



The Organizer

The Atlanta Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

www.agoatlanta.org

Tuesday, January 9, 2018

Samuel Metzger, organ

at

Johns Creek United Methodist Church

11180 Medlock Bridge Rd.

Johns Creek, GA 30097

Hosts Kenneth Axelson and Jeremy Rush

**6:30 p.m. Punchbowl with
Heavy Hors d' Oeuvres**

(No dinner)

7:00 p.m. Meeting

**7:30 p.m. Recital
Reception following**



Program

J.S. Bach, *Tocatta in F Major, BWV 540*

J.S. Bach, *Ertöt uns durch dein Güte* (from *Canata 22*)

G.F. Handel, *Andante larghetto et staccato* (from *Concerto G Minor, Op. 7, No. 5, HWV 310*)

Denis Bédard, *Variations on "A Mighty Fortress"*

Jean Sibelius, *Finlandia*, Op. 26 (arr. Herbert Fricker)

Louis Lefébure-Wély, *Choir of Angels (Choeur de Voix Humaines)*

Joseph Bonnet, *Variations de Concert*

Samuel Metzger was born in Rochester, NY, but from an early age grew up in northern Arizona where his father was a missionary to the Navajo Indians. Early studies were at Northern Arizona State University in Flagstaff, where he was accepted into the Preparatory School of Music as a student of Dr. Marilyn Brandon. In high school he studied with Dr. Royce Johnson at the University of Arizona, Tucson.

Mr. Metzger began undergraduate studies in 1990 at Arizona State University where he was a student of Robert Clark. There he studied on a Regents Scholarship and at graduation was named "Most Outstanding Undergraduate in Performance." In 1995 he was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship and began studies with Jon Laukvik at the Hochschule für Musik und Darstellende Kunst in Stuttgart, Germany. He was awarded a second Fulbright Scholarship and in 1997 graduated with a degree of Künstlerisches Aufbaustudium (KA). Mr. Metzger then went on to study with Marie-Claire Alain in St. Germain-en-Laye, France.

In January 2003, Mr. Metzger became Senior Organist at Coral Ridge Presbyterian Church, Fort Lauderdale, FL. Services were televised on the Coral Ridge Hour, a program that was broadcast throughout the USA and internationally to 202 countries.

Samuel is currently the Director of Music and Organist at Second Presbyterian Church in Memphis, TN. Mr. Metzger is heard regularly around the country in concert. He has recorded seven CDs; more information may be found at metzgermusic.com.

January 2018

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1/8 page: \$15

1/4 page: \$30

1/2 page: \$60

Full page: \$120

From the Dean

2017 is now “in the books.” It was an eventful year for me both personally and professionally. My “retirement career” of teaching beginning piano to young children took off with the addition of new schools and 7 private students. I feel much more connected to the whole of metro Atlanta since I find myself in Lawrenceville, Johns Creek, Marietta, Powder Springs, Mableton, Dunwoody, Midtown, and Southwest Atlanta each week. I’ve never driven so much short of a cross-country vacation in my life! Though the driving is a pain, it is overshadowed by the joy of working with the children and seeing them begin to grasp the concepts and develop keyboard skills. It’s great fun...my one requirement for any retirement pursuit. The absolute greatest joy of 2017 was welcoming our first grandchild on August 6th. Hands down, the most beautiful baby ever born, Emery is such a delight! I could be just a tad prejudiced! ☺

It’s been quite a year for our Chapter, as well. During 2017 we’ve had some sensational programs thanks to the hard work of our Sub-Dean, Becky Ramsey. We made some real strides in upgrading our website and social media presence, and the Steering Committee for the 2020 National Convention is in full gear! Other positive changes have been put in place, and we are steady and focused on continuing in our quest to strengthen our Chapter, particularly in education and championing young musicians who have chosen to pursue “the King of Instruments” as part of their calling to minister, serve, and perform to the glory of God. There are exciting new ventures in which we will engage to bolster our commitment to encouraging these budding young musicians as 2018 unfolds! I can’t wait to share them with you as they develop.

