

# CNCC NEWSLETTER

*Oldest Chapter in the Carolinas*

*Chartered November 23, 1922*

Central North Carolina Chapter

American Guild of Organists

Raleigh, North Carolina

March 2026

Friends,

I hope you all are having a wonderful beginning to your Lenten season!

It was wonderful to see some of you at our recent “A Festival of Piano and Organ Duets” concert at First Cary! The concert was a wonderful success, and certainly an enjoyable afternoon of instrumental music and hymn singing. There will be more updates from the concert in the days ahead. Thank you again to all of our wonderful performers who made the day a success!

Looking forward to upcoming events, I hope you will join us **this Saturday, 10 am to 12 pm at North Raleigh UMC** for a wonderful event with Dr. Kirsten Homdrom. Her workshop, entitled “**The Pianist’s Primer on Playing the Organ,**” offers a great opportunity for pianists to learn about the organ and how to apply their existing piano skills in approaching the organ. Dr. Homdrom is an excellent musician, educator, and truly one of the nicest people! I know you will enjoy this free event, and I hope you will consider inviting a friend.

Finally, as we look forward to later in the spring, I want to remind you of our upcoming **Duke University Organ Crawl on April 18th at 9 am**. Due to the nature of the event, there will be a formal RSVP process, and we will cap participation and limit it to active chapter members. If you are interested in participating in this event, please email me directly at [dean@cncc.org](mailto:dean@cncc.org) to be added to the list. Additional information will be shared with those interested in participating.

Well, I think that’s all for now! I know it’s a busy season for all of us as we prepare for Easter, but I hope you all can find time to enjoy the little moments of peace, blessing, and personal reflection during this meaningful season.

*THANKS,*

**TANNER WINCHESTER**

*DEAN*



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Special thanks to everyone who made a contribution to the  
**Chapter Scholarship Funds.**



## CHAPTER COMMUNICATIONS

*Newsletter* published monthly by the Central North Carolina Chapter, American Guild of Organists. Submission Deadline: 24<sup>th</sup> 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/cncago/>

# Chapter Event



*The Central NC Chapter of the AGO presents*

## *“The Pianist’s Primer on Playing the Organ”*

by Kirsten Homdrom



**RESCHEDULED FOR  
Saturday, March 7**

10:00 am

at North Raleigh UMC  
8501 Honeycutt Rd.

Are you a pianist who is just starting to play the organ? Or maybe an organist whose first instrument is the piano? Join us for this workshop with Dr. Kirsten Homdrom as she explains how to easily become a confident organist with your existing skills at the piano!

Kirsten says, “I will be covering registration, as well as articulation, touch, shoes, and repertoire resources, among other things. I’m also looking forward to answering questions, especially ones that perhaps people have had but haven’t had the chance to ask them.

**Dr. Kirsten Homdrom** currently serves as Director of Music and Organist at The Church of the Good Shepherd in Raleigh. Kirsten has also taught piano and organ to students of all ages and has performed both in the United States and abroad.

She has a passion for ministering to people by sharing God’s gift of music in fellowship and faith. Kirsten holds a B.M. in piano performance from Baldwin-Wallace University Conservatory of Music and and a M.M. and D.M.A. in piano performance from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music.



# Double the Fun at our Scholarship Benefit Piano and Organ Duet Recital



*Performers included (L-R) Stephen Aber, Kerry Johnston, Christy Farrior, Elizabeth Epstein, Tanner Winchester, Andy McBeath, and Brad Hunnicutt. (Not pictured: Hunter Cox)*

Hats off to the wonderful performers at the February 22nd Piano and Organ Duet Recital. The concert was a success, and the donations continue to come in from attendees! We look forward to sharing an update of the amount raised in our next newsletter.

If you would like to contribute, please mail a check made out to CNCC-AGO with "scholarship": in the memo line to our treasurer, Lee Harris, at 210 West Boulevard, Laurinburg, NC 28352.



## ANDERSEN SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS



*Lee Harris, Watson Price, Jackson Alexander and Mark Andersen*

On February 7th, the Andersen Scholarship auditions were held in Red Springs, NC with one person auditioning live and three people auditioning via Youtube to a panel of three judges.

