

PIPELINES

NASHVILLE CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS
MAY 2024



NOTES FROMM DON

A Butterfly...

A recurring dream for me is that my enjoyment of gardening won't be hit or miss. It will seem as though I have two green thumbs. Plants will flourish no matter how and where I put them. My lawn will be green and thick, with no weeds or mismatched grass. People will walk by commenting on how glorious it all looks.

Unfortunately, I don't expect this dream to come true anytime soon. I continue to battle with unwanted vines, weeds, insects, and the like. Some days I feel I am winning, and other days—well, let's just say I won't get an award for an outstanding garden or yard. But with this fantasy of my yard being the envy of all comes an interest in reading about the topic. One magazine that is intent on letting me in on the secrets of the perfect garden had a quote by Nathaniel Hawthorne that I liked:

*Happiness is like a butterfly which, when pursued,
is always beyond our grasp, but,
if you will sit down quietly, may alight upon you.*

Like my wishes for my garden, I find I often come to worship with my "wants." I reduce it to what I need rather than meeting and experiencing God. So often we come to worship with needs, hurts, or even joys, and we demand God's attention. But perhaps if, as in Hawthorne's quote, we sit down quietly and center our minds and hearts to come before the living God, then God's presence and word might "alight upon" us. We don't need to pursue God, as God is always with us. But our fast-paced lives and frenetic existences don't always allow us to remember that.

Notes from Don continued on page 4

MAY PROGRAM

CHORAL SERVICE WITH INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

MONDAY, MAY 6

First Lutheran Church
113 8th Avenue South, Nashville

Dinner reservations, **due by midnight of Tuesday, April 30**

can be made online at www.nashvilleago.org (click on "Dinner Reservations")

Cost is \$14.

6:00 PM

Mini Class with Peter Rogahn on Using forScore (Chapel)

6:30 PM

Dinner of fried chicken, smashed potatoes, Italian green beans, summer salad, cornbread muffins, and banana pudding (Fellowship Hall)

7:30 PM

Choral Service with Installation of Officers (Sanctuary)

Parking Information*

First Lutheran Church is located on the west side of 8th Avenue South, between McGavock and Demonbreun (one block south of Broadway). Parking, including handicap spaces, is available by the church. There is additional parking in the lot south of the church (same side of 8th) across McGavock. Although this a pay lot, do not pay, as it is free for us. Do not park on the Demonbreun side of the lot or in the lot on 8th Avenue across from the church.

**email pipelines@nashvilleago.org for printable map*



Our final chapter meeting will be a Service of Solemn Evensong including the Spicer Responses, choral anthems by Wood, Rutter, and Hansen, and congregational singing, including the classic hymn "How Shall I Sing That Majesty." Kristen Hansen will be the service organist, and Andrew Risinger will conduct the Sanctuary Choir of West End United Methodist Church. The service will also include the installation of new officers.

The Sanctuary Choir of West End United Methodist Church sings for the weekly 8:45 a.m. service at West End. Consisting of approximately 24 singers, both volunteer and professional, this group also offers seasonal services of Evensong and on occasion collaborates with West End's Chancel Choir in performing concerts.



Andrew Risinger is organist and associate minister of music of West End United Methodist Church and an adjunct member of the music faculty at Belmont University. He earned degrees from Baylor University, where he studied organ with Joyce Jones, and from the University of Alabama, where he studied organ with J. Warren Hutton and choral conducting with Sandra Willetts. Risinger is organ curator for the Schermerhorn Symphony Center and organist for the Nashville Symphony. A prizewinner in several competitions, he has given recitals throughout the United States. His performances have been heard on National Public Radio broadcasts of *Performance Today* as well as on *Pipedreams*.



Kristen Hansen

Notes from Don continued from page 1

When you look at the world, there is seemingly a crush of information on how to achieve happiness or where to find it. However, it usually results in you exchanging money for someone's book or CD, getting a little nip and tuck from the surgeon, wearing the latest fashions, or driving the most expensive car. Ultimately, like the butterfly, our perceived happiness flutters away. I think Hawthorne knew the human nature of wanting something and pursuing it to have it now.

