



The VOLUNTARY TRUMPET

A PUBLICATION OF THE CHARLESTON CHAPTER
OF THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

MAY 2020

The mission of the American Guild of Organists is to enrich lives through organ and choral music. We encourage excellence in the performance of organ and choral music; inspire, educate, and offer certification for organists and choral conductors; provide networking, fellowship, and mutual support; nurture future generations of organists; promote the organ in its historic and evolving roles; and engage wider audiences with organ and choral music.

CHAPTER OFFICERS 2018–2020

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SUB-DEAN

Katie Holland

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SECRETARY

Nancy Clayton Lefter

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TREASURER, WEBMASTER

Edmund LeRoy

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Please contact the treasurer with any changes of address, telephone number, or other information.

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

Ann Longdon Hood

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Huey Waldon

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Mark Bebensee

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IMMEDIATE PAST DEAN

Jason Pedeaux

jpedeaux@mppc.net

DEAN'S LIST

As our academic year comes to a close, I am thinking of all of you and wishing that we could be together for our officer and installation dinner and service as we had planned.

Alas, we are still under “Stay at Home” and are not sure what the future holds.

The board met this past month to plan as much as we could for the coming year and while it was a challenge, we are looking forward to 2020-2021. Please be on the lookout for email notices regarding our next meeting. We are hoping to meet this summer, if possible, to formalize our new board and to visit and mingle.

It has been an honor to serve as your Dean for the last two years and I am grateful for all the support you have shown me. As I pass the baton on to our new Dean, Katie Holland, I wish Katie and all of you safe and musically rewarding months ahead. I know Katie will be an excellent leader and well supported by our newly elected and returning board members.

Be well, be safe and thank you once again for your support over the last two years.

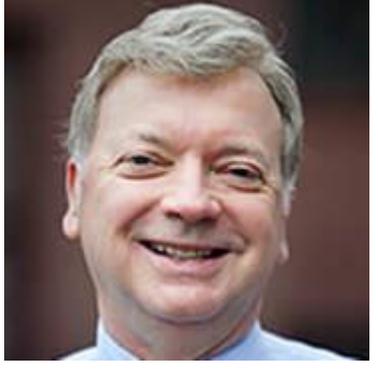
— Loretta

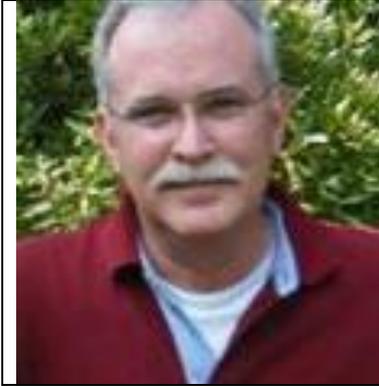


This is our last newsletter until September. Watch your inbox for email updates through the summer. Send your news items by August 25.

MEET YOUR NEW CHARLESTON AGO OFFICERS

	<p>KATIE HOLLAND, DEAN</p> <p>Katie is a rostered Deacon in the ELCA and Minister of Music at Lutheran Church of the Redeemer where she has served musically since 2010, directing the adult, children's, and handbell choirs. She completed her formal church music education at Lenoir-Rhyne University and Yale Divinity School and has been a resident of Charleston for nearly nine years. She lives with her husband, Andy, son, Lane, cat, Kitty, and betta fish, Gamma.</p>
	<p>PAT GOULD, SUB-DEAN</p> <p>Patricia (Pat) Gould, a native of Charleston, has served as Organist/Choirmaster in churches over the past 50 years (only six in her long career). Although she has retired twice, she was soon called back to service. She was educated at Winthrop and Montclair Universities and studied privately with teachers from Juilliard and Mannes College. Since returning to Charleston in 1989, she has served as Director of Music at St. James Church (James Island), Parish Church of St. Helena (Beaufort) and now at St. Philip's. Pat's dear husband died in 2010. She has 3 children, 4 grandchildren and one new great-grandchild.</p>
	<p>NANCY LEFTER, SECRETARY</p> <p>Nancy Clayton Lefter is a native Charlestonian and is currently the associate organist at the Cathedral Church of St. Luke and St. Paul. Previously, she was Organist/Choirmaster at St. Peter's Episcopal Church for almost 20 years. Nancy retired last year as Director of Choral Activities at the Citadel, a position she had held since 1993. She holds a BM in voice from Furman and an MM in musicology from the University of North Texas in Denton. She has been a featured vocalist with the Charleston Symphony Orchestra, the Charleston Community Band, the Miss USA Pageant, the Summerville Community Orchestra and many charity events. She often performs as a vocalist and pianist in restaurants and clubs in the area. She lives in West Ashley with her husband Phil.</p>