Two winners were chosen from the four who auditioned. The winners chosen were Watson Price and Jackson Alexander. Both winners this year were participating in an afternoon concert in Cheraw, South Carolina on February 22nd where Mark Andersen and Lee Harris from our chapter were in attendance to present their framed certificates and their check in the amount of \$1000 each.

Both of these talented young men will be entering college in September of this year and both will be studying organ and piano. Watson is going to be a music major at Campbell and Jackson is going to Appalachian and will minor in music. We look forward to great things from both of these fine organists.

Applications for next year's Andersen Scholarship can be found on our Chapter website.



# Central North Carolina AGO Chapter Events 2025-2026

Saturday, October 18  
Preludes, Postludes and Pastries  
Hayes Barton Baptist Church, Raleigh

Saturday, November 8  
Cooper-Miller and Andersen Scholarship Recital  
Jones Chapel, Meredith College, Raleigh

Saturday, February 21  
A Festival of Piano and Organ Duets  
3:00 pm First Cary United Methodist Church, Cary

**Saturday, March 7 (Rescheduled)**  
**"The Pianist's Primer on Playing the Organ" with Kirsten Homdrom**  
10:00 am North Raleigh United Methodist Church, Raleigh

**Saturday, March 7 (Rescheduled)**  
**Cooper-Miller and Andersen Scholarship Competition**  
Church of the Nativity, Raleigh

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



**La Bande à Franck:  
Cello Music by Pupils of César Franck**

Samuel Magill, Cello  
Bridget O'Leary, Piano

Sunday, March 8, 2026, at 7:00 PM  
Carswell Recital Hall—Wainwright Music Building

Meredith College—3800 Hillsborough St., Raleigh, NC

Admission Free

Music by Alfred Bachelet, Gabriel Pierné,  
Charles Tournemire, and Louis Vierne



Music of composers who studied illicitly with Franck, who was supposed to teach only organ at the conservatory!

Pierné: Organ student of Franck's, who succeeded him as organist at the church where Franck had presided, conducted the world premiere of Stravinsky's *The Firebird*.

Tournemier: One of the last organ students of Franck, who wrote one of the longest organ compositions ever penned, a piece with music for every day of the liturgical year. This will be the world premiere of his cello sonata.

Vierne: Was blind from birth. Music was published in Braille from the 1840's, and Franck had four blind students and helped create some Braille publications for them.

\* \* \* \* \*

A pupil of the late Zara Nelsova, **Samuel Magill** is the former Associate Principal Cello with the Metropolitan Opera, and a former member of both the Houston and Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestras. A native of North Carolina, Mr. Magill holds degrees from the Peabody Institute of Johns Hopkins University and The Shepherd School of Music of Rice University. He also attended the University of North Carolina School of the Arts in high school.



# Organ Recital Jacqueline Farrell

Organist Jacqueline Farrell will present a program of Mendelssohn, Bach, and early music on the Wolff and Brombaugh organs

**Date:** Sunday, March 15, 2026

**Time:** 4:00 p.m.

**Place:** St. Paul's Lutheran Church

1200 W Cornwallis Road

Durham NC 27705

*Free & Open to the Public*



Jacqueline Farrell is an organist and harpsichordist and is Director of Music at Christ Episcopal Church in New Bern, North Carolina. She recently completed a Master of Music (MM) degree in Organ Performance at the Yale School of Music. Jacqueline was formerly Minister of Music at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Durham, North Carolina, and served as Dean of the Durham-Chapel Hill chapter of the American Guild of Organists. She has performed at Washington National Cathedral, churches in Europe, Holy Name of Jesus Cathedral in Raleigh, North Carolina, and Duke University.

