

Music on the Avenue

The Unity Brass

Sunday, March 19, 2023

4:00 PM



Welcome to *Music on the Avenue* at Saint John Evangelical Lutheran Church

We are thrilled to welcome **The Unity Brass Quintet** to Saint John!

Formed in 2018, the Unity Brass Quintet is a group of dedicated, enthusiastic community brass players from the Pittsburgh area. Our goal is to play a wide variety of music at a very high level, for the enjoyment of a wide variety of audiences. We strive to excite, relax, and most importantly entertain our listeners and make music accessible to everyone. The Quintet has played recitals, informal programs for community group events and fundraisers, and church services. Detailed Biographies of the artists can be found on pages 5 & 6 of this program book.

The 3-manual 17-rank Nancy J. McBurney Memorial Pipe Organ was designed and built in 2017 by the Patrick J. Murphy & Associates, Inc. Organ Builders of Stowe, Pennsylvania. This wonderful instrument has enriched the worship life of our congregation since it was first played at our morning worship on December 24th of that year. The specification of the organ is found on page 7 of this program book.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There will be a free-will offering received this afternoon You may place your donations, which will be used to offset the costs associated with this program, in the offering basins at each door of the sanctuary.

Restrooms are located on the main floor of the Educational Building, accessed through the doors at the front of the sanctuary.

We want to express our thanks to members of Saint John's Liturgical Choir, our Worship Ministry Team and our Hospitality Ministry Team for hosting this afternoon's reception.

For the next program in our *Music on the Avenue* series, we will welcome back *The Sounds of Pittsburgh*. The program will be held on **Sunday, April 23rd at 4:00 PM**. Details will be forthcoming, so keep watching for information!

**And finally, we want to thank each of you for
attending and supporting this concert!**

THE PROGRAM

Escape Kevin McKee
(b. 1980)

Rigaudon André Campra
(1660-1744)

The Unity Brass, with Jeffrey H. Gray, Organ

Killer Tango Sonny Kompanek
(b. 1943)

Quintet No. 1 Victor Ewald
(1860-1935)

Tuba Solo T.B.D.

Jive for Five Paul Nagle
(b. 1941)

Intermission

Summer (From "Seasons: A Symphony for Brass Quintet") John Stevens
(b. 1951)

West Side Story: Leonard Bernstein (1918-1990)
arr. Jack Gale (1936-2022)

- *Something's Coming*
- *Maria*
- *One Hand*
- *Somewhere*
- *America*
- *Tonight*

A reception where you can greet the musicians will be held in the Scheel Friendship Room following the concert. The Scheel Friendship Room is located on the main floor of the Education Building, accessed through the doors at the front of the sanctuary.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Catherine Getchell has played trumpet since fourth grade and performs actively in the community, currently as co-principal trumpet of the Edgewood Symphony and in the East Winds Symphonic Band and Unity Brass Quintet. She has soloed with the Washington Chamber Symphony, Yale Symphony Orchestra, East Winds Symphonic Band, North Suburban Symphonic Band, Merion Concert Band, and Providence Chamber Orchestra. She works at Carnegie Mellon as the Director of Disability Resources. Outside of playing trumpet and her work at Carnegie Mellon, Catherine enjoys hiking, biking, and other outdoor activities, cooking, and studying Middle Eastern language and culture.

Todd Obidowski received his bachelor's degree in Music Education from Slippery Rock University in 2005, and his master's in Trumpet Performance from the University of Louisville in 2007. As a music educator Todd has taught almost all grade levels and music subjects. He is currently the Director of Bands at Carlynton Jr./Sr. High School where he conducts the concert bands, percussion ensemble, and directs the marching band. Todd has been a featured soloist with the Mercer Community Band, and the North Suburban Symphonic Band.

Barbara Folb received her bachelor's in Music Performance from Carnegie Mellon University and master's in Music Performance from Youngstown State University. She is currently principal horn of the Edgewood Symphony, hornist for the Desperate Measures woodwind quintet as well as the Unity Brass and a member of the Tuesday Musical Club. She holds a master's in Library Science and master's in Public Health from the University of Pittsburgh. In April 2019 she retired from her career as a Public Health Informationist at the University of Pittsburgh Health Sciences Library System. She is an avid gardener, sewist, and hiker.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Joe Williams began his musical studies on the trombone through the Philadelphia Public Schools while in the second grade. He graduated from Temple University with a Bachelor of Music Education degree (cum laude) and subsequently received a Master of Fine Arts degree in Music Performance from Carnegie-Mellon University. Mr. Williams was a founding member of the Pittsburgh Brass Quintet which performed throughout the Western PA area and also served on the faculty of the prestigious Tanglewood Music Festival Institute with the Empire Brass Quintet Seminar. For eighteen years, Mr. Williams was the principal trombonist of the Pittsburgh Opera and Ballet Orchestras at the Benedum Center for the Performing Arts. Following a fulfilling career in music, Mr. Williams was called into Youth Ministry where he served as the Director of Student Ministries at Beverly Heights Presbyterian Church for 20 years. After his retirement he has returned to his love for the trombone and has recently become a member of the Unity Brass Quintet as well as the Edgewood Symphony Orchestra. He also is an adult volunteer for the Urban Impact Jazz Ensemble which serves students in the Northside Community. Mr. Williams resides with his wife, Anne Martindale Williams in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Their daughter, Claire is currently attending Touro Osteopathic School of Medicine in Harlem, NYC.

