Dean’s Musings

Two of the hallmarks of successful individuals is that they "think outside the box" and take advantage of opportunities when they present themselves. We have a wonderful opportunities coming up on in the next two months to practice these traits.

1. Our **Monday, February 27** meeting (see box below) is designed to make us think of ways to save money, deal with declining choir numbers and coming to grips with the changes of the 21st century. Judy Connelly has assembled several individuals with impressive backgrounds to help us think creatively about these problems. Since all of these problems involve the clergy we are inviting them to be part of this process. Sooo---talk to your minister, get the date on his calendar, and bring him/her to this meeting.

2. **Saturday, March 11**, (please see feature below) which, if taken advantage of, might radically improve the sound of our choirs. On this date, **Marilyn Shenenberger** will present a workshop for choir directors and singers. Marilyn has been conducting these workshops for the past twenty years with great success. They are helpful, informative and fun. Three of our members have attended her sessions, and all have wonderful things to say about how helpful they were. You can read Marilyn's impressive resumé below as printed by GIA, which publishes some of her works. Again, do bring some choir members. They will learn a lot, and they will help us to learn. **TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS OPPORTUNITY—YOU WON'T BE SORRY!**

♫ **Upgrade your Choir 2.0 ♫**

Improve musicality, intonation, and healthy singing without brow-beating your singers!
Come to Upgrade Your Choir 2.0 for an engaging morning of new solutions for old Problems.
Saturday, March 11  9:00 a.m. – noon. First Presbyterian Church, Winchester.

*Marilyn Shenenberger*, clinician
1 Chronicles 25:1-2

1. David, together with the commanders of the army, set apart some of the sons of Asaph, Heman and Jeduthun for the ministry of prophesying, accompanied by harps, lyres and cymbals. Here is the list of the men who performed this service:

2. From the sons of Asaph: Zakkur, Joseph, Nethaniah and Asarelah. The sons of Asaph were under the supervision of Asaph, who prophesied under the king’s supervision.

[Ensuing verses record similar lists. At length, 285 musicians and singers are appointed to make music in the Temple of the Lord. – Ed.]

I’m reading through the Bible again, going through Chronicles now with its endless lists of names. For a Jew, these lists are priceless, serving as a connection to their connection to their Jewish roots. For me, a Gentile, they’re something I usually skim through, not trying to pronounce the names out loud -- just looking for something interesting. One word in the above passage caught my attention: prophesying as musicians. I know I must have read it before, but this time it became my focus.

I am a musician, and began playing the organ in church back when I was 11. It made me terribly nervous at first, but I was good enough to fulfill the needs of my little rural South Dakota church. The organ was in the front of the church, close to the lectern where Scriptures were read.

I believe that Scriptures teach that women are not to be ordained ministers. However, I found it greatly satisfying to be up there, helping to lead the worship through music.

Martin Luther was a musician and songwriter. A Renaissance man, he lived before the age of the organ, but he was proficient at playing the lute. Early in his life, he sometimes supplemented his meager income by being a street minstrel, singing and playing for people’s donations. There are many deeply meaningful hymns in our hymnal that he wrote, proclaiming the Word of God in music. “Ein feste Burg,” A Mighty Fortress is probably his most famous. He is known to have stated that the Word is the most important thing in worship, followed by music.

When I read in I Chronicles that David appointed musicians that were to “prophesy” in worship, it spoke what I’ve always felt: through my offering of music, God was speaking to the people’s hearts. I didn’t write the words of the hymns, but helped the people to build up their faith through singing.

I looked the verse up in different versions of the Bible. KJV, ESV and NIV. All used the term “prophesy”. Other versions used the term ministry. To me, “prophesy” best says what I’ve strived to do. Not the foretelling of future events, but the “forthtelling” of what God wants his people to know and live by.

Bach initialed many of his manuscripts with the letters SDG – Soli Deo Gloria. “To God Alone the Glory.” May I also strive to glorify God in my music, my relationships, my actions, my words. Soli Deo Gloria.

