



# The Organizer

The Atlanta Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

[www.agoatlanta.org](http://www.agoatlanta.org)

## April 2017

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*The Organizer*, the official bulletin of the Atlanta Chapter of the American Guild of Organists, is published monthly, September through June. All material for publication must reach the Editor by the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the month preceding the date of issue (e.g., November 15 for the December issue). This should be typewritten and e-mailed. *The Organizer* reserves the right to make editorial changes and to shorten articles to fit space limitations. Articles in *The Organizer* reflect the views of the writers and not necessarily those of the Guild.

### Advertising Rates

- 1/8 page: \$15
- 1/4 page: \$30
- 1/2 page: \$60
- Full page: \$120

## AGO Atlanta 2017 Ballot

### Slate of Officers for 2017-2018

- David Barber, EdD, *Dean*
- Becky Griffin Ramsey, CAGO, AAGO, *Sub-Dean*
- Charlene Ponder, *Treasurer*
- Nicole Marane, DMA, *Registrar*
- Keith Williamson, *Secretary*
- Timothy Gunter, *Newsletter Editor*
- The Reverend Dr. John Beyers, *Chaplain*
- Lamar Savage, *Auditor*

### List of Currently Serving Executive Committee Members

- Class of '18*
- Gwyn Bacon
- David Brensinger, AAGO
- Class of '19*
- Stephen Honeychurch
- Andrew Singletary

Select two of the following as Executive Committee Members Class of 2020:

- Joyce Johnson
- Jens Korndörfer
- Matthew McMahan
- Peter Waggoner

Please print, clip out and bring this ballot to the May chapter meeting, or if unable to attend the May meeting, mail it by April 30 to the Election Coordinator:

Sue Mitchell-Wallace  
345 Saddle Lake Dr.  
Roswell, GA 30076-1094

DO NOT write your name on the ballot, but please do include your return address on the envelope. Your ballot will be added to those submitted at the May meeting.

Bios and pictures of the Class of 2020 Board candidates-at-large can be found on page 4 of this newsletter.

# From the Dean

"The times, they are a changin'!" Aside from the lack of grammatical proficiency, there is something to be said for Bob Dylan's 1964 "anthem of change for the time." You can appreciate the Scottish and Irish influence on this ballad, as well as the song's lasting message of change. I won't attempt to analyze the complete text. The title simply points to an undeniable truth with which we have been struggling in our Chapter. Times are changing and we need to adapt in order not only to survive, but to thrive!

In our adapting I am not suggesting any compromise in our commitment to "excellence in the performance of organ and choral music." Pastor Emeritus Dr. Howard Dial recently spoke on the erosion of God-centered worship in our day. He stated that "we must focus on God in our worship, rather than the satisfaction of our personal needs." What a high calling! Bach always signed his works with "Soli Deo Gloria!" (to God's glory alone!). I appreciate so much the wonderful things I hear as I discuss with members what is transpiring in their respective churches. The caliber of the service music and programs is outstanding. There is much for which to be elated and encouraged. My dilemma is to figure out how the Chapter can adapt to these times and more effectively support our membership through its programming.

It is difficult not to evaluate the effectiveness of our program based on participation by the membership. With over 300 members, at varying levels of involvement, it is almost impossible to come up with an algorithm or formula for success. *Outstanding artists + excellent instruments + remarkable venues + marvelous programs* should equal *wonderful participation*. We've even added the bonus of delicious meals, but still seem to be falling short in the attendance area. Our sub-dean, Becky Ramsey, has put together an outstanding lineup for the upcoming season. The Executive Board is seriously contemplating ways to promote and encourage attendance at our programs. If you have suggestions, please contact me so we can benefit from the input of our membership. Our primary goal is to "provide mutual support, inspiration, education, and certification of Guild members." Help us raise the standard and increase the effectiveness of our efforts! If we need to change the paradigm, well... "the times, they are a changin'!"

