



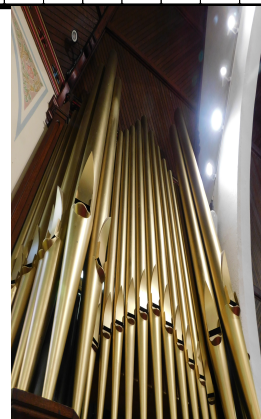
THE ROYAL CANADIAN COLLEGE OF ORGANISTS
LE COLLÈGE ROYAL CANADIEN DES ORGANISTES

QUARTER NOTES

The Royal Canadian Collège of Organists *Windsor Essex Centre*
Le Collège Royal Canadien des Organistes *Centre Windsor Essex*

CHATHAM CORNER

The Royal Canadian Collège of Organists *Chatham Centre*
Le Collège royal canadien des organistes *Centre Chatham*



Fall 2021

President's Message

By: Paul Wharram, President Windsor-Essex Centre

Dear friends,

As I sit here on the first day of autumn 2021, I can't help but reflect, with the help of the raindrops outside, on the past year and a half and how it has changed us in so many ways.

While some of us have embraced the new opportunities of communicating and staying in touch with one another, some have grown tired of impersonal online activities. Some have seized the seemingly 'extra' time to develop new skills or work on repertoire we've in the past set aside.

Restrictions are loosening, but the path back to normal musical activity is not yet clear. Case in point with our own planning for the next few months. A 'get together' for wine and conversation scheduled for this weekend (September 25) has been postponed as has an Organ Crawl being organized in collaboration with the Chatham Centre (October 23). We were hoping that a gradual return to face-to-face meetings was the best way to ease us back to reality.

However, in our planning and in discussion with some of you, the Executive Committee has determined that there is still considerable hesitancy to

group meetings during this fourth wave of the pandemic and that gathering around an organ in a church sanctuary might infringe on a church's own health and safety guidelines. The fun of watching, exploring and playing organs during a crawl will most likely be lost in our masked caution and physical distancing.

We are determined to find new and innovative activities that we can do together for a little while longer online – perhaps a Movie Night, a Phantom of the Organ Recital or maybe even a games night. To be informed of these activities and since plans can change quickly, we all need to stay in touch by checking emails, messages, and newsletters.

We are not shy about 'piggy backing' on other RCCO Centre activities. We've already done this a couple of times and had fairly good number of members participating.

My greatest concern is that you may have lost interest in the RCCO and may have felt disconnected from your colleagues and fellow members. Help us regain your support, recommit to the aims and objectives of the organization and participate enthusiastically in whatever activities we can design for you. In that way, we, the Executive Committee, are motivated and dedicate ourselves to making your membership in the RCCO fun, interesting and beneficial to you all.

Quarter Notes and Chatham Corner

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Windsor Essex Centre

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September 14- (September 1 deadline)

November 18—(November 5 deadline)

March 9—(March 2 deadline)

June 16—(June 2 deadline)

Contact Dale Burkholder
gangalf@live.com to have your events
included in our calendar.

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Executive Committee

Chatham Centre

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Member-at-large: IAN MASON

Congratulations Tate Pumfrey

Congratulations and commendations to Chatham Centre RCCO member (our youngest member!), Tate Pumfrey. Tate had the honour of having his composition, Exultemus Domino, played by Martin Larkin in the opening selection in the opening program of this year's edition of Organ Festival Canada. Tate's composition was played on the organ of St. James Anglican Church, Toronto.

From the Program Notes:

"Tate Pumfrey (b. 1998) is a rising composer from Thamesville, Ontario, and is currently completing a master's degree in composition at York University, where he studies with Stephanie Martin.

His exuberant "Toccat - Exultemus Domino" is a bold new work, inspired by Psalm 95 (Venite, exultemus Domino). Rapidly changing metres, colourful harmonies, and driving rhythms frame a hymn-like middle section which appears toward the coda in recapitulation.

The originality and vitality of this work make it a sure and welcome addition to the contemporary repertory of Canadian organ music."

