

**First Congregational United Church of Christ
and the
Fox Valley Chapter of the
American Guild of Organists**

**Celebrate the 100th Anniversary
of the Church's
Austin Pipe Organ
Opus 163
Sunday Afternoon
April 30, 2006 at 4:00 p.m.**

**". . . But bright Cecilia rais'd the wonder higher:
When to her organ vocal breath was given,
An angel heard, and straight appear'd
Mistaking Earth for Heaven."**

John Dryden*

*From "A Song for St. Cecilia's Day" (1687) by John Dryden (1631-1700). Cecilia, patron saint of music, was a second century Christian martyr. According to legend, she created the pipe organ.

Program

Welcome and Invocation Pastor Greg Schneck-Skiba

"Preludium, Fuge, and Ciaonna in C" Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707)
Brian Milnikel, Organist

"Fantasia on 'Nettleton'" Brian Dobbelaere
Brian Dobbelaere, Organist

Hymn Improvisation on "God of Grace & God of Glory" Paul Manz (1919-)
Kipp Cortez, Organist

"Petit Prelude" Joseph Jongen (1873-1953)
Mary Bittner, Organist

Choral Anthem: "Sanctus" ("Holy, Holy, Holy") Charles Gounod (1818-1893)
Festival Choir/ Chris Lorimer, Soloist/ Paul Grizzell, Director/ Patty Nelson, Pianist

Hymn #247 (Pilgrim Hymnal): "Holy God We Praise Thy Name" Grosser Gott
Teddy Bennett, Organist

"Festival Toccata" Percy Fletcher (1897-1932)
Rosalie Cassiday, Organist

"Stele pour en enfant defunt" Louis Vierne (1870-1937)
Ronald Vanderwest, Organist

"Toccata and Fugue in F Major" Dietrich Buxtehude
Barry R. Riskedal, Organist

Hymn #260 (Pilgrim Hymnal): "Church's One Foundation" Aurelia
Kipp Cortez, Organist

Presentation of the Centennial Plaque to First Congregational UCC of Naperville from the
Fox Valley Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

"Rigaudon" (for Brass and Organ) Andre Campra (1660-1744)
Teddy Bennett, Organist / Brass Ensemble: Karen Olsen and Ron Keller,
Trumpet; Ruth Hamm, French Horn; Doug Wiersema, Trombone

The Organists

All of the participating organists are members of the American Guild of Organists.

Brian Milnikel is Assistant Director of Music at St. Raphael's Catholic Church here in Naperville. He is a resident of Aurora.

Brian Dobbelaere, a resident of Naperville, is Organist/Keyboardist and Renew Worship Coordinator at St. Matthew United Church of Christ in Wheaton. Active as a church musician for over 18 years, Brian is also Newsletter Editor for the Fox Valley AGO Fanfare.

Kipp Cortez is a high school organist and great friend of the Bennett family of this church. He studies organ with Trevor Kahibaugh and has participated in a number of AGO events. Kipp lives in La Grange Park and is one of our very active younger members.

Mary Bittner is the Organist at Knox Presbyterian Church in Naperville. She is also a past Board Member of the Fox Valley Chapter of the AGO. Mary lives in Naperville. She has written this about the piece she is playing today: This is a quiet piece, using the oboe for melody and flutes for accompaniment and I was pleased with these sounds on this organ. Petit Prelude was written for the "Concours Grand Orgue" at Brussels in 1937, while Jongen was the director of the Conservatoire de Musique.

Teddy Bennett lives in Naperville and is the son of Dan and Marcia Bennett. He has been very active in the music program at First Congregational. This past January he presented his second full length recital in this sanctuary which "kicked off" the year long century celebration of the organ and sanctuary. Teddy has recently been appointed organist at Wheatland Salem United Methodist Church in Naperville. Teddy is home schooled and is an organ student of Karl Bruhn.

Ronald Vanderwest is the Chairman of this summer's AGO National Convention which is taking place in Naperville, Chicago, and numerous suburbs. Over 2000 organists from around the world will be attending. If interested in learning more about this convention, Google the Convention website at www.agohq.org/2006/welcome.html. Ron is a resident of Naperville, and works for Chase Bank in the Loop.

