



"The mission of the American Guild of Organists is to foster a thriving community of musicians who share their knowledge and inspire passion for the organ." ("AGO AT-A-GLANCE - American Guild of Organists")

"The vision of the American Guild of Organists is to engage, support, and uplift every organist." ("Mission, Vision, and Value Proposition - American Guild of Organists")

Please consider serving on the nominating committee to help provide a slate of candidates for next year's officers. Even better, please consider serving as an officer in some capacity!



Note from the Dean

Christmas Care

Several years ago, I came across one of the endless numbered lists that keep popping up on Facebook entitled "Dear Church, 11 signs you're burning out your staff." The article is no longer available, but I did save this one section.

This is an issue we all face during this time of year. It was item number 6 on the list of 11.

6. The church steals the staff members' family traditions.

If your staff is not looking forward to Christmas, there might be a problem. If the only family traditions your church staff gets to enjoy during the holidays is "working at church events," you are headed to a dangerous place. Church staff have families too. Don't send them home empty. When friends who work at churches say, "I just need to get through Christmas," I know they're headed toward burnout. If you work at a church and find yourself dreading Christmas or Easter, be careful. Is the reality that you're going to work more during Christmas and Easter? Of course. It would be unrealistic to think working at a church won't get more intense during those two seasons. That's a tension of working at a church, but again, let's be careful



and in community. We need to have the space to have a discussion like this. I swear Jesus didn't say, "One day, I hope someday Easter is a moment church employees look forward to with exhaustion, burnout and regret."

I remember the Guyer family's Christmas Eve tradition when our children were small. The family would go to the early family-oriented service, late afternoon, or early evening, where I played. Then we would come home, enjoy a dinner of Christmas Tree soup. (Soup with pasta in the shape of Christmas trees). We'd open our gifts to each other. Then I'd head back to church leaving my wife to put the kids to bed and put the Santa presents under the tree. I'd get home well after midnight; everyone had gone to bed but I could see that Santa had come. Up very early the next morning with the joy that only children on Christmas Day can create. All in all, not too bad. I was exhausted and missed playing Santa's helper, but still we had many happy Christmases. I was fortunate that I played in a smaller church that allowed just a bit of time between services.

I'm glad to see that someone started a discussion about these church staff issues. It is so important for organists and church musicians to be very intentional about self-care during this time of year. Be sure to take time for yourself. Find activities where you don't have to be "on" and can just relax and enjoy the beauty of the season.

"Love is what's in the room with you at Christmas if you stop opening presents and listen."


~Author unknown, attributed to a 7-year-old named Bobby.

Here's the link to our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/IndyAGO> and our website: www.indyago.org. Please "like" us on Facebook: @IndyAGO

Chapter Friends Membership - AGO's National Bylaws

As noted in the AGO Bylaws, Article VII: Chapters; Chapter Friends shall consist of those individuals who (I) support the purposes of the Guild, (II) are not organists or choral conductors, and (III) have paid the dues and fees set by the Chapter. The privileges of this class of membership shall be (I) participation in Chapter activities and (II) receipt of chapter publications. Chapter Friends do not have voting privileges, nor can they serve on your board of officers, however we hope that you will encourage them to become members of the AGO, so that they can serve in leadership positions! *Please note that it is extremely important that you set a dollar amount for Chapter Friend dues. If you do not do this, ONCARD will assign their membership dues at \$0. Your chapter treasurer or chapter administrator can set the dues amount in ONCARD.





Activities sponsored by the Indianapolis Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

Epiphany Party

Saturday January 2, 2024

Appetizers at 5:30 PM, Meal at 6:30 PM

Home of John Seest 5212 N. Capitol Avenue, Indianapolis, IN

You are invited to the annual AGO Epiphany party on Tuesday, January 2 at the home of John Seest at 5212 N. Capitol Avenue. Appetizers are at 5:30 pm and dinner is at 6:30 pm followed by a carol sing (including

the Twelve Days of Christmas!). Please bring a dish and/or drinks to share. A ham will be provided. Reservations are not required, but an RSVP at:

<https://forms.gle/2hYVDCwtSrBqbb5g8> would be helpful to plan for seating.



