

Volume 81, Issue 4  
April, 2026

# Principal Pipings



American Guild of  
ORGANISTS

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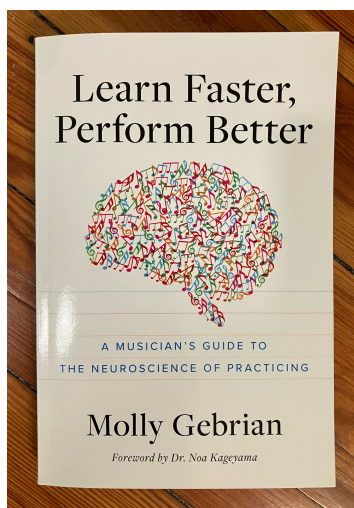
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## LEARN FASTER, PERFORM BETTER?

What if you could take a nice long break from practicing your Easter music that's not nearly up to tempo yet, get a good night's sleep, and still be able to play the same music even better tomorrow?



In a recent AGO committee meeting, Lisa Hall (Assistant Organist at Christ Church Cathedral) mentioned that she had bought this book by Molly Gebrian. Our curiosity was piqued by a title including the word *faster*, as Michael and I are at the age where we don't have a lot of *RT* (remaining time). And I was a bit familiar with violist Molly Gebrian's work from references in Noa Kageyama's [bulletproofmusician.com](http://bulletproofmusician.com). We ordered the book and (not having much *RT*) I dove right in.

Wow. Gebrian offers *proof* that taking breaks and sleeping well will actually tremendously improve your ability to learn and play music. Pianist Jeffrey Sykes (University of California - Berkeley) wrote in a review: "After 40 years of experience as a performer and teacher, you imagine there's nothing new and useful to be said on the subject of practice. Molly Gebrian proved me wrong, and brilliantly so."

So, our advice is, take a break from your practicing; get comfortable and read this book, and then get a good night's sleep!

Michael & Nancy

# RECENT AGO EVENTS

## LUNCH AND MASTERCLASS WITH HUW LEWIS February 14, 2026 Christ Church Cathedral, Lexington



*Above: Enjoying a delicious lunch prepared by Bibi Cook, which was free! (thanks to Regional Ambassador, Larry Sharp).*

*Right: Julia, assistant to Erich and Kathleen Balling. Erich is the Canon Musician and Kathleen is the Music Assistant at Christ Church.*

*Far right: Larry Sharp and Huw Lewis present a King Cake as a door prize to Vicki Bell, the lucky winner.*





*Top: William Robinson, Assistant Organist at the Cathedral of Christ the King, receives instruction from Huw Lewis.*

*Middle: Dr. Lewis demonstrating technique; Lisa Hall performing Adagio from Symphony No. 5 by Charles-Marie Widor.*



**HUW LEWIS ORGAN CONCERT**  
**February 15, 2026, 4:00 p.m., Christ Church Cathedral, Lexington**

**HUW LEWIS**  
**ORGAN CONCERT**

*Please silence all cell phones. Thank you!*

WELCOME

*Praeludium in E Minor ("The Greater")*

Nicolaus Bruhns (1665-1697)

*Récit de tierce en taille*

Nicolas de Grigny (1672-1703)

*"Ou s'en vont ces gais bergers" (Where are the Merry Shepherds Going?)*

Claude Balbâtre (1724-1799)

*Hexachodum Apollonius*

Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

*Performed on the Dirksen Portativ Organ*

*O Mensch, beweine dein Sünde groß, BWV 622 (O Man, Bewail thy Grievous Sin)*

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

*Passacaglia in C Minor, BWV 582*

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

*Choral in A Minor*

César Franck (1822-1890)

*Symphony No. 1, Op. 14*

Louis Vierne (1870-1937)

*V. Andante*

*VI. Final*

*Many thanks to Kathleen and Erich Balling,  
Lisa Hall, and Christ Church Cathedral  
for hosting these events!*



## UPCOMING AGO EVENTS

### GUESTS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME AT AGO EVENTS

**The Hymn Festival originally planned for May 2 has been cancelled**

**Saturday, May 16, 11:30 a.m. - Ascension Luncheon!** Ramsey's Diner, 151 W. Zandale Drive, Lexington, 40503

Join your AGO friends and colleagues for a relaxing and fun (and FREE) lunch. Spouses and partners are also welcome. Space is limited to 20, so RSVP soon! (Text Nancy: 859-333-0526 or Michael: 859-205-9549, or respond to this email.) Door prizes will be awarded!

**June, 2026 (TBA) - Luncheon and Installation of 2026-2027 Officers**

## OTHER UPCOMING LOCAL EVENTS

**Sunday, April 12, 7:00 p.m. - First Presbyterian Church, Lexington**

Kentucky Bach Choir: "Love, Our Salvation"

The program features the Bach double-choir motet *Fürchte dich nicht*; several choruses from the *Saint Matthew Passion* accompanied by orchestra; unaccompanied motets by Orlando di Lasso, G.P. da Palestrina, and Johannes Brahms; and anthems by Herbert Howells, Gerald Finzi, and Paul Mealor.

For tickets: [click here](#)

For more about the Kentucky Bach Choir: [kentuckybachchoir](#)

**Sunday, April 19, 4:00 p.m. - Christ Church Cathedral, Lexington**

Ani Hutchens, *piano*, Boston Conservatory at Berklee 2025 Graduate and former Christ Church Cathedral Chorister

**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

**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/>

## MISCELLANY

### UPDATE ON REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH, SOMERSET



Thank you for your support!!!!

