

QUARTER NOTES



ISTS LE COLLÈGE ROYAL CANADIEN DES ORGANISTES The Royal Canadian College of Organists *Windsor Essex Centre* Le Collège Royal Canadien des Organistes *Centre Windsor Essex*

CHATHAM CORNER

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

Spring, 2017



Those of us who are for- tunate to	 The choir is my 'family' I always feel good after singing Of the here here are a friended. 	5	gifts with others
Paul Wharramunate to work with choirs under- stand and appreciate the work and commitment 	 Of the lovely music and friends I have made over the years Of the 'reserved' seating ^(c) It lifts my spirits and helps me get through the week humming the tunes and words I find it uplifting and I'm happy to be an important part of the service 	5	The summer program and the joyful Christ- mas music The Easter and Christ- mas anthems, which were very moving Knowing that my mu- sical talent is not being wasted and has the power to help uplift
Perhaps, however, others in our con- gregations do not fully comprehend their efforts. This year, instead of sub- mitting a summary of our music and choir activities over the past 12 months in the annual report to my church's Vestry (the governing body of a church in the Anglican tradition), I de-	 I believe the role of our church choir is to Add to the message and lead in worship each Sunday Help spread the Word through music 	5	other peoples' spirits Surprising ourselves with some of the music we've accomplished Being part of a group that makes a difference in our Parish
cided to ask choir members 3 simple questions. Their answers became the written report and I share this with you as a tribute to the 20 wonderful singers in the Epiphany Church choir. I sing in the church choir be- cause	 Lift a joyful noise and inspire Help with parishioners' spiritual development Lead and contribute in the worship service Some of the highlights for me singing in the choir in 2016 have been	yea in tal tha nu	lso asked how many ars our singers had been a church choir. The to- was 812 years. When at is translated into the mber of hours given ch year to practicing and <i>(Continued on page 2)</i>

<u>Quarter Notes and</u> Chatham Corner

Is published 4 times a year by RCCO Windsor Essex Centre

Publication Dates are 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.

<u>Executive Committee</u>

Windsor Essex Centre President PAUL WHARRAM, paul.wharram@gmail.com Past President & Membership DAVID PALMER, dpalmer@uwindsor.ca Treasurer BEN SCHINKEL, organ@start.ca Communications DALE BURKHOLDER gangalf@live.com Secretary JEAN LOWDEN jel_09@bell.net Organ Advisor RON DOSSENBACH dossen54@gmail.com Scholarships HENRY BOON hlboon@cogeco.ca

Executive Committee

Chatham Centre President: NANCY TAPLEY Vice President: HARRY ROFFEL Secretary/Treasurer: KEITH GROEN Membership : DON POLE Publicity: SANDRA BARNES & HARRY ROFFEL

Chatham Corner

Upcoming Events

Annual general meeting And social event June 2 at 17 Stanley Ave Chatham. The tentative date for Harvest Hymn Festival Oct 14 at First Presbyterian Church.

For more details, email <u>nancytapley2@gmail.com</u>.

Let's Play It Again

Friday, April 28, 6:30 pm

All members and centre friends are invited to a fun and enjoyable evening when everybody is invited to play your postlude, prelude or offertory from Sunday, April 23rd. We will all gather around the organ or piano bench and simply play for each other. What could be more fun? Please note: this is **not** a recital or a concert and



mistakes are indeed acceptable (and encouraged). Afterwards, we will continue our fun and camaraderie by going for dinner and maybe even raise a glass of wine in a toast. Don't stay away if you are not an organist or pianist. Come on out just for the fun of it. We all love a friendly and appreciative 'audience'.

Location: Tecumseh United Church, 333 Lacasse Blvd

Dinner to follow at 7:30 pm, Armando's, 13039 Tecumseh Rd E

(Continued from page 1)

participating in services of worship, the number is certainly impressive. There was added value in this exercise in that it gave our choir members a lift to know they are indeed appreciated.

Upcoming Event

Essex County Organ Crawl-May 16, 23, 2017

We are pleased to host the Essex County Organ Crawl in collaboration with ElderCollege.

