

# PIPELINES

NASHVILLE CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

APRIL 2022



## DEAN'S CORNER

Spring in Nashville is quite beautiful—unlike any other place I have experienced. The beautiful weather and blossoming of trees (with allergies being the unfortunate downside) are rather timely, as musical events are filling up calendars rapidly, like new life is beginning!

I am so grateful that I saw many of you on our event on March 21. It was nice to share food and mingle before the concert, and what an unusual offering from Matthew Owens! I enjoyed the experience of the music by Howard Skempton, which highlighted all the beautiful sounds of the Fisk organ and had a refreshing simplicity. It was also very striking to me to see many of you without masks!

When I began my position as dean, my goal was for us to do what we can as a community to get back to some sense of normalcy, COVID permitting. I think we are getting to that point, and there are some things we can do together to help reach it.

I would like to ask every member to help our chapter move forward by participating in our election. In this issue of *Pipelines*, you will see information on our nominees and instructions on how to vote for them. We plan to have a normal dinner meeting at our May 9 event, and it would be a wonderful way to signal a sense of normalcy and consistent rhythm. I am so excited for our dean-elect, Jared Wilson, and his excellent program lineup. For us to stay strong, we must all do our part. Please read the election material, think on it, and vote!

I would also like to ask our members to invite their choir members and friends to attend our hymn festival on May 9—to sing heartily as a congregation with the music community in Nashville. We can make sure our dinner, election and installation, and hymn festival will put away all the challenges we've had and signal a brighter future!

Sincerely,  
Woosug

*connecting*  
*cultivating*  
*cherishing*

## NASHVILLE AGO APRIL PROGRAM

*Dinner, Installation of Officers &  
Hymn Festival with Patrick Scott*

**Monday, May 9 - 6:30 pm**

**Belmont United Methodist Church  
2007 Acklen Avenue, Nashville**



**Patrick A. Scott** is director of music & organist at Grace-St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Memphis. There, he serves as the artistic director for the Memphis Boy & Girl Choir, provides music for chapel services for the Grace-St. Luke's School, plans an annual concert series, and leads a program supporting multiple choirs, including a chorister program affiliated with the Royal School of Church Music. He is also adjunct professor of organ at the University of Memphis. Prior to his appointment in Memphis, Dr. Scott served for five years at the Cathedral of St. Philip in Atlanta as Organist & Associate Choirmaster, playing for services and Evensongs and leading the RSCM-affiliated chorister program. A native of Picayune, Mississippi, he holds a bachelor of music degree in organ performance from Birmingham-Southern College, where he studied

with Dr. James Cook. As a student of Drs. Judith and Gerre Hancock, Patrick earned an MM degree in organ performance and sacred music and a DMA degree in organ performance, both from the University of Texas at Austin. His other major teachers have been Betty Polk and Kathy Vail.

Dr. Scott is recognized as one of the prominent organists of his generation, having won both the first prize and the audience prize in the AGO National Competition in Organ Improvisation held at the National Convention in Boston in 2014. At the same convention, he was also awarded second prize in the Schoenstein Hymn-Playing Competition. In 2016 he was named one of the top 20 leaders and organists under the age of 30 by *The Diapason* magazine. He has recorded CDs under the Raven and Gothic labels with the cathedral choirs of the Cathedral of St. Philip, Atlanta, and as soloist on the Aeolian-Skinner organ of Providence United Methodist Church in Charlotte, North Carolina, the organ formerly at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. While a student at UT Austin, Patrick was selected to join the Maymester Study Abroad program to explore the Anglican choral tradition of boy and girl choirs at chapels and cathedrals in Cambridge, London, Oxford, and Winchester, England.

An active recitalist and accompanist, Dr. Scott has appeared in concert and with choirs throughout the United States, as well as in France, Scotland, England, and Ireland. He has presented recitals, workshops, hymn festivals, and masterclasses for chapters and conventions of the American Guild of Organists, the Organ Historical Society, the American Choral Directors Association, the Royal School of Church Music, and the Presbyterian Association of Musicians. He has served on the staff of four summer courses for the Royal School of Church Music. He has been heard on the *Pipedreams Live!* and *PipeWorks* radio programs. Prior to his appointment in Memphis, he served churches in Atlanta, Charlotte, Austin, and Tuscaloosa.

