

**October 2023**

## **From the Dean**

Greetings fellow AGO members and friends

What wonderful days we are having, when the temperatures are not quite so hot, and we have even had a few cool breezes! As I write this we are closing in on our September event - the Hymn Festival with David Cherwien at St Paul's Augusta. A huge thank you to Keith Shafer and St Paul's Augusta for hosting this, and the Hesse family for co-sponsoring this in memory of Dale. If you get this reminder before Saturday, Sept. 30<sup>th</sup>, please continue to invite people to join us that day for the 4 pm Hymn Festival. This is a wonderful opportunity to sing together, and make some lovely music with a very talented hymn festival leader.

Our October Dinner and Program is an opportunity to gather, have dinner and fellowship, and support some of the young voices in our area. Many thanks to Christopher Leysath for hosting us at Grace United Methodist Church in North Augusta. Please note that due to it being a school night, we are having the choir program at 7pm followed by a meal at 7:30pm so the students can get home at a reasonable time. Our program will be the North Augusta High School Choir doing their Fall expo - a short program where we can be the audience to affirm these students and encourage them to continue singing and making music. Please remember to sign up for the meal and bring \$15 to cover the cost. (If you're bringing a guest, please let myself, or one of the officers know.)

Thank you to all who've sent your events to our Editor, Mark Dickens so we can support each other and get the word out about all of our events and concerts. I look forward to seeing you soon.

*Soli Deo Gloria!*

*Kathleen*



**October 23rd AGO Meeting to feature  
North Augusta High School Concert Choir under the  
direction of Chris Leysath**

**7pm Performance & 7:30pm Dinner  
Grace United Methodist Church, North Augusta**

The North Augusta High School Concert Choir is the most advanced choral ensemble at North Augusta High School. Over the last 8 years, the Concert Choir has consistently earned ratings of "Superior" and "Superior with Distinction" at adjudicated festivals and assessments, and regularly places students in the South Carolina All-State and ACDA Honor Choirs. In Spring 2023, the Concert Choir joined the NAHS Wind Ensemble in a featured performance at the SC Music Educators Association Professional Development Conference. The Concert Choir has also been featured at conferences of the South Carolina Education Association and the SC Association of Black School Educators. The Concert Choir frequently collaborates with collegiate choral ensembles from the University of South Carolina-Columbia, Furman University, Augusta University, Claflin University, and South Carolina State University. The students who comprise the Concert Choir represent all walks of life and backgrounds. The vast majority of these students are also active in numerous school groups, musical ensembles, clubs, and athletic teams. The NAHS Concert Choir also boasts several alums who have gone on to major in vocal performance, piano performance, and music education at the collegiate level.



4th - Christopher Nash  
16th - Bill Dolen  
17th - Leigh Fleury  
20th - John McCraney  
22nd - Kathy Clark

**Substitute Organist Available**

Melinda East BM, MA

803-257-4979

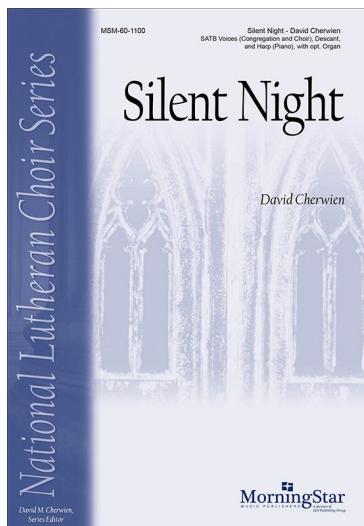
[jmeast1949@gmail.com](mailto:jmeast1949@gmail.com)

# Welcome!

Welcome back to R. J. Thomas who has recently joined the Augusta Chapter. R.J. is the organist at Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church in Johnston, SC. When not playing the organ, R.J is a nuclear chemist at Plant Vogtle. You can reach him at rjaythomas08@gmail.com

