

THE EN CHAMADE

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

From the Dean . . .

Lent: A Time to Start Again

It is traditional during Lent to give something up to remember the sacrifice that Christ made for us on the cross. Experiencing an intentional change of habit can give us more empathy for pain and disappointment in the lives of those around us. It enables us to relate better to those around us experiencing health issues, relationship issues, or other emotional pain.

I would suggest that Lent is also a time that we can start a new habit. A sports figure earlier this year mentioned that attention to doing the little things in life in a timely manner improved his tennis game. I am trying to keep various tasks up to date. This practice is helping to put a little more pep in my step. It is not too late to start a Lenten habit of doing something that can improve your outlook on life.

Remember the meaning of the season!

Terry McRoberts, Dean

The March 6th Meeting will be held at

St. George's Episcopal Church

2425 So. Germantown Rd., Germantown, TN

Social time begins at 6:00 p.m.

Dinner menu is Irish Stew, salad, bread, dessert, coffee/tea. Cost is \$15.00 and correct change will be appreciated. RSVP Dennis Janzer by March 1, djanzer@hotmail.com

The Office of Compline (in the Nave), at 7:30 p.m.

Compline, or Night Prayer is the final prayer liturgy or office of the day in the tradition of canonical hours, which are prayed at fixed prayer times. This service is reflective in nature and will include spoken prayers, sung responses and hymns as well as opening and closing voluntaries reflecting the season of Lent. Angela Saunders and John Palmer will serve as organists.

Election of Memphis Chapter AGO Officers for 2023-2024

The Memphis Chapter AGO Nominations Committee presents the following slate of officers who have agreed to serve in these positions next year.

Dean: Terry McRoberts

Sub-Dean: John Palmer

Secretary: Dennis Wujcik

Treasurer: Karen Strawhecker

Registrar: Sondra Tucker

Member-at-Large, Media: Marcus Browning

Member-at-Large, Finance: Carl Blankenship

Member-at-Large, Program: Jane Scharding Smedley

Voting will be electronically done, April 17-21, using OpaVote. (Directions will be in a voting reminder e-mail later.) If you have any trouble voting electronically, please contact Secretary Martha Israel: marthaisrael809@gmail.com.

Additional nominations for any office may be made “from the floor” with a petition signed by five voting members of the chapter in good standing. Petitions must be sent via email to André Duvall, chairperson of the Nominations Committee, at Clavier385@sbcglobal.net no later than March 30. André will send qualified petitions to the Secretary for addition to the ballot.

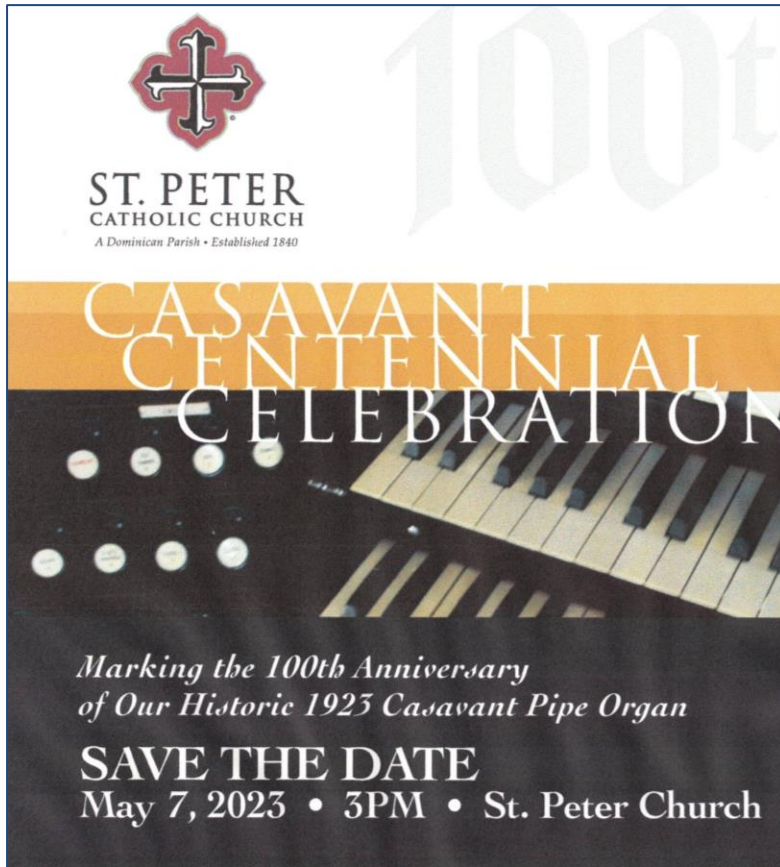
This year’s Nominations Committee members were:
André Duvall (chair), Marcus Browning, Joel Chapman,
Carol Craig, Jane Scharding Smedley