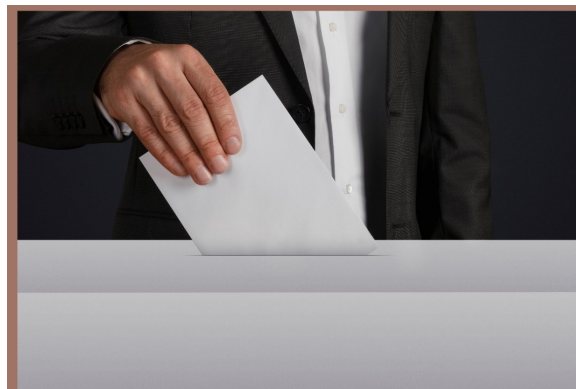


## CHAPTER ELECTIONS

This year's voting will be conducted online using Google Forms. The ballot is accessible at the following link:

<https://forms.gle/r6YZzeVaZJBbSsdJA>

Bios and photos of nominees are below.



### DEAN-ELECT



Though now retired, **Don Marler** was the minister of music at West End United Methodist Church in Nashville for 36 years. He holds degrees from Indiana University (MM degree in organ performance and church music with a cognate field in conducting) and Southern Illinois University (BM degree in organ performance and K–12 choral music education).

After establishing a comprehensive music ministry in suburban Los Angeles, he came to Nashville, where he established a growing program at WEUMC that included children, youth, and adults. While there, his adult choir took nine tours of Europe and sang for national, regional, and state conventions of the American Guild of Organists, the American Guild of English Handbell Ringers, the American Choral Directors Association, and the Fellowship of United Methodists.

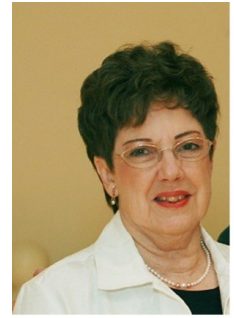
Having been active in several professional organizations, he has served in multiple capacities. He has twice been dean of the Nashville AGO Chapter, as well as serving on the Executive Committee several times. Additionally, two times he was chair of the committee that oversaw the rewriting of the Operational Procedures for the Nashville chapter. Don also served on the Area VI Board of Directors of the American Guild of English Handbell Ringers for twelve years, including two as chair, and as member of the national board.



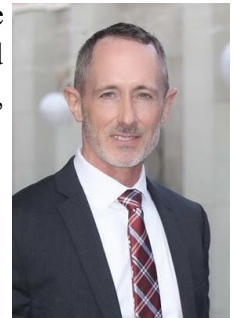
**Ken Varner** is music associate/church organist at Nashville First Baptist Church. He previously served Baptist churches in South Carolina and Florida, as well as in Memphis. He has been dean of the Greenville (SC) AGO Chapter, as well as sub-dean of the Orlando and Memphis chapters. He has a BM degree in organ performance from Furman University, a BA degree in education from the University of South Carolina, and an MA degree in teaching music from Rollins College. He is also a published arranger with Lillenas/Lorenz Publishing Company.

## TREASURER

**Joyce Byrd** has a BME degree from Murray State University with a major in piano and a minor in English. She taught choral music and English in Kentucky public schools, taught private piano for several years, served as organist at Crieveewood Baptist for 40 years, and served as state keyboard clinician. She was also accompanist for Belmont University's Oratorio Chorus for several years. Joyce has been a member of the Nashville AGO Chapter since 1991. She has been secretary for a regional convention, chapter treasurer, and treasurer for the 2012 AGO National Convention in Nashville.



**Jonathan Setzer** is co-owner of Lois Fyfe Music and an active organ substitute in the Nashville area. He has been a member of the Nashville AGO Chapter since 1999, has held the positions of dean, treasurer, and *Pipelines* editor, and has served on the Executive, Nominating, and Program Committees.