Roberta Hilgendorf
Copied with permission

(Roberta Krause was a schoolmate chum of mine at Concordia College [now University] in Seward, Nebraska. I played for her wedding to Bill Hilgendorf in that little South Dakota church on New Year’s Day, 1971. Both have had fruitful careers as teachers in Lutheran schools, and now serve as ambitious missionaries in rural Alaska. ~ Editor)
Sunday, February 5, 3:00 p.m. The St. Olaf Choir
The Music Center at Strathmore, Bethesda, MD.
Ticket information at stolaf.edu/tickets.
“This is what heaven sounds like.” ~ Daniel Hannemann

Sunday, February 12, 3:00 p.m. Orion Weiss, piano.
World of the Piano series, Shenandoah Conservatory. Armstrong Hall. $
“Every rhythmic device, every piquant harmony was in place, driven by a remarkable musical intelligence working through fingers of astonishing strength and agility. It was simply breathtaking, defying further analysis.” -Herald-Tribune (Sarasota, Florida)

Monday, February 13, 7:00 p.m. Mondays at Seven series at Orchard Ridge:
The Chapel at the Village at Orchard Ridge, 400 Clocktower Ridge Drive, Winchester
The monthly organ recital at the Village at Orchard Ridge, presented by the Winchester chapter of the American Guild of Organists will be held Monday, February 13 at 7:00 pm. A different approach will be utilized for this concert in which performers will attempt to recreate a house concert of the type that might have been presented at the Vanderbilt or Rockefeller estates—homes that contained house organs. Around the turn of the 20th century, one sign of significant wealth was a mansion with a house pipe organ. These instruments were used to play the popular airs of the day; orchestral, operatic, and piano transcriptions. They accompanied singers, instrumentalists, and provided music for dancing. The music that we think of today as “organ music”--Bach, Handel, Widor etc.--was rarely heard in these settings. The instruments were used to entertain and accompany the lives of the very wealthy.

Thusly, Dr. Karen Keating and Mr. Jason Largent will play all manner of transcriptions, including the William Tell Overture and Meditation from Thais. The organ will be used to accompany singers in popular love songs of the era in the spirit of Valentines Day. Well-known compositions, such as Danny Boy, The Swan, and the “Wedding March” from Mendelssohn's Midsummer Night's Dream will round out the program.

It will be a fun evening, full of beloved, well-known melodies and music for the Valentines season.

The St. Olaf Choir
Happy St. Valentine’s Day! A common hagiography describes Saint Valentine as a priest of Rome or as the former Bishop of Terni, Narnia and Amelia, a town of Umbria, in central Italy. While under house arrest of Judge Asterius, and discussing his faith with him, Valentine (the Latin version of his name) was discussing the validity of Jesus. The judge put Valentine to the test and brought to him the judge’s adopted blind daughter. If Valentine succeeded in restoring the girl's sight, Asterius would do whatever he asked. Valentine laid his hands on her eyes and the child's vision was restored. Immediately humbled, the judge asked Valentine what he should do. Valentine replied that all of the idols around the judge's house should be broken, the judge should fast for three days, and then undergo baptism. The judge obeyed and as a result, freed all the Christian inmates under his authority. The judge, his family and his forty-four member household (family members and servants) were baptized. Valentine was later arrested again for continuing to proselytize and was sent to the prefect of Rome, to the emperor Claudius Gothicus (Claudius II) himself. Claudius took a liking to him until Valentine tried to convince Claudius to embrace Christianity, whereupon Claudius refused and condemned Valentine to death, commanding that Valentine either renounce his faith or he would be beaten with clubs, and beheaded. Valentine refused; he was executed February 14, 269. Traditions regarding Valentine and romance arose in England about the time of Chaucer. (Wikipedia)

**“Thinking Outside the Box” - A Look at Church Music in the 21st Century**

**Clergy/ Musician Dinner** - Monday, February 27, 6:00 p.m, Wesley United Methodist Church
527 Van Fosson St, Winchester, VA 22601

*Dr. Heather Ankerbrand*, host

We will focus on 3 areas:
1. The Use of Choirs (adult & kids) handbells
2. Global/Contemporary music
3. Saving Money

Attendees will choose 1 session

The Itinerary for the evening will be:
20 min. Breakout session for each group - presentation and discussion with guest and local facilitators.
30 min. Soup and Sandwich Dinner and discussion - (Need volunteers to bring soup, sandwiches and desserts.) Please email judy@braddockstreetumc.org.

Short Presentation by each group

**Guest Speakers**

1. **Choirs (adult & kids) handbells**

**Rev. Dr. Jack Martin** - Dr. Martin is a graduate of Westminster Choir College. He holds a BM and MM in piano performance and entered a DMA program prior to entering the clergy. He is the founder of the Manassas Chorale, now an auditioned ensemble of 100+ voices. He is a member of the Virginia Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church, serving as senior pastor at Annandale United Methodist Church, and District Superintendent for regions in the conference.

