



The En Chamade

Newsletter of the American Guild of Organists, Memphis Chapter, December 2022

From the Dean . . .

A Season of *JOY*

We are in the midst of one of the two busiest seasons for church musicians at a point in time when many of those we serve are frustrated, sad, stressed, and angry. While dealing with the high and numerous expectations of those around us, it is our calling to provide music that leads our congregants to experience the wonder and joy of the season. We will contemplate three ways to do this.



Provide some *Jubilant* music. Music of this nature lifts the spirits, and reminds us of why Christ came to earth. It can remind those present that the season is more than the busyness of the many activities and of the happy times with those who are no longer on earth to celebrate the season with us. It helps to transport us from the mundane to the divine.

Think of *Others*. Seldom is any group of people in the same mood. We each come with our own experiences, joys, and sorrows. Especially at this time we should treat everyone as individuals. In other words rejoice with those who rejoice and grieve with those who grieve. We are all in different seasons of life. I recently read a post on Facebook by a fellow staff member at a former church who gave the wooden spoon to her daughter indicating that she would be taking the mantle of cooking Thanksgiving dinner in years to come. We can celebrate or mourn these life changes, and we can provide support for those going through unpleasant changes.

Live with *Youthful* exuberance. Remember the wide eyes that children have as they view the lights on the Christmas tree. Do something different this year during the season to give you new perspective. Live with the expectation that something good is going to happen. It did happen which Christ came to earth. Let us share this *JOY* with others.

Wishing you a joyous Christmas!
Terry McRoberts, Dean

Upcoming Meeting

January 9: Twelfth Night Party at All Saints' Episcopal Church
6:30 - 9 PM – Refreshments in Parish Hall, All Saints Church,
Whitestation and Quince, Memphis

(Details on page 8)

Membership Renewal Reminder

Please renew early and make any changes to your information as needed.
I am happy to help if you need assistance. (Dennis Janzer-Registrar)
<https://www.agohq.org/oncard-login/>

2022-2023 FUTURE MEMPHIS AGO PROGRAMS

Monday, January 9: Twelfth Night Party, All Saints Episcopal Church

Monday February 6: Jonathan Dimmock Bach & Messiaen: Mysticism in Music
Location TBA

Monday, March 6: Program and Location TBA

Monday, May 8: Jennifer Pascual, St. Peter's Catholic Church

Meeting and Greeting Schedule for September through November:

6:00: Light refreshments

6:30: Program with business meeting to follow

January: Announcement about the food for that meeting and time will be made later.

The Program Committee will discuss the possibility and feasibility of resuming meals for the programs occurring in 2023.

CHAPTER AND NATIONAL NEWS



We thank member **PATRICK SCOTT** for his excellent presentation on improvisation, **“Salvation is Only a Half Step Away”** at Grace-Saint Luke’s Episcopal Church, Memphis. The program was presented for the October members’ meeting, and it was well-received by an appreciative audience. Thank you, Patrick!

ANDRÉ DUVALL has graciously agreed to serve as Chair of the Nominating Committee for our 2023 elections, and was approved by the Elected Officers. He will appoint the other four members of the Nominating Committee, and they will proceed with their work after the holidays.





In Memoriam Frederick Swann - Riverside Church

July 30, 1931- November 13,

Frederick Swann, former organist of the Riverside Church, who died peacefully at his home in Palm Desert, California.

He was 91. From 1953-1982 he served at Riverside in succession as Assistant Organist, Organist, and Director of Music. Following his tenure at Riverside Church, he became Director of Music at the Crystal Cathedral, Garden Grove, CA. He was enormously influential to generations of organists.

www.trcnyc.org

POSITIONS OPEN

First United Methodist Church

Holly Springs, Mississippi

Seeking a new organist. Small Pilcher organ.

Choir practice - 9:00 a.m. Worship service -11:00 a.m. Practice time -10:00 a.m.

Contact Matthew Haynes for information. Hayner.matthew@gmail.com

Wesleyan Hills United Methodist Church

Memphis, Tenn. Seeking a pianist to play for service and accompany the choir. Contact Pastor Susan Sharpe - drsharpe@wesleyanhillsumc.org

St. Paul United Methodist Church

2949 Davies Plantation, Lakeland, Tenn. Seeking a pianist.

Sunday - 9am - 12noon - practice with the band and prepare for worship. Play for all Sunday worship services and special worship services. Wednesday 6-8 pm - play for choir practice. Contact information not given.

Submitted by Phil Brown, Pacement Coordinator

EXAMS AND PROFESSIONAL CONCERNS

Worthy Pursuit: Professional Credentials

Service Playing Certification (SPC) applications for the current AGO year continue through Feb. 1, 2023. Applications for SPC test should be received at least 3 weeks prior to the scheduled exam date. SPC exams can be scheduled through March 31, 2023.

The Colleague Certification (CAGO) application deadline is March 1, 2023 for the May 12, 2023 CAGO exam.

You can find more information on these and more advanced certification requirements on the AGO HQ site at <https://www.agohq.org/certification/>

Grow your Talent...