What? Essex County has a number of excellent church organs. This program provides an opportunity for anyone interested in pipe organs to discover the valuable heritage of the 'King of Instruments' in our community. Participants will learn about how a pipe organ works and explore parts of organs not generally accessible. Participants will visit three churches/venues in each session to hear about the design of the organ and its unique characteristics, to hear music played, and if desired, have an opportunity to play the instruments. Sites are located in close proximity and can be easily accessed in some cases on foot. Participants are responsible for their own transportation and will be provided with driving instructions at the first session.

When? Tuesday, May 16, and Tuesday, May, 23, 2017 – 1:30 – 4:30 pm

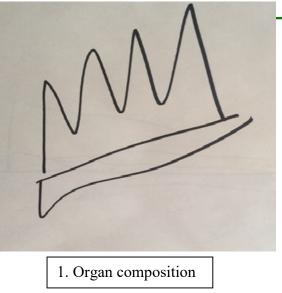
Where? May 16 - In Leamington: St. John's Anglican Church, 60 Erie Street North; First Baptist Church, 3 Fox Street; and St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 311 Sherk Street, and on May 23 - In Essex and Harrow: Christian Reformed Church, 276 Talbot Street South, Essex; Essex United Church, 53 Talbot Street South Essex; and Harrow United Church, 45 Munger Avenue East, Harrow

Who: RCCO Members and Centre Friends can participate at no cost. The organ crawl is open to the public (i.e. over 55 years old) who register through ElderCollege. There will be an administrative fee for non-RCCO members or centre friends.

What else? What else? For more details about the organ crawl, visit our website, Facebook page or Elder-College at <u>http://www1.uwindsor.ca/canterbury/eldercollege</u>.

Organ Pictionary

On February 18th, we played Organ Pictionary. Throughout this issue of the Quarter Notes we are highlighting eight of the "masterpieces". Can you guess the correct answer?



AGM and Nominations

David Palmer, Membership

Our Annual College Service and Annual meeting will be June 2, 2017

Location: Essex United Church, 53 Talbot Street South, Essex, Ontario

NOTE change in schedule

6:00 pm - Service - all of our scholarship students will be playing

7:00 pm - Dinner

8:15 pm – Business Meeting

Cost for the dinner will be announced.

Our goal is 100% attendance of our members – will you do your part?

Nominations are open for all positions on our centre executive. They may be made at any time, including from the floor at the Annual Meeting on June 2.

We invite you to think about being part of a dynamic team that continues to bring exciting programming in our region for all winwho are fascinated by the organ.

These people have agreed to stand for the 2017-18 year:

- President: Paul Wharram
- Secretary: Open

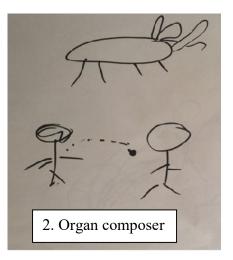
- Communication: Dale Burkholder
- A Membership: David Palmer
- Organ Advisor: Ron Dossenbach

Upcoming Events

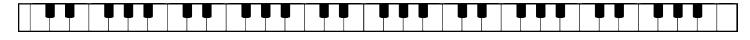
Vladimir Soloviev returns

On May 28 at 3:00 PM, Vladimir Soloviev will return to Tecumseh United Church, 333 Lacasse Blvd. Tecumseh, ON. to perform a piano recital. The program will include works by Bach, Beethoven and Liszt. Vladimir will talk about the composers and briefly discuss his approach to the performance of each work.

Your event can go here—contact Dale Burkholder at <u>gangalf@live.com</u> with the event details. Our next deadline is November 1.







THE COUNTY CLASSIC CHORALE PRESENTS

Songs of Love And Inspiration

Director Paul Wharram | Accompanist Elaine Penner

Saturday, April 22 Sunday, April 23 Sunday, April 30

7:30pm 3:00pm 3:00pm

Leamington United Church, 9 John St. Leamington United Church, 9 John St. Epworth United Church, 56 Division St. S. Kingsville

Leamington Leamington

Tickets: Adults \$12 | Students \$6

Available in advance at Wharram's Jewellery, Thomson Pharmacy in Learnington and Merlis Eatery, 4 Main Street West, Kingsville

www.countyclassicchorale.com

Students' Corner

Feedback from the Master Class "I am very grateful for the wonderful feedback that I received from Nancy Tapley at the latest Master Class; it will definitely help me to improve my organ playing. I also very much enjoyed listening to the other students. It was wonderful to see so many people interested in the organ and I am happy to be one of them. I look forward to continuing my organ studies with the RCCO." Catherine Andary, 2nd Year Scholarship Student

Student Profiles

Vincent Dupuis joined the Student Scholarship Program last June and has been studying with Henry Boon. Here is a brief profile of our newest student.

