



The Organizer

The Atlanta Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

www.agoatlanta.org

April Chapter Meeting
Saturday, April 10, 2021
10:00 AM

Young Members' Recital Briana Duensing Oak Martin

April 2021

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Advertising Rates

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



Briana Duensing was born and raised in east-central Florida where she learned to play piano at an early age. At age 11 she began studying under Dr. Michael Rickman, Professor of Piano at Stetson University, and performed in numerous venues including a bayside outdoor concert of the Florida Orchestra at St. Petersburg. In 2009 she entered the University of North Carolina School of the Arts in Winston-Salem as a piano major, and it was there that she began learning organ under Dr. Timothy Olsen. Upon graduating in 2013 Briana moved to the Atlanta area and continued her organ study with

Dr. David Burton-Brown, followed by Russell Meyer, her current teacher. She has been a recipient of scholarships from the Atlanta Chapter of the AGO in 2017, 2018, and 2019. Briana has served as associate organist for St. Edward's Episcopal Church, Lawrenceville, and is currently the organist at St. Mary and St. Martha Episcopal Church in Buford.



Oak Martin, 20, is a student of Alan Morrison at the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia, and Organ Scholar at St. Mark's Episcopal Church under Robert McCormick. In his capacity at St. Mark's, he assists in service playing, accompanying, choir training, and program administration. Previous positions include Assistant Organist and, later, Acting Associate Organist at Peachtree Road United Methodist Church where he studied with and worked beside Scott Atchison, and Organ Scholar at St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church in Atlanta

under Shannon Gallier. In 2019 he graduated from the Interlochen Arts Academy where he studied with Tom Bara, organ, John Bragle, voice, and received a fine arts award in Organ Performance. During the pandemic, Curtis students have returned to their home towns for online classes, and he has rejoined the staff at Peachtree Road UMC as Organ Scholar where he assists in service playing, concert programming, library management, and program administration until returning to Philadelphia.

As a concert artist, he has performed on the recital series of the Cathedral of St. Philip, Peachtree Road United Methodist Church, Interlochen Center for the Arts, Girard College, and for various American Guild of Organists functions. He has accompanied numerous ensembles, instrumentalists, and choral festivals. During his free time, he enjoys composition, gardening, and graphic design.

For the program, see page 2 of this newsletter.

From the Dean

Dear Atlanta Chapter:

As we approach the end of quarantines and pandemic-related restrictions, I am excited for the opportunities that lie ahead. Following a year that, at times, felt very much like wandering in the wilderness, I am confident that we will once again gather to celebrate all the things that bring us together as a chapter next September.

Until then, I invite you all to join us for our remaining two virtual events this season. On Saturday, April 10 at 10:00 a.m., we will post a video of two of our past chapter scholarship winners in recital. Oak Martin and Briana Duensing will present a program featuring works by Bach, Langlais, Locklair, and others, recorded on the mighty Mander organ at Peachtree Road United Methodist Church. Many thanks to Scott Atchison and Ruth Sommerville for making this possible.

On Saturday, May 1 at 10:00 a.m., we will meet virtually via Zoom for our Annual Meeting and Guild Service. To join the meeting, please use the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89010437132?pwd=aVFST0tDL0ZZMlJWHRDdy8zcmhVZz09>

The meeting will include election results, an update on chapter business and leadership, and the service will feature performances by Dr. Caroline Robinson, Associate Organist/Choirmaster at the Cathedral of St. Philip. More detailed information will be sent out through our chapter email in the coming weeks.

Finally, please note that our online chapter election will run April 1 through 25. Further instructions from our Registrar, David Barber, are included in this issue.

I look forward to seeing you all virtually in May!