	<p>ED LEROY, TREASURER</p> <p>Ed, in his dotage, is organist at Franke at Seaside in Mount Pleasant. He's been treasurer since 2010. He retired from teaching at Rollins College in Winter Park, FL, where he was head of the voice area and sometime chair of the Music Department. His organ study was at Furman University and Union Theological Seminary (New York). He also holds the MM and DMA in voice from The Juilliard School. He lives in W. Ashley's Byrnes Downs with cats Jacques and Lulu.</p>
	<p>LARRY SPEAKMAN, AT-LARGE</p> <p>Larry oversees the Cathedral Choir at the Cathedral Church of St. Luke and St. Paul. Originally from Philadelphia, Larry holds degrees from Westminster Choir College and East Carolina University. Before accepting the call at the Cathedral, he led the Concert Singers of Cary, NC and the progressive Watts Street Baptist Church in Durham. Larry and his wife, Ingrid, live in North Mt. Pleasant.</p>
	<p>MARK BEBENSEE, AT-LARGE</p> <p>Mark Bebensee recently retired from The Citadel after 42 years, during which time he served as an Economics professor and in several administrative roles. Church music has been a lifelong "second job" for him. During his time in Charleston, he has served as Choir Director at Mt. Pleasant Presbyterian Church, Assistant Organist at the Cathedral of St. Luke and St. Paul, and Chapel Organist at The Citadel. For the past 22 years he has served as Organist and Choirmaster at St. Andrew's Anglican Church in Mt. Pleasant. He and his wife, Mary, have two adult children and two granddogs.</p>
	<p>MICHAEL VARNADORE, AT-LARGE</p> <p>Michael is a Piano Technician. In addition to tuning pianos he provides necessary maintenance and repair. Having played piano for many years, he is a piano entertainer and church organist. Currently he plays at the Church of Christ, Scientist, St. James-Santee Episcopal Church and St. Paul UMC in St. Matthews on a regular basis. Michael substitutes the remaining 14 weeks of the year for organists taking vacation. Born and raised in Charleston, he and Butch live downtown. Michael enjoys boating and golf.</p>



JIMMY MILLER, AT-LARGE

Jimmy has been a member of the AGO since the late 1970s. He has a BS degree in Business Admin. from Charleston Southern University and worked for the Piggly Wiggly Carolina Co., Inc. for almost 39 years before retiring in 2017. Previously, Jimmy has been Treasurer, Member-At-Large, and served as Sub-Dean in our Chapter for someone who left before their term expired. He has served (and is still serving) as substitute organist in various denominations in the Charleston area.

MAY MEETING

Our closing dinner and installation of officers, scheduled for May 19, has been **anceled**. Plans right now are forming to include the installation with our opening dinner for next season. However, everything is in flux until we see how the pandemic pans out and what kinds of restrictions will still be in play. Look for emails with updates.

CALENDAR

Obviously, there are no concerts — not even virtual ones — to report. What a spring this has been and continues to be! Let us all hope that it will not be repeated in our lifetimes.