David Barber, Ed. D.  
[david.barber@charter.net](mailto:david.barber@charter.net)  
Dean, Atlanta AGO

## Young Organist Competition 2017



sponsored by the  
Greater Columbia AGO Chapter

Saturday, March 11, 2017  
Columbia, S.C.

Open to grades 8-12

First Prize \$1,500

Second Prize \$1,000

Third Prize \$750

Hymn Playing Award \$250

Bach Playing Award \$250

For rules and application see  
Young Organist Competition 2017  
at [www.columbiaago.org](http://www.columbiaago.org)

## Free Choral Music

A large selection of Choral Music is available for free from the music department of Alpharetta 1st UMC. Please contact Cindy Poelking, music department Administrative Assistant, at 770-475-5576 or 678-867-7533 to schedule a time to browse through this collection of sacred music.



ORGUES  
LÉTOURNEAU

**Sarah J. Hawbecker**  
Project Consultant

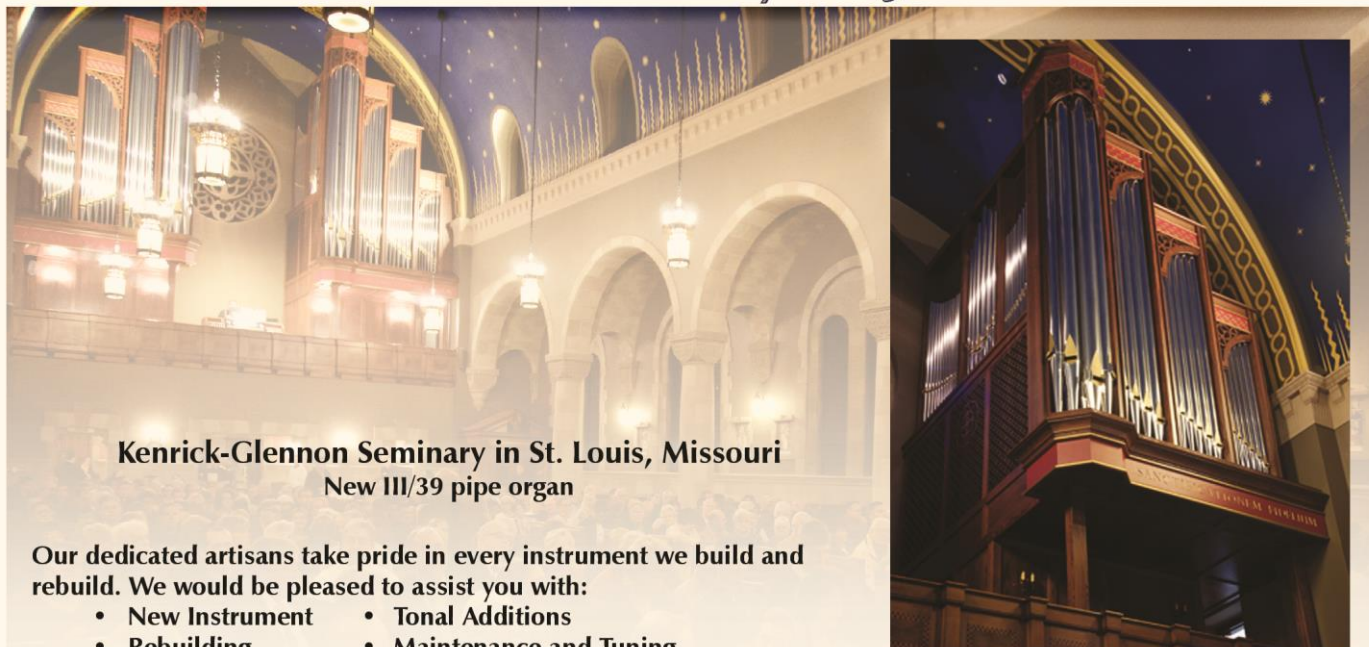
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[www.letourneauorgans.com](http://www.letourneauorgans.com)

