

Volume 79, Issue 12
September 2024

Principal Pipings



American Guild of
ORGANISTS

LEXINGTON CHAPTER

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IN THIS ISSUE:

Upcoming AGO Events

More Local Events

Job Openings

Meet Allen Fletcher

Miscellany

Our Sponsors

Humoresque



From the Co-Deans . . .

Did you know that looking at pictures of cute baby animals can increase your ability to focus while you are practicing



your instrument? Part of the reason this works is that viewing images of baby animals tends to improve our mood, but according to studies, there is more to it than that. Noa Kageyama, PhD, a performance psychologist and faculty member at Juilliard, looked into this a few years ago and, well, it is a real thing!

As you may have noticed, there is no shortage of cute animal pics on the internet, so perhaps we should experiment with this idea. At the very least we'll all be in a better mood, and who knows, we might save so much time practicing that we'll have time to attend the next AGO Lex event!

Mike & Nancy

More about the cute-baby-animal-viewing studies:

bulletproofmusician.com

agohq.org/ 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, and its vision is to engage, support, and uplift every organist.

UPCOMING AGO EVENTS

GUESTS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME AT AGO EVENTS!

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 12:00p: Potluck Picnic at Kelleigh and James Humlongs' Duncastle Farm

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17, 12:00p: Members' Recital, "Music for the Liturgical Year," at The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, 533 East Main St., Lexington, KY 40508

Following the recital there will be an impromptu gathering at a local restaurant for lunch.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 10:00a: Berea Organ Tour and Lunch at Boone Tavern

Clif Cason writes: "Last year's tour of organs in Paris and Cynthiana was a big hit for our first meeting. We are following up that successful meeting with another organ tour, this time in Berea, KY. The colors on the trees may have faded by November 2 but the sounds of the organs will stir your senses.

"At 10:00a we will gather at Union Church and enjoy the two Steiner-Reck organs which were installed during John Courter's tenure. I am sure many of you remember John and his devotion to our chapter. He bequeathed several thousands of dollars to our chapter. Part of those funds have been used to purchase the portativ organ from the Louisville Bach Society after it folded. The portativ organ is currently housed at Christ Church Cathedral but is open to anyone who would like to use it at their venue or church. Arrangements can be made with Lisa Hall if you would like to borrow the instrument.

"Back to the tour. After visiting Union Church, we will proceed to Boone Tavern for lunch. Then it's a short walk across the street to Berea College where several more organs are located. Again, these were taken care of by John. His vision for these organs, along with the world-class carillon, is a testament to the impact John had on the people at Union Church and Berea College.

"Now for the appeal. Obviously, we can't hear the organs unless someone plays them. If you would like to play an organ composition or provide the attendees with an improvisation, please let me know. Dust off some of your favorites and share them with others. It's going to be a special day. Let's dedicate this meeting to John Courter and show up in great numbers like we did in Paris and Cynthiana last year."

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11, 12:00p: Lunch and Workshop with James Kibbie, organ, *University of Michigan*, at Christ Church Cathedral, 166 Market St., Lexington, KY 40507

James is a formidable and world-renowned Bach scholar and performer.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12, 4:00p: James Kibbie Recital and Rededication of the Dirksen Portativ Organ at Christ Church Cathedral

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 3:00p: Owen Tellinghuisen Recital at First Presbyterian Church, 174 N. Mill St., Lexington, KY 40507

Owen won the young organist competition at last year's regional convention and represented the Great Lakes region as its Rising Star at the National AGO Convention in San Francisco this past summer.

SATURDAY, APRIL 26, 11:30a.: Post-Easter Celebratory Lunch (TBA)

FRIDAY, MAY 30, 7:00p.: **Andrew Johnson Recital** at The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, 533 East Main St., Lexington, KY 40508

Andrew was a finalist in this summer's National Young Artists Competition in Organ Performance (NYACOP). He has already earned his AAGO and ChM certifications, winning the award for the highest marks on the ChM exam.

MORE LOCAL EVENTS

Sunday, September 29 – Christ Church Cathedral, Lexington, KY

3:30pm - Concert – Chimera Guitar Quartet, University of Louisville

4:00pm - Evensong with the Cathedral Choir

Sunday, October 13 – Lexington Chamber Chorale

5:00pm, Second Presbyterian Church, Lexington, KY

“The Power of Singing: Global and Political”

<http://lexingtonchamberchorale.org/>

Sunday, November 3 – Christ Church Cathedral

3:30pm - Concert – Brass Ensemble, University of Kentucky

4:00pm - All Souls Evensong with the Cathedral Choir

Wednesday, November 13, 7:30pm - Cincinnati Museum Center, featuring the 1929 E.M.