2. **Global/Contemporary Music**

**Rev. Joanna Deitz** - Joanna is a graduate of Hartt School of Music, University of Hartford. and Wesley Seminary in Washington, D.C. Joanna has served as music director for several churches, as well as a music teacher in the Fairfax Co. School System. Most recently, she has been the music director for the Virginia Annual Conference, designing all worship services for the June sessions. Presently, Joanna serves as the Minister of Missions.

3. **Saving Money**

**Wendy Oesterling** - WAGO member serving as the Director of Development for Bethania Kids. Wendy graduated from Kodaikanal School, is a church musician serving Emmanuel Episcopal Church, Middleburg, VA. Her experience includes working in sales and marketing for 25 years, and teaching high school music for the last 13 years. In addition, she has served as managing director and artistic director for choral ensembles. She resides in Winchester with her husband Jim Green.

---Continued below----
Sunday, Feb. 19, 4:00 p.m. **Cool Jazz on a Cold Afternoon** will be the first concert of the 2017 Christ Church (Millwood, VA) Concert series, featuring Marilyn Shenenberger. Light refreshments to follow. Admission is free. For more information, please contact Carol Westervelt at carolwestervelt@hotmail.com.

Sunday, February 19, 4:00 p.m. Music on the Corner Concert Series, First Baptist Church, Washington and Piccadilly Sts., Winchester. **The Fiddle and the Faith: Music of Southern Appalachia.** SU professor Mike Maher and Terence Marciano. Free will offering, reception following the concert.

**SAVE THE DATE** for the following:
- **Concert by The American Boychoir,** Friday, April 7 at 8:00 p.m., Armstrong Concert Hall, SU. Sponsored by the Arts Chorale of Winchester. Suggested donation $20./ children 12 and under free.

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**Who is this Marilyn Shenenberger??**

**Saturday, March 11, 9:00 a.m. – noon**  
Upgrade your Choir 2.0

First Presbyterian Church, 116 S Loudoun St., Winchester

The Winchester Chapter of the AGO is pleased to announce a **choral workshop** for its members and members of their choirs. It will be conducted by new member, **Marilyn Shenenberger,** who recently retired here from Westminster Choir College. Marilyn was assistant to Dr James Jordan, one of the foremost teachers of conducting in America. She herself is an author, composer, arranger, clinician, handbell authority, and a seasoned accompanist who has worked with a wide variety of vocal and instrumental soloists. We are very fortunate to have such an accomplished individual residing in this area.

Marilyn has presented workshops on choral techniques all over the US. She is knowledgeable, practical and fun, and her techniques have improved many a choir. The workshop is to be held at First Presbyterian, which has a large parking lot in the rear. Enter by the rear door. Loudoun Hall is immediately on your right. **Come and bring choir members.** You will glad you did.

More information to be forthcoming.

Marilyn Shenenberger, collaborative accompanist and arranger, has been an integral part of James Jordan's cutting-edge work in the field of Choral Ensemble Intonation. She has written and recorded the **Accompanist Supplement** for *The Choral Warm-Up Core Vocal Exercises* and *Learn to Listen,* a book designed to provide singers with a harmonic introduction to solfege. She is also co-author with Dr. Jordan of *Ear Training: Aural Immersion Exercises for Choirs.* Shenenberger holds a Master of Music in Choral Conducting from Westminster Choir College and a Dalcroze Teaching Certificate from the Dalcroze School of Music in Manhattan. Prior to her move to Winchester, in addition to her accompanying work at Westminster Choir College, she was principal organist at Morrisville Presbyterian Church (PA).

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**Marcia Merry** - is choir director/organist at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Leesburg, VA, where she has been since 2000. Before that, she was at St. Matthews Episcopal Church in Sterling, VA for seven years. She is a graduate of the Church Music Institute, and active in community music. A part-time/weekend church musician, her full time, pro-bono activity, is in promoting development and peace policy. Her latest project was producing the book, “The New Silk Road Becomes the World Land-Bridge” (2013.) She resides in Leesburg with her husband, Robert Baker.
**Sunday, March 26, 4:00 pm.** Music on the Corner Concert Series, First Baptist Church, Washington and Piccadilly Sts., Winchester. **Vocal recital.** Millicent Scarlett, soprano, and Robert Cantrell, bass-baritone. Free will offering, reception following the concert.