The ability to make music is a real gift from God. It doesn't always come easily or quickly. But when we take the time to work hard and dig deeper, that elusive butterfly alights upon us, and we experience God finding true joy in what we play or sing in service. The music we offer gives wings not only to our own souls and innermost thoughts, but also to those who listen.

I hope that you might live your life a little less frenetically, take time to center yourself, and truly enjoy your gift of music as you share it with others. As God is in your creating, God is also in worship and the world. So, the next time I am eradicating a weed with vengeance, I'm going to take a moment to enjoy God's creation in the flower or leaf nearby. I hope you take a moment to find God in your world.

Take care—Don



ONCE UPON A TIME - HISTORY NOTES

by Julia Callaway

Throughout the 90 years of the Nashville AGO Chapter, many well-known and wonderful organists and choral directors have traveled to Nashville to present programs for chapter meetings. We cannot begin to list all the many performers of international standing, but below are some names you might recognize. Some have performed in Nashville more than once.

1930s: Pietro Yon

1940s: Claire Coci

1951: Virgil Fox (Vanderbilt Neely Auditorium)

1980s: Marie-Claire Alain, Catherine Crozier, Marilyn Keiser, Paul Manz, Gillian Weir (West End UMC), and Marilyn Mason (First Baptist Church)

2006 onward: Gerre Hancock, Bruce Neswick, John Scott, Calvin Taylor, Bálint Karosi, Doug Cleveland, Janette Fishell, Isabelle Demers, Carol Williams, and Olivier Latry (West End UMC)

2020 onward: David Cherwien, Olivier Latry (Madison Street UMC), and Vincent Dubois (Covenant Presbyterian)

Chapter programs each year usually include an international organist and are always well attended.

Next time, we will review the history of some of the oldest pipe organs in our area. You can visit our website for a complete list of organs and a couple of videos of the instruments.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

by Jennie Smith



LISA BARRY inherited her interest in music from her mother, who was a pianist, and her father, who was a longtime band director in Nashville. Lisa and her four siblings all had to study piano. After graduating from Belmont College with a music degree, she was a missionary for two years at North Brazil Baptist Theological Seminary, where she taught organ and accompanied the choirs and voice students. She became fluent in Portuguese. Later, she obtained her master's degree from Scarritt, studying with Wilma Jensen.

Lisa has worked for 15 years at the United Methodist Publishing House in intellectual property, where she is the expert on all book author contracts and royalties, including the royalties and licensing for the United Methodist Hymnal. She is a watercolorist and loves reading, walking, and volleyball. She gave up her church job for Lent.



ROBERT KLINGBEIL grew up in Marietta, Georgia, graduated from Rhodes College as a music major, attended seminary for a year and a half, realized that wasn't for him, and then earned a master's degree in piano from the University of Memphis. He was organist and choir director for nine years at First Presbyterian Church in Memphis.

Having been adopted as a child, when he married and he and his wife were expecting their first child, he became interested in finding his father. Through acquaintances and his work at Steinway, at age 32 he found his biological father, who was living in California—and was also a musician and working at Steinway! Both now work at Steinway in Nashville. Such a happy story.

Robert is the consummate all-American father of two boys, loves camping, their golden retriever, and working with the Cub and Boy Scouts.

BE AMBASSADORS

Our chapter presents many outstanding programs featuring excellent choral and organ music. Some by our own members and others by renowned artists. We need your help to spread the word. If you have a position in a church, we encourage you to include an invitation to our events in your newsletters, bulletins, and email blasts to attend the programs that follow the dinner. We especially encourage you to invite your choir members to our events. If you are in a school setting, invite your students. What an opportunity to bring a new audience to the organ! Our programs are listed in each issue of Pipelines and on our website. If you want more information, just ask. Do become an ambassador for our chapter and help us to reach out into the Nashville community.

