

CNCC NEWSLETTER

Oldest Chapter in the Carolinas

Chartered November 23, 1922

Central North Carolina Chapter

American Guild of Organists

Raleigh, North Carolina

May 2026

Friends, I hope you all are doing well! As we come to the end of our 2025/2026 year, I want to take a moment to remind you of our last two events. They will both be excellent, and I hope you can join us!

1. ***“Introduction and Fundamentals of Choral Conducting” - Mark Woodcock***

First Baptist Church, Raleigh (99 N Salisbury St, Raleigh, NC 27603)

May 16th, 10 am - 12 pm

Join us for this fundamentals of choral conducting workshop as Mark Woodcock presents the basics of choral conducting from the podium. The workshop will cover both the practical examples and principles of conducting choral literature, along with the opportunity for individuals to conduct a prepared piece for coaching.

Attendees will also have the opportunity to participate as the choir for the workshop, accompanied by the piano. If you would like to present a piece for coaching during the workshop, please email Tanner Winchester (tanner.winchester@gmail.com) by Saturday, May 9th.

2. ***End of Year Recital and Members Luncheon - Laura Ellis***

Hayes Barton United Methodist Church (2209 Fairview Rd, Raleigh, NC 27608)

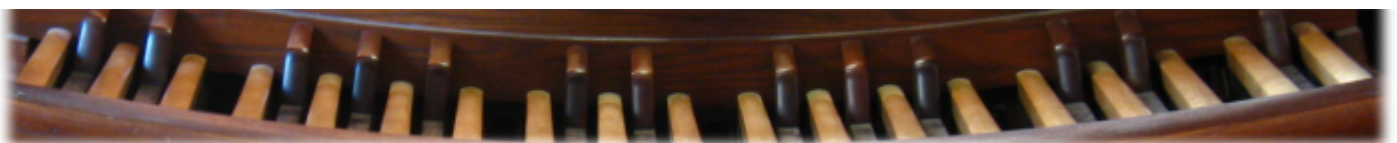
June 13th at 11 am

Join us for our final event of the year! The event will feature a short morning concert with Dr. Laura Ellis, followed by lunch together. This will be a wonderful morning of music and an excellent opportunity to connect and reconnect with colleagues and friends alike.

Laura Ellis is Associate Director and Professor in the School of Music at the University of Florida. She teaches courses in Sacred Music and applied lessons in organ, harpsichord, and carillon. Ellis holds the DMA in organ performance and the MM in Church Music from the University of Kansas, and her undergraduate degree is from Luther College, Decorah, IA. Her primary teachers have been James Higdon, William Kuhlman, and Eileen Nelson Ness. Active in the American Guild of Organists (AGO), Ellis served as Regional Councillor for the Southeast for three terms and is currently Dean of the Gainesville chapter.

It has certainly been a full year for all of us, but I hope to see you at these excellent opportunities before we enter the Summer season!

TANNER WINCHESTER, DEAN



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We appreciate everyone who donates to our
Chapter Fund and our
Chapter Scholarship Funds.



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/cncago/>

Chapter Event

“Introduction and Fundamentals of Choral Conducting”

Mark Woodcock

Saturday, May 16, 2026

10:00am-12:00pm

First Baptist Church of Raleigh



Join us for this fundamentals of choral conducting workshop as Mark Woodcock presents the basics of choral conducting from the podium. The workshop will cover both the practical examples and principles of conducting choral literature, along with the opportunity for individuals to conduct a prepared piece for coaching.

Attendees will also have the opportunity to participate as the choir for the workshop, accompanied by the piano.

If you would like to present a piece for coaching during the workshop, please email Tanner Winchester (tanner.winchester@gmail.com) by January 15th.

Mark Woodcock serves as the Director of Music at First Presbyterian Church, Raleigh, and is a doctoral candidate at the University of Illinois. He has taught at the University of Illinois, Piedmont University, Graceland University, and Truman State University and has prepared choirs for performances in Alice Tully Hall, Chicago’s Symphony Center, and the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts.

As a singer, he has performed throughout Europe and North America with the Montreal Symphony Orchestra Chorus, UMass Amherst Bach Festival, Illinois Bach Academy, Voices of a New Renaissance, and Coro Vocati. As a graduate of the Estonian Academy of Music, he has performed extensively with the Estonian groups Voces Tallinn, Heinavanker, Nuku Koor, Rahvusoperi Eesti Poistekoor, and in the Estonian National Song Festival, which has been proclaimed a Masterpiece of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity by UNESCO.



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



**Welcome to our new
Chapter Members**



We are excited to add
Helen Bishop from Apex,
Scott Collins from New Hill,
Calvin Stewart from Hillsborough and
Michael Wechter from Midland, MI
as our newest members.

Special Note:

For a limited time, AGO is offering a \$7 discount if you renew early. Use the promo code RENEWEARLY within the next 30 days. (See National's website for more details.)



Wunderkinder

As seen in J. W. Arnold's "The Weekend Organist" column in the May issue of The American Organist...**Our own Brody Bett!**

Arnold was writing about organists who have been influential on social media. At the end of the article, he had a section titled "Wunderkinder" and said:

We've been watching Brody Bett grow up on social media. Now 16 years old, he showcases his organ skills alongside his singing and other musical talents on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube. His enthusiasm is contagious. FB: @bettbrody; IG: @brodybett; YT: @brodybettmusic.

Brody has a dedication recital coming up in Salisbury at the end of the month. See page 10 for his bio and more details.