# April 2017 Calendar of Events

Day	Date	Time	Event	Location	Admission
Saturday	4/1	7:30 PM	Ebène String Quartet	Spivey Hall	\$
Sunday	4/2	3:00 PM	Louis Lortie, <i>piano</i>	Spivey Hall	\$
	4/2	3:00 PM	Atlanta Opera: Donizetti's <i>Don Pasquale</i>	Cobb Energy Centre	\$
	4/2	7:00 PM	Atchison/Hemenway: Musical Stations of the Cross	Peachtree Road United Methodist Church	
Tuesday	4/4	7:30 PM	The Choir of New College, Oxford, England	The Cathedral of St. Philip	\$
Thursday	4/6	8:00 PM	ASO/Hough/Spano: Rachmaninoff	Symphony Hall	\$
Friday	4/7	8:00 PM	ASO/Hough/Spano: Rachmaninoff	Symphony Hall	\$
Saturday	4/8	7:30 PM	Fred Hersch, <i>jazz piano</i>	Spivey Hall	\$
Sunday	4/9	3:00 PM	Bach, <i>St. John Passion</i> , Coro Vocati	Peachtree Road United Methodist Church	
	4/9	4:00 PM	Meditation on the Passion of Christ, with Carols, Cathedral Schola	The Cathedral of St. Philip	
Sunday	4/23	3:15 PM	Weston Jennings, <i>organ</i>	The Cathedral of St. Philip	
	4/23	4:00 PM	Choral Evensong, Cathedral Schola	The Cathedral of St. Philip	
Tuesday	4/25	3:30 PM	Justin Maxey, <i>organ</i> (Artist Diploma Recital)	Newton Chapel, Mercer University, Macon	
Thursday	4/27	8:00 PM	ASO/Filter/Petrenko: Strauss/Mendelssohn/Dvořák	Symphony Hall	\$
Saturday	4/29	7:30 PM	Yefim Bronfman, <i>piano</i>	Spivey Hall	\$
	4/29	8:00 PM	ASO/Filter/Petrenko: Strauss/Mendelssohn/Dvořák	Symphony Hall	\$
	4/29	8:00 PM	The Atlanta Opera, Puccini's <i>Turandot</i>	Cobb Energy Centre	\$
Sunday	4/30	3:15 PM	John Richardson, <i>organ</i>	The Cathedral of St. Philip	
	4/30	4:00 PM	Choral Evensong, Cathedral Schola & Cathedral Choristers	The Cathedral of St. Philip	

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# Candidates for Atlanta AGO Board Class of 2020



**Joyce Finch Johnson**, D.Mus., AAGO, has taught a variety of courses at Spelman College and served as College Organist for over 50 years. She is currently Professor Emerita of Music at Spelman, where she continues to serve as the College Organist, a position she has held since 1955. From 1989-1994 and 1995-2001, she served as Chair of the Department of Music. She has pursued an active career as a college teacher

and as a concert artist, giving solo recitals, accompanying a variety of distinguished artists, playing chamber music concerts, and performing with various symphony orchestras. She is on the International Roster of Steinway Artists.

While pursuing graduate degrees in piano performance at Northwestern University, she also studied organ with a number of distinguished teachers there and at other institutions; including Richard Enright, Karel Paukert, and David Craighead.

She has belonged to the Atlanta chapter of the AGO for decades, and has participated in many of its programs as a performer on Member Recitals, a POE faculty member, an adjudicator for competitions and evaluator for professional certification, and an Executive Board member. She has hosted AGO meetings and performers on the Spelman campus. She has attended innumerable national conventions and participated in regional AGO conventions as recitalist, workshop presenter, and hymn festival organist. She is an active church organist who is requested to play for nationally televised church services or perform at national conventions, the most recent of which was the Sigma Alpha Iota National Convention in Atlanta, GA. She served on the United Church of Christ (UCC) Hymnal Committee resulting in the publication of *The New Century Hymnal*.

