



## From the Dean

by Gerald Holbrook

**C**ongratulations to First Presbyterian Church and Director of Music, Murray Foreman, on their new Reuter. I hope all of you get to hear David Higgs work his magic with it at the dedicatory recital. If not, you will have another opportunity in the spring when we have a members recital (organ with instruments) there.

Kudos to George Ritchie, Mary Murrell and Quentin Faulkner for their fascinating presentation of the Summer Organ Conference in Germany!

While it may seem early to mention this, I want to call your attention to the region VI Convention in June. This year it will take place in St. Joseph, Missouri, June 15-18. As time has a way of passing quicker than we realize, these dates will be here soon enough, so now is the time to begin planning for it. Since St. Joseph is so near, it will make it easier for more of us to attend. Begin thinking about car pooling and room sharing, etc., and get the date marked on your calendars. Along with some interesting concerts and world premiers, there is a tour of the new Reuter factory which is quite fascinating. Further information can be obtained from our AGO Web site.

If you have an interest in Baroque music, there will be a recital of Baroque music at Cornerstone on Sunday, December 15 at 2:00 p.m. This recital will feature music for organ, harpsichord, forte piano and voice by graduate students at the UNL – certain to be an interesting recital.

Remember also on November 23 John Leavitt's special program to introduce children to the pipe organ at Southwood Lutheran Church. Bring your youth choirs and pass the word to your Sunday School teachers. This will  
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## NOVEMBER AGO MEETING . . .

John Leavitt, Organist

Saturday, November 23

2:00 p.m. – Reading Session

Southwood Lutheran Church

5511 South 27<sup>th</sup> Street, Lincoln

**J**ohn Leavitt will lead a reading session of choral music published by Concordia Publishing House and will include choral music (both adult and children) and keyboard music (both piano and organ). Free reference copies of the choral music will be included.

**John Leavitt** is an American composer, teacher, and church musician, whose music continues to captivate listeners and musicians of all ages.

Leavitt currently resides in Wichita, Kansas, where he has held the post of music director at Immanuel Lutheran Church and Cantor at Reformation Lutheran Church. He also conducts the community choral program, *The Master Arts Chorale and Youth Chorale*, founded in 1990.

An extraordinary composer and clinician for church and school music literature, Leavitt continues to teach, lecture, and guest conduct numerous workshops, festivals, and symposia.

His publications are represented in Augsburg Fortress, Concordia, Hal Leonard, MorningStar, GIA, Hope, Shawnee Press, and Warner Brothers music catalogs. He has numerous publications for choir, piano, organ, handbells, and string orchestra and co-author of the widely used choral music method textbook series, *Essential Elements for Choir*.



## ABENDMUSIK

**A**nonymous 4 will make their First-Plymouth Congregational debut with an ethereal and enchanting Christmas program. This is the first performance of the quartet's "Welcome Yule Christmas Tour," featuring Benjamin Britten's Ceremony of Carols. Tickets: \$20 adults; \$17 senior citizens (age 62+); \$10 for students (grade school through college).

Call 402.476.9933 for information or for tickets or visit the Web site at [www.abendmusik.org](http://www.abendmusik.org)

November 30 – 7:30 p.m. – 20<sup>th</sup> at D Street

**DEAN**

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be a great experience for kids!

I wish you all a lovely Thanksgiving.É

**Adelaide Ports Spurgin**

**T**he Lincoln Chapter AGO mourns the death of Adelaide Ports Spurgin, long-time Lincoln Chapter member and past dean who died September 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Adelaide Spurgin**

She taught voice at Doane College, Nebraska Wesleyan University, Luther College, Union College, and University of Nebraska for 17 years. She served 21 years as minister of music at First United Methodist Church. She was still active as a voice teacher at the time of her death.

Adelaide was awarded the 2000 "Teacher of the Year" award from the Nebraska Music Teacher's Association. She will be missed by the many friends that knew her.É

**Our Saviour's Lutheran Sanctuary Dedication**

**T**he new sanctuary of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, 40<sup>th</sup> & C Streets, was dedicated on the week end of October 12-13. The new addition was designed by Lincoln architect, Steve Cook. Also notable inside the space are the new chancel furnishings, which were designed and built by Our Saviour's Lutheran member, Delmar Timm – a chemical engineering professor at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln by day, and a master woods artisan by night.

