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**Beth Corry (2017)**

**John Marks (2018)**

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**National AGO Web Site**

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

# February Pipings

## A note from the Dean:

Change is in the air! While our friends and families up North are digging out of a monstrous storm, we in the Low Country are ourselves dealing with icy roadways, freezing pipes and having to dig out our scarves before venturing outdoors.

Change is in the air for our Executive Board as well. We are nearing the end of our 2-year election cycle for board members, and an election must occur. This past Fall, I tasked a member with organizing an Election Committee to determine which board members would be willing to stand for re-election and which would not. Also, in the normal course set out in our by-laws, one of our three members-at-large completes a three-year term and that position must be filled.

That committee has done a fine job and we have excellent candidates for the board!

In another part of this newsletter, you will be given a list of potential Executive Board members and will be asked to vote (and, NO, the name of a certain casino-owning person is NOT one of them!). I am hoping that you will all take part in the election process! This is, after all, your chapter!

I will also say that, as diverse a group as we are, we have a singularly wonderful collection of members and I always enjoy those times when we gather, whether for work or for pleasure. Please vote – let's grow our little chapter even more!

**Jonathan Davis, Dean  
Low Country Chapter of  
the American Guild  
of Organists**



# Grant Funding

Grants provide an excellent source of funding for the activities of an organization. However, there are many rules and requirements that must be followed and met.

The first step is to set a goal or design a project. Then, facts and figures must be submitted to state exactly what will be done and how the grant money will be used. After the project is complete, an evaluation with follow-up facts is usually required.

Grants are also competitive. Many requests are received for grants, and a committee must be impressed by the project in order to award a grant. Sometimes, an organization might submit a project to 100 or more possible foundations before being successful.



An example of a grant has the following requirements:

*A brief history of the organization, the scope of its activities, and a detailed summary of the proposed use of the requested funds is required. Once the open season for accepting applications has closed, the council and grant manager are responsible for reading each application thoroughly. They must evaluate the merits of the individual requests keeping in mind the organization's mission, intended use of grant funds, grant monies received in prior years, other donated income, and the impact of the organization on the local community.*

Possible grant projects for LCC AGO might include a scholarship program, a workshop to bring in a special consultant, or a concert series. If you have an idea for a grant project, please contact any board member with your thoughts. Now is the time to write grants for our upcoming 2016-17 fiscal year.

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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). Visit it!

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



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# DON'T MISS OUR FEBRUARY CHAPTER PROGRAM:

## DAN MILLER IN CONCERT

Friday, February 5<sup>th</sup> 7:00PM

Saint Peter's Catholic Church

70 Lady's Island Drive

Beaufort, South Carolina

Blending the beauty of wind-blown pipes, the cutting edge technology of the Rodgers 484MV Organ, the beautiful acoustic of Saint Peter's Catholic Church and the amazing artistry of one of America's foremost organists, Dan Miller, you will experience the majesty of the King of Instruments. Dan will play an impressive program of inspired works for organ. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity! Don't miss it.

## ORGANIST WORKSHOP

**Featuring Dan Miller**

Saturday February 6, 2016 9:30AM – 12:00?

St Peter's Catholic Church

70 Lady's Island Drive

Beaufort, South Carolina,

Music lovers are invited to attend a free workshop by renowned organist Dan Miller. Dan will offer tips and practical suggestions for organists to expand their opportunities for creative selection of organ stops and managing console functions. Dan will also offer useful organ music repertoire ideas, always of interest to any organist. Dan will also have host an open question forum - Ask, and he will answer!

### Topics of interest

- Explore creative organ stop and ensemble selections for any worship style
- Free music by Dan Miller will be given to each attendee
- Learn about exciting new technologies for organists

# LOW COUNTRY CHAPTER AGO

## 2016 ORGAN RECITAL SERIES AT NOON

*Please note this month's location:*

St. Andrew By the Sea United Methodist Church  
20 Pope Avenue  
Hilton Head Island, SC

Friday, February 12

12:00 pm

## Debby Graves

Organist at St. Andrew By the Sea United Methodist Church, Hilton Head

## Plans for Evensong April 17 at 6 pm

Location: The Church of the Holy Trinity, 2718 Bees Creek Road, (Grahamville) Ridgeland, South Carolina (This church has the only pipe organ in Jasper County and is a beautiful, quaint, historic building.)