It did occur to me that in 2017, we as a Chapter were touched by sadness as we said goodbye to a number of our members, all of whom played key roles in making the Atlanta Chapter of the AGO the strong, vibrant force it has become in our community. Their contributions to the world of organ and choral music cannot be taken lightly. Michael Hutcherson, Irma Collins, Ken Boone, and Bob Rylander all stepped into eternity this past year, leaving a void in our lives, but also leaving a legacy of musical distinction, dedicated service, and wonderful, rich friendship.

My desire for each of you in the coming year is to realize how very blessed you are to be living in this day and time, doing what you love, and engaged in bringing joy, hope, and encouragement to others through music! I trust 2018 will be filled with rich blessing for you and yours!

Blessings!

David Barber, Ed. D.
david.barber@charter.net
 Dean, Atlanta AGO

2017-2018 AGO Meetings & Programs

Date	Location	Program/Artist	Dinner, Reception, etc.
January 1-9-2018 (Tuesday) 7:30 pm	Johns Creek United Methodist Church 11180 Medlock Bridge Rd Johns Creek, GA 30097 Hosts Kenneth Axelson, Jeremy Rush	Samuel Metzger, organ	Punch Bowl 6:30 pm Meeting 7:00 pm (no dinner) Recital 7:30 pm Reception following
February 2-6-2018 (Tuesday) 7:30 pm	Trinity Presbyterian Church 3003 Howell Mill Rd Atlanta, GA 30327 Host Norman Mackenzie	Katelyn Emerson, organ Winner, National Young Artists Competition	Punch Bowl 6:00 pm Dinner Meeting 6:30 pm Recital 7:30 pm
March 3-3-2018 (Saturday) 10 am	Choir Room Peachtree Road United Methodist Church 3180 Peachtree Rd, Atlanta Atlanta, GA 30305 Hosts Scott Atchison, Nicole Marane	Choral Reading Session	Session One 10:00-11:15 am Box Lunch 11:15-11:45 am Session Two 11:45 am-1:00 pm
April 4-21-2018 (Saturday)	Lutheran Church of the Redeemer 731 Peachtree St NE Atlanta, GA 30308 Host Sarah Hawbecker	Taylor Organ Competition	Reception following the competition
May 5-8-2018 (Tuesday) 7:30 pm	Cannon Chapel Candler School of Theology, Emory University 515 South Kilgo Cir NE Atlanta, GA 30322 Hosts David Daniel, Randy Elkins	Guild Service Don Saliers & John Beyers, Worship Leaders	Punch Bowl 6:00 pm Dinner Meeting 6:30 pm Service 7:30 pm

January 2018 Calendar of Events

Day	Date	Time	Event	Location	Admission
Sunday	1/7	3:15 PM	Chase Loomer, <i>organ</i>	The Cathedral of St. Philip	
	1/7	4:00 PM	Choral Evensong, Cathedral Schola	The Cathedral of St. Philip	
Tuesday	1/9	7:30 PM	AGO Chapter Meeting, Samuel Metzger, <i>organ</i>	Johns Creek United Methodist Church	
Thursday	1/11	8:00 PM	Coucheron/Oundjian/ASO: Bernstein/Saint-Saëns/Beethoven	Symphony Hall	\$
Saturday	1/13	8:00 PM	Coucheron/Oundjian/ASO: Bernstein/Saint-Saëns/Beethoven	Symphony Hall	\$
Sunday	1/14	3:15 PM	Alvin Blount, <i>organ</i>	The Cathedral of St. Philip	
	1/14	4:00 PM	Choral Evensong, Cathedral Schola	The Cathedral of St. Philip	
Saturday	1/20	11:00 AM	Mozart's <i>The Magic Flute</i> , Atlanta Opera Studio Tour	First Presbyterian Church	
	1/20	3:00 PM	Nathan Laube, <i>organ</i>	Spivey Hall	\$
Sunday	1/21	3:00 PM	Kirill Gerstein, <i>piano</i>	Spivey Hall	\$
	1/21	3:00 PM	Brahms, <i>A German Requiem</i> , Michael O'Neal Singers	Roswell United Methodist Church	\$
	1/21	3:15 PM	Gail Archer, <i>organ</i>	The Cathedral of St. Philip	
	1/21	4:00 PM	Choral Evensong, Cathedral Schola	The Cathedral of St. Philip	
	1/21	7:30 PM	David Brensinger, <i>organ</i> , & friends	Holy Innocents' Episcopal Church	
Thursday	1/25	8:00 PM	Osorio/Cano/Spino/ASO: Kurth/Bernstein/Beethoven	Symphony Hall	\$
	1/25	8:00 PM	Nigel Potts, <i>organ</i> ; Sarah Rose Taylor, soprano	Daniel Memorial Chapel, Furman University	\$
Friday	1/26	7:30 PM	Stephen Tharpe, <i>organ</i>	Lutheran Church of the Redeemer	
Saturday	1/27	7:30 PM	Todd Wilson, <i>organ</i>	St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church	\$
	1/27	8:00 PM	Osorio/Cano/Spino/ASO: Kurth/Bernstein/Beethoven	Symphony Hall	\$
Sunday	1/28	3:15 PM	Karen Black, <i>organ</i>	The Cathedral of St. Philip	
	1/28	4:00 PM	Choral Evensong, Cathedral Schola	The Cathedral of St. Philip	
Tuesday	1/30	7:00 PM	Jack Mitchener, <i>organ</i>	Peachtree Road United Methodist Church	\$

