

AMERICAN GUILD
OF ORGANISTS
Les Bois Chapter Newsletter
October 2017

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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.

Paul Saik Bio

Paul is former Artist-in-Residence at FUMC and an internationally-acclaimed recording artist, pianist, and singer.

A native of Jackson, Mississippi, Paul began playing piano at age 3 and spent much of his time performing in church. His first church position came at the young age of 13 as the church pianist at First Baptist Church in Pearl, Mississippi. He quickly developed a love for church music and started playing the organ at age 16.

While studying piano and organ at Mississippi College, where he received a Bachelor of Music degree in piano, Paul won several awards and competitions. He studied abroad at the University of London. A Presser Scholar, Paul furthered his education at Baylor University, where he received a Masters of Music degree in church music and organ.

A versatile singer, he has performed with opera companies throughout the United States and around the world. He has appeared with various symphonies and has worked with the likes of Baz Luhrmann ("Moulin Rouge") in the New York Broadway scene. But after many years of performing on some of the biggest stages in the world, Paul realized that the successes of his career could not outweigh the stresses and challenges that he faced every day.

In the summer of 2003, Paul retreated to Lake Junaluska, North Carolina. It was at Lake Junaluska that Paul felt God's call back to his first love...sacred music.

His passion is leading people in worship, and his music has touched many people as he has performed in numerous churches throughout the country. But everything leads to his desire to bring comfort, guidance and the presence of God to each listener, so that they may know that God truly loves them. "I don't know why God has blessed me with the talents He has, just as He blesses every person with their own...but I want to use them to honor Him, to thank Him, to lead others in worshipping Him."

What's Happening in Les Bois Land

Saturday, October 28th
Commemoration of the
Reformation 500 Concert
2:00 PM

Immanuel Lutheran Church

Friday, November 10th
Paul Saik
7:30 PM
Cathedral of the Rockies

Next Board Meeting
Tuesday, October 24th
7 PM
Ann Reed's home

"My prayer is that all who see how I live my life, find Him in me."

Paul is Director of Music Ministries at Centenary United Methodist Church in New Bern, NC where he resides with his wife, Katie. He continues to maintain his touring throughout the United States, but also enjoys leading worship at annual conferences, revivals and other special events.

[I saw Paul perform several times when he lived in Boise. While his shows are mainly piano/vocal, he always includes a rousing organ solo. Maybe we can hope for 2 this time! — JW]

Western Regional AGO Convention Review

We left Boise Sunday afternoon, June 11, and arrived to check in at the convention about 6:30 that evening. Susan Pohl carpooled with us and it was a delight to get to know her during the 5 ½ hour drive. The convention was well organized and I would describe Salt Lake City as “organist’s heaven.” The unending schedule of wonderful organists and musicians performing on beautiful instruments was incredible. I enjoyed attending two sessions discussing improvisation led by Gabriele Terrone, born in Rome, Italy and currently serving as organist and assistant director of music at Cathedral of the Madeleine. The highlight of my convention experience was participating in the Bigelow & Company 5-hour organ tour which offered “open console” at the three locations we visited. At the final location, Cathedral Church of St. Mark, we attended a beautiful Evensong service featuring Seattle organist, Michael Kleinschmidt.

Sheryl Hillman

Commemoration of the Reformation 500 Concert

This concert is being held at Immanuel Lutheran Church on Saturday, October 28 beginning at 2PM. Choirs and members from the Treasure Valley will be gathering to sing and share some Bach Chorales as we commemorate the 500-year anniversary of the Reformation. Sunday morning anthems and a good ol’ Lutheran hymn sing-along take place during the concert as well. ALL ARE WELCOME to join us!

Kirk Higginson

Coming Events

Saturday, October 28th, 2 PM — Commemoration of the Reformation 500 Concert, Immanuel Lutheran Church, 707 W Fort Street

Friday, November 10th, 7:30 PM — [Paul Saik in Concert](#), First United Methodist Church, 717 N 11th Street

Friday, December 8th — Christmas Social, Glenn & Gaye Poole’s, 11277 Verde Lane, Boise

Tuesday, December 26th — Church Walk, locations TBA

January — Pedals, Pipes, and Pizza, date and location TBA

Les Bois Chapter Executive Committee

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