

# Crescendo

## Take



Volume 58 Issue 6

January 2007

### "The Word from On High."

To be honest, as I write this I am in the midst of late Advent and Christmas preparations for my church and am sending and receiving very pleasant and nostalgic Christmas cards and letters. I have not even put up the tree yet! It is not easy to keep in mind that when you read this Christmas will be past and Epiphany will be upon us all. I hope you have had the happiest of holiday seasons and are now inspired to get to work on AGO projects, especially the Regional Convention next summer, and are enthusiastic about Lenten and Easter plans at your place of worship.

A few times each year our hard-working and outstanding AGO Executive Director, James Thomashower, sends all 320 Chapter Deans a letter to keep us up to date on AGO activities and interests at the national level. His December letter arrived today and is chock full of information that will be of interest to you, too. So I want to present you a summary of his letter to let you know that National is not just a great office in the sky in New York, but rather a well-oiled, hard-working and imaginative group of musicians and administrators who have your best interests at heart and will do almost anything they can to promote the cause of the organ in the United States and around the world. Here are some examples for you to consider, maybe even take action on:

1. A new *AGO Directory of Officials* lists all of the national and regional officers as well as chapter Deans and important dates such as those for the 2007 POE's and upcoming Regional Conventions. A copy was sent to me, but you can download the Directory at [www.agohq.org](http://www.agohq.org). From the home page find Official Guild Documents>Downloadable Docs>Directory of Officials.

2. Each One-Reach One was a big success last year and will continue. This is the campaign to increase membership in every chapter. Last year we experienced a 23% increase for the Dallas Chapter.

3. An impressive new brochure, *What the Clergy Should Know About the AGO*, has been published and is available free of charge. If you want one or more copies, let me know and I will order them for the chapter.

4. There is a new task force for the Promotion of the Organ. They are starting a worldwide effort called **Organ Spectacular!** for 2008-09. Every chapter will be encouraged to plan an event for **October 20, 2008**.

5. **The National Conference on Pedagogy**, with the theme: "Nach Bach: from the Master to Mendelssohn: will be held February 14-17, 2007 at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. You can register online at [www.ce.utk.edu/ago](http://www.ce.utk.edu/ago). Reduced early bird fees apply through January 12<sup>th</sup>.

6. The task force on academic programs is now surveying universities and colleges offering degrees in organ and/or church music.

7. In 2008, based on the wonderful success of past POE's, several **Advanced POE** offerings will be made. These will be for youth aged 13-18 who have progressed beyond the curriculum of the initial POE's.

8. There will be a very modest dues increase (\$2 per membership) in 2007-08.

9. Try to think of ways to support our Region VII convention in Dallas. Volunteer your time to Diane Penney; sponsor a meal or event; send in your own registration early. These will help your chapter now and in the months ahead.

Very best wishes to you for an exciting, inspiring and productive 2007! You are a vital part of the Dallas Chapter of AGO and we appreciate your support.

**Ken Hart, Dean**

# AGO. . .at a glance

**Monday**      **January 22nd**

**Dr. Christopher Anderson**

*Newly appointed professor  
Of Sacred Music  
Perkins School of Theology*

**Reger and the Straube School of Leipzig**

**Perkins Chapel**



*Dinner and social time at  
Highland Park United Methodist Church  
in the Grand Hall*

*3300 Mockingbird Lane—Dallas, TX*

**NEW !**

6:30 social time

7:00 dinner

8:00 program

*E-Mail your reservations*

**Reservation** deadline by Thurs  
1/18/07 will be taken via e-mail or  
phone by Grady Coyle:

[gradyc@northridgepc.org](mailto:gradyc@northridgepc.org)

**214-827-5521 x105**

Indicate the number of dinners you  
wish to reserve. Please include  
names of those attending.

**Highland Park  
United Methodist Church**

**\$15.00 for dinner  
Monday, Jan 22nd**

Beef Stroganoff  
garden salad  
Peas  
Bread

Apple Cobbler  
coffee or tea

*Vegetarian meals may be requested  
catered by S&S Catering*

**Saturday**      **February 17, 2007**

**Spring Valley United Methodist Church**  
7700 Spring Valley Road, Dallas

**Applying Piano Wellness to the Organ**

**Sheila Paige & Bradley Welch**

8:30-9:00am      Registration and Refreshments

9:00-11:00am      Workshop (*note time change from yearbook*)

*more info in the*

**February Crescendo**  
*including an*

**11:00 mini-recital**

**Sheila Paige**, founder of the Piano Wellness Seminar, and **Bradley Welch** will introduce techniques for wellness at the organ. Part I of the workshop will be an informative talk and demonstration, introducing wellness through awareness of the human anatomy, the laws of motion, posture, and other areas. Part II will be a "hands on" session where participants will have the opportunity to bring technical challenges to the organ for Sheila and Bradley to address. Questions relating to fatigue and discomfort are welcome.

