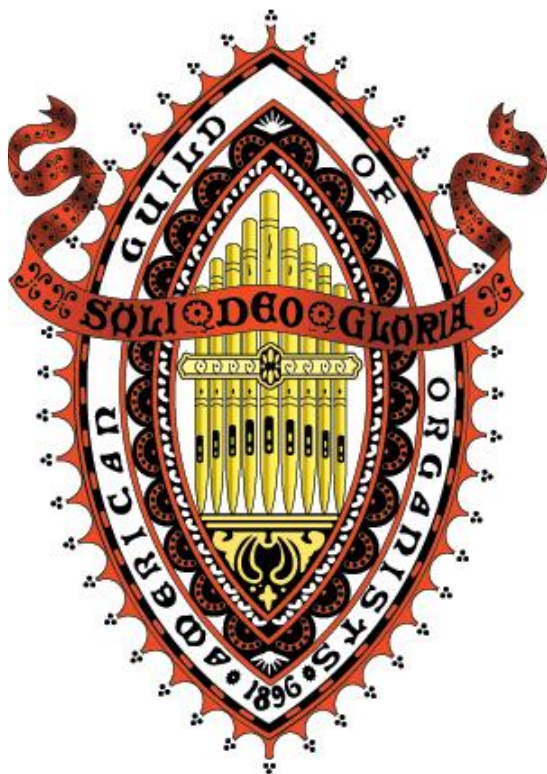


# CHATTANOOGA CHAPTER

## American Guild of Organists

*Soli Deo Gloria*



### Executive Board Members

Dean: Sarah Harr

Sub Dean: John Wigal

Treasurer: Paul Hesselink

Secretary: Andrea Tierney

Prof. Development: Jim Bailiff

Membership: Anne Aycock

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 event:**



*End of Program Year Dinner*

**Tuesday, May 15, 2018**

**Dinner at 6:00 p.m., Program at 7:00 p.m.**

**Hixson United Methodist Church, 5301 Old Hixson Pike, 37343**

**Please join us for our annual End of Program Year dinner.  
The cost for the meal is \$15/person. A vegetarian option will be available.**

**Please RSVP by Monday, May 7 to [program@agochattanooga.org](mailto:program@agochattanooga.org).**

**Following the meal, we will elect our 2018-2019 chapter officers, then gather for a brief service, recognizing our new officers, as well as demonstration of the new organ, and a special recognition for Dr. Keith Reas, who is relocating to Rochester, NY.**

**All Chattanooga AGO chapter members, spouses, family, and friends are encouraged to attend this event!**



**Do you or your students need a pair of organ shoes?**

Several of our chapter members have extra pairs of both men's and women's organ shoes in a variety of sizes that they are willing to donate. Please let us know if you need a pair. Thanks!

## From the Dean

### Making the Most of Transition

I was thrilled to see so many of you at Katherine Meloan's Recital and Masterclass this past weekend. I'm sure you were as impressed and inspired as I was! Her repertoire choices were unique, her technique was stunning, and her teaching style was enlightening. My students greatly benefitted from their experiences with her, as did I. It was a wonderful event, and I sincerely hope we can keep this momentum going.

I've been thinking a lot over the past year, and especially since last weekend's programs, about how we can excite and encourage more pianists in the Chattanooga area to learn to play the organ. Almost, if not all, of my current organ students are accomplished pianists. Although this is not always the case, the benefits of having piano experience prior to learning how to play the organ is still up for debate. Based on my limited teaching experience, my feeling is that it depends on the student. My pianist students often get frustrated when their piano technique drips over into their organ lessons, especially when that technique is detrimental to their organ playing. Thanks to my students, I learn new ways to help pianists transition to the organ from my students every single day, but I have yet to "officially" learn how to train pianists to become successful organists who can substitute at a church or play on a regular basis.

