
PIPE & PEDAL

Monthly newsletter of the Baltimore Chapter, American Guild of Organists
February 2023

Dean's Letter

You are the light of the world. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house.

For those of us using the Revised Common Lectionary, this lesson comes up in the readings for this coming Sunday, the Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany. I don't know about you, but this time of year, with its seeming endless gray days, makes me yearn for light. On those rare days where the sun is out for part, or most of the day, I often feel like I need to shield my eyes from its brilliance, because I am so accustomed to the muted light. I think that can be a metaphor for our work as well. We can get so used our daily routine that we begin to feel weighed down by its repetitiveness. A malaise begins to overwhelm, and our "light" begins to mute and fade.

One of the benefits of an organization like the AGO is that we can share our light and support and recharge each other. Listening to each other play, sharing our experiences with our colleagues, and taking advantage of our chapter's educational offerings, all help us renew our spirits and revitalize our commitments so that we are able to shine in our various vocations and fill our surroundings with our light.

This coming week, February 7, 2023, is our Members' Recital. Several of our colleagues have offered to play and share their light with us. I hope that you will come support them, hear a new piece, a new interpretation, a new sound that might renew your passion and inspire you.

You also have a vital role to play in the success of our chapter. At the dinner before the recital, we are asking you to share your thoughts and ideas about programming which will help you be fully charged for the next year. The Executive Committee and Program Committee want to hear from you.

There will also be the chance to talk with your colleagues, renew acquaintances, and meet members you may not know. I look forward to seeing and talking with you there.

Peace,

Bert



Upcoming Baltimore Chapter Events

Tuesday 7 February 2023, 6:00p

Members Recital

St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church/Ten Hills

(4711 Edmondson Ave, Baltimore, MD 21229)



6:00p – Chat & Chew

7:00p – Members Recital

We'll gather for a lite meal to catch up & share ideas for Chapter programs, then enjoy a varied program performed by members of the chapter.

Dinner options are available from Panera Bread Company.
You will be asked to pay via credit/debit card when you place your food order

[Click here to place to your order](#)



New Mentorship Programs for the Baltimore Chapter!

The Baltimore A.G.O. Chapter is announcing two new kinds of mentorship programs. First, we are forming a new BAGO Scholarship Program for Beginning Organists, details forthcoming soon. The objective of this exciting program is to support the training of organists new to the instrument. Additionally, we are hereby introducing a separate professional mentorship program, “S.O.S.,” for members in our community. The objective of the S.O.S. (“Solve the Organist’s Situation”) Program is to share helpful advice among members, in a spirit similar to the “Dear John” column that was formerly a part of our chapter newsletters a few years ago.

S.O.S. (“Solve the Organist’s Situation”) Program for Chapter Members

SITUATION: Do you have questions related to your profession? Or, do you have questions related to the organ? Examples might include:

- Choir Issues (an odd section balance or limited budget)
- Repertoire Advice (suggestions needed for a specific liturgy, or for an instrument with limitations, or for a non-SATB choir)
- Organ Literature questions (e.g., “Did Reger compose anything easy?” or “Can you suggest some women composers of Baroque organ music?”)
- Advice on purchasing a new organ for your church or on fundraising for your instrument
- Musical Ideas for a special non-liturgical service (e.g., a prayer service for a war-torn region or a service for victims of gun violence)
- Wondering what organs to be sure to see when traveling to another country, etc.



Perhaps you would rather not search your question online nor inquire on social media platforms but you might instead (or additionally) prefer to reach out to the accrued wisdom of your Baltimore Chapter colleagues. If so, we have a solution.

SOLUTION: Members can email their question to current coordinator, Diane Luchese, (dluchese@towson.edu) along with their specified preference from these options:

- OPTION 1. Your question will be forwarded (without your name) to the BAGO list. Members reading your question who have something to share will email their responses to the coordinator. When the replies are gathered, the coordinator will send the compiled suggestions back to the person who requested some help. Additionally, if anyone else in the community sees the question when it is circulated and has a similar question and/or would like to know the solutions regarding the same issue, they too can write to the coordinator, requesting that they also get a copy of the responses.
- OPTION 2. If you have a question and complete anonymity is not critical and/or you might even want some follow-up dialog exchange with mentors on the issue, begin by sending your question to the coordinator. Your question will go out to the community at large (anonymously) in the newsletter. Any member who sees your question and would like to help will contact the coordinator, after which they will be given your contact info to exchange with you directly and independently.



Local & Local-ish Events

To submit individual events for listing on the Baltimore AGO Calendar and in the *Pipe & Pedal*, please visit <http://www.baltimoreago.org/submit-events>.

Events through 28 February are listed below.