Best regards,

Peter Waggoner, Dean
AGO Atlanta

April AGO Meeting Program

Briana Duensing

Jean Langlais, *Hymne d'action de grâces "Te Deum,"* Op. 5, No. 3
Johann Sebastian Bach, *Trio super "Herr Jesu Christ, dich zu uns wend,"* BWV 655
Max Reger, *Benedictus,* Op. 59, No. 9
Marcel Dupré, *Prelude & Fugue in G minor,* Op. 7, No. 3

Oak Martin

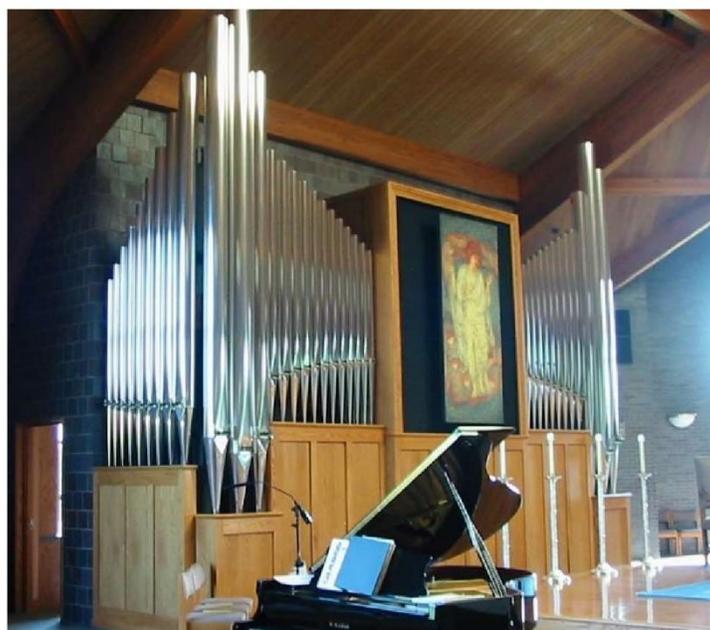
Johann Sebastian Bach, *Fantasia super "Komm, Heiliger Geist,"* BWV 561
Dieterich Buxtehude, *Ciacona in E minor,* BuxWV 160
Leslie Adams, *Offering of Love* (commissioned for the 1992 National Convention in Atlanta)
Dan Locklair. *Phoenix Processional*

AGO Atlanta 2020-2021 Remaining Chapter Events

Saturday, May 1, 2021, 10:00 AM — ONLINE Chapter Meeting & Guild Service

April 2021 Calendar of Events

Day	Date	Time	Event	Location	Admission
Thursday	4/1	8:00 PM	O'Connor/Runnicles/ASO: Simon/Debussy/Britten/Wagner	Symphony Hall ONLINE	\$
Thursday	4/8	8:00 PM	Trevigne/Smith/Johnson/Runnicles: Mozart/Mahler/Beethoven	Symphony Hall ONLINE	\$
Friday	4/9	8:00 PM	Camille Thomas, <i>cello</i>	Schwartz Center, Emory ONLINE	
Saturday	4/10	10:00 AM	AGO Meeting: Young Members' Recital, Oak Martin & Briana Duensing	Peachtree Road United Methodist Church ONLINE	
Sunday	4/11	3:15 PM	Jeff Johnson, <i>organ</i>	The Cathedral of St. Philip ONLINE	
Thursday	4/15	8:00 PM	The Atlanta Opera: <i>The Threepenny Carmen</i>	Cobb Energy Center, The Big Tent	\$
Saturday	4/17	8:00 PM	The Atlanta Opera: <i>The Threepenny Carmen</i>	Cobb Energy Center, The Big Tent	\$
Sunday	4/18	3:00 PM	Imogen Cooper, <i>piano</i>	Spivey Hall ONLINE	\$
	4/18	3:15 PM	Will Buthod, <i>organ</i>	The Cathedral of St. Philip ONLINE	
Thursday	4/22	8:00 PM	Mužijević/Spino/ASO: Walker/Shotstakovich/Chopin	Symphony Hall ONLINE	\$
	4/22	8:00 PM	The Atlanta Opera: <i>The Threepenny Opera</i>	Cobb Energy Center, The Big Tent	\$
Friday	4/23	8:00 PM	The Atlanta Opera: <i>The Threepenny Carmen</i>	Cobb Energy Center, The Big Tent	\$
Saturday	4/24	8:00 PM	The Atlanta Opera: <i>The Threepenny Opera</i>	Cobb Energy Center, The Big Tent	\$
Sunday	4/25	3:00 PM	Benjamin Appl, <i>baritone</i>	Spivey Hall ONLINE	\$
	4/25	3:00 PM	New South Festival Singers & Orchestra: Cain Masterworks Concert	St. John UMC ONLINE & in person	\$
	4/25	3:15 PM	David Brensinger, <i>organ</i>	The Cathedral of St. Philip ONLINE	
	4/25	8:00 PM	The Atlanta Opera: <i>The Threepenny Carmen</i>	Cobb Energy Center, The Big Tent	\$
Wednesday	4/28	8:00 PM	The Atlanta Opera: <i>The Threepenny Carmen</i>	Cobb Energy Center, The Big Tent	\$
Thursday	4/29	8:00 PM	McDuffie/Spino/ASO: Brahms	Symphony Hall ONLINE	\$
Friday	4/30	8:00 PM	The Atlanta Opera: <i>The Threepenny Carmen</i>	Cobb Energy Center, The Big Tent	\$