Members and friends of the Lincoln AGO chapter are welcome to come and visit the new space anytime during church office hours, Monday through Friday, 8.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. or worship with us Saturdays at 5.30 p.m. or Sundays at 8.00 or 10.30 a.m.

Currently the new sanctuary does not have an organ, but is graced with a Steinway grand piano. The church community is projecting a pipe organ installation in five to eight years.É

**John Leavitt, Organist****Saturday, November 23****10:00 a.m. – Children's Concert****"Scenes from Childhood"****Southwood Lutheran Church****5511 South 27<sup>th</sup> Street, Lincoln**

**I**n this concert for children, composer John Leavitt will play *Scenes of Childhood*, a piece that demonstrates the different families of sound on the pipe organ. *Scenes of Childhood* provides a surprising departure from traditional organ music, skillfully demonstrating the instrument's ability to tell stories and paint pictures in the mind of the listener.

This work, commissioned by the American Guild of Organists, Wichita Chapter, was created to speak to a broader audience, especially children. Based on narrative poems from Robert Louis Stevenson's, *A Garden of Verses*, the poetry takes on new life with the playful themes woven throughout the texture of the tunes.

The demonstration will last about 45 minutes, and will be followed by refreshments and interactive displays that will help children learn more about how the organ works.

Admission to this concert is free. The concert is sponsored by Southwood Lutheran Church and the Lincoln Organ Showcase.

Contact: Denise Makinson, Director of Music at Southwood Lutheran Church – 402.423.5511 or e-mail her at [dmakinson@southwoodlutheran.org](mailto:dmakinson@southwoodlutheran.org)É

**New CD Release**

**O**ur Lady of Guadalupe Seminary has just released a new CD of Gregorian Chant: "Adventus" Gregorian Chant Propers for the Four Sundays of Advent, sung by the Schola of Our Lady of Guadalupe Seminary, directed by Gerald W. Holbrook. For further information about purchasing, call Gerald at the Seminary (402.797.7700 ext. 28).

**Free Reading Sessions and Dedicatory Organ Concert****Zion Lutheran – 14205 Ida Street – Omaha****November 9-10**

**J**ohn Behnke will offer handbell, organ and choral reading sessions as well as an organ dedication concert. The schedule:

**November 9**

9:00 to 10:00 – Organ Reading Session

10:30 - noon – Choral Reading Session

1:30 - 3:00 – Handbell Reading Session

**November 10**

3:00 p.m. – Dedicatory Organ Concert and Hymn FestivalÉ

## Late Additions to AGO Membership Book

Sharon Strasil H 402.464.6442  
7100 Adams #21  
Lincoln NE 68507  
Havelock United Methodist Church  
Organist

Lauren Wismer H 402.488.3921  
1248 O Street Ste 780 W 402.474.5000  
Lincoln NE 68508 C 402.476.2524  
Zion Church, PCA lwismer@gillmorebell.com  
Organist

Matthew Janssen H 402.643.3370  
800 North Columbia Avenue  
Seward NE 68434 matthew.janssen@cune.org  
First Presbyterian Church, Seward  
Organist

Please make the following e-mail changes for  
John Friesen and Lisa Klinsky in your book:  
johnfriesen02@juno.com  
klinskysw@yahoo.com

Please make the following change for Marlene  
Hallstrom in your book:  
Marlene Hallstrom  
5311 East 27<sup>th</sup> Street North  
Wichita KS 67220  
316.687.3135  
mhallstrom@cox.net

Position change for Willa Foster Jones:  
Director of Worship, Music and Art

## Noon-Time Organ Recitals

Saint Paul United Methodist Church and the Up Downtowner's Association will co-sponsor a noon-time recital series. It will be a monthly event beginning Friday, December 6, at 12:10 p.m.

John Friesen will present selections of Christmas music ranging from French Classic Noels to American arrangements of favorite Christmas carols. The new Bedient Organ will be featured.

Future recital dates will be January 10, February 7, March 7, and April 4.

A variety of Lincoln area musicians will be invited to perform on this series.