THE BULLETIN BOARD - MEMBER NEWS & SUNDRIES

We thank **Dale Nickell** for recording and uploading the February 5 Members' Recital to our YouTube channel. Please visit NashvilleAGO.org, scroll down, and click the link to our YouTube channel to hear the recital. Please encourage others to visit.



The daughter of a New Jersey Ford Motor Company CEO and a schoolteacher named Iris, **Siri** (Iris retrograde) **Sokol** was born with perfect pitch in 1953. A disappointed Girl Scout Brownie recruited for the Ed Sullivan Show but preempted by the Beatles found her way into the heart of Maestro Eugene Ormandy of the Philadelphia Orchestra in 1964 to appear with young David Finckle as a Young Persons Concerto winner. Spanning the next few decades with numerous concerto performances throughout the Tri-State Area, Miss Siri performed her "swan song," the Schumann Piano Concerto, in a gala 40th anniversary symphony concert in honor of her father, who served on the Board of Directors of their hometown community orchestra. Dr. Sokol has been a member of the New Haven Chapter of the AGO for nearly 20 years since leaving the faculty of Marist College, where she directed the Chapel Choir as a leave replacement in 2007.

Ken Varner is the Worship and Music Associate/Organist at Nashville First Baptist Church. We are glad to welcome him back to the chapter.

The Chattanooga AGO Chapter is hosting a POE+ (Pipe Organ Encounters for Adults) June 9–14, 2024. If you are interested in attending, you may go to their website, agochattanooga.org/poeplus, or ask Don Marler to email you a brochure. Also, consider encouraging someone you know who may have an interest in the organ to attend.

From Our April 8 Meeting

Accessible Choral Music for Youth and Adults—Gayle Sullivan



Don Marler, Darryl Miller, guest artist Vincent Dubois, Samuel Metzger, and Wilma Jensen in front.



YOUR GIFTS CAN BENEFIT OUR CHAPTER

Nashville AGO members and friends are encouraged to make an extra contribution to either help underwrite the programs for the year or support the Endowment or Discretionary Funds. This may be done at NashvilleAGO.org, AGOhq.org, or by check. Your gift may also be made in memory or honor of someone. If you use a credit card, consider making your donation through the national website, as it saves our chapter the credit card expense. You do this by logging into your account then choosing “make a contribution”; from there, scroll down and you will see the funds for the Nashville Chapter.

Why are we encouraging you to give extra to the chapter? Our budget has various sources of income to support its expenditures. The budgeted income from additional gifts to the general fund for chapter expenses is \$4,000. However, to date we have only received \$1,130. Pre-COVID, we did receive the budgeted amount. So we are greatly under the amount needed to fully fund our budget. Any amount you contribute to the General Fund (chapter expenses) would be greatly appreciated.

Your additional support helps our chapter champion outstanding organ and choral music in our city. We wish to thank these people who have already contributed, and we hope others will join.

SUPPORTER (\$1–\$49)

Julia Callaway
Sarah Gebhardt
Marjorie Proctor

DONOR (\$50–\$99)

Lisa Barry
Jeffrey Scofield
John Todd
Rachel Ward
John Wells

PATRON (\$100–\$499)

Joyce Byrd
Rocky Craft
Charlotte Hughes
Wilma Jensen
Felix Montgomery
Gary Scott
Jonathan Setzer
Richard Shadinger
William Taylor
Eric Wyse

SUSTAINER (\$500–\$999)

Frances Hall
Don Marler

BENEFACTOR (\$1,000 up)

APRIL 2024

4/26/24, 7:30 p.m.

Selections from G.F. Handel's Messiah
Sewanee Symphony Orchestra and University
Choir

All Saints' Chapel, Sewanee

All are welcome. No ticket is needed.

4/29/24, 4:00 p.m.

Eastertide Solemn Choral Evensong
Cathedral Choir

Canon Dr. Michael Velting, Director, Dr. Malcolm
Matthews, Organ

Organ concert at 3:30 pm

Christ Church Cathedral

900 Broadway 37203, Nashville

4/28/24, 6:00 p.m.