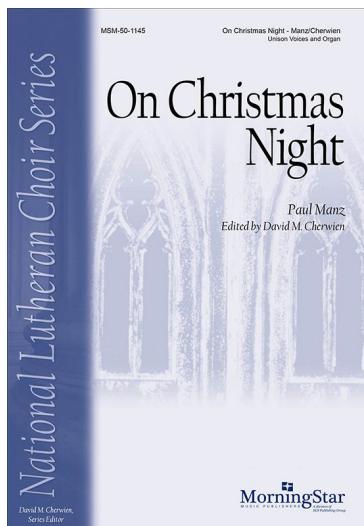
## Christmas Music for your church choir from David Cherwien

Are you seeking well crafted music for a smaller group of singers this Christmas? Consider these titles from David Cherwien available from Morningstar music.



### **“Silent Night” by David Cherwien**

SATB Voices (congregation and choir), Descant, and Harp (piano), with optional Organ. Flexible arrangement that can be adapted to fit different forces. Copyright 2020. MSM-60-1100. Separate Harp part is available.



### **“On Christmas Night” by Paul Manz edited by David Cherwien**

Unison anthem based on the Sussex Carol. Transcribed from a live recording at Mount Olive Lutheran Church, Christmas Eve, late-1950s or early 1960s. Must have for the small church choir. Moderately difficult organ accompaniment.

Copyright 2019. MSM-50-1145

## Need Shoes?

Wilma Franz has a pair of gently used size 9 black ladies' organ shoes with adjustable strap that are free to a good home.

Wilma can be reached at [wilmafranz40@gmail.com](mailto:wilmafranz40@gmail.com)

## Upcoming Events

### **Sunday, October 22nd - 4pm Hidden Gems, Music of the Black Experience**

Johnnie Felder, tenor

Christopher Leysath, piano

Reid Memorial Presbyterian Church - 2261 Walton Way, Augusta

### **Sunday, October 22nd - 6pm Choral Evensong**

Evensong with the Good Shepherd Choir directed by James Nord. The service is offered at the close of the Summerville Neighborhood Association's annual Tour of Homes and will include music of Stanford, Ayleward, Bainton, and Thalban-Ball. The liturgy will come from the 1789 Book of Common Prayer, which was in use at the founding of Good Shepherd and the neighborhood.

Church of the Good Shepherd, 2230 Walton Way, Augusta

### **Monday, October 23rd - 7pm Program / 7:30pm Dinner North Augusta High School Concert Choir Expo**

Our October meeting will take place at Grace United Methodist Church with host Chris Leysath. Chris is the music director at Grace and also teaches at North Augusta High School. The program will feature music from the North Augusta High School Concert Choir. The choir performance will take place at 7pm followed by dinner at 7:30pm. The meal cost is \$15. Please RSVP to Chris Leysath [cleysath@acpsd.net](mailto:cleysath@acpsd.net) or Mark Dickens, [markdickens81@icloud.com](mailto:markdickens81@icloud.com)

Grace United Methodist Church - 639 Georgia Avenue, North Augusta

### **Thursday, October 26th - 7pm Under the Steeple: Music for Brass Quintet and Organ**

Brandywine Brass

St. John's United Methodist Church - 104 Newberry St. NW Aiken

### **Friday, October 27th - 7pm Aiken Civic Orchestra: Symphonic Spooktacular**

St. Paul Lutheran Church - 961 Trail Ridge Road, Aiken

**Friday, November 3rd - 7pm  
Remembering our Veterans and the Saints**

St. Paul's Church Choirs and Ensembles  
St. Paul Lutheran Church - 961 Trail Ridge Road, Aiken

**Monday, November 13th - 7pm Dinner/ 8pm Program  
Dr. Don E. Saliers, Guest Speaker**

Former National Chaplain of the American Guild of Organists, Don Saliers will be our guest speaker for the November AGO meeting. Don is a theologian and former distinguished Professor of Theology and Worship at Candler School of Theology where he directed the Master of Sacred Music Program at Emory. He was organist and Choirmaster at Cannon Chapel for 35 years. Prior to Candler, he taught at Yale Divinity School and is an accomplished musician, theologian and scholar of liturgies. He is the author of 15 books on the relationship between theology and worship practices. Dinner begins at 7pm and the cost is \$15. Church of the Good Shepherd, 2230 Walton Way, Augusta

