

The Organizer

The Atlanta Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

September 2017

In this issue...

September AGO Meeting1
From the Dean2
September 2017 Calendar of Events3
New Members4
Around the Chapter4
AGO Certification4
2017-2018 AGO Meetings & Programs 5
Guest Dinner Policy Change6
Chapter Member Commemoration6
Positions Available7
Chapter Officers8

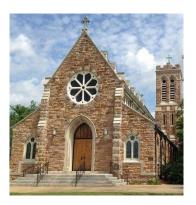
The Organizer, the official bulletin of the Atlanta Chapter of the American Guild of Organists, is published monthly, September through June. All material for publication must reach the Editor by the 15th day of the month preceding the date of issue (e.g., November 15 for the December issue). This should be typewritten and emailed. The Organizer reserves the right to make editorial changes and to shorten articles to fit 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

www.agoatlanta.org

Saturday, September 9, 2017 Ken Cowan, organ



at

Grace Episcopal Church
422 Brenau Ave.
Gainesville, GA 30501
Host Will Gottmer

6:00 p.m. Punchbowl
6:30 p.m. Dinner Meeting
(Dinner \$18, reservation required)
7:30 p.m. Recital
Reception following
(Reception sponsored by Grace Episcopal)

Ken Cowan is one of North America's finest concert organists. Praised for his dazzling artistry, impeccable technique and imaginative programming by audiences and critics alike, he maintains a rigorous performing schedule which takes him to major concert venues and churches in America, Canada, Europe, and Asia.

Recent feature performances have included appearances at Segerstrom Center for the Arts in Costa Mesa, CA; Philadelphia's Verizon Hall; Atlanta's Spivey Hall; and Walt Disney Concert Hall; as well as concerts in Germany and Korea. In addition, Mr. Cowan has been a featured artist in recent years at the national conventions of the American Guild of Organists held in Los Angeles and Minneapolis,



has performed at many regional conventions of the AGO, and has been featured at several conventions of the Organ Historical Society and the Royal Canadian College of Organists.

Ken received the Master's degree and Artist Diploma from the Yale School of Music/Institute of Sacred Music, studying organ with Thomas Murray. Prior to attending Yale, he graduated with a Bachelor of Music degree from the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia where he studied with John Weaver. His major teacher during high school years was James Bigham, Organist/Choirmaster at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, in Buffalo, NY, which is not far from his hometown of Thorold, Ontario, Canada.

In 2012 Mr. Cowan joined the keyboard faculty of the Shepherd School of Music at Rice University as Associate Professor and head of the organ program. Previous positions have included Associate Professor of Organ at Westminster Choir College of Rider University in Princeton, NJ, where he was awarded the 2008 Rider University Distinguished Teaching Award, and Associate Organist and Artist in Residence at Saint Bartholomew's Church in New York City.

From the Dean

I don't know about you, but did it seem this summer was too short and way too "turbulent." I don't know when I've experienced a summer quite like this one...for better or for worse. The daily news (whether "fake" or real) with all the upheaval and madness in our world aside, these past few months have been like a rollercoaster ride...there were some thrills, but there was also some real sadness.

On June 1, 2017, I lost a dear friend, Michael Hutcherson, as a result of an accident at his home. Words cannot begin to express the sense of loss. Mike was the one who introduced me to the AGO over 20 years ago. He sprung for my dinner, introduced me to his AGO friends during the "punchbowl," we went to the recital, and I was hooked. I'm so thankful that he shared this part of his life with me. He began playing the organ at First Baptist Church, Thomaston, at age 16, where he played for many years until moving to Palmetto, and eventually Fayetteville, where he served as organist at First Baptist Church until he retired. He loved the theater organ as well, so I was introduced to another facet of organ music. Mike was like the big brother I never had. I'm grateful for the years of friendship and encouragement. He was there for me during a difficult career "transition," in those early years as a struggling dad trying to balance family, career, and continuing educational pursuits, and provided advice and direction for me in my avocation as a music director.