# DUKE CHORAL EVENT



Rescheduled  
for March 21



## Sacred Choral Clinic with Dr. Hilary Apfelstadt

Presented by Duke Chapel Music

SATURDAY, JANUARY 24th, 2026 | 9:00 AM

Duke Chapel Music Sacred Choral Clinic with Dr. Hilary Apfelstadt

Sat, Jan 24, 2026 9:00 AM

Luncheon - Choir Directors Only - Sacred Choral Clinic with Dr. Hilary Apfelstadt

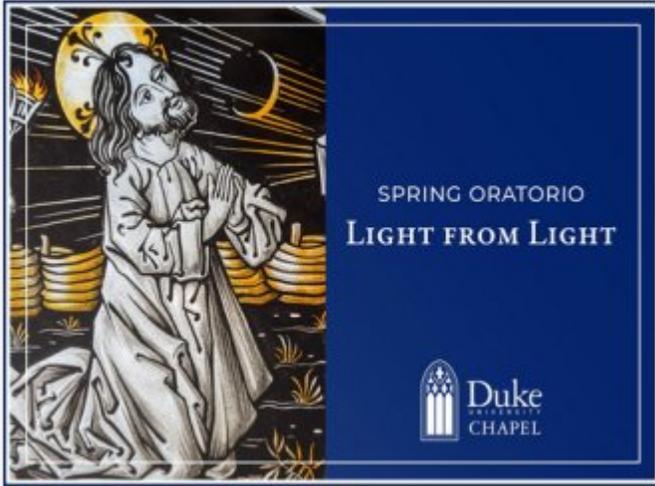
Sat, Jan 24, 2026 1:00 PM

### PROGRAM

Choir singers and directors are invited to the Chapel's third annual Sacred Choral Clinic with Dr. Hilary Apfelstadt, an internationally renowned conductor and pedagogue, who is Professor Emerita at the University of Toronto as well as a past president and former interim executive director of the American Choral Directors Association. Participants will sing with the Duke Chapel Choir and other choirs from around North Carolina, as Dr. Apfelstadt teaches vocal techniques and introduces choral repertoire appropriate for the upcoming liturgical seasons. At the conclusion of the clinic, a brief public "informance" will be given, featuring the repertoire from the clinic interspersed with short organ works and hymns for all to sing.

For registration and more information go to:

[https://tickets.duke.edu/Online/default.asp?  
BOparam::WScontent::loadArticle::permalink=choralclinic26&BOparam::WScontent::loadArticle::context\\_id=](https://tickets.duke.edu/Online/default.asp?BOparam::WScontent::loadArticle::permalink=choralclinic26&BOparam::WScontent::loadArticle::context_id=)



# Spring Oratorio Series

## Duke Chapel Choir and Mallarmé Music

SATURDAY, MARCH 28  
AT 7:30 PM

On the eve of Holy Week, the Duke Chapel Choir joins forces with Mallarmé Music to perform two stunning expressions of faith.

Purchase tickets here: <https://duke.is/4/z32h>

Arvo Pärt's Berliner Messe was written in 1990 for a German religious festival following the fall of the Berlin Wall. Yet its origins lie in an earlier work, the 1977 Summa, a setting of the Creed written in Estonia during an era in which Pärt could not openly express his faith. The mass moves between ethereal serenity and joyous exuberance, woven together by Pärt's signature tintinnabuli technique.

John Rutter's beloved Requiem premiered in 1985 and was dedicated to the memory of his father. It combines portions of the traditional Latin Requiem with English-language scriptures-Psalm 130, Psalm 23, and verses from Job and John-in a musical tapestry of solace and reassurance.

# 2026 Piedmont Triad Organists Symposium

FRIDAY, APRIL 17<sup>TH</sup> — SATURDAY, APRIL 18<sup>TH</sup>



Presented by the  
Piedmont NC AGO

Register today for a weekend of professional development workshops, along with a hymn festival and sessions on improvisation and publishing led by Tom Trenney. This brief symposium is brimming with exciting opportunities!

## SPECIAL GUEST TOM TRENNEY

We're thrilled to welcome renowned organist, composer, and choral conductor Tom Trenney as our keynote presenter! On Friday night, Tom will lead a hymn festival, "Will You Come and Follow Me?", on the Dobson-Rosales organ at West Market Street United Methodist Church in Greensboro. The next day, he'll lead two workshops at Salem College in Winston-Salem: one on improvisation using hymn tunes and the other sharing his perspective and journey as a composer and arranger.

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Along with Tom Trenney's workshops on improvisation and composing, participants can choose from additional workshops on the music publishing business, adapting registration to non-idiomatic organs, working with aging voices in your choir, and executing an organ-building project from start to finish. Symposium attendees of all ages and experience levels will find something to hone their professional skills.

