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Principal Pipings



American Guild of
ORGANISTS

LEXINGTON, KY CHAPTER

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We recently drove to Carlisle, Pennsylvania, to hear Elizabeth and Raymond Chenault in concert. The Chenaults are sort of an institution, having made a pretty spectacular career by performing works written for four hands-four feet-one pipe organ console. Their duet career began in 1979 when Arthur Wills of England's Ely Cathedral composed "Toccata for Two" for them. The Chenaults have subsequently commissioned duets from over twenty-five U.S. and European composers. They have been married for 50 years.

What struck us about the concert was the intense level of cooperation that the duets demanded. Not

only do the players have to agree on the interpretation of each piece, but every page turn, every stop change or pushing of a piston, every crescendo and decrescendo (hey, can you reach the Swell pedal with your left foot while my right foot plays this F underneath your leg?) has to be orchestrated in advance.

Published organ duets are a little difficult to come by, but they are tremendously fun to play. If you haven't had the opportunity, find a fellow AGO member willing to learn one with you - we'd love to hear one or two at a members recital sometime!

- Michael & Nancy



agohq.org/

The mission of the American Guild of Organists is to foster a thriving community of musicians who share their knowledge and inspire passion for the organ

RECENT AGO EVENTS

ANDREW JOHNSON RECITAL

at The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, May 23, 2025

The Lexington Chapter of the American Guild of Organists presents

Andrew Johnson
in Recital

Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, Lexington, Kentucky
Friday, May 23, 2025, 7:00 p.m.

Suite Française, Op. 59 I. Prélude sur les grands jeux	Jean Langlais (1907–1991)
Sonata in One Movement on Kalenda Maya	Libby Larsen (b. 1950)
Fantasia and Fugue in G Minor, BWV 542	Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)
Hózhó	Connor Chee (b. 1987)
Hymn: Crown Him with Many Crowns, <i>The Hymnal 1982</i> #494	
Children of the Heavenly Father	arr. Andrew Johnson (b. 1998)
Scherzino, Op. 67, No. 3 Festival Prelude, Op. 67, No. 1	Horatio Parker (1863–1919)
Symphonie VI, Op. 42, No. 2 IV. Cantabile V. Finale	Charles-Marie Widor (1844–1937)



Following the performance, Andrew was asked repeatedly if his arrangement of “Children of the Heavenly Father” was published - everyone wanted to buy a copy! The answer, sadly, was no.

On Monday following the recital, Andrew was leaving for an organ tour of Germany with a group from his *alma mater*, Peabody Conservatory. Andrew is currently pursuing a DMA at the Eastman School of Music.

Copies of the program notes from this recital are available upon request.



The early evening light shining through Good Shepherd's stained glass windows was spectacular, as Bill Johnson has captured in this photo.



Andrew Johnson's first Ale-8

UPCOMING LOCAL EVENTS

Sunday, June 8 - Lexington Chamber Chorale

5:00pm, Ashland, the Henry Clay Estate, Lexington

“The Power of Singing: Celebrating Lexington”

<http://lexingtonchamberchorale.org/>

Friday, June 13, 7:00pm - William Robinson Recital

Cathedral of Christ the King, 299 Colony Blvd, Lexington

Sunday, June 22, 3:00pm - Dedication of the Renovated and Enhanced Organ

with guest organist Zach Ullery (former student of Schuyler Robinson)

First Christian Church, Maysville

18 East Third Street, Maysville, KY 41056

Sunday, June 22, 4:00pm - Christ Church Cathedral, Lexington

Choir Festival Evensong with the combined choirs of Christ Church Cathedral, Lexington, and Christ Church Cathedral, Indianapolis

Friday, July 4, 5:00pm - Christ Church Cathedral, Lexington

Celebrate the 4th! Organ and Brass Concert

MISCELLANY

GLENNA METCALFE JOINS LEXINGTON CHAPTER'S EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Votes are in for the 2025-2028 at-large candidate Glenna Metcalfe, and they were numerous, unanimous, and enthusiastic. Thank you all for voting and a big thank-you to Glenna for agreeing to serve our chapter in this way.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT ABOUT AGO DUES

From AGO Headquarters: “Beginning with renewals effective on July 1, annual dues across all membership categories (Regular, Special, and Young Organist) will increase by \$7, with \$2 being distributed to chapters. This modest increase, approved by the National Council, will allow the AGO to continue offering high-quality programs and services to our members, while providing additional financial support to chapters. **If you have not yet created your username and password in our new system, [click here](#) for simple directions.**”

THANK YOU FOR BEING AN AGO MEMBER

[Click here](#) to manage your membership: renew, change your address, and update your member profile. If you require assistance with your membership, or experience difficulties with the iMIS system, please call (212) 870-2310 during business hours or email info@agohq.org for technical support.

IT'S NOT TOO LATE to register for Regional Conventions . . .

The West Regional Convention is in Phoenix, AZ, June 16-19, and the Southwest Regional Convention is in Fort Worth, TX, June 30-July 3. For more information or to register: [Regional Conventions](#)



ORGANISTS NEEDED

The Bluegrass Chapter of the American Theatre Organ Society (BG ATOS) is looking for more organists willing to play the organ at the Kentucky Theatre on Friday nights and, this summer, for their Wednesday Classic Movie series. If you are interested please contact Bill Webber at 859.298.8962 or williamawebberiv@gmail.com

MEET OUR NEW MEMBER

MEET CALVIN RIGGS . . .



Calvin currently lives in Ashland, KY but plans to move to Lexington this summer. He holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Piano Performance from Marshall University.

