James Burr, Organ

Sunday, 10 July 2022, 3:00 p.m.

First Congregational Church (UCC), Andover, CT

**Program**

*Melody* Alexandre Guilmant (1837–1911)

*March*

*Chorale prelude on “Wie sch¨on leuchtet der Morgenstern”* Ernst Richter (1808–79)

*Humoresque “L’organo primitivo”* Pietro Yon (1886–1943)

*Glorious things of thee are spoken* Joseph Haydn (1732–1809)

Arr. Rex Koury

*Nola foxtrot* Felix Arndt (1889–1918)

*Meditation from “Thaïs”* Jules Massenet (1842–1912)

*Roulade* Seth Bingham (1882-1972)

*Festival toccata* Percy Fletcher (1879–1932)

Formerly organist at this church, **James Burr** is now organist at the Vernon Congregational

Church. He writes:

I was introduced to the organ while in middle school. Not long afterwards ‘Hooked on Classics’ hit the airwaves and I fortuitously received two books of easy organ arrangements of classical favorites. Indeed, the hook was set! I continued formal instruction on the organ with Christa Rakich while pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree at the University of Connecticut. After graduating, and for over thirty years now, I’ve been playing piano and organ for church services, both here at Andover Congregational and, since 2005, at the First Congregational Church of Vernon. Outside of church I’ve enjoyed a variety of musical endeavors which include: accompanying various instrumental or voice students at UConn, playing harpsichord, recorders and singing with the Storrs Collegium Musicum early music ensemble, learning the carillon at Trinity College, singing with the Vernon Chorale, and tuning pianos and assisting in the tuning and/or refurbishment of pipe organs. My interest in music from long ago continues to be enriched by the Amherst Early Music Festivals, where I explore the musical worlds of the harpsichord, viola da gambas, renaissance reeds and early notation.

The E. and G.G. Hook and Hastings Tracker Organ, Opus 675, to be heard at this concert was built in 1872, purchased by the church in 1983, rebuilt and restored by the Stuart Organ Company of Chickopee (MA) and dedicated in 1985.