



The Organizer

The Atlanta Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

www.agoatlanta.org

From the Dean

Dear AGO colleagues,

Election results are IN! Thanks to each chapter member who voted. Numbers were the closest (among our 4 nominees) that David Barber can ever recall: Jonathan Easter and Melissa Casper Espy were elected Board Members-at-Large, Class of 2027! Tied for third with the exact same number of votes were nominees John Gentry and Leslie Boyette. This tie is significant, because Keith Wilson's un-expired Class of 2026 seat (he's no longer an AGO Member) was offered to either John or Leslie by the Executive Board, depending on who won third place in the election. I spoke with both Leslie and John, after which they had a conversation with one another. John Gentry graciously acknowledged that he served as a Board Member in the past, and will continue to help our Chapter in important ways. Leslie Boyette has accepted the two-year term available to make our Board complete! Warm Congratulations and sincere thanks to each of these enthusiastic members!

For the past ten years, a portion of our chapter archives (anniversaries of our 75th, 90th, and Centennial years), reference library, and study material for AGO Certification Exams were in cardboard boxes in David Barber's garage. David and I went through the materials and discarded moldy items so that damage would not spread. Photos found are priceless. It was exciting to see premiere editions of music commissioned from composers Stephen Paulus and Judith Zaimont for the 1992 National Convention in Atlanta. Soon we'll need climate-controlled locations for newly categorized, stackable groups of crates (8). Atlanta Chapter AGO's 2 banners are stored in custom-made suitcases, of which one is awkwardly tall. There is also a collection of 45+ years of *The American Organist* in 5 boxes. Please contact David Barber and pick them up directly to become the new owner of these vintage issues!

Being in the audience at Spivey Hall last weekend—the final opportunity to hear Dr. Martha Shaw conduct the Spivey Hall Children's Choir (43rd year!)—reminded me to express my appreciation to you as AGO Members, for ways you contribute to the musical lives of your students.

This is my last column to you as your Dean. I'm grateful for what we accomplished this year, and smiling about this AGO Chapter's upcoming 110th Anniversary Year! If you recently renewed your AGO membership, hooray for you! Give the gift of your presence and your listening ear at a colleague's performance. Why not invite a prospective AGO member to a summer organ recital? Follow through when September comes. I wish you a refreshing change of scene this summer, with safe travel to professional conferences and vacation spots! Eat a lazy brunch; drip a popsicle; read a book in the porch swing or hammock. Just a suggestion...

Joanne Cobb Brown, CAGO
Dean, Atlanta AGO

June/Summer 2024

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Advertising Rates

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



ELIZABETH B. STEPHENS INTERNATIONAL ORGAN COMPETITION

This competition was founded by the family of the late Elizabeth B. Stephens, who was a great supporter of the arts at PRUMC and throughout the city of Atlanta. The legacy of Elizabeth B. Stephens offers opportunity to young artists to develop their skills and thrive in their vocation. The six talented young organists were chosen from more than 40 applicants from around the world.



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MOSER
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MANUEL
PIAZZA
Canada



ALEKSANTERI
WALLIUS
Finland



FINALIST RECITALS - FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Wednesday, June 19, 2024

1:00, 2:00, 3:00, 6:00, 7:00, & 8:00 pm

On the occasion of Elizabeth B. Stephens' 100th birthday!

PEACHTREE ROAD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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Summer 2024 Calendar of Events

Day	Date	Time	Event	Location	Admission
Saturday	6/1	8:00 PM	Trifonov/Stutzmann/ASO: Brahms/Dowland/Schumann	Symphony Hall	\$26-140
Thursday	6/6	8:00 PM	Stutzmann/ASO: Mozart/Wagner	Symphony Hall	\$26-128
Friday	6/7	7:30 PM	Cathedral Singers Concert	The Cathedral of St. Philip	\$10-150
Saturday	6/8	8:00 PM	Stutzmann/ASO: Mozart/Wagner	Symphony Hall	\$26-128
Sunday	6/9	4:00 PM	Ronald Ebrecht, <i>organ</i>	First United Methodist Church, Marietta	Free
Wednesday	6/12	7:30 PM	Atlanta Summer Organ Festival: Renée Anne Louprette	St. Luke's Episcopal Church	\$15
Thursday	6/13	8:00 PM	Eberle/Stutzmann/ASO: Beethoven/Ravel/Stravinsky	Symphony Hall	\$28-135
Saturday	6/15	8:00 PM	Eberle/Stutzmann/ASO: Beethoven/Ravel/Stravinsky	Symphony Hall	\$28-135
Sunday	6/16	3:00 PM	Eberle/Stutzmann/ASO: Beethoven/Ravel/Stravinsky	Symphony Hall	\$28-135
	6/16	7:30 PM	Atlanta Summer Organ Festival: James O'Donnell	Peachtree Road United Methodist Church	\$15
Saturday	6/22	2:30 PM	Seamus Gethicker, <i>organ</i>	Stephenson High School, Stone Mountain	Free
Wednesday	6/26	7:30 PM	Atlanta Summer Organ Festival: Bálint Karosi	The Cathedral of St. Philip	\$15
Saturday	7/13	9:30-4:30	"Paperless singing" led by Ana Hernandez	St. Luke's Episcopal Church	Free
Wednesday	7/17	7:30 PM	Atlanta Summer Organ Festival: Katelyn Emerson	The Cathedral of Christ the King	\$15