A member of Pi Kappa Lambda National Music Honor Society and a Member Laureate of Sigma Alpha Iota, she received a Career Achievement Award from a recent Professional Fraternity Association at its national convention.



**Dr. Jens Korndörfer** serves as Director of Worship and the Arts, and Organist at First Presbyterian Church of Atlanta, and instructor for organ and harpsichord at Agnes Scott College.

He graduated with top honors from the Conservatoire National Supérieur in Paris, Oberlin Conservatory, the Musikhochschule in Bayreuth, and McGill University in Montreal.

Jens has given numerous concerts at major venues around the world, including Westminster Abbey in London, Notre Dame Cathedral and St. Sulpice in Paris, Moscow Cathedral, Kaiser-Wilhelm-Gedächtniskirche in Berlin, the Domkirke in Oslo, St. Thomas Church Fifth Avenue in New York, Cathedral-Basilica in St. Louis, Suntory Hall in Tokyo, Kyoto Concert Hall, Cultural Centre in Hong Kong, et.al.

He is a triple prizewinner of the Canadian International Organ Competition, and has received numerous scholarship awards. In September 2005, he became the first German appointed organist in residence at the Concert Hall Kitara in Sapporo, Japan.

Jens has recorded three CDs and given presentations and workshops at conferences in the USA (AGO National Convention 2012), Europe, and Asia. He has published articles in many international music journals, and has served on the jury of the Quimby Competition held at the AGO Southeast Regional Convention in Charlotte, NC, in 2015.



**Matthew McMahan** has performed in the United States, Austria, France, Germany, Holland and Switzerland. In addition to performing as an organ recitalist, McMahan is in demand as a choral clinician.

A native of Alabama, Matt received his undergraduate degree from Jacksonville State University. In addition, he also holds graduate degrees from Westminster Choir College in

Princeton, NJ. He began the study of piano at an early age with his mother, Bobbie Bennett McMahan, also an alumna of Westminster Choir College. Further study in piano was with Ron and Ann Surace.

His organ teachers have included James Fairleigh, Jean Langlais and Joan Lippincott. While in graduate school, Matt was chosen by the organ faculty to give a solo organ recital broadcast on WQXR—New York Times' Classical Radio Station's Young Artist Showcase.

Since 1997 Matt has served as Minister of Music (choirmaster and organist) at Decatur Presbyterian Church. Prior to this appointment, he served as Organist-Director of Music at Christ Presbyterian Church in Canton, OH, and held similar positions in Birmingham, AL, and Cherry Hill, NJ. Matt lives in Lilburn, GA, with his wife, Lori (who serves Decatur Presbyterian Church as Director of Children's Choirs), and their two sons, Drew and Wes.



**Peter Waggoner** serves as the Director of Music at St. James Episcopal Church in Marietta, where he oversees an active program of adult, youth, and handbell choirs. He is the founding director of the St. James School of Music, and serves as accompanist and clinician with the Marietta Middle and High School choirs.

Prior to his appointment at St. James, Waggoner was active in the metropolitan DC area, where he served as director of the Herndon Ecumenical Choir, Encore Chorale of Leesburg, Associate Director of the Reston Chorale, and Assistant Conductor with the National Philharmonic Chorale.

Mr. Waggoner has performed as both organist and conductor in the United States and Europe, including venues such as St. Peter's Basilica in Vatican City, The Mozarteum in Salzburg, and Carnegie Hall in New York City.

He holds the B.M. in Sacred Music from Seton Hill University, where he studied with Edgar Highberger, and the M.M. in Choral Conducting from George Mason University, where he studied with Dr. Stanley Engebretson.

Mr. Waggoner was a staff member for the 2016 Atlanta POE, and currently serves as the student scholarship coordinator for the Atlanta AGO Chapter.

# July 2017 POE Tech Workshop in Atlanta

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The Atlanta Chapter of the American Guild of Organists will be hosting the National Pipe Organ Encounter Technical (POE Tech) July 9-July 14, 2017.