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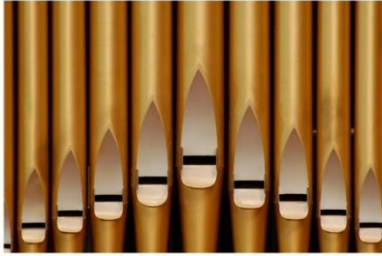
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Young Organist Competition 2018



Sponsored by the
Greater Columbia AGO Chapter

Saturday, March 10, 2018
Columbia, S.C.

Open to Grades 8 – 12

First Prize \$1500
Second Prize \$1000
Third Prize \$750
Hymn Playing Award \$250
Bach Playing Award \$250

For rules and application see
Young Organist Competition 2018
at www.columbiaago.org

TODD WILSON

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 27 AT 7:30 P.M.

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**A German
Requiem**

Sunday
January 21, 2018
3:00 p.m.
Roswell UMC

Johannes Brahms

The Michael O'Neal Singers
present

**A German Requiem-
Johannes Brahms**

Sunday, Jan. 21, 2018
3:00 p.m.

Roswell UMC
814 Mimosa Blvd. in Roswell 30075

**Michelle Jarrell, Soprano
Brent Davis, Baritone
Michael O'Neal, Conducting**

Organist **Tom Alderman** will accompany the
150-voice MOS chorus with a rarely-heard,
recent (2006) transcription arranged
by Andrew Raiskums, on Roswell UMC's
94-rank Möller organ.

\$15/\$20 in advance; \$20/25 at the door

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Guest Dinner Policy Change

(reprinted from October Newsletter)

Dear Colleagues,

I have some exciting news regarding our upcoming program year. The Atlanta Chapter is one of the largest in the AGO. Other chapters look to us as a “standard” for their own organization, programming, and chapter life. We need to realize our influence and the impact our chapter has on the Guild as a whole.

We are serious about reaching out to organists, church musicians, and others who love the organ and appreciate excellence in music. We also want to foster new talent and encourage young musicians, especially organists, to pursue their goals and excel in musicianship. We want to grow our chapter!

The Executive Board met at the conclusion of the '16-'17 program year in regular session to conduct chapter business and discuss ways to encourage growth of the chapter. One of the issues brought to the board was the need for individual members to reach out to other organists and musicians and increase attendance at our monthly programs. Our Sub-Dean, Becky Ramsey, has put together an outstanding program for the upcoming season. It is packed with incredible artists and outstanding venues. We also looked at the cost of meals and the desire of many to bring guests, but who also feel the “pinch” of the pocketbook. In order to promote increased attendance and welcome more potential members, the Board has voted to allow members in good standing to bring a potential member to our dinner meeting “on us.” We want to comp the cost of the meal of your guest in order to promote the growth of the chapter. This would be a one-time occurrence for that guest. To take advantage of this member benefit when you make your dinner reservation for a given program, give the name of your guest, state that you are bringing a first-time guest who is a potential member, and request that he or she be a “guest of the Guild.” We request that you also provide the guest’s email address or other contact information so our membership team can follow up with that potential member.

