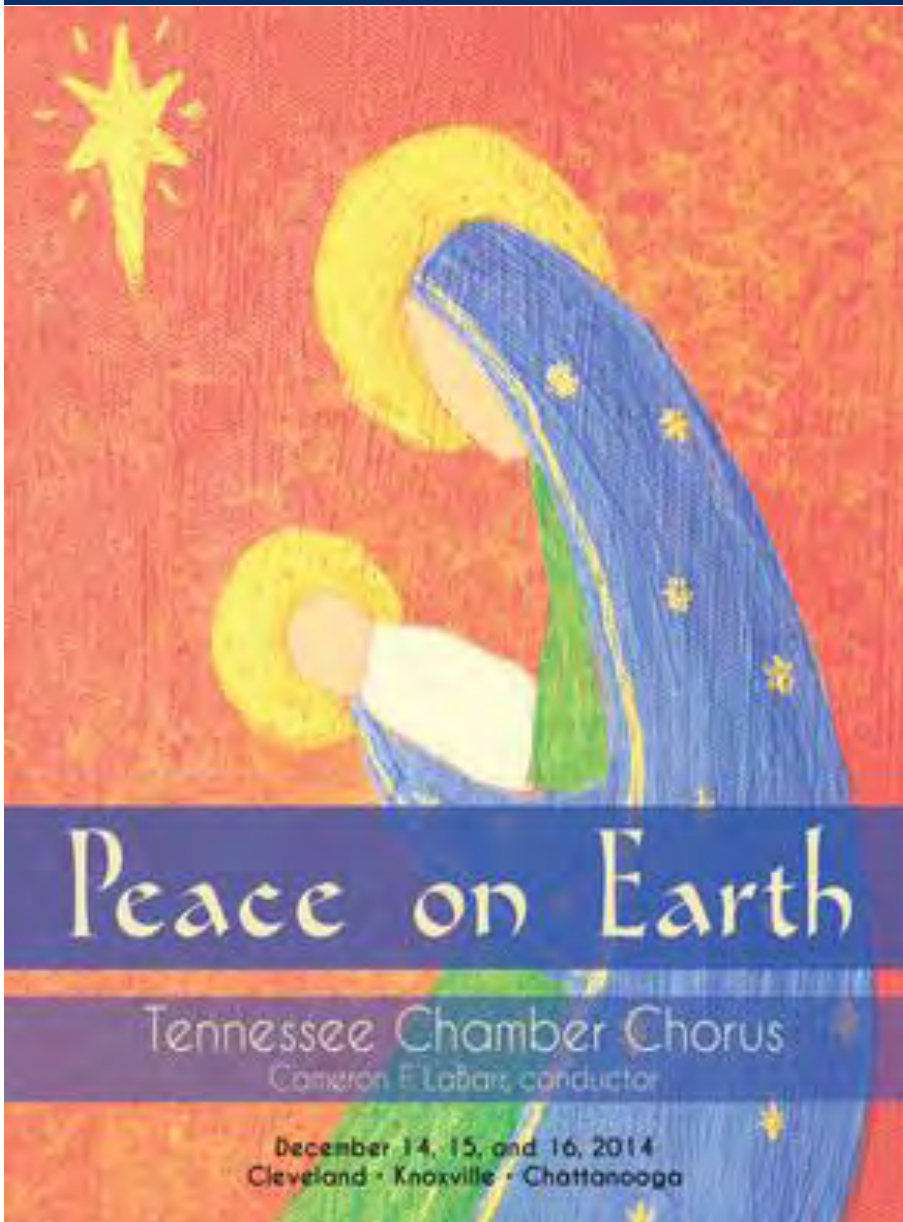


# The Tracker

A publication of the  
Knoxville Chapter of the American Guild of Organists



The purpose of the American Guild of Organists is to promote the organ in its historic and evolving roles, to encourage excellence in the performance of organ and choral music, and to provide a forum for mutual support, inspiration, education, and certification of Guild members.



Monday, December 15

Church of the Ascension  
Knoxville, TN

Dinner 6:30 pm  
Program 7:30 pm

## Dean's Message



Dear AGO friends,

I hope you have all enjoyed a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday and now it's on to the musician's marathon known as Advent and Christmas! In this newsletter, we have tried to assemble many of the programs and concerts being held in the Knoxville area. I hope many of you will get to enjoy them.

A HUGE thank you to Karl Jacobs for planning and organizing our John Brock Golden Jubilee. The event was a very fitting tribute to the life and work of John Brock who has contributed so much to the AGO at both the local and national level. Thank you to Jay Brantley for getting the Yearbook out to our members. Please let me know if you did not receive your copy.

At our meeting in November, I announced that our Treasurer, Brian Daniel, has moved to the Washington DC area and Peter Van Eenam has agreed to take over the treasurer's duties for the remainder of the 2014 term. A BIG thank you to Peter to helping us out and getting our finances in order!!

A thank you to the members who have contributed to our programming fund. Our chapter appreciates your generosity!!

A highlight for our Knoxville AGO chapter will be our program on Monday, December 15th at Church of the Ascension. The Knoxville Chamber Chorus will present a concert and we will enjoy a dinner, catered by the Entertainer, at 6:30 p.m. Please remember that there will be NO meeting in January. We will be treated to a fabulous concert by Bradley Welch on TUESDAY, February 3rd at Church Street United Methodist Church.

I will look forward to seeing many of you December 15th at Church of the Ascension.