Conductor: Pat Gould

Organist: Gary Rakestraw

Choir: Pat suggested inviting a core guest choir along with AGO members who enjoy singing. If anyone is interested in providing the guest core choir, please let Pat or me know as soon as possible. Thank you.

Rehearsal: Sunday afternoon, time TBD, probably around 4 p.m. Music will be distributed prior to the event. Bring your own folder. No decision has been made on vestments at this time.

Officiant: The Reverend James Gibson, Vicar of Holy Trinity Church

Reception: This will be provided by Holy Trinity

Program: Choral selections will be determined by the director of the core choir, along with Pat Gould and Gary Rakestraw. Father Gibson at Holy Trinity has been asked to develop the spoken word, as Officiant, The Guild will be responsible for printing the program. The Guild will publicize the event to its members. Holy Trinity will publicize it in the Ridgeland community.

**If you are interested in becoming involved in this endeavor, please let me know. You can reach me by email or my home phone - 843-846-4433. I hope there will be a lot of interest! Thank you.**

Margaret Bukkosal, Program Committee  
Low Country Chapter of the American Guild of Organists Evensong Chairperson

# SLATE FOR THE ELECTION OF BOARD VACANCIES

- Nomination for Dean: John Stender
- 
- Nomination for Subdean: Chad Martin
- 
- Nomination for Secretary Gil Campbell
- 
- Nomination for Treasurer Gary Rakestraw
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- Nomination for Member at Large Art Perry ( 2019 )
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- Beth Corry and John Marks will continue serve on the Board in their current capacities.
- 
- **RECOMMENDATIONS:**
- **January:**
- Each candidate will each submit a photo, a brief biography and a vision statement which will be published in the February newsletter. The information will be sent to Linda Hamilton with a copy to the Nominating Committee Chairperson.
- **February**
- The slate will be published in the February Newsletter (per by-laws) along with the pictures, biographies/vision statements. **Note: You will find these on the next pages.**
- **March**
- At the beginning of the month the election will take place via email and will be counted by the Secretary of the Guild. The Board will establish a "return by" date. Thirty three people are eligible to vote as of 1/8/16 Those who do not vote will be contacted by Nominating committee members: Margaret Bukkosy, Chair,,Gary Rakestraw and Syd Small.
- **April**
- 2016-17 Programs and Budget will be established. By-laws state the the Sub-Dean is responsible for establishing and overseeing the Chapter's programs for the year. . In addition, the Sub-Dean nominee is encouraged to form a Program Committee to help plan and implement programs for the following year. Newer members who have been part of other chapters should be considered for the committee to bring fresh ideas to our chapter. The committee will also establish approximate costs of each program and submit them to the treasurer for preparation of the new budget. It is further recommended that at least two of the year's events should be income-producing for the chapter.
- **May**
- The Annual Meeting attendees would approve 2016-17 Programs and Budget. Programs for 2016-2017 and budget should be published in the chapter newsletter at the beginning of May. Members who do not attend the May meeting should be asked to approve by proxy. If they have not been informed of plans and offered an opportunity to approve, they have no buy in. Officers would be installed.
- 
- **Respectfully Submitted,**
- **Margaret Bukkosy**
- **Nominating Committee Chair**
- **Gary Rakestraw and Syd Small, Nominating Committee Members**

**JOHN STENDER** is graduated from the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music with a M.M. in organ and sacred music. There, he studied with Bruce Neswick and Elisabeth Wright. In 2012 he graduated from Luther College in Decorah, IA with a B.A. in organ and church music (studying with Dr. Gregory Peterson), and



religion. At Luther, he traveled to Namibia and South Africa with a chamber choir for immersive choral and cultural exchange, and participated in a month-long French organ seminar playing numerous instruments and visiting historical and cultural points of interest in and around Paris and Épernay. While at IU he performed the closing movement of Olivier Messiaen's *La Nativité du Seigneur* in a studio recital, was a featured performer in Pipedreams' "2013 Bach's Birthday Bash," and traveled to the Pacific Northwest for a departmental 'Organ Crawl' where he offered movements from Messiaen's *L'Ascension* and sang with the Cathedral Choir during services at St. Mark's Episcopal Cathedral. Formerly, he participated in the Yale