On August 6, 2017, I became a grandfather! Again, there just aren't words to describe the joy, pride, love, and sheer wonder of that precious little girl who has changed our lives forever. Our son is a paramedic/firefighter and his wife an aspiring criminal psychologist (still has an internship to complete), of which we're super proud, but moving us into the "Grandma and Grandpa" realm is wonderful! I'll try not to be one of those doting grandparents who is always bragging and showing pictures...but it will be hard.

So, as you can see, it really has been a rollercoaster ride of experiences and emotions, and now it's time for another great AGO season. I know there will be challenges as we move forward as a Chapter, but I'm looking forward to the thrills of experiencing some truly great organ performances this year. I'm so thankful for our Sub-Dean, Becky Ramsey. She has put together an outstanding slate of recitals and growth opportunities for our Chapter. You are going to have the opportunity to enjoy some wonderful organs being played by remarkable performers. It's going to be a fantastic season. I trust you will reach out to a friend or two and bring them with you to experience "The King of Instruments" and help build our Chapter!

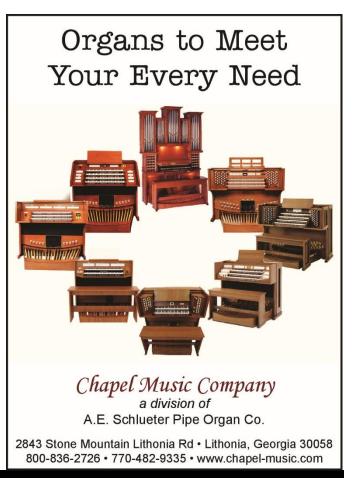
Blessings!

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

September 2017 Calendar of Events

Day	Date	Time	Event	Location	Admission
Saturday	9/9	5:00 PM	Choral Evensong, Parish Choir	Holy Innocents' Episcopal Church	
Sunday	9/10 9/10 9/10 9/10 9/10	2:00 PM 3:15 PM 4:00 PM 5:00 PM 8:00 PM	Atlanta Brassworks (brass quintet and organ) Patrick A. Scott, organ Choral Evensong, Cathedral Choir Choral Evensong, Canterbury Choir Compline, Schola Cantorum	Lutheran Church of the Redeemer The Cathedral of St. Philip The Cathedral of St. Philip St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church	
Sunday	9/17 9/17	3:15 PM 4:00 PM	Sarah Hawbecker, <i>organ</i> Choral Evensong, Cathedral Schola	The Cathedral of St. Philip The Cathedral of St. Philip	
Monday	9/18	7:30 PM	Summit Piano Trio	All Saints' Episcopal Church	\$
Thursday	9/21	8:00 PM	Thibaudet/Spano/ASO: Bernstein/Kurth/Gershwin	Symphony Hall	\$
Saturday	9/23	8:00 PM	Thibaudet/Spano/ASO: Bernstein/Kurth/Gershwin	Symphony Hall	\$
Sunday	9/24 9/24	3:15 PM 4:00 PM	Ralph Lyda, <i>organ</i> Choral Evensong, Cathedral Schola	The Cathedral of St. Philip The Cathedral of St. Philip	
Thursday	9/28	7:30 PM	Atlanta Opera: Weill, The Seven Deadly Sins	Le Maison Rouge at Paris on Ponce	SOLD OUT
Friday	9/29 9/29	7:30 PM 7:30 PM	Atlanta Opera: Weill, <i>The Seven Deadly Sins</i> 20 Celebrate 20: Atlanta Baroque Orchestra	Le Maison Rouge at Paris on Ponce The Cathedral of St. Philip	\$ \$
Saturday	9/30 9/30	4:00 PM 7:30 PM	20 Celebrate 20: Atlanta Baroque Orchestra Atlanta Opera: Weill, <i>The Seven Deadly Sins</i>	St. David's Episcopal Church, Roswell \$ Le Maison Rouge at Paris on Ponce \$	





