

NOTES FROM OUR ORGANIST - Gerald Near, b. 1942, the composer of today's organ voluntaries, an alumnus of the University of Michigan, has an extensive catalog of well-crafted, published, choral and organ music. His early choirmastership at Calvary Church, (an Anglo-Catholic parish) Rochester, Minnesota, afforded him the opportunity to hone his craftsmanship for the special choral requirements for that unique community of worshippers. Later, he was appointed a lay Canon Precentor (Director of Music and Organist) of St. Matthew's Cathedral. Dallas, Texas, before becoming composer-in-residence at the Cathedral of St. John, Denver, CO. Currently he is a freelance composer, and Choral Director and Cantor at Holy Faith Episcopal Church, Santa Fe, New Mexico. The organ work today, **Suite for Organ**, has three movements: *Chaconne* (variations on a short recurring theme begun in the pedals); *Saraband* on "Jerusalem My happy home"; and *Finale*. The first two movements will be aired for the prelude, while the final section is heard at the recession.

W.A.R.