



The Voluntary Trumpet

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

MARCH 2021

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.

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DEAN'S LIST

In the Revised Common Lectionary this year, the readings have a Lenten focus on God's covenant with us. Some of us will hear the stories of Noah, Abraham and Sara, the Ten Commandments, Moses' bronze serpent in the wilderness, and promises of a new covenant in Jeremiah.



It brings to mind the covenants, if you will, that we have in our settings of musical employment. How many of us have been in situations where we were overworked, underpaid, had no health benefits, had poor working conditions, or many other situations where we were taken advantage of, where our concerns fell on ignorant, uncaring, or even struggling administrations? Where the compensations of the job did not match the requirements? Where the job description did not match the job itself?

These situations can happen. Many times, it is not malice but ignorance or naiveté that is at fault. This is the breach into which the AGO's new *Employment Handbook* steps. This 44-page document (only 29 pages of text—the remainder is beautiful photography) provides thorough, nuanced, and practical information regarding the requirements of being an organist or choir director, guidance for search committees, and a focus on developing compensation that takes into account region, education, and experience. The document also covers

considerations for funerals, weddings, and substitutes. And, in the appendices, the ever-helpful worksheets for calculating hours and conducting annual reviews are found.

But going back to our “covenant” theme—the Codes of Ethical and Professional Standards deserve our special attention because this involves our side of the covenant. The Ethical Standards document (p. 27) lays out what we as members of the AGO strive for in professional interpersonal relations. The Professional Standards document (p. 28) reminds us that our integrity is also found in our continued pursuit of the mastery of skills.

I believe we are fortunate to have this resource to help educate our boards, clergy, and young musicians on healthy, fair covenants of employment and remind us of the standards to which we hold ourselves interpersonally and musically. Whatever we attempt, let us prepare the best we can; and whomever we encounter, let us treat them as fairly as we can. That is our covenant in the AGO.

Most respectfully,

Deacon Katie Holland, Dean

REGISTRATION FOR SMALL ORGANS



Join Michael Varnadore at the Church of the Good Shepherd in West Ashley (1393 Miles Dr, Charleston, SC 29407) on **Monday, March 8, at 7:00 PM**, for our next AGO event. Using Good Shepherd’s small Zimmer/Ontko instrument, Michael will explore ways to do more with limited tonal resources.



UPCOMING CHAPTER EVENTS

- **SUNDAY, MAY 2 AT 4:00 PM** (day and time are tentative). Carillon demonstration at The Citadel with a picnic following in Hampton Park.

CALENDAR

SUNDAY, MARCH 21 (BACH’S BIRTHDAY!), 4:00 PM

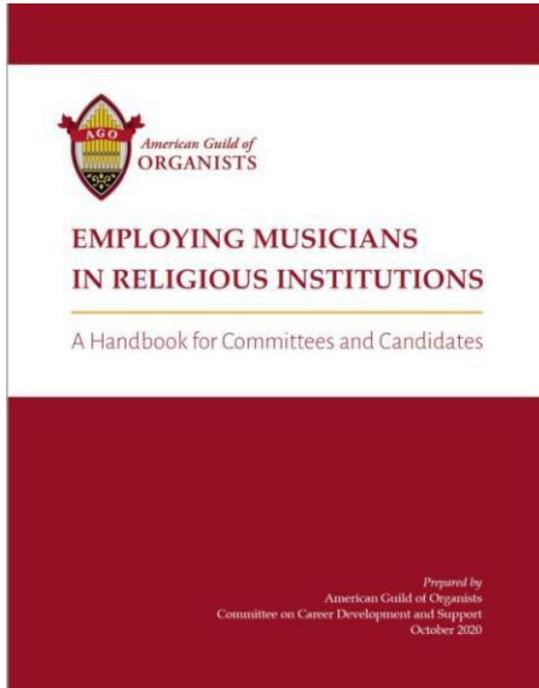
MUSIC AT SECOND PRESBYTERIAN

In-person and livestreamed concert with John Samuel Roper, flute; Timothy O’Malley, viola da gamba; Julia Harlow, harpsichord. Freewill offering in person and via Venmo. Music of Bach, Blavet and Anna Bon. More information to follow on the Second Pres website:

www.2ndpc.org/music. Second Presbyterian Church, 342 Meeting St, Charleston 29403.