## Two UNL Organ Recitals

Lisa Klinsky, organ major at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL), will play a bachelor of music junior organ recital on **Tuesday, November 12**, at Cornerstone (640 North 16<sup>th</sup> Street) at 5.30 p.m. She will play works of Lübeck, De Grigny, and Bach.

David Brockman, organ major at UNL, will play a master of music organ recital on **Tuesday, December 3**, at Kimball Recital Hall (11<sup>th</sup> at R Street) at 6.30 p.m. He will play works by Mendelssohn, Schumann, Franck, Dupré and Locklair.

## Baroque Performance Practice

On Sunday, December 15, the DMA students in the Baroque Performance Practice course will present a recital of Baroque music at Cornerstone, 640 North 16<sup>th</sup> Street, at 2:00 p.m.

## LINCOLN ORGAN SHOWCASE



LINCOLN  
ORGAN  
SHOWCASE

David Higgs, Organist  
Dedicatory Concert of the  
New Reuter Organ  
First Presbyterian Church  
840 South 17<sup>th</sup> Street, Lincoln  
November 10 – 4:00 p.m.

One of America's leading concert organists, David Higgs, is the chair of the organ department at the Eastman School of Music. He has inaugurated many important new instruments including St. Stephen's Cathedral, Vienna; the Meyerson Symphony Center, Dallas; and the Church of St. Ignatius Loyola in New York City.

Mr. Higgs appears frequently at major national and international organ festivals and conventions. His performances for professional colleagues include two national and eight regional conventions of the American Guild of Organists, as well as national conventions of the American Pipe Organ Builders Association and the Organ Historical Society.



David Higgs

A native of New York City, Mr. Higgs held his first position as a church organist at age ten; as a teenager, he divided his time between studying classical music and performing in several rock/gospel/soul-music groups.

The concert is made possible by the generous support of the Reuter Organ Company.

## — CALENDAR OF EVENTS —

November	9-10	9:00 a.m.	Reading Sessions and Dedicatory Organ Concert – Zion Lutheran Church – 14205 Ida Street, Omaha (continuing until 4:00 p.m.)
	10	4:00 p.m.	LINCOLN ORGAN SHOWCASE – David Higgs, Organist – First Presbyterian Church – 840 South 17 <sup>th</sup> Street, Lincoln
	12	5:30 p.m.	Organ Recital – Lisa Klinsky, Organist – Cornerstone – 640 North 16 <sup>th</sup> Street, Lincoln
	23	10:00 a.m.	“Scenes from Childhood” Children’s Concert – John Leavitt, Organist – Southwood Lutheran Church – 5511 South 27 <sup>th</sup> Street, Lincoln
		2:00 p.m.	AGO Meeting – Reading Session with John Leavitt – Southwood Lutheran Church – 5511 South 27 <sup>th</sup> Street, Lincoln
	15		<b>DEADLINE for December issue of <i>Chiff Chat</i></b> — Editor: 910 University Towers; 128 North 13 <sup>th</sup> Street; Lincoln, NE 68508-1501; Fax: 402.474.3250; Phone: 402.435.6913; E-mail: mveak@lps.org <b>NOTE: THIS WILL BE A SHORT 2-PAGE ISSUE</b>
	30	7:30 p.m.	ABENDMUSIK:LINCOLN – Anonymous 4 – First-Plymouth Congregational Church – 20 <sup>th</sup> at D Street, Lincoln
December	3	6:30 p.m.	Organ Recital – David Brockman – Kimball Recital Hall - 11 <sup>th</sup> at R Street, Lincoln
	6	12:10 p.m.	Organ Recital – John Friesen, Organist – St. Paul United Methodist Church – 1144 M Street, Lincoln
	15	2:00 p.m.	Baroque Performance Practice – UNL Students – Cornerstone – 640 North 16 <sup>th</sup> Street, Lincoln

## AGO Logo

If anyone has artistic ability and would be willing to design a logo for the Lincoln Chapter AGO, please contact Dean, Gerald Holbrook, at 402.797.7700, ext. 28, or e-mail him at mawaka@aol.com



Chiff Chat Lincoln Chapter  
American Guild of Organists  
910 University Towers  
128 North 13<sup>th</sup> Street  
Lincoln NE 68508-1501

[This address box is upside down to satisfy mailing requirements.]