

Volume 81, Issue 3
March, 2026

Principal Pipings



American Guild of
ORGANISTS

LEXINGTON, KY CHAPTER

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In 1896, when Brahms was writing his Eleven Chorale Preludes, Alexandre Guilmant was making concert tours in the United States, and Albert Schweitzer was taking organ lessons from Widor in Paris, a group of forty or so volunteers gathered in New York City with the intention of forming an American Guild of Organists. Since that time, thousands upon thousands of organists and lovers of the organ have contributed their time and efforts to the organization.



Our own chapter exists only because of the willingness of our members to step forward and help with record-keeping, hosting, planning, raising funds, providing food, welcoming guests, and keeping our membership informed, employed, and striving to improve their skills. Volunteering in a group of people that have a common interest is known to reduce stress, anger, depression, anxiety, and the risk of heart disease. It can ameliorate symptoms of chronic pain. It provides mental stimulation and creates stronger bonds with other humans. Last, but not least, studies have shown that people who volunteer have a *lower mortality rate* than those who do not!

Our Nominating Committee (all volunteers, of course!) has completed its slate for the coming year's officers, but there are still plenty of ways you can volunteer. You will be receiving an email about this soon. If you are willing to take on a job, big or small, or if you are amenable to being on a future slate of officers, please respond! It's time to pitch in so that you (and AGO) will prosper and live longer!

Michael & Nancy

UPCOMING AGO EVENTS

GUESTS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME AT AGO EVENTS

Saturday, March 28 - Bach Marathon, St. Raphael Episcopal Church, Lexington; a joint program with the Kentucky Bach Choir



There is still time to sign up to play or sing in the Marathon! But do it NOW - the deadline to apply is March 1. Please see more information and the Performers' Application on the following pages. Kentucky Bach Choir Co-Director Vicki Bell is coordinating the event and hopes to have the final schedule available on March 9. A big thank-you goes to Vicki for volunteering to take this on!



2026 Bach Marathon

March 28, 2026

St. Raphael's Episcopal Church
1891 Parkers Mill Road, Lexington, KY 40504

Sponsored by :



AND



LEXINGTON CHAPTER

The Kentucky Bach Choir and the Lexington Chapter of the American Guild of Organists announce the return of the annual Bach Marathon on Saturday, March 28, 2026, held at **St. Raphael's Episcopal Church, 1891 Parkers Mill Road, Lexington, KY 40504**. Accessible parking and entrances are available at the front of the church, with additional parking at the rear of the church. The event is free and open to the public.

INFORMATION

As we celebrate the 17th anniversary of the Bach Marathon in Lexington, KY, we will collectively explore the compositions of J.S. Bach through individual and small ensemble performances as well as the communal singing of Bach chorales, led by members of the Kentucky Bach Choir. We invite performers of all ages and skill levels, ranging from beginners to professionals, to participate in performances lasting from 5-30 minutes (dependent on performers' skill levels). Both a pipe organ and a grand piano will be available for performers. **To apply for a performance slot on the March 28 event, please complete the attached application form (along with your proposed repertoire) by March 1, 2026 and return to Vicki Bell at vicki.kbc@gmail.com.** A complete schedule of performances will be posted in early March, based on applications and grouped by repertoire.

POSSIBLE PERFORMANCE CATEGORIES

Performances on organ, piano, voice, choir, guitar, wind instruments, and stringed instruments are suggested, either by individuals or small ensembles (accompanists are not provided).

PERFORMERS' APPLICATION FOR 2026 BACH MARATHON

March 28, Lexington, KY



AND



LEXINGTON CHAPTER

LOCATION: St. Raphael's Episcopal Church, 1891 Parkers Mill Road, Lexington, KY 40504

AVAILABLE INSTRUMENTS: pipe organ and piano

SCHEDULE: To be determined, based on applications

DUE DATE FOR EMAIL APPLICATION: March 1, 2026

RETURN COMPLETED APPLICATION: vicki.kbc@gmail.com

PERFORMER'S NAME/S:

EMAIL ADDRESS:

PHONE:

1. LEVEL OF EXPERIENCE AS A PERFORMER (please underline or highlight)

Beginner *Intermediate* *Advanced amateur* *Professional*

2. INSTRUMENT (please underline or highlight)

Organ

Piano

Stringed instrument

Wind instrument

Voice (accompanists are not provided)

Ensemble (please specify)

Other:

3. YOUR REPERTOIRE FOR BACH MARATHON, with accurate timings

J.S. Bach compositions only; suggested limit of 5-10 minutes for amateurs, up to 30 minutes for professionals).

