



CNCC NEWSLETTER

Oldest Chapter in the Carolinas

Chartered November 23, 1922

Central North Carolina Chapter

American Guild of Organists

Raleigh, North Carolina

September 2025

Dean's Letter

Friends,

I hope you all are doing well and have had a wonderful summer as we prepare for fall, which is soon around the corner!

As we begin the new 2025-2026 year together, I would like to start by saying **THANK YOU** to each of you for the opportunity to once again serve as your dean! It is difficult to adequately express what a blessing it has been getting to know many of you and hear about the impact each of you is making through music in our community. We are fortunate to have such wonderful members who make up our vibrant and active chapter, and I am honored to be entrusted with leading our chapter.

On a similar note, I am incredibly grateful to have the privilege of serving with the wonderful group of individuals on our Executive Board who are so deeply committed to our members, and who tirelessly find creative ways to offer events that continue to support our mission: **Supporting our Members, Encouraging Young Organists, and Sharing the Organ with our Community!** I couldn't ask for a better group of folks to serve, or to serve with!

As we look toward the fall and our new year, I **am excited to share that attached to this email, you will find the list of events for the 2025/2026 year!** I am proud of all the work your Executive Board has done to provide a thoughtful collection of

opportunities for our members and chapter friends this year. You will notice that we have included some familiar events from last year, as well as several exciting new opportunities to consider. We hope you will take the time to add these events to your calendar and consider inviting a friend! We have a wonderful year of music ahead, and I look forward to the opportunity of sharing it with each of you!

I know many of you will be excited to see that we will once again start the year together with our **"Preludes, Postludes and Pastries"** event at **Hayes Barton Baptist Church on October 18th!** This event was an excellent opportunity to connect and reconnect with friends and colleagues last year, and we want to share this experience again. I know it will be an excellent time once more, and I hope you will plan to join us! **Please RSVP to John Massenburg (jnj777@att.net) by October 14th if you would like to play!**

In the meantime, please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or if the AGO can assist you in any way.

I am grateful for you all, and I look forward to seeing everyone in October!

THANKS,
TANNER WINCHESTER
919-900-0630



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The Chapter is very grateful to
Lyn Francisco and Betty Fuller
for their gifts to the Chapter Operating Fund.
Special thanks to **David Cole, Hunter Cox, Lyn Francisco, and Lee Harris** for supporting the
Cooper-Miller Scholarship Fund.



CHAPTER COMMUNICATIONS

Newsletter published monthly by the Central North Carolina Chapter, American Guild of Organists. Submission Deadline: 24th of preceding month.

The Chapter website is

<https://www.centralncago.org/>

You can also find us on Facebook, thanks to Lyn Francisco's administration:

<https://www.facebook.com/cnccago/>

Chapter Event



Preludes, Postludes, and Pastries

**October 18th, 10 am-12 pm
Hayes Barton Baptist Church
1800 Glenwood Ave, Raleigh, NC**

AGO members and non-members are welcome!

Join us for our first chapter event of the 2025/2026 season! This is an excellent time to connect, reconnect, and share pastries and coffee along with some of the resources that we have found helpful in our musical work. Feel free to share a piece or two on either organ or piano. You are also welcome to simply attend and not present a piece!

Please RSVP to John Massenburg (jmj777@att.net) by October 14th if you would like to play!

Image: <https://creazilla.com/media/digital-illustration/1656926/muffin-cake-bun>



Welcome to our New Chapter Members!

We are delighted to have **Vivian Adams** from Raleigh
Clara Gerdes relocated from New York, and
Mila Karamushka, dual member with the Durham-
Chapel Hill Chapter as new members.

What I Did Last Summer...



My summer was action-packed full of organ events, conferences and academies! I started off by going to the AGO Regional Convention in Phoenix, Arizona. I was impressed by the beautiful organs that I had the pleasure to see, hear and play. Each organ had a different story to tell. The organs ranged from a whimsically modern Casavant organ at The Episcopal Parish of Saint Barnabas on the Desert to a traditional neobaroque style instrument at Arizona State University. Every night ended with an organ concert and I was fortunate to have the opportunity to hop on a few of them which of course was an great honor and unexpected treat.

