

2011-2012 Schedule



Sunday, February 19
Gerald Wolfe, organ



Sunday, March 25
Musica Spei, vocal ensemble



About the Grace Church Organ:

The Rev. A. R. Strauss of Ithaca completed an extensive renovation of the magnificent Grace Episcopal Church organ in 1991 and, thanks to a generous gift from Dr. Claude Cornwall, completed the Solo Division of the instrument in 2009. It contains 5 divisions, 54 independent stops, 73 ranks, and 4397 pipes. A booklet on the organ and the musical tradition at Grace Church is available.

Special Services & Concerts at Grace

- Solemn Evensong and Blessing of Animals
Sunday, October 9 at 3 p.m.
- All Saints' Day Mass
Tuesday, November 1 at 7 p.m.
- Advent Lessons and Carols and Solemn Mass
Sunday, December 4 at 10:15 a.m.
- Christmas Eve (with strings)
Saturday, December 24 at 10 p.m.
- Solemn Mass and Procession of the Magi
Friday, January 6 at 7 p.m.
- Solemn Evensong and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament
Sunday, February 12 at 4 p.m.
- Vespers and Compline with Monks from Mt. Saviour
Sunday, March 18 at 6 p.m.
- Tenebrae
Wednesday, April 4 at 7 p.m.
- Easter Vigil (with brass and strings)
Saturday, April 7 at 7 p.m.
- Easter Day (with brass and strings)
Sunday, April 8 at 10:15 a.m.
- Ascension Day Mass
Thursday, May 17 at 7 p.m.
- Corpus Christi Mass
Sunday, June 10 at 10:15 a.m.

Music at Grace

2011-2012



Grace Episcopal Church

375 West Church Street
Elmira, New York, 14901
(607) 732-0545

www.grace-elmira.org

Music at Grace



Sunday, October 2
Jonathan Biggers, organ



Sunday, October 23 and
Sunday, December 4
NYS Baroque



Sunday, November 20
Wilma Jensen, organ



Music at Grace

2011-2012 Schedule



Jonathan Biggers, organ

Sunday, October 2, 4 p.m.

Jonathan Biggers maintains an active career as both a professor of organ and a concert organist. Currently Chair of the Department of Music and Edwin Link Professor of Organ at Binghamton University, he has performed concerts in both church and university settings throughout the U.S., Canada, and Europe, and has been frequently featured on CBC and NPR broadcasts. He received his doctorate from the Eastman School of Music, where he studied with Russell Saunders. He received his Bachelor and Master of Music degrees at the University of Alabama, studying with J. Warren Hutton. He has also studied with Lionel Rogg, Wallace Zimmerman, Harold Vogel, and Arthur Poister. Dr. Biggers has won numerous competitions, including first prizes in the 1986 Geneva International Competition and the 1990 Calgary International Organ Festival Concerto Competition, and second prize in the 1982 American Guild of Organists National Open Playing Competition. He has premiered numerous works for organ and has two acclaimed compact disc recordings published.

Wilma Jensen, organ

Sunday, November 20, 4 p.m.

Wilma Jensen has been heralded as an outstanding recitalist, church musician and teacher. An extensive career as a concert organist has taken her throughout the United States and Europe to play on such well-known instruments as those at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C., the Mormon Tabernacle in Salt Lake City, Riverside Church in New York City, and the West Point United States Military Academy. She has also played for several Regional Conventions and three National Conventions of the American Guild of Organists. Dr. Jensen earned her Bachelor and Master of Music degrees from the Eastman School of Music, where she was a student of Catharine Crozier and Harold Gleason. During that time she received the highly coveted Performer's Certificate in Organ. She has been on the faculties of Oklahoma City University, the Blair School of Music of Vanderbilt University, Scarritt Graduate School, and Indiana University, where she was a tenured professor.

Dr. Jensen's concert is co-sponsored by the Chemung Valley chapter of the American Guild of Organists

Gerald Wolfe, organ

Sunday, February 19, 4 p.m.

Gerald Wolfe is well known locally for his performing and conducting work in the Elmira/Ithaca area. Serving at Grace Episcopal Church as parish musician since 1995, Gerald is organist and choir director. Since 1990 he has been conductor of the Ithaca Community Chorus, a 100+ vocal ensemble that performs masterpieces of the oratorio tradition with full orchestra and professional soloists. For 23 years Gerald was the organist and choir director at St. Paul's United Methodist Church, Ithaca, and was founder and director of the Gerald Wolfe Singers, now the Cayuga Vocal Ensemble. He has given numerous recitals in the central New York area and elsewhere, and is a graduate of Princeton University, where he studied organ with Dr. Carl Weinrich.

Musica Spei, vocal ensemble

Sunday, March 25, 4 p.m.

Musica Spei (Music of Hope) explores the vast repertoire of rarely-performed, sacred choral masterworks of the medieval and renaissance periods, sharing the riches with audiences throughout central and western New York. Rehearsing and performing unaccompanied and without a conductor, the group develops its interpretations in a collaborative fashion, communicating and interacting in a manner not unlike the members of a jazz or chamber music ensemble. Musica Spei celebrated 15 years of music-making in 2010 with the release of its second CD, *Cathedrals of Sound*, offering a retrospective of highlights from programs past. Other recent accomplishments include a live performance on WXXI's Backstage Pass radio show and a reinvigoration of the Rochester Early Music Festival (REMF), which the group first organized in 2001. The 2009 REMF featured Thomas Tallis' masterpiece for 40 voices, *Spem in Alium*, performed by Musica Spei with the help of singers recruited from around the Rochester region.

NYS Baroque

Grace Church is again pleased to host NYS Baroque for two performances.

The concerts they will perform at Grace have their own subscription charge, and are not part of our free concert series.

**** Tickets for general admission are \$25; seniors \$20; college students \$10; grades 3-12 admitted free. ****

NYS Baroque performs music of the Renaissance, Baroque and early Classical periods on period instruments with what the Syracuse Post-Standard hails as "[an] exquisite balance of sound and astounding synchronicity." Led by Artistic Director Heather Miller Lardin with concertmaster Julie Andrijeski, their repertoire ranges from orchestral to choral and chamber music. Now entering its 23rd season, NYS Baroque was founded in 1988 by oboist Peter Hedrick and bassoonist Elizabeth Hedrick. Awarded Early Music America's "Early Music Brings History Alive" award in 2006, NYS Baroque's Arts in Education program invites yearly collaborations with local teachers and students. Recent guest appearances include performances at the Skaneateles Festival, the Indiana Early Music Festival, and the Boston Early Music Festival.

Double Bach: The *Concerto for two violins in D minor* (BWV 1043) paired with the *C major Overture* (BWV 1066), plus two *Concerti grossi*: Sammartini's op.5/6 and Handel's op. 6/6. With Zelenka's *Hipocondrie*. Julie Andrijeski and Marika Holmqvist, violins

Sunday, October 23, 4 p.m.

Dolce Maria: Music devoted to the Blessed Virgin Mary by Grandi, Rigatti, Biber, Castellano, and others. Nell Snaidas, soprano.

Sunday, December 4, 4 p.m.