

# THE EN CHAMADE

Newsletter of the American Guild of Organists, Memphis Chapter, February 2023

## From the Dean . . .

### A Time of Rebirth

We are in a time of rebirth after the worst of the pandemic. Many of us are working our way into what the new normal is becoming. We had a splendid Twelfth Night Party that Joel Chapman agreed to host a few days before the event, since our original venue became unavailable. Pleasant camaraderie and food were enjoyed by all. There seemed to be a sense of excitement and good times. Thanks to Joel for being a gracious host for the enjoyable event.

In February we will get to hear Jonathan Dimmock discuss mysticism in music with examples from Bach and Messiaen. In March we have our first meeting at Saint George's Episcopal Church in Germantown after the completion of the recent additions to that instrument. For those meetings as well as at St. Peter's in May we will be back to a normal schedule with meals before our programs. It will be great to chat over food, and get reacquainted with our fellow chapter members.

There is further buzz in the air about the changes to the organ at St. Louis Catholic Church and the new console coming to Holy Communion Episcopal Church. The chapter plans to create its own buzz about the organ with our Pedals, Pipes, and Pizza on June 17 at venues downtown. Please be ready to assist the committee with needed tasks to inspire a new generation to get excited about the organ.

I look forward to our journey forward in the months ahead.

*Terry McRoberts, Dean*

The February 6th Meeting will be held at  
**Idlewild Presbyterian Church**  
1750 Union Avenue, Memphis.

The deadline for dinner reservations is Sunday, January 29. The cost of the meal is \$10.00.

Please reply to this email with your name and number of reservations.

Social time begins at 6:00 p.m.

**Organist Jonathan Dimmock** will present our program, **Bach and Messiaen: Mysticism in Music**  
at 7:30 p.m.

## OUR MOST RECENT MEETING

**On the 15<sup>th</sup> Night of Christmas...** Chapter members gathered for a delightful “12th Night Party” hosted by Dr. Joel Chapman and Gary Dawson.

Much conversation and catching up on holiday musical offerings was shared by colleagues, accompanied by marvelous dishes and desserts – including King Cake! John Palmer, FAGO, was the lucky finder of the ‘baby’ – thus his regal crown! He will be available at the next meeting to sign autographs.



*Photo courtesy of Shawn Leary*

*Shown (L to R): Joel Chapman, Carol Craig, Gail Vigil, Carl Blankenship, Kelly Kramer, André Duvall, Marcus Browning, Lyn Joyner, Terry McRoberts, Angela Saunders, Dennis Janzer, Carolyn Mason, Jane Scharding Smedley, ?, Dennis Wujcik, Jean Schmidt, Barry Oliver. (Center) Phil Brown, Martha Israel, and the inimitable John Palmer, King-for-the-Year. Could someone please identify the shy violet hiding behind Jane?*

2023 FUTURE MEMPHIS AGO PROGRAMS

**Monday, March 6:** Program, St. George’s Episcopal Church, Germantown

**Monday, May 8:** Jennifer Pascual, St. Peter’s Catholic Church, Memphis

Both meetings will follow this schedule:

6:00 p.m. Gathering      6:30 p.m. Dinner      7:00 p.m. Meeting      7:30 p.m. Program



*Nunc dimittis*

Memphian and theater organist, **Vincent Astor**, passed away in mid-January. Many AGO-ers remember him and his life with the Wurlitzer organ at the Orpheum. More information may be found [here](#)

**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](mailto: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 - [drsharp@wesleyanhillsumc.org](mailto:drsharp@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

### 2023 Worthy Pursuit: Professional Credentials

Service Playing Certification (SPC) applications for the current AGO year continue through Feb. 1, 2023. If this applies to you, DO IT TODAY!! - <https://www.agohq.org/certification/>

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/>

-----  
Get Involved... here's AGO's participation checklist.

How many apply to you?