The March 28 schedule will include a Bach chorale sing-a-long at **noon**.
Singers at all levels of expertise are invited to participate.

Saturday, May 2, 12:00 p.m./3:00 p.m. Hymn Festival with Michael Messina,
Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, Lexington

Bring your choir members! We will gather at 11:50; there will be a warm up and rehearsal at noon, then an extended break for refreshments and fellowship, followed by a one-hour **concert at 3:00**. (You will be home in plenty of time for mint juleps before the Derby!) Most of the hymns will be sung by the choir, and the audience will be invited to join on some of them. Music in PDF form will be available in March.

Michael Messina is the Organist and Director of Music at Trinity Episcopal Church in Indianapolis, where he oversees a large music program of children, youth, and adults. He holds MMus and DMA degrees in Organ Performance and Literature, as well as the Performer's Certificate, from the Eastman School of Music. He was graduated magna cum laude with a BMus degree in Church Music from Saint Olaf College, where he sang and traveled extensively with the Saint Olaf Choir. Michael has performed solo and duo organ concerts throughout the United States, as well as at the cathedral of Notre-Dame de Paris.



Michael has served as President of the Association of Anglican Musicians, co-Chair and faculty of the Leadership Program for Musicians Serving Small Congregations in the Diocese of Indianapolis, and Dean of the Rochester chapter and Sub-Dean and Treasurer of the Indianapolis chapter of the American Guild of Organists.

OTHER UPCOMING LOCAL EVENTS

Saturday, February 28, 12:00 p.m./3:00 p.m. - Hymn Festival,
Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, Lexington
AGO members and their choirs are warmly invited! Rehearsals
begin at noon, followed by the concert at 3:00.

For more information, contact Dr. Mattilda Middleton at mattilda@gslex.org
or 940-257-5939

Sunday, March 1 - Christ Church Cathedral, Lexington
3:30 p.m. - Concert: Jana Flygstad, flute; Lisa Hall, organ
4:00 p.m. - Evensong with the Cathedral Choir

Sunday, March 1, 3:00 p.m., Trinity Episcopal Church, 320 W. Main Street,
Danville - Community Lenten Recital Series:
Zach Klobnak, Organist & Assistant Professor of Music at Centre
College

Sunday, March 8, 3:00 p.m., Presbyterian Church of Danville, 500 W. Main
Street, Danville - Community Lenten Recital Series:
Schuyler Robinson, Professor of Organ & Harpsichord, Emeritus,
University of Kentucky

Sunday, March 8, 5:00 p.m., Second Presbyterian Church, Lexington
Lexington Chamber Chorale
“How Can I Keep from Singing: 35 Years in Harmony”
<http://lexingtonchamberchorale.org/>

Amadeus Lex: “Courage & Creativity”

Thursday, March 12, 7:00 p.m., First Christian Church, Richmond

Friday, March 13, 7:00 p.m., First Christian Church, Berea

Saturday, March 14, 7:00 p.m., St Luke Church, Lexington

[amadeuslex](#)

Sunday, March 15, 3:00 p.m., Presbyterian Church of Danville, 500 W. Main
Street, Danville - Community Lenten Recital Series:
Lisa Hall, Associate Cathedral Organist, Christ Church Cathedral,
Lexington, and Jana Flygstad, award-winning flutist, educator, and
recording artist, Central Kentucky.

Sunday, March 22, 3:00 p.m., First Christian Church, 555 E. Lexington
Avenue, Danville - Community Lenten Recital Series:
Bellarmine University *Schola cantorum*, Louisville; S. Timothy
Glasscock, conductor, Owen Sammons, organ

Sunday, March 29, 4:00 p.m., Christ Church Cathedral, Lexington
Gabriel Fauré’s *Requiem* with the Cathedral Choir, organ, and orchestra

Sunday, April 12, 7:00 p.m. - First Presbyterian Church, Lexington
Kentucky Bach Choir: “From Suffering to Salvation”
[kentuckybachchoir](#)

Sunday, April 19, 4:00 p.m. - Christ Church Cathedral, Lexington
Ani Hutchens, *piano*, Boston Conservatory at Berklee 2025 Graduate