Several of the larger churches in town are streaming Sunday and some daily services along with music. Among them: Grace Church Cathedral (<https://www.gracechurchcharleston.org/>); St. Philip's Church (<https://www.stphilipchurchsc.org/>); St. Matthew's Lutheran (<https://www.smlccharleston.org/>); First (Scots) Presbyterian (<http://www.first-scots.org/>); Cathedral Church of St. Luke and St. Paul (<https://your-cathedral.org/>); St. Michael's Church (<http://stmichaelschurch.net/>); Bethel United Methodist (<https://www.bethelcharleston.com/>). You may know of others.

POE+ (FOR ADULTS) IN VIRGINIA

The Richmond, VA Chapter is disappointed to report to you that it has become necessary to **POSTPONE** the Pipe Organ Encounters Plus (POE+) that the chapter was going to host in Richmond in late July 2020. Too many logistical concerns just could not be resolved in the uncertainty of the pandemic surrounding us all.

The good news is that this is just a postponement. The Chapter's Executive Committee has approved the hosting of the event in the summer of 2021, and we have submitted two possible weeks to the national office for their scheduling approval. So, watch for the rescheduled dates and registration information through the AGO's national website in 2021.

With this message, the Richmond chapter wishes you all the best for the remainder of 2020.

Stay safe and stay well! Let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

Steve Henley stephenhenley044@gmail.com

Kenna Payne kennajohnp@aol.com

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

ORANGEBURG, SC: FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (PCUSA)



The congregation of First Presbyterian Church in Orangeburg, SC (650 Summers Ave) is seeking a Director of Music to provide Christian leadership for the entire music ministry, working directly with the Senior Minister and serving under the direction of the Personnel Committee and the Church Session. The ideal candidate will possess a minimum of a Bachelor of Music in Choral Music, Voice, Organ/Piano, Music Education, or Performance. For a PDF outlining the full job description, go to www.agocharleston.org and click the link in the First Presbyterian entry. (Posted 9/26/19)

HARTSVILLE, SC: ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH

St. Bartholomew's Church, 103 Campus Drive, Hartsville, SC 29550 is looking for an organist. Duties include Sunday services, choir rehearsals, and any special services during the year. Vacation and continuing education included. The organ is a Casavant II/31, Opus 3659, built for us in 1988. Salary is \$180 per week plus \$100 for special services. The organist reports to the Choir Director and the Rector. Send your resume to St. Bartholomew's at the address above or via email: stbartchurch@gmail.com. Questions: (843) 332-8765 (Posted 7/16/19)



ORANGEBURG, SC: FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH



First Baptist Church of Orangeburg is seeking a part-time organist to provide service music for Sunday worship, as well as special occasions throughout the year. Regular duties include accompanying Wednesday night choir rehearsal (7:00 pm) and playing for Sunday worship services (11:00 am). The organ is a Möller, 3 manuals, 31 ranks from the original installation. The pedalboard is AGO standard. The organ was installed in 1968 and rebuilt by Schlueter Pipe Organ Company in 2007, with additional Walker digital stops added. Résumés may be sent to First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 637, Orangeburg, South Carolina, 29116 or emailed to jane@fbcorangeburg.org. (Posted 6/20/19)

First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 637, Orangeburg, South Carolina, 29116 or emailed to jane@fbcorangeburg.org. (Posted 6/20/19)

SAINT MATTHEWS, SC: ST. PAUL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

St. Paul UMC, 1808 Bridge St, Saint Matthews, SC 29135 is seeking an organist/choir director. The job requirements include choir practice at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings (or another time during the week) and one worship service on Sunday from 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Some additional services throughout the year (Christmas Eve, funerals, etc.) may also be requested. The instrument is a 1937 Möller Pipe Organ.



Please call (803) 874-2166 or email at stpaulsmumc@gmail.com for more details. Pastor: Rev. Sara Relaford. Church Secretary: Lori Worsencroft. Church Website: www.stpaulsmumc.com. (Posted 5/28/19)

LEXINGTON, SC: SAXE GOTHA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Saxe Gotha Presbyterian Church of Lexington, SC is seeking applications to fill the part time position of Organist/Music Associate. SGPC is a thriving ECO non-liturgical congregation in the heart of Lexington, SC, with an engaging music and arts ministry.

