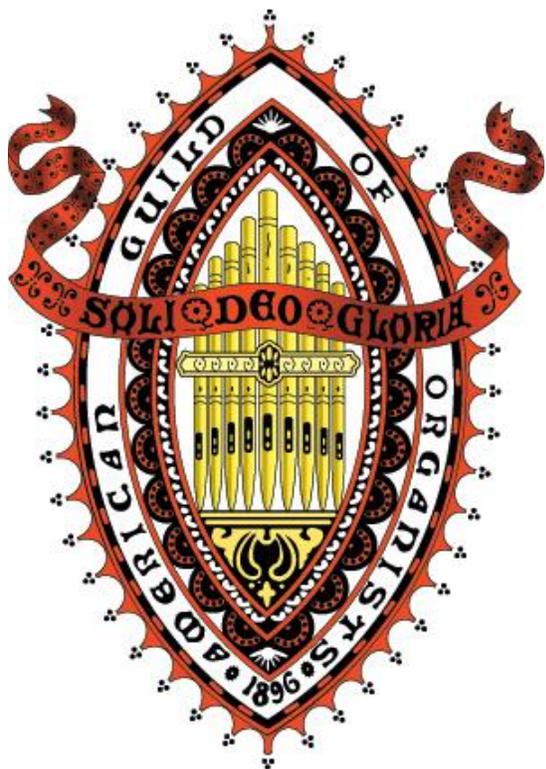


CHATTANOOGA CHAPTER

American Guild of Organists

Soli Deo Gloria



Executive Board Members

Dean: Sarah Harr

Sub Dean: John Wigal

Treasurer: Virginia Marion

Secretary: Linda Thompson

Prof. Development: Jim Bailiff

Membership: Anne Aycock

Publicity: Tristen Rowland

Newsletter: Joshua Bracken

P.O. Box 80055, Chattanooga, TN 37414

<http://www.agochattanooga.org>

American Guild of Organists: Mission and Vision

The mission of the American Guild of Organists is to foster a thriving community of musicians who share their knowledge and inspire passion for the organ.

The vision of the American Guild of Organists is to engage, support, and uplift every organist.

The American Guild of Organist website: <https://www.agohq.org/>

Please join us for our next monthly program!



Monday, May 22, 2017, 6:30 p.m.

**End of Program Year Gathering
Dinner, Meeting and Elections, and Worship Service**

\$15/person, Reservation required (program@agochattanooga.org)
AGO members, spouses, family, and friends are all welcome!

Menu:

Chicken Picatta, Roast Beef au jus, Sautéed Green Bean Salad, Roasted Red Potatoes, Greek Salad, Chocolate Cake, Strawberry Cake, Assorted Beverages

First Lutheran Church, 2800 McCallie Ave., Chattanooga, 37404

We will also be holding our **First Annual Music Sale** at this event.
All proceeds will benefit the Chattanooga AGO endowment/scholarship fund.

*Please dress to have your Chattanooga AGO yearbook picture taken at this event!

Monthly Program Ideas?

Do you have an idea or suggestion for an upcoming monthly program? We are currently putting together the 2017-2018 Program Calendar and we'd love your suggestions! Whether it's a new program idea or a suggestion for how to improve an existing annual program, please call or email Sarah Harr (901-486-3700, sarahharr@ymail.com) as soon as possible so we can incorporate your ideas into our next program year. Thank you so much for contributing to the continued growth and success of this chapter!

From the Dean

“I just don’t have time for _____.”

The busy-ness of Lent, Holy Week, and Easter are behind us. The school year is coming to an end and, before we know it, summer will be in full swing. Hard to believe, isn’t it?

Inevitably, what happens next, when we find ourselves with a little extra time on our hands? We fill it up FAST! I’m just as guilty as the next person for doing this. In fact, I am fully aware that I am the type of person that thrives on being busy. Often, my feelings of self-worth come from my ability to crush a to-do list in record time, and if I’m not as productive as I had hoped (regardless of the reasons why), I beat myself up over it. Perhaps it’s my generation, my gender, my chosen profession, my stage in life, or a combination of factors that has made me this way. But, I know I’m not alone, am I?