In Excelsis Concert Series presents: Hymn Festival

Favorite hymns from the Episcopal tradition led by
the Choir & Choristers of St. George's

St. George's Episcopal Church

4715 Harding Pike, Nashville

MAY 2024

5/12/24, 5:00 p.m.

Choral Evensong

Choir and Choristers of St. George's

St. George's Episcopal Church

4715 Harding Pike, Nashville

5/15/24, 9:15 p.m.

Compline

Led by the Choir of St. George's

St. George's Episcopal Church

4715 Harding Pike, Nashville

5/19/24, 7:00 p.m.

Organ Recital

Ken Cowan

First Presbyterian Church, Franklin

101 Legends Club Road, Franklin



ARTS CALENDAR COORDINATOR:

Robert Klingbeil calendar@nashvilleago.org



PIPELINES DEADLINE

The following are the deadlines and publication dates for Pipelines. If you wish to contribute to Pipelines, have something for Member News and Bulletin Board (an honor, a recognition, a publication, notable event, or something available to the membership), or want an event listed in the Arts Calendar, be aware of these deadlines.

Submission Deadline - April 12

Publication Date - April 22

POSITION OPENINGS

Central Christian Church, Murfreesboro is seeking a skilled Church Organist/Choir Director to lead our music program. This individual will play the organ (3 manual Rodgers) and piano, direct the small choir during Sunday services, maintain the church music library, and collaborate with the pastor on music selection. The successful candidate will have knowledge of excellent church music, manage rehearsals, and actively contribute to the church's worship planning. Please submit your resume, cover letter, and any supporting materials to Central Christian Church to the attention of Rev. Kyle Harris at 404 E. Main St. Murfreesboro, TN 37130 or email at revkylet@gmail.com.

Ebenezer Presbyterian Church, Rock Hill, SC, is seeking a full-time organist & music director. Responsibilities include planning and preparation of appropriate organ and choral music for one weekly Sunday morning service and instrumental (organ or piano) music for one weekly Sunday evening service, as well as two children's choirs and the option of handbell choir. Candidate should have a Bachelor of Music in organ, piano, voice, sacred music, or music education; music-related advanced degree and/or expertise in choral conducting, organ, or sacred music strongly preferred. Strong organizational and planning skills. Salary, benefits, and continuing education stipend commensurate with education, skills, and experience. Salary range before benefits is \$50,000-\$60,000. Please refer to the following link for application directions, full job description, and full organ specifications. <https://ebenezerarp.org/sermons-other-resources/job-opening-music-ministryorganis>. Questions may be sent to Elizabeth Mixon at bmixon@comporium.net.

The Episcopal Church of the Resurrection, Franklin, TN, seeks to call an organist / choirmaster with superb musical and leadership skills who is committed to excellence in liturgical worship and will serve as an integral member of our ministry staff. This half-time position (approx. 20 hrs/per week) has a salary of \$35,000-\$40,000 plus benefits. Resurrection is a congregation re-planted in 2016 with a current Sunday attendance of 120-140, a choir of ten to twelve with four to six paid choral scholars. The church is committed to grow in the Anglican choral tradition as a ministry to its parishioners and neighbors. Contact Lee Spitzer, chair of search committee. leespitzer@msn.com.

The Episcopal Church of the Resurrection, Loudon, TN, is seeking a part-time Organist/Music Director. This is a mid-sized Episcopal parish, and applicants should be prepared to work in the Episcopal/Anglican musical tradition. Duties include playing the organ and directing the choir for the 10:30 Sunday service and weekly choir rehearsal, as well as special services during the church year. Music will be selected in collaboration with the Rector and there is a weekly staff meeting. Salary is negotiable, with paid vacation and sick leave, as well as eligibility for lay pension participation. For further inquiries, contact The Rev. Amy Morehous, Rector at rector@episcopalloudon.com or at 865-986-2390.