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From the Regional Coordinator

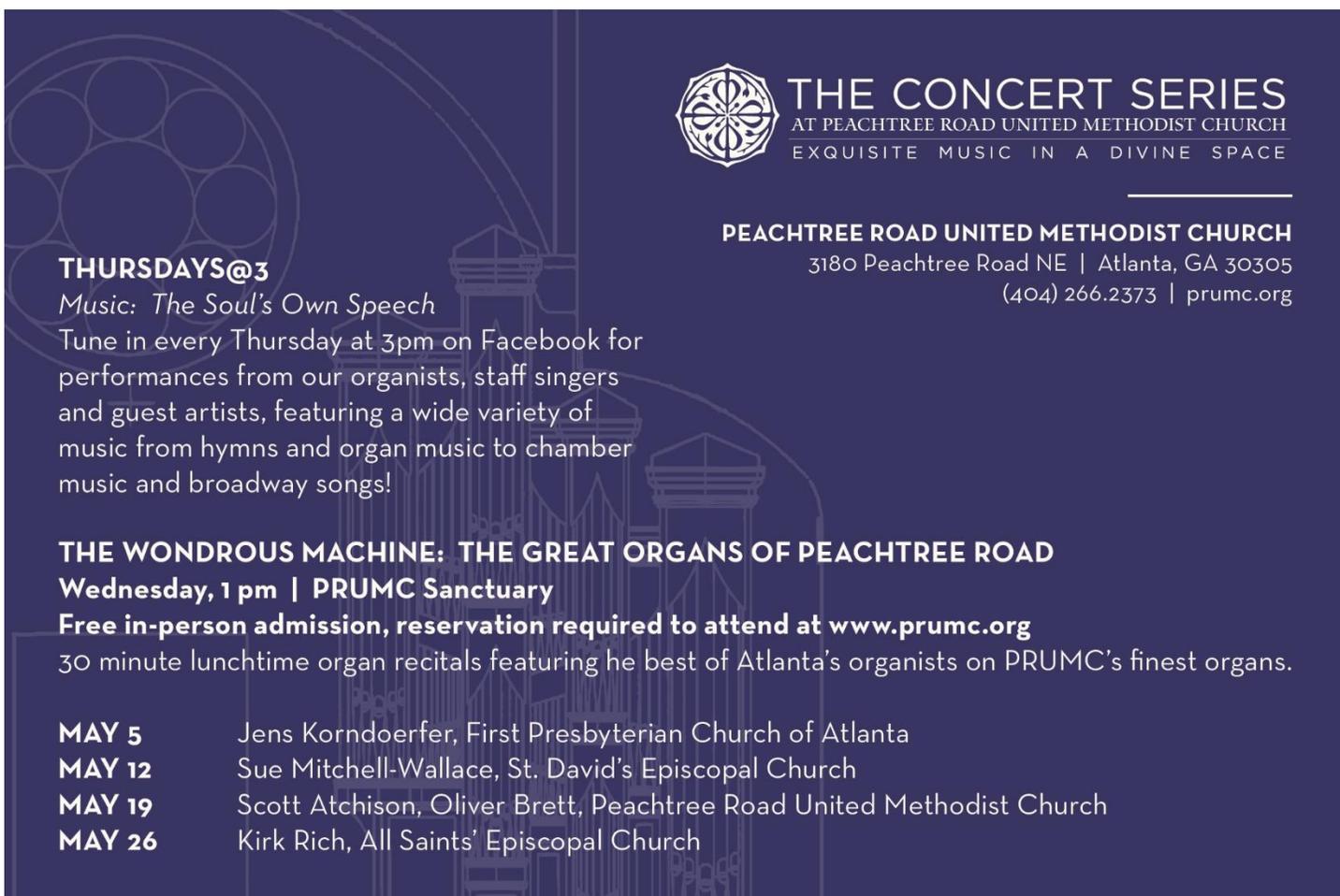
An excellent new resource is now available for all AGO members, churches and religious institutions. It is available as a PDF download at this link: [AGO Employment Handbook 2020 FNL online REV.pdf](#) (agohq.org). The information is excellently prepared and will serve as an extremely helpful guide for those seeking employment and for churches seeking to hire church musicians. Also, I heartily recommend that all members view the webinar introducing this excellent employment resource. This webinar is available at this YouTube link: [Know Your Value Webinar Presented by the American Guild of Organists - YouTube](#).