- Participated on a committee at any level
- Took part in a competition
- Wrote an article in The American Organist (Memphis Chapter has had two contributing writers lately!)
- Gave a presentation at a chapter event or convention
- Received an AGO-funded scholarship or award\*
- Took an AGO certification exam
- Other: Attended a regional or national convention

\* New and newish organ students, all ages, can qualify for AGO Achievement Awards. Award programs include: Organ Registration I, Manual and Pedal Technique, Transposition, Harmony, and The Organ Console. For details, go to [agohq.org/new-organist](https://www.agohq.org/new-organist)

-----

## 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.

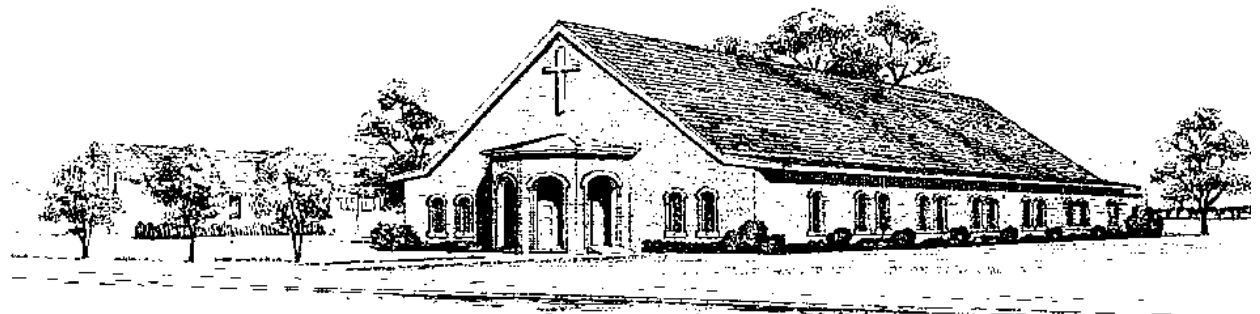
=-Lyn Joyner, Exam Coordinator/Professional Concerns, [lyn.joyner@gmail.com](mailto:lyn.joyner@gmail.com)

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS, FEB. 1 TO MAR. 31, 2023

*All events are free admission unless otherwise noted.*

# ALL SAINTS MUSIC SERIES

## CONCERT 1: DVOŘÁK AND MOZART



ADAM ALTER, CLARINET • BASIL ALTER, VIOLIN • DANIEL GILBERT, VIOLIN  
MICHELLE PELLAY-WALKER, VIOLA • ANTHONY LU, CELLO

SUNDAY, JANUARY 29, 2023 • 4:30PM • 1508 S WHITE STATION ROAD • MEMPHIS, TN 38117  
FREE PERFORMANCE PRESENTED BY ALL SAINTS EPISCOPAL CHURCH • NETWORK BY BILL STEPHENS

**Sunday, February 5, 2023, at 3 p.m.**

**Jonathan Dimmock, Organ Concert**

The repertoire includes Crown Imperial by Walton in memory of Queen Elizabeth, the St. Anne Fugue by Bach, and the first movement of Symphony No. 5 by Widor. The program is a part the church's bicentennial celebration. First Presbyterian Church at 1573 North Highland Avenue in Jackson, Tennessee. Contact Terry McRoberts (731) 661-5232 or [uu.edu/music](http://uu.edu/music)

**Sunday, Feb. 5, at 5 p.m.**

**Evensong**

Join us for a traditional Anglican choral liturgy in Calvary's beautiful nave at twilight. Music includes the Bernard Rose Responses, Ps. 34 (Thomas Norris), Evening Service in D Minor by Thomas Attwood Walmisley, and an anthem commissioned by the Calvary Choir in honor of Kristin Lensch's doctorate degree completion--the George Herbert poem "Church-musick" set by Michael Kleinschmidt, Canon Musician of St. Mark's Episcopal Cathedral, Seattle. Stephen Karr is the guest organist.

Calvary Episcopal, 102 N. 2nd. St., Memphis, 38103, [calvarymemphis.org](http://calvarymemphis.org) -- all free admission, with free, secure parking in Calvary's back lot

**Friday, February 10, at 7:30 p.m**

**The Mockingbird Early Music Ensemble** was formed in 2003, and is based in Oxford, Mississippi. The group is composed of enthusiastic proponents of the historically informed presentation of music created before 1750, played on recreations of original instruments which are found in museums throughout Europe. These include recorders, viole da gamba, harpsichord, and organ. Come early at 7:00 p.m. for wine & cheese before the concert.