I was browsing on the national AGO website recently and discovered a resource that may be a good starting point. Under the Education tab is a link called "New Organist Pages." The page titled "Lessons for the New Organist" is a compilation of thirty videos covering the basics of organ playing, particularly in the context of worship. What a rich and relevant resource! Perhaps our chapter can use these videos as a starting point for a series of workshops or masterclasses to train pianists – not just one at a time, but in a group setting. I'm sure all of you have your "trial by fire" stories about learning how to play the organ. Wouldn't it be amazing if we could intentionally prepare pianists to substitute for us on the organ before we need them? Is this novel? No. Is this possible? Absolutely!

In addition to the many resources available through the AGO website, there's always AGO certification. Organists at any skill level can pursue AGO certification. For members who have already done so, they will tell you that their playing improved substantially in the process. Seven years of attempting the AAGO and the FAGO completely transformed my playing abilities, as well as my confidence, my adaptability during worship, and my ability to overcome performance anxiety. Once you complete your first successful exam, you're hooked!

I would love to hear your ideas about how we, as a chapter, can focus on including and training Chattanooga-area pianists to not only join the guild, but also benefit from the guild. Their involvement is a win-win for all of us! After getting to know Katherine Meloan last weekend, and seeing her teaching in action, I strongly feel this is possibility for our chapter if we make it a priority.

Looking forward to seeing you all one more time on May 15. We will enjoy a delicious meal, vote on and bless our new officers, and enjoy the beautiful sights and sounds of Hixson United Methodist Church.

Soli Deo Gloria,  
Sarah Harr

## Chattanooga AGO Slate of Officers 2018-2019

### Class of 2018 (rolling off in June):

John Wigal, sub dean  
Anne Aycock, membership and hospitality  
Paul Hesselink, treasurer

### 2018-2019 Proposed Executive Board:

#### Class of 2019:

Sarah Harr, dean

#### Class of 2020:

Kristopher Schwinn, sub dean  
Jim Bailiff, professional development  
Andrea Tierney, secretary  
**Vacant, treasurer**

#### Class of 2021:

Jeff Scofield, membership  
Evangeline Wycoff and Beth Nichols, hospitality co-chairs  
**Vacant, publicity**



Our thanks to Dr. Geoffrey Ward and his staff for a lovely evening on the beautiful campus of the University of the South in Sewanee, TN. Sixteen of the Chattanooga AGO chapter plus two from the Nashville area were among the many attendees at the 4 o'clock evensong led by the students and faculty of the university. The service in that worshipful space was most meaningful and the short recital following was quite informative and allowed the listener an opportunity to hear the updated Casavant organ. The meal after was very enjoyable and gave the chapter members an opportunity to visit with Doctors Ward and Miller in an informal setting. The upcoming slate of officers was presented and elected by acclamation by the members present. Future plans are being explored for a return visit by the chapter before year's end. – Jim Bailiff

## The Sewanee Choral Institute to Debut in June 2018

The University of the South is pleased to announce the first Choral Institute at Sewanee, Tennessee. This summer program is open to high school aged students who have a passion for music and love to sing. Participants in the Choral Institute will be immersed in the Anglican choral tradition of Sewanee and the University of the South. Highlights of the Choral Institute include singing Choral Evensong and the Sunday morning University Eucharist at All Saints' Chapel. Applications are available online. Please contact University Organist & Choirmaster Geoffrey Ward ([ghward@sewanee.edu](mailto:ghward@sewanee.edu)) if you have any questions about the Choral Institute at the University of the South.

**Upcoming Local Arts Events:**

**Organ Dedication Concert by Nick Bowden**

Sunday, May 6, 4:00 p.m.  
Hixson United Methodist Church

**Choral Evensong for Ascension Day**

Thursday, May 10, 7:30 p.m.  
St. Paul's Episcopal Church

**Chattanooga Music Club Former Scholarship Winners Concert**

Sunday, May 20, 2018, 2:30 p.m.  
Brainerd United Methodist Church

**J.S. Bach: Cantata 74 "Wer mich liebet, der wird mein Wort halten"**

Chattanooga Bach Choir  
Sunday, May 20, 4:00 p.m.  
Christ Church Episcopal

*\*If you'd like to add an event to our monthly calendar, please email us at [news@aqochattanooga.org](mailto:news@aqochattanooga.org).*