I’m a bit busier these days than in years past because, for the first time, I’ve made a commitment to volunteering on a regular basis. Since moving to Chattanooga three years ago, I’ve joined several organizations and served on multiple boards, most recently the Chattanooga AGO executive board. But, my schedule now is no more or less hectic than it was before. I can’t pinpoint exactly why these priorities have suddenly come into focus, other than my coming to the realization that I have always wanted to contribute to my church, my network of mom supporters, my academic colleagues, and my fellow church musicians in a volunteer capacity and I had yet to commit to it.

Ultimately, what I’ve learned is that making a commitment to something that is meaningful, but not technically required of you, isn’t about having time to do it. It’s about MAKING time to do it. Often, these priority-based choices don’t make a lot of sense on the surface. For example, my family moved to Chattanooga with no place to live and no job prospects, but we knew that coming here was the best decision for us because it meant we could spend more time together as a family. We gave up everything in our lives that was no longer a priority to make time for what we felt was important. We kept saying to each other, “Life is too short for us to be spending so much time/money/energy doing _____.” (I’m sure you can fill in the blank with your own reasons.) So, we took a leap of faith and trusted that our priorities would guide us to make the right decision.

Now is the time of the year for our AGO chapter to nominate and elect our future board members. Our chapter membership is sixty members strong, and we are fortunate to be amongst a thriving and supportive musical community in Chattanooga! However, over the past year since I have been dean, our member engagement has been an ongoing issue. Our attendance, communication, feedback, and enthusiasm has been less than stellar, and I don’t know what to do about that. Despite the best efforts of our executive board and veteran members, these issues have not improved. Not only am I struggling to come up with members who are willing to either serve on the executive board or on various committees, I can’t even put together a nominating committee to create a slate of officers for next year. Forgive my candid tone, but I feel that I need to be completely honest. I’m genuinely concerned about the future of our AGO chapter.

Given the current climate of our national organization and the recent changes put forth by the FTC, we need committed volunteers now more than ever. The recent limitations put on our members is discouraging, to say the least. The aging demographic of our members, the decrease in organ student enrollment and full-time employment opportunities, the lack of universities and churches able and/or willing to compensate us

proportionally to our education and experience—these factors have contributed to a generally low morale amongst AGO members all over the country.

Our passion, our profession, our calling does not have to be destined to disintegrate. We all say we want to help grow the AGO. However, to actually do that, each one of us needs to commit to making time for the AGO. We're all busy, I get that. We all have commitments that we've made both willingly and unwillingly that we must honor. We are all in different phases of our lives and have different priorities. All that I ask is that you consider setting aside an amount of time, no matter how small, to contribute to the purpose and the mission of the AGO in Chattanooga—whether that means serving on a committee, committing to a board position, hosting an event, or reaching out to fellow members to invite them to stay engaged with our chapter. ANY amount of time you make for us will be appreciated and beneficial, not just for our current members but for the future of our chapter, our national organization, and our profession.

Have you read the Value Proposition of the AGO on the national website? If not, here it is:

As a member of the American Guild of Organists you can:

Connect with other organists

Enhance your skills as an organist and choral conductor

Celebrate the organ in historic and evolving contexts

Discover news of the organ and choral world online and in *The American Organist*

Nurture new organists of all ages

Share knowledge and expertise

Enjoy camaraderie at chapter events and conventions

Find inspiration and challenge

Receive encouragement from colleagues

Experience great organs and organists

Access career opportunities and job listings

Earn professional credentials through AGO certification

Keep these values in mind when thinking about how the time you've made for the AGO can be best spent.

The next time anyone approaches you and you find yourself responding, "I don't have time for..." ask yourself two more questions: "Is this a priority?" and, if the answer is yes, "How can I make time for..." If the Chattanooga AGO is a priority to you, please make time for it. Every contribution of your time, no matter how big or small, will make such a difference—I promise! I appreciate each of you and the time you are making for our Chattanooga AGO chapter and our community!