Exactly one week later I had the honor of performing a concert on the monumental Midmer-Losh pipe organ in Atlantic City, New Jersey. It was a thrilling experience and such a unique and special moment in time and I am very thankful for the opportunity. I will say it is one of the most challenging organs that I have ever played with Methuen Memorial Music Hall being a close second because of the acoustics. From there we traveled to Rochester, New York, where I attended the Eastman Summer Organ Academy. I was highly impressed with the faculty and the other amazing young organists that I had the pleasure to spend the week with. I was fortunate enough to have lessons with Dr. David Higgs and Professor Nathan Laube and learned a great deal from them and the other faculty.

(Beach graphic: https://clipart-library.com/clipart/beach-clipart_3_2023.htm)

We also visited and played some really amazing organs in Rochester but the one that I enjoyed playing the most was the Craighead-Saunders organ at Christ Church. We also had the opportunity to visit Parsons Pipe Organ Builders, the Memorial Art Gallery's historic Italian Baroque pipe organ and tour the organs at Cornell University.

The week following Eastman I took part in the AGO's POE-Advanced in Worcester, Massachusetts. We saw, heard, and played many historic pipe organs in the area, such as the Hook organ at Mechanics Hall, and the Walcker/Aeolian Skinner organ at Methuen Memorial Music Hall. Every night after the evening concert we were able to get on the organs at each venue and it was so special to have time on all of the magnificent instruments. I was highly impressed with the quality of professional organists on faculty for the week and is one of the reasons I chose to attend. It did not disappoint.



I was fortunate to have Dr. Anne Laver as my teacher but I also gained so much knowledge from all of the other faculty members as they presented so many great workshops during the week. It was so well organized and I was blown away with the quality of the program they put together!

To round out my musical summer adventures I attended the ALCM National Conference in Raleigh NC. I really didn't know what to expect being that it wasn't an "organ" event. It was great to interact with such a variety of people from pastors to composers to other organists like myself. Everyone was so kind and welcoming and I enjoyed the event tremendously.

Needless to say it was an amazing summer and I am extremely thankful for the opportunity to grow and learn as a young organist. I'm thankful for all of the guidance, love and support that I am shown in the organ and music community! I also want to give a special thank you to the Cooper-Miller Scholarship whose continued dedication to young organists like myself helped me attend these events.

BRODY BETT
COOPER-MILLER SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

Association of Lutheran Church Musicians National Conference

"For all that is to be" was the theme for this year's Association of Lutheran Church Musicians conference. One highlight was a Hymn Festival in which local choir members joined 175 singers in the choir and over 500 in the audience to fill the Holy Name of Jesus Cathedral in Raleigh with glorious hymn singing and organ music led by Tom Trenney.

A number of Chapter members were spotted there and singing with Duke's Zeb Highben in Duke Chapel, hearing the Raleigh Ringers, reading through potential choir music with some of

the composers in attendance and hearing from other Chapter members who were presenters in booths for local vendors.

A highlight for me was working for three sessions with the internationally known a capella group from England, Voces 8. They shared vocal techniques as well as philosophical principles in an improvisatory, hands-on presentation in addition to their concert in Duke Chapel.

TAMARA LEWIS



Central NC Chapter Charlotte Organ Crawl

Nearly a dozen Chapter members made their way to the Queen City to explore organs at Friendship Missionary Baptist Church and Providence UMC in June.

One of the attendees was Cooper-Miller Scholarship winner Miles Fox who commented, "The Charlotte Organ Crawl provided a unique opportunity to explore church organs in Charlotte, not only in terms of their tonal color and registration, but also in understanding the engineering behind how they work. I also enjoyed making connections with the other outstanding organists who were in attendance. It was a wonderful afternoon."



Missionary Baptist Church



Providence United Methodist Church



The Central NC Chapter extends heartfelt condolences to Brock Downward in the loss of his wife, Mary "Polly" Downward.