Russ Pedersen received his undergraduate degree at Duquesne University and his masters at Carnegie Mellon University. Both a musician and educator, Russ has performed around the country and in Scotland and Canada with such ensembles as the American Wind Symphony Orchestra, the River City Brass Band, the Westmoreland Symphony, the Washington Symphony, the Edgewood Symphony, the McKeesport Symphony, the Big Easy Jazz Band and the Unity Brass Quintet. Russ has been involved in music education since 1982 when as a high school student, he worked as a marching band staff music instructor. (*Russ's bio continues on page 6*)

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Russ's experience as an educator includes several years in the Pittsburgh City Schools. He began work in the Carlynton School District in 1996 as the High School Marching Band Director. He also taught elementary band, choir, general music and served as dept head until his retirement in December of 2020. Russ also worked with the Pittsburgh Youth Philharmonic Orchestra as the Prelude Band conductor, brass coordinator for all ensembles and as the music librarian. His most influential teachers include Matty Shiner, Sumner Erickson, Edward Kleinhammer and Arnold Jacobs. Russ makes his home in the South Hills of Pittsburgh with his family of musicians, his wife Diane and his two sons Luke and Liam.

Jeffrey H. Gray has served Saint John as its Organist/Director of Music and Liturgy since May 1, 1981. He studied organ and music theory while in high school as part of Carnegie Mellon University's "Saturday Extension" program, and took classes in Choral Conducting at Westminster Choir College. Jeff has been a member of the Pittsburgh Chapter of the American Guild of Organists since 1976, where he currently serves as the chapter Registrar. In addition to his duties at Saint John, he is also one of the staff organists at Old St. Luke's Church in Scott Township, where he plays for their 3 annual worship services, as well as several weddings held there each year.

SPECIFICATION OF PATRICK J. MURPHY OPUS 65

GREAT

- 16' Gemshorn
- 8' Open Diapason *
- 8' Chimney Flute
- 8' Gemshorn
- 4' Octave *
- 4' Flute
- 2-2/3' Twelfth
- 2' Fifteenth
- 1-3/5' Tierce
- III-IV Mixture
- 8' Trumpet
- 8' Oboe
- Chimes (21 tubes)

SWELL

- 8' Stopped Diapason
- 8' Gemshorn
- 8' Gemshorn Celeste
- 4' Principal
- 4' Chimney Flute
- 4' Gemshorn Celeste II
- 2' Octave
- 2' Block Flute
- 1-1/3' Quint
- II Cornet
- 16' Bassoon (*tc*)
- 8' Trumpet
- 8' Oboe
- Tremulant

SOLO

- 8' Solo Diapason
- 8' Stopped Diapason
- 8' Gemshorn Celeste II
- 4' Stopped Diapason
- II Cornet
- 8' Trumpet
- 8' Oboe
- 4' Clarion
- Zymbalstern

PEDAL

- 32' Resultant
- 16' Diapason
- 16' Subbass
- 16' Gedeckt
- 8' Stopped Diapason
- 8' Octave *
- 8' Gemshorn
- 4' Choral Bass
- 4' Flute
- 16' Contra Trumpet
- 8' Trumpet
- 4' Clarion
- 4' Oboe

COUPLERS

- | | |
|----------------|----------|
| Swell to Great | 16'8'/4' |
| Solo to Great | 8' |
| Swell to Swell | 16'/4' |
| Great to Pedal | 8' |
| Swell to Pedal | 8'/4' |
| Solo to Pedal | 8' |

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The Rev. Sara H. Irwin, Pastor

Jeffrey H. Gray, Organist/Director of Music and Liturgy

601 Washington Avenue • Carnegie, Pennsylvania 15106-2898

Phone: 412.279.2952 • Email: sjelc@saintjohncarnegie.com • Online: www.saintjohncarnegie.com