Congratulations to our own **Ethan McGrath** for his recent accomplishments as a rising composer. He recently was awarded a First and Second Prize in two categories by an international jury at the "Musica Sacra Nova" Composer's Competition in Gdansk, Poland. In addition to the thousands of euros, Ethan will be flown to Germany later this year for the world premiere of his "Nunc dimittis" to be presented by the prestigious Trinity College Choir, Cambridge under the direction of Stephen Layton. The premiere in Brauweiler, Germany will be followed by performances in Cambridge, England, and Vilnius and Gdansk, Poland. Ethan just returned from the ACDA convention in Louisville, KY where his composition for massed choir was a featured anthem at the cathedral in the Bluegrass State's largest city. Additionally, Ethan has been published by several major choral houses and music presses. Way to go Ethan, we are very proud of you! – Jim Bailiff



**JACOBS SCHOOL  
OF MUSIC**

INDIANA UNIVERSITY  
Bloomington

**The Jacobs Organ Academy**, July 15-20, is designed along the lines of a European organ academy. Participants will receive intensive instruction in organ performance while also having an opportunity to explore various other interests and related studies. The **JOA** offers a **track for college-aged** organ students, and a **pre-college track**, both tailored to offer organists a substantive weeklong summer education opportunity within the US. We are keeping enrollment low enough to afford all attendees a generous amount of time on our two major Fisk concert hall organs. There will also be opportunities to play the new [Paul Fritts organ, Opus 41](#), at First Presbyterian Church.

The JOA offers instruction in technique and repertoire, church music, theory, and registration, as well as plenty of practice time, an organ crawl, masterclasses, concerts, a closing performance, and a little fun along the way. The **college-aged track** includes a specialized focus on specific repertoire: this year's topics are the music of J. S. Bach and his North German predecessors, and music since 1900. The German Baroque focus will lead to a performance on the Fritts organ, while the latter repertoire includes a survey in a masterclass/performance setting.

The **pre-college track** can accommodate experienced organists and newcomers to the instrument. We encourage **pianists** with an interest in organ to consider this as well; proficient pianists keen on learning to play the organ can expect to receive a thorough introduction to the instrument in a thoroughly stimulating environment.

Our faculty, Janette Fishell, Vince Carr, and Chris Young, have decades of teaching experience, preparing students for the challenging and fruitful world of church music, performance, and teaching, and encouraging them to embrace excellence in all aspects of their musical lives. Additionally, Academy fees and dorm costs are quite reasonable! Further information and application procedures for the Jacobs Organ Academy can be found here: <http://music.indiana.edu/precollege/summer/jacobs-organ-academy/index.shtml>

## **AVAILABLE POSITIONS**

**Rivermont Presbyterian Church (PCUSA), Chattanooga, TN** will soon have an opening for our organist for our 11:00 am traditional service. Responsibilities include playing organ, accompanying the choir in worship and Wednesday evening rehearsal, and accompanying occasional soloists for the 11:00 am Sunday service. Compensation will be commensurate with skill level, education, and experience. To apply, send a cover letter and resume to Director of Music, Kimberly Pringle [kimprpc@gmail.com](mailto:kimprpc@gmail.com).

**St. Augustine Chapel at Alexian Village of Tennessee, located on Signal Mountain, will soon have an opening for an organist for our 9:30 Mass on Sunday mornings.** This position opens on April 8, 2018. We have a small choir and wish to sing basic hymns for the seasons, and the various Mass acclamations. One hour long weekly practice with the choir would be helpful at the organist's discretion. Please respond to Brother Richard Lowe ([blowe@alexianbrothers.net](mailto:blowe@alexianbrothers.net)) or call for questions (423-551-3969).