Vincent Dupuis is a home schooled student in grade 11. He is the fourth of five children and lives in Belle River. Music is a passion in his life, and he is presently working on his Grade 9 Royal Conservatory Piano. He enjoys music of all styles and plays the alto saxophone and the guitar. As a certified lifeguard and gymnastics instructor, he is busy working two parttime jobs. He also enjoys reading and is interested in languages and traveling the world.

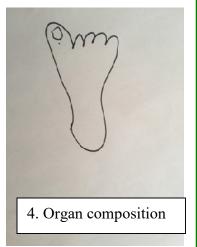
(Vince's brother Marcel was a scholarship student with the Windsor Essex Centre in 2012/13 and we are happy that the interest in the organ has been shared by these two brothers.)

Felicity Cincurak is 16 years of age, the oldest of four children, and in Grade 9 piano with the Royal Conservatory. Her interests are broad and varied. She enjoys chemistry, computer science, reading classic literature, water colour painting, and dancing classical ballet. But her first love remains music. She teaches beginning piano to five eager little girls. She has a great love for the organ and sacred music, and would love to toy around with other instruments such as the Irish whistle and the mandolin. (Felicity studies with Brian Sweetman.) "I am so grateful to the RCCO for affording me the opportunity to study this most majestic instrument. Our church organist is grateful for this scholarship, as well, because he sees a vacation on the horizon!"

Catherine Andary is a grade 9 student at École Secondaire l'Essor in Tecumseh. She is fourteen years old and currently a grade 9 piano student studying with Mrs. Mary Jeanne Peters. Catherine loves playing the piano and organ. She placed first in sight reading at the 2016 Kiwanis Music Festival, and is currently on the l'Essor swim team. Other hobbies include chess and reading. Catherine looks forward to furthering her studies in piano and organ. (Catherine studies with Margita Lange.)

Josh Palmer was interested in music at a young age. He took piano lessons and constantly tried any instrument he found. This also led to a love of composing music. Having completed his grade 8 piano, his focus now includes organ. This is his third year studying under David Palmer. Josh is a graduate of St. Clair College and works fulltime at a local architecture firm. He uses his gift of music each week at Campbell Baptist church, sometimes accompanying hymns on their organ.

Jonathan Kaberuka is in his 4th year of the RCCO Scholarship Student studying with David Palmer. He is in his 10th year, going on to his 11th year of piano study. He is in Grade 12 and is seventeen years or age. Jonathan is now Organist at St Augustine Anglican Church, a post he began in September 2016.



Pedals Pipes and Pizza

March 14, 2017 at Epworth United Church, Kingsville

A great time was had by all on March 14 at our most recent PPP. Fifteen young people along with about 20 of their parents and grandparents watched videos about the pipe organ and learned about the its origins and how it works. The fun really began when the young people had a chance to explore in the organ chambers and play some piano pieces or just 'make sounds' with the hands and feet. Here are a couple thank you letters and pictures drawn by two of the participants.



"Dear RCCO,

Thank you for teaching us about pipe organs. It was so much fun when you were talking to us about the stops. I learned that organs are so BIG and their design is very amazing. My favourite thing was playing the pipe organ. Especially I liked playing it with my feet. Thank you for organizing this special activity. Pipe organs ROCK! "

From: Henry Leo Bowman



"Dear RCCO,

Thank you for teaching us about the pipe organ. It can make a lot of different sounds. Another thing I learned was that the pipe organ has a lot of foot pedals. Last night my grandparents and I watched a video about the Atlantic City pipe organ. Thank you again RCCO"

From: Elliot Thomas Bowman



CRRO: How to Get it (Due

Diligence)

By: Ron Dossenbach, Organ Advisor

Last year, I set a goal to prepare for the Colleague diploma offered by the RCCO. This is a diploma which requires less advanced requirements than the Associate Diploma, but more than the Service Playing Certificate.