For more information on Tate <https://tatepumfreymusic.com/bio>

Organist to look for

During the pandemic we have seen a rise in videos and video stars, here are 2 that have caught our attention:


Gert van Hoef is a Dutch organist. He breathes new life into the classics of organ music along with his own improves on Amazing Grace, Pirates of the Caribbean and Conquest of Paradise (by Vangelis). With over 105,000 subscribers you can't go wrong. Here is a link to his youtube account <https://www.youtube.com/user/gertrw>

Land acknowledgement

We of the Windsor Essex RCCO Centre acknowledge that we are on land and surrounded by water, originally inhabited by Indigenous Peoples who have travelled this area since time immemorial. This territory is within the lands honoured by the Wampum Treaties; agreements between the Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, Leni, Lenape and allied Nations to peacefully share and care for the resources around the Great Lakes. Specifically, we would like to acknowledge the presence of the Three Fires Confederacy (Ojibwe, Odawa, Potawatomi and Huron/Wendat) Peoples. We are dedicated to honouring Indigenous history and culture while remaining committed to moving forward respectfully with all First Nations, Inuit and Métis.

The following Overriding Principle approved by the RCCO Board of Directors in its Strategic Plan 2021 – 2024:

We are firmly committed to inclusion, diversity, and equity at all levels of the organization. We believe our work is enhanced by engaging a diverse community of individuals with different backgrounds, skills, opinions, and perspectives, thereby cultivating a welcoming environment of open communication, inclusion, and respect and we will strive to seek representation from Black, Indigenous, People of Colour and other underrepresented and equity-seeking communities in leadership roles and throughout our organization.



A pianist and singer are rehearsing "Autumn Leaves" for a concert and the pianist says:

"OK. We will start in G minor and then on the third bar, modulate to B major and go into 5/4.

When you get to the bridge, modulate back down to F# minor and alternate a 4/4 bar with a 7/4 bar.


On the last A section go into double time and slowly modulate back to G minor."

The singer says:

"Wow, I don't think I can remember all of that."

The pianist says:

"Well, that's what you did last time."



Organ Inventory Project

By: Dale Burkholder, Communications

We are excited to announce our Organ Inventory Project. It is our hope to document every pipe organ in Windsor-Essex County. We currently have a list of organs.

To date we have documented two organs. Epworth United Church and Church of the Epiphany. Both can be viewed on our website (www.rcco-windsor.com) follow the linke to “Our organs”

When you get a request from Dale Burkholder or Ron Dossenbach for a visit please don't be worried. The visit will take about an hour. Things we will be doing is:

- ♪ Taking numerous pictures both inside and outside the church along with the console and pipe chamber.
- ♪ Asking for a stoplist of the organ (indicating digital pipes).
- ♪ Asking for the history of the organ
- ♪ Asking about interesting information on the organ
- ♪ Playing a piece of music about 3-4 minutes long that highlights the organ (and creating a video of the space the organ is in).
- ♪ Asking for 2 hymns “Joyful, joyful we adore Thee” and “O God our help in ages past”. Registration to be the principal chorus on each manual. Played on the choir (If you have one), Swell then the Great.

If you have any of the information listed above in electronic form you can email them to Dale Burkholder ([gangalf “at” live \(dot\) com](mailto:gangalf@atlive.com)) before hand.

Please join us in this project to document the wonderful instruments we have here.





If you have not done so yet, visit Future Stops, developed by the RCCO to further enhance awareness of the pipe organ. A series of podcasts can be accessed at <https://www.futurestops.org>. They include the following topics. Be one of the 3,500 listeners from Canada and around the world to enjoy this resource.

- Ep. 3 — Pipe Dreams: The Making of a Documentary
- Ep. 4 — Cameron Carpenter: Sharing Organ Music from a Flatbed Truck
- Ep. 5 — In the Meantone with Sarah Davachi 34:
- Ep. 6 — The Hammond Organ with Alcée Chriss III45
- Ep. 7 — Alexandra Bartfeld: #OrganTalk - A Worldwide Online Organ02
- Ep. 8 — Organ+ with Kim Farris-Manning, Giles Perring & Afraaz Mulji
- Ep. 9 — Tim Hecker: 'Ravedeath, 1972' and the Pipe Organ's Potential
- Ep. 10 — Kara-Lis Coverdale: Beyond the Traditional Organ
- Ep. 11 — Xaver Varnus: Creating Canada's New Centre for 21st Century Organ Music



From the desk of our Chaplain

By: *The Rev'd Canon Robert Lemon*
Chaplain, RCCO Windsor Essex Centre

Dear Friends in Christ,

When I wrote my contribution to the last newsletter I did that with a great deal of hope for this fall and the potential for all of us to engage fully in music ministry in the life of the church. I am still hopeful, but I am not sure when we will have the opportunity to engage the whole community of faith in the praise of God through music. That said, I know that many of you continue to offer praise to God musically through the organ by itself or with a few singers. On behalf of the church, I want to thank you for persevering and remaining faithful despite the limitations you are experiencing in ministry.