If you wish to participate in the "hands on" session, please contact Michael Shake by February 1st:

[michael.shake@hppc.org](mailto:michael.shake@hppc.org) or 214-526-1766 x1229

**Febr 17th**

*Applying Piano  
Wellness to the  
Organ*

**Sheila Paige**

**Spring Valley  
United Methodist**  
7700 Spring Valley  
Dallas, TX 75254

8:30 am registration  
9:00—11:00 am  
Workshop

**Recital following**

**March 12th**

**Ann Elise  
Smoot**

in recital at  
**Zion Lutheran  
Church**

6:30 Social  
7:00 Dinner  
8:00 Concert

**Robert T  
Anderson**  
Recital series

**April 23rd**

By audition:  
**Rising Stars  
Concert**

Organ students  
sponsored by the  
Dallas chapter

**First United  
Methodist  
Richardson**

6:30 social time  
7:00 dinner  
8:00 program

**May 21st**

**Sal Soria**

in recital at

**Highland Park  
Presbyterian**

6:30 Social  
7:00 Dinner  
8:00 Concert

**Robert T  
Anderson**  
Recital series

**June 2nd**

**End-of-year  
Luncheon**

**Regional  
Convention**  
Volunteer Training  
**Wilshire  
Baptist Church**  
10:00 AM—1:00 PM

**Help out the  
Regional 2007  
convention**

# 2007 Regional Convention

## Region VII in 2007

### More From Exhibits; Program Book; and the Coordinator

Like all AGO conventions, the 2007 Regional will offer convention registrants a chance to browse among exhibits provided by music industry vendors. Print music publishers and instrument builders will showcase products and services to the musicians in attendance.

A twenty-first floor room with a spectacular view of Dallas will house the Exhibits area high atop the Doubletree Hotel at Campbell Center. One exhibitor, David Schaap, president of Selah Publishing, will also conduct a reading session in the room that served as J. R. Ewing's office in the television series "Dallas".

Another exhibitor, Steinway Hall of Dallas, has agreed to provide a studio piano for the Selah reading session and a grand piano for the closing banquet with entertainment by the zany Pat Crenshaw. Seating is limited for the closing banquet, so be sure to save your spot by registering BEFORE March 31, 2007. Doing so will get you the LOWEST rate possible as a Dallas Chapter member.

The convention will also provide the perfect opportunity to make some extra room in our libraries for those new pieces we will want to purchase and learn after June. Most of us have organ music that for whatever reason is not, and will not become part of our repertoire. Those same pieces may be a treasure to be played by someone else. Borrowing a successful idea from the Tulsa AGO Chapter, the Steering Committee is asking the Dallas Chapter to be one of the conventions vendors. To do this, we need your contribution of "previously owned" organ music which exhibit shoppers may obtain for a donation. Clean out those closets and filing cabinets and help.

### ORGAN INSTRUCTORS!!

One of the most exciting events in any AGO convention is the competition for young organists. It will be the first event in the Regional Convention our Dallas Chapter is hosting next June. The finalists are selected through local competitions held by the various chapters in our region. Organists under the age of 23 (as of Aug. 1, 2007) are eligible. Those wishing to compete must apply to our Chapter Competition Coordinator before January 16, 2007. The date for our local competition will be sometime between Feb. 14 and April 12.

If you have organ students that might be interested in this competition, now is the time to start encouraging them to enter our chapter competition and focusing their attention on the required repertoire. Check out the **National AGO website** <http://www.agohq.org/home.html>

Also, in lieu of providing 2007 convention tote bags, the Steering Committee is asking all attendees to bring and use a favorite bag from a previous convention. Some conventioners will be awarded prizes based on the location and year shown on their bag (so, **Bring Your Own Bag**). If you have multiple bags from previous conventions, consider donating your extras so that registrants arriving without a tote may have one.

Members of the Exhibits Committee will be available at each of the 2007 chapter meetings to collect your contributions of music and convention bags. Don't put this off any longer....we need your donations beginning THIS MONTH!