Two years ago, our president, Paul Wharram, challenged our Centre. The challenge was to have as many of our Windsor-Essex members as possible prepare for the Service Playing Certificate. As a church organist for over 40 years and holder of a music degree from the University of Windsor, I should really have done this decades ago. So I agreed to give it a shot. Long story short, I passed, along with Paul and two others. At that point, David Palmer suggested I press on and try for the Colleague Diploma.

I was flattered, and decided to look into it. Fortunately, the RCCO website has all the requirements, down to the most minute detail, of what is required. Here is where the "due diligence" part comes in. All that is required is to carefully look at all of the requirements, and to properly prepare for them. It really is that simple. Depending on your level of training, you may already have all or most of these skills. In my case, it was clear that several months of dedicated preparation would be required, as there were many requirements I presently could not meet.

This is the point where many people stop. "I can't do that, I don't know how to do that, I will never be able to accomplish that." To which I reply: nonsense! Yes you can. But it might take some work.

The RCCO website is wonderful in its accuracy and clarity. The exam has two components: a practical part and a written part. Today we will look at the former. The practical part involves the playing of one piece from List A and one from List B. Simple enough. These will take several weeks to learn. No worries. Then there is an anthem accompaniment to perform. Again, it is a matter of study. Also, two hymns from a list of six must be played. All five must be prepared, because they ask you to play your choice, then the examiners select one of the others. There is also a sight reading section. A three staff organ piece must be played. Also, an open score choral passage must be sight read. This is four staff SATB choral music. Finally, a hymn must be transposed on sight.

Here comes due diligence. If you are like me, you might be able to play the pieces and hymns, but will not be able to pass the sight reading requirements. Transposing? Four staff sight reading? No way!

Well, the truth is - "no way" might be accurate now. But these skills can be practiced and learned. Just a few minutes of practice every day is all it takes. No matter how poorly your sight reading may be, it can improve, and rather quickly. The trick is to start very slowly with a steady pace and never stop. In truth, anyone can sight read four staff music if it is done slowly enough. In my case, I had to play so do slowly that a quarter note was given the value of a whole note. But I was nevertheless delighted - even though I was playing at one quarter tempo, or even slower, I was sight reading four staff music!

The daily practice then develops a gradual increase in speed. It really is as simple as that. Put in the work and the results will eventually come.

This also applies to transposition. This was another miracle skill that had nothing to do with me. But a few minutes of daily practice was all it took. I started at glacially slow tempos, but eventually it became easier. It is important to play scales and chord progressions every day until the fingers just automatically go to the correct chords, much as a guitarist's left hand automatically goes to all those different chord positions on the fretboard.

Montreal Organ Festival July 2 – 6, 2017

Presented by the AGO Northeast Region, RCCO, & CIOC (Canadian International Organ Competition)

Discover the cradle of the organ in North America in a city with an unbeatable nightlife, and European flair. Register now for the 2017 Montréal Organ Festival! Highlights include: Olivier Latry, Nathan Laube, Cherry Rhodes, Roomful of Teeth, and the new 116rank Symphony Hall organ (Casavant Opus 3 900).

Pre and post convention days July 1st and 7th with Rachel Laurin, Renée Anne Louprette, gastronomic adventures, tour of Casavant and Létourneau workshops, and more!

There is still time to register for this exciting event.

See the full schedule at <u>http://www.montrealorganfestival.org/schedule.html</u>. Sign up and register to receive the newsletter at <u>http://www.montrealorganfestival.org/registration.html</u>.

(Continued from page 8)

All of this will prepare you for the performance portion of the exam. Most people allow six to twelve months to prepare. If regular practice is maintained, virtually all organists will be able to succeed. It may take an hour (or two) a day, but success is almost guaranteed if one carefully reads the RCCO website.

In summary, you must look closely at the requirements, then decide that the project is a Go, then begin to practice. If your attitude is, "Yes, I will have to start practicing sight reading and transposing every day", you will not do it. It takes a definite commitment to the whole process with a definite planned starting date. Get a teacher or coach.

There is also a written portion that takes place at a different time and place from the performance portion, but it is usually within a month of the performance portion. The preparation for the written portion will be discussed in Part Two next issue.

