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**Chapter Web Site**  
[www.lccago.org](http://www.lccago.org)

**National AGO Web Site**  
[www.agohq.org](http://www.agohq.org)

# April Pipings

## A note from the Dean:

For those of you who celebrated Easter on the 27th, I wish you a happy and blessed Holyday. I wish all of you a Happy Spring! Of course, related to that we all wish J.S. Bach a Happy 331st Birthday – and I never have to worry about remembering that since my father celebrates on the same day as Bach – (though, my father only turned 90 on Bach's Birthday!).

Several more programs of interest – as you know, our Evensong is coming up for April and our 'Organ Crawl' in Savannah in May. June marks our Annual Chapter Meeting and installation of Officers! In addition, of course, we have 2nd Friday concerts at Saint Luke's Church all three months (April 8, May 13 and June 10).

So between now and July 1, we have 6 events for you to attend!

We are in the process of starting some Grant proposals (the first one was submitted on March 31). Different members of our Board are researching other grants – these grants are all aimed at building our LCCAGO Scholarship Fund. This is a fund that I believe that we, as organists and organ enthusiasts, should all support in whatever manner we can, since it is aimed at fostering new organists who will take our places in a few years.

I wrote within the last year of the reasons for us to be involved in this endeavor, and I still believe that it is our duty as members of the AGO (pledged to support the organ and its literature) to do everything we can to assure that a new crop of organists is in higher education. To that end, we voted last year to establish this fund and to appoint a committee when the fund got large enough which would establish a program to make scholarship aid available to those who will carry on the work that we are all involved with.

Grants will help, as will public programs. Our association with piano teachers through our Pizza/Pipes and Organ Encounters will hopefully attract students, already on the road to keyboard facility, to consider studying organ. I have been approached by one of the teachers who attended our multi-church program on HHI to take on one of her piano students who has expressed an interest! There are many ways to attract new talent to the organ – how can each of you make a contribution toward that goal?

We always value your input in our programming throughout the year. I have just appointed a committee to begin preparing the 2016-2017 chapter year programs. If you have an idea to share, please send it to our current Program Chair, Nina Rodman, so that the committee, once formed, can incorporate it!

*Continued on the next page*

I look forward to seeing many of you at the 6 programs in April, May and June.

Please come, please share your ideas, please show that you are more than just 'Magazine Members'....

Thanks for your membership in our Chapter - please make it count! Be safe, be healthy, see you soon!

*Jonathan Davis*, Dean

Low Country Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

## *A Note from our Treasurer:*

It is not necessary to log into our LCC AGO website in order to access the Membership Directory and Substitute List.

From the home page, select the tab that says MEMBERS PORTAL. From the dropdown list, select MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY and SUBSTITUTE LIST.

At this point, you will be prompted to enter the password you were given previously. You may then click the links to the Directory or Sub List. If you do not remember the password, please email Gary at [grakestraw@hotmail.com](mailto:grakestraw@hotmail.com).

This would be a good time to practice accessing the Directory and Sub List. Please check your posted personal information and sub availability. If you need to make any changes, please log into ONCARD and make your changes there. Our Membership Directory and Sub List are taken from the information you have supplied in ONCARD.

*Gary Rakestraw*, Treasurer



# LOW COUNTRY CHAPTER AGO

## 2016 ORGAN RECITAL SERIES AT NOON

St. Luke's Episcopal Church  
50 Pope Avenue  
Hilton Head Island, SC

Friday, April 8

12:00 pm

### Tom Tiehel

Director of Music & Organist, St. Gregory the Great Catholic Church, Bluffton

and Next Month:

Chad Martin, Organist at First Presbyterian Church, HHI, Friday, May 13

\*\*\*\*\*

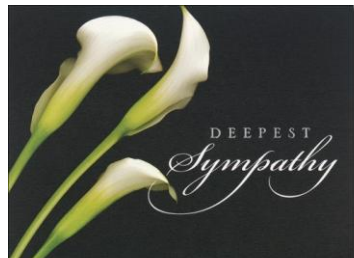
Please submit your news, events, comments, experiences, upcoming music conferences, updates, **anything of interest** to your fellow chapter members to:

WEBMASTER Gary Rakestraw [grakestraw@hotmail.com](mailto:grakestraw@hotmail.com)



**Our chapter website is [lccago.org](http://lccago.org). Have you visited it lately?**

NEWSLETTER EDITOR Linda Hamilton [liturgicalinda@hotmail.com](mailto:liturgicalinda@hotmail.com).