Organ Week 2010, and attended conferences of the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians. He has competed in two AGO-RCYO events and served as Dean of the IU Bloomington chapter of the AGO. John has played recitals in Minnesota, Missouri, Indiana, Iowa, Georgia, Wisconsin, and South Carolina. He currently serves as Director of Music for the Parish Church of St. Helena in Beaufort. He and his wife, Sarah, were married in July of 2015 and are pleased to be working in ministry together in such a vibrantly artistic community!

My hope as Dean would be to attempt to bring those of us North and South of the Broad together often so we might really know each other better. Also, I believe there is a great opportunity for us to communicate with the Charleston and Savannah chapters-- especially, there are many distant-feeling organs of interest and sacred spaces in those towns and it would be well of us to explore them and play them. I hear of a need, and second the call for better advance planning and consideration of community and church events to avoid scheduling overlap. We need to be able to support each other in concert endeavors and work together so we might all benefit from guest organists and other musicians visiting the area. We must attempt to incorporate chamber and choral music into our programs to avoid letting the AGO forget it's mission to bolster standards in those musical worlds as well as of the organ. Another important consideration is to find a happy medium regarding spending and programming of our BachFest. This year was a good beginning, but there is more that can be done which will make the endeavor accessible to a broad range of patrons and will provide a greater variety and consistency in the desired high quality of performances.

**CHAD MARTIN** is a native of Blackville, SC. He started playing the piano by ear around the age of four. He was pianist at Double Pond Baptist Church and provided music for various revivals, singsperations, benefits and gatherings throughout Barnwell County. Chad obtained his Bachelors of Organ Performance from Anderson University in 2009. While at Anderson, he sang in and was student accompanist for the Anderson University Choir and Anderson University Chamber Singers. He was also the accompanist for Anderson's traveling music ensemble, Radiance, and participated in the Anderson University Wind Symphony. During these four years, he was the organist at Boulevard Baptist Church, where he accompanied a youth choir of 50 teenagers known as The Celebration Singers. This group performed in Chicago, New York, and along the Eastern Coast. Chad received his Masters of Organ Performance from Winthrop University in 2012. Chad served as organist, music associate and handbell director at Saxe Gotha Presbyterian Church in Lexington, SC from 2009 – 2015. While in Lexington, he was also the assistant accompanist of the Lexington County Choral Society and accompanied various students and professors from the University of South Carolina and Columbia College. Currently, Chad serves as organist and handbell director at First Presbyterian Church.



#### Vision statement:

As active and dedicated musicians in the lowcountry, our mission involves much more than playing correct notes and learning new repertoire. We have a responsibility to encourage, create, and implement quality music to those around us. I feel this encompasses many age brackets, many backgrounds, and many genres. Possible avenues for this to take place might be as follows:

1) An organ workshop for young musicians elementary through high school. The workshop could have various classes from an introduction to the organ to masterclasses for the more advanced. The workshop could end with a recital given by selected students and teachers and be open to the community to come listen.

2) To support the scholarship fund for graduating high school seniors pursuing an organ degree or organ minor) To increase the scholarship fund, maybe it would be possible to have a competition similar to that of NATS.

We could have various qualified judges to critique, and charge an entrance fee to each contestant. Open the competition to all organ students in SC and GA especially since the number of organ participants is probably far less than the number found in other musical avenues.

The competition could have various categories and end with performances by finalists. We could hopefully use the new console at First Pres after its installed.....it will have 500 levels of memory, 4 manuals, and a great performance venue. The entrance fees for the competition would go directly to the scholarship fund.

3) putting together a musical program to reach out to the nursing homes in the area once during the summer....more of a lighthearted, fun program to lift up those shut in and for us to show other talents than just performing at the console.