Pipe Organ Encounter Technical (POE Tech) is a program sponsored by the American Guild of Organists (AGO) and Associated Pipe Organ Builders of America (APOBA). This program is designed for students ages 16-23 who express interest in learning the art and craftsmanship of organ building. Interested students may have or may be seeking experience and expertise in woodworking, electrical skills and construction.

The POE Tech course will be held in Atlanta at the organ shop of Parkey OrganBuilders, Phillip K. Parkey, President and Tonal Director. Students will have the opportunity to learn the history, design, construction and maintenance of the pipe organ. Additionally, the course will offer opportunities to visit and play a variety of pipe instruments.

Scholarships for this course are available. Please contact Phillip K. Parkey at [philparkey@parkeyorgans.com](mailto:philparkey@parkeyorgans.com) for additional information. The registration deadline is June 15, 2017. Early bird registration deadline is April 15, 2017. Detailed information about the July 2017 POE Tech can be found by going to the National AGO Website at: <https://www.agohq.org/education/poe/poe-technical/>

The registration fee for the Atlanta POE Tech is \$525. Early Bird registration is \$475 if received by April 15, 2017. Scholarships are available. The final registration deadline is June 15, 2017. Payment in full is due at time of registration. Checks are to be made payable to: Atlanta Chapter AGO POE Technical. Payment forms from the brochure and checks can be mailed to:

Attn: Phil Parkey, Director  
Parkey OrganBuilders  
Atlanta AGO POE Technical  
4519 South Old Peachtree Road  
Berkeley Lake, GA 30071

## New Executive Board Secretary

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We regret to announce that Don Land, who has served faithfully and well as Executive Board Secretary for the past year, has requested to step down as of the end of the season. Keith Williamson has graciously agreed to accept the position for the remainder of the term. We wish to thank Don and Keith for their past and continued support of the Board and the Chapter. We are exceedingly grateful for so many wonderful members who give not only financial funding, but exceptional amounts of time and talent to the Guild.

## Congratulations, “20 under 30” Winners

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The Atlanta AGO congratulates two members of the Chapter who have become winners in the past two years of *The Diapason* magazine’s “20 under 30” competition. Last year, **Dr. Patrick A. Scott**, Assistant Organist-Choirmaster of the Cathedral of St. Philip in Atlanta, was awarded the honor. This year, **Bryan Anderson**, from St. Paul’s United Methodist Church in Houston, TX, became the latest Chapter member to gain the award. Our heartiest congratulations to both Patrick and Bryan for the national recognition of their exceptional talents and abilities!

## Atlanta AGO Student Scholarships

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The Atlanta AGO offers annual scholarships available to students in the following categories:

- Beginning or undergraduate student studying piano with the expectation of studying organ
- Undergraduate student studying organ as their principal instrument
- Graduate organ student studying organ as their principal instrument
- Adult student studying piano privately with the expectation of studying organ

Scholarships are awarded based on successful completion of the application process and audition. The deadline for applications this year is Monday, April 10. Please submit completed applications to Peter Waggoner via email at [peter.waggoner@stjamesmarietta.com](mailto:peter.waggoner@stjamesmarietta.com). For more information, visit: <http://www.agoatlanta.org/continuing-education/scholarships/>

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# The Cathedral of St. Philip

2744 Peachtree Rd † Atlanta, GA 30305  
404-365-1050 for more information



**Tuesday, April 4**

## 7:30 p.m. Choir of New College, Oxford, England

Gerald Finzi, *God is gone up*  
William Byrd, *Vigilate*  
Byrd, *Ave verum corpus*  
Byrd, *O Lord, make thy servant Elizabeth*  
Ruth Burchmore, *A Birthday*  
Matthew Martin, *Ut unum sint*  
Toby Young, *O God, make the door of this house*  
Francisco Guerrero, *Ave virgo sanctissima*  
Clemens non Papa, *Ego flos campi*  
Heinrich Schütz, *Die Himmel erzählen die Ehre Gottes*  
Patrick Hadley, *My beloved spake*  
William Harris, *Faire is the heaven*  
Charles Villiers Stanford, *Te Deum in C*