**Sunday, April 30, 4:00 pm.** Music on the Corner Concert Series, First Baptist Church, Washington and Piccadilly Sts., Winchester. **The Atlantic Reed Consort**, featuring local resident John Romano. Emily Snyder, oboe Brooke Emery, clarinet Jeremy Koch, saxophone John Romano, bass clarinet Eddie Sanders, bassoon Free will offering, reception following the concert.

**Monday, March 13, 7:00 p.m.** Mondays at Seven series at Orchard Ridge: **All-Bach Concert: Celebrating the 332nd Birthday of the Master:**
- Elizabeth Caluda, Piano;
- Daniel Hannemann, Organ, with Rick Pennington, Flute;
- Daniel Miller, Harpsichord
A presentation of the Winchester Chapter, American Guild of Organists.

The Chapel at the Village at Orchard Ridge, 400 Clocktower Ridge Drive, Winchester
Free. Come early for preferred parking and seating.

**Monday, June 5, 7:00 p.m.** Power Point / Lecture presentation: **Lutherland** Marking the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. Daniel Hannemann, presenter

**June 18-23 Church Music Institute**, Shenandoah University, focusing on adult choirs
**June 25-30 Church Music Institute**, Shenandoah University, focusing on children’s choirs and handbells
Contact Dr. Tom Mitts for more information 202-425-4586
PRIOR CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE AS OF JUNE 30, 2016: $2,463.27

EXPENSES

- Nathaniel Gumbs-Airline ticket $286.00
- Ronald Stolk-Evensong Honorarium $1,000.00
- BB&T monthly service charges checking account $28.00 (7 mos X 4.00/mo)
- Total expenses $1,314.00

INCOME

- Membership dues/Chapter portion $1,009.00
- Additional Income Progressive Dinner $472.98
- Total Income $1,481.98

CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE AS OF 1/27/2017: $2,631.25 ($3,709.25 including cash from Tours)

MONEY RAISED FROM CANDLELIGHT TOURS 12/26/2016

- Cash: $1,078.00 (deposited to Checking account)
- Checks payable to WATTS: $435.00 (to be given to WATTS)
- Check payable to Grace Lutheran Church: $20.00 (given to church for reimbursement)
- Total Income to be donated to WATTS program: $1,533.00

Breakdown by church
1. First Baptist Church $71.00
2. Christ Episcopal Church $330.00
3. Market St UMC $230.00
4. Grace Lutheran Church $170.00
5. Braddock St UMC $300.00
6. First Presbyterian Church $432.00

- Daniel Miller, Treasurer

Pipe Organ Encounter (POE) Corner

This summer, July 23-28, Winchester will be host to our 3rd Pipe Organ Encounter (POE). We expect to have 20 high school students from all over the U.S., attend an intense week of study through private lessons, workshops/masterclasses and recitals with a highly skilled faculty of artists. Each month, we will give you an update on the progress of this event, as well as opportunities for members to become involved.

To date, the following faculty and concert artists have indicated interest in participating - faculty contracts pending.

Steven Cooksey - SU Professor Emeritus
Ted Dix - McDaniel College Professor
Katelyn Emerson - 2016 National Winner
Julie Vidrick Evans - Chevy Chase Presbyterian
Nathaniel Gumbs - Recent WAGO recitalist
Donald Sutherland - Peabody Organ Professor

Felix Hell - Independent Concert Artist
Kaori Hongo - DMA, Oberlin Conservatory
Marvin Mills - Well-known D.C. organist
Thomas Mitts - SU Organ Professor
Jonathan Moyer - DMA. Oberlin Conservatory

Coordinators - Jeff Alban, Judy Connelly

To offer high level recitals/workshops, by headliner artists, we will have some expenses. If you would like to help with a financial donation, please send to Judy Connelly, Braddock St. UMC, 115 Wolfe St., Winchester, VA 22601.

Checks can be made out to WAGO - Winchester POE.

Please take the time to preview the brochure on the WAGO website or https://www.agohq.org/education/poe/poe/ and decide how you would like to help with this event.
R. A. Daffer Church Organs, Inc.

