

**Chiff Chat — Summer Edition**  
***The Year Two Thousand Eighteen***

**Dean's Message:** Dear Springfield Chapter AGO Members and Friends:

Welcome to summer! I think it's finally here. We ended our program season with a banquet and jazz worship at Trinity Church, Springfield on June 2. If you missed it, I won't tell you how amazingly wonderful dinner was as prepared by Becky Isaacson and her team. It was actually unbelievably good but I won't tell you that, because then you'll be sorry you missed it. The program was a worship service led by musicians and clergy from Old South Church, Boston. I was pleased to walk into the sanctuary after the dinner was over and find that a crowd of people who had not been at the banquet had already gathered, alerted to the event by publicity put out by our members and by an article in the Springfield Republican. Joined by the 30 banquet attendees, it was a healthy congregation for what turned out to be a really great service. My special thanks to Becky and to Willie Sordillo, saxophonist, who brought his team from Boston to make the evening special for all of us.

And so ends our program season. What's next? By now, you all should have received a letter from me (by post, not by email). It talks about the state of our Chapter and how we are addressing challenges, especially in our governing body. If you haven't opened it yet, please do so soon, as it outlines a plan for a one-year period of examination for the Chapter. Other chapters that have faced problems getting people to serve as officers and board

members have combined with adjoining chapters to make larger, regional chapters. Your current board did not see this as a viable option, so we are choosing to look at ways to strengthen our Chapter while relying on a leaner governing body that doesn't ask a lot of any one person.

For that reason, I don't have specifics about next year's programs but I can give you what we know so far. Our opening event will happen late September with installation of officers and a program TBD. Now, here's a date you can put in your calendars: we return to the silent movie presentation at United Church, Holyoke, on November 3 at 7 p.m. An anthem reading at 2<sup>nd</sup> Congregational Church, Westfield, is being worked out for some time in March, and we hope to end the year with an organ/choral concert presented jointly by several churches.

And so ends my final letter to you as dean. You will have read more about my replacement in the letter and I will serve as a board member for one year, finishing out the term of someone who was unable to continue. It has been an honor to serve and I hope you will get involved in our coming year of evaluation.

Larry Picard



**Dean: Larry Picard**

**Sub Dean: Becky Rosendahl Isaacson**

**Directors:**

- Karen Banta**
- Joseph DiMarino**
- Karen Ducharme**
- Roberta Morkin**
- Joseph Geehern**

**James Barnes,  
Treasurer**

**Martha Sienkiewicz, Secretary**

**Rev. William H. Wallis, Chaplain**

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***AGO Year-end Banquet at Trinity Church  
w/Jazz Worship Service presented by  
Musicians and Clergy from Old South Church, Boston***











## Chapter Events for Fall 2018

Sunday, September 23, 2018 at 3 p.m. (location and program TBA): Opening event and installation of officers.

Saturday, November 3, 2018 at 3 p.m. at United Congregational Church, Holyoke: Silent movie, accompanied by organist Peter Krasinski.

### Job Opportunities

This growing progressive Christian congregation seeks a part-time Minister of Music (Organist and Choir Director) to assist in worship by directing a 20+ person (4 part) volunteer choir, playing the 1936 E.M. Skinner & Son organ for prelude, postlude, hymns and accompanying choir, and the preparatory work to produce the same, including weekly staff meeting. First Churches also has a 3 octave Malmark handbell set and participating instrumentalists to augment/accompany music. Usage of a variety of music genres is essential. Anticipated start would be August/September, 2018. To apply, please send letter of interest and resume to [PastorTodd@firstchurches.org](mailto:PastorTodd@firstchurches.org).

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St. Marks is a growing, multi-generational, welcoming, and musically broad Episcopal Church located in East Longmeadow, MA. We have a long history of breadth in music and have with a twelve voice SABB choir. The church has a baby grand piano, a Southfield pipe organ, and multiple octaves of handbells and a recently formed handbell choir. St. Marks is currently seeking an ambitious, energetic, flexible and musically broad individual to work roughly ten hours a week directing the choir and accompanying them on the key board while leading the 10 am service in worship. The appropriate candidate has the ability to work with the rector (pastor) to select from a broad range of sacred music and lead choir rehearsals (Thursday evening—2 hours and Sunday morning—30 minutes). A CORI and background check will be required. Salary commensurate with experience.

Ability to play the organ is hoped for but not required.

Deadline to apply for this job is July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018

Please contact Fr. Peter Swarr with cover letters and resume at [rector@stmarksma.org](mailto:rector@stmarksma.org) or 413-525-63

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**Springfield, Massachusetts Chapter of the  
American Guild of Organists  
70th Anniversary**

**Visit our website at [www.springfielddago.org](http://www.springfielddago.org) & “like” us on  
Facebook!**

**Dear Members:**

**If you have e-mail, please consider receiving the  
monthly Chiff Chat at your e-mail address. It is easy to  
access. It never gets lost or misplaced and will put  
some of your yearly dues to another use. We are very  
happy to mail a Chiff Chat to anyone who is not on the  
internet and needs a hard copy. You can e-mail Lad  
Pfeifer or Elizabeth Zellmer if you wish to change from  
snail mail to e-mail.**

**Thank you.**

**Springfield Chapter American Guild of Organists  
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