Responsibilities include providing organ accompaniment for two traditional worship services, accompanying weekly adult and youth choir rehearsals, directing the handbell ensemble, and playing for funerals and weddings. The organist will serve on a team that includes the Director of Music and Arts, several audio/visual specialists and a staff pianist. Qualified candidates will possess at least an undergraduate degree in music and/or appropriate experience in a traditional worship setting. This position has the possibility for expanding for the right candidate to complete administrative tasks for the worship and arts ministry. This position can range from 10 to 30 hours a week with a salary based on education, experience, and hours worked. The organ is a 3-manual Allen Renaissance (1997). All interested candidates should contact Director of Music and Arts, Hal McIntosh at hmcintosh@saxegotha.org or 803-359-7770, extension 13. (Posted 2/18/19)



GOOSE CREEK: ST. TIMOTHY LUTHERAN CHURCH (NALC)

St. Timothy's is looking for a part-time organist to play their 37-stop, 2-manual Allen Quantum Q265D (2012). The ideal candidate:

- Has experience playing a traditional liturgical service and accompanying a chancel choir;
- Views organ skills as a service to God and as a vital part of worship leadership;
- Is open to and reliant on following God's Spirit in a team environment.



Submit resume by April 30, 2019 to: **Beth Alford**, Director of Music Ministries: beth@sainttimothy-lutheran.org or PO Box 807, Goose Creek, SC 29445. (Posted 3/24/19)

CHARLESTON: MARTIN LUTHER LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)

Martin Luther Lutheran Church is seeking a part-time Music Director to lead our music on Sunday morning and for other services. We need someone who plays organ and piano, can direct our choir, and can start a handbell choir. Directing a children's choir could be a possibility as we are slowly gaining children.

Mission Statement: "We are a caring people of God, brought together by grace and nourished by the Word. Led by the Spirit we are sent out in service to share God's love."

Profile:



- One service: 9:00a.m., and weekly Adult Choir rehearsal
- Other services as needed (Christmas Eve, Advent and Lenten Wednesday evenings, Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, funerals and weddings as needed)
- An organ and a grand piano are in the sanctuary. Pianos in the choir room and fellowship hall.

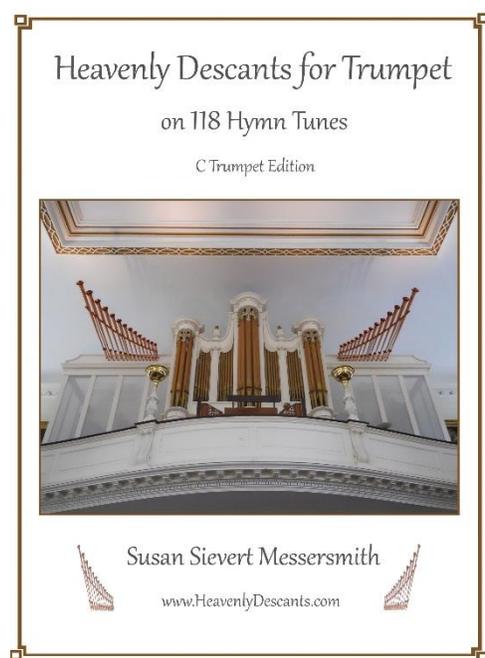
For a PDF outlining qualifications, responsibilities, etc., go to our website and click the PDF link. Persons interested in applying should provide a complete resume and professional references. Send resume and references to Martin Luther Lutheran Church at MLLC@knology.net. Church Office phone: (843) 795-4855. The Rev. Thomas A. Cassem, 1605 Harborview Rd. Charleston (James Island), SC 29412. www.martinlutherchurch.org. (Posted 1/21/2019)

FAYETTEVILLE, NC: HAYMOUNT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Haymount is the largest UMC in the Fayetteville district. We have a 3-manual Mohler pipe organ that we are preparing to rebuild and upgrade. We are still currently using it, but it is long overdue for a major overhaul, and we are in the process of contracting that with Lewtak Organ Builders. Contact: Donald Warren at donaldwarren@haymountumc.com.



