

# Chapter Programming Ideas

Ideas for Chapter meetings, Concerts, Festivals, Recitals, Services & Workshops  
Compiled by Dirk Lindner, Sub-Dean AGO Omaha Chapter, 2019

This list is meant to be a jumping-off point for chapter programming ideas, and certainly not a comprehensive list of ideas. Many of these ideas could be used in multiple ways - as a chapter meeting only (Advent/Christmas music - members play selections, bring repertoire lists to share) or as a public performance (Advent/Christmas music - members play a selection and also the hymn/carol for congregational singing), or as a workshop (someone presenting new and old literature for Advent/Christmas). Hopefully this list will help provide some innovative programming for your chapter. Happy planning!

Accompanying choirs, soloists, instrumentalists, etc.

Adapting Contemporary Worship songs to the Organ

Adapting Piano Accompaniments to the Organ

AGO Certification

Alternate Harmonization/Introduction Resources

The American Reed Organ

Beginning Organist

Just Add Pedals? Organ Basics for the Pianist

Carillons

Chapter Anniversary Celebration

## Children's Choirs

Children's Choir Festival

How to Recruit, Build & Sustain a Small Children's Choir

Working with Young Voices

Youth Choir Festival

Choral & Organ Collaborative Concert

## Church Choir

Anthem accompanying at the organ

Anthem Reading session

Choir Festival

Choral Rehearsal Techniques

Invigorate Your Church Choir (and You) - pedagogical tips, ideas and perspectives to enliven rehearsals and thus your worship

Vocal Techniques

Working with Aging Voices

Clergy/Musician Relations, Luncheon

Commissioning new music

Composing for the organ

Conducting from the Console

Continuo Playing and Instruments

Creativity - A Look into the Creative Process

Denominational Musician Associations

Educational Concerns

Final Banquet: Installation of new officers, Performances by members with new certifications

Handbells

Harpsichord

History of the Organ, from Antiquity to the Present

Hybrid Organs

### Hymns

Creative Hymnody

Hymn Festivals

Presented by a person with expertise in this area

Presented by chapter members

Hymn Introductions/Alternate Harmonizations

Hymn-Playing Workshop

Hymns of Isaac Watts

Leading Hymns and Liturgy

Shape Note Singing

Spirituals

### Improvisation

Beginning Improvisation

January Jubilee

Joint Events with another AGO chapter

Low Pressure Public Performance Practice - performing for each other in a low-key, non-recital setting

Managing a Music Program, Organization

Masterclass

Meals

- Catered dinner
- Potluck dinner
- Coffee & treats after a meeting
- Coffee & breakfast food before a Saturday morning meeting

Music Exchange - bring unwanted scores, pickup others' used scores

Music Sharing - old and new favorites - organ, choral, handbell

New Directions in Worship Services

What Page are We On? Roundtable for Church Musicians: worship experiences, musical directions, what directions do we need to move in, vision for the church, resources available

Online Music & Liturgical Planning Resources

Organ and Instruments

- Member recital
- Organ Builder factory visit
- Organ Crawl
- Organ Demonstrators
- Organ Design Workshop

Organ Literature

- African-American Composers
- Composer Anniversary Years
- Compositions by local composers
- Early Music: Technique
- Free music available on the internet (IMSLP, etc.)
- Music for weddings, funerals
- Music for a Royal Occasion
- Music for a Small Instrument
- Music for Clockwork Organs
- Music of national schools
- New music to share with chapter
- Organ & Instruments
- Organ & Piano Duets
- Organ & Voice
- Organ Duet Literature
- Organ Transcriptions
- Practical Repertoire
- Seasonal Literature:
  - Advent/Christmas/Epiphany
  - Lent/Easter
  - Ascension/Pentecost/Trinity
  - Fall Festivals

Women Composers  
World Music

Organ Maintenance and Repair for Dummies

Organ Methods for teaching

Organ Registration

Organ to Piano Transcription Workshop

*Orgelkids* - demonstrates the inner workings of the organ

The Parish-based Music Conservatory

Pedals, Pipes & Pizza

Pipe Organ Encounter

Plainchant

Play Reading

Play reading of humorous stage play *The Old Organist*, about an aging organist and his family

Professional Concerns

Clergy/Musician Relations

Clergy/Musician Luncheon & Panel Discussion

Workplace Harmony: Tools for Collaborating in Ministry

Part-Time Organist

Ideas & Help

Accessible repertoire; Accompanying hymns, liturgy & choirs

Use of instruments with organ

Performance Practice

Piano Music for Church Use

Practicing

How to Practice

Surefire Practice Techniques

Praise Band

Using the Organ with a praise band, registration, arranging music, etc.

Recitals

Mini-concerts, tying into a civic event or festival

Solo recitals:

Professional recitalist

Chapter member recitalist

Chapter members recital series

Student/Rising Star Recitals

Benefit Concert

Choral Programs:

Co-sponsoring events with other organizations

Halloween/Pipescreams/Spooktacular Concert

Themed concerts - Handel organ concertos, Mozart church sonatas

Regional Councillor presentations

Season Kickoff Program

Service & Program Planning

Services

Advent Lessons & Carols

Evensong/Vespers

Service with combined choirs

Twelfth Night Lessons & Carols Service

Service Music that Connects with Your Congregation

Sight-reading

Substitute Organists - Resources for Substitute Organists and People Hosting Them

Technology

Theater organs

Tips of the Trade

Collaborative discussion regarding interludes, etc. - sharing of tips

Vocation of the Church Musician

Wellness at the Console

Preventing Injuries

Workshops

Gospel & Contemporary Music in Worship

Organ to Piano Transcription