



From the Dean

March 2025

Greetings, fellow organists! As we head into March, several well-known organist-composers' birthdays will be celebrated this month: Alexandre Guilmant (12th), Max Reger (19th), J. S. Bach (21st) and Julius Reubke and Eugene Gigout on the 23rd. If you haven't already planned out your preludes and postludes for the month, perhaps consider including a piece or two in honor of these composers.

We hope to see you at our Community Hymn Festival this Sunday (February 23rd) at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Augusta! More information on the festival is in this newsletter. Your help is needed to make this event a success. Please consider extending an invitation to people in your church and sharing it on social media sites. Every little bit of publicity will help immensely.

Our March meeting on Monday the 17th will feature Dr. Alicia Walker, Director of Choral Activities at USC-Columbia. Dr. Walker will discuss repertoire and rehearsal techniques for choirs of various sizes and abilities. The meeting will be held at Grace United Methodist Church in North Augusta. Additional information is in the newsletter.

See you soon!

W. Leigh Fleury, DMA - Dean



The Augusta Chapter of the American Guild of Organists invites you to lift your heart in song!

Community Hymn Festival

A celebration of our kaleidoscopic community and the refrain,
“God Is”

Sunday, February 23, 2025

3:00 p.m.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
605 Reynolds Street
Augusta, GA 30901

Individuals who wish to participate in the Festival Choir are asked to register via the QR code or email Chris Leysath at Leysathago@gmail.com



Beloved hymns presented by the Festival Choir, local organists, brass quintet, and soloists Dr. Johnnie Felder and Melissa Schultz



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 17th AGO Meeting



Dr. Alicia 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.



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!



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 April 6th*)
hardin4438@yahoo.com

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