If you have not visited the AGO National Website, please take time to do so. There is a plethora of excellent Covid-19 response information, webinars covering multitudinous topics, and excellent educational videos that cover all aspects of organ playing from beginner to concert repertoire and improvisation. Our AGO (and many chapters) are using technology to provide programs, learning opportunities, plus special assistance to assist us all in dealing with the myriad challenges of this pandemic.

The AGO has always been a splendid professional “guild” but it has provided benefits above and beyond in this past year to assist and inspire members in multiple ways. AGO has forged new pathways of connecting with members and our greater community that will bring new energy and awareness for many years to come.

Soli Deo Gloria!

Sue Mitchell-Wallace, FAGO
Southeast Regional Coordinator



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THURSDAYS@3
Music: The Soul's Own Speech
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THE WONDROUS MACHINE: THE GREAT ORGANS OF PEACHTREE ROAD
Wednesday, 1 pm | PRUMC Sanctuary
Free in-person admission, reservation required to attend at www.prumc.org
30 minute lunchtime organ recitals featuring the best of Atlanta's organists on PRUMC's finest organs.

MAY 5 Jens Korndoerfer, First Presbyterian Church of Atlanta
MAY 12 Sue Mitchell-Wallace, St. David's Episcopal Church
MAY 19 Scott Atchison, Oliver Brett, Peachtree Road United Methodist Church
MAY 26 Kirk Rich, All Saints' Episcopal Church

Atlanta Chapter Pandemic Assistance Grants

On August 1, 2020, the Executive Committee of AGO Atlanta approved a program of "Pandemic Assistance Grants" to be made available to chapter members who have been significantly financially impacted by the coronavirus pandemic.

Amount: One-time grants of \$750.00 are now being offered to individual members of the Atlanta Chapter.

Eligibility: Current chapter members who have been furloughed or laid off from any of the following: a salaried organist position, a regular per diem organist position, or freelance organist work, the sum of which is an important component of personal income.

Applications: Please email Peter Waggoner, Dean, at phw52380@outlook.com, and include your answers to the questions below. All applications and inquiries are confidential. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until all available funds are disbursed.

Name of applicant: _____

Name and address of furloughing or terminating institution(s): _____

Position at institution(s): _____

Date(s) laid off/furloughed: _____

Date expected to return to work (if known and applicable): _____

Is this lost income considered significant income for you? _____

Additional information or comments you would like to share: _____

Voting Information for the AGO Board

All members in good standing with an active email address in ONCARD should plan on voting electronically. If you are not included in this group, please fill out and mail the ballot from the front page of the March newsletter. The election will be held April 1st through 25th. Members in good standing will receive an email from David Barber sometime during the last week of March with instructions for voting online, and then will receive their invitation to vote from ElectionRunner just before the election begins.