EMPLOYING MUSICIANS IN RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS

*Reprinted from Chapter Leadership News,
by Elizabeth George, Director of Member Engagement and Chapter Development*



For the last four years, the AGO Committee on Career Development and Support has been working to replace resources disallowed by the 2017 FTC Settlement Agreement and Order with legally compliant ones to aid AGO members and their employers in negotiating details and position searches, interviewing, compensation, and working conditions. This effort has culminated in the publication of the latest career development resource, “Employing Musicians in Religious Institutions: A Handbook for Committees and Candidates.” The Association of Church Musicians and the American Guild of Organists have cooperated in the development of this booklet, that is available to all interested religious institutions and musicians.

The Association and the Guild assume that leaders in religious institutions want to recruit, employ, and support qualified persons to provide strong leadership in sacred music. Thus, these procedures have

been developed to assist those who participate in the search and employment process. This booklet provides perspective for clergy and lay persons responsible for the process which will bring effective and talented musicians to religious institutions and their diverse memberships. Guidelines will help religious leaders and congregations conduct an effective search and make appropriate choices of personnel. It is important that employers clearly define their needs and expectations regarding the available position(s). A religious institution’s development of a compensation “package” must reflect the time requirements of the position and skill level of the candidate.

The Guild gratefully acknowledges the work of the following individuals in the development of this handbook: David K. Lamb, DMus, CAGO, Councillor for Membership; Vicki J. Schaeffer, DM, Councillor for Membership; Marlene C. Hallstrom, MM, CAGO, Director; Paul B. Carmona, PhD, AAGO; Nicole Y. Cochran, MM; Doris J. Dabrowski, JD, SPC; Adam Detzner, MM; Jessica M. French, MM; Andrew Johnson, SPC; Carol Feather Martin, MM; Nathan Proctor; Anthony Rispo; Eric Birk, MM, FAGO, Staff; James Thomashower, CAE, Executive Director. A copy of this handbook can be downloaded by going here: https://www.agohq.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/AGO_Employment_Handbook_2020_FNL_online_REV.pdf

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

CHARLESTON: ST. ANDREWS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

St. Andrews (3225 Ashley River Rd, Charleston, SC 29414) has a choir director/organist/pianist position open immediately. There are two services at 8:45 and 11:15 with limited attendance. Both services are currently blended worship due to COVID. Choir rehearsals with four to five choir members are on Wednesdays at 6:30. Piano and electronic organ. Church number is (843) 766-1080. Email is standumc@gmail.com. They are also interested in subs or an interim. (Posted 2/20/2021)



MOUNT PLEASANT: ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)

St. Paul's Lutheran Church (Old Village, 604 Pitt Street) of Mount Pleasant, SC is seeking applications to fill the full-time position of Organist/Choir Director for our small congregation. Responsibilities include providing organ/piano accompaniment for one weekly traditional Sunday worship service at 10:15 AM, directing and accompanying weekly adult choir rehearsals (when these resume), and playing for additional services such as Christmas Eve, funerals and weddings.



Qualified candidates will possess at least an undergraduate degree in music and/or appropriate experience in a traditional worship setting. 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 2-manual pipe organ. All interested candidates should contact the church directly at (843) 884-3107 or email at info@saintpauls-mountpleasant.com for more information. Church Secretary: Laura Togami. Church Website: www.saintpauls-mountpleasant.com (Posted 1/1/21)

JAMES ISLAND: THE CHAPEL AT BISHOP GADSDEN

The Chapel at Bishop Gadsden is seeking a part-time organist/choir director. He/she will be responsible for playing for the 10:30 service on Sunday mornings, and after the pandemic, will also direct the choir. The choir traditionally has rehearsed once a week and sung for the Sunday morning service as well as Christmas Eve. Along with Christmas, there are services on various other occasions such as Epiphany, Maundy Thursday, Easter, and Thanksgiving. The organist has the first right-of-refusal for funerals. The chapel has a new 16-rank Schoenstein organ which was designed specifically for that space. To learn more about the position and/or apply, contact the chaplain, Father Tom Wilson at Tom.Wilson@bish-opgadsden.org. (Posted 10/30/20)