The layout and design of the Convention Program Book is in the creative hands of Jonathan Maedche. He has begun the huge task of entering organ specifications for each venue we visit. We are trying out some new "ideas" and hope that it will be a very user-friendly book as well as a "keepsake" from the convention. We need the Chapter's help with advertising. Please go to [www.dallasago.org](http://www.dallasago.org) and click on Convention Details. Once you click on Advertising, Chris Brunt has provided you with all you need to know to advertise in the Program Book. The deadline is fast approaching so call Chris at 214-523-2254 and let him know that you want to support the Convention in this way.

The Steering Committee has laid the groundwork and it's now up to YOU to begin to get excited about helping make this convention a success. You can register, you can advertise, you can volunteer, and you can help promote it to your friends in Region VII and around the country. Do it TODAY!

**Lee Corbin,  
Chris Brunt, &  
David Stinson**

For more information:  
[www.dallasago.org](http://www.dallasago.org)



**AGO**  
Dallas Chapter  
American Guild of Organists

# Noteworthy

**Professional exams:** Did you know that the Service Playing Certificate is the only exam that can be taken any-time between October 1 and April 30? It doesn't have a set date. All you need to do is contact the local chapter coordinator and register with National.

## Question of the Month:

Following the completion of his Symphony No. 9 in 1824, Beethoven spent the remaining two and a half years of his life composing in what medium?

## Austin Organ for sale:

Four manuals, 113 ranks; built in 1973. The cost is \$100,000, and the Buyer will be responsible for the cost of removing the instrument. Please contact **David Davidson** at Highland Park United Methodist Church: [davidsond@hpumc.org](mailto:davidsond@hpumc.org) or (214) 523-2252.

Special congratulations to **Bradley H. Welch** on his successful completion of all final requirements for the *Doctor of Musical Arts* degree at *Yale University*. By all reports, his final organ recital at Woolsey Hall was spectacular. Congratulations Dr. Welch!

## Concert and Event Calendar in the works

Sheryl Sebo would like to encourage you to send your concert listings to [ssebo@verizon.net](mailto:ssebo@verizon.net), with the following concise information (no artwork or graphics, please). The goal is to provide a quick glance in the Crescendo, sorted in date order.

**Please send by the 15th of each month and include:**

- Performing group or title
- Location/address (Mapsco grid is helpful)
- Day, Date, and Time
- Titles of main works being performed
- Admission cost
- Parking cost

The first CD recorded by Dallas' own

## Bradley Welch

is now available! It is the premier recording of the largest organ in the state of Texas—the organ at Broadway Baptist Church in Ft Worth. Works by Cook, Drischner, Haan, Dupre, Bach, Swann, Guilmant, and Debussy.

Please E-mail Bradley at [welchb@hpumc.org](mailto:welchb@hpumc.org) or drop by his HPUMC office (318), or call 214-523-2253 to pick up/reserve your copy

**\$18.00**

**Can you or your organization help underwrite a workshop at our**

## Region VII Convention

please contact  
**Chris Brunt at 214-523-2254**

## FOR SALE

### Baldwin 520 Organ

2 manual - 61 keys each

32 note pedal board, pedal stops  
swell pedal, transposer, chimes and pistons

contact: Ray Pringle 214 331-6395

## download free organ and choral works completely free of charge

I maintain a web site where many of my works are visible, and some are audible, and that are there to download and reproduce free of any charge or commitment of any kind. I give my music away. Sounds crazy, but it's true.

I majored in composition at Carnegie Mellon University. Now retired from teaching, I'm happy to share my works with other church musicians. Please visit my web site at: [www.rfarrell.net/free](http://www.rfarrell.net/free) and see for yourself. Thanks for taking the time to peruse my site.

**Blessings, Robert Farrell**

**OOPS!! I forgot, and evidently YOU DID TOO . . .**

## Your participation is needed.

To date, only thirty chapter members have completed the salary survey. As Dean Hart mentioned in the October Crescendo, "the survey will only be effective if the vast majority of you reply, so that we get a true cross-section of situations and conditions of employment among chapter members."

**PLEASE** take a few minutes to complete this valuable tool. You will find the survey attached to the Crescendo.

# Noteworthy

## The Sound of Music: A Treasury of Song On the Mighty Wurlitzer

**Benjamin A Kolodziej, Organist**  
Sunday, 11 February, 2007 6.30pm

Come experience the wonder of the moving picture palace through the sound of the Roaring '20s from the 80-year-old Mighty Wurlitzer theatre organ installed in the Courtroom Theatre at the McKinney Performing Arts Center. Recalling the era in which the organist colorfully accompanied silent films, organist Benjamin Kolodziej will be joined by musical guests exploring music most appropriate to this dramatic instrument. From patriotic favorites to sublime American spirituals to showtune hits, the program will bring alive this music on the only theatre organ in public use in north Texas in the historic McKinney courthouse.