Amanda Mole

ORGAN RECITAL AT ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Friday March 1, 2024 7:00 PM

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 6050 North Meridian Street, Indianapolis

Catered meal prior to the recital at 6:00 PM in the St. Paul's Parish Hall

Indianapolis Pipe Organ Festival

Sunday April 21, 2024, 3:00 PM

Plainfield United Methodist Church, 600 Simmons St, Plainfield, IN



A Night at the Symphony

SAINT-SAENS SYMPHONY NO. 3 "ORGAN" WITH CONDUCTOR KAZEM ABDULLAH
CHRISTOPHER CARUSO-LYNCH, ORGANIST

May 17, 2024: 8:00 PM

May 18, 2024: 5:30 PM

Hilbert Circle Theatre, 45 Monument Cir, Indianapolis

Robert McCormick Hymn Fest

Installation of Officers, Memorials

May 24, 2024, Time: TBA

Northminster Presbyterian Church, 1660 Kessler Boulevard East Drive, Indianapolis

ROBERT McCORMICK

Concert Organist

"The instrument's countless colors, textures and dynamics were exhibited by McCormick in playing of technical wizardry and superb musicianship."

(Michael Caruso, Chestnut Hill Local, Philadelphia, PA, 2020)

Described by *Choir & Organ* as "indomitable and immensely gifted" and by The Macon Telegraph as "an artist of rare sensitivity and passion", **Robert McCormick** is widely heralded by his colleagues as one of the finest concert and church musicians of this era. Concert appearances across the United States include Grace Cathedral in San Francisco, the



Summer Organ Festival at the Riverside Church (New York), the Pittsburgh Organ Artists Series, the East Texas Organ Festival, Basically Bach Festival at St. Peter's Lutheran (New York), the Great Organists series at St. John's Cathedral in Albuquerque (New Mexico), the Atlanta Summer Organ Festival, and recent recitals and workshops for Harrisburg, PA and Little Rock, AR American Guild of

Organists chapters, among many others. His concerto appearances with orchestra include Samuel Barber's Toccata Festiva, Camille Saint-Saëns' "Organ" Symphony, and Joseph Jongen's Symphonie Concertante. He has been a featured artist and clinician at numerous conventions and conferences of the Association of Anglican Musicians, and the Royal School of Church Music in America, playing recitals and services, and leading workshops in choir training, service playing, and organ improvisation. For the 2019-2020 academic year, he taught improvisation at Westminster Choir College in New Jersey. As a composer, his choral and organ works are published by Encore (UK) and Selah and have been performed throughout the U.S and in Europe. He is known widely for his creative and unique abilities in organ improvisation.



His recording from St. Paul’s, K Street, We Sing of God, was released in June 2010 on the Pro Organo label. *Choir & Organ’s* review of the disc describes the choir as “one of the most responsive and adaptable choirs on the Eastern seaboard” and further states that “[McCormick] also shines at the organ.”

Mr. McCormick is the Organist and Choirmaster of St. Mark’s Episcopal Church in Philadelphia, a parish deeply rooted in the Anglo-Catholic tradition. From 2008–2016, he was Director of Music at St. Paul’s Parish, K Street, Washington, D.C. Under his direction, the St. Paul’s choirs performed at conventions of the AGO, the Organ Historical Society, and the Association of Anglican Musicians and were heard nationally on the radio programs Pipedreams and With Heart and Voice. From 2001–2008 he served as Organist and Music Director at the Church of St. Mary the Virgin, New York. He served for two years as sub-dean of the New York City chapter of the AGO and was co-chairperson of the 2014 National Conference of the Association of Anglican Musicians.

He holds the Bachelor of Music degree in organ performance, summa cum laude, from Westminster Choir College. During his time at Westminster, he was also Assistant Organist at Trinity Church, Princeton. His teachers have included McNeil Robinson and Robert Carwithen. Robert McCormick is represented in North America exclusively by Phillip Truckenbrod Concert Artists, LLC.



Community Programs



Kokomo Zion Church

Where People Gather to Celebrate, Serve, and Grow in Christ

Kokomo Zion Church
5051 E. 400 N.
Kokomo, IN
46901

Sunday, December 17th at 3pm

Christmas at Zion

The Kokomo Zion Concert Choir and Orchestra will present a program of new and old Christmas favorites. Come early to get a good seat!





Christmas Concert and Carol Sing

Sat 9 Dec at 7p

The Choir of Trinity sings two popular works by the modern master of the Christmas carol, John Rutter. The concert features

Rutter's *Gloria* for choir, organ, brass, and percussion and *Dancing Day* for choir and harp. Beloved Christmas carols—sung by everyone—round out the program and usher in the Yuletide!

A Service of Lessons and Carols

Sun 17 Dec at 5p

The traditional service begun by the choirs of Kings and St John's Colleges, Cambridge, England, sung by the Choir and Choristers of Trinity Church.