Since 1977, R. A. Daffer Church Organs, Inc. has been serving the Washington DC, Northern Virginia, Maryland, West Virginia, and Delaware area as the authorized Rodgers Instruments dealer. In addition to Rodgers, we represent Johnannus, and Ruffatti pipe organs.

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AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS
AWARDED $25,000 GRANT FROM THE
NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS

NEA Funding Will Support Educational Programming in 2017
and New Music Commissioned for the 2018 AGO National Convention in Kansas City, Mo.

NEW YORK CITY — The American Guild of Organists (AGO) has been awarded a grant by the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) to support educational programs and career development for organists, choral conductors, and composers in 2017, including new music commissioned for the AGO National Convention in Kansas City, Mo., July 2–6, 2018.

While the AGO has received regular support from the NEA since 2005, the $25,000 “Art Works” award is the largest grant the arts endowment has ever given to the Guild. “This grant covers the full breadth of the AGO’s educational activities for current and prospective members as well as our programs of outreach to the public,” stated AGO Executive Director James Thomashower. “The NEA’s funding sends an uplifting message to the entire organ community: our instrument and its music are vitally important to the American people. The award validates the AGO’s ongoing efforts to ensure that music for the organ is created by talented composers, performed by skilled musicians, and appreciated by the widest audience possible. It is an honor for the Guild to be recognized by the NEA, the most prestigious independent federal agency in the United States responsible for funding and promoting artistic excellence, creativity, and innovation.”

In December, the NEA announced that it will award more than $30 million to nonprofit organizations and individuals across the country in 2017. Nearly $26 million of that will be for Art Works, the NEA’s largest funding category. Art Works focuses on the creation of art that meets the highest standards of excellence, public engagement with diverse and excellent art, lifelong learning in the arts, and the strengthening of communities through the arts. The NEA will give 970 Art Works grants to organizations in 48 states, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. Virgin Islands in 2017. “The arts are for all of us, and by supporting these projects, the National Endowment for the Arts is providing more opportunities for the public to engage with the arts,” said NEA Chairman Jane Chu. “Whether in a theater, a town square, a museum, or a hospital, the arts are everywhere and make our lives richer.”

For a complete listing of projects recommended for Art Works grant support, please visit the NEA website at Arts.gov. For further information about the AGO’s educational programming, please visit the AGO website at agohq.org.
Eight Summer Programs for Teenagers and Adults
Will be Supported with Generous Funding from the Associated Pipe Organ Builders of America, the American Institute of Organbuilders, the Jordan Organ Endowment, and the NEA

NEW YORK CITY—The American Guild of Organists (AGO) is proud to announce four PIPE ORGAN ENCOUNTERS (POEs) for students aged 13–18, two POE (Advanced) for students entering grades 9–12; one POE (Technical) for students aged 16–23; and one POE+ for adults in 2017. Complete contact information for each weeklong Pipe Organ Encounter can be found in THE AMERICAN ORGANIST Magazine and online at agohq.org/education/poe. The summer schedule follows:

**POE for ages 13–18**
June 11–16 Sioux Center, Iowa
July 16–22 San Diego, Calif.
July 16–21 Hartford, Conn.
July 23–28 Winchester, Va.

**POE+ for adults**

**POE (Advanced) for grades 9–12**
June 25–30 Birmingham, Ala.
July 23–28 Seattle, Wash.

**POE (Technical) for ages 16–23**
July 9–14 Berkeley Lake, Ga.

The PIPE ORGAN ENCOUNTER (POE) is an introduction to the pipe organ through instruction in organ playing, repertoire, history, design, and construction. These regional summer music institutes for teenage students provide private and group instruction in service playing and solo repertoire, opportunities to learn about the musical heritage of various religious denominations, and a chance for young musicians to meet others with similar interests. Piano or organ proficiency ranging from intermediate to advanced is required. Scholarship assistance is available.

The POE (Advanced) provides intermediate to advanced classes in areas such as organ literature, history, pipe organ construction and design, music theory, improvisation, conducting, and service playing for students who have achieved a high level of success in organ study. Scholarship assistance is available.

The POE (Technical) is a program designed for students who are interested in learning the art and craft of organ building. The event is hosted in the workshop of an organ builder working in cooperation with a local AGO chapter.

The POE+ is a summer program filled with practical information and instruction for adult keyboard musicians interested in improving their service-playing skills. Participants will be introduced to basic organ skills through private instruction and classes. The weeklong experience will lead to greater confidence and competence at the organ.