For a full listing of events, please visit <https://www.baltimoreago.org/events>

Friday 3 February 2023, 7:30p

Silent Movie with improvised Organ Accompaniment

The Church of the Redeemer (5603 N Charles Street, Baltimore, MD 21210)

Dr. Jason Roberts, the phenomenal improviser from New York, will accompany "The Navigator" with Buster Keaton. Popcorn and beverages will be provided. Join us for a fun evening and hear the Redeemer Organ like you've never heard it before!

Sunday 5 February 2023, 4:00p

Bach in Baltimore Winter Radiance

Fauré *Requiem* & Haydn Symphonies nos. 2 & 17

Grace United Methodist Church (5407 North Charles Street, Baltimore, MD, 21212)

Join Maestro T. Herbert Dimmock, the Bach in Baltimore Choir and Orchestra, plus special guests for a sparkling concert illuminating Fauré's *Requiem* and a pair of Haydn symphonies. Unlike large-scale requiems by Verdi, Brahms, and others, Fauré's work exudes a gentle stillness and ethereal spirituality. Fauré composed his *Requiem* following his father's death, and his mother passed away shortly after it premiered, giving the work added poignancy. American composer Aaron Copland (also featured in our 22-23 season) said of the piece, "Those aware of musical refinements cannot help but admire the transparent texture, the clarity of thought, the well-shaped proportions. Together they constitute a kind of Fauré magic that is difficult to analyze but lovely to hear." The concert also includes Haydn's cheerful Symphony No. 2 in C Major—noteworthy for the quick, dance-like finale that was his first attempt at a symphonic rondo—and Symphony No. 17 in F major, which ends playfully and is sure to bring a smile to your face.

IN-PERSON: \$40 Advanced and Door Adult / \$10 Student / \$5 Child (5-11) / Children under 5 are Free. Live Streaming & On-Demand options starting at \$5. To purchase tickets or for more information, go to www.bachinbaltimore.org or call 410-941-9262.

Sunday 5 February 2023, 5:00p

Evensong for Epiphanytide

The Church of the Redeemer (5603 N Charles Street, Baltimore, MD 21210)

Join the Redeemer Choir and clergy as we offer Evensong for Epiphanytide, featuring T. Tertius Noble's beautiful settings of the Magnificat and Nunc dimittis, Charles Wood's "O thou the central orb", and Preces and Responses by William Smith.

Tuesday 7 February 2023, 6:00p
BAGO Chapter Event: Members Recital
St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church/Ten Hills
(4711 Edmondson Ave, Baltimore, MD 21229)

We'll gather for a lite meal at 6:00 to catch up & share ideas for Chapter programs, then enjoy a varied program performed by members of the chapter at 7:00p

Dinner options are available from Panera Bread Company. [Click here to place to your order](#)

Tuesday 7 February 2023, 7:00p
Organ Department Recital
Virginia Theological Seminary (3737 Seminary Road, Alexandria, VA, 22304)

Sunday 12 February 2023, 3:30p
Choral Evensong and Organ Recital – Monica Czausz Berney, organist
Emmanuel Episcopal Church (811 Cathedral Street, Baltimore, MD 21201)

The Emmanuel Choir sings a traditional service of Choral Evensong, featuring Charles H. H. Parry's monumental anthem *Blest Pair of Sirens* and works of Herbert Howells and H. Balfour Gardiner. The 4:00 p.m. service is preceded at 3:30 p.m. by an organ recital, performed by concert organist Monica Czausz Berney.

For more information and tickets, visit www.emmanueldowntown.eventbrite.com or contact Christian Lane, clane@emmanueldowntown.org.

Friday 17 February 2023, 7:30p
Salon Concert
The Church of the Redeemer (5603 N Charles Street, Baltimore, MD 21210)

Join us for an evening of keyboard music up close and personal. Sherrill Pantle will offer Bach's "Chromatic Fantasy" and "Prelude and Fugu in b minor" from the WTC. Sarah Bruns will offer a Haydn Sonata and some works by Satie. Bert Landman will offer Sweelinck's "Under the Linden tree" on 5arpsichord, and he and Sarah will play one of the Soler Double Concertos using harpsichord and positive organ. Bring some snacks and beverages, sit in comfortable chairs and enjoy an evening of music with friends. This event will be in Redeemer's Parish Hall.

Sunday 19 February 2023, 1:00p-4:00p
Mardi Gras Celebration
Church of the Immaculate Heart of Mary (8501 Loch Raven Blvd., Towson, MD 21286)
Part of the IHM Concert Series

The IHM Concert Series Presents: The music and entertainment of "The Starvation Army Jazz Band" as part of our Annual Mardi Gras Dinner "This concert will be held in the parish school auditorium and feature a full Barbeque feast catered and served by Mission BBQ.