Soli Deo Gloria,
Sarah Harr

The Chattanooga AGO Endowment Fund was created in 2015. At that time, proceeds from the Vienna Boys Choir concert sponsored by our chapter were placed in an investment fund to provide long-term preservation and growth. The Investment Committee and the Executive Board encourage members and friends to consider making a charitable donation or planned gift to the fund. All gifts are tax-exempt charitable contributions.

Further information will be forthcoming over the next several months on how you can participate in this exciting opportunity to support your chapter. – Sheryl Horton, Investment Committee Chair

Upcoming Local Arts Events:

Music for Misericordias Domini Sunday

Chattanooga Bach Choir
Sunday, April 30, 4:00 p.m.
Christ Episcopal Church, downtown Chattanooga

Sticks & Tones Percussion Ensemble Concert

Monday, May 1, 7:00 p.m.
Roland Hayes Concert Hall at UTC

Play Along with the CSO

Sunday, May 7, 1:00 p.m.
Chattanooga Market, First Tennessee Pavilion

Falling in Love

Choral Arts of Chattanooga
Thursday, May 18, 7:30 p.m.
Second Presbyterian Church

Arts for Health: The Healing Power of Music

Thursday, May 18, 5:00 p.m.
Hunter Museum of Art

Nativity Rising Artists Series:

Works for flute & organ by Telemann, Krebs, Mozart & Donjon

Rebecca Davis, flute
Sunday, May 21, 10:30 AM
Nativity Episcopal Church

“Der Vampyr” by Heinrich Marschner

Scenic City Opera Company
May 26-June 4
www.sceniccityopera.org

*If you'd like to add an event to our monthly calendar, please email us at news@agochattanooga.org.

Is your church planning a special celebration for the 500th Anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation this year? If so, please tell us how, when, and where. We are compiling a calendar of local Reformation Anniversary events. Please email or call Sarah Harr with the details of our event to be included in the publication. Thanks!

Distance Learning Opportunities for Church Musicians

The **Leadership Program for Musicians**, a cooperative program between the ELCA and The Episcopal Church, is proud to announce online courses for church musicians who desire to develop their foundational knowledge and skills, especially those serving smaller congregations.

SPRING

Developing a Philosophy of Church Music, *taught by Jennifer Baker-Trinity*
Lutheran Liturgy, *taught by Scott Weidler*

SUMMER

Christian Hymnody, *taught by Julie Grindle*

Although designed specifically for musicians, pastors and others are welcome to register, as well. For complete information, including links to registration, see: <http://www.lpm-online.org/distancelearning/>.

Chattanooga AGO Music Sale

We are currently accepting donations of organ, piano, instrumental, vocal, sacred, classical, and any other music editions you have and are no longer using for an upcoming Music Sale on May 22, 2016. All proceeds from this sale will benefit a future organ scholarship fund. If you would like to donate music or volunteer to help coordinate or prepare for the Music Sale, please call or email Sarah Harr: 901-486-3700, sarahharr@ymail.com. Please consider donating to help us establish a scholarship fund for future organ students to pursue their educational and professional goals. Thank you!

AGO Certification Classes

Are you interested in working toward one of the AGO levels of certification? Several of our members are working toward the Service Playing certificate and we'd like to get together a few times a month beginning in June 2017 to work together to prepare. If you have previously worked toward AGO certification and would like to volunteer, or if you are interested in beginning the certification process at ANY level, please contact Anne Aycok (anneaycock@icloud.com) or Sarah Harr (sarahharr@ymail.com). We'd love to help guide you through the practical and rewarding process of AGO certification—chapter support makes all the difference! Thanks!

AGO Chattanooga Yearbook Coming Soon!

Our executive board will be soliciting volunteers, taking pictures, and collecting member information THIS year to begin the process of creating a new chapter yearbook. If you would like to help in **any** way (photography, advertising, word processing, printing, etc.), please let Sarah Harr know as soon as possible. We hope to get the process underway as soon as possible. Thank you so much for your help!