Calvary Episcopal, 102 N. 2nd. St., Memphis, 38103, [calvarymemphis.org](http://calvarymemphis.org) -- all free admission, with free, secure parking in Calvary's back lot

**February 10-12, times below**

**Acting our Faith** is a weekend of fellowship and fun for all ages, centered on the power of storytelling and theatrical arts, led by members of a Christian theater troupe called Friends of the Groom.

Open to the public.

Friday, 6:00-8:00 p.m. – Dinner & a show by Friends of the Groom.

Saturday, 9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. – Theatre arts workshop featuring performance demonstrations and experiential learning activities for children, teens, and adults of all ages. A light breakfast and lunch are provided.

Sunday, 9:15 & 10:30 a.m. – Friends of the Groom will perform scenes during adult formation hour, and our 10:30 worship service will feature special theatrical elements.

Church of the Holy Communion

4645 Walnut Grove Road

Learn more and register: <https://www.holycommunion.org/theater-arts-weekend>;

<https://www.holycommunion.org/calendar/event/2849797>

**(Continued next page)**

**Sunday, February 19, at 3 p.m.**

**Art Songs of Latin America**

**Kala Maxym, soprano**

**Vernon Snyder, piano**

Saint John's Episcopal Church

3245 Central Avenue

Memphis, TN 38111

For additional information, please contact:

Dr. Vernon Snyder, Organist-Choirmaster

[vernon@stjohnsmemphis.org](mailto:vernon@stjohnsmemphis.org)

901-323-8597, Ex. 26

**Saturday, March 4**

**River City Ring Handbell Festival** (8th annual) organized by the West Tennessee Handbell Association

8:00am - 2:15pm: Massed ringing workshop for registrants led by clinician Brenda Austin

2:30pm: Free Closing Concert open to the public

Registration is open to Massed Handbell Choirs, Partial Choirs, and Individual Ringers in the Mid-South Region.

Registration is due by February 3. All details, including the registration form, repertoire, and schedule for the day can be found at <http://www.wtnbells.org>

Registration is not required to attend the 2:30pm closing concert.

Additional questions may be directed to West TN Handbell Association board members Andre Duvall,

Treasurer, at [Clavier385@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Clavier385@sbcglobal.net) or David Ouzts, Registrar & church host at

[douzts@holychommunion.org](mailto:douzts@holychommunion.org) (901-767-6987, ext. 4013)

Church of the Holy Communion (Episcopal)

4645 Walnut Grove Road, Memphis, Tennessee 38117-2597

**Sunday, March 5, at 5 p.m.**

**Evensong**

“Choral Evensong is a 45-min long peace-inducing church service in which the ‘song’ of voices sounding together in harmony is heard at the ‘even’ point between the active day and restful night, allowing listeners time for restful contemplation—church members, agnostics and atheists alike.” (from [choralevensong.org](http://choralevensong.org))

Responses: James Cryer

Canticles: Richard Farrant in D Minor

Anthem: They that go down to the sea in ships - Herbert Sumsion

Calvary Episcopal, 102 N. 2nd. St., Memphis, 38103, [calvarymemphis.org](http://calvarymemphis.org) -- all free admission, with free, secure parking in Calvary's back lot

**Sunday, March 26, 3:00pm**

**An Afternoon of Opera: Opera Memphis**

*In memory of John Ryder*

Saint John's Episcopal Church

3245 Central Avenue

Memphis, TN 38111

For additional information, please contact:

Dr. Vernon Snyder, Organist-Choirmaster

[vernon@stjohnsmemphis.org](mailto:vernon@stjohnsmemphis.org), 901-323-8597, Ex. 26

The next issue of *En Chamade* will cover events for March thru April, 2023

To submit articles, please email them to me by the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to the next issue. I can accept Word, JPG, or JPEG. Email is fine, too. Forget the PDF format – they're after my money. ~ Angela G. Saunders, editor

Email address is [iguanamom3@aol.com](mailto:iguanamom3@aol.com)

## 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

**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

### APPOINTED OFFICERS

**Chaplain:** Ray Hatton

ST. PETER  
CATHOLIC CHURCH  
A Dominican Parish • Established 1840

100th

CASAVANT  
CENTENNIAL  
CELEBRATION

Marking the 100th Anniversary  
of Our Historic 1925 Casavant Pipe Organ

**SAVE THE DATE**  
May 7, 2023 • 3PM • St. Peter Church

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!