*We offer our deepest sympathy to Barbara Loosbrock*

*on the passing of her husband, Tom Loosbrock.*

DON'T MISS OUR APRIL PROGRAM

# **CHORAL EVENSONG**

**SUNDAY, APRIL 17, 2016 AT 6 P.M.**

**(SPECIAL ORGAN PRELUDE AT 5:45 BY GARY RAKESTRAW)**

**FEATURING**

## **THE CHOIR OF ST. JOHN'S CHURCH**

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# CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWLY ELECTED OFFICERS FOR THE 2016-2017 CHAPTER TERM:

Dean: John Stender Sub-Dean: Chad Martin

Treasurer: Gary Rakestraw Secretary: Gil Campbell

Member-at-Large: Art Perry - (until 2019)  
(*Member-at-large – 2017 – Beth Corry - not on ballot*)  
(*Member-at-large – 2018 – John Martin Marks - not on ballot*)



The Elected Officers will serve a 2-year term, except for Members-at-Large who each serve a 3-year term. (There is an annual election for one Member-at-Large as their terms overlap.)

With appreciation, we welcome **John Stender - Dean, Chad Martin - Sub-Dean** as new board members, **Gary Rakestraw - Treasurer** and **Gil Campbell - Secretary** as returning board members, and our newest **Member-at-Large, Art Perry**, who will serve until June of 2019.

All officers will be sworn in by our Chaplain, **Cdr. William Holiman, USN** at our June 6<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm Chapter Annual Meeting at the home of Nina Rodman - (details in a later Newsletter).

## More Musical Events

**Charles D. Frost**, Organist (and member of our Chapter), in recital, Sunday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 pm at Sea Island Presbyterian Church, 81 Lady's Island Drive, Beaufort. Featuring works by African American composers; in addition, works by Lubeck, Clerambault, and Bach. The public is invited to attend. Donations will be appreciated.

**2016 Pipe Organ Encounter** will be held Sunday, July 24-Friday, July 29, 2016 in Atlanta, Georgia. The Atlanta Chapter is accepting students ages 13-18. Students should be interested in Pipe Organs with Piano or Organ proficiency from Intermediate to Advanced. Join us for an exciting week of study with the King of Instruments. Website: [www.agoatlanta.org/html/POE.htm](http://www.agoatlanta.org/html/POE.htm) Contact: Nicole Marane, POE Director at [nicmarane@gmail.com](mailto:nicmarane@gmail.com)

## Job Placement April 2016

Currently, the national AGO website is posting 2 jobs in South Carolina and 1 job in Georgia. Please check the national website for more information.

**Local Job Opening:** Port Royal  
United Methodist Church in Port Royal, SC, is seeking a qualified organist/director of music. 1 weekly adult choir rehearsal, 1 weekly handbell rehearsal, 1 Sunday service at 11am, and special seasonal services. Allen 2-manual drawknob organ, Yamaha grand piano. Salary negotiable. For more information or to apply, contact Rita Harmon, chair of Pastor/Parish Relations Committee at 270-399-0913 or Pastor Anne Bridgers at 843-726-2516. Email: [prumc@embarqmail.com](mailto:prumc@embarqmail.com).



**Richard Gray at the C.B. Fisk, Opus 101 Pipe Organ  
Southern Methodist University, Dallas, TX  
Photo: Kim Ritzenhaler-Leeson**

It has been about 7 months since I have moved out to Dallas, and I love it! Last fall, I began my first year in the MMOrgan Performance program at Southern Methodist University where I study with Professor Stefan Engels. Some of you may remember him from his time in Charleston a few years ago. He is an excellent teacher with a great reputation. One of the reasons I came to his studio was because I wanted to spend some time working on the German Romantic repertoire. This was not something I had the chance to cover during my undergraduate years at Oberlin and since this is Professor Engels's specialty, I figured now would be an excellent time! From that particular era, I am working on a few movements of Sigfrid Karg-Elert's lyrical *Cathedral Windows*, Op. 106 as well as Max Reger's Toccata and Fugue in D Minor/Major, Op. 59, No. 5 and 6. However, I feel my connection has always been with the French 20<sup>th</sup> century repertoire. I am about half way finished with learning Olivier Messiaen's *Messe de la Pentecôte*- a wonderful 30-minute work that shows just about the entire breadth of his musical language.

In February, I began my job as Minister of Music at First United Lutheran Church of Dallas. Here, I play the organ for all worship services and oversee a choral scholar program affiliated with the Meadows School of the Arts at SMU. We have a wonderful Karl Wilhelm 2-manual/22 rank Baroque organ. I honestly have never heard such clear voicing on an instrument. A few weeks ago, I played in the 45<sup>th</sup> Annual William C. Hall Pipe Organ Competition in San Antonio. There was some serious competition between members from different organ studios in the state of TX, but I was very happy to come home with winning the Prize for Excellence in Hymn Playing! My hymn was *I Sing the Mighty Power of God* (tune ELLACOMBE.) (Charlie, if you are reading this, First Presbyterian Church in San Antonio has your hymnal!)