## SECRETARY



**Lisa Barry** has been a member of the AGO for many years and has served on various committees. She is the organist at Stephens Valley Church, Reformed Presbyterian, a newly built church plant near Highway 100 and the Loveless Cafe. Her full-time work at the United Methodist Publishing House is with the Intellectual Property Department as administrator for contracts, rights, royalties, and permissions, specializing in music.



**Melissa Emerson** is the director of music ministries at Calvary United Methodist Church, Nashville. She began her ministry there in 2013. A native of Iowa, she received a BM degree in horn performance with a K–12 teaching certificate from the University of Iowa. Her call to full-time ministry came after several years of teaching middle school band. She moved to Boston to attend Boston University's School of Theology and earned her master of sacred music degree with an emphasis in choral conducting in 2000. She has served in full-time music ministry for the past 22 years in several United Methodist congregations—from Maryland to Ohio to Iowa, and now in Nashville.

## EXECUTIVE BOARD



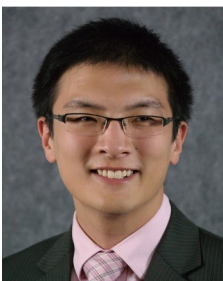
**Joel Bolen** began his involvement in church music in the fifth grade, playing descants on recorder at Mass. In high school, while learning piano and organ, he started playing keyboard and organ at weekly services. He studied both classical and commercial music at Millikin University, then continued his education at Belmont University, receiving his MM degree. He has served since 2005 as director of music ministries at St. Matthew Catholic Church, Franklin. He was previously choirmaster at the Church of the Resurrection (Episcopal), as well as an organist and pianist at several churches in Nashville. He also runs a sound company dedicated to serving houses of worship. He lives in Bellevue, where he enjoys spending time in Warner Park, walking his dog (Banjo), and learning to play octave mandolin. He has been a member of the AGO for about 20 years.



**Michael Graham** was born and raised in Lewisburg, Tennessee, and educated in the public schools there; he earned music degrees from Trevecca and George Peabody College. He taught music in Nashville inner-city schools for 30 years and is organist/director of music at Woodmont Christian in Nashville. His wife, Cathy, was also a Metro music teacher. Their son Stephen teaches art at MLK, and their son Cary is a freelance video and VFX artist.



**Malcolm Matthews** holds a DMA degree in organ performance and the artist's certificate from the Eastman School of Music. He is associate organist and choirmaster of Christ Church Cathedral, Nashville, and instructor of organ and harpsichord at Vanderbilt's Blair School of Music. In addition to his organ studies with David Higgs, he completed a master's degree in harpsichord performance in the studio of William Porter and a minor field in collaborative piano under Jean Barr. He particularly enjoys collaborative work and frequently answers calls to accompany both ensembles and soloists in a wide range of repertoire. He has appeared as a soloist with the Oak Ridge Symphony Orchestra, the Knoxville Symphony Orchestra, and the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra. Matthews was a featured artist at the 2018 convention of the Organ Historical Society and is a laureate of numerous national and international competitions.



**Peter Rogahn** joined the music ministry at First Presbyterian Church of Nashville as organist and assistant director of music in October 2019. He previously served as precentor at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Indianapolis. A believer in the positive impact of music in education, he worked as the choral accompanist and instructional assistant at Lawrence North High School in Indianapolis, where he accompanied the school's six choirs and assisted with music theory, piano, and electronic music classes. Peter recently completed the DMA degree in organ performance and literature, with minors in music theory and choral conducting, at the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music. He also holds a performer diploma and an MM degree from IU, and a BM degree from Concordia College, Moorhead, Minnesota. His principal teachers were Christopher Young, Peter Nygaard, and Harold Rutz.



**Dawn Seidenschwarz** has been a member of the Nashville AGO Chapter since 1992. She is organist and choir director at Our Savior Lutheran Church, choir organist for the Cathedral of the Incarnation, and accompanist for the Saint Cecilia Academy choirs. Dawn has a BM degree from Middle Tennessee State University, where she studied with Dr. Polly Brecht. She has the AGO Service Playing and Colleague certificates. Dawn has served the Nashville chapter in the past as a member of the Executive Board and as secretary.