New Members

Davis Badaszewski

Alvin Blount

Director of Music St. Joseph Catholic Church Marietta, GA

Dr. Martha Braswell

Professor San Jacinto College Central Pasadena, TX

Cameron Carey

Caitlin Dowling

Matthew Edwards

Organist/Choirmaster St. Matthias Episcopal Church Tuscaloosa, AL

Thomas Elston

Director of Music St. John's Episcopal Church College Park, GA

Vicki Fey

Organist Central Presbyterian Church Atlanta

John Manseau

Minister of Music First United Methodist Church Pine Mountain, GA

Dr. Jack Mitchener

Director, Townsend-McAfee Institute of Church Music Mercer University Macon, GA

Taylor Morton

Don Newby

Jonathan Poe

Organist/Choirmaster Christ Episcopal Church Macon, GA

Norma Raybon

Director of Music First Congregational Church Atlanta

Carolyn Scott

Assistant Organist St. Martin in the Fields Episcopal Church Atlanta

Thomas Shirley

David Singer

Lucy Stembridge

Around the Chapter

Choral Evensongs in September

At 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 9, the Parish Choir of Holy Innocents' Episcopal Church will offer a service of Choral Evensong as part of the 30th Anniversary Celebration of the ministry of Choirmaster & Organist David Brensinger. Music will feature works by Robert Lee, Vernon Williams, and Craig Phillips.

At 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, September 10, the Canterbury Choir of St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church will present Choral Evensong, and at 8:00 p.m. the same evening, the St. Bartholomew's Schola Cantorum will sing a service of Compline.

At 4:00 p.m. on September 10, the Cathedral of St. Philip will resume their weekly services of Choral Evensong, preceded each week by a recital at 3:15. The first three recitalists this season are all Atlanta organists — Dr. Patrick A. Scott on September 10, Sarah Hawbecker on September 17, and Ralph Lyda on September 24.

Summit Piano Trio at All Saints' Episcopal Church

At 7:30 p.m. on Monday, September 18, All Saints' Episcopal Church will present a concert by the Summit Piano Trio — Helen Kim, *violin*; Charae Kreuger, *cello*; and Robert Henry, *piano*. Tickets are available in advance at www.allsaintsatlanta.org/music/concert-series or at the door the night of the concert.

Organ for Sale

For Sale: Allen AP-4 practice/small church organ. 2 manuals, 27 stops, AGO pedalboard, internal and external speakers, Allen MIDI sound module, oak finish. \$4500. For more information or to play it, contact Jeremy Rush at jrush@johnscreekumc.org.

AGO Certification

The new Certification Requirements were printed in the July issue of *The American Organist* magazine. This is the year in which the requirements for the Colleague Certificate changed. There have been minimal changes to the required repertoire for the other levels.

The Chapter's Education Coordinator is Jeffrey McIntyre, CAGO. His information is listed in the Chapter Directory, and he is eager to answer questions about preparation for the exams, and what to expect on the day of the exam. Please give him a call.

2017-2018 AGO Meetings & Programs

Date	Location	Program/Artist	Dinner, Reception, etc.	
September 9-9-2017 (Saturday) 7 pm	Grace Episcopal Church 422 Brenau Ave NE Gainesville, GA 30501 Host Will Gottmer	Ken Cowan, <i>organ</i>	Punch Bowl 6:00 pm Dinner Meeting 6:30 pm Recital 7:30 pm Reception following	
October 10-10-2017	All Saints' Episcopal Church 634 West Peachtree St NW	D. t. K	Punch Bowl 6:00 pm	
(Tuesday) 7:30 pm	Atlanta, GA 30308 Hosts Ray & Beth Chenault, Michael Crowe, Pamela Ingram	Dexter Kennedy, <i>organ</i>	Dinner Meeting 6:30 pm Recital 7:30 pm	
November 11-14-2017 (Tuesday) 7:30 pm	First United Methodist Church 360 Peachtree St NE Atlanta, GA 30308 Host Robert McMichael	Herb Buffington, <i>organ</i>	Punch Bowl 6:00 pm Dinner Meeting 6:30 pm Recital 7:30 pm	
December				
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, <i>organ</i>	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, <i>organ</i> 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 Host Jeremy Rush	Guild Service Don Saliers & John Beyers, Worship Leaders	Punch Bowl 6:00 pm Dinner Meeting 6:30 pm Service 7:30 pm	