Barry Riskedal is a graduate of North Central College with a Degree in Music Education and a resident of Naperville. Barry has served as organist for several churches in the communities of Aurora, Glen Ellyn, Leland, Naperville, Sterling, and Wheaton, Illinois. For the past 3 years, Barry has been the organist at Wesley United Methodist Church in Naperville. In addition to the Organ, Barry plays the harp and piano. During the workday, Barry can be found at his sales desk with Chicago Glue in Itasca, IL.

Rosalie Cassidy is Organist/Choirmaster at St. John's Episcopal Church, Naperville. She earned the Master of Music Degree in both organ and harpsichord at Northern Illinois University and has performed with the New Philharmonic Orchestra of DuPage and the Fox Valley Symphony in Aurora. Rosalie has also appeared in the Lenten organ concert series of First Congregational Church, Elgin and the United Methodist Temple, Chicago. Rosalie is a member of Fox Valley Chapter AGO and lives in Aurora.

Austin Pipe Organ, Opus 163

First Congregational UCC is privileged to have the oldest functioning pipe organ in DuPage County, Illinois. For 100 years this beautiful two-manual instrument has led Sunday worship services, accompanied choir practices, and performed for weddings, funerals, and myriad other occasions. It was built by the Austin Organ Company of Hartford, Connecticut (a firm still in business) and installed in 1906—a generous gift from Mr. T. P. Phillips, a member of this church, who attached one unusual proviso to his gift: he insisted that the new church be dedicated without debt, and that was accomplished.

The organ's intricate casework is of quarter-sawn oak. Visible pipes include both speaking and decorative; as was common with organs of this vintage, most of the instrument is behind the façade, shielded from view. An unusual feature of this organ, but one common to period Austin organs, is the "Universal Wind Chest", patented by Austin in the 1890's. Those able to negotiate the small door-covered portal beside the console may stand upright inside the chest (a small room, in this case) while the organ plays, and observe the action of selected pipes receiving air.

In 1906 commercial and residential electrification was not yet commonplace. In fact the church itself was built without electricity, relying on gas lamps for illumination. Initially the organ blower was powered by a rather ingenious device known as a "water engine", whereby city water pressure turned a turbine. (Today the blower is driven by an electric motor.) There have been at least three major upgrades: In the early 1970's, the original pneumatic controls, which employed bundles of lead tubing to control valves, were replaced with an electromechanical control system. A further upgrade took place about 1990, and in fall, 2000, the electromechanical controls were replaced by solid-state controls, necessitating replacement manuals. This last change provided eight files of multiple memories, in addition to eliminating nearly 4000 electrical contacts which had been responsible for numerous service calls. Notwithstanding the added modern technology, the organ itself remains 100 percent winded.

Many of these changes were made possible through the generosity of First Congregational members; special thanks are due the Zaininger family, who donated funds in memory of Mrs. Zaininger, a past organist, and Lucille Zaininger, her daughter. Another organist, Beverly Owens, who served the congregation for 29 years, was also memorialized by her family through contributions to the most recent upgrade.

This instrument is maintained by Erickson, Christian and Associates, Glen Ellyn, Illinois. With continued tender loving care it should play just as well in 2106 as it does today!

Specifications:

Swell division: 438 pipes: 8'- Open Diapason, Stopped Diapason, Salicional, Voix Celeste, Oboe; 4'- Flute

Great division: 488 pipes: 8'- Open Diapason, Flute, Dulciana; 4'- Octave; 2'- Fifteenth; III Mixture

Pedal division: 88 pipes: 16'- Bourdon, Leiblich gedeckt; 8'- Gedeckt (ext); 4'- Flute (ext)

Total number of pipes: 1014

The Voix Celeste stop on the swell division extends down to C₁.

The swell shades remain mechanically actuated.

We wish especially to thank:

Rev. Greg Schneck-Skiba Pastor
Rev. Katie Morrison. Pastor for Youth & their Families
Paul Grizzell Music Director
Patty Nelson Organist
Karen Olsen, Ron Keller, Ruth Hamm, and Doug Wiersema.Brass Ensemble
Vicki and Ron KellerBrass Ensemble Coordinators
Dan Bennett Organ Concert Chair
Laura Andrew Centennial Celebration Chair
Laura Andrew, Dan Bennett, Karl Bruhn, Jim Fancher, Diane Herr, and Valerie Lorimer.Program
Diane Herr Publicity
Community Life MinistryReception
Judy and Roger MalmbergFloral Arrangements
Stan WoolleyRecording Engineer
Diane Binder, Rose Grizzell, Jared Hall, and Lukas Hall Ushers
Karl Bruhn Dean of the American Guild of Organists
Jean SpyksmaProgram Chairwoman of the AGO

The Fox Valley Chapter and the American Guild of Organists:

The American Guild of Organists is made up of over 340 chapters with 20,000+ members throughout the United States and overseas. Our Fox Valley Chapter has a little over 200 members. Most members are active parish musicians, but many of our non-playing members just enjoy listening to the varied and glorious sounds of the organ.