Available Positions:

Nolensville First UMC is in search of a part-time music director in a church that is growing along with our community. We are looking for someone with a strong Christian faith and some familiarity with Methodist/Wesleyan practices and theology. This position may be divided among two people. Duties and responsibilities include but are not limited to:

Working with the Pastor and Worship Committee to facilitate the direction of music programs for Nolensville First UMC. This includes planning and leading music for both Worship Services on Sunday morning with the Chancel Choir for Traditional Service and the Praise Band for the Contemporary/Blended Service and coordinating Sunday congregational songs with weekly scriptures and sermon.

Children's Music and Drama:

Coordinating with Children's Minister in planning music and programs.

Directing plays and musicals.

Planning and presenting seasonal programs.

Recruiting, organizing, and overseeing children's choir(s), including volunteers to assist with music programs.

Facilitate music accompaniment from wide array of talented instrumentalists and vocalists.

Recruiting for all music programs by scheduling, developing and mentoring volunteer instrumentalists, vocalists and worship leaders for Praise and Chancel Choir.

Facilitating Dot Arnold Scholarship fund-raising.

Managing CCLI license to ensure royalties for music performed.

Managing music budget.

Preparing submission for monthly newsletter as needed.

Attending and participating in staff meetings.

Oversee audio systems.

Maintaining choir room organization and equipment.

Cataloging all music and CDs.

Recruiting, training, and re-establishing the handbell choir.

Incorporating learning where possible

Top Strategic Goals for this Position:

1. Plan music for worship services 4-6 weeks in advance.
2. Facilitate and continue multiple options to "open the doors" for greater recruitment among congregation.
3. Cultivate community involvement within each area of the music programs (Choir, Praise team, etc.)

To Apply: Email letter of interest and resume to David Belden, Music Director Search Committee Chair, at: numc@nolensvilleumc.org.

First Presbyterian Church of Dalton, GA, is immediately seeking a qualified tenor to join its Choral Scholar Program. Choral Scholars are choral students in high school or college who (either permanently or transiently) reside in or near Dalton. Exemplifying exceptional predicate choral skills, these students develop their existing skills through singing challenging repertoire, providing leadership to volunteer members, and furthering their knowledge of music theory and its application in a liturgical setting. Scholars receive a \$35 stipend per call with an average of two calls per week—Wednesday rehearsal at 6p or 6:30p and worship on Sundays at 10a. Experience in solo performance is desired but not required. Applicants are encouraged to submit a résumé and any applicable voice recordings to Trent Whisenant, Director of Music, at twhisenant@firstpresdalton.com.

Burks United Methodist Church is looking for a keyboardist to play in their praise and worship band.

Skills Wanted

Keyboardist should be comfortable playing in all twelve major keys.

Keyboardist should be acquainted with music from the “praise and worship” genre, covering the last decade or so. (Common repertoire includes works from Bethel, Chris Tomlin, Matt Redman, Passion, Crowder, Planetshakers, Elevation Worship, etc.)

Keyboardist should be comfortable transposing, reading chord charts and lead sheets, and should be able to appropriately carry out different roles (chordal support, soloist, melody, synth pad, etc). Reading music is not required, but is encouraged. Familiarity with the Nashville Number System is not required, but is encouraged.

Other Requirements

Keyboardist must have an ongoing relationship with Jesus Christ.

Keyboardist must work well with others.

Keyboardist must be punctual.

Details

Time responsibility includes sound check at 10:00am and service at 11:00am on Sunday mornings. Rehearsals take place every Wednesday at 7:00pm in the sanctuary.

Burks UMC is located at 6433 Hixson Pike, Hixson, TN 37343.

For all other information, or to set up an audition time, please contact Matt Kelly at (423)

364-7262 or matt@burks.org.