Guest Dinner Policy Change

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

Chapter Member Commemoration

James Michael Hutcherson died suddenly June 1, 2017, following an accident at his home in Fayetteville, GA. He was born January 9, 1949, in Thomaston, GA. Michael graduated from R.E. Lee Institute in Thomaston, before going onto Mercer University for a degree in organ performance. He began playing the piano at the age of 9, the organ at the age of 13, and then began playing organ at his home church of Thomaston First Baptist at the age of 16. He played at the church for many years before leaving Thomaston in 1988. When moving to Palmetto, GA, he served as the interim organist at Palmetto First Baptist Church before moving to Fayetteville in 1991. He served as interim organist for 7½ years in Palmetto, then became full time organist at Fayetteville First Baptist Church, before retiring. He remained active in playing as interim organist and filling in from time to time at various churches in the area.

Michael was a banker by trade working for many years in Thomaston, GA, at C&S Bank as a loan officer and branch manager. He transferred to Commercial Bank and Trust in Griffin, managing the Hampton Office, before transferring to the Peachtree City Branch. He then became affiliated with SouthTrust Bank and Bank of North Georgia, before retiring in 2008. He has been active in the American Guild of Organists, as well as American Theatre Organ Society, where he was on the board and served as Treasurer for a number of years.

Living in Fayetteville since 1991, he was a member of Fayetteville First Baptist Church. Michael was preceded in death by his parents, James Albert Hutcherson and Billie Hutcherson. He is survived by his wife, Allison Adams Hutcherson; daughter, Miranda Hutcherson; and his sister, Mrs. Jean Helms.

Many nieces, nephews, and cousins survive, as well as a host of friends including best friends, Bruce Brownlow and Andy Garrett. Also, a very special person in his life was Mrs. Flossie Cunningham, who was formerly of Thomaston, now in Durham, NC. Honorary pallbearers were members of the American Guild of Organists and American Theatre Organ Society.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Thomaston First Baptist Church Music Department, www.fbcthomaston.org: the American Guild of Organists, www.agohq.org; the American Theatre of Organ Society, www.atos.org; or Georgia Baptist Children's Home, www.gbchfm.org.

The Cathedral of St. Philip

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



Sunday, September 10

3:15 p.m. Patrick A. Scott, organ

(The Cathedral of St. Philip)

Theodore Dubois. Toccata

Thomas Arne, Flute Solo

Johann Sebastian Bach, *Toccata & Fugue in D Major*, BWV 532 Charles Villiers Stanford, *Intermezzo founded upon an Irish Air* Louis Vierne, *Toccata in B-flat minor* from *Pièces de Fantaisie* Patrick A. Scott, Improvisation

4 p.m. Choral Evensong, Cathedral Choir

Philip Radcliffe, *Preces & Responses*Charles Villiers Stanford in B flat
Stephen Paulus, *Pilgrims' Hymn*John Joubert, *O Lorde, the maker of al thing*

Sunday, September 17

3:15 p.m. Sarah Hawbecker, organ

(Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, Atlanta)

Johann Sebastian Bach, "Ein feste Burg" from Cantata 80 (arr. Gerald Near)

