

# ***TITULAIRE***

## **The NEWSLETTER for the AGO PALOMAR CHAPTER**

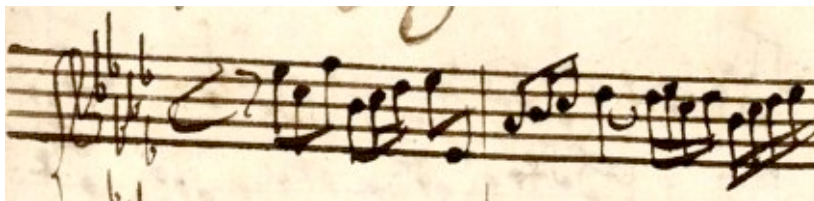
ISSUE NO. 203 (March 2024)

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Carol Graham, George Butterfield, Michael Munson, Steve Vandlen, and Cheryl Holzer at Fallbrook United Methodist Church.

# A Note from the Dean



Dear Palomar AGO members,

My wife Kristine and I spent a few days with family in Salt Lake City. We went to one of the free daily organ concerts at Temple Square, where we heard Brian Mathias play. He is one of the full-time organists there. His opening piece was *Venite!* by John Leavitt. This piece would also make a great postlude. The link below is of him playing it five years ago. I guess it must be one of his favorites.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qN\\_ihHlgkTM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qN_ihHlgkTM)

Our son Philip gave a name and a blessing to his first child Samantha Violet while we were there. This is a Mormon custom, which is similar to a christening, without baptismal elements. Samantha is our first grandchild, so we were very happy to see her. She was almost four months old at that point. She has learned to smile and look very cute for the camera. She sets me to thinking about retiring, so I would have more time to go see her.

I will be thinking about you all during this Lenten season as we prepare for Holy Week. I hope you are able to get out to some of our upcoming events. It would be great to see you at the March 10 Baroque Soloists event, and the Seth Bott recital on Friday April 10. Please share these events with your choirs and congregations and on your social media. We need to have lots of people there at these events the chapter is sponsoring.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid and somewhat stylized.

# San Diego Baroque Soloists at King of Kings Lutheran Church



**Sunday, March 10, 4:00 pm:** San Diego Baroque Soloists at King of Kings Lutheran Church, 2993 MacDonald Street, Oceanside. Our Palomar Chapter is co-sponsoring this event with King of Kings Church, and we are committed to pay half of the cost which is considerable.

Early music specialist Alison Luedecke will play harpsichord and organ. Dinner follows at *Marisco's Ensenada* (wonderful food), 1405 El Camino Real Suite 5110, Oceanside, CA 92054.

Flyer appears on next page.



CONCERT  
SUNDAY, MARCH 10  
4:00PM

*san diego*  
BAROQUE

KING OF KINGS LUTHERAN CHURCH  
2993 MACDONALD STREET  
OCEANSIDE, CA 92054



SAN DIEGO BAROQUE, A COLLABORATIVE ENSEMBLE, COMPRISES SOME OF THE MOST TALENTED EARLY MUSIC SPECIALISTS IN THE AREA. EACH ARTIST IS AN ACCOMPLISHED SOLOIST IN THEIR OWN RIGHT.



# Members' Recital at Fallbrook United Methodist Church



Cheryl Holzer.

Saturday, February 10, 2024: Our Palomar Chapter Members' Recital was held on Saturday February 10<sup>th</sup> at Fallbrook United Methodist Church. Organist Cheryl Holzer made the arrangements - thank you so much. The Allen organ sounded fantastic as played by chapter members Michael Munson, Carol Graham, Cheryl Holzer and George Butterfield. Steve Vandlen played a beautiful piano arrangement of "In The Garden" by Joel Raney. Following the program we enjoyed a great time of food and fellowship at the Village Pizza in Fallbrook. A big "Thank You" to Cheryl Holzer, the members, and staff of Fallbrook United Methodist Church for graciously hosting our recital.—Carol Graham



