-sponsored by the Piedmont NC AGO Chapter and UNC School of the Arts in Winston-Salem, NC, will take place February 5-7, 2021. The Competition is open to organ students who are high school seniors or younger, and who have not previously won first prize in this competition.

Applications, recordings, and entry fees are due by January 6, 2021. The entry form is online this year, and all pertinent information about entering can be found at www.timothyolsenorganist.com/hs-competition.html

We have put safety protocols into place based on input from medical and scientific personnel that have provided safety this fall both at UNCSA and at Augsburg Lutheran Church (where the competition will be held). We are confident these measures will continue to keep people safe. The safety protocols include mandatory mask-wearing, hand washing immediately prior to playing, hand sanitizer immediately after playing, and social distancing.

Any specific questions may be directed to Timothy Olsen: olsent@uncsa.edu.

We look forward to meeting and hearing your talented high school students!



E-pi-pha-ny, n. (Oxford Dictionary)

- The manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles as represented by the Magi (Matthew 2:1–12).
'The story of Epiphany is related by the first three Evangelists: Matthew, Mark and Luke.'
- *'The account of the magi is celebrated as an epiphany of our Lord.'*

2. 1.1 The festival commemorating the Epiphany of our Lord on January 6.

'For Epiphany on January 6, a large round pastry is baked with a bean hidden in it.'

More example sentences

- *'The Christmas season in France comes to an end on Epiphany when we commemorate the coming of the three kings to Bethlehem.'*
- *'In Izalco, the period between Christmas and the Feast of the Epiphany is celebrated with nightly processions and Jeu Jeu, an Amerindian rain dance.'*
- *'The nativity scene remains in its place until January 6, the Epiphany (the twelfth night after Christmas).'*
- *'Tomorrow is a Holy Day, The Feast of the Epiphany when there will be Masses at 11 am and 7.30 pm.'*
- *'Catholics honor Three Kings Day on January 6, the feast of the Epiphany.'*
- *'On January the 6th they have another special celebration called the Epiphany.'*
- *'The Greater Blessing of Water is performed on the Feast of the Epiphany (in the Julian calendar, January 19).'*

- *'The Church celebrates 6 January as Epiphany, the day on which the Christ child was shown to the three Kings.'*
- *'The twelfth day of Christmas, 6 January, Epiphany day, is the day that Christians believe that the three wise men presented their gifts to the newborn Christ.'*
- *'We Christians need Epiphany to complete our Christmas lesson.'*
- *'The pope, who personally administers each of the church's seven sacraments during the course of each year, makes a practice of consecrating bishops on Epiphany.'*
- *'Christians will be praying around the world during both Advent and Epiphany.'*
- *'In the past, the Roman Catholic Church required numerous fasts, including all Sundays during Lent, Easter week, and all Fridays except from Christmas to Epiphany and from Easter to Ascension.'*
- *'On Epiphany morning, the Lutheran-Episcopal full communion will be rendered official and celebrated at Washington's National Cathedral.'*
- *'It's an important date in the Catholic calendar, the Feast of the Epiphany, the day for celebrating the meeting between Christ and the Magi.'*
- *'Tomorrow's feast of the Epiphany, or Little Christmas, is still a huge, well-celebrated event from Berlin to Barcelona.'*
- *'The Church defines Christmas as the twelve days from Christmas Day until the eve of Epiphany.'*
- *'An indispensable part of any sermon on this Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany is the preacher's passing on the experiences of Christ's death and resurrection that this assembly has received.'*

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- *'The journey from Epiphany to Lent brings us from the brightness of our dawning to the bleakness of our sinfulness.'*

3. 1.2A [manifestation](#) of a divine or supernatural being.

'The owl is a symbol: an epiphany of Athena (goddess of wisdom).'

More example sentences

- *'The phrase "Pillar of Fire" alludes to Exodus 13:21, which describes an epiphany of Jehovah leading the nation of Israel to freedom from Egyptian bondage.'*
- *'A priestess of Artemis turned away an enemy attack with the help of an epiphany of the goddess herself.'*
- *'The Gita describes the epiphany of Vishnu as brighter than a thousand suns.'*

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- *'This encounter with God in the form of a Child is an epiphany of God's goodness and loving kindness for humanity.'*

4. 1.3A [moment of sudden revelation](#) or insight.

'Then, as if we all have an epiphany at the same moment, we simultaneously yell out.'