## FRIDAY, APRIL 17

*West Market Street UMC, Greensboro*

4:00pm: Gathering & Greeting

4:30pm: Workshops (choose one)

a) **Working with Aging Voices**  
w/ Robert Overman

b) **Getting an Organ Building Project Off the Ground** w/ Tom Lewtak & Timothy Olsen

5:30pm: Catered dinner

7:30pm: **Tom Trenney in Concert: Will You Come and Follow Me?**

## SATURDAY, APRIL 18

*Elberson FAC, Salem College, Winston-Salem*

9:00am: **ABRACADABRA: Discovering the Magic of Musical Improvisation** with Tom Trenney

10:00am: Coffee break

10:15am: **Perspectives on Composing, Arranging, and Publishing** w/ Tom Trenney

11:00am: Workshops (choose one)

a) **A Music Publisher's Perspective** with Wayne Leupold

b) **Registration at the "Wrong" Organ** with John Cummins

12:00pm: Symposium ends. Attendees encouraged to get lunch with someone they met at the event!

## REGISTRATION



To register, visit [www.piedmontncago.org/symposium](http://www.piedmontncago.org/symposium) or scan the QR code to the left. Fee covers festival admission, all workshops, Friday's catered dinner and coffee/snacks on Saturday. Email [piedmontncago@outlook.com](mailto:piedmontncago@outlook.com) with any questions.

Ages 30 & under	{	AGO members (any chapter): <b>free</b> Non-members: <b>\$50, includes 1 free year AGO membership</b>
Ages 31 & up	{	Piedmont NC AGO members: <b>\$50</b> Non-members or members of other chapters: <b>\$100</b>

For more information, go to <https://www.piedmontncago.org/symposium-673890.html>

# Festival Choir Registration for **Will You Come and Follow Me** A Hymn Festival with Tom Trenney

FRIDAY, APRIL 17<sup>TH</sup> — 7:30PM



Register today to help lead hymn-singing under the direction of concert organist, composer, conductor, preacher, and teacher Tom Trenney!

#### ABOUT THE FESTIVAL:

"Will You Come and Follow Me?" is a hymn festival inviting us to "answer the call to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with our God". The event will take place on Friday, April 17 at 7:30pm at West Market Street United Methodist Church in Greensboro, NC.

#### FESTIVAL CHOIR INFORMATION:

Choir members will rehearse with Tom Trenney at West Market Street UMC from 6pm to 7pm, with a quick break before the hymn festival at 7:30pm.

Snacks and drinks will be provided during the break.

The choir will sing three of Tom Trenney's own hymn arrangements: "Will You Come and Follow Me", "Comfort, Comfort", and "How Firm a Foundation". There is a \$10 registration fee to cover the cost of this music. You are welcome to take the printed music home with you after the hymn festival.



## SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, APRIL 17

*West Market Street UMC, Greensboro*

6:00pm: Rehearsal with Tom Trenney in the WMS Sanctuary

7:30pm: **Tom Trenney in Concert: Will You Come and Follow Me?**

## REGISTRATION

To register, visit [www.piedmontncago.org/festival-choir-registration](http://www.piedmontncago.org/festival-choir-registration) or scan the QR code below. The fee covers the cost of music. Snacks and beverages will be available to participants. Email [piedmontncago@outlook.com](mailto:piedmontncago@outlook.com) with any questions.



*Presented by the  
Piedmont NC Chapter of the American  
Guild of Organists  
and  
West Market Street United Methodist  
Church  
Greensboro, NC*



## 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**

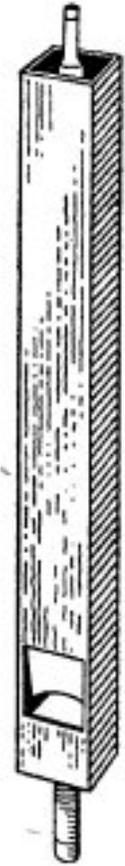
lynchd@meredith.edu

**Dr. Timothy Olsen**

olsent@unca.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.*

## 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.