## POSITIONS AVAILABLE

**Central Presbyterian Church, Princeton, Kentucky**, is searching for an organist or pianist/accompanist to provide music for all Sunday and special services throughout the church year, as well as weddings, funerals, etc. Qualified candidates should have advanced keyboard skills in organ and piano, and experience in leading hymns and playing for services. Available instruments are a 2017 Rodgers organ, a five-foot Yamaha grand piano, and three octaves of Schulmerich handbells. Please send resumes and inquiries to [melissa@beshearfuneralhome.com](mailto:melissa@beshearfuneralhome.com) or call 270-799-4119.

**Faith Lutheran Church (ELCA), Lebanon**, is seeking a pianist and part-time parish musician. We worship on Sundays at 10:00 A.M., on Wednesday nights during Advent and Lent, on Christmas Eve (two services), during Holy Week, and for weddings and funerals as needs arise and schedule allows. This position would include leading and rehearsing a seasonal choir, selecting worship music, and performing some administrative duties. Applicants should be familiar with and able to lead liturgical music and worship, but the congregation enjoys a variety of worship music styles. Please send resumes and inquiries to [kf65@evansville.edu](mailto:kf65@evansville.edu).

**First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Columbia**, is seeking an organist for its weekly Sunday worship services. Interested applicants should contact Pastor Chris Caldwell at [luke64345@gmail.com](mailto:luke64345@gmail.com) or 865-599-1044.

**Historic Franklin Presbyterian Church, Franklin**, is seeking a part-time (15 hours/week) music director and organ/piano accompanist. One person could fill both positions, or we could have one individual for each position. The music director would oversee the church's music ministry, which would include collaborating with the pastor and handbell director (and accompanist if applicable) to plan, select, and lead congregational worship music for weekly services, as well as directing and accompanying the adult choir. HFPC has one Sunday worship service at 10:15 A.M. and one adult choir rehearsal at 7:15 P.M. on Wednesdays. The sanctuary features a Schoenstein organ and a Yamaha grand piano. To request a complete job posting or to submit a letter of interest and resume, contact the Personnel Committee at [personnel.hfpc@gmail.com](mailto:personnel.hfpc@gmail.com).

**Manchester First United Methodist Church, Manchester**, is seeking a part-time organist for a weekly 10:55 A.M. Sunday service. The organist will be responsible for service music each week, as well as the annual Christmas Eve Communion service and at least one service during Holy Week. Remuneration for occasional weddings or funerals would be negotiable and not part of the salary. Interested persons may call Rev. Dana M. Brooks, minister of music and education, at 931-728-4624 for further information.

**Milnar Organ Company, Eagleville**, is seeking key holders for its spring tuning season. This is a part-time position only. Tuning season is approximately eight weeks long, beginning in late April/early May and lasting through June. Applicants need to have reliable transportation and good keyboard skills. Must be available for overnight travel. Pay is based on skill level. Please contact Dennis at 615-274-6400 or [dennis@milnarorgan.com](mailto:dennis@milnarorgan.com).

**Petersburg United Methodist Church, Petersburg**, is looking for an organist (or pianist) for an 11:00 A.M. service each Sunday. Anyone who could play once a month would also be considered. Interested applicants may contact Stanley Cantrell at 931-625-9336 or email [cantrel113242@att.net](mailto:cantrel113242@att.net).



## ARTS CALENDAR

April 16, 9:00 and 11:30 a.m.  
Passion Oratorio: Tenebrae by Daniel Bondaczuk  
Madison Seventh-day Adventist Church  
607B Larkin Springs Road, Madison

May 1, 2:00 p.m.  
Tallis Scholars  
St. George's Episcopal Church  
4715 Harding Pike, Nashville

May 13, 9:15 p.m.  
Compline  
St. George's Episcopal Church  
4715 Harding Pike, Nashville

May 15, 5:30 p.m.  
Spem in Alium by Thomas Tallis  
St. George's Choir and Advent Cathedral Choir  
from Birmingham  
St. George's Episcopal Church  
4715 Harding Pike, Nashville



Elizabeth Smith, Matthew Owens, Woosug Kang

## NASHVILLE AGO MARCH MEETING at Covenant Presbyterian Church