If you have any questions regarding this new policy, please let me know. In short – bring a guest/potential member to dinner; the Chapter will comp the cost of his/her meal one time; and we will follow up with that guest regarding joining the Guild. We want to be deliberate in our efforts to grow our chapter.

David Barber

From the Chapter Liaison for the 2020 Convention

(reprinted from the November Newsletter)

Dear members and friends,

At the time of this writing (mid-October 2017), the 2020 National Convention is 994 days away. That’s a long way off, right? By then, you may have given up “organ-ing” altogether to become a blueberry farmer in Pomfret, Connecticut!

But here’s the reality: it is happening now. The celebration that the convention constitutes is a culmination of relationships and activities. Most events in our lives follow this pattern, as enactments of great plans and preparations. Likewise, a performance of a piece of music is the product of a complex collaboration between composer, performer, instrument builder, venue provider, social conveyor which allows for and facilitates art-making at all, audience, and popcorn vendor. Conventions resemble that complexity, only more so.

I’m sure we have all been to events such as these where we enjoyed some things but were dissatisfied by others. Maybe we voiced our approbation somewhat but voiced our complaints even louder. In candor, I know that I am guilty of being the voice of complaint more than the voice of participation or positivity. We all want this convention to be great—we live and work here. And if it’s between complaining or being complained about, I choose the latter.

What about you? Are you ready to go beyond “wanting” a great convention in your city? And while your vision may not be 20/20 (wink) as to what that greatness might resemble, let me offer one more argument in support of helping out: we are all outsiders, and we are all insiders. I am a Jew in a largely Christian (or implicitly Christian) organization, and I came to the organ very late in life, comparatively. Outsider, right? But I am from Atlanta, and all I really know how to do is play, teach, and think about music. Therefore, I am very much “inside” this community and needful of its collegiality and support. There are myriad ways I could expand on these etic and emic notions.

Does this resonate with you? What is your story, and in what ways do you wish the Guild could support your passions? In what ways do you wish you could support or guide others? In what ways does a convention like this matter? If you care about these questions and have some ideas, then you have a voice, and we want to hear it.

The 2020 Steering Committee is working creatively and fairly constantly to provide this chapter, this national Guild, and this community with a convention to remember.

On behalf of Scott Atchison and the Steering Committee,

Brian Parks

Robert Warren Rylander

January 22, 1948–November 11, 2017

Robert Warren Rylander, age 69, passed away in his home in Suwanee, GA on November 11, 2017.

He was born in Minneapolis, MN, on January 22, 1948.



Following his service in the Army at Ft. Gordon, GA, he moved permanently to the Atlanta area. He was an employee of Equifax for thirty years.

He was an accomplished organist and choir director, touching and inspiring many lives with his musicianship. A longtime member of the American Guild of Organists, Bob will leave a legacy that advances the art of liturgical

organ music. He served at Corpus Christi Catholic Church in Stone Mountain, GA, from 1978 through the early 1990s. He moved on to Cross and Crown Lutheran Church in Atlanta, and finally served at McKendree United Methodist Church in Lawrenceville, GA.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Howard and Lorraine Rylander and his partner of 26 years, Sam Cangelose III.

Bob is survived by his brother Jim Rylander and wife Mary Jo; and their children Martha Kennedy (married to Shawn and expecting baby Thomas), Brendan (married to Laura and has daughter Josephine), Nathan (newly married to Meghan), and Jonathan.

A memorial service celebrating the music, fellowship, and hospitality that was Bob was held at Johns Creek United Methodist Church, 11180 Medlock Bridge Road, Johns Creek, GA 30097 on December 9, 2017 at 11:00 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, Bob's wishes were that you offer your gifts of time, talent, or treasure to the organization or charity of your choice.

Condolences may be expressed at www.mcdonaldandson.com.

Furman University

Church Music Conference to Feature Organ Recital with Nigel Potts

The Furman University Department of Music will host its 2018 Church Music Conference on campus Thursday and Friday, Jan. 25 and 26, with guest clinicians Donald McCullough and Nola Reed Knouse. The conference also features an organ concert Thursday, Jan. 25 at 8 p.m. in Daniel Memorial Chapel by organist Nigel Potts with soprano Sarah Rose Taylor.