Skinner Organ in the rotunda:

Peter Richard Conte with nationally recognized Mezzo-soprano Stacey Rishoi

cincymuseum.org

Sunday, December 1 - Lexington Chamber Chorale

5:00pm, Second Presbyterian Church, Lexington, KY

“The Power of Singing: Festive Holidays”

lexingtonchamberchorale.org/

Friday, December 6 – Christ Church Cathedral

7:30pm - G.F. Handel’s “Messiah” with guest soloists, the Cathedral Choir and the Lexington Baroque Ensemble

For ticket reservations, visit ccclex.org/messiah

Sunday, December 8 – Christ Church Cathedral

4:00pm – Blue Christmas with Pleasant Company

Sunday, December 15 – Christ Church Cathedral

6:30pm – Organ Prelude - Lisa Hall, Assistant Cathedral Organist

7:00pm – A Service of Nine Lessons and Carols with the Cathedral Choir

Sunday, December 22 – Christ Church Cathedral

4:00pm - Benjamin Britten’s “A Ceremony of Carols” with the Cathedral Girls Choir,
Rachel Renee Miller, harp



JOB OPENINGS

Beaumont Presbyterian Church, Lexington:

ORGANIST

One Sunday service with choral rehearsal preceding
Christmas Eve, Maundy Thursday, and other occasional services
Wednesday evening choral rehearsal
Broad range of musical styles within traditional worship
Salary competitive. Four weeks paid vacation.

Send resume to Wayne Gebb, Minister of Music, wwgebb@gmail.com

[posted 8/1/24]

St. Andrew Catholic Church, Lexington:

“We are looking for an individual that would be available to play the piano and/or organ at our weekend liturgies and other special liturgies during the year. There would also be choir practice on Wednesday evenings from 7:00 – 8:00 PM. The musician will need to work closely with the choir members.

“If there is a funeral mass at St Andrew and the musician is available to play, it would be greatly appreciated if the musician would play.

“If there was a wedding at St Andrew we would provide the musician’s name and contact information to the couple, with the musician’s permission, if the couple requested it. All music must be approved by the Pastor or the music selection committee one month prior to the day of the wedding.

Salary: \$100.00 per mass and choir practice (Easter and Christmas litugies that would last longer than one hour will be adjusted accordingly to the time the liturgy ends).

Liturgy starting times: Saturday 4:00 PM
 Sunday 11:00 AM
 Christmas Eve, 2 Masses
 Christmas Day 11:00 AM
 Easter Season: Mass on Holy Thursday, Service on Good Friday
 Mass on Easter Vigil 9:00 PM, Easter Sunday 11:00 AM

“There are four Holy Days in the year that the dates change due to the calendar, and if the musician is available and willing, we would like the person to consider playing at those services. You would know well in advance when those services would be scheduled.”

Contact Jennifer Fister at jfister@cdlex.org if you are interested.

[posted 8/1/24]

JOB OPENINGS, Continued

First Presbyterian Church, Lancaster:

Our church is searching for a part time organist/pianist starting immediately. This position is for Sunday worship and special events. Pay is negotiable. Musicians will have the option of playing a 2 manual pipe organ or a baby grand piano.

Interested parties may contact Donna Powell dmpowell44@roadrunner.com or Kitty Barsotti barsotti@windstream.net

[posted 9/1/24]

Woodland Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Lexington:

Woodland is seeking a progressive and engaging part-time Pianist/Music Director who is interested in working in a loving and transformational faith community! Folks are encouraged to apply on Indeed and/or contact Steve Johnson at sjohn5@email.uky.edu to express interest.

[posted 9/1/24]

MEET OUR YOUNG ORGANISTS

We were curious to know more about our younger members and decided to feature them in this and some upcoming newsletters.



What is your name and music position?

My name is Allen Fletcher, and I am the Organist at Hunter Presbyterian Church and Part-Time Staff Accompanist at Transylvania University.

Where did you grow up?

I was born and raised in Jackson, Kentucky, a small

town of about 2,000 in the mountains of eastern Kentucky.

What drew you to the organ and how did you get started?

Like many organists, I was first introduced to the organ through the church. The Methodist church in which I grew up had a badly out-of-tune, yet still magnificent, 1920s Pilcher—the only pipe organ in our small town. Although I had taken piano lessons since the first grade, I was always fascinated by the organ’s sound—always thinking to myself, “I want to play that!” When I was 13, I worked up the courage to ask our organist to give me a summer crash course. Like many first-time organists, I spent my first few years plunking around the pedals in socks and using only my left foot.