More example sentences

- *'But I have to believe my epiphany was the decisive moment in my adult life.'*
- *'In a sudden epiphany, he had remembered that he still had Krillir's guns, silver weapons with eagles engraved on the handles.'*
- *'Almost everyone in recovery has a story of an epiphany, the moment they knew they needed to stop using.'*
- *'I had a sudden epiphany, and slipped my hands nonchalantly into my pockets.'*
- *'Then Walker stopped for a second, and in that instant, it was as if he experienced a moment of epiphany.'*
- *'There are small epiphanies to be had, sudden revelations of the true nature of our place on the wheel of things.'*

- *'As the park keeper loomed towards me to say, with a note of pity, that he was going to have to lock up in a minute, I had a moment of epiphany: things did not have to be like this.'*
 - *'It was a moment of epiphany in the magic midsummer twilight.'*
 - *'Tom was staring at Simon and had a moment of epiphany.'*
 - *'Growing up on a farm, Greco never saw live dance until he was in his teens, although he recalls a moment of epiphany at the age of six when he knew he wanted to dance.'*
 - *'Interspersed between such piercing points of pain and disappointment are moments of epiphany.'*
 - *'Then one day I had an epiphany and realized that you can go around in a bad mood all of the time, but it won't do any good.'*
 - *"Students are experiencing lots of epiphanies during this process," he continued.'*
 - *'My grandmother's death was like an epiphany for me.'*
 - *'A little epiphany happened to me while riding home in the rain tonight.'*
 - *'He speaks with the zeal of someone who has undergone a political epiphany.'*
 - *'I think I expected all of us to be hit by a bombardment of epiphanies that would forever change our perspective on things.'*
 - *'And then you experience some form of traumatic epiphany, and change all those opinions.'*
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- *'There is a crisis and a tragedy, enlightenment and epiphany.'*

Origin

Middle English from Greek *epiphainein* 'reveal'. The sense relating to the Christian festival is via Old French *epiphanie* and ecclesiastical Latin *epiphania*.



Here is a Christmas offering from member Terry Sisk. It is a lovely carol by David Hurd. David came to do a workshop with our chapter in November 2019. The hymn is also in the Episcopal Hymnal. -Linda Beville

My dear colleagues:

As musicians, Christmas 2020 is like no other in our lifetimes. Tens of thousands of choirs, solo voices, organs and other instruments silenced. Social interactions among music makers put on indefinite hold. I have sorely missed everyone with whom I have had the privilege to share music during the past 6+ years at Leesburg Presbyterian Church.

While this situation is indeed sad, we have memories of past Christmas performances to nourish our souls. For starters, there is the extraordinary carol in *Glory to God*, our Presbyterian hymnal: ***A Stable Lamp Is Lighted***. We sang this as an anthem on December 14, 2014, our first Christmas concert together. Seems like yesterday.

The text is extraordinary (Richard Wilbur was still alive at the time), and the music was composed by David Hurd specifically for these words. Click on the blue YouTube link when you can spare 6 minutes to reflect in peace and joy, and let us hold each other in our hearts and prayers this Christmas season.

Terry Sisk

A Stable Lamp Is Lighted / Music: David Hurd (b. 1950)
Text: Richard Wilbur, Poet Laureate (1921-2017)

The Georgia Boy Choir / Peachtree UMC, Atlanta
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w6Z25glv5ow>

A stable lamp is lighted whose glow shall wake the sky;
The stars shall bend their voices, and every stone shall cry.
And every stone shall cry, and straw like gold shall shine;
A barn shall harbor heaven, a stall become a shrine.

This child through David's city shall ride in triumph by;
The palm shall strew its branches, and every stone shall cry.
And every stone shall cry; though heavy, dull, and dumb,
And lie within the roadway to pave his kingdom come.

Yet he shall be forsaken, and yielded up to die;
The sky shall groan and darken, and every stone shall cry.
And every stone shall cry, for stony hearts of men:
God's blood upon the spearhead, God's love refused again.

But now, as at the ending, the low is lifted high;
The stars shall bend their voices, and every stone shall cry.
And every stone shall cry, In praises of the Child
By whose descent among us the worlds are reconciled.



You knew what they were doing on Christmas Eve, but.....

Angels.....AS EXPLAINED BY CHILDREN....

I only know the names of two angels, Hark and Harold. -Gregory, age 5

Everybody's got it all wrong. Angels don't wear halos anymore. I forget why, but scientists are working on it. --
-Olive, age 9

It's not easy to become an angel! First, you die. Then you go to Heaven, and then there's still the flight training to go through. And then you got to agree to wear those angel clothes.
-Matthew, age 9

Angels work for God and watch over kids when God has to go do something else.
-Mitchell, age 7

My guardian angel helps me with math, but he's not much good for science. -Henry, age 8

Angels don't eat, but they drink milk from Holy Cows!!! -Jack, age 6

Angels talk all the way while they're flying you up to heaven. The main subject is where you went wrong before you got dead. -Daniel, age 9

When an angel gets mad, he takes a deep breath and counts to ten. And when he lets out his breath again, somewhere there's a tornado. -Reagan, age 10

Angels have a lot to do and they keep very busy. If you lose a tooth, an angel comes in through your window and leaves money under your pillow. Then when it gets cold, angels go south for the winter. -Sara, age 6

Angels live in cloud houses made by God and his Son, who's a very good carpenter.
-Jared, age 8

All angels are girls because they gotta wear dresses and boys didn't go for it. -Antonio, age 9

My angel is my grandma who died last year. She got a big head start on helping me while she was still down here on earth. -Ashley, age 9

Some of the angels are in charge of helping heal sick animals and pets. And if they don't make the animals get better, they help the child get over it. -Vicki , age 8

What I don't get about angels is why, when someone is in love, they shoot arrows at them. -Sarah, age 7

