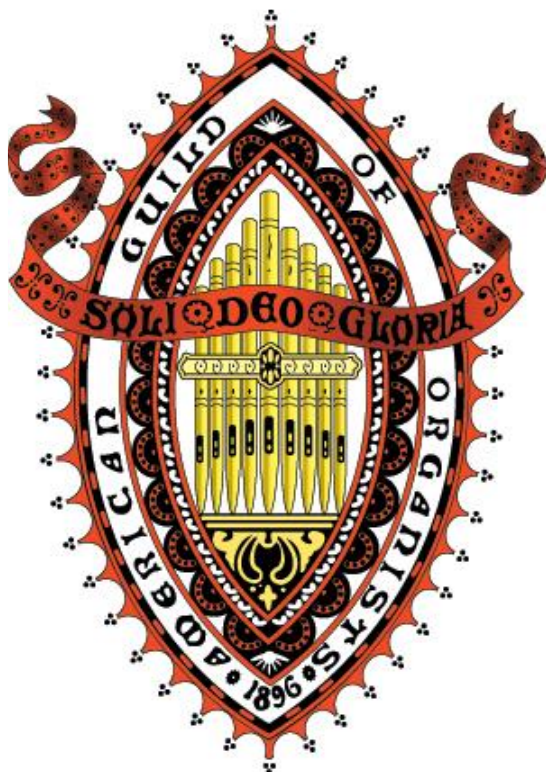


CHATTANOOGA CHAPTER

American Guild of Organists

Soli Deo Gloria



Executive Board Members

Dean: Sarah Harr

Sub Dean: John Wigal

Treasurer: Paul Hesselink

Secretary: Joy Gibbons

Prof. Development: Jim Bailiff

Membership: Anne Aycock

Publicity: Buddy Shirk

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!



Annual Student Recital

Monday, January 29, 7:00 p.m.

Basilica of Sts. Peter & Paul (214 E. 8th Street, downtown Chattanooga)

This event is free and open to the public. Please join us for a reception in the Fellowship Hall following the recital. For more information, please email us at news@agochattanooga.org.

From the Dean

"2018 Re-Solutions"

As many of you know, I am currently unemployed, having gone from four part-time jobs to now only one quarter-time position. From a professional standpoint, 2017 was a very difficult year for me. I faced a disproportionate amount of unfairness, disappointment, and discrimination. Through this experience, I came to realize there is very little (nothing, actually, apart from hiring a lawyer) that I can do to "officially" report unprofessional/illegal behavior or prevent it from being perpetuated. I feel that, despite my best efforts, my voice has not been heard, and my rights have not been upheld. Unfortunately, after reaching out to the AGO and other denominational and academic organizations looking for support, I discovered they cannot support me due to their own legal limitations. I absolutely do not want anyone to have to experience what I have. However, I question whether the tremendous effort and energy I've put into publicizing and preventing discrimination (gender, age, race, education, etc.) in the workplace makes any real difference. So many people have said to me, "This is the culture and you just need to accept it," or "Your standards are too high; you need to compromise more," or "You can't expect to be compensated what you think you are worth." My favorite one is, "You're too passionate about what you do; it's just a job, so don't take it personally." Since when is being called by God to be a church musician or educator just a "job?" It's not just what I do – it's who I am. Having not done it on a Sunday morning for over a month, I can say with certainty that I don't feel at all like myself. Sitting in the pew feels wrong, and listening the organ or singing a hymn brings me to tears.

The reason I say all of this is two-fold. First, I'm sure all of you have experienced some type of unfairness or injustice in a work situation, whether it's for a church, school, or any place of business. Depending on your age, your education, your experience, your personality, etc., you made the decision to either walk away quietly or to

fight for what you believed to be right. I've done both, so I have no right to judge. Either way, I hope you walked away from that experience having learned a valuable lesson. Good or bad, right or wrong, every failure is practice for success.