One of the realities we've witnessed lately in the wider community is a bit of impatience with the ongoing and changing nature of the pandemic and its lingering effects. I confess to a bit of impatience too. I really just want to get on with church life. Thank God for the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit's presence in our lives fills us with grace so that, even when all is not well in the world, we still have all the love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control of heaven itself. We need all of that to live through this situation well.

I think sometimes we can lose track of the presence of the Holy Spirit and God's grace in our lives. We get bogged down in the small realities of life and our focus dwells on the problems and difficulties we face. That is where our celebration of Thanksgiving at this time of year can be particularly useful. By offering thanks to God for the beauty and wonder of creation and for God's sustaining love expressed in the harvest, we remind ourselves of the grace that we receive constantly from the hand of God. By giving thanks our perspective can be shifted back to God so that we can appreciate all that we are given to live, and live well, and live abundantly regardless of the circumstances of life. When our lives bear the fruits of the Spirit in the kind of situation we are living in right now it glorifies God by showing that God is here and active giving us all the grace we need to live through the pandemic patiently and faithfully. Thanks be to God!

Yours in Christ,



A Few Scholarship Facts

As with just about everything, the RCCO Windsor/Essex Centre Scholarship program has been impacted by Covid in the sense that lessons were put on hold for a time and new students were hesitant to begin a journey into the world of playing the organ. Yet, one student remained steadfastly involved and is making progress with great strides. This is remarkable if one is aware of the fact that Evan Su, our scholarship student, is not only studying organ but piano as well. In addition, he maintains a high average at his high school program at Vincent Massey Secondary School in Windsor.

Evan is in the second year of our Scholarship program and will be able, in short order, to begin considering providing substitute services at churches in the Windsor-Essex area.

This is one of the interesting benefits of being involved in discovering the joys and importance connected with studying the organ.

Several organ Scholarship students have availed themselves of additional funds by playing in churches and thereby making it possible to help with postsecondary education costs.

With a Grade VIII Royal Conservatory background in piano, the young pianist is a perfect candidate for the RCCO Beginner scholarship program.

After an audition, the successful candidate will be enrolled in 12 lessons and assigned a teacher with RCCO accreditation.

One aspect that should be given attention is the fact that playing both the organ and piano, leads to the one complimenting the other. Organ playing requires a certain technique to perform effectively the playing of legato passages, this in turn would aid the student in playing legato at the piano. Conversely, piano technique, including scales, arpeggios and the like, are of great benefit to enhance passages at the organ that require brilliance and virtuosity.

Playing both organ and piano results in a versatile musician with the added bonus of being able to provide instruction in both instruments.





Strategic Plan 2021 – 2024

In last June's newsletter, we introduced to you the approved RCCO Strategic Plan 2021-24 and we committed to share more fully the goals and objectives for the next four years.

Perhaps the most significant element of the new Strategic Plan is the new vision and mission statements, which will be transformative as we rebrand, refocus and refine our programming to reflect that the organ. It is believed that organ music casts a much broader sphere of influence and interest beyond its traditional faith-based purposes.

Vision:

Inspiring connections with organ music

Mission:

We promote a vibrant community that engages all people in the transformative power of the organ and its music

Strategic Direction:

We are the ultimate resource for all things organ

Increase existing resources and implement new initiatives for:

Organists	Partners	Friends and Fans
Worship Organists	Composers	Organ music fans and people
Home Organists	Organ Builders and Technicians	who support what we do
Concert Organists	Partner Organizations	
Educators		
Young Artists		
Children and Youth		

In order for us to comply with these new directions and be part of the rebranding exercise, we feel there needs to be a shift towards more secular uses of the organ and an outreach to audiences, which we have in the past not been able to engage. Many people relate the pipe organ and its music solely to the church. The increasing use of digital organs, however, gives the possibility for the organ to be played and heard in non-traditional settings (as well as in churches).

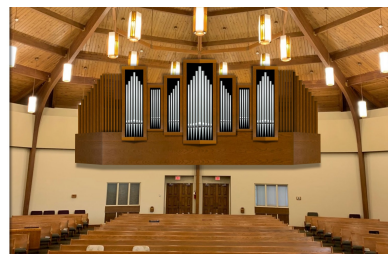
We acknowledge that this shift in focus may not sit well with all members. But keeping an open mind and exploring the broadened potential of the organ can be a positive influence on our programming.

Organ Updates

We have been tracking the progress of three organs.