OUR MOST RECENT MEETING

At our February 6th Chapter Meeting, we had the pleasure and privilege of having concert organist **Jonathan Dimmock** from San Francisco present a lecture-demonstration on mysticism in the music of Johann Sebastian Bach and Olivier Messiaen. We were challenged to find the mystic elements in the music, and to find ways to communicate that sense of the divine to the listeners. The venue was Idlewild Presbyterian Church with the Bedient organ. Our thanks go to Idlewild Presbyterian Church for the use of the building.



**FINAL SPRING 2023 MEMPHIS AGO PROGRAM
(THERE WILL BE NO APRIL PROGRAM)**



Monday, May 8: Jennifer Pascual

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!

POSITIONS OPEN

Trinity United Methodist Church

1738 Galloway Ave., Memphis, TN 38112

Director of Music Ministries/Church Pianist

Play for worship services - Sunday at 11:00.

Accompany choir - Wednesday rehearsal - 5:30 - 7:00.

Sunday morning warmup - 10:30

Yamaha grand piano

Teach the choir new hymns and anthems and help build the choir.

For more details contact Rev. Sara Corum at bechrist77@gmail.com

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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 - 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

LAST CALL! if you want to act very fast, the Colleague Certification (CAGO) application deadline is March 1, 2023 for the May 12, 2023 CAGO exam.

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

TIME TO GET GOING...It's not too early to plan for 2023-2024--take a look at Certification requirements now. (And I don't know about you, but it can take me months to master a challenging piece.)

Mixed Message: Women Composer Sunday

You may have seen Ellen Hunt's 'From the President' message in this March's TAO. She's promoting "Women Composer Sunday" – March 5, in connection with Women's History Month.

I understand Hunt's premise BUT think it's misguided, possibly sending a counterproductive message that somehow women's music is an aberration and after March 5, we can get back to normal music (that is, by men).

Every Sunday can include music by women!!

There's no generic distinction between women's music and men's music that I have detected. Try a blindfold test with obscure pieces.

This goes for recitals too. How often have you attended a recital with any work by a woman? – Typical ratio is 9 (or so) works by men to 0 by women. Jaebon Hwang's excellent recital at St. John's Episcopal Church this past January included engaging works by Chelsea Chen and by Hwang herself. It can be done!

Women Composer Sunday's positive intent, I believe, is to have us confront our overall woefully limited knowledge of works by women, and to do something about that--to get us to go to Google and IMSLP and explore.

If Women Composer Sunday leads to other Sundays and recitals routinely including music by women, in my view it will have succeeded. But I do have the concern that this may seem to confirm that a special event is required to play works by women.

Reprinted from EC, Nov. 2023: Favorite go-to composers: Jeanne Demessieux, Florence Price, Emma Lou Diemer, Marilyn Biery, Elizabeth Stirling, Libby Larsen, Nadia Boulanger; also improvisations on tunes by Linda Egan, Doris Akers, Magnolia Butts, and other hymn/gospel tune writers offer a warm, inspiring service experience.

**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

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.

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/>

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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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS, MARCH 1 TO APRIL 30, 2023

All events are free admission unless otherwise noted.

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 or David Ouzts, Registrar & church host at 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)

Responses: Richard Ayleward

Canticles: Richard Farrant in D Minor

Anthem: Church-musick - Michael Kleinschmidt (due to weather last month, this anthem premiere had to be delayed)

Calvary Episcopal, 102 N. 2nd. St., Memphis, 38103, calvarymemphis.org -- all free admission, with free, secure parking in Calvary's back lot

Sunday, March 5, at 5:30 PM

Choral Evensong for Lent

Parish Choir, Dr. David Ouzts, organist/director

Music of Bob Chilcott, plainsong canticles and psalms

Church of the Holy Communion

4645 Walnut Grove Rd., Memphis, TN 38117

www.holycommunion.org

Sunday, March 19 at 2:00 p.m.

Organ Concert by Terry McRoberts.

The program will feature Festal Flourish by Jacob, Fantasy in F Minor, K. 594 by Mozart, and Fiesta by Diemer.

An arrangement of Adagio for Strings by Samuel Barber and works by Gerre Hancock will also be performed.

First Presbyterian Church, 1573 North Highland Avenue in Jackson, TN

Sunday, March 19, at 3 p.m.:

All Recorders, Great and Small!