Calvin writes, "At Marshall I studied under Dr. Henning Vauth in piano and Dr. Johan Botes in organ. I performed degree recitals and participated in competitions and masterclasses; I recieved 1st place in the Mountain State Piano Competition, was a finalist in the Jackson Balshaw Competition,

participated in a masterclass from Steinway artist, Barbara Nissman, and performed in an international music festival in Medellín, Columbia, at the EAFIT University Piano Intensive.

“Before attending Marshall, I was a student at Eastern Kentucky University where I studied piano with Dr. Richard Crosby and oboe with Dr. Julie Smith. I won the Josephine Walker American Music Competition, was recognized as an Outstanding Collaborative Student by the ICCA School of Music of ECU, and was awarded a scholarship to attend the Brevard Music Center’s 8-week piano program. As a lover of music history, I am most proud of co-founding with two other students *Bacchanalia*: ECU’s Early Music Ensemble, for which I lead rehearsals and performances from the harpsichord.

“Currently, I am Organist and Pianist at First Christian Church of Ashland, KY, and Piano Instructor at Aspire! Conservatory. In addition I recently obtained my National EMT Certification. I also enjoy cooking, gaming, and playing with my many pets including a praying mantis named Francis, who lives in my office at the church currently and is my greatest inspiration.”



MEMBER NEWS



Love is in the air! Barbara Rogers and Randy Krakower are engaged to be married on August 16. The ceremony and reception will be in New Jersey, where they both grew up and were high school classmates. Due to the size (707 people) of their graduating class, they never met during high school, but knew of each other: she recognized him as Randy of Track and Field; he identified her as Barbara who was at the piano for all the choir concerts, and had a crush on her but never acted on it. They finally met at their 50th-year class reunion and became e-mail friends, but both were married to others at that time, so that was as far as it went. By their 55th-year reunion, however, both had become unattached--he by divorce, she by widowhood--and that weekend they discovered each other as soulmates.

Barbara identifies herself as a pianist and composer who used to play the organ when she had to and got better at it when she practiced, but knows the difference between herself and a real organist. She is a member of AGO as a memorial to her sister, who WAS a real organist, and active in her Hudson Valley (NY) AGO chapter. Randy is a retired educator, track and field coach, Olympics judge, and radio broadcaster who very much enjoyed attending

Andrew Johnson's recital at Good Shepherd in May. Lexington AGO members who were unable to attend the recital will have a chance to meet Randy sometime in the late summer or fall, when the happy couple will hold a party to introduce Randy to Barbara's Lexington friends and colleagues, after Randy and his two cats, Petey and Ginger, have settled into their new home with Barbara and her cat, Pearl. Prayers for successful negotiations among the cats will be welcome!

If you have member news you would like to share in future editions of the newsletter, please contact Nancy Dunn at this email address or at 859.333.0526 by the 20th of each month.

JOB OPENINGS

Beaumont Presbyterian Church, Lexington: Organist

One Sunday service at 11:00 with choral rehearsal preceding.
Christmas Eve, Maundy Thursday, and other occasional services.
Wednesday evening choral rehearsal.
Broad range of musical styles within traditional worship.
Salary competitive. Four weeks paid vacation.
Submit resume to:

beaumont@bpclex.org (please put "organist" in the subject line)

or mail to:

Wayne Gebb
Minister of Music
Beaumont Presbyterian Church
1070 Lane Allen Road
Lexington, KY 40504

[posted 6/1/25]

Church of the Holy Trinity (Episcopal), Georgetown:

Holy Trinity in Georgetown, Kentucky, is looking for someone to play the organ at our 10:30am Sunday Services and any special services throughout the year. More details can be found in the full description. Compensation will be commensurate with experience and ability.

Please direct inquiries to office@holytrinitygt.org.

[full description](#)

[posted 5/1/25]

(Job openings continued on next page)

Holy Trinity Church (Catholic), Springfield:

Holy Trinity Church, a Catholic parish near Bardstown, Kentucky, is looking for someone who could play organ for any or all of our weekend Masses at 4:00 p.m. on Saturdays, 8:30 a.m. Sundays, and/or 11:00 a.m. Sundays. The expectation would be for hymns appropriate for the church season (one for the procession in, one at the offertory, one for communion, and one for the recessional). Additionally there would be some simple Mass parts sung by the congregation or cantors. Compensation is negotiable. For more information, please contact:

Fr. Augustine Judd, O.P
Pastoral Administrator
Holy Trinity Catholic Church
306 Fredericktown Road
Springfield, KY 40069
htr@bardstown.com
859-284-5242

[posted 4/1/25]

First Presbyterian Church, Lancaster:

Our church is searching for a part time **organist/pianist** starting immediately. This position is for Sunday worship and special events. Pay is negotiable. Musicians will have the option of playing a 2 manual pipe organ or a baby grand piano.

Interested parties may contact Donna Powell dmpowell44@roadrunner.com or Kitty Barsotti barsotti@windstream.net

[posted 9/1/24]



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SUNDAY, JUNE 22

4:00pm EVENSONG

*with the combined choirs of
Christ Church Cathedral, Lexington
Christ Church Cathedral, Indianapolis*

Celebrate the 4th!

ORGAN AND BRASS CONCERT



FRIDAY, JULY 4, 5:00pm

*Cathedral Organists:
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Brass Quartet*

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HUMORESQUE

What do a harmonica and a lawsuit have in common?

Everyone is relieved when the case is closed.

What do you call it when a jazz singer spills a drink on his piano?

Ragtime.

Why do bagpipe players walk while they play?

To get away from the noise.

I asked a pianist if he could play the “Chickpea Song.”

He said, “Maybe. Can you hummus a few bars?”

How many country singers does it take to change a lightbulb?

Two. One to do it and one to sing a song about all the good times he had with the old lightbulb.

What’s the difference between a conductor and God?

God doesn’t think he’s a conductor.