Binkley United Church

Breaking News! The Netherlands Reformed Congregation in St. Catharines has been very interested in the 1931 three manual 10 rank Casavant organ in Hamilton, which is in the former Binkley United Church that is scheduled to be torn down. The NRC congregation recently had an open vote on whether to proceed with a proposal put forth by Jan Van Der Stad. The Choir division was never installed but was prepared for. The proposal will add a Choir division, the Swell will receive a Vox Humana, the Great will receive the church's current Mixture and Trumpet, the Pedal will get a 16' reed, and, most importantly, the Choir will have a five rank Cornet stop, which is a fundamental sound in the Dutch Reformed tradition, totalling 29 ranks. The congregation responded to the Organ Committee's hard work and detailed presentation with a near unanimous yes vote. Great news! See pics of the current rear portion of the unique nine-sided sanctuary and the rendering of the organ as it will appear. The organ never had a facade or a case in Hamilton or in its original location in Niagara Falls. It will now have one that complements the sanctuary without overwhelming it. Yay!



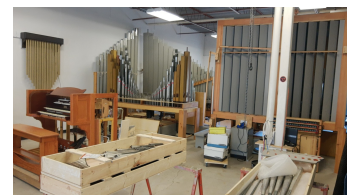
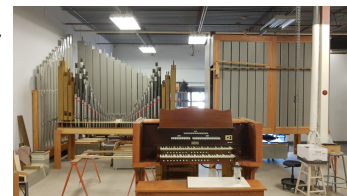
Blenheim United Church Organ

At long last BUCO is now ready for a new home and is welcoming interested parties. A few pics are included here. Soon there will be a Facebook presence on the organ blogs. To that end, we made a few short YouTube clips. A search on "Ron Dossenbach" will bring them up, but here are a few links.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CWvQNL45_oI&t=20s

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c9WnpivX_Us

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rhs-to-TCI&t=12s>



Hotel Dieu Chapel Casavant Organ

Alas, this is the one organ that is not blessed with good news. The project is still in limbo, thwarted by tepid response from both the local congregation and the diocese. The project is not dead, and there is hope that it will proceed. The organ is on site, disassembled, and could be installed quickly and inexpensively. The aging Allen installation seems to be sufficient to the parishioners. I could say something here but will demur.



This is not your bulletins?

All Hail the power of Jesus name, let Angel's false teeth fall

Blessed Insurance, Allstate is mine

Gladys the cross-eyed bear

Up from the gravy lay

Bringing in the sheets we will go to joyces...

Just as I am without one flea

Amazing Race

There is a bomb in Gilead

I am Thin, O Lord.

I Need Three Every Hour

Crown Him With Many Cows

During the absence of our pastor, we enjoyed the rare privilege of hearing a good sermon when J.F. Stubbs supplied our pulpit.

The rosebud on the altar this morning is to announce the birth of David Alan Belzer, the son of Reverend and Mrs. Julius Belzer.

The eighth-graders will be presenting Shakespeare's Hamlet in the church basement on Friday at 7 p.m. The congregation is invited to attend this tragedy.

Don't let worry kill you off – let the church help.

Please place your donation in the envelope along with the deceased person(s) you want remembered.

Let us join David and Lisa in the celebration of their wedding and bring their happiness to a conclusion.

Helpers are needed! Please sign up on the information sheet.

Diana and Don request your presents at their wedding.

The concert held in Fellowship Hall was a great success. Special thanks are due to the minister's daughter, who labored the whole evening at the piano, which as usual fell upon her.



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Choral Music

Henry Boon has now published two SATB Christmas compositions with Cypress Choral Press in Vancouver.

To see the scores and listen to the recording by the Amadeus choir of Toronto, please go to cypresschoral.com



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Supply Organists

The Windsor Essex Centre RCCO provides a list of supply organists available to cover vacations and emergencies including Sunday services. If you are a member or know of a member who would be willing to provide this service, please let us know and we will include their information on our supply list.

Michael Sewell mikesmail7@bell.net

ROYAL CANADIAN COLLEGE OF ORGANISTS
WINDSOR-ESSEX CENTRE
APPLICATION FOR CENTRE FRIEND MEMBERSHIP

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone number: _____

Email address: _____

Church affiliation and position
(if applicable): _____

Membership fee for 2015-16: \$30

Make cheque or money order payable to: Windsor-Essex Centre, RCCO

Please mail to:

Ben Schinkel, Treasurer
Windsor-Essex Centre, RCCO
103 Kimball Drive
Essex, ON
N8M 0B7

Email: organ@start.ca



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