First Methodist Church, Manchester, is seeking an organist/pianist (can be one person or two) to work cooperatively with the Director of Music and Media for Sunday morning worship services, rehearsals with the praise band on Tuesday night and the sanctuary choir on Wednesday night, as well as funerals, weddings and other special services. Qualifications include experience with blended style worship services and keyboard proficiency including accompanying, sight-reading and transposition. Applicants should have the ability to communicate well and to work as a team member. Please send resume to: manchesterfirstmethodistchurch@gmail.com or call the church office at 931-728-4624.

First United Methodist Church, Madisonville, KY, is seeking a part-time Organist / Accompanist Music Associate (15-20 hours per week). Duties include accompanying the traditional 9:00 AM service each Sunday and assisting the Director of Music Ministries in organizing and planning various musical activities and performances. Qualifications include performance abilities on the organ and piano, choral experience preferred, a music degree (Bachelor's) or equivalent experience and an active Christian faith. Interested applicants should send a cover letter detailing their interest in the position and qualifications, along with a résumé and performance video links to heejung.park@m1umc.org or axes97@gmail.com.

POSITION OPENINGS

First United Methodist Church, Columbia, is seeking a part-time pianist and/or organist. This position is designed to enhance the church's music ministry by providing organ/piano music and accompanying the choir at regularly scheduled church functions, including worship services and rehearsals. The weekly commitment will include playing at the Sunday morning worship services and Wednesday choir practice and personal practice time. Funerals, weddings or other events are determined by availability and are paid separately. To apply send a resume and cover letter to Rush Harrison, Church Administrator, 222 West 7th Street, Columbia TN 38401 or email rharrison@columbiafumc.org.

First United Methodist Church, Hendersonville, TN, is searching for a part-time Director of Music who will work with the Worship Committee and pastors to create meaningful weekly worship encounters to share the Gospel. The Director of Music will provide leadership to the chancel choir and assist in leading the music for weekly traditional worship services and other special worship services, as well as provide mentoring to other music leaders in the church. To apply contact Randy Friend at randy.friend@hfumc.org or 615-824-8725, extension 113.

Grace Episcopal Church, Hopkinsville, KY, is seeking an Organist/Choirmaster. Interested applicants should contact Rev. Stephen Spicer at 270-885-8757. Additional information about the Estey pipe organ is available on the church's website at gracehopkinsville.org and on Facebook at [GraceHopkinsville, Ky.](https://www.facebook.com/GraceHopkinsville)

The Parish of St. Mark & St. Paul (formerly Otey Memorial) in Sewanee, TN, seeks an organist/choir director to begin work preferably between June and August 2024. Please see the full posting at www.stmarkstpaul.org.

Highland Baptist Church, Louisville, KY, is searching for a part-time Organist/Music Associate to serve as organist/accompanist for worship services and choir rehearsals, as well as to assist the Associate Pastor for Music and Worship. Minimum qualifications include a master's degree in music (a combination of education and experience may be substituted if excellent keyboard skills are demonstrated), as well as church music experience. Also considered are good leadership, communication and interpersonal skills, the ability to work with diverse populations, and experience with layout and design software (use of Sibelius preferred). Highland Baptist is an open and affirming congregation associated with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship and the Alliance of Baptists. Further information is available at www.youtube.com/highlandbaptist. Interested persons may contact Rev. Dr. Paul Henderson, Associate Pastor of Music & Worship at paul@hbcloouisville.org.

Stephens Valley Church, Nashville is seeking a permanent organist/pianist. Responsibilities include accompanying the Music Director and choir on Wednesday evening choir rehearsals from 6:40 – 8:10 pm (8:30 pm seasonal) and one service on Sunday mornings at 10:40 am. Run-through with the choir is at 10 am or with an occasional instrumental ensemble at 9:30 am. Certain special programs may require Saturday rehearsals and/or Sunday evening concerts. Music for each Sunday service includes Organ Preludes, Communion music, Hymns and Postludes. Choral anthems may require Organ or Piano. Salary is commensurate with education, skills and experience. For further information, please call Charles Heimermann at 615-593-1042 or email charlieh@stephensvalleychurch.com.