Services will resume Easter Sunday, April 5, 2026.

This week the Lexington Chapter AGO received a thank you and the good news that Redeemer Lutheran, which was all but destroyed by a tornado in May, 2025, will reopen on Easter Sunday. LexAGO members donated a total of \$800.00 to the cause. Member Marcia Moser is the organist at Redeemer.





## 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](mailto: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](mailto:info@ascensionfrankfort.org)  
Website: [www.ascensionfrankfort.org](http://www.ascensionfrankfort.org)



## MEET ME IN ST LOUIS . . .

Are you planning to make the trip to St. Louis this summer for the AGO National Convention? Several members from our chapter 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!](#)  
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](mailto: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!

## HAVE YOU PAID YOUR AGO DUES?

If you haven't yet paid your dues, or can't remember if you've paid them, or want to find out when they are due, go here: [AGO sign in](#). Or if you prefer, call (212) 870-2310 during business hours, or email [info@agohq.org](mailto:info@agohq.org).

If you prefer to be a Chapter Friend rather than a member, information will be available soon about the due date. The cost is \$40.00. Chapter Friends receive our monthly newsletter but are not eligible for AGO discounts and do not receive *The American Organist* magazine.

## LEARN TO IMPROVISE THE EASY WAY!



The Bluegrass Chapter of the American Theatre Organ Society (BGATOS) is looking for more organists willing to play the organ at the Kentucky Theatre on Friday nights and, next summer, for their Wednesday Classic Movie series. This is a great way to “loosen up” your playing and gain confidence in improvisation. If you are interested please contact Bill Webber at 859.298.8962 or [williamawebberiv@gmail.com](mailto:williamawebberiv@gmail.com)



### VISIT THE LOFT . . .

#### The AGO's Online Community

Interested in free handbell music? Hauptwerk topics? Organ music swaps? Jazz influences in organ literature? Playing triplets against eighth notes? THE LOFT is the place to exchange information with other AGO members. THE LOFT also includes a searchable Member Directory where you can find fellow AGO members and reconnect with colleagues. [Click here](#) to get started!



### 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 OPENINGS

## **Emmanuel Episcopal Church, Winchester: Part time organist**

[Full description](#)

[posted 4/1/2026]

## **Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, Lexington: Part time organist**

[Full description](#)

[posted 12/1/2025]

## **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](mailto:dmpowell44@roadrunner.com) or Kitty Barsotti [barsotti@windstream.net](mailto:barsotti@windstream.net)

[posted 9/1/24]



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# GREAT MUSIC

at Christ Church Cathedral

April 2026

## Piano Concert *with* ANI HUTCHENS



BOSTON CONSERVATORY AT BERKLEE  
2025 GRADUATE

&

FORMER CHRIST CHURCH  
CATHEDRAL CHORISTER

**SUNDAY, APRIL 19**

4:00pm

## Concert & Evensong

**SUNDAY, MAY 17**

**3:30pm ORGAN CONCERT**

Grant Holcomb, *organ*

*River Road Presbyterian Church,  
Richmond, Virginia*

**4:00pm EVENSONG**

with the Cathedral Choir



Visit [ccclx.org/music](http://ccclx.org/music) for more information on  
the Cathedral Choir, Great Music Series, and  
Friends of Cathedral Music.



# D.C. Schroth

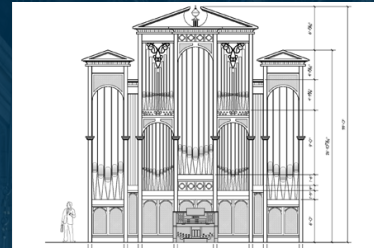
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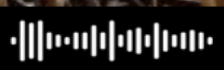


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## ANNOUNCING OUR 2025-2026 SEASON

*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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# 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](http://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](http://cclex.org/music) for more  
information on the Cathedral Choir, Great Music Series,  
and Friends of Cathedral Music.*

# HUMORESQUE

“In opera, there is always too much singing.” - *Claude Debussy*

“I don’t know anything about music. In my line you don’t have to.” - *Elvis Presley*

“There are two golden rules for an orchestra: start together and finish together. The public doesn’t give a damn what goes on in between.” - *Sir Thomas Beecham*

“I’m sick to death of people saying we’ve made 11 albums that sound exactly the same. In fact, we’ve made 12 albums that sound exactly the same.” - *Angus Young (AC/DC)*

“To achieve great things, two things are needed: A plan, and not quite enough time.”  
- *Leonard Bernstein*

“True perfection in all things is no longer known or prized - you must write music that is either so simple a coachman could sing it, or so unintelligible that audiences like it simply because no sane person could understand it.” - *W.A. Mozart*

To a music critic: “I am sitting in the smallest room in my house (the toilet) with your review before me. Soon it will be behind me” - *Max Reger*

“A composer is a guy who goes around forcing his will on unsuspecting air molecules, often with the help of unsuspecting musicians.” - *Frank Zappa*

“My music is best understood by children and animals.” - *Igor Stravinsky*

“I only know two pieces. One is Clair de Lune, the other isn't.” - *Victor Borge*

“Music-making as a means of getting money is hell.” - *Gustav Holst*

“All the good music has already been written by people with wigs and stuff.” - *Frank Zappa*

“I’d rather be a musician than a rock star.” - *George Harrison*

“Never look at the trombones, it only encourages them.” - *Richard Strauss*

[agohq.org/](http://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.