Our members mostly come from the Aurora, Naperville, Wheaton, Glen Ellyn, Batavia, Geneva, and St. Charles, but some of our members come from as far as Chicago, Sycamore, Palos Heights, and Marengo. Our AGO members play at churches of various denominations-- mostly Christian. We are united in our love for the glorious sounds of the organ and praising God through leading music for our congregations.

Our chapter has monthly meetings on various topics related to the organ and/or church music. Most are designed for our organists, but we also feature programs designed just for those who enjoy listening to the organ being well played--like today. We have several organ concerts that are open to the "organ lovers" yearly. Our next program is called, "Bach and Beyond at the Abbey" and will be on Friday night July 28 at 7:30 pm at the Marmion Abbey, 850 Butterfield Road in Aurora. This is an annual event played by nine of our organists, features the AGO Festival Choir, and includes the singing of two hymns. About 400 people attend this program, so bring some friends, come early, and enjoy a splendid evening.

Programs we sponsor yearly include:

- *Concerts featuring major national and international recitalists
- *Special programs like the one today
- *Skills Workshops
- *Our Annual Hymn Fest at College Church in Wheaton
- *A Young Organists' Festival in March in Glen Ellyn
- *Forums on various topics
- *Our Annual Dinner in May

AGO members receive our national monthly magazine, The American Organist, containing scholarly and informative articles on the organ and church music; and our local newsletter, Fox Valley Fanfare, which contains articles of local interests, a calendar of area musical events, and regional job listings.

Our chapter is looking forward to co-sponsoring (with three other area AGO chapters) the National AGO Convention this July 2006.

If you are interested in knowing more about the Guild, and/or are interested in joining our chapter, please see Karl Bruhn, our chapter Dean, after today's concert, or call him at (630) 879-7655. For more information on our upcoming programs, including our National Convention, please check our website at www.foxvalleyago.org.

A Brief History of First Congregational UCC

Our congregation began worshipping together in 1832. On July 13, 1833, the Rev. Jeremiah Porter served communion under the branches of a large oak tree on the banks of the DuPage River. He wrote, "The grain of the mustard seed, we trust, will become a great tree and multitudes shall yet rest under its delightful shade." Our church is the oldest organized (chartered) church in DuPage County and the second oldest Congregational church in Illinois. The church became part of the United Church of Christ (UCC) in 1961.

Capt. Morris Sleight donated the land for our church with two stipulations: that there always be a bell in a bell tower and that no burials would take place on the land. The church has been on its present site since 1846.

Our Akron style sanctuary, with its beautiful stained glass windows, and ceiling which looks like an inverted Noah's Ark, was dedicated in 1906. It was stated: "And may the beauty of this edifice be ever symbolic of the beauty of holiness that dwells with God's people in his temple." The stained glass windows were donated from 1896 to 1906 by the following families: Martin, Barnard, Nichols, Cody, Royce, Scott, Goodrich, Crampton and Earl.

Our congregation has a history of social justice activism. First Congregational Church has a history of being on the leading edge of social justice both in words and deeds beginning with the abolitionist movement and the Underground Railroad. Some examples include: sponsorship of a Vietnamese refugee family, support of a grass roots recycling program, welcoming of gay and lesbian people, opening our doors every Wednesday evening for homeless people to find shelter, being intentional with the language we use to be inclusive of all people, selling Fair Trade coffee and tea, youth mission trips, and letter writing to various officials on a variety of social issues.

We work continuously to make clear to ourselves, and others, the radical message of love and justice preached by Jesus. At First Congregational UCC we strive to be accepting, caring, and non-judgmental as we affirm God's presence in our midst and in the world. Our worship services and programs enable us to go out into the world to do God's work serving others. Mission is what we do. We are a progressive congregation and are theologically liberal.

We welcome all, NO EXCEPTIONS! God is Still Speaking at First Congregational UCC!