4) seeing if we could have an organ crawl specifically directed at school age kids and young people. Maybe it would be possible to collaborate with local schools and churches to make this a possibility...

I hope these ideas might work for our chapter or inspire members to expound upon the above statements so that we may continue to thrive and hopefully grow.

There is so much talent and potential around us. I'm thrilled to be a part of this organization, and explore these avenues together.

Chad A. Martin

**GILBERT G. CAMPBELL**, Chapter Secretary, is a native of Boston Massachusetts. He received a BA degree in music history and theory from Trinity College-Hartford, and an MBA in International Business from Columbia University in New York City. His career was in fixed income investment research and management. At the time of his retirement in 2003 he was a senior vice president and head of corporate credit research at Citigroup Investments in New York City.



Gil began his musical studies at age 7 with his mother, and subsequently studied piano and organ under Alexander Cleary in Topsfield MA, and Clarence Watters at Trinity College. He has served as a Church organist since age 15, and has been an active recitalist and accompanist throughout his

life. Gil currently serves as Organist for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Hilton Head Island SC and Savannah GA.

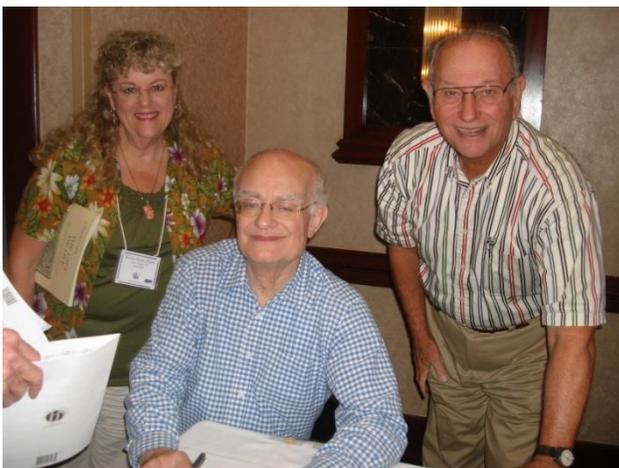
Gil is married to Marriett T. Campbell and they are the parents of four children and grandparents of nine, including triplet boys.

**GARY RAKESTRAW** has been a member of the AGO for 44 years in Knoxville, Savannah, Charleston, and Low Country Chapters. He served two terms as Sub-Dean of the Savannah Chapter, two terms as Secretary and is in his second term as Treasurer of the Low Country Chapter. Gary holds B.M. and M.Ed. degrees plus the Service Playing Certificate. He has served various churches as Music Director and Organist for the past 48 years.

Gary would like to see each member and friend of the Low Country Chapter actively involved and working toward fulfilling the AGO Mission Statement. He would like for the board to set long-range plans for projects, programs, events, and budgets for the following year so that the membership can offer input and be prepared to approve at the annual meeting each May.



**ART PERRY** has served on the board in the past as Treasurer for 8 years. He is the Music Director and Organist for the chapels at USMCRD Parris Island (17 years) and USMC Air Station, Beaufort. He has served many other churches in the area since moving here in 1978.



Art believes the chapter should work on developing more inclusiveness of all our members and offer programs that help each member improve their own skills and knowledge. I would like to see the chapter involved equally north and south of the Broad River and continue its community outreach programs. The chapter should function within the budget.

(Art is on the right, along with his wife Kathy and John Rutter at the Hinshaw Music Conference this past August.)

## More Musical Events

**Choral Evensong, Sunday, February 7 at St. John's Church, Episcopal**, One West Macon St., Savannah, GA. Prelude music will begin at 5:05 pm with works of Barber, Albrecht, Johanson and Lioncour for organ and saxophone featuring Carolyn Bryan. Celebrating Candlemas (The Feast of the Presentation of Christ in the Temple), the 5<sup>th</sup> of 7 evensongs, the St. John's Choir under the direction of Organist/Choirmaster Steven Branyon will bring to life the music of Hegenbart, Ouseley and Stanford, singing the glorious setting in G of his Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis. A reception will follow. More information: 912-232-1251.

