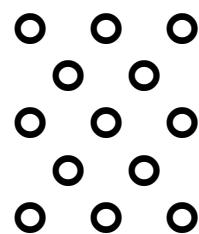


THE DRAWKNOB

Newsletter of the Denver Rocky Mountain Chapter
American Guild of Organists



January 2026

Something New in January First Annual Epiphany Zoom Happy Hour

Friday, January 9, 7-8 p.m.
Your Home

The Denver Rocky Mountain Chapter is pleased to announce our first (annual?) Epiphany Zoom Happy Hour. Sit back, relax, and start the New Year with your AGO friends and guests (yes, invite guests) to reconnect after a busy Advent and Christmas season. Building community is an essential part of the AGO mission statement, and so often in the midst of planning and attending chapter events, we miss time for conversation. This can be a moment where we share and inspire each other. The Zoom link has been arranged by Cathy Bruno.

Catherine BRUNO is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: DRMC AGO Epiphany Zoom Happy Hour
Time: Jan 9, 2026 07:00 PM Mountain Time (US and Canada)
Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88498950992?pwd=oaoocd2prNQridSAy6CJFBM81hcVCI.1>

Meeting ID: 884 9895 0992
Passcode: 682577

One tap mobile
+17193594580,,88498950992#,,,*682577# US
+16694449171,,88498950992#,,,*682577# US

Join instructions
<https://us02web.zoom.us/meetings/88498950992/invitations?signature=mCpiEK9Tj4yl1mC6fJKgJFok15WP3kDfKBvzOEYBiU>

Make a note to remember this event, and think of something interesting you might share, perhaps related to music of the holiday season. Or

something about Epiphany.

Remember how the Wise Men were warned in a dream to change their itinerary. What caused you to adjust your plans this year? The link will also be sent in an email on Thursday.



The Dean's Mixture

Thank you to those of you who attended the December chapter event co-sponsored with Historic Denver. An extra thank you to Linda Mack and David Vogels for their organization of this program and for the organists who played at each church during the morning.



In January the Nominating Committee will begin working on possible names for open positions in the chapter's leadership for the 2026-27 season. Openings occur when people's terms have ended and include dean, two positions on the chapter

board, and more. If you are interested in serving the chapter in a leadership role please contact me so that I can put your name forward to the committee. Later in the Spring we will hold elections and the new officers will be installed in May at the annual meeting.

I hope everyone had a good holiday season and were able to find some rest after Christmas. I'll hope to see you at our zoom January Epiphany event.

Andrew Peters, Dean

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Coming February 7 David Pickering The Genius of G. Donald Harrison

David Pickering, Professor of Music at Kansas State University, is spending his sabbatical year in Denver while he completes a book on the life of G. Donald Harrison. As President of the Aeolian-Skinner Organ Company, Harrison defined the "American Classic" style. Dr. Pickering will present a biographical sketch, including some new and interesting information, and a survey of Harrison's work as an organbuilder. Refreshments and a large music swap will be provided.



The program is Saturday, February 7, 9:30–11:00 am, at the Linda Mack Organ Studio, located on the east side of Denver.

Celebrate Women Composers Sunday

With a member recital featuring works by women for organ with other instruments and voices. The program is scheduled for 4 p.m. on Sunday, March 8, at Cherry Creek Presbyterian Church. To volunteer as a performer or receive a listing of potential pieces, contact David Vogels, ds vogels3@gmail.com.

Annual Historic Organ Tour

Ninety-seven registered attendees took in the sights and sounds of three churches on December 6. Photos by Ed Mack.

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church



Frank Nowell, organist when the 2003 Buzard was installed, demonstrated the organ with seasonal music. Church member Betty Luce presented the building by renowned architect Ralph Adams Cram as well as art in the building.

St. Paul Lutheran Church



Linda Mack spoke about the history of the Möller organ and demonstrated many of its unique qualities through music performed at the 1984 dedicatory recital and seasonal music. Alison Salutz, Historic Denver Director of Education & Community Impact, presented information on the history, architecture, and art of the building.

Trinity United Methodist Church



Shaun Boyd, a member at Trinity and an archival curator at History Colorado museum, gave an extensive history of the church. Organist Norm Sutphin completed the morning with a history of the Roosevelt organ and seasonal music from LeRoy Anderson to *Adeste Fidelis*.