**Palm Sunday, April 9**

## 4 p.m. Meditation on the Passion of Christ, with Carols Cathedral Schola

arr. Andrew Carter, *I wonder as I wander*  
Gerald Near, *A Carol of the Passion*  
Spirituals, arr. Dale Adelman, *Sometimes I feel like a motherless  
child/Nobody knows the trouble I've seen*  
Trond Kverno, *Corpus Christi Carol*  
Daniel Gawthrop, *Mary speaks*  
Antonio Lotti, *Crucifixus à 8*

**Sunday, April 23**

## 3:15 p.m. Weston Jennings, organ

(New Haven, CT)

Joseph Bonnet, *Variations de Concert*, Op. 1  
Frank Bridge, *Adagio in E*  
Johann Sebastian Bach, *Prelude & Fugue in E minor*, BWV 548

## 4 p.m. Choral Evensong, Cathedral Schola

Robert Lehman, *Preces & Responses*  
Edward Bairstow in D  
Craig Phillips, *We walk by faith*  
Luca Marenzio, *Quia vidisti me, Thoma*

**Sunday, April 30**

## 3:15 p.m. John Richardson, organ

(Covenant Presbyterian Church, Charlotte, NC)

Charles Tournemire, *Chorale-improvisation sur le Victimae Paschali  
laudes*  
Percy Fletcher, *Fountain Reverie*  
Henri Mulet, *Tu Es Petra*, from *Esquisses Byzantines*  
Alec Rowley, *Benedictus*  
Marcel Dupré, *Variations sur un Noël*

## 4 p.m. Choral Evensong

### Cathedral Schola & Cathedral Choristers

Bernard Rose, *Preces & Responses*  
Herbert Howells in G  
Dan Locklair, *O sacrum convivium*  
Edward Bairstow, *Sing ye to the Lord*

# Positions Available

Complete details on these and other positions may be found at the chapter's website: [www.agoatlanta.org](http://www.agoatlanta.org) then click on "employment."

**Grace-Calvary Episcopal Church**, Clarkesville, seeks a part-time organist. Send resumes to [gcalvary@windstream.net](mailto:gcalvary@windstream.net).

**St. James Episcopal Church**, Marietta, seeks SATB choral scholars. To schedule an audition contact Peter Waggoner at [peter.waggoner@stjamesmarietta.com](mailto:peter.waggoner@stjamesmarietta.com).

**Grace Presbyterian Church**, Dawsonville, seeks a part-time pianist. Contact Jeanne Luke at [JLukeMasterTeacher@gmail.com](mailto:JLukeMasterTeacher@gmail.com) for more information.

**Vineville United Methodist Church**, Macon, seeks a full-time Organist/Choirmaster. Send resumes to Dr. Jimmy R. Asbell, Jr., at [jasbell@vinevillemethodist.org](mailto:jasbell@vinevillemethodist.org) or mail to 2045 Vineville Ave. Macon, GA 31204.

**St. Matthew's Episcopal Church**, Snellville, seeks staff singers. For information, contact Dan Mitchell at [rdanmitchell@gmail.com](mailto:rdanmitchell@gmail.com).

**Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church**, Sandy Springs, seeks a tenor staff singer. To schedule an audition, contact James Wingate at [jim@mvpchurch.org](mailto:jim@mvpchurch.org).

**First Baptist Church**, Jefferson, seeks an interim organist. For information, contact Richard Dickson at 706-367-8332 ext. 225.

**Weddington United Methodist Church**, Charlotte, NC, seeks a part-time Organist/Music Assistant. For information, contact Dr. Reginald Houze at [reginald.houze@weddingtonchurch.org](mailto:reginald.houze@weddingtonchurch.org).