Hosted by Furman music faculty members Charles Tompkins and Hugh Ferguson Floyd, the 2018 Church Music Conference runs Thursday, Jan. 25 at 1 p.m. through 4:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 26. Registration for the conference is \$75 on or before Jan. 6, and \$95 after that date as space remains. Registration for full-time students is \$40. Fees include two days of conference sessions, the Thursday evening organ recital, a conference music packet and a Friday luncheon.

Tickets for the Nigel Potts and Sarah Rose Taylor recital, part of Furman's Sound Quality Concert Series/Hartness Organ Series, are \$15 for adults, \$10 for seniors, and \$5 for students/youth. Church Music Conference attendees receive free admission to this recital.

For the Church Music Conference, clinician Donald McCullough, noted choral conductor, composer and church musician, will present sessions on vocal/choral and rehearsal techniques. Clinician Nola Reed Knouse, president of The Moravian Music Foundation, will lecture on the Moravian sacred music tradition. Both clinicians will lead choral reading sessions. Nigel Potts, organist and master of the choristers at Grace Cathedral (Episcopal) in Charleston, SC, will perform a recital on Furman's C.B. Fisk organ. Potts' wife and acclaimed soprano Sarah Rose Taylor will join the program for a performance of Edward Elgar's song cycle "Sea Pictures."

Founded in 1971, the Furman University Church Music Conference is made possible through an endowment from the Thomson Foundation as a memorial to Waddy Randolph Thomson and Pauline Blackwell Thomson. Each year, distinguished musicians of national prominence present sessions on subjects related to the study and practice of church music.

More information about the Furman Church Music Conference may be obtained from the Furman Music Department at 864-294-2086, or email the department at FurmanMusic@furman.edu.

The Cathedral of St. Philip

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



Sunday, January 7

3:15 p.m. Chase Loomer, organ

(Student at Eastman School of Music, Rochester, NY)
Olivier Messiaen, "Dieu parmi nous" from *La Nativité du Seigneur*
Johannes Brahms, *Fugue in A-flat minor*, WoO 8
J.S. Bach, Movements from *Trio Sonata No. 2 in C minor*
Vincent Persichetti, Movements from *Sonata for Organ*, Op. 86

4 p.m. Choral Evensong, Cathedral Schola

Joel Martinson, *Preces & Responses*
Charles Villiers Stanford in C
Richard Lakey, *Spirit of God, descend upon my heart*
Charles Wood, *Hail, gladdening Light*

Sunday, January 14

3:15 p.m. Alvin Blount, organ

(St. Joseph Catholic Church, Marietta, GA)
Craig Stellar Lang, *Fanfare*, Op. 85
J.S. Bach, Movements from *Trio Sonata V in C Major*, BWV 529
Adolphus Hailstork, *Prelude and Postlude on We Shall Overcome*
Richard Elliott, *Swing Low, Sweet Chariot*

4 p.m. Choral Evensong, Cathedral Schola

Joel Martinson, *Preces & Responses (Mississippi Conference)*
David Hurd, *Sewanee Church Music Conference*
arr. Larry Fleming, *Give me Jesus*
arr. Moses Hogan, *We shall walk through the valley in peace*

Sunday, January 21

3:15 p.m. Gail Archer, organ

(Barnard College, Columbia University, New York, NY)
Alexander Glasunow, *Prelude & Fugue in D minor*, Op. 98
Cesar Cui, *Prelude in G minor*
Cesar Cui, *Prelude in A-Flat Major*
Sergei Slonimsky, *Toccata*
Modest Mussorgsky, *Night on Bald Mountain*

4 p.m. Choral Evensong, Cathedral Schola

Philip Radcliffe, *Preces & Responses*
Hugh Blair in B minor
Maurice Duruflé, *Tu es Petrus*
Lennox Berkeley, *The Lord is my Shepherd*

Sunday, January 28

3:15 p.m. Karen Black, organ

(Wartburg College, Waverly, IA)
Johann Ernst Bach, *Fantasy & Fugue in F Major*
Paul Halley, *Outer Hebrides: A Fantasia on Three Celtic Melodies*
Craig Phillips, *Prelude on the Carillon d'Alet*
Johann Sebastian Bach, *Fantasy & Fugue in G Minor*, BWV 542

4 p.m. Choral Evensong, Cathedral Schola

Gerre Hancock, *Preces & Responses*
Gerald Near, *St. Mark's Service*
Colin Mawby, *Jesus Christ the Apple Tree*
Malcolm Boyle, *Thou, O God, art praised in Zion*

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.