## Program

Jean Langlais (1907-1991): *Acclamations*

Léon Boëllmann (1862-1897): *Toccata from Suite Gothique, Op. 25*

Michael Munson

Louis Vierne (1870-1937): *Communion*

Jean Paul Martini (1741-1816): *Plaisir D'Amour*

Carol Graham

Frederic Groton (1880-1961): *The Kaleidoscopic Hymnal*

Cheryl Holzer

Joel Raney: *In The Garden*

Steve Vandlen, piano







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The organ at Fallbrook United Methodist Church

Name of organ builder: ALLEN

Year of installation: 2003

ALL DIGITAL

Number of stops: 80

The Allen R380 was the largest 3-manual specification made at the time. It is actually a five-division organ with a "floating" Solo division. The main organ sits forward-facing, high above the chancel in a single row and reflects the sound back into the Sanctuary. The Solo is mounted on the back wall. Even if Solo stops are not playing, "Virtual Acoustics" creates a pleasant surround effect as all divisions mix across the twelve-channel audio system. Voicing was completed by the late Tom Hazleton.



## Chapter Member Shares Organ Recordings



Henry Doktorski at the 1989 Schlicker 9-rank organ at House of Prayer Lutheran Church, Escondido.

Palomar Chapter newsletter editor and former dean Henry Doktorski has a hobby: making recordings of organ pieces, including his own improvisations, which he has performed as preludes at House of Prayer Lutheran Church in Escondido, where he plays Sundays and Wednesdays. While he humbly refers to himself as a “village organist” and honestly admits he is far from a concert performer (he says he sometimes becomes afflicted by paralyzing stage fright which greatly diminishes his already-diminished technique), he claims there are some things he can do well, and he derives satisfaction from music making to the best of his abilities.

Some others recognize Henry’s artistic contributions to the genre. Dr. Christopher Cook, former dean of the San Diego AGO Chapter, and author of the monthly column “The Practical Organist” for the AGO’s national publication, *The American Organist*, noted, “What a pleasure to listen to Henry’s recordings. Henry Doktorski really knows how to make the most of the limited organ resources at House of Prayer in Escondido, California. He has imbued each track with careful playing that prioritizes musical expression over technical achievement. His transcriptions are well suited to the nine-rank instrument, thanks to his expertise in voicing and registration. One never feels that compromises had to be made. But these are not the limits of Henry’s gifts nor his imagination. How delightful are his jazz improvisations! Clearly, he loves the creative process, and you will love their products. Delightful listening lies ahead. Don’t miss out!”

David Lewis, director of music and organist at Trinity Episcopal Church in Escondido, assistant instructor at Mira Costa College, founder/director of the San Luis Rey Chorale and Chamber Orchestra, and prominent member of the Palomar Chapter Program Committee, also has nice things to say about Henry’s recordings, as well as Marty Haugen, the well-known American composer of liturgical music, as will be seen below.

Following are links to seven of Henry’s recordings. All were recorded on the 9-rank 2-manual and pedal Schlicker organ at House of Prayer Lutheran Church, Escondido, except for Nos. 4 and 6 which were recorded on the 3-manual and pedal Robert Knight hybrid organ (32 pipe stops, 25 Allen digital stops) at Saint Martha Roman Catholic Church in Murrieta, Riverside County.

(1) Henry Doktorski: *Improvisation on Noël Nouvelet*,  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LCRZGcHnXfo>

“This is a very joyful, short piece that would be a great addition to any Advent or Christmas service. Based on the well-known, bouncy tune, it has a wonderful jazz middle and end. There is a ‘perpetual motion’ effect in the left hand that keeps the piece moving along. It is just plain fun!”—David Lewis

(2) Henry Doktorski: *Improvisation on St. Brendan's (They Will Know We Are Christians By Our Love)*, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9PLgZFDkrmM>

“This might shake up a few folks who remember this tune from the ‘early days’ of the ‘Hum and Strum’ guitar movement on the 1970s. It is infused with marvelous jazz rhythms and altered and sometimes dissonant harmonies. At times it is downright bluesy. The rhythms could be tricky in some places and it would require the player to just relax, loosen up and just have a little fun.”—David Lewis