The second reason is for me, and all of you, to begin this new year with a feeling of optimism and hope. I have finally achieved enough distance from the trauma I experienced to gain some perspective. I'm working to reconcile, to love, and to forgive – not just the people who hurt me, but primarily myself. The church, and every job, is **IN** the world, even though we strive to make it not **OF** the world. One of my favorite theological terms is the word "liturgy" because it literally means work of the people. We constantly strive for perfection, but we will never attain it. Only God is perfect. But, because we "work" so hard to worship God the way we feel God deserves to be worshipped, our liturgy is good enough for God because it is the absolute best we can do.

So, what is your re-solution? How are you going to re-solve a problem this year? I say this to myself and to you: regardless of who supports or criticizes you, who appreciates you or who takes you for granted, who you've forgiven or who's forgiven you – you can learn from every experience and take that knowledge with you. One of my favorite authors and theologians, C.S. Lewis, said, "God allows us to experience the low points of life in order to teach us lessons that we could learn in no other way." As your dean, your colleague, and your friend, I am here to support you, and I know that you support me. For us, professional or personal hardships are typically one-in-the-same. The being said, we are all uniquely equipped to understand and empathize with each other. I encourage you to join me in this focus for the coming year. I hope you have a blessed new year.

Soli Deo Gloria,
Sarah Harr



URGENT Need for 2018 New Board Members

As we begin to form our Nominating Committee, I invite you to seriously consider joining our chapter's executive board. Beginning in July 2018, we will need a Dean, Treasurer, and Membership/Hospitality Chair. These positions present a variety of commitment levels, and you will be thoroughly trained by the current board member several months before taking office. Speaking from personal experience, I have thoroughly enjoyed being a part of this group and I look forward to continuing to serve in the coming years. Please join me and let's continue to grow our chapter. I'm here if you have any questions or concerns. – Sarah Harr



Chattanooga AGO Music Sale

We are still accepting donations of organ, piano, instrumental, vocal, sacred, classical, and any other music editions you have and are no longer using. **We will be hosting another music sale at our January 29, 2018 Student Recital, so please come prepared to pay with cash or check.** 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 this month (January 2018) 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 Aycokk (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 so much!



AGO Southeast Region January Jubilee 2018

Saturday, January 13, 2018 | 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Featured Clinician and Performer: David Cherwien

Hosted by the Nashville, Tennessee Chapter AGO

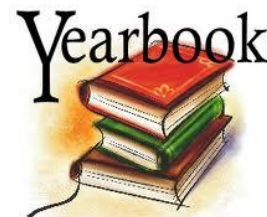
St. George's Episcopal Church

4715 Harding Road, Nashville, TN 37205

Reservations are due by January 10th: info@nashvilleago.org.


Volunteers Needed: AGO Chattanooga Yearbook Committee

Now that we have our updated member pictures and contact information, we need some folks to put it all together, format it, and print it for our membership. If you would like to help in any way (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!



Student Sunday
January 28, 2018

Encourage a student to share their music in a local worship setting at your church or synagogue. The musical baton needs to be passed on to the next generation.



Student Recital Monday
January 29, 2018
Basilica of SS Peter and Paul on 8th Street., 7 pm
Students share the console in an evening of organ solos. Please come and support these young artists - our future.

Oregon Bach Festival 2018 – Organ Institute Auditions

The OBF Organ Institute, directed by Grammy-award winning organist Paul Jacobs, offers organists the opportunity to immerse themselves in the masterworks of organ repertoire, and to explore technique and interpretation through specialized seminars, master classes, and performance. The gift of a generous grant from The Reed Foundation provides these talented musicians tuition-free access to the six-day course of master classes and performances, with no cost for room and board. More information, including audition requirements, can be found on our website: <http://oregonbachfestival.com/organ-institute>. The deadline to apply is March 21, 2018. Contact us with any questions at obforgan@uoregon.edu. We look forward to seeing you here next summer! - Mark Stevens, Coordinator for Education and Operations, Oregon Bach Festival.

Upcoming Local Arts Events:

Chattanooga Symphony: Mozart and Schubert

Sunday, January 14, 3:00 p.m.