**Sunday, November 19th - 3pm  
Under the Steeple: Scratch (Sing-a-long) Messiah**

Highlights from Parts I, II, and III  
Chancel Choir, Guests, Soloists, Orchestra  
Dr. Matt Caine, Conductor  
St. John's United Methodist Church - 104 Newberry St. NW Aiken

**Tuesday, December 5th - 7:30pm  
A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols**

Guest Choirs & Organ Keith Shafer, Conductor  
Sacred Heart Cultural Center - 1301 Greene Street

**Sunday, December 10th - 8:30am & 11am  
John Rutter Magnificat and other works**

Chancel Choir & Orchestra  
Dr. Matt Caine, conductor  
St. John's United Methodist Church - 104 Newberry St. NW Aiken

**Sunday, December 10th - 4:30pm & 6:30pm  
Lessons and Carols**

Choirs & Orchestra  
Dr. Leigh Fleury, conductor  
First Presbyterian Church - 642 Telfair St. Augusta

**Sunday, December 10th - 6pm**

**Christmas at First**

Choir & Orchestra

Dr. Ryan Heritage, conductor

First Baptist Church - 3500 Walton Way Ext. Augusta

**Monday, December 11th - 7pm**

**South Aiken High School Choir Concert**

St. Paul Lutheran Church - 961 Trail Ridge Road, Aiken

**Thursday, December 14th - 7pm**

**Aiken Singers Holiday Concert**

Josh Edwards, conductor

St. John's United Methodist Church - 104 Newberry St. NW Aiken

**Friday, December 15th - 7pm**

**Aiken Civic Orchestra: 'Tis the Season Holiday Concert**

St. Paul Lutheran Church - 961 Trail Ridge Road, Aiken

**Sunday, December 17th - 6:30pm**

**A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols**

The Good Shepherd and St. Gregory Choirs directed by James Nord.

2230 Walton Way, Augusta

**Sunday, December 17th - 7pm**

**Bach Magnificat**

Choirs & Orchestra

Jose Reyes-Ortiz, Conductor

Most Holy Trinity Catholic Church - 720 Telfair Street Augusta

**Sunday, December 24th - 7:30pm**

**Traditional Christmas Eve Worship with candle-lighting**

Organ selections from Bach, Buxtehude, and more

St. Paul Lutheran Church - 961 Trail Ridge Road, Aiken

**Sunday, December 24th - 10:30pm**

**Concerts with a Cause: Christmas Eve Concert and Lessons and Carols**

St. John Choirs and Orchestra directed by Jamie Council Garvey

St. John United Methodist Church - 736 Greene Street, Augusta

**Saturday, February 17, 2024 - 3pm**

*Abigail Crafton in recital*  
*St. John United Methodist Church*  
*Augusta*

Abigail is the first prize winner of the AGO Quimby Southeast Regional Competition for Young Organists



**Sunday, March 9th, 2024 - 8pm**

*Paul Jacobs in recital*  
*St. Thaddeus Episcopal Church*  
*Aiken*

Paul is the organ professor at the Juilliard School. Limited Seating



### **Chapter Officers and board members:**

Dean - Deacon Kathleen Cartledge

Treasurer - Dr. Hubert van Tuyl

Membership - David Salter

Past Dean - Keith Shafer

Newsletter Editor - Mark Dickens

Member-at-Large - Don Dupee

Chaplain - Rev. Dr. William Dolen

# *Winter Nocturne*

**AWADAGIN  
PRATT**

CONCERT  
PIANIST



Thursday, February 8, 7:00 PM • Etherredge Center Main Stage



**Visual and Performing Arts**

University of South Carolina Aiken

[www.usca.edu/visual-and-performing-arts](http://www.usca.edu/visual-and-performing-arts) 803/641-3305 for tickets 803/641-3243 for information