Many thanks to everyone for participating in this election. If you are not connected with the AGO electronically and need the March newsletter mailed to you again, please let Newsletter Editor Timothy Gunter know (404-365-1050).

Around the Chapter

In this most unusual time of pandemic, many churches and arts organizations are offering online virtual recitals, concerts, and services. A few of these require a paid ticket for access, but many of them are free of charge and available to anyone online. See the Calendar of Events on page 3 for a more complete listing. Below are some of the opportunities available:

Online Sunday Afternoon Recitals at the Cathedral of St. Philip

While the normal schedule of in-person Sunday services at the **Cathedral of St. Philip** has been put on hold for the foreseeable future, many opportunities are available online. In addition to online Eucharistic services at 8:45 and 11:15 a.m. on Sundays, the Cathedral also offers our **online Sunday afternoon recitals at 3:15 p.m.** on the Cathedral's website (cathedralATL.org/recitals). All of these recitals are also available to access in the days and weeks following the recitals either on the website or on one of the Cathedral's two Facebook pages, "The Cathedral of St. Philip" and "Music at the Cathedral of St. Philip." Recitalists for the month of April will include:

- April 11, 3:15 PM — Jeff Johnson (First Lutheran Church, Brockton, MA)
- April 18, 3:15 PM — Will Buthod (Holy Trinity Episcopal Parish, Decatur)
- April 25, 3:15 PM — David Brensinger (Atlanta)

New South Festival Singers & Chamber Orchestra

Founder & Interim Conductor Dr. William Baker leads **The New South Festival Singers & Chamber Orchestra** in the annual Andrew Cain Memorial Masterworks Concert. The chorus and orchestra will be joined by Choral Intern Sydney Sewell, Soprano Victoria Sofia Botero, and Bass Andrew Phillip Schmidt. The program includes Giovanni Martini's *Domine, ad adjuvandum me festina*; Dietrich Buxtehude's *Jesu, meine Freude*; and Johann Sebastian Bach's *Cantata No. 56 "Ich will den Kreuzstab gerne tragen"* and *Cantata No. 4 "Christ lag in Todesbanden."* Attend in person on **Sunday, April 25 at 3:00 p.m. at St. John United Methodist Church** or watch it online. For more information and tickets, see FestivalSingers.org. Please note that seating is limited due to Covid-19 restrictions. Masks and social distancing will be required. The Festival Singers are certified ArtSafe by the Missouri Arts Council.



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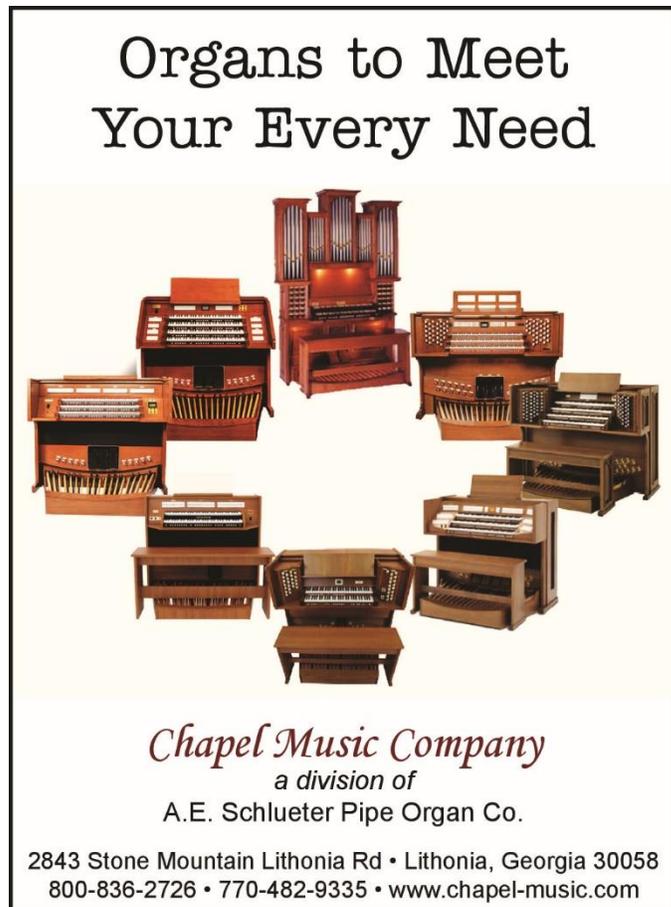
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The Cathedral of St. Philip