Tickets are \$16 for adults, \$6 for children  
Proceeds benefit the organ fund of  
**Lord of Life Lutheran Church, Plano**

Tickets may be purchased at the door or  
in advance by contacting  
Lord of Life church office  
(972.867.5588)

or by emailing [tickets@lol-plano.org](mailto:tickets@lol-plano.org)

[www.lol-plano.org](http://www.lol-plano.org) for more information.

Friday February 16, 2007 7:30pm  
**Episcopal Church of the Incarnation**  
3966 McKinney Ave — Dallas  
Keith Franks presents:  
**"An Organist's Buffet  
with Love Themes for St. Valentine"**

Church of the Incarnation's Assistant Organist, Keith Franks serves a musical buffet of Bach/Dupre, Mendelssohn, and Franck. Members of the Chancel Choir will perform romantic favorites from the Golden Age of Hollywood and the opera for an evening of musical merrymaking.

### Admission:

Donations to benefit the choir's summer 2007 Music Ministry tour to Westminster Abbey, London and St. Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh.

**The Cathedral Organ:  
Voicing Faith, Inspiring a City**  
*A Celebratory Event Announcing  
the Cathedral Organ Project*

**Cathedral Shrine of the Virgin of Guadalupe**

Friday & Saturday, January 12 & 13, 2007

Free & Open to the Public

The Cathedral Shrine of the Virgin of Guadalupe invites you to attend **The Cathedral Organ: Voicing Faith, Inspiring a City, A Celebratory Event Announcing the Cathedral Organ Project**, January 12 & 13, 2007. This weekend event will begin with an address at 8:00 p.m. on Friday by Fr. Michael G. Ryan, Rector of St. James Cathedral, Seattle, followed by a concert in the Cathedral. Saturday morning's sessions will begin at 8:30 a.m. with Fr. Ryan, Craig Cramer, professor of organ at the University of Notre Dame, Kevin Vogt, Director of St. Cecilia Schola Cantorum, Omaha, as well as Michie Akin, Charles S. Brown, David Dahl, Susan Ferré, and Charlotte Kroeker, culminating in a presentation at 11:00 a.m. by Paul Fritts of Paul Fritts & Co. Organ Builders.

For further information regarding this free event, contact  
Brian Bentley, Director of Music Ministry  
214.871.1362 ext. 61

**Answer:** String quartets

## Positions Available

### MUSIC ASSOCIATE

#### Lake Highlands United Methodist Church

9015 Plano Road  
Dallas, TX 75238  
[www.lhumc.com](http://www.lhumc.com)

The Music Ministry at Lake Highlands United Methodist Church is seeking a part-time Music Associate who is an excellent accompanist (accompanying degree preferred) and would be an addition to the children's music ministry (such as certified Orff instructor or experienced children's choir director).

Proficiency in Word and Publisher preferred.

The ideal Music Associate will be passionate about excellence and an enthusiastic part of a growing music ministry. Please send a resume to Rev. John Thornton, Senior Pastor, Lake Highlands United Methodist Church, at P.O. Box 551389, Dallas, TX 75335-1389. A detailed job description is available upon request. Contact Nicki Lyford at [nlford@lhumc.com](mailto:nlford@lhumc.com).

# Positions Available

## Organist

### First United Methodist Church

Corsicana, TX

The Organist will rehearse with the Chancel Choir each Wednesday evening at 7:00 p.m. and play for both services on Sunday at 8:30 & 10:50 a.m. Other responsibilities would be for the rehearsals and services of both Cantatas. The Organist would play for funerals and weddings at First UMC, when available. Our Schudi organ is presently undergoing a major upgrade at a cost of \$180,000, and the completion date is in October. Until that time, we are utilizing our piano in morning worship. The salary for this part-time position would be in the \$12,000-15,000 range. Interested applicants can contact Rev. Mike Alexander, Senior Pastor, at (903)874-5656 or at [mikea@fumccorsicana.org](mailto:mikea@fumccorsicana.org) for more information.