Tickets are \$25 each. Your ticket will entitle you to the full dinner as well as the (cont.)

concert/entertainment. The buffet will include Pulled Pork, Pulled Chicken Chopped brisket, with sauces, Mac 'n' Cheese, Baked Beans, Coleslaw, Rolls Cornbread, tea, lemonade, and dessert. Wine and beer will be available for purchase.

Here is a preview: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8cL93dy_5ZE

For more information, [see this flyer](#). Tickets also available for purchase before and after Weekend Masses. For Tickets: www.ihmchurchmd.org 410-668-7935

Sunday 19 February 2023, 5:00p

The Baltimore Basilica Schola Cantorum – Third Sunday Solemn Vespers

The Baltimore Basilica (409 Cathedral Street, Baltimore, MD, 21201)

The Baltimore Basilica celebrates Solemn Vespers on Sunday, February 19th at 5 pm. The music for this liturgy is provided by the Basilica Schola Cantorum, which sings a choral prelude, leads the singing of psalmody, and sings the Magnificat. Vespers will be followed immediately by a lecture given by Sister Rita Michelle Proctor, major superior for the Oblate Sisters of Providence, on the life and work of Mother Mary Lange, whose cause for canonization was opened in 2021.

Tuesday 21 February 2023, 6:00p

Mardi Gras with the Hot Club of Baltimore NOLA DJANGO Quintet

Emmanuel Episcopal Church (811 Cathedral Street, Baltimore, MD 21201)

Part of the Music at Emmanuel, 2022-2023 Season

Michael Joseph Harris, guitar, banjo, vocal | Joseph Brotherton, trumpet, vocals
Gabriel Wallace, clarinet, sax, vocals | Willie Clark, tuba | Connor Holdridge, rhythm guitar

Michael Joseph Harris and the Hot Club of Baltimore's NOLA DJANGO Quintet performs an evening of traditional New Orleans style swing and Django Reinhardt style Hot Jazz from the 30's and 40's for Mardi Gras.

6:00 p.m. concert; complimentary reception at 5:30 p.m. Tickets in advance or at the door; \$10 suggested donation. For more information and tickets, visit www.emmanueldowntown.eventbrite.com or contact Christian Lane, clane@emmanueldowntown.org.

Saturday 25 February 2023, 10:00a

Resources and Strategies for Children's Music

St. Margaret's Episcopal Church (1601 Pleasant Plains Rd., Annapolis, MD, 21409)

Led by clinician Michael Smith and host Jim Douglas, all are welcome to attend a masterclass and workshop focused on resources and strategies for children's music in the church and the wider community. Area church musicians and chorister families are encouraged to bring their choristers in grades K-8, who will participate in a short demonstration rehearsal observed by all, then workshop attendees will participate in a presentation and discussion about how to start, maintain, and recruit a children's music program. Topics will include the role of youth music in the life of your parish and different repertoire and resources to utilize and how to adapt them to local circumstances. Michael Smith is Minister of Music at St. Thomas' Church, Whitmarsh, MD. where he oversees a (cont.)

semi-professional adult chori and a chorister programs. Jim Douglas is the Director of Music at St. Margaret's Church in Annapolis. This event is free for Annapolis AGO members, and families with children; \$20 for others. The link below includes more information on the clinicians and a registration form for children, although advance registration is not required.

- 10-10:30am - Short demonstration rehearsal (choristers/families are free to leave at end of rehearsal)
- 10:30am-12:30pm – Presentation
- 12:30pm - Optional lunch for further conversation at nearby Red, Hot and Blue BBQ Restaurant (200 Old Mill Bottom Rd., Annapolis)

For more information: <https://www.st-margarets.org/workshop-resources-and-strategies-for-childrens-music.html>

For event listings: An events email will be sent mid-month, on the first Friday after the 15th. Events will also be listed in the monthly *Pipe & Pedal*. To be included in the *Pipe & Pedal* (sent on the 1st of the month) events should be received by the 25th of the month prior to publication.