**First Christian Church**, Winder, seeks a tenor staff singer. Contact Candy Stoffel at [candy8249@windstream.net](mailto:candy8249@windstream.net) to request an audition.

**Northside United Methodist Church** seeks soprano and alto staff singers. Contact Michael Devine at [Michaeld@northsideumc.org](mailto:Michaeld@northsideumc.org) to schedule an audition.

**Central Baptist Church**, Newnan, seeks a part-time organist/music associate. Send resumes to Anne Cronic at [acronic@numail.org](mailto:acronic@numail.org).

**St. Luke's Episcopal Church** seeks a full-time music associate. Apply at [careers@stlukesatlanta.org](http://careers@stlukesatlanta.org).

**Rabun Gap Presbyterian Church** seeks a part-time pianist/organist. Send resume to P.O. Box 333, Rabun Gap, Ga. 30568.

**Christ Church Frederica (Episcopal)** on St. Simons Island seeks an Assistant Organist/Choirmaster. Résumés emailed to The Rev. Tom Purdy, Rector, at [employment@ccfssi.org](mailto:employment@ccfssi.org).

**Christ Church Frederica (Episcopal)** on St. Simons Island seeks male and female staff singers. Résumés emailed to The Rev. Tom Purdy, Rector, at [employment@ccfssi.org](mailto:employment@ccfssi.org).

**Northlake Children's Chorus and Music Academy** seeks a part-time piano instructor. For information contact Beverly Blissit at [bblissit@hotmail.com](mailto:bblissit@hotmail.com).

**St. James United Methodist Church** seeks a Director of Music Ministry and an Associate Director of Music Ministry. Send resumes to [stjamesatjobs@gmail.com](mailto:stjamesatjobs@gmail.com) with "Director of Music Ministry" or "Associate Director of Music Ministry" in the subject line.

**First Presbyterian Church**, Rome, seeks a part-time organist. Send resumes to Dr. Aaron Rice at [aaronr@fpcrome.org](mailto:aaronr@fpcrome.org).

**St. Thomas More Catholic Church**, Decatur, seeks soprano, tenor, and bass staff singers. To schedule an audition, contact Rhett Barnwell: [seraphmus@gmail.com](mailto:seraphmus@gmail.com) or 404-414-4791.

**Glenn Memorial United Methodist Church** seeks a tenor staff singer. To schedule an audition, contact Steven Darsey at 404-634-3936 or [stevend@glennumc.org](mailto:stevend@glennumc.org).

**Mulberry Street United Methodist Church**, Macon, seeks a part-time Interim Director of Music and, eventually, a full-time Organist & Director of Music Ministries. Contact Search Committee Chair Lisa Shepard at [Lelliott@cox.net](mailto:Lelliott@cox.net) for information.

**New South Festival Singers** (formerly Lynn Swanson Festival Singers) seeks a Music Director & Conductor. Send applications to William Baker Choral Foundation, 5450 Buena Vista Street, Suite 100, Roeland Park, KS 66205.

**St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church**, Atlanta, seeks an Organ Scholar. For information, contact Shannon Gallier at [shannon@stbartsatlanta.org](mailto:shannon@stbartsatlanta.org) or 404-634-3336, ext. 228.



# *The Organizer*

Atlanta Chapter A.G.O.  
Timothy Gunter, *editor*  
2744 Peachtree Rd. NW  
Atlanta, GA 30305

## Chapter Officers

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David Barber, EdD, *Dean*  
Becky Griffin Ramsey, CAGO, AAGO, *Sub-Dean*  
Charlene Ponder, *Treasurer*  
Nicole Marane, DMA, *Registrar*  
James Donald "Don" Land, Jr., *Secretary*  
Timothy Gunter, *Newsletter Editor*  
The Reverend Dr. John Beyers, *Chaplain*  
Lamar Savage, *Auditor*

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