Michael Messina, DMA

Director of Music

Trinity Episcopal Church

3243 N Meridian St

Indianapolis, IN 46208

www.trinitychurchindy.org

317.926.1346



GREENWOOD

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

office@greenwoodumc.org

[317-881-1653](tel:317-881-1653)



Crossroads Brass Band Christmas Concert

Saturday, December 9 - 4pm

Crossroads Brass Band will be giving a free concert of Christmas favorites.

Greenwood UMC



St. Peter's United Church of Christ extends an invitation to:

Candles and Carols

A Christmas Celebration

December 17, at 6:00 p.m.

Organ prelude at 5:45 p.m.

Come sing and listen to familiar Christmas Carols presented by St. Peters music staff and singers of all ages. Listen to handbells, brass and woodwind ensembles.

St. Mark's United Methodist Church has been most gracious in opening their sanctuary to our congregation (July fire) for this festive time.

St. Mark's UMC is located at [4780 East 126th Street](#), one block west of Clay Middle School.

NB: The St Peter United Church of Christ program will be at St. Mark UMC
Addie Yoder, organist



Nick Fennig will be the organist.

Concert 3: Magic of the Season
Hendricks Symphony Orchestra and Chorus
Annual Holiday Concert
Friday, December 15, 2023 at 7:30PM
Sunday, December 17, 2023 at 3:00PM
Calvary United Methodist Church

Free Concert: Chamber Music XVII
Sunday, February 4, 2024 at 3:00PM
Bartlett Chapel Global Methodist Church

Concert 4: Magic of Mozart
Hendricks Symphony Orchestra and Chorus
featuring the works of "Magic Flute" and "Requiem"
Friday, February 16, 2024 at 7:30PM
Sunday, February 18, 2024 at 3:00PM
Please monitor Facebook for venue information

Concert 5: Magic of Youth
Hendricks Symphony Orchestra and Chorus
featuring the works of Mendelssohn and Shostakovich
Friday, April 26, 2024 at 7:30PM
Sunday, April 28, 2024 at 3:00PM
Please monitor Facebook for venue information

hendrickssymphony.org





3401 South Dixon Road
Kokomo, Indiana
46902

Phone
765.453.6183

Office Hours
Mon -Thurs:
8:30am -
4:00pm

Christ Lutheran Church

KOKOMO, INDIANA

The Rev. Sharon C. Walker, Pastor
Mr. Thomas Dearchs, Minister of Music

ADVENT RECITAL SERIES

WEDNESDAY,
6 DECEMBER

12:10 PM

Advent Recital Series
Lunchtime Concert:
SARAH WILLIAMS,
Organ
Organist at St. John's
Lutheran Church, Elwood

SUNDAY, 24
DECEMBER

7:00 PM

CHRISTMAS EVE: Festival
Eucharist with hymns and
anthems for congregation
and choir. Pre-service
music will begin
one-half hour preceding
the service and will feature
THE BACH TRIO.

WEDNESDAY,
13 DECEMBER

12:10 PM

Advent Recital Series
Lunchtime Concert:
**CATHERINE TROUT
MUSSELMAN,** Piano &
Harp
Freelance artist



WEDNESDAY,
20 DECEMBER

12:10 PM

Advent Recital Series
Lunchtime Concert:
TRAVIS PERSON, Organ
Organist at Zionville United
Methodist Church, Zionville



LENTEN RECITAL SERIES

WEDNESDAY,
21 FEBRUARY

12:10 PM

Lenten Recital Series
Lunchtime Concert:
MICHAEL MESSINA,
Organ
Director of Music at
Trinity Episcopal Church,
Indianapolis



WEDNESDAY,
28 FEBRUARY

12:10 PM

Lenten Recital Series
Lunchtime Concert:
MARKO PETRICIC,
Organ
Music Associate/Organist of
Northminster Presbyterian
Church, Indianapolis



WEDNESDAY,
6 MARCH

12:10 PM

Lenten Recital Series
Lunchtime Concert:
JOHN ALLEGAR, Organ
Organist & Assistant
Director of Music & Fine
Arts at Second Presbyterian
Church, Indianapolis



WEDNESDAY,
13 MARCH

12:10 PM

Lenten Recital Series
Lunchtime Concert:
DAWN WADDELL, Organ
Chapel Service Organist
at Second Presbyterian
Church, Indianapolis



WEDNESDAY,
20 MARCH

12:10 PM

Lenten Recital Series
Lunchtime Concert:
BARBARA HOBBS, Piano
Pianist at Faith Presbyterian
Church, Kokomo



SUNDAY, 31
MARCH

10:30 AM

EASTER DAY: Festival
Eucharist with hymns and
anthems for congregation,
handbells, brass, and choir.