Saint Paul Choral Library available

On Sunday, 28 December 2025, after 141 years of faithful ministry, a final liturgy of Holy Closure was held at Saint Paul Lutheran Church at 1600 Grant Street in Denver. The congregation is hopeful that area churches might benefit from the extensive choral library that remains. Thus, any area church musicians are welcome to make an appointment to peruse the library and take any items (and as many items—be sure to bring boxes!) that they may find useful for their choirs by contacting Pastor Barbara Berry-Bailey by email at pastorbarbara@stpauldenver.org or by phoning Our Savior's Lutheran Church at 303.831.7023, where a message may be left for her if she is not in the office.

The choral library at Saint Paul is located in a long narrow room lined with six lateral file cabinets along the south wall. Over a thousand choral octavos, usually with at least thirty copies each,

are located in the first four cabinets from the left and in the top two drawers of the fifth cabinet. The lower drawers of the fifth cabinet contain a number of anthem collections. The sixth cabinet contains two drawers of handbell music and two drawers of Psalm settings, including a complete set of choral parts from the *Ionian Psalter* in numbered folders. (The *Ionian Psalter* accompaniment volumes are not included and would need to be purchased in order to use the congregational antiphons.) Also available in plastic bins on the shelves above the file cabinets are numerous major works, including many cantatas, oratorios, and Requiem Masses; a ladder will be available for access to the shelves. On the opposite wall are two cabinets with choral cubbies, which contain copies of the *Augsburg Choirbook* and the *Chantry Choirbook*, as well as choral parts for numerous congregational Mass settings, including the Marty Haugen *Mass of Creation*, the Steve Janco *Mass of the Angels and Saints*, the Craig Phillips *Festival Eucharist*, the Richard Proulx *Community Mass*, and the Libby Larsen *Celebration Mass*, the latter having been commissioned by Saint Paul Church for its 125th anniversary in 2009. (Individual copies of these items will need to be collected from each cubby.) Ultimately, the six file cabinets will also become available, so anyone interested in those should mention it to Barbara. While it is a very sad day for the Saint Paul Community of Faith, hopefully the congregation's rich heritage of choral music will continue as other parishes benefit from the use of the Saint Paul Choral Library.

“By Request”

A Festive Concert of Favorites Featuring Tributes to MLK and JRR Tolkein

Sunday January 18, 2026, 3:00 pm
St Luke's United Methodist Church
8817 South Broadway
Highlands Ranch, CO 80129

Festive Concert presented by the Handbell Choirs of St Luke's and Kenrick Mervine, Organist. Featuring requested compositions by Karl Jenkins, Marianne Kim, Howard Shore, and others; as well as the premiere of a new work by Canadian composer Denis Bedard. The program is free, however donations to benefit the Music & Arts Ministry are welcome.

Employment Opportunities

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church in Parker is seeking a **Director of Music and Organist**. One Sunday service at 9:30, Dewey Layton pipe organ. Salary Range: \$27,300 commensurate with experience. The musician is entitled to separate compensation for providing services at funerals, weddings, and other functions. A thorough job description is on the Chapter website, agodrmc.org. Contact the rector at rector@stmattsparker.org. Position open until filled.

The mission of the American Guild of Organists is to foster a thriving community of musicians who share their knowledge and inspire passion for the organ.

To do this, we encourage excellence in the performance of organ and choral music; inspire, educate, and offer certification for organists and choral conductors; provide networking, fellowship, and mutual support; nurture future generations of organists; promote the organ in its historic and evolving roles; and engage wider audiences with organ and choral music.



A Lost Chord

... not by Adelaide Proctor

Seated one day at the organ,
I was anxious and ill at ease,
For I found upon inspection
There were several missing keys.
I knew not what I was playing
(Though t'was hymn two hundred and ten)
But it made a row like a starving cow
When it came to the grand "Amen!"

I sought to discover the meaning
Of a sound so wild and weird;
I crept inside on hands and knees
And found just what I feared.
The flute and the vox humana
Were mute and declined to sing:
The reeds, alack, showed many a crack
And I tied them with a string.

The bellows I neatly mended
With the blower's trouser brace;
I managed well to secure the swell
With a stamp and an old bootlace.
But I'd made my efforts vainly,
I lost my temper then,
And said a word which the parson heard,—
It was not a grand "Amen."

Albert Orton, F.R.C.O., St. Anne's Church, Soho
From *Tales of Organists*, assembled by John
Warriner, 1927

Borrowed from The Wayne Leupold Foundation