Central North Carolina AGO Chapter Events 2025-2026

Saturday, October 18

Preludes, Postludes and Pastries

10:00 am-12:00 pm Hayes Barton Baptist Church, Raleigh

Saturday, November 8

Cooper-Miller and Anderson Scholarship Recital

2:00 pm Jones Chapel, Meredith College, Raleigh

Saturday, January 31

"The Pianist's Primer on Playing the Organ" with Kirsten Homdrom

10:00 am North Raleigh United Methodist Church, Raleigh

Saturday, February 7

Cooper-Miller and Anderson Scholarship Competition

Church of the Nativity, Raleigh

Saturday, February 21

A Festival of Piano and Organ Duets

3:00 pm First Cary United Methodist Church, Cary

Saturday, April 18

Duke University Chapel Organs and Workshop Crawl with John Santoianni

9:00 am Duke Chapel, Durham

Saturday, May 16

"Introduction and Fundamentals of Choral Conducting" with Mark Woodcock

10:00 am First Baptist Church, Raleigh

Saturday, June 13 End of Year Recital and Members Luncheon with Laura Ellis

11:00 am Hayes Barton United Methodist Church, Raleigh



Opportunities Knocking



MORE USED MUSIC AVAILABLE FOR THE TAKING!

Our library of used organ music recently received a large donation. My favorites are all represented there: Dale Wood, Charles Callahan, Paul Manz, The Parish Organist, JSB!, and many others. St. Michael's Episcopal on Canterbury Drive in Raleigh is our gracious host by offering shelves in their music library to store everything. Please contact me if you want to meet there and browse these treasures. I frequently let people take a boxful for a month or more. This way they can play through and decide what they really want to keep.

For this used music, we ask a donation of any size to our Cooper-Miller Scholarship fund. This directly benefits these new teen-aged organists who will take our places on the bench one day.

(PS: To all Cooper-Miller students, this music is free to you without any donation requested!)

LORRAINE MAGNUSON

COOPER-MILLER SCHOLARSHIP CHAIR

NEW ONLINE SERIES FOR EARLY- AND MID-CAREER ORGANISTS

AGO Members had an August 29 email "September National News" from AGO Communications. It contains this announcement which could be of interest. The first masterclass will be held online on Monday Sep. 15 and you can register through a link in that email.

"From Console to Career: Professional Issues for Emerging Church Musicians" is a five-part, monthly online series designed to equip early- and mid-career organists with the tools, insights, and confidence to pursue successful and fulfilling careers. Whether you're just stepping into your first role or navigating the next move, these sessions, led by accomplished young musicians, will guide and inspire.

<https://agohq.org/Ago/News/From-Console-to-Career.aspx> is the link to learn more and register for the masterclasses, beginning on Monday, Sept. 13, at 7 p.m. ET / 4 p.m. PT.

Knock graphic: <https://clipart-library.com/knock-on-door-clipart.html>

CHAPTER LISTINGS FOR ORGAN INSTRUCTION

The following AGO members are available for organ lessons.
Please contact the teacher you are interested in for more details and information.

Dr. Mark Andersen

910-739-5481
emarka@me.com

Dr. David Baskeyfield

585-880-0343
dbaskeyfield@gmail.com

Dr. Filippa Duke

919-691-0463
fmd0611@gmail.com

Lee Harris

919-757-2469
pichpipe45@gmail.com
Scotland, Richmond and Robeson Counties (NC)
Marlboro County (SC)

Dr. W. David Lynch

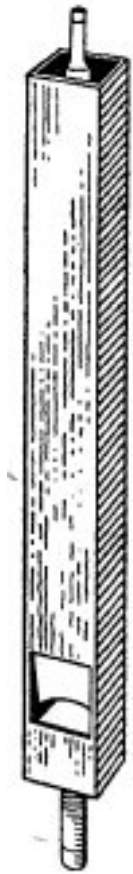
lynchd@meredith.edu

Dr. Timothy Olsen

olsent@uncsa.edu

Dr William J Weisser

919-812-2986
wjweisser@gmail.com
Wilmington, NC



*Please forward any updates to this list to the Tamara Lewis at
trailsong26@gmail.com.*



FRANK H. KENAN
MEMORIAL ORGAN

FLENTROP (1977)/
RICHARDS, FOWKES & CO, OP. 27 (2024)

ORGAN DEDICATION

**NATHAN
LAUBE**

SAVE THE DATES
Join us for one of these
performances later this summer

SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER 6
7 PM

OR

SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER 7
4 PM

ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
DURHAM, NC

WWW.SSECDURHAM.ORG

The 1977 Flentrop organ was a by-the-book Classical French instrument, but since June 2020, it has undergone a major restoration by the distinguished firm of Richards, Fowkes & Co. The new organ has a compound name, Flentrop (1977)/Richards, Fowkes & Co, Op.27(2024).

Join us for the dedication weekend at St. Stephen's!