Placement Service

placement@BaltimoreAGO.org

Please visit <https://www.baltimoreago.org/placements> any time to see open positions.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church – Music Director (placed 19 January 2023)

Address: 4535 Piney Church Rd, Waldorf, MD 20602 USA

Phone: (301) 645-5000

Size of Congregation: 200-299

Contact Name: Maria Kane

Contact Phone: (301) 645-5000

Contact Email: mkane@stpaulswaldorf.org

Number of weekly services or liturgies: 1

Number of weekly rehearsals: 1

Number of music ensembles: 1

Average Ensemble Size: 8

Total Hours per Week: 13

Type of Instrument: Three-manual Rodgers Trillium 927 organ; Kawai K-5 Upright Piano

Music budget this fiscal year: \$500

Annual Minimum Salary: \$23,000

Annual Maximum Salary: \$25,000

This position provides: Secretarial assistance, Sick leave, Maternity leave, Continuing education/Professional development funding

Other relevant details about the position: Please visit our website to learn more:

<https://stpaulswaldorf.org/musicdirector/>

Shrine of the Sacred Heart – Director of Music (placed 11 January 2023)

Address: 1701 Regent Rd., Baltimore, Maryland 21209-3631 United States

Phone: (410) 466-6884

Size of Congregation: 800-899

Contact Name: Laura Dugan

Contact Phone: (443) 779-9158

Contact Email: office@theshrine.org

Number of weekly services or liturgies: 3

Number of weekly rehearsals: 1

Number of music ensembles: 1

Average Ensemble Size: 11

Total Hours per Week: 20

Music budget this fiscal year: \$20,000

Annual Minimum Salary: \$36,000

Annual Maximum Salary: \$36,000

This position provides: Health insurance, Sick leave, Book/music allowance, Secretarial assistance

Other relevant details about the position: The Director of Music (DM) coordinates, selects, and oversees all liturgical music and the parish choir. They play the organ at all music masses and play the organ or the piano to rehearse and perform music with the choir. The DM plays and organizes 3 liturgies per weekend, one of which is the choir mass. In addition, the DM plays and prepares the liturgies for Holy Days, Feast Days, Funerals and Weddings.

Qualifications:

- Bachelor's Degree in Music or equivalent with a strong knowledge of Catholic worship and liturgy. Skilled at developing and directing choirs for Mass, with a minimum of 3 years experience in a Catholic parish.
 - Ability to play the piano and organ with ease at an advanced level.
- (cont.)

- Excellent leadership, administrative, planning, and organizational skills.
- Technology and Computer skills for the creation of Orders of Worship for all Masses, and the reporting of all music offered at masses to the One License Copyright Service.
- Ability to work well as a team member of the parish staff.
- Maintain up-to-date personal certification for Archdiocesan Virtus program, in addition to passing Fingerprint and Criminal background check upon being hired.

St. John's Lutheran Church – Organist (placed 17 November 2022)

Address: 3911 Sweet Air Rd, Phoenix, Maryland 21131 United States

Size of Congregation: 400-499

Contact Name: Brian Hehn

Contact Phone: (410) 592-6565

Contact Email: brian@stjohnssweetair.org

Number of weekly services or liturgies: 1

Number of weekly rehearsals: 1

Number of music ensembles: 1

Average Ensemble Size: 17

Total Hours per Week: 8

Music budget this fiscal year: \$500

Annual Minimum Salary: \$14,500

Annual Maximum Salary: \$14,500

This position provides: Sick leave, Parental leave

Other relevant details about the position: First right of refusal for wedding and funerals on the St. John's campus

Christ Church – Organist/Choir Director (placed 1 November 2022)

Address: 111 South Harrison Street, Easton, MD 21601, USA, Easton, MD 21601 United States

Phone: (410) 822-2677

Size of Congregation: 700-799

Contact Name: William Ortt

Contact Phone: (410) 822-2677

Contact Email: christchurcheastonmd@gmail.com

Number of weekly services or liturgies: 2

Number of weekly rehearsals: 1

Number of music ensembles: 2

Average Ensemble Size: 5

Total Hours per Week: 20

Type of Instrument: Rodgers Infinity Series. Model 484MV

Music budget this fiscal year: \$13,000

Annual Minimum Salary: \$25,000

Annual Maximum Salary: \$27,000

This position provides: Pension plan, Continuing education/Professional development funding

Other relevant details about the position.: Please see our posting at www.christchurcheaston.org

BALTIMORE CHAPTER AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

OFFICERS

Dean: Bert Landman (dean@baltimoreago.org)
Sub Dean: Marvin Mills (subdean@baltimoreago.org)
Secretary: Louis Gephardt-Gorsuch (secretary@baltimoreago.org)
Treasurer: Jeanne Klusewitz (treasurer@baltimoreago.org)
Registrar: Frank Rittermann (registrar@baltimoreago.org)

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Class of 2023: Paul Byssainthe, Jr., Daniel Fisher
Class of 2024: Midori Ataka, Tim Murphy
Class of 2025: Wendy Johnston, Diane Luchese

PLACEMENT – SUB LIST

Louis Gephardt-Gorsuch
Placement@BaltimoreAGO.org

For forms and further information see our website: www.BaltimoreAGO.org