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404-365-1050 for more information

Sunday, April 11

3:15 p.m. Jeff Johnson, organ

(First Lutheran Church, Brockton, MA)

Peter Planyavsky, *Toccata a la Rumba*

Nicholaus Bruhns, *Praeludium in G Major*

Louis Vierne, *Pastorale* from *Vingt-quatre pièces en style libre*

César Franck, *Pièce Héroïque*

Sunday, April 18

3:15 p.m. Will Buthod, organ

(Director of Music, Holy Trinity Episcopal Parish, Decatur)

Aaron Copland, *Fanfare for the Common Man* (transcr. Will Buthod)

Florence Price, *Retrospection*

Samuel Coleridge-Taylor, *Impromptu No. 2* (from *Three Impromptus for the Organ*)

arr. William Farley Smith, *Wade in duh Wadduh!*

arr. Eurydice V. Osterman, *Give Me Jesus*

John Williams, Selections from *Star Wars*

Sunday, April 25

3:15 p.m. David Brensinger, organ

(Atlanta)

Dieterich Buxtehude, *Präludium in D*, BuxWV 139

Ennis Fruhauf, *Chorale Prelude on Schmücke Dich, o liebe Seele*

Enjott Schneider, *Chorale Prelude on Schmücke Dich, o liebe Seele*

Denis Bédard, *Dialogue sur Te Deum*

Charles Hubert H. Parry, *Two chorale preludes*

Billy Nalle, *Trio in a style of Bach: Alles was du bist*

Albert Alain, *Final sur le Carillon de Luçon*, Op. 324

Positions Available

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

Music Director/Keyboardist

Grace-Calvary Episcopal Church, Clarkesville, seeks a part-time organist. Send resumes to gcalvary@windstream.net.

First Baptist Church, Dalton, seeks a 3/4-time organist. Send resume to Adam Cogliano at acogliano@fbcdalton.org.

St. Barnabas Anglican Church, Dunwoody, seeks a part-time organist/choirmaster. Send resume to Bishop Chandler Jones at bspchi@gmail.com.

Mountain View United Methodist Church, Marietta, seeks a part-time organist/pianist. Send resume to khginc@bellsouth.net.

Pilgrimage United Church of Christ, Marietta, seeks a part-time music director/accompanist. Send resume to pilgrimageuccworship@gmail.com.

St. Andrew's in the Pines Episcopal Church, Peachtree City, seeks a minister of music/organist. Send resume to rector@standrews316.org.

Rabun Gap Presbyterian Church, Rabun Gap, seeks an organist/choir director. Send resume to pastor.rabungappresbyterian@gmail.com.

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Winder, seeks a part-time organist. Send resume to ejars7781@windstream.net.

Saxe Gotha Presbyterian Church, Lexington, SC, seeks a part-time Organist/Music Associate. For more information, contact Hal McIntosh at hmcintosh@saxegotha.org, 803-359-7770.

Singers

Covenant Presbyterian Church, Atlanta, seeks an alto staff singer. To schedule an audition, contact Jeffrey McIntyre at 404-805-4816 or jdmatl@aol.com.

First United Methodist Church, Atlanta, seeks a tenor staff singer. For an audition, contact Christopher Bryant at Christopher@atlantafirstumc.org.



The Organizer

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

Chapter Officers

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