

# Stop & Reed

March 2023

San Joaquin Valley Chapter  
American Guild of Organists

## *From the Dean*

### Dean's Message:

I know many of us enjoyed a fantastic concert with Nicole Keller at the Fresno State Concert Hall in early February. It was a delight to hear the Martin Ott organ once again after a few years, and Ms. Keller played a well-rounded program that showcased the instrument's capabilities. Many thanks to David Boldt for ensuring the organ was in excellent condition.

This month, we are excited to host our annual Hymn Festival at University Presbyterian Church in Fresno. After a few years' hiatus, last year's festival was a great return to singing, and this year's promises to be even better. We are proud to have partnered with Fresno Pacific choir director, Dr. Jeff Wilson, to put together the program. Please invite your friends and encourage singers to join the Festival Choir. To register to sing, please visit our website at [sjvago.org](http://sjvago.org). I look forward to seeing you there!

-Cactus Harris, Dean

### **Call for Substitute Organists**

Are you available to sub for services? Let us know! We would like to publish an accurate list of substitute organists in the Stop and Reed Newsletter. Please let Michael Varlas know at [mvarlas@yahoo.com](mailto:mvarlas@yahoo.com) if you would like to be added to the list. Provide contact information and availability parameters (e.g. not available Sunday mornings, funerals or weddings only, willing to accompany choir, etc.)

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Drew Maddox

# Chapter Events

## Choral Workshop

Saturday, March 18, 2023, 9:00 AM  
– 12 Noon  
University Presbyterian Church  
1771 E. Roberts Ave., Fresno

(Open to all choir members and directors. Massed choir will be singing at the Hymn Festival on Sunday).

## Hymn Festival

Sunday, March 19, 2023 at 3:00 P.M.  
Jeffrey Wilson, Director  
University Presbyterian Church  
1771 E. Roberts Ave., Fresno

## Organ Artist Series Concert

Joy-Leilani Garbutt, Organist

Sunday, June 4th, 2023 at 4:00 pm  
First Congregational Church  
2131 N. Van Ness Blvd., Fresno

## NEXT SJVAGO BOARD MEETING: NOTE THE DAY

Sunday, April 26, 2023  
6:00 PM on ZOOM.

Details will be sent out a little closer  
to the meeting date.

**The fugue is an ideal form for the  
postlude: as the voices enter, the people  
leave; when all the voices have entered, all  
the people have left.**

# Hymn Festival

The San Joaquin Valley Chapter  
American Guild of Organists present

## "THEN SINGS MY SOUL"

Sing-Along

Hymn Festival



- Dr. Jeffrey Wilson, Director
- Festival Choir
- Fresno Pacific University Choirs
- Pacific Brass | Dr. George Dougherty, Director

Sunday, March 19th, 2023 · 3 PM | Freewill Offering  
University Presbyterian Church  
1776 E. Roberts Ave., Fresno

# Hymn Festival



Dear Singers,

We are pleased to invite you to participate in our upcoming Sing-Along Hymn Festival, "Then Sings My Soul", hosted by the San Joaquin Valley Chapter American Guild of Organists. Our festival is directed by the talented Dr. Jeffrey Wilson, and will be led by a Festival Choir comprised of singers like you! The festival will also feature the choirs from Fresno Pacific University and the Pacific Brass Ensemble, directed by Dr. George Dougherty.

The festival will take place on Sunday, March 19th at 3pm (with a 2pm call time for choir members) at University Presbyterian Church located at 1776 E. Roberts Ave. Fresno. In addition to leading the hymn singing, we will be performing two beautiful anthems, "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" arranged by James Mulholland, and "Jubilate Deo" by Peter Anglea.

We will be holding a Festival Choir Rehearsal on Saturday, March 18th from 10am-12pm at the church. Music will be provided at the rehearsal.

We welcome all singers, regardless of experience level or religious affiliation, to join our Festival Choir. Come be a part of this exciting musical event and experience the joy of singing together with a community of passionate musicians.

To sign up, please visit our online registration form at <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeg63sI7eLVRsJYLUaNp4-jJthy-8YVEs2WebvieDSdD3Vn7Q/viewform> or at [sjvago.org](http://sjvago.org)

Please share the attached flier for the Hymn Festival and feel free to reach out with any questions. We look forward to singing with you!

Sincerely,

Cactus Harris, SJVAGO Dean  
[cactus@upcfresno.org](mailto:cactus@upcfresno.org)



# Organ Artist Series

## Organ Artist Series Concert Dr. Joy-Leilani Garbutt

Sunday, June 4, 2023 at 4:00 PM  
First Congregational Church, Fresno  
2131 N. Van Ness Blvd.  
-Free-will offering-



Presented by the  
San Joaquin Valley Chapter  
American Guild of Organists

Dr. Joy-Leilani Garbutt is an organist and passionate advocate for gender-equity in music. She co-founded the non-profit organization Boulanger Initiative, which supports music composed by women through education, performance, and commissions. Joy-Leilani holds a Ph.D. in musicology and has studied with renowned musicians such as Douglas Cleveland and Christa Rakich. She is currently the Director of Music at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, San Francisco.

[www.sjvago.org](http://www.sjvago.org)