



January/ February 2025

From the Dean

I hope your new year has started off well and that you have had time to rest and be refreshed after a busy Advent and Christmas season!

Many thanks to Don Dupee for hosting our annual Epiphany party! We had a good turnout and enjoyed catching up with one another.

The beginning of a new year is a great time to envision goals we would like to accomplish or to identify areas we would like to grow in during the coming months. Is there something that you would like to accomplish musically by the end of 2025? Perhaps there is a piece we've always wanted to learn or perform, a recital we keep putting off, a piece we've been meaning to compose, or a conference we've wanted to attend. Maybe we would like to grow in our improvisation skills or learn to use a composition software. Whatever the goal, it's important that we come up with a plan to accomplish it. One way to do this is to share our goal with another person and ask them to check in with us regularly to see how we are progressing in accomplishing it.

Finally, I encourage everyone to spread the word about our upcoming Hymn Festival in February. We would love for this event to be well-attended and be a blessing to our community. Additional details are in the newsletter.

Sincerely,

W. Leigh Fleury, DMA - Dean



Augusta AGO Hymn Festival

Sunday, February 23rd - 3pm

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

The Augusta AGO is proud to present a hymn festival celebrating our shared community of faith. We are thrilled to bring together singers from across the CSRA to celebrate the kaleidoscopic nature of music and fellowship. This event will feature the fine musicianship of some of our own members, as well as a **brass quintet**, soloists **Johnnie Felder** and **Melissa Schultz**, and music of various faith expressions. We will span the gamut from *“Immortal, Invisible”* to *“We Are Climbing Jacob’s Ladder.”* Below, you’ll find the necessary information for registering and participating in this special event.

1. Please encourage your choristers to fill out the linked form completely and accurately.
2. Be sure to provide an **active email address** in the form, as this will be our primary means of communication for updates, materials, and event details.
3. **Participants are responsible for bringing their own black folder/binder for the performance.**
4. On the day of the performance, please wear the **choir robe or performance attire** of your respective organization to help us showcase the vibrant diversity of our community.
5. We are absolutely looking for more hands and feet to be involved with this event in various capacities (printing, program design, musical needs, providing water for participants, etc). Please reach out to Chris Leysath if you’d like to assist in any way.

Rehearsal:

- **Date:** Saturday, February 22, 2025
- **Time:** 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM
- **Location:** St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, 605 Reynolds Street, Augusta, GA

Performance:

- **Date:** Sunday, February 23, 2025
- **Time:** 3:00 PM (**Call time: 2:00 PM**)
- **Location:** St. Paul’s Episcopal Church

For any questions or concerns, feel free to reach out:

Christopher Leysath, Sub-Dean of Augusta AGO

Email: leysathago@gmail.com

Click the link below or scan the QR code to access the registration link.

Participants MUST register with this link:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfZx_bqly9d-Get9n2tFOCFIZs2JqcWJMrW4gOtXX5UVUM0AA/viewform?usp=header



EVENSONG

Sunday, March 9th at 5:30 pm

Reception Following in the River Room

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 605 Reynolds Street

March AGO Meeting

Dr. Alica Walker Choral Repertoire Presentation

Monday, March 17th at
Grace United Methodist Church,
North Augusta

Dr. Walker is the Director of Choral Activities at the University of South Carolina-Columbia, and an experienced church musician and educator. Click to read her bio! - https://sc.edu/study/colleges_schools/music/faculty-staff/Walker.php. Dr. Walker will lead us in a session discussing liturgical repertoire and rehearsal techniques for choirs of various sizes, voicings, and capabilities. A meal will not be provided at this meeting.



St. Thaddeus
Episcopal Church



Brennan Szafron, Organist

Friday, March 21st at 5pm

Marcel Dupre's
Le Chemin de la Croix, Op.29
Stations of the Cross

St. Thaddeus Episcopal Church, Aiken

No April Meeting - Happy Easter!



May Guild Service Date and Location to be announced

We wish to engage as many members as possible to play and contribute to the guild service. Those interested in being a part are asked to contact Chris Leysath (Cleysath@acpsd.net), Sub-Dean.

Substitute Organists Available

Andrew Barnick 805-268-1505 (*Midweek only*)
andrew.barnick@stmaryonthehill.org

Ken Courtney 803-443-8885
kencourtney56@gmail.com

Brad Cunningham 706-414-7007
bradfordco@mindspring.com

Aaron Dixon 706-726-2846 (*Available after January 26th*)
aarondixon09@icloud.com

Dan Hardin 954-593-0085 (*Booked through March*)
hardin4438@yahoo.com



AUGUSTA AGO CHAPTER OFFICERS

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