**Central NC Chapter AGO
Treasurer's Report for April 2026
(bank balance as of March 31, 2026)**

Balance forward	\$25,454.24
Operating Fund balance	\$13,469.99
Previous	16,562.67
AGO dues*	47.00
Transfer from CM Scholarship (USPS mailing checks)	22.41
Interest	.13
Admin debits (\$86.62, 22.41)	-109.03
3 Scholarship checks	- 2,250.00
2 AGO program expenses	-803.19
Cooper-Miller Scholarship account	\$9,146.49**
Previous	8,891.57
Deposits	275.00
Interest	2.33
Transfer to Operating	-22.41
Total both accounts	\$22,616.48

*Dues
Wm.Gard

*** This amount does not reflect scholarship checks that will be transferred to the Operating fund, which will be reflected on the May statement.*



ARTS

2025-2026

at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

RECITAL & EVENSONG

MAY 17, 2026

4:30 Organ Recital

5:00 Choral Evensong for the Ascension

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

82 Kimberly Drive | Durham, NC 27707



featuring

Dr. David Lim

Duke Chapel
Organ Scholar



WWW.SSECURHAM.ORG

NEW ORGAN DEDICATION CONCERT



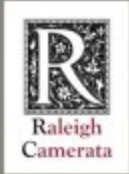
OAK ISLAND EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Join us on **Sunday May 17 at 6PM** for Oak Island Evangelical Presbyterian Church's dedication of their new Makin Organ and Organ Concert.



Charles Douthit will be the guest organist. He is a gifted young award-winning organist having won the Baylor School of Music Semper Pro Musica Competition for organ in 2021. Charles is the primary organist and assistant music director at Trinity Baptist Church in Mooresville, North Carolina. His concert will demonstrate his virtuosity and explore the dynamic range of OIEPC's new Makin Organ. There will be a meet the organist reception in Fellowship Hall following the concert.

Location: Oak Island Evangelical Presbyterian Church
1503 Oak Island Drive
Oak Island, NC 28465



HOLY TRINITY
ANGLICAN CHURCH

SPECIAL CONCERT:

The Church Year in Music

SUNDAY, MAY 31 AT 3PM

HOLY TRINITY ANGLICAN CHURCH

100 E. PEACE STREET, RALEIGH

SCAN TO RESERVE YOUR SEAT:



The music ministry of Holy Trinity Anglican Church will present a free concert on Sunday, May 31, at 3:00 pm.

This program will feature musical selections and audience singing that correspond to the major redemptive events in the earthly life of Christ: Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Holy Week, Easter, Ascension, Pentecost, and Trinity. Each of these segments will present a hymn for the audience to sing, a piece for organ or stringed instruments, and a choral work, all based on the same hymn melody.

There will be music by J.S. Bach, Michael Praetorius, Jan Sweelinck, Claude Goudimel, Dietrich Buxtehude, and others. Performers will include period-instrument players from the Raleigh Camerata, the Holy Trinity Chamber Choir, and Paul Harris, organ and director. The choral works will be sung in their original languages.

Free parking is available on the east side of the church building, and in the Peace College parking lots across the street. The church is located at 100 E. Peace Street in Raleigh. For more information, contact Paul Harris at .

Brody Bett is a classically trained highly sought after 16 year old multi-instrumentalist and singer with the gift of perfect pitch. He plays a wide variety of instruments with a strong passion for piano and pipe organ. Brody discovered he has perfect pitch at 4 years old. He fell in love with the "king of instruments" at 6 years old and it is his biggest passion. Since then he has traveled the country playing some of the world's largest and most famous pipe organs including the famous Wanamaker Grand Court Organ, the Midmer-Losh in Atlantic City, Salt Lake City Tabernacle, Disney Concert Hall and the Hazel Wright Organ at Christ Cathedral in California.

Brody has had the pleasure to perform at many great events and venues across the country. He has been the guest artist for the Greensboro Symphony, featured half time artist for the NFL Carolina Panthers and performed for the L'Organo Series at The Piccolo Spoleto Festival in Charleston SC.

Brody is the music director and organist for Irving Park United Methodist Church in Greensboro NC. He has a large following on social media where he posts organ and music videos. His goal is to spread the beauty of the pipe organ and bring in people who may have never heard or been interested in them. He especially wants to reach young people, and be an inspiration and advocate for these beautiful instruments.

PIPE ORGAN
Encounter & Intensive
 for youth ages 13-18

www.uncsa.edu/summer/music-summer-intensives/organ/

July 12-17, 2026
Winston-Salem, NC

- Field trips to local instruments
- Individual & group instruction
- Daily improvisation lessons
- Recitals by accomplished performers

PIPE ORGAN ENCOUNTER AND ORGAN INTENSIVE

Winston-Salem will again host two workshops for youth organists and those interested in learning about the pipe organ. Youth must be ages 13–18. The events will be partially on the campus of the University of North Carolina School of the Arts and in the greater Winston-Salem area.

<http://www.uncsa.edu/summer/music-summer-intensives/organ/>

Registration is currently open. For more information or to register, go to <http://www.uncsa.edu/summer/music-summer-intensives/organ/>

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

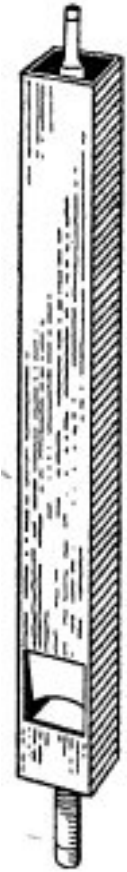
lynchd@meredith.edu

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.