



Middlesex Chapter American Guild of Organists

- *December 2025* -

Dean's Column:

Last Sunday I attended a service that featured not only the organ but a flute, piano, youth choir, and cantor. For me, the variety of voices and instruments helped make this religious event special in several ways. But there are other perspectives too. Beside the congregational perspective, there's also the perspective of the performers, who participate and get that special feeling of achievement, knowing that they contributed their musical talent to the service. The children's anthem during the offering was especially moving. And finally, the view of the music director, who in this case was the organist/pianist, whose efforts in putting this all together must have felt a sense of accomplishment after the event.

Coincidentally, the Middlesex Chapter's performance event this coming March will feature solo instruments and voices. The **"Organ Plus..." Member's Recital** will provide an opportunity to focus not only organ, but instruments that may be accompanied by organ or piano which add textures to enhance our services. During this time when music directors are busy scheduling musicians and singers for the upcoming holidays, it might be a good time to ask if they would be interested in performing at our "Organ Plus...." Member's Recital in March. More on this below in Upcoming Events.

Lastly, due to an unexpected scheduling conflict, our next event will be held on **Friday, January 2nd**. The event will be renamed to **"PreEpiphany Party"**. See Upcoming Events for details and directions.

I hope to see many of our chapter members as well as friends of the chapter at our upcoming offerings!

Wishing you all a happy and safe holiday season!

Soli Deo Gloria,

Joe Suchocki

Middlesex Chapter AGO Executive Board

Dean:	Joe Suchocki	jsuchocki@optonline.net
Sub-Dean:	Jody Velloso	drjodydokter@gmail.com
Secretary:	Emily Sensenbach-Gopal	esensenb@hotmail.com
Treasurer:	Mary Ann Fraser	Maryannfraser31@gmail.com
Chaplain:	Reverend Michael Krull	frkrull@aol.com
Member-At-Large:	Brenda Day	Brenda@daysmail.net
Member-At-Large:	(vacant)	

Upcoming Events:

Friday, January 2nd, 2026, 6pm: “PreEpiphany Party”- Father Mike will once again host this “Post Holiday” get together, providing members and friends an opportunity to converse while enjoying fine food, beverages, and song. A 50-50 has also become a tradition, with fun and meaningful “music related” items offered for the winners. Half of the proceeds go to the chapter’s Organ Study Grant.

Rectory:
277 Washington Place
North Brunswick, NJ
08902



Sunday, March 1st, 2026, 3pm: “Organ Plus....” Member’s Recital: In addition to the organ, this event will focus on instruments such as flute, oboe, harp, voice... to name a few. Bring an accompanist if you wish, or we can provide one. We’d love for you to share your talent with us! The event will be held at the First Presbyterian Church, Metuchen. Each performer is requested to keep within a 10 minute time limit. **Please contact Brenda Day if interested in performing!**

Brenda@daysmail.net
(732) 822-2086

April, 2026: Organs of Princeton Organ Crawl. Members will visit, learn, and play fine instruments of which the Princeton-area has to offer. Members will be treated to lunch at a nearby eatery after the event.

June 2026, Sunday, [date TBD], 3pm: Dean’s Picnic. The last event of the 2025-2026 season provides another chance for members and friends to get together in a relaxing BBQ atmosphere.

Do you have an event or other pertinent information that you wish to list in future newsletters? Email the info to Joe Suchocki – jsuchocki@optonline.net

Don’t forget about our chapter’s OSG - \$500 toward organ lessons for young pianists 18 yrs and younger

Middlesex Chapter Organ Study Grant

<https://mcago.org/organ-study-grant/>



Chapter Trivia:

Can you name this MCAGO event?



[answer to October's newsletter "Chapter Trivia" – Improvisation Workshop: Presented by Chris Deibert at Trinity Presbyterian Church, East Brunswick, 2005 - l to r: Joe Suchocki, Ed Krogstad, Chris Deibert, John Plesniarski, Brenda Day, Shea Velloso, John Stokes, Bill Kistler