Ron Dossenbach, CRCCO



Organ Scholarships for 2017 – 2018

It is time once again to invite eligible candidates to apply for consideration to receive an Organ Scholarship. The purpose of the Beginning Organist Scholarship is to provide an introduction to organ skills for pianists who have not had organ lessons previously. Candidates may, however, hold a church organist's position. The deadline for applications is May 12, 2017 and auditions and interviews will be scheduled for SUNDAY, MAY 28, 2017 AT RIV-ERSIDE UNITED CHURCH (to be confirmed):

Requirements for the audition include:

- 1. the performance of two contrasting piano pieces of at least Grade 8 level (memorization optional).
- 2. the sight reading of one hymn at the piano
- 3. the performance of a Quick Study piece to be picked up on Friday, May 27, 2017, at a designated location.

Requirements of the course of study for successful candidates are as follows:

- a. The student will receive approximately 10 onehour lessons, which must commence no later than September, 2017.
- b. A Master Class will be arranged by the RCCO after approximately 5 lessons with the purpose of ascertaining the student's level of progress. For this class the student will be required to perform one piece and one hymn at the organ. The use of the pedals is mandatory in both selections.
- c. When the course of study has been completed the student will be expected to play a portion of the church service in at least three local churches as arranged by the teacher or the RCCO. If the student holds a church organist's position concurrent with this course of study, s/he will be required to play in one church other than the one



in which s/he regularly plays.

d. In May or June students will be asked to perform either in a student recital to be organized by the RCCO or in the College Service preceding the Windsor Essex Centre's Annual Meeting.

The application and organ practice forms can be downloaded from our website and are to be submitted to: Mr. Henry Boon, 985 Roseland Drive South, Windsor, ON N9G 1T9 For more information, please call 519-966-7569

The Joanne Quimby Memorial Bursary is also available to organists who: have achieved basic organ skills, but do not have RCCO, conservatory or university qualifications in organ performance; and are currently employed in a church and aspire to improve their skills. To qualify the applicant must be a member of the RCCO or a Centre Friend. The bursary is valued at \$500 which will provide ten one-hour lessons.

The audition will consist of the performance of two pieces, one of which must include the use of the pedals. At least one change of registration should be included in one of the pieces. Also required is the playing of two verses of one hymn. Use of the pedals is mandatory. Applicants will be asked to sight read a short piece.

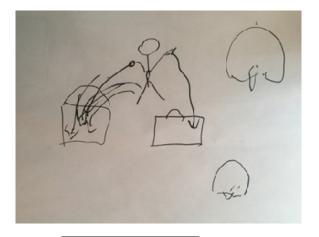
Visit http://www.rcco-windsor.com/rcco-windsor-scholarship-application-form for more information.

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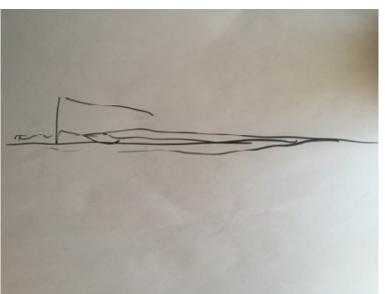


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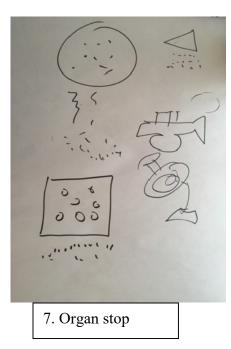
There is also the possibility for Beginning Scholarship students to reapply for second and subsequent years of study. Please speak directly with the Chair of the Scholarship program for more information.



5. Organ stop



6. Organ composer





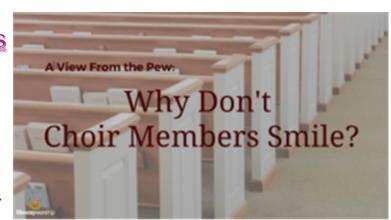
8. Part of the organ

A View From the Pew:

Why Don't Choir Members Smile?

by Chasity Phillips February 12, 2015

I'm a choir member now, but for a long time, I was in the pew. In fact, I was in the very last pew in the very back of the Church. But, there was



never a Sunday when I wasn't singing... taking my lead from those standing in the choir loft.

Finally, one Wednesday night, I did it. I. JOINED. THE. CHOIR.

There were many reasons behind my decision to join – my wanting to serve, my love of singing, my desire to honor a promise I made to God, but there's one reason I don't talk about much... I wanted to be one of the choir members smiling down from the loft and generally looking like I loved what I was called to do — joy-fully singing my praises to the Lord. Why? Because I wanted those looking up to see engaged choir members leading in worship.