A rare, exciting concert of early music featuring works by Gabrieli, Bach, Scheidt, Henry VIII, Thomas Morley, and friends-- fresh, delightful, and restoring to our 21st century ears.

Come ye, and enjoy!

Greater Memphis Recorder Society; director, Ron Vernon

All Saints' Episcopal Church, 1508 White Sta. Rd, Memphis, TN,

<https://www.allsaintsepiscopal.org>

Reception following concert, free admission, park in All Saints' back or side lot

Sunday, March 19 at 5:00pm

Lenten Choral Evensong

Robert Lehman, Magnificat & Nunc Dimittis

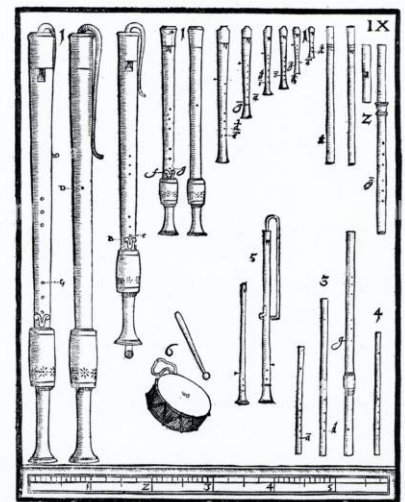
Lehman, Preces & Responses

John Tavener, The Lamb

Grace-St. Luke's Episcopal Church

1720 Peabody Ave. Memphis

www.gracestlukes.org



1. Querslöten ganz Einmüsch. 2. Dorslöten 6 g. 3. Querslöten ganz Einmüsch
4. Schwirren Pfeiff. 5. Strammten Pfeiff und Dileant. 6. Klein Pfeiffen:
zu den Strammten Pfeiffen gebrauchen.

Sunday, March 26, at 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, 901-323-8597, Ex. 26

Sunday, March 26 at 6:00pm

Dr. Patrick A. Scott, Organ Recital

Edward Elgar, Imperial March

Joseph Haydn, Musical Clocks

Max Reger, Toccata & Fuge, Op. 59

Herbert Howells, Rhapsody No. 1

Gerre Hancock, A Paraphrase of "St. Elizabeth"

Henri Mulet, Carillon-Sortie

Grace-St. Luke's Episcopal Church

1720 Peabody Ave. Memphis

www.gracestlukes.org

Sunday, April 2 (Palm Sunday) at 5:00pm

A Meditation on the Passion of Christ with Carols

The chanting of Antiphons and the Gospels to Ancient Plainchant

arr. John Rutter, I wonder as I wander

Richard Lloyd, The ballad of the Judas tree

Clemens non Papa, Adoramus te

Herbert Sumsion, There is a green hill far away

Grace-St. Luke's Episcopal Church

1720 Peabody Ave., Memphis

www.gracestlukes.org

Friday, April 21, at 7:30 p.m.

Choir of Clare College, Cambridge

Since the founding of a mixed voice choir in 1972, the Choir of Clare College has gained an international reputation as one of the world's leading university choirs. In addition to its primary function of leading services three times a week in the College chapel, the Choir keeps an active schedule recording, broadcasting, and performing. Former directors have included John Rutter and Timothy Brown. Under the direction of Graham Ross, Director of Music since 2010, it has been praised for its consistently 'thrilling' and 'outstanding' performances worldwide. Join us for this FREE concert, sponsored by the Friends of Music at Calvary. The program features music by Byrd, Britten, Bernstein, Caroline Shaw, Samuel Barber, Nico Muhly, Finzi, Pärt, Héloïse Werner, David Lang, Howells, and Whitacre. A festive reception follows. Free, secure parking is available in Calvary's back parking lot. [A Video Introduction to the Choir](#)

Calvary Episcopal Church, 102 N. 2nd Street, Memphis

Sunday, April 30, at 3:00 p.m.

Luna Nova Presents an Afternoon of French Music

Brian Ray, piano; Sabrina Laney Warren, soprano

Jason Oates, saxophone; Charles Lewis, flute

Jonathan Webber, clarinet

Music by Debussy, Ravel, Saint-Saens, Dukas, and others

All Saints Episcopal Church, 1508 S. White Station Road, Memphis, TN 38117

<https://www.allsaintsepiscopal.org>

<http://www.lunanova.org>

Patricia Gray, pgray@pgray.net, 901-493-0958

Lyn Joyner, lyn.joyner@gmail.com, 901- 351-8162

The next issue of *En Chamade* will cover events for April through May, 2023

To submit articles, please email them to me by the 25th 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

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