Generous funding from the Associated Pipe Organ Builders of America (APOBA), the American Institute of Organbuilders (AIO), the Jordan Organ Endowment, and the National Endowment for the Arts will support the summer programs from coast to coast. “The AGO and APOBA have enjoyed a mutually beneficial relationship since 1975,” declared AGO Executive Director James Thomashower. “Likewise, the AIO has been active in supporting the Guild’s educational programs, beginning with their partnership in Pulling Out All the Stops, a video produced jointly by the AGO, AIO, APOBA, the Organ Historical Society, and the American Theater Organ Society in 1996. In addition, we are delighted to have received (continued)
support from the Jordan Organ Endowment at Columbus State University for our POE program, as well as a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts supporting our educational activities this year.”

POE site locations are selected by the AGO Committee on Pipe Organ Encounters and approved by the AGO National Council. Applications are available from AGO National Headquarters and online at agohq.org. The application deadline is February 1, 2017, for 2018 Pipe Organ Encounters.

**JOAN LIPPINCO**T TO BE HONORED AT AGO ENDOWMENT FUND DISTINGUISHED ARTIST AWARD RECITAL AND GALA BENEFIT RECEPTION IN PRINCETON

**Colleagues, Students, Loved Ones, and Friends from Across the Country Will Gather to Celebrate Her Lifetime Achievements at AGO Endowment Fund Benefit**

NEW YORK CITY — The American Guild of Organists (AGO) has selected internationally acclaimed organist and teacher JOAN LIPPINCO as the honoree for the 2017 AGO Endowment Fund Distinguished Artist Award Recital and Gala Benefit Reception on Friday, April 21, 2017, in Princeton, N.J. Complete information can be found online at Agohq.org/2017-gala.

The celebration will begin at 7:00 p.m. at Princeton University Chapel, where the honoree, joined by organists Scott Dettra and Eric Plutz, will play a recital that is free and open to the public. A Gala Benefit Reception (advance tickets required) will follow at Prospect House, the private dining club of Princeton University.

Joan Lippincott has been acclaimed as one of America’s outstanding organ virtuosos. She is professor emerita of organ at Westminster Choir College of Rider University and was principal university organist at Princeton University from 1993 to 2000. Her many recordings on the Gothic label include music of Bach, Duruflé, Mozart, Mendelssohn, Widor, Alain, and Pinkham. Lippincott’s most recent CD is J.S. Bach: Orgelbüchlein, recorded on the Fritts organ at Princeton Theological Seminary.

Gala sponsorship opportunities are available at the $10,000, $5,000, $2,500, and $1,000 levels. Full descriptions of sponsorship and benefits are available online at Agohq.org/2017-gala.

Gala Benefit Reception Tickets are $150 (75% tax deductible, includes preferred seating at the recital) and can be purchased online at Agohq.org/2017-gala or by calling 212-870-2311, ext. 4308. Gala Benefit Reception ticket sponsors will have their names printed in the commemorative program book. The deadline to be included is March 31.

Display Advertising opportunities are offered in the full-color commemorative program book and include inside and back covers ($1,500, each includes four gala tickets), full-page ($1,000, includes two gala tickets), and half-page ($500, includes one gala ticket) insertions. Congratulatory messages ($250, text only) are also available.

Advertising orders can be placed online at Agohq.org/2017-gala or by calling 212-870-2311, ext. 4308. The advertising deadline is March 31. E-mail gala@agohq.org for further information. The publication will become a part of the American Organ Archives.

Participate from a Distance by making a contribution to the AGO Endowment Fund in honor of Joan Lippincott. Contribute online at Agohq.org/2017-gala or by sending a check to: AGO Endowment Fund, 475 Riverside Drive, Suite 1260, New York, NY 10115. Contributions received by March 31 will be reported in the commemorative program book.

All proceeds from the Gala will honor Joan Lippincott in perpetuity through the AGO Endowment Fund. For further information, please call 212-870-2311, ext. 4308, or e-mail gala@agohq.org.
NEW YORK CITY—The American Guild of Organists (AGO) is proud to announce a new music competition for composers under the age of 30. Organized and sponsored by the AGO Young Organists in the North Central Region, the competition for a new work for organ solo, 3–6 minutes, is open to any individual who is younger than 30 years of age as of August 31, 2017. U.S. composers need not be AGO members; composers living outside of the U.S. must be AGO members.