Which leads me to today's "View From the Pew": Why don't choir members smile? Seriously, why aren't they smiling?

Psalm 33:1 says, "Sing joyfully to the Lord, you righteous; it is fitting for the upright to praise him."

Notice, it doesn't say sing solemnly. Or sadly. It's says, "Sing JOYFULLY." By definition, joyfully means: showing or expressing joy, as looks, actions, or speech. And what better way to show joy than to smile.

So I ask, "How many times have you sat in the pew, looking up at the choir loft filled with choir members, and wondered, 'Why aren't they smiling'?" Or at least looking like they are praising God. Or taking to heart what they are singing. Yeah. Me too.

Now, to be fair, I'm Southern Baptist to the core. Raising hands and clapping were just not how I was raised, so I get it. But a little smiling, even crying, can be seen all the way to the back of the Church. I promise.

(Continued on page 13)

Quarter Notes

Page: 12

(Continued from page 12)

So here's what I know: It's almost impossible to tell the Minister of Music that his choir needs to smile. It's definitely impossible to tell a choir member they need to look like they want to be there. So, as choir members, knowing there could be a millions reasons why we're not smiling, what can we do to help each other sing joyfully to the Lord? Because no one else is going to tell us (except maybe the 80-year-old lady).

First step:

Be excited to be part of the choir. It is a privilege to lead from the loft each Sunday. Your heart will show... all the way to the very last row. Really.

Second step:

Be encouraging to fellow choir members. If you see they're struggling, encourage them. Remind them why they are there... to lead others, but to also be led.

Third step:

Listen to the music. From the favorite hymns to the praise-filled anthems, the music sets the tone of our worship. Whether it's joyful or reverent, let your face, gestures and presence show your emotion.

Fourth step:

Think of those in the pews. They are watching you sing. Whether you're singing joyfully or tearfully, these are precious moments God uses to bring His people closer to Him. Psalm 40:3 says, "He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God. Many will SEE and fear and put their trust in the Lord.

And the last (and most important) Fifth step:

Remember to whom you are singing. Would you stand in front of Jesus and sing without enthusiasm or emotion? OR, would you stand in front of Jesus and sing with all the love and joy in your heart?

As someone that sat in the pews for a long time, I can tell you, I wanted to see the choir singing with emotion – whatever that may be – joyfully, reverently, or tearfully. Just know... every smile, every praise, every tear makes a huge difference to those looking up from the pew. Even to the very last pew in the very back of the Church.

Beautifully Blessed and Truly Thankful,

Chasity

Side note to Ministers of Music and Worship Pastors: You have a tough job... and we are so thankful for your service. All of the above applies to you as well, but even more so... with more steps. From rehearsals to productions and everything in between (devotions, team building, announcements, and more...), remember music is your language, not your message. Therefore, it is incredibly important to teach your choir members how to lead worship. As my friend Mike Harland once said, "Choirs full of people giving their worship to God are choirs that will lead the worship of others in a powerful way."



THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"What I like best about church is when the organ makes the whole place shake!"



WERE STARTING TO TAKE A TOLL ON THE PARISH ORGANIST memogenerator.net

Position Open

Paulin Memorial Presbyterian Church, Windsor, ON is seeking a music director. Duties include: playing at two Sunday morning worship services; ability to lead SATB choir; being available for extra services as required; playing weddings and funerals as needed. Candidate must possess excellent performance skills on piano and organ as well as good interpersonal skills to effectively work within a ministry team.

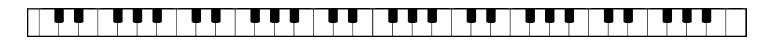
Sight reading and transposing skills are an asset. Interest in working with a children's/youth choir would be beneficial. The congregation is open to a variety of musical styles from classical to contemporary.

Email resume and references to paulinof-fice@bellnet.ca by April 10, 2017.

Pictionary Answers:

- 1: Prince of Denmark March
- 2: Carl Philippe Emanuel Bach
- 3: Crown Imperial March
- 4: Toccata and Fugue in D minor
- 5: Krummhorn
- 6: Flor Peeters
- 7: Johann Pachelbel
- 8: Expression Pedal

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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.



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