(3) *Estampie* (c. 1320) found in a folio in the library of the Robertsbridge Abbey, England, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XGE4sZtJvMU>

“This ancient work is not an improvisation, but it has that sound to it. Medieval music and dance, with its lack of defined measures and bar lines, has a remarkably jazzy sound to it. Though played on a small organ in this recording, the piece is ripe for all sorts of creative and odd registration possibilities.”—David Lewis

(4) Modest Mussorgsky: *Promenade* and *The Old Castle* from “*Pictures at an Exhibition*,” <https://youtu.be/ZtQh5JxH56g>

“The slow, somber piece from the *Pictures at an Exhibition* would be a good addition to music for Lent and particularly Holy Week. With its steady pulse in the bass part it feels like a solemn procession, which, of course, the main tune from the “*Pictures*” is supposed to be. The music is dark and emotional and calls for colorful registration.”—David Lewis

(5) Paul McCartney: *When I'm Sixty-Four*, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sHCSad2v03g>

“A delightful rendition of the sentimental song performed by The Beatles and released on their 1967 album *Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band*. A mixture of ragtime and pop music, the song borrows heavily from the English music hall style of George Formby, while invoking images of the illustrator Donald McGill's seaside postcards.”—HD

(6) Henry Doktorski: *Fantasy on Marty Haugen's "Gather Us In,"* [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S\\_sBxKACOG4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S_sBxKACOG4)

“Dear Henry, I watched your excellent video on YouTube. Well done! You have a real gift for creating new and fascinating sounds, and a real talent for arranging. It sounds like the organ you are playing is an extension of your spirit. I am honored that you put such time and energy in re-creating my piece. Blessings to you in your ministry.”—Marty Haugen



(7) Johann Pachelbel: *Kanon in D*, <https://youtu.be/vxIpOTEJ2kk>

Henry and two of his organist colleagues—Bonnie Rex and Carol Graham—performed this arrangement of Pachelbel's *Kanon* (all three sitting together on the organ bench) live in concert on the 22-rank three manual and pedal 1971 Reuter/Rodgers organ at Trinity Episcopal Church in Escondido, California, on Sunday, October 15, 2017. In this recording, Henry plays all three parts of the canon (plus the pedal and continuo part).

The ground bass is played on the pedals (16 SUBBASS and 8 GEDECKT), while the harmonic accompaniment is played on Manual II using 8 SALICIONAL and 8 CELESTE. The first canon part features the 8 GEDECKT, the 4 CHIMNEY FLUTE and 1 1/3 LARIGOT. The second canon part features the 8 PRINCIPAL, and the third part features the 8 TRUMPET. Henry also threw in a chime at the beginning and end for good measure, to help create a festive atmosphere.

Henry said, "This organ version of Pachelbel's famous canon has everything but the kitchen sink. It showcases all the four families of pipes (STRINGS, FLUTES, PRINCIPALS, and REEDS) and the percussion (CHIMES)."

To hear more of Henry's recordings, including nine pieces by anonymous 18<sup>th</sup>-century French composers, and works by Michael and J. S. Bach, Jean Joseph Mouret, Ludwig Van Beethoven, Erik Satie, Aaron Copland, and Michael D. Costello, visit his YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/@HenryDoktorski/videos> or his personal website: [http://www.henrydoktorski.com/soundfiles.html#saint\\_martha](http://www.henrydoktorski.com/soundfiles.html#saint_martha)

# Upcoming Chapter Events

**Maundy Thursday, March 28, 7:00 pm:** Bach Cantata At Trinity Episcopal Church, Escondido.

In past years the Trinity Choir, under the direction of David Lewis, has sung a number of larger works during the Maundy Thursday service including *Regina Coeli* by Mozart, *Gallia* by Gounod, *Hear My Prayer* by Mendelssohn and the *Requiem* by Faure. This year we will be singing a very special and wonderful work by J. S. Bach: his cantata No. 4 for Holy Week, "Christ Lag in Todesbanden - Christ Lay in Death's Strong Bands." The famous cantata is in seven movements with each one using a verse from the hymn that is in many hymnals. It is a stunning, exciting and emotional work lasting about 25 minutes. It will be accompanied by eight string players from the terrific Cabrillo Chamber Orchestra. The Chamber orchestra will also perform the Samuel Barber *Adagio for Strings* and some works by Corelli. The choir will also sing "Restless it the Heart" by Bernadette Farrell.