Rachel Laurin, *Quatre Pèlerinages en Lorraine*, Op. 30 Craig Phillips, *Rhapsody for Organ*

4 p.m. Choral Evensong, Cathedral Schola

William Smith, Preces & Responses William Byrd, Third Service Clemens non Papa, Crux fideles Richard Proulx, We adore you, O Christ

Sunday, September 24

3:15 p.m. Ralph Lyda, organ

(Atlanta)

Herbert Howells, Rhapsody, Op. 17, No. 3

Ralph Lyda, II Chronicles 5

Bruce Neswick, Epilogue on Veni Creator Spiritus

T. Tertius Noble, Choral Prelude on Aberystwyth

Edward C. Bairstow, Toccata-Prelude on Pange Lingua

4 p.m. Choral Evensong, Cathedral Schola

Craig Phillips, Preces & Responses (St David's, Roswell)

T. Tertius Noble in A minor

Felix Mendelssohn, How lovely are the messengers David Briggs, O Lord, support us all the day long

Friday, September 29

7:30 p.m. 20 Celebrate 20

Atlanta Baroque Orchestra

20 musicians gather to celebrate 20 years of great music by the ABO, with selections chosen by you, our audience! Program includes Handel's *Water Music* and Bach's Brandenburg *Concerto No. III*, among other audience and musician favorites featuring an impressive array of wind instruments—baroque piccolo/flute, oboes, natural horns, trumpets, and bassoon.

Positions Available

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

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.

Vineville United Methodist Church, Macon, seeks a full-time Organist/Choirmaster. Send resumes to Dr. Jimmy R. Asbell, Jr., at iasbell@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.

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

St. James United Methodist Church, Atlanta, seeks a Director of Music Ministry and an Associate Director of Music Ministry. Send resumes to stjamesatljobs@gmail.com with "Director of Music Ministry" or "Associate Director of Music Ministry" in the subject line.

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.

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. or 404-634-3336, ext. 228.

First Presbyterian Church, Gainesville, seeks a part-time organist. For more information, contact Sam Marley at smarley@fpcqa.org.

First United Methodist Church, Marietta, seeks a full-time Director of Music. Send resumes to resumes@mariettafumc.org.

First United Methodist Church, College Park, seeks an alto staff singer. For further information email smbnotes@aol.com.

Cross of Life Lutheran Church, Roswell, seeks a Music Director, and a part-time Music Associate for Contemporary Worship. Send applications to musicsearch@crossoflifelutheran.org, clearly indicating the desired position.

Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church, Lilburn, seeks a Music Director. Send resume or contact mdf@goodshepherdpc.org.

Harmony Grove United Methodist Church, Lilburn, seeks a part-time organist/pianist. Send resume or contact Rev. Deborah Carlton at 50 Harmony Grove Rd. NW, Lilburn, GA 30047 (770-921-7747; hgumc.office@gmail.com).

Peachtree Road Lutheran Church, Atlanta, seeks soprano, mezzo soprano, alto, and tenor staff singers. Contact joel.carver@outlook.com (612-396-1520) to schedule an audition.

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.

Martha Bowman Memorial United Methodist Church, Macon, seeks a part-time organist. For more information, contact Ellen Hanson (efhanson@cox.net) or Bernard Meyer von Bremen (gb77@bellsouth.net).

First United Methodist Church, Atlanta, seeks a full-time Director of Worship and Music. Send cover letter and resume to Reverend Jasmine R. Smothers at paster@atlantafirstumc.org.

Northside Drive Baptist Church, Atlanta, seeks alto and bass staff singers. To schedule an audition, contact Keith Walker at keith@northsidedrive.org.



Chapter Officers

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

Class of '18 Gwyn Bacon, SP, CAGO David Brensinger, AAGO

Class of '19 Stephen Honeychurch, CAGO Andrew J. Singletary, Jr., SPC

Class of '20
Joyce Johnson, DM, AAGO
Jens Korndörfer, DM