Saturday, September 6

6 pm Pre-Concert Reception (Parish Hall)

7 pm Organ Dedicatory Recital: Nathan Laube (Free)

Sunday, September 7

10:15 am Eucharist and Dedication of the Organ

Sunday, September 7

4 pm Organ Dedicatory Recital: Nathan Laube (Free)

Reception to follow (Parish Hall)

For more information, or to register for the event, go to

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/st-stephens-organ-dedication-tickets-1429201372779>

Arts at St. Luke's presents David Arcus in Recital



Sunday, September 14, at 4:00 p.m.

Performance will include David's original compositions,
with the world premiere of a 2025 composition, *Prologue*,
and his *Symphony No. 1 for Solo Grand Organ*

Reception to follow

St. Luke's Episcopal Church
1737 Hillandale Rd
Durham, NC 27705



Arts @ St. Luke's

www.stlukesdurham.org
All are welcome!



Admission is free, but donations to benefit
St. Luke's music program are welcome.



St. Luke's website

Arts at St. Luke's will present All Arcus!, an organ recital by David Arcus featuring original compositions on Sunday, September 14th at 4 p.m. St. Luke's Episcopal Church is located at 1737 Hillandale Road, Durham. David will perform original compositions written over the course of his professional music career. The recital will include the world premiere of music composed in 2025, *Prologue*, and the complete performance of his *Symphony No. 1 for Solo Grand Organ*, composed in 1998.

Formerly organist at Duke Chapel, David Arcus was appointed organist at St. Luke's in April of 2024 and now serves as St. Luke's Director of Music. His career spans activities as a recitalist, conductor, composer, teacher, and clinician. His commercially released recording, *Organs of Duke Chapel*, is on the Gothic Label.

2025-2026
FISK ON FOURTH
CONCERT SERIES
PRESENTS
**DAVID BASKEYFIELD
AND FRIENDS**

David Baskeyfield
Pattie Hopkins Kinlaw
Elizabeth Ivy Wilson



Zack May
Adam Cobb
Tanner Winchester

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2025 • 7PM

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SERIES

*...where community, faith,
and the arts
come together*

CHORAL FESTIVAL/COMPOSER WEEKEND CONCERT

"O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"



With Guest Composer David Schwoebel
*Featuring a Festival Choir of 80+ Singers,
Brass Ensemble, Handbells, Percussion, and Organ.*
Special Premier of Commissioned Anthem
for the Ardmore Choir in Honor of Jim Davidson.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 20 AT 4 PM
IN THE SANCTUARY

The event is free and open to the public. A love offering will be received.

ARDMORE BAPTIST CHURCH
501 Miller Street • Winston-Salem, NC • ardmorebaptist.org

AVAILABLE POSITIONS

The American Guild of Organists (AGO) provides a professional opportunities service to its members by sharing information about Positions Available. This includes both permanent “open benches” and also one-time “substitute dates.” The Guild cannot endorse or recommend any person for a job or substitute date. Membership in the AGO is open to all who pay dues, regardless of education, experience, ability and/or skills. The AGO Professional Relations Director passes along information, which may include salaries offered by institutions and specifics about jobs/dates, as information is received from an institution. AGO members are encouraged to negotiate salaries and explore options with each offered position. The Central North Carolina Chapter, AGO does not accept responsibility for the accuracy of material provided for these listings, nor does inclusion of information in the listings imply endorsement by the chapter.

It has come to the attention of the Professional Relations Director that we have churches that do not understand that resumes are for the purview of the appropriate search committee. If confidentiality is critical to you, please make it clear in your cover letter that this is a requirement for you, at least in the initial stages of inquiry and dialogue.

If you are seeking a supply organist, the fastest method is to contact the Professional Relations Director with all the pertinent information. When sent to all members by email, many requests are filled within one hour. This method has saved a lot of time otherwise spent in calling an ever-changing list of names. Contact information is listed below.

If you are aware that a church/synagogue position is becoming available, (i.e., you are making a change), please advise the Professional Relations Director as soon as possible for listing and distribution. Contact:

Elizabeth Goldstein-Epstein
3700 Baron Cooper Pass, #307
Raleigh, NC 27612
(C) 941-928-0176
elizabethgoldstein@yahoo.com

The Professional Relations Director will neither recommend anyone for a position nor serve as an agent for any member. The Professional Relations Director is always available to members and to hiring institutions for the purpose of answering questions.