SUNDAY, 19 MARCH

4:00 PM

Concert: **DEUX VOIX**
STEPHEN DISTAD, Organ
JUSTIN LANGHAM, Trumpet

Formed in 2014, **DEUX VOIX** (French for "two voices") has amassed a sterling reputation with both national and international acclaim. In addition to the numerous performances in their home in southeast Texas, they have presented concerts nationwide in over 19 states, and have toured abroad in Denmark, Sweden, and Norway where they were guest artists for the International Organ Festival in Bergen. A short list of notable performance locations includes

St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City, The Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul in Maine, the Mayo Clinic Medical Center in Rochester, Minnesota, Washington Music Festival in Fort Angeles, Cadet Chapel at West Point Military Academy, Myers Park United Methodist in Charlotte, North Carolina, and Boardwalk Hall in Atlantic City, New Jersey, home to the world's largest pipe organ. They also presented a wildly successful headlining program for the L'Organo Festival in Charleston, South Carolina in May of 2015, where they performed the formal dedication concert for the new organ at The Citadel and set a new record for the largest crowd for in the over thirty-year history of the series.

In their mission to expand the world of trumpet and organ, Stephen and Justin

are constantly adapting works from other genres and instrumentations, such as jazz, Broadway, opera, and current popular music. They have also commissioned and premiered many new works for trumpet and organ, including commissioned works by composers such as Mark Hayes, Craig Courtney, and Alejandro Benito. Deux Voix also frequently perform for private events, house concerts, and restaurants in an "unplugged" setting with piano, where they present a mix of classical, pop, Broadway, and jazz music. A reception will follow the concert.



AGO QUICK LINKS



AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS
National News

[AGO Job Center](#) – Vacancies and career opportunities

[Classifieds](#) – Instruments, music, and services for sale

[Member Discounts](#) – Save \$\$\$ with these AGO partners.

[Employing Musicians in Religious Institutions](#) – AGO guide

Positions in Search of Professionals

Substitutes and New Employment

The Indy AGO provides a substitute referral service for area churches and institutions with an immediate need for an organist or choir director for worship services, funerals, or weddings. Many of those on the substitute list are retired organists and choir directors. Our substitute list also includes chapter members who have experience in multiple worship settings.

The Substitute Coordinator will provide you with contact information on Indianapolis Chapter members who show they are available for your circumstance.

It will be the responsibility of the church, institution, or designated personnel to contact substitutes and make arrangements for rehearsals, practice time, music list and special music requests in a timely manner, and appropriate compensation. Download [Guidelines for Engaging Substitutes](#) for our best practices on successfully managing a substitute.

Please use our [Contact Us form](#) to connect with an available substitute.

URGENT

Please see below and contact Kim Olson if available.

Message Details:

Name: Kim Olson

Email: kim@fmhpc.org

Phone including Area code: 317-409-2742

Name of Church/Institution: First Meridian Heights Presbyterian Church, 4701 Central Ave., Indianapolis, IN 46205

Date: Christmas Eve, 6:30 p.m., \$250



Mooresville First United Methodist Church, Mooresville, IN is looking for an accompanist for choir rehearsal and Sunday mornings. If interested, please contact Sandra Fanning at 317-839-7672.





MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Benefits of Membership:

New AGO Member Benefit!: Join the Royal College of Organists (RCO) for £25.00 and receive a package of digital benefits including access to iRCO, the College's outstanding digital content hub that contains hundreds of videos, webinars, audio files, papers, articles and other educational material for the organist and choral director, as well as full access to online education and workshops. Click [here](#) to become an Affiliate member today.

Career Services: Our Job Board is your resource for organist employment, offering [employers](#) immediate posting and [job seekers](#) instant access. The AGO offers [career development and support](#) for you at all stages of your career.

Take Advantage: The AGO has partnered with Forrest T. Jones and Company to extend a variety of high-quality and competitively priced insurance plans to our members. As a new member, you are eligible to receive a life insurance policy worth \$60,000 at no charge for two years.

Get Involved: Be an active part of your local AGO chapter by volunteering or taking on the role of an officer. Or just enjoy being a member by attending meetings, recitals and other related events.

As a professional association of musicians, the American Guild of Organists expects the highest standard of professional behavior on the part of its members. AGO members are bound by a [Code of Ethics](#) and guided by a [Code of Professional Standards](#).

NOTE: For announcements in the Fanfare, please send date, time, location, costs, and applicable information, e.g., artist, program, content, address, parking: to Nick, Paul and/or me, (Graphics are always welcome).

More information is better than less. Complete information is required.

PLEASE include a contact person, phone number and email. Physical address is extremely important.

nfennig1@gmail.com

paulguyer@gmail.com

john.rohe@gmail.com