From the Chaplain

Dear Friends,

Take Time for Your Soul

Are you taking care of your soul?

I'm asking because I spent over 25 years as a professional soprano and teaching singing and various music classes before I became a priest. I even kept my musical skills going through seminary by singing in the Seminary Choir and also the Schola, but after ordination quickly got caught up in all the things that a priest does and essentially stopped doing anything music-related. Priests do very valuable things for other people's souls, of course, but I felt something was missing that needed to feed my own. Always a lover of classical music, I tried to fill that gap by continuing to listen to all my favorites. That wasn't enough. Slowly I'd let the musical part of me go... other than chanting the mass. Placing it off to the side, I thought maybe that was the end of that part of my life. After all, I'd had to resign my job and basically stop doing all of those things to be a priest. And then there was the issue of time... the one thing which, as a priest, I had so little of.

But what I found was that even though music wasn't my career anymore, I still needed it. I needed something musical in my life to feed my soul. I don't believe in coincidences, and when the Church of Our Saviour choir was invited to sing Compline with St. Bartholomew's Schola Cantorum, I was enchanted with that group and quickly asked if I could join them. I found exactly what I needed: a group that sang only twice a month (I could commit to that even as a busy parish rector) and that also sang really difficult music that would challenge me. It was something that the musically trained part of me needed... and the spirituality of the group combined with the breathtaking music was exactly what my soul didn't know it needed.

What does your soul need? Maybe it's time alone. Maybe a retreat or sacred space. Maybe it's season tickets to the opera or symphony. Maybe it's a musical group or offering outside of your normal job or gig. I can't tell you what it is, but don't wait to find it. You will be glad you took care of your soul.

for His sake,
Mother Melanie

ATLANTA SUMMER ORGAN FESTIVAL 2024



Renée Anne Louprette

(Bard College Conservatory, NY)

works by Alain, Bach, Demessieux,
de la Guerre, Hurd, Laurin, & Vierne

Wednesday, June 12

St. Luke's Episcopal Church

435 Peachtree St NE

James O'Donnell

(Yale University)

works by Bach, Bingham, Duruflé,
Howells, Parry, & Whitlock

Sunday, June 16

Peachtree Road United Methodist Church

3180 Peachtree Road NE



Bálint Karosi

(Saint Peter's Church, New York, NY)

works by Bach, Hidas, Jongen,
Karosi, Nishimura, Price, & Schumann

Wednesday, June 26

The Cathedral of St. Philip

2744 Peachtree Road NW



Katelyn Emerson

(Ph.D. Student at the University of Cambridge)

works by Bach, Bairstow, Boěly,
Buxtehude, Duruflé, Jackson, & Wammes

Wednesday, July 17

The Cathedral of Christ the King

2699 Peachtree Road NE



All recitals begin at 7:30 p.m. † receptions follow † \$15 donation requested at the door

Around the Chapter

Atlanta Summer Organ Festival 2024

This summer the 29th Atlanta Summer Organ Festival will take place in four Atlanta churches. The organ recitals will begin at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesdays (and one this year on a Sunday) in June and July. There is a suggested \$15 donation at the door for each recital, and there is a reception following each recital. The dates, locations, and performers will include:

Wednesday, June 12, St. Luke's Episcopal Church — Renée Anne Louprette
Sunday, June 16, Peachtree Road United Methodist Church — James O'Donnell
Wednesday, June 26, The Cathedral of St. Philip — Bálint Karosi
Wednesday, July 17, The Cathedral of Christ the King — Katelyn Emerson

Come and hear some of the world's great organists this summer.

St. Luke's Episcopal Church Presents "Paperless Singing" with Ana Hernandez

July 13 – Save the Date! Join St. Luke's Episcopal Church for a unique day of "paperless singing" led by Ana Hernandez, a nationally acclaimed composer, arranger, and author on Saturday, July 13, 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. This event is sponsored by Music at St. Luke's in partnership with Music that Makes Community, a national organization practicing communal song-sharing that inspires deep spiritual connection, brave shared leadership, and sparks the possibility of transformation in our world. This free event precedes the beginning of the Hymn Society's Annual Conference and includes lunch. For more information, visit anahernandez.org or contact Matthew Brown, St. Luke's Director of Music, at matthew@stlukesatlanta.org.