Bach Cantata No. 4 has a complicated history. Composed in 1707, it was one of the earliest, if not the first, cantata written when Bach was still fundamentally a student. In Bach's first year in Leipzig he so thoroughly revised the work that it is not known how much of the original remains. Certainly some things such as the marvelous and rich four-voice harmonization of the chorale that ends the work are the work of the mature master. The work is a set of choral variations on the great Easter Chorale "Christ lag in Todes Banden." The cantata begins with a Sinfonia for the string orchestra. It takes certain phrases of the chorale tune and molds them into a perfect introduction to the energetic and exciting opening chorus. Certainly the heightened excitement of the brilliant Alleluias is a youthful holdover. A walking bass line accompanies the hushed soprano-alto duet that follows. Then tenors then take up the tune against a brilliant Vivaldi-like string line. The center of the cantata is occupied by a vivid four-voice setting of the chorale with the tune in the alto. Here Luther's vivid and brutal lines are marvelously and thoroughly characterized. The bass aria is the most inward part of the cantata, a meditation upon the meaning of the Passover and its relationship to Christian doctrine. The bouncy soprano-tenor duet is a tremendous release from the intensity of the bass aria. The final four-voice chorale setting is one of the greatest in the whole Bach canon and a suitable close to this brilliant and impressive work.—David Lewis

**Friday, April 12, 7 pm:** Seth Bott, Organist, at St. Thomas More Catholic Church, 1450 S. Melrose, Oceanside. Sponsored by our Palomar Chapter.



Dr. Seth Bott is a native of Castle Dale, Utah. In May of 2020, he received the Doctor of Musical Arts degree in organ performance at the University of Kansas, where he studied under James Higdon and Michael Bauer. He was appointed to a graduate teaching assistantship, where he taught private lessons and worked closely with the organ faculty to organize and execute organ department business. Also while a student at KU, Seth served as a sabbatical replacement professor at Kansas State University and taught the organ majors and secondary students there. Before attending the University of Kansas, he received the Master of Music and Bachelor of Music degrees in organ performance and pedagogy from Brigham Young University, where he studied with Don Cook and Douglas Bush. Seth is an active recitalist and performs many recitals around the United

States every year. Some recent recital venues have included: St. Patrick's Cathedral, New York City, New York; Grace Cathedral, San Francisco, California; Missouri State University, Springfield, Missouri; Saint Thomas Fifth Avenue, New York City, New York; University of Nevada—Las Vegas, Las Vegas, Nevada; Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Gainesville, Florida; and in Hervormde Kerk, Noordbroek, Netherlands. Seth also served for many years as a Guest Tabernacle Organist on Temple Square and participated in the daily recital series performed on the famous Mormon Tabernacle Organ. He has had an abundance of church music roles in many denominations, and is currently serving as Director of Music, Choir Master and Organist at St. James Episcopal Church in Salt Lake City, Utah. Seth accompanies many choirs and orchestras in Utah and throughout the United States, and has a large—and ever growing—organ studio of around 30 students. In 2009, he took first place in region IX of the RCYO AGO organ competition for young organists, allowing him to perform at the National AGO convention in Washington, D.C. in 2010.

**Saturday, May 3:** Organ scholarship auditions. Contact Carol Graham at [earlygram@gmail.com](mailto:earlygram@gmail.com) for details and forms or visit <https://agopalomar.org/>.



# PALOMAR CHAPTER AGO

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First, visit the following link: <http://www.agosd.org/jobs/job-listings.html> This will take you to the San Diego Chapter AGO's website Job Listing page. Here you can 1) view current job listings for San Diego and Palomar Chapters, 2) post a job vacancy, and 3) contact George via email or phone with any placement questions. Please note there is a nominal \$35 fee to post a job listing.