Wednesday, April 22, 7:30 p.m. - Cincinnati Museum Center, featuring
the 1929 E.M. Skinner Organ in the rotunda: Isabelle Demers, Organist,
with University of Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music Professor of
Voice, Tenor, Daniel Weeks
[Music-in-the-Museum](#)

Sunday, May 17 - Christ Church Cathedral, Lexington
3:30 p.m. - Grant Holcomb, *organ*, River Road Presbyterian Church,
Richmond, Virginia
4:00 p.m. - Evensong with the Cathedral Choir and Visiting Conductor,
Richard Webster

Sunday, June 7, 5:00 p.m. - Second Presbyterian Church, Lexington
Lexington Chamber Chorale
“How Can I Keep from Singing: The Heart of Kentucky: A Musical
Tribute” <http://lexingtonchamberchorale.org/>

IMPORTANT STUFF



FREE TO A GOOD HOME . . .

Neal Conrad of Lexington writes:
I have a Hammond 1958 B Model spinet organ (with reverb) that has been in the family since 1959 when it was purchased new. We are trying to downsize our home and are looking for a good home for it. It functions well, does need some work on the contacts on the slide bars. It is still a very attractive piece of solid walnut furniture, as you can see.

If you know of a church or an individual who would be interested in acquiring it, or can advise me on how to find someone, I would appreciate it. You can reach me by email: nconradpsi@outlook.com, or via phone at 859-421-7115.

LOOKING FOR AN ORGAN ON WHICH TO PRACTICE?

AGOLex has received a generous offer from the Church of the Ascension in Frankfort to make their organ available to members who would like to practice on their 3 manual, 33-rank Austin organ. Contact the church for more information:

Email: info@ascensionfrankfort.org

Website: www.ascensionfrankfort.org



WOMAN COMPOSER SUNDAY: MARCH 8, 2026



Inaugurated in 2021 by the Society of Women Organists, Woman Composer Sunday is now a collaboration with the Royal College of Organists and the AGO. Organists around the globe will include works by women composers in their services and recital programs on March 8, 2026, the Sunday closest to International Women's Day. ([Sample bulletin text](#))

The winners of the Woman Composer Sunday composition competition have been announced, and you can download the winning scores for free:

[Contest winners/compositions](#)

MEET ME IN ST LOUIS . . .

Are you planning to make the trip to St. Louis this summer for the AGO National Convention? Several members have already registered. If you are planning to go, **let us know** by responding to this email. Information about the Convention can be found below!





THE AGO NATIONAL CONVENTION . . .

. . . will be in nearby St. Louis in July. Register NOW! [click here!](#)
Rates are still discounted through March 31. St. Louis is less than five hours' drive from Lexington!



ZOOM STUDY GROUPS AVAILABLE FOR SPC, CAGO



Free monthly online study groups are being offered for organists planning to take the [Service Playing Certificate \(SPC\)](#), [Colleague \(CAGO\)](#), AAGO or FAGO exams. For more information, click here: [Study Groups](#)

Your chapter also has study aids available free of charge! Just contact Jane Johnson (jhjohn@email.uky.edu or 859-338-5364) for more information. You can join the ranks of the certified, and we are here to help!



THE AMERICAN THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY 2026 CONVENTION

The [American Theatre Organ Society \(ATOS\) 2026 National Convention](#) will be held in Rochester, New York, from July 6–10, 2026, hosted by the [Rochester Theater Organ Society](#). Centered at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel, the

event, “ROC The Pipes,” will feature concerts at various regional venues, including the West Herr Performing Arts Center and Riviera Theatre. Congratulations to long-time AGOLex member Bill Webber, who has been elected Vice-Chair of the ATOS Board of Directors!

JOB LISTINGS

Crestwood United Methodist Church, Crestwood, KY:

Organist/Accompanist

[Full description](#)

[posted 2/1/2026]

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, Lexington:

Part time organist

[Full description](#)

[posted 12/1/2025]

Holy Trinity Church (Catholic), Springfield:

Organist

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]



MANY THANKS
TO OUR SPONSORS



GREAT MUSIC

at Christ Church Cathedral
March 2026

Concert & Evensong

SUNDAY, MARCH 1

3:30pm CONCERT

Jana Flygstad, *flute*

Lisa Hall, *organ*

4:00pm EVENSONG

with the Cathedral Choir



Gabriel Fauré's *Requiem*

PALM SUNDAY, MARCH 29

4:00pm

The Cathedral Choir

Erich Balling, *Conductor*

Kathleen Balling, *Associate Conductor*



Lisa Hall, *organ*

Luke Dailey, *bass soloist*

Rachel Renee Miller, *harp*

Clyde Beavers, *cello*

Madison Jones, *violin*

David Davenport, *timpani*

Childcare is available.