## Part-time Organist

### First Presbyterian Church (USA)

Denton, TX

Responsibilities include providing service music for one Sunday morning service (11:00 am) and accompanying the choir at this service and at one Wednesday evening rehearsal (7:30 pm). Compensation is currently budgeted at \$669.50/month. The organ is a two-manual Schudi tracker (opus 27, installed in 1984.). The church has a tradition of musical excellence. Please send materials to: Organ Search Committee, First Presbyterian Church, 1114 West University Drive, Denton, TX 76201. For a complete job description or other information, please contact Music Director Dr. Jeffrey Snider at (940) 206-2468 or e-mail [snide76258@yahoo.com](mailto:snide76258@yahoo.com). Review of materials will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled.

## Organist

### First United Methodist Church of Mansfield, TX

777 N. Walnut Creek Dr.

Mansfield, TX 76063

4600 member congregation is searching for a dynamic individual with a diverse repertoire of organ music and one who is comfortable with a variety of worship styles. Our new three manual Allen Q345 boasts 58 stops that utilize 561 pipes. The primary duties and responsibilities of this part-time position will be to enhance worship by providing weekly service music at our 8:15 and 11:00 morning services, accompany Wednesday evening rehearsal at 7:00, provide ensemble support, and aid/assist with any special liturgical services.

Documented musical training and experience required, college degree in music/organ preferred. Organ candidates selected for an interview will be

asked to sight-read, provide an example of their improvisatory skills, present pieces representative of their abilities in various styles, and participate in an evening rehearsal with the chancel choir.

A job description will be provided upon request. Salary is negotiable depending on the candidate's experience and abilities. All interested musicians will please provide a current resume with a recording that demonstrates repertoire in various styles to:

Dr. Scott Ferrell, Director of Worship Arts Ministry at the above address, or [scottf@fumcmansfield.org](mailto:scottf@fumcmansfield.org)

## Music Director

### Organist/Pianist

University United Methodist Church

3405 Taft Blvd.

Wichita Falls, TX 76308

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

Both part time positions are 10 hours/week minimum, but may be combined. UUMC has a blended service Sunday mornings with a 30 member choir and a praise service Sunday evenings. Our handbell choir plays once a month, with major concerts at Christmas and in the spring. Our children's choir is recently resurrected and performs 2-4 times per year.

Documented musical training and prior experience required, college degree in music preferred. Organ candidates selected for an interview/audition will be expected to sight-read during audition. Music Director candidates selected for an interview/audition will be expected to conduct our choir at that time.

Submit a resume including salary expectations and references to: SPR Committee at the above address or at [support@uumcwf.org](mailto:support@uumcwf.org).

## Church Organist/Music Coordinator

### First Presbyterian Church

Lancaster, TX 75146

Individual to plan the music program of the congregation and provide appropriate organ music for services of worship. Beginning compensation: \$10,600 (\$200 for weekly and special services with 2 sick days and 2 vacation days per year). A full job desc is available at [www.fpclancaster.org/news.htm](http://www.fpclancaster.org/news.htm).

Please send resumes to: Karyn Haas · First Presbyterian Church · PO Box 306 · Lancaster, TX 75146

## Part Time Organist/Pianist

### First United Methodist Church

201 S. Dallas Avenue

Lancaster, TX

Seeking a part-time organist/pianist for one Sunday service and a Wednesday night rehearsal. Please call Rev. Sara Hardaway to inquire at 972/227-1554 or 972/227-2280.

# AGO Nominations:

Dean: Sheryl Sebo  
Sub Dean: Chris Anderson  
Secretary: Christina Harmon  
Treasurer: Dale Harris  
Membership Secretary: Phyllis Beck  
Historian: Klair Kissel  
Parliamentarian: Ken Hart  
Auditor: Bob Sipe {Cliff Varnon is still a member}  
Returning Members at Large:

Kathryn Johnson,  
Donald Rotermund,  
Susan Sipe,  
Richard Haigh,  
Jane Schmidt-Ahsan,  
Bonnie Noack

proposed Members at Large:  
(vote for 3)

Wesley Beal,  
Margaret Gumma,  
Nicki Lyford,  
Damin Spritzer,  
Greg Wesner,  
Jesse Eschabach

You will find here the nominees that will stand for elections for next month. Additional nominations may be made by getting the person's permission and then sending a petition with the signatures of at least 5 AGO Chapter members to the Chapter Secretary (Greg Wright). The petition must be received prior to February 1st.

Voting will take place in February.

# Crescendo

**Dallas Chapter American Guild of Organists**

P.O. Box 12814  
Dallas, TX 75225

**ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED**

**Crescendo** is a monthly publication of the Dallas Chapter of the American Guild of Organists, published August—June and also online at the chapter's web site:

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

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