I have some exciting things that are coming up in the next few months. On April 8<sup>th</sup>, I will be playing a 30-minute noontime recital at Trinity Church Copley Square in Boston, MA. Each Friday, they have a guest come and play a recital. I have chosen to perform works of Alain, Bach, and Karg-Elert. I look forward to getting to know the wonderful Skinner organ of Trinity. In June, I will be attending the Houston AGO National Convention- I hope to see some of you there! This July, I will be returning to the Royal School of Church Music in America's Carolina Course held in Raleigh, NC. Last year, I had the great pleasure of serving as organ scholar and this year I will be serving as the assistant course organist and the conducting scholar. Michael Velting from Christ Church Cathedral (Nashville) will be directing the course and I look forward to working with him! This year will be especially meaningful as our closing evensong will be held in Duke Chapel. Colin Lynch, the course organist, and I will be presenting a 30-minute pre-evensong recital on the instruments of Duke. If some of you feel like making a drive to Charlotte, NC on Sunday, August 7<sup>th</sup>, I will be playing a recital at The Myers Park Baptist Church beginning at 7pm. This is part of the Charlotte AGO Summer Recital Series. My program is still to be determined- although a few pieces have been decided!

While I am away from my home in Beaufort, I truly miss being there. I keep up through folks and I enjoy seeing what's updated on the Lowcountry AGO website. I am so pleased to see that this chapter is so active and constantly presenting beautiful music through events for the community! For those of you who are new to the area and have taken positions in Beaufort-Bluffton-Hilton Head, I would like to extend a warm welcome to you from Dallas!

All my best for a successful rest of your Easter season and beginning of summer!  
Richard Gray

# Music at St. Helena's

## FRIDAY ORGAN CONCERTS AT NOON

### 2015-2016 Concert Schedule

*Taylor & Boody, Opus 11 (1985; 19 ranks)*

#### FALL SERIES

**October 16**

Travis Baker

*Director of Music, Bromley Boy Singers  
Kent, England*

**October 23**

Katie Moss

*Doctoral Candidate, Indiana University  
Readlyn, Iowa*

**October 30**

Douglas Bruce

*Parish Church of Wollbach  
Black Forest, Germany*

**November 6**

Dr. Gregory Peterson

*Luther College  
Decorah, Iowa*

**November 20**

#### FEATURED YOUNG ORGANIST

Clara Gerdes

*Curtis Institute  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania*

#### SPRING SERIES

**March 11**

#### FEATURED YOUNG ORGANIST

Shayla De Jong

*Luther College, Decorah, Iowa*

**March 18**

Patrick Zelezik

*Artistic Director, Houston Baroque  
Houston, Texas*

**April 1**

Dr. Angela Kraft Cross

*Congregational Church of San Mateo  
San Mateo, California*

**April 8**

Fred Teardo

*Cathedral of the Advent  
Birmingham, Alabama*

**April 15**

Stephen Hamilton

*Church of the Holy Trinity (Emeritus)  
New York City, New York*

Concerts are FREE, open to the public, and last approximately 50 minutes.

*Donations are greatly appreciated.*

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New Organ (2014)

## More of our Recent New Organ Projects:

First United Methodist Church (V/93) Atlanta, GA  
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary (IV/83) New Orleans, LA  
New York Ave Presbyterian (III/62) Washington, DC  
Hendricks Ave Baptist Church (III/60) Jacksonville, FL  
Midway Presbyterian Church (III/55) Powder Springs, GA  
Bethel United Methodist Church (III/51) Charleston, SC  
First Presbyterian Church (III/47) Savannah, GA  
Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church (III/46) Atlanta, GA  
Carrollton First United Methodist Church (III/43) Carrollton, GA  
St. Mary's Catholic Church (II/38) Evansville, IN  
Advent Lutheran Church (III/36) Melbourne, FL  
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary (III/33) New Orleans, LA  
Covenant Presbyterian Church (II/32) Charlotte, NC  
College Heights United Methodist Church (III/31) Lakeland, FL  
Chester Presbyterian Church (II/31) Chester, VA  
Holy Trinity Catholic Church (II/27) Peachtree City, GA  
Good Shepherd Episcopal Church (III/25) Burke, VA  
First United Methodist Church (II/25) Elberton, GA  
Stella Maris Catholic Church (II/25) Sullivan's Island, SC  
St. Andrew's Episcopal Church (II/23) Rocky Mount, NC  
First United Methodist Church (III/22) Cordele, GA  
Episcopal Church of the Advent (II/15) Madison, GA  
Newberry ARP Church (II/15) Newberry, SC

## Some of Our Current Organ Projects:



### Rendering for

Kenrick-Glennon Seminary (III/38)  
St. Louis, MO - New Organ  
First Presbyterian (III/53)  
Galveston, TX - New Organ  
First Lutheran (III/24)  
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