**James O'Donnell**, Organist and Master of the Choristers at Westminster Abbey, will be playing an organ concert on Sunday, February 14, 2016, 3:00 pm, at Byrnes Auditorium, **Winthrop University**, Rock Hill, SC.

**Jubilee Boys and Girls Choir, Friday February 19 at 5:30 pm at Providence Presbyterian Church**, 171 Cordillo Parkway, Hilton Head Island. **Jubilee Boys and Girls Choir** was founded with children at Wangsung Presbyterian Church, Seoul, South Korea with the purpose of a sound education and mission through music. In this 2<sup>nd</sup> trip to HHI, they will visit various communities including Brookdale, The Preston, The Cypress, Memory Matters, Tide Pointe, Bloom Belfair, Baptist Church of Beaufort, Hilton Head Preparatory School, Benton house, Indigo Pines, and Providence Presbyterian Church. They will sing Christian, Korean Traditional and Classical music. As part of Providence Presents Series, there is free admission to this concert; a free will offering will be graciously accepted.

**Presbyterian College Choir and Ringers, Monday, February 29 at 6:30 pm at Providence Presbyterian Church**, 171 Cordillo Parkway, Hilton Head Island. 49 singers and handbell ringers from the Presbyterian College, Clinton, SC will give a concert at Providence. In this spring tour, they travel with a full complement of 5.5 octaves of handbells and 6 octaves of choir chimes. Their repertoire is sacred and runs the gamut from "classical" to contemporary. As part of Providence Presents Series, there is free admission to this concert; a free will offering will be graciously accepted.

The Atlanta Chapter of the American Guild of Organists is proud to announce the **2016 Pipe Organ Encounter** to be held Sunday, July 24-Friday, July 29, 2016 in Atlanta, Georgia. The Atlanta Chapter will accept 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. Watch our website for future announcements. 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)

# 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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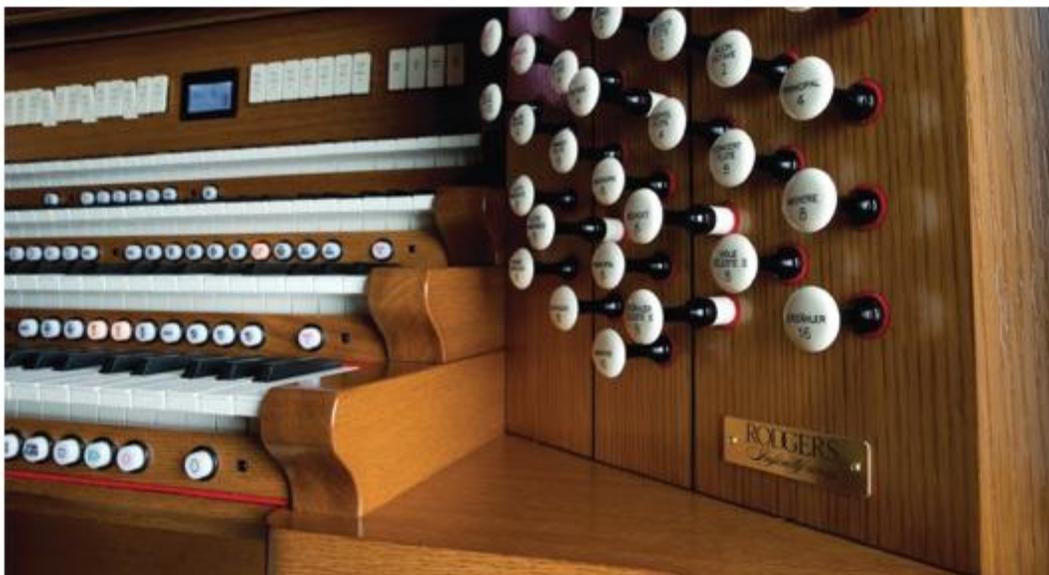
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Tallowood Baptist (IV/93) Houston, TX  
Re-engineer and Complete Organ (2013)



Iglesia ni Cristo (IV/50) Philippines  
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)  
Galveston, TX - New Organ  
Greek Orthodox  
Atlanta, GA - New Console & Additions  
First United Methodist  
Opp, AL - Water Damage Repairs

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how can we help you?**

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