IN PERSON, Memphis area.... improve your playing, learn new skills, prepare for certification... We're blessed with excellent local instructors to boost your playing! Go to Find An Organ Teacher - Memphis Area, posted on the AGO HQ site at <https://www.agohq.org/find-an-organ-teacher/> -- or go to the HQ site, Careers tab (not the Education tab), and it's a few links down on the menu.

Listen! Two venues at your fingertips

Organlive: A great resource—free, and offering a global range of organ music, Organlive is a listener-supported internet audio station at <https://www.organlive.com/home>

Organlive's homepage says "We maintain a growing library of music that currently contains over 22,000 tracks. Our library features classical organ music performed on pipe, electronic, and combination instruments recorded all over the world" ... You can listen using iTunes, RealPlayer, Windows Media player or another MP3 player.

Pipedreams: I'm assuming most AGOers are familiar with Pipedreams, but maybe not. Our chapter is a sponsor of this magnificent program that airs on FM91.1 WKNO, Sunday evenings at 7 p.m., hosted by Michael Barone.

You can play Pipedreams programs at <https://www.pipedreams.org/> -- for instance, if you missed A Thanksgiving Harvest "highlighting the work of American composers and performers during this all-American holiday" you can tune in later at your convenience.

From UT- Knoxville, TN

Dear Colleagues,

Applications are now being accepted for **Organ and Sacred Music Study at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville** for the 2023-2024 academic year. The deadline to apply and be considered for competitive scholarships is Nov. 1 and all applications are due by Dec. 15.

The centerpiece of organ study at UT Knoxville is the three-manual, 41-stop Richards, Fowkes and Co. organ. The organ, installed in 2007, is one of the most notable university organs in the U. S. [Click here for the organ's specifications.](#)

UT offers several programs under which students may study organ as a principal instrument. These include the Bachelor of Arts degree in Music, the Bachelor of Music degree in Organ Performance, Sacred Music, or Music Education, the Master of Music degree in Organ Performance, and the Artist Certificate in Organ. Students majoring in other fields can earn a minor in Music with organ as the principal instrument or may study organ as a secondary or elective course. Organ Study at UT focuses on technique, repertoire, and practical church service playing skill such as hymn playing, improvisation, accompanying, and conducting techniques for the organist-director. There are many church positions in the Knoxville area available to organ and sacred music students.

The Sacred Music Program is available as an Academic Common Market option, which means those from regional states without degrees in sacred music can come to UT for in-state tuition.

Auditions take place on February 11 and February 18, 2023, or by individual appointment. [Please click here to visit the School of Music website](#) and learn more about auditioning. Please feel free to contact me anytime for more information or to let me know about interested students.

Sincerely,

Dr. Edie Johnson

Lecturer of Organ and Sacred Music

ejohns76@utk.edu

--Lyn Joyner, Exam Coordinator/Professional Concerns, lyn.joyner@gmail.com

CALENDAR OF EVENTS, DEC. 2022 TO JAN. 2023

All events are free admission unless otherwise noted.

Sunday, December 4, 4:00 PM

Rhodes College Choirs

36th Annual Christmas at St. Mary's

Music of Saints and Angels

Rhodes Singers and Women's Chorus

Dr. Ellen Koziel and Dr. William Skoog, directors

Dr. Alex Benford and Dr. Dennis Janzer, pianists/organists . Presented by Music at St. Mary's Concert Series

St. Mary's Episcopal Cathedral, 700 Poplar Ave Memphis, TN 38105

Sunday, December 4, 5:00 p.m.

A Service of Advent Lessons & Carols

Join us for a traditional candlelight service of scripture and song featuring the Calvary choirs, and prepare your heart for the birth of Christ.
Calvary Episcopal Church, 102 N. 2nd St. Memphis.

Tuesday, December 6, at 7 p.m.

Vernon Snyder, Organist

Music of Bach, Buxtehude, and Muffat
Saint John's Episcopal Church
3245 Central Avenue, Memphis

For more information, please contact Saint John's Organist-Choirmaster, Vernon Snyder:
vernon@stjohnsmemphis.org -- 901-323-8597, Ex. 26

Friday, December 9, at 7 p.m. and Sunday, December 11 at 3 p.m.

Amahl and the Night Visitors, by Gian Carlo Menotti

Presented in collaboration with Memphis Light Opera and students from Univ. of Memphis.
St. George's Episcopal Church, 2425 So. Germantown Rd., Germantown
Contact Lucas Fletcher at Lucas@stgeorgesgermantown.org
Free admission

Sunday, December 11, at 5:00 p.m.

Advent Procession of Lessons and Carols

The Choir of Saint John's and guest musicians
For more information, please contact Saint John's Organist-Choirmaster, Vernon Snyder:
vernon@stjohnsmemphis.org -- 901-323-8597, Ex. 26

Sunday, December 11, at 5:00 p.m.

Advent Procession of Lessons and Carols

The Grace-St. Luke's Choir & the Memphis Boy and Girl Choir
Music by: June Nixon, Howard Helvey, Gerre Hancock, Dale Adelman, Craig Phillips, and Peter Aston,
Reception to follow, free admission
Grace-St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 1720 Peabody Ave., Memphis, TN 38104
For more information, please contact Saint John's Organist-Choirmaster, Vernon Snyder:
vernon@stjohnsmemphis.org -- 901-323-8597, Ex. 26

Monday, December 12, at 7:00 p.m.