First Presbyterian Church (EPC) in Rome, GA seeks a part-time Organist. The congregation has a combined weekly attendance from the traditional and contemporary services that averages 650 and supports a growing music ministry. The weekly position commitments include the 10:30 am Sunday morning traditional service and the Wednesday evening Chancel Choir rehearsal with occasional extra services including major services of Advent and Lent as well as weddings and funerals. The candidate will accompany the Chancel Choir, soloists, and other occasional chamber ensembles on organ or piano as needed. Weekly responsibilities also include providing preludes and postludes in addition to hymn playing and ensemble accompaniment. The successful candidate will possess superior sight reading skills and will encourage congregational singing through creative and well executed service playing. Personal requirements include a minimum of a bachelor’s degree in music and a growing Christian faith. First Presbyterian Church is located in downtown Rome, GA and the sanctuary houses a 33 rank Reuter pipe organ and a 7 foot Baldwin grand piano. The annual salary is in the range of \$20,000 for 15 hours per week of rehearsal and personal practice and is based upon experience and education. Interested applicants please email an application letter and resume including three references to: Dr. Aaron Rice, Director of Classic Music Ministries, at aaronr@fpcrome.org.

Director Of Music Wanted: East Ridge United Methodist Church is seeking a part-time Director of Music. The candidate will be have a dynamic personality and will be proficient in keyboard and voice. Salary range \$10-\$12,000/year. Please email resume and cover letter to: pastorsauer@comcast.net.

Rivermont Presbyterian Church (PCUSA), Chattanooga, TN is accepting applications/resumes for the part-time position of organist – responsibilities include playing organ, accompanying the choir, and accompanying occasional soloists for the 11:00 a.m. Sunday service and Wednesday evening choir rehearsal. Special services will also be included. Send resumes and inquiries to rpcorganist@gmail.com or mail to the church C/O Beth Russell. Mailing address is 3319 Hixson Pike, Chattanooga, TN 37415.

AGO Southeast Regional Convention
June 11-14, 2017
Jacksonville and St. Augustine, Florida

<http://www.agojax2017.com>

Dear Members of the Southeastern Region of the American Guild of Organists:

I wanted to express my great excitement about the upcoming Southeastern Regional Convention of the American Guild of Organists to be held in Jacksonville, Florida June 11-14. From the very start of this spectacular week, including pre-convention worship services that will feature 28 members of the Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra, to the closing gala recital in Jacoby Hall featuring Christopher Houlihan, this convention will be a time of renewal, exploration, and enrichment. Improvisation tools, children's choral techniques, service playing ideas, body mapping, and so much more will be offered in the workshop sessions. World-class musicians will dazzle and delight and friendships old and new will be strengthened and formed.

Now, in the midst of our busy schedules and lives, is a perfect time to register for the convention. Give yourself something to anticipate! I was once told that you should always schedule your next vacation or retreat before the one you are on ends. That way, you cannot be sad at the conclusion. When the Houston convention finished in the summer of 2016, I knew I would miss the music and our wonderful colleagues; however, I was still smiling with the knowledge that Jacksonville 2017 was on the horizon.

Conventions of this caliber cannot be funded on registration fees alone. They require the assistance of generous donors and benefactors such as you. My first charge is to encourage your participation in our Jacksonville convention by registering today. You will be all the richer for coming and experiencing this festival of organ and choral music. Additionally, please consider making a donation to convention. Your contribution not only directly funds this convention, but it aids in keeping the regional conference system alive and well. These events encourage your fellow organists with the inspiration and practical advice that this convention will provide. Please remember, regional conventions are a responsibility taken on by the chapter and the region. The success of our convention, as well as all of the funding, is our regional responsibility. Bear in mind that National will not assist us if we were to have a budget shortfall.

Even if you cannot attend the convention in Jacksonville this summer, please consider a gift to show your support. Not only will you be publicly recognized for your charity, but through your gift you demonstrate that your heart is with the American Guild of Organists. You can know that you have helped to make this a great convention. Gifts of any size are a step in the right direction. Perhaps you could skip that fancy coffee one afternoon and instead give those few dollars to the convention effort. We would be very grateful.

I send my heartfelt thanks to all involved in this upcoming convention, especially those on the steering committee in Jacksonville. I look forward to seeing you all in June and I cannot wait to experience this wonderful program dedicated to our beloved art.