JAMES ISLAND: SAINT JAMES ANGLICAN CHURCH

Saint James is seeking a full-time worship leader comfortable with traditional and contemporary music. The person should be skilled on the piano and the organ. The ideal candidate will have the opportunity to help cast a new vision for our worship ministry as we move through these times of change and into the future. For a full description of the position's responsibilities, click the link on the AGO website <https://www.agocharleston.org/positions-available.html>. Salary range commensurate with experience. Please respond to the Rev. Louise Weld at lweld@saint-james.org (Posted 6/23/20)



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)



CHAPTER NEWS

AGO MUSIC EXCHANGE

—Julia Harlow (juliah.6@juno.com)

Many, many thanks to **LARRY SPEAKMAN** at the Cathedral of St. Luke and St. Paul for agreeing to administer and house the choral/vocal music (and there's been quite a lot) that has come into the Exchange. If you wish to donate more choral music or look through what is there, please contact him directly. His email: Larry@your-cathedral.org. He would welcome any help with cataloguing.

I still administer the organ/piano music that has come in, and there is still a lot, two file cabinets full. If you are interested in a PDF catalog and/or coming by Second Presbyterian to look through the cabinets, please let me know: juliah.6@juno.com. The PDFs are also on the Miscellany page of the chapter website: <https://www.agocharleston.org/miscellany.html>.

We recently had a nearly new pair of black men's size 9½ M shoes come in, so if these would work for you, let me know.

Also available are ten years of *The American Organist* magazine, also housed in the Exchange; and nearly twenty years of *The Organist's Companion*. There are hundreds of pieces just in *The Organist's Companion*.

As always, if you have music, shoes or books about music to donate, please email me and we'll make arrangements to get it to me.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Madelaine Beckford, March 17
Andrew Byrd, March 12
Justin Wham, March 22
Sally Dixon, March 28

Please send your upcoming events — in person or virtual — to Ed LeRoy.

The deadline for April is March 25.



BAROQUE MUSIC CONCERT

SUNDAY, MARCH 21, 2021
4:00 PM

Second Presbyterian Church Sanctuary

In-person (must be masked and distanced)
or Livestream on church website: www.2ndpc.org



John Samuel Roper, flute
Timothy O' Malley, viola da gamba
Julia Harlow, harpsichord

Free - offering live or via Venmo.



Flute Sonata in G minor - Michel Blavet
Viola da Gamba sonata in D major - J.S. Bach
Flute Sonata in D major - Anna Bon
French harpsichord pieces
Sonata for Flute and Harpsichord in G minor - J.S. Bach

Something for everyone!
AGOYO virtual program year 20-21

FRIDAYS AT NOON EST

videos will be premiered at:
<https://www.youtube.com/user/GuildofOrganists>

August 14- Organ crawl: West Point Chapel

September 11- Workshop:

Church musicians and technology

September 25- Panel: Organists of colors

October 9- Panel: The Global Organist

November 13- Organ crawl: Longwood Gardens

December 11- Organ factory tour: Austin Organ Co.

January 8- Webinar:

Young conductors/organists guide to church music

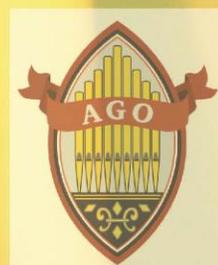
February 12- Organ crawl: Wanamaker

March 12- Panel:

Board positions in the guild/serving in leadership roles

April 9- Organ factory tour: Taylor & Boody

May 7, 14, 21, 28- Young organist recitals



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<https://www.facebook.com/groups/AGOYoungOrganists>

Follow us on Instagram at:

[ago_young_organists](https://www.instagram.com/ago_young_organists)

Email us at:

conveneragoyo@gmail.com

<https://www.agohq.org/ago-young-organists/>