How did you land in the Central Kentucky area?

I came to Transylvania University in 2014 on a piano scholarship, thinking that my organ days were behind me. By sheer fortune, my piano teacher took a sabbatical during my second semester, so I decided to give the organ another try. I enjoyed lessons with Richard Dwyer so much that I kept going. One thing led to another, and I decided to add a second major in organ performance. After graduating from Transy in 2018, I had come to love Lexington so much that I decided to stay! I began playing at Hunter Presbyterian that summer, completed an MA in American history at UK in 2020, and this fall I will begin my final year of the PhD program.

If you could learn any skill instantly, what would it be?

The ability to speak a foreign language. I took German and Spanish in college, but they just never stuck.

Is there something about you that might surprise people?

Many people are surprised that I work as both a historian and musician. Some even tell me that I live a “double life.” Those who work with me in music settings find it surprising that my day job involves reading, researching, and writing history, while those in the history world are intrigued that I moonlight as an organist.

What are your favorite things?

Traveling has become my favorite thing in recent years. Beyond that, I enjoy the simple things in life: good food, a good night’s sleep, and a good book.

Who do you like better: Jethro Tull or Pink Floyd?

Jethro Tull. I’m impressed by any rock band bold enough to feature a flute.

Anything else you'd like to share?

I’m looking forward to meeting more AGO members at our events this year. Although I’ve technically been a member for a few years, my grad school work has kept me from attending events as much as I would like. Please come say hello; I’m always excited to talk anything music- or history-related!

MISCELLANY

HAVE YOU REMEMBERED TO PAY YOUR AGO DUES?

You can check your membership status by logging on to ONCARD at agohq.org/oncard and renew there. If you do not want to use ONCARD you can call AGO HQ at 212-870-2310, and they will be happy to assist you in renewing your membership over the phone.

AGO HEADQUARTERS is asking all AGO members to sign in to ONCARD as soon as possible and make sure that our birthdates are included in our profiles. They are going to be using a new software database which will require this information (so that we are not overcharged membership fees!). Questions? contact Elizabeth George, elizabeth.george@agohq.org

Jane and Bill “Happy Trails” Johnson



Jane and Bill Johnson have recently returned from “Out West.” They are pictured above next to one of the 1936 White Motor Company Yellowstone National Park buses. Jane is a former (long-time) LexAGO dean.



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GREAT MUSIC

at Christ Church Cathedral
September 2024

Concert & Evensong

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

3:30pm
Chimera Guitar Quartet
University of Louisville

4:00pm Evensong
with the Cathedral Choir



Concert & Evensong



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3

3:30pm
Brass Ensemble
University of Kentucky

4:00pm
All Souls Evensong
with the Cathedral Choir

Please visit our website www.ccclex.org/music for more information on the Cathedral Choir, Great Music Series, and Friends of Cathedral Music.





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GREAT MUSIC

at Christ Church Cathedral

2024-2025



Concerts & Evensongs

3:30pm Concert

4:00pm Evensong with the Cathedral Choir

*September 29, November 3,
February 16, March 16, May 18*

Friday, December 6

7:30pm George Frideric Handel's *Messiah*
with the Cathedral Choir

For tickets, visit cclex.org/messiah



Sunday, December 15

7:00pm A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols
with the Cathedral Choir

Sunday, December 22

4:00pm Benjamin Britten's *A Ceremony of Carols*
The Cathedral Girls Choir
Rachel Renee Miller, *harp*

Sunday, January 12

4:00pm Dirksen Organ Rededication Concert
Jame Kibbie, *organ*



Palm Sunday, April 13

4:00pm Gabriel Fauré's *Requiem*
with the Cathedral Choir

*Please visit our website cclex.org/music for more
information on the Cathedral Choir, Great Music Series,
and Friends of Cathedral Music.*

HUMORESQUE

Build your vocabulary with these new words!

Giraffiti (n.): Vandalism spray-painted very, very high.

Inoculatte (v.): To take coffee intravenously when you are running late.

Sarchasm (n.): The gulf between the author of sarcastic wit and the person who doesn't get it.

Bozone (n.): The substance surrounding stupid people that stops bright ideas from penetrating. The bozone layer, unfortunately, shows little sign of breaking down in the near future.

Gargoyle (n.): Olive-flavored mouthwash.

Frisbeetarianism (n.): The belief that, when you die, your soul flies up onto the roof and gets stuck there.