My very best,

Homer A. Ferguson III, D.M.A.
Regional Councillor, Southeast

Young Organists Encouraged to Apply for Lutheran Summer Music Academy & Festival

(Minneapolis, MN) Lutheran Music Program has selected Kenneth Miller to serve as the Regina Holmen Fryxell and Patricia Schad Legee Chapel Organist at the 2017 Lutheran Summer Music Academy & Festival (LSM) from June 25th to July 23rd on the campus of Valparaiso University in Valparaiso, Indiana. Miller currently serves as Assistant Professor of Church Music and Organist and Choirmaster of the Chapel of the Apostles at the School of Theology at the University of the South in Sewanee, TN.

As a member of the artistic faculty, Miller will maintain a private organ studio, teach the Introduction to Pipe Organ elective class, and serve as a member of the LSM worship team. In addition to serving as primary organist for all LSM worship services, Miller will also perform as a soloist and with the LSM Bach Cantata.

Lutheran Summer Music is a four-week residential training and performance program. Each summer, LSM brings together 150+ 8-12 grade band, orchestra, choir, keyboard and organ students from the U.S. and abroad in a supportive, intentional community.

AGO members from the Chattanooga Chapter are invited to refer students for the 2017 convening of Lutheran Summer Music Academy. All students using the application code **AGO200** will receive an automatic \$200 tuition discount. Other merit and need-based assistance is available.

For more information, go to lutheransummertime.org or contact Dietrich Jessen and Kristina Rodel, Admissions Directors at 888.635.6583 or email at admissions@lutheransummertime.org.

Reformations and the Organ, 1517–2017 September 10-13, University of Notre Dame

To celebrate the installation of a magnificent new organ by Paul Fritts, Sacred Music at Notre Dame and the Westfield Center for Historical Keyboard Studies will host a conference: Reformations and the Organ, 1517–2017. We are honored to have a keynote address by Kerala Snyder. Other papers will be presented by Paul Fritts, Annette Richards, and Robert Bates and recitals on both Fritts organs at Notre Dame. Cristophe Mantoux, Kimberly Marshall, and Craig Cramer will perform on the new Murdy Family Organ in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart. Annette Richards, David Yearsley, Robert Bates, Matthew Dirst, Paul Walker and Stephen Lancaster (organ/voice), Kevin Vaughn, Nicole Simental, and Annie Laver will give recitals on the Fritts organ and the Italian organ in the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center's Reyes Organ and Cher papers will be presented by Paul Fritts, Annette Richards, and Robert Bates and recitals on both Fritts organs at Notre Dame. Cristophe Mantoux, Kimberly Marshall, and Craig Cramer will perform on the new Murdy Family Organ in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart. Annette Richards, David Yearsley, Robert Bates, Matthew Dirst, Paul Walker and Stephen Lancaster (organ/voice), Kevin Vaughn, Nicole Simental, and Annie Laver will give recitals on the Fritts organ and the Italian organ in the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center's Reyes Organ and Choral Hall. For more information, please visit www.sacredmusic.nd.edu/sacred-music-events/reformations-and-the-organ-1517-2017.

Congratulations to our own David Stultz!



The most recent winner of the Chattanooga Music Club's Edwin Lemare Organ Scholarship, and co-winner of the Chattanooga Music Teachers Association annual competition, David Stultz presented his senior piano and organ recital at Brainerd United Methodist Church on April 7, 2017. The exciting program began with a creatively improvised and enthusiastically sung rendition of "Crown Him with Many Crowns." Composers on the program encompassed multiple time periods and a wide variety of styles, including Clerambault, J.S. Bach, Beethoven, Brahms, Chopin, Vierne, and Alain. David concluded his program with Paul Manz's "Oh That I Had a Thousand Voices," played from memory. Shortly after his recital, David announced that he would be attending the University of Tennessee at Knoxville in the fall as a Music and Art major. Congratulations David! We are so proud of you!



As Delbert's Messiaen practice session draws to its conclusion, the Altar Guild waits for the "ALL CLEAR".