Grace Presbyterian Church, Dawsonville, seeks a part-time pianist. Contact Jeanne Luke at JLukeMasterTeacher@gmail.com for more information.

Church of the New Covenant Presbyterian Church, Doraville, seeks a part-time Music Director/Organist. Send résumé to cncpersonnel@gmail.com.

Smyrna Presbyterian Church, Smyrna, seeks a part-time organist. Send cover letter and resume to James Ogburn, Choirmaster, at jameswogburn@gmail.com.

Mt. Zion United Methodist Church, Hapeville, seeks a part-time organist. Send resume to Andy Pitman at apitman3@icloud.com.

Carteret Street United Methodist Church, Beaufort, SC, seeks a part-time organist. Send resume and references to Cindy Keener at csumc@islc.net.

Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church, Sandy Springs, seeks a part-time organist. Send resume to TJ Shirley at tjs@mvpchurch.org.

Epiphany Episcopal Parish, Seattle, WA, seeks a Director of Music. For more information, contact hurtw@icloud.com.

Pilgrimage United Church of Christ, Marietta, seeks a part-time pianist/ accompanist. Send resume to worship@pilgrimageucc.org.

Milledge Avenue Baptist Church, Athens, seeks a part-time organist/ accompanist. Contact Tom Eggleston at tom@milledge.org.

St. George Catholic Church, Newnan, seeks a Director of Music/Organist. Contact Father Henry Atem at frhenry@stgeorgewnan.org.

Hillside Presbyterian Church, Decatur, seeks a part-time Organist/Choir Director. Send resume to hillspc@bellsouth.net.

First Presbyterian Church, Covington, seeks a Director of Music. Send resume to mkthompson96@gmail.com or call 518-577-8691 for more information.

Rock Spring Presbyterian Church seeks a temporary part-time music director. Contact Mary Gowing at music@rspc.org for information.

Peachtree City Christian Church seeks a part-time organist. Email rexwiseley@ptc3.com for more information.

Oakhurst Presbyterian Church, Decatur, seeks a part-time organist. Send resumes to info@oakhurstpresbyterian.org.

St. Mark's Episcopal Church, LaGrange, seeks a part-time organist/choirmaster. Send resume to allen@stmarkslg.org.

Greenville United Methodist Church seeks a part-time pianist. Send resume to greenvilleunited@bellsouth.net.

Philadelphia Presbyterian Church, Forest Park, seeks a choir director and pianist. Could be one position or two. Send resume to gsdurden@gmail.com.

Singers

Glenn Memorial United Methodist Church, Atlanta, seeks a tenor staff singer. To schedule an audition, contact Steven Darsey at 404-634-3936 or stevend@glennumc.org.

Northside Drive Baptist Church, Atlanta, seek a tenor staff singer. To schedule an audition, contact Keith Walker at keith@northsidedrive.org.

The Cathedral of St. Philip seeks a tenor staff singer. To arrange an audition, call 404-365-1050 or email tgunter@stphilipscathedral.org.

St. Barnabas Anglican Church, Dunwoody, seeks two or three tenor and/or bass staff singers. Email cab.ponder@gmail.com or call 678-361-4539 to schedule an audition.

St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church seeks tenor and bass staff singers. To schedule an audition, contact Shannon Gallier at Shannon@stbartsatlanta.org or 404-634-3336 x 228.



The Organizer

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

Chapter Officers

David Barber, EdD, *Dean*
Becky Griffin Ramsey, CAGO, AAGO, *Sub-Dean*
Charlene Ponder, *Treasurer*
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Class of '19

Stephen Honeychurch, CAGO
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Class of '20

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Jens Korndörfer, DM