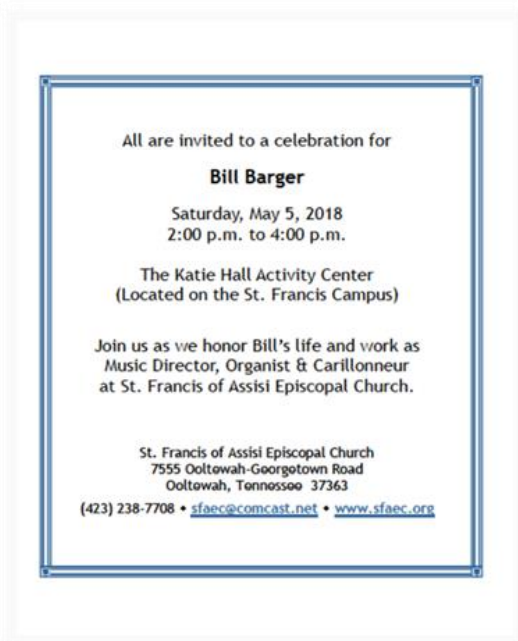


**St. Paul's Episcopal Church – Chattanooga, TN**

**Vision Statement for our Program and Minister of Music:** St. Paul's Church desires a highly-participatory music program centered on Episcopal liturgy and hymnody with excellence, diversity of music and choirs for all ages. We plan to build upon our strong adult choir, to develop an outstanding children and youth choir program, building upon the large and growing numbers of children and teenagers in our parish, and to involve as many adults as possible in our music ministry. We believe strongly in membership growth and seek to enrich the spiritual journey of each member. To reach our goals, we seek an exceptional musician, who shares our goals and can build an outstanding music program using music as an instrument to increase membership and enrich the spiritual journey of parishioners.

**Summary of Position Description:** The Director of Music is responsible for maintaining the entire music program of the church and seeing that it is of the highest quality in providing music, including directing choirs, playing the organ for most services, and overseeing assisting staff positions. The Director of Music is concerned with the spiritual welfare and the pastoral needs of the people whom she or he leads and is a full partner in the ministry with the members of the clergy/program staff. The incumbent is to stimulate, strengthen and broaden the music program of the parish, and to coordinate and administer all music-related programs for the church and envision and develop a parish-wide music program with emphasis on spiritual growth, congregational involvement and education. We hope to grow the department to include a part-time/full-time assistant organist. To apply, please forward a cover letter, resume and salary requirements to the Rector, the Rev. Brad Whitaker, at [whitaker@stpaulschatt.org](mailto:whitaker@stpaulschatt.org)

**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](mailto:saygracemusic@gmail.com) as soon as possible. Grace is home to a 400-seat nave and 3-manual Moller pipe organ.





## CHATTANOOGA AGO ENDOWMENT FUND

The Chattanooga Chapter of The American Guild of Organists (AGO) is a member of an international professional association founded in 1896 by the Board of Regents of the University of the State of New York. The mission of the AGO is to foster a thriving community of musicians who share their knowledge and inspire passion for the organ. The vision of the AGO is to engage, support, and uplift every organist. Membership is open to anyone interested in the organ and choral music, including organists, choir directors, music teachers, working professionals, students, clergy and dedicated supporters.

In 2015, the Chattanooga AGO Endowment Fund was created with proceeds from a significant event sponsored by our chapter, The Vienna Boys Choir Concert. The purpose of the Endowment Fund is to provide long-term preservation and growth of the original investment. You have the opportunity to actively participate in that legacy.

Charitable bequests and other planned giving to the Chattanooga AGO can significantly impact the fulfillment of our mission. You can contribute to that goal by making tax-deductible contributions to the Chapter. Gifts can be given monthly, annually, or as a onetime gift.

You may also wish to consider making a future gift by including the Chattanooga Chapter of the AGO in a statement in your will or another aspect of your estate plan.

Please send your contribution in check form to: Chattanooga Chapter AGO, Treasurer, PO Box 80055, Chattanooga, TN 37414. Designate "CAGO Endowment Investment Fund" on memo line.

The Chattanooga Chapter of the American Guild of Organists is a 501(C)3 Non-Profit organization (Federal Tax ID Number 62-6044813). All contributions are tax deductible.

Thank you for your support of our vision through your generosity!

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Contribution Amount \_\_\_\_\_ In honor/memory of \_\_\_\_\_

Send to: Chattanooga Chapter AGO, Treasurer, PO Box 80055, Chattanooga, TN 37414