THIS 'N THAT



HEAVENLY DESCANTS

Are you familiar with *Heavenly Descants*?

Charleston musician Susan Sievert Messersmith composed and published *Heavenly Descants on 118 Hymn Tunes*, which is cross-referenced with the harmonies of hymnals from several denominations and is available in 2 editions, one for B!trumpet and one for C trumpet (or other C instruments).

She recently created an addendum especially for the *Glory to God* hymnal used in the Presbyterian Church! The Presbyterian addendum is a free digital download with the purchase of the *Heavenly Descants* book.

Susan is the trumpet instructor at Charleston Southern University and a former full-time member of the Charleston Symphony Orchestra.

For more information visit www.HeavenlyDescants.com or email SuzetteMS@aol.com.

AGO MUSIC EXCHANGE

There is still much music in the AGO Music Exchange housed at Second Presbyterian Church, **and additional donations have been made in the last month**. Please email Julia for an updated listing. There are 200+ titles of organ music and many choral anthems. To get a PDF listing of organ (by composer), organ plus instrument, piano, wedding, Advent/Christmas, collections, etc., or to schedule a time to come browse the collection, please email Julia Harlow, juliah.6@juno.com. A listing of choral anthems (SATB, SAB) is also available. For either listing, email Julia, or use the link on the **Miscellany** page of

the chapter website <https://www.agocharleston.org/miscellany.html>. As always, if you have organ or choral music or shoes that you do not need anymore, and want to donate to the Exchange, please let Julia know. **Currently, there is a pair of nearly new organ shoes, size 10M.**

ORGAN FOR SALE

Howard electronic organ (made by Baldwin). Standard AGO pedalboard. Has been in only one place since purchase. Excellent condition.

Contact: Alphonso Brown
alphonso@gullahtours.com
 (843) 670-3664



WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members to the Charleston Chapter:

BRAD COLBY, with R. A. Colby Organbuilders in Johnson City, TN, who joins as a dual member (Northeast TN-Southwest VA Chapter). Check out their website: <http://racolby.com/>

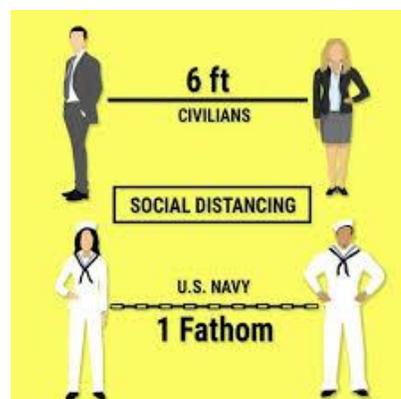
MISTI KAI GWYNNE, who has transferred to the Charleston area from Virginia.

MYLENE SUZARA, music director at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Goose Creek.

ROBERT MYERS, a resident of Mount Pleasant.

ALPHONSO BROWN, who rejoins us after an absence.

MICHAEL GING, who rejoins our chapter as a dual member (Houston Chapter).





Michael Varnadore, May 3
Johanna Vroon, May 3
Britt McDermott, May 9
Nancy Lefter, May 10
Murray Somerville, May 13
Loretta Haskell, May 18
Hazel Somerville, May 21
Robert Gant, May 23
William Gudger, June 3
Daniel Sansone, June 13
Melanie Ferguson, June 16
Donald Flickinger, June 30
Robin Zemp, July 4
Gary Rakestraw, July 12
Rodney Ward, July 23
Jim Lancaster, July 28
Parks Greene, August 3
Thomas Reed, August 16
Randolph Wallace, August 18
Patricia Gould, August 20
Brad Colby, August 21
Emily Remington, August 21
Betty Willis, August 23
Porter Remington, August 27