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The Cathedral of St. Philip



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

2024-2025 Recitalists

SEPTEMBER 2024

15 / Mason Copeland, *organ*
22 / John Sherer, *organ*
29 / Michael Ging, *organ*

OCTOBER 2024

6 / Andy Harnsberger and Caitlin Jones, *marimba duo*
13 / Nicole Keller, *organ*
20 / Scott Lamlein, *organ*
27 / Dina Foster-Osbourne, *organ*

NOVEMBER 2024

10 / Jennifer Shin, *organ*
17 / Kevin Neel, *organ*
24 / Aaron Patterson, *organ*

DECEMBER 2024

15 / Junwen Liang, *piano*

JANUARY 2025

5 / Viktoriia Shorokhova, *organ*
12 / Andrew Sheranian, *organ*
19 / Joseph Ripka, *organ*
26 / David Jernigan, *organ*

FEBRUARY 2025

2 / Benji Stegner, *organ*
9 / Andrew Senn, *organ*
16 / Mitchell Garcia, *organ*
23 / Nicholas Quardokus, *organ*

MARCH 2025

2 / Carolyn Hoff, *organ*
9 / Geoffrey Ward, *organ*
23 / Brian Parks, *organ*
30 / David Hirst, *organ*

APRIL 2025

6 / Leslie Boyette, *organ*
27 / Edward Hewes, *organ*

MAY 2025

4 / Joseph Causby, *organ*
11 / Davis Badaszewski, *organ*
18 / Herbert Buffington, *organ*

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

Lutheran Church of the Ascension, Atlanta, seeks a part-time Music Director/Organist, as well as an Interim Organist. Send resumes to pastor@ascension-lcms.com.

St. Mark United Methodist Church, Atlanta, seeks a full-time Organist & Director of Fine Arts. Send resume to office@stmarkumc.org.

St. George's Anglican Cathedral, Columbus, seeks a part-time organist. For information contact Sabrina Bower at sabrinabower@live.com or 706-530-0690 x702.

St. Julian's Episcopal Church, Douglasville, seeks a part-time organist/pianist and choir director. Send resumes to ghgibson@saintjulians.org.

Epworth United Methodist Church seeks a part-time Worship Leader. Send resumes to byron.ahrens@ngumc.net

First Presbyterian Church, Gainesville, seeks a full-time Organist/Choir Director. Send resume to Rev. Lee Koontz at lkoontz@fpcga.org.

Mountain Park United Methodist Church, Lilburn, seeks a part-time organist. Contact David Walters at david.walters@mountainparkumc.org for more information.

St. Francis de Sales Latin Catholic Church, Mableton, seeks a part-time organist. For information, contact Jonathan Arrington at lafamigliaarrington@gmail.com.

First United Methodist Church, Madison, seeks a part-time organist. Send resumes to kathleen@madisonfumc.com.

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church, Morganton, seeks a part-time Organist/Pianist. Send resumes to jameskroninger@gmail.com.

First Global Methodist Church, Norcross, seeks a part-time organist/accompanist. Send resumes to Director of Music Ministry Scott Keeseey at Scott@Norcrossfirst.org

Senoia United Methodist Church, Senoia, seeks a Director of Music Ministries. Send resume to pastor Julie Schendel at julie@senoiaumc.org, (770) 599-3245.

Ebenezer Presbyterian Church, Rock Hill, SC, seeks a full-time organist and music director. Go to ebenezerarp.org for application instructions and full job description.



The Organizer

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

Chapter Officers

Joanne Cobb Brown, CAGO, *Dean*
Caroline Robinson, DMA, *Co-Sub-Dean*
Sean F. Vogt, DMA, *Co-Sub-Dean & Dean Elect*
Wayne Gilreath, *Sub-Dean Elect*
Pamela Radford, *Secretary*
Jeffrey Daniel, *Secretary Elect*
Nancy Dickson, *Treasurer*
David Barber, EdD, *Registrar*
Joanne Cobb Brown, CAGO, *Registrar Elect*
Timothy Gunter, *Newsletter Editor*
The Reverend Mother Melanie Rowell, *Chaplain*
Lamar Savage, *Auditor*

Class of '24 (Outgoing)

Bill Callaway
Mary Ruth Laverty Solem

Class of '25

Valerie Pool
Keith H. Walker

Class of '26

Jeff Funderburk
Leslie Boyette

Class of '27 (Incoming)

Jon Easter
Melissa Casper Espy