Christmas at St. Peter's with Memphis ChoralArts

Memphis Men's Chorale, Women's Chorale, Memphis Children's Chorale and Memphis Youth Chorale
St. Peter's Church, 190 Adams Avenue, Memphis
Free admission but donations accepted (suggested \$10 child, \$15 adult)
Please note: free parking is no longer available in the lot across Adams from the church.
More details: Jane Scharding Smedley at mrsjane@stpeterchurch.org

Tuesday, December 13, at 6:30 p.m.

A Victorian Christmas

Musicians of St. Mary's Cathedral
Elmwood Cemetery, 824 S Dudley St, Memphis. Tickets required
More information at <https://www.elmwoodcemetery.org/>

Sunday, December 18, at 3:00 p.m.

A Festival of Advent Lessons and Carols

The Coventry Choir of St. George's Church, directed by Lucas Fletcher
St. George's Episcopal Church, 2425 So. Germantown Rd., Germantown
Contact Lucas Fletcher at Lucas@stgeorgesgermantown.org

Wednesday, December 21, at 7:30 p.m.

A Centennial Celebration: Handel's Messiah

The Calvary Choir will partner with the Memphis Symphony Chorus and the Memphis Symphony Orchestra under the baton of Music Director, Robert Moody. This free concert is generously offered to the community in loving memory of Bob Brown, sponsored by Richard Tanner.
Calvary Episcopal Church, 102 N. 2nd St. Memphis.

Friday, January 6, at 5:30 p.m.

Evensong for the Feast of the Epiphany

The Coventry Choir of St. George's, directed by Lucas Fletcher
St. George's Episcopal Church, 2425 So. Germantown Rd., Germantown
Contact Lucas Fletcher at Lucas@stgeorgesgermantown.org

Saturday, January 7, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.

Evensong for the Feast of Lights, followed by a Bonfire

Bring your Christmas greens to add to the fire.
Anyone wishing to participate in the choir, please arrive at the cathedral at 4pm.
Music of Ronald Arnatt, Thomas Morley-Mag/Nunc, Three King celebration and bagpipe and organ processional on St. Clement, arranged by Dennis Janzer.
Contact Dennis Janzer at djanzer@stmarysmemphis.org for music or additional information
St. Mary's Episcopal Cathedral,
700 Poplar Ave Memphis, TN 38105

The next issue of *En Chamade* will cover events for January thru February 2023

To submit articles, please email them to me by the 25th of the month prior to the next issue. I can accept Word, PDF (cannot edit them), JPG, or JPEG. Email is fine, too. ~ Angela G. Saunders, editor
Email address is iguanamom3@aol.com

N.B. I apologize for the omission of some pretty spiffy concert flyers. My computer goes into snail mode with heavy graphics inserts.

(From Page 1)

***On the 12th Night of Christmas” (well, really the 15th) – we’ll have a PARTY!
Come celebrate with Guild friends the close of this beautiful season.***

Monday, January 9, 2022

6:30 – 9 PM

All Saints Episcopal Church – Parish Hall

White Station & Quince

IT’S POTLUCK! – Please RSVP by DECEMBER 30 to Lyn Joyner (lyn.joyner@gmail.com):

Kindly indicate the number of people you are bringing, and what food/beverage item you can bring:

Appetizers, casseroles/sides, salads, veggies, wine, dessert, King Cake, etc.

ALSO: if you can help decorate / do set-up earlier on January 9: contact Jane S S: mrsjane@stpeterchurch.org

SAVE THE DATE!

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION ~ CASAVANT, OPUS 968

St. Peter Church

190 Adams Avenue

Memphis, Tennessee

SUNDAY, MAY 7, 2023 - 3:00 PM

On May 7, 1923, Pietro Yon, Organist at St. Patrick’s Cathedral in New York City, dedicated this historic instrument. One hundred years later, his successor, Dr. Jennifer Pascual, will present a recital to mark this occasion. The following evening, she will offer a masterclass for the Memphis Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. More details soon!

Officers for 2022-2023 year in Memphis Chapter AGO

ELECTED OFFICERS

Dean: Terry McRoberts

Sub-Dean: Alex Benford

Recording Secretary: Martha Israel

Treasurer: Karen Strawhecker

Registrar: Dennis Janzer

Members at Large

Finance: Carl Blankenship

Programs: Jane Scharding Smedley

Media: Marcus Browning

APPOINTED OFFICERS

Chaplain: Ray Hatton

Chapter Photographer: Jean Jones

Dinner Greeter: John Palmer

Education: Marcus Browning

Examinations/Professional Development: Lyn Joyner

Historian/Archivist: Jane Scharding Smedley

Librarian: Kelly Kramer

Membership Coordinator: André Duvall

Newsletter Editor: Angela Saunders

Nominations Committee Chair: André Duvall

Placement Coordinator: Phil Brown

Scholarship Committee Chair:

Carolyn Mason

Webmaster: Justin Little