First prize is $1,000; second prize is $500; three honorable mentions will also be announced. All prize winning and honorable mention compositions will be performed at the AGO North Central Regional Convention in Iowa City, Iowa, on June 20, 2017. The submission deadline is March 10. Competition results will be announced on March 31. For complete information and application instructions, visit agohq.org.

**POSITION AVAILABLE**

**Director of Music Ministry**

Emmanuel Episcopal Church Delaplane, Virginia

Emmanuel Episcopal Church is seeking a part time Music Director/Organist for our 10:00am Sunday worship service and for other special services throughout the liturgical year. Emmanuel is a vibrant and active parish located in Fauquier County, Virginia. We value community, worship, and service as ways of loving one another as we grow in our love of God. Worship gives us nourishment for our work in the world and is an integral part of our 10:00am Holy Eucharist service. We have a rich tradition of music in our 150+ years as a parish. We are a singing congregation with a variety of musical gifts and talents within our community.

We are currently seeking a leader for our music ministry who can assist us in worship by leading our senior choir, assisting with the hand bell choir and folk band.

We seek an individual who:
- Demonstrates strong aptitude as organist, pianist, choir director
- Invites participation while demonstrating reliability, flexibility, patience, grace, and a good sense of humor
- Seeks out ways to support the development of a wide range of personalities and ages
- Has a working knowledge of the hymnals approved for use in the Episcopal Church

The Director of Music is approximately 20 hour/week position that entails the following:
- Assist the Rector with the preparation of liturgy by collaborating in the selection of music for all worship (including Holy Week, Christmas celebrations, Feast Days)
- Assist in the timely preparation of bulletins and newsletters
- Play and direct each Sunday
- Lead weekly rehearsals (in addition to Sunday mornings)
- Play an active role in staff meetings and worship committee meetings
- Schedule substitute musicians as needed
Order new music and procure copyrights as needed
Provide music for weddings, funerals, and other events as negotiated (continued)
Oversee the maintenance of musical instruments and equipment which includes: Phoenix organ (model PD237), Stieff baby grand piano, Kruzweil digital keyboard, 3 octave Malmark handbells, and music library

The Position provides a competitive salary based on experience, as well as:
Two weeks of paid vacation time (including 2 Sundays)
One week of personal/sick leave (including 1 Sunday)
One week of continuing education (including 1 Sunday)
Full access to the Sanctuary/Parish Hall for teaching, performing, and sharing artistic gifts with the congregation and community.

Interested candidates should send a cover letter along with a CV or resume and two professional references to the Reverend Amanda R. Knouse, amanda@emmanuel-delaplane.org no later than February 15, 2017.

New Organ Substitute Available

I am at present available to substitute as organist, pianist and choir director, in any combination. In addition to Episcopal services, I have many years' experience with Presbyterian, Lutheran and Methodist services and am available for weddings and funerals.

Barbara Bulger Verdile
PO Box 803
Purcellville, VA 20134
540-338-7471 (home)
703-772-4365 (cell)
ALTO’S LAMENTE

~ Anonymous

It’s tough to be an alto when you’re singing in the choir.
The sopranos get the twiddly bits that people all admire.
The basses boom like loud trombones; the tenors shout with glee,
But the alto part is on two notes (or, if you’re lucky, three).

And when we sing an anthem and we lift our hearts in praises,
The men get all the juicy bits and telling little phrases.
Of course, the trebles sing the tune—they always come off best.
The altos only get three notes and twenty-two bars rest.

We practice very hard each week from hymn-book and the Psalter,
But, when the conductor looks at us, our voices start to falter:
“Too high! Too low! Too fast! You held that note too long!”
It doesn’t matter what we do—it’s certain to be wrong!

Oh! Shed a tear for altos; they’re the martyrs, and they know,
In the ranks of choral singers, they’re considered very low.
They are so very humble that a lot of folk forget ‘em:
How they’d love to be sopranos, but their vocal cords won’t let ‘em.

And when the final trumpet sounds and we are wafted higher
Sopranos, basses, tenors, they’ll be in the heavenly choir.
While they sing “alleluia” to celestial flats and sharps,
The altos will be occupied with polishing the harps!

(Discovered behind the vestry door of All Saints Church,
Four Oaks, Sutton Coldfield)