Visit cccllex.org/music for more information on the Cathedral Choir,
Great Music Series, and Friends of Cathedral Music.

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• SOLI DEO GLORIA •

ANNOUNCING OUR 2025-2026 SEASON

*With our new Co-Artistic Directors,
Dr. Vicki Bell and Dr. Stephen Bolster*

Mary Bears a Promise

December 7, 2025 • 7:00 p.m.

Magnificats and other works by J.S. Bach, C.P.E. Bach, Palestrina, Mendelssohn, Britten, and others

From Suffering to Salvation

April 12, 2026 • 7:00 p.m.

Works by J.S. Bach (with selections from the St. Matthew Passion), Brahms, Vaughan Williams, Howells, and Finzi

Concerts will be held at First Presbyterian Church
174 North Mill Street, Lexington, KY 40507



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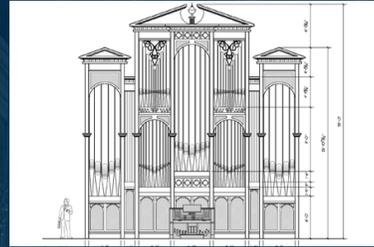
Good Shepherd Episcopal Church
533 East Main Street
Lexington KY 40508



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GREAT MUSIC

at Christ Church Cathedral

2025-2026

Concerts & Evensongs

3:30pm Concert

4:00pm Evensong with the Cathedral Choir

**September 21, October 19, November 2,
February 1, March 1, May 17**



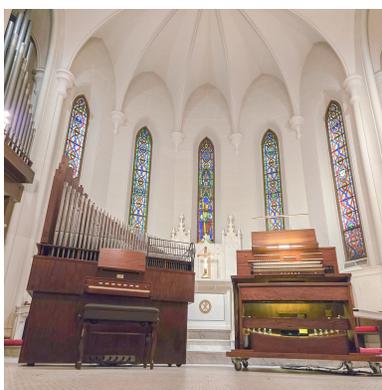
Friday, December 5

7:30pm George Frideric Handel's *Messiah*
with the Cathedral Choir

For tickets, visit cclex.org/messiah

Sunday, December 14

7:00pm A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols
with the Cathedral Choir



Sunday, December 21

4:00pm Benjamin Britten's *A Ceremony of Carols*
The Cathedral Girls Choir
Rachel Renee Miller, *harp*

Sunday, February 15

4:00pm Organ Concert
Huw Lewis, *Hope College, Michigan*



Palm Sunday, March 29

4:00pm Gabriel Fauré's *Requiem*
with the Cathedral Choir

*Please visit our website cclex.org/music for more
information on the Cathedral Choir, Great Music Series,
and Friends of Cathedral Music.*

HUMORESQUE

“I have nothing to say and I am saying it.” - *John Cage*

“What a beautiful art, but what a wretched profession.” - *Georges Bizet*

“I can't listen to that much Wagner. I start getting the urge to conquer Poland.”
- *Woody Allen*

“Rock journalism is people who can't write interviewing people who can't talk in order to provide articles for people who can't read.”
- *Frank Zappa*

“The only thing that can solve most of our problems is dancing.” - *James Brown*

On Giuseppe Verdi: “Joe Green . . . Giuseppe Verdi is just his stage name.”
- *Victor Borge*

“I'm a concert pianist. That's a pretentious way of saying
I'm unemployed at the moment.” - *Oscar Levant*

“Music is the only noise for which one is obliged to pay.” - *Alexander Dumas*

“The saxophone is the embodied spirit of beer.” - *Arnold Bennett*

“The flute is not an instrument that has a good moral effect.” - *Aristotle*

“When I first got to Nashville, somebody said that Kris Kristofferson and I were the only two people who could describe Dolly Parton without using their hands.”
- *Tom T. Hall*

“I am sure my music has a taste of codfish in it.” - *Edvard Grieg*

“When the power of love overcomes the love of power the world will know peace.”
- *Jimi Hendrix*

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.