Chattanooga State Humanities Building Auditorium

Sung Compline

Offered by musicians from area Episcopal Churches

Sunday, January 14, 7:30 p.m.

Christ Church Episcopal

Combined Concert: Chattanooga Music Club and MacDowell Music Club

Sunday, January 21, 2:30 p.m.

Second Presbyterian Church

J.S. Bach: Cantata 73 *Herr, wie du willst, so schick mit mir*

Chattanooga Bach Choir

Sunday, January 21, 4:00 p.m.

Christ Church Episcopal

John Hamm Performing Arts Series: Katherine Jolly, soprano; Emily Yap Chua, piano

Thursday, January 25, 7:00 p.m.

Covenant College

Chattanooga Symphony: Movie Masterworks

Thursday, January 25, 7:30 p.m.

Tivoli Theater

Choral Evensong for the Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul

Sunday, January 28, 4:00 p.m.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Chattanooga Symphony: Family Concert "Compose Yourself"

Sunday, February 11, 3:00 p.m.

Volkswagen Conference Center

Scenic City Chorus

Sponsored by the Chattanooga Music Club

Sunday, February 11, 2:30 p.m.

Christ Church Episcopal

Chattanooga Symphony: Big Band Fever

February 16 and 17, 7:30 p.m.

Tivoli Theater

Handel: Chandos Anthem, No.3 / (Psalm 51 *Have Mercy upon Me, O God*)

Chattanooga Bach Choir
Sunday, February 18, 4:00 p.m.
Christ Church Episcopal

John Hamm Performing Arts Series: Lysander Piano Trio

Thursday, February 22, 7:00 p.m.
Covenant College

Chattanooga Symphony and Chattanooga Youth Symphony: Side by Side Concert

Sunday, February 25, 3:00 p.m.
Tivoli Theater

Choral Evensong to benefit Metropolitan Ministries

Sunday, February 25, 4:00 p.m.
St. Paul's Episcopal Church

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

Available Positions:

First Christian Church, Disciples of Christ located at 650 McCallie Avenue in Chattanooga seeks a part-time organist/pianist. Ideally, the position will begin in January 2018 or when the successful candidate is available. FCC has a congregation that is very appreciative of their music program and organist. Duties and responsibilities will include playing for our one worship service per week, accompanying the adult choir in rehearsal on Sunday morning before the worship service, playing seasonally appropriate organ preludes/postludes/offertories (preferably on organ), being available for unplanned services (i.e. funerals, occasional weddings), playing for non-Sunday seasonal services (i.e. Ash Wednesday, Holy Week, Christmas Eve), adequately sight-read piano accompaniments on choral works, and being able to enjoy the members of our choir, congregation and have a great time getting to know them. Compensation will be highly adequate. For more information and/or to schedule an interview/playing audition, please contact: Gary Wilkes, Music Director, gwilkes428@gmail.com or (423) 718-4874.

Grace Episcopal Church in Chattanooga seeks quarter-time Interim organist. Responsibilities include accompaniment for the principle Sunday Eucharist and one weekly choral rehearsal (September – May). Additional duties consist of providing music for occasional services such as Holy Week liturgies, quarterly Evensongs, and weddings/funerals as available. Familiarity with Episcopal worship or similar liturgical traditions is preferred. Compensation will be competitive and commensurate to education, skill level, and experience. The Interim Organist WILL be eligible to apply for the permanent position. Interested applicants should submit a cover letter and resume with at least three references to saygracemusic@gmail.com as soon as possible. Grace is home to a 400-seat nave and 3-manual Moller pipe organ.

2017-2018 AGO Program Calendar Dates:

February 25, 2018: 4:00 p.m.:
Evensong and Dinner, Sewanee University of the South

March – No Program

April 27 and 28, 2018: Recital (7:00 p.m.) and Masterclass (10:00 a.m.):
Katherine Meloan, First-Centenary United Methodist Church

May 2018:
End of Program Year Dinner and Worship, TBD

Pedals, Pipes, and Pizza – October 21, 2017