Sincerely,

*Deborah Sousa*

Dean, Knoxville AGO

sousa@esknoxville.org

### 2014/15 AGO Board Members

Deborah Sousa, Dean [sousa@esknoxville.org](mailto:sousa@esknoxville.org)  
 Deborah Sanders, Sub-Dean; [sbsdeb@musfiber.com](mailto:sbsdeb@musfiber.com)>  
 Karl Jacob, Registrar; [karljake@aol.com](mailto:karljake@aol.com)  
 Stephen Aber, Secretary; [saber@cbcbearden.org](mailto:saber@cbcbearden.org)  
 Peter van Eenam, Treasurer; [peter\\_wpc@comcast.net](mailto:peter_wpc@comcast.net)  
 Members-at-large: E.J. Choi, Fred Pogue, Terrye Danner



Join us Monday, December 15, at Church of the Ascension for the Christmas concert in the third season of the Tennessee Chamber Chorus. We are thrilled to be sharing with you works both familiar and unknown, including favorite carols, Renaissance motets, early American music, and original compositions, along with music never before performed in east Tennessee.

The program, *Peace on Earth*, takes the listener on a journey seeking

solitude and solace during a time that is perhaps quite busy and strained. We hope this concert will create a deep connection among the performers and listeners, as this music brings people together from various backgrounds, languages, and influences, uniting us in a greater sense of peace and understanding.

Through this concert we fuse old and new, performing Medieval chant from the 13th century, carols from the 16th and 17th centuries, Marian motets (non-liturgical sacred works that celebrate the Virgin Mary) by Victoria and Josquin, as well as several works composed within the past fifteen years. *Laudemus Cum Armonia* (based on a traditional carol) was written for the Tennessee Chamber Chorus in 2013 by Tennessee-based composer John Wykoff. Irish composer Michael MyGlynn's *Sanctus* (from the *Celtic Mass*) also gives us a picture into an ancient world, through choral drones in the lower voices, supporting the stark and hollow qualities of the chant-like melodies above.

Another highlight of this evening's concert is *Avoonan dbishmayya* by San Francisco based composer Ilyas Iliya, a hauntingly beautiful setting of *The Lord's Prayer*, performed in Aramaic, a language with a storied history of over 3,000 years. We hope you also enjoy the two rose texts we are exploring tonight: *A Spotless Rose*, a setting by English composer Herbert Howells which employs a poetic English translation by Catherine Winkworth of the original German *Es ist ein Roess entsprungen*. We are thrilled to bring to life contrasting settings of early American Christmas works, two in their original form from Boston composer William Billings and *I Wonder as I Wander*, a folk hymn from the mountains of Appalachia, newly arranged by composer Susan LaBarr.

We hope that this concert will bring to you a glimpse of peace on earth, soothing the mind, and healing the heart and soul. Enjoy tonight's concert as a musical offering that looks forward to better and brighter days ahead, where we can seek a greater understanding of one another and can move forward with the knowledge that even through the business of this season, we can and must continue to seek peace on earth.

- Cameron F. LaBarr

Thanks to all that came Friday and/or Saturday October 17/18, to celebrate John Brock's Golden (50 years) anniversary of teaching, I know John enjoyed seeing and catching up with so many friends/students from the past and not so distant past. It's always the hope of those planning any event that it is scheduled at a time when the most people can attend. For some this seemed to be a good time, for others not so much, but I'm grateful for all that made the effort to attend. Now a little recap for those couldn't attend (with some commentary from me).

Over a year ago, I invited John to lunch in hopes of finding out when he might be retiring from UT, I thought some sort of celebration for him would be nice. Nothing! But he did tell me that 2014 would be the 50<sup>th</sup> year of teaching, hence, his Golden Jubilee of Teaching was born. Further talks with John, we settled on UT's Fall Break of this year (Oct. 16 /17) would be a good time to schedule the event, for no other reason than the campus would be quiet and we could easily access Cox Auditorium and the Richards, Fowkes organ. After many months of planning the day finally arrives and early on Friday, October the 17<sup>th</sup> I find out the circus was in town (the actual circus not a group of organist) at Thompson-Boling Arena. The only thing I could think about is how there would be no parking for those attending the reception and recital that night at Alumni Building. Thanks to a certain someone in the Music Department that was vacationing in Disney, she secured us organist a place to park for the evening festivities.

At 4:00 on Friday we started with about 15 attendees taking a tour of the new music building on the UT Campus, this was followed at 6:00 by a reception for John in the lobby of the Cox Auditorium. By the time of the first of the Alumni Recital that started at 7:30pm we probably had 80 to 100 people in attendance. Thanks to many AGO members we had much food to enjoy. Friday night we heard 7 former/current students of John, music of Buxtehude, Bach, Rheinberger, Preston, and Vierne. A few people stayed to explore the Richards, Fowkes organ. Day one complete.

Saturday the 18<sup>th</sup> we moved to Ascension where John was Jim Garvey's assistant for many years. We started with a brunch at 10am, followed by a tribute/roast for John. Once things got rolling with the roast we heard many wonderful stories about John, many he didn't remember (or chose not to remember). Lastly, we heard 6 former students of John in the second Alumni Recital on the Wilhelm organ, music of Buxtehude, Couperin, Guilain, Bull, and Durufle. Day two complete.

Soli Deo Gloria,

Karl Jacob

Wednesday, December 3, 7:00 p.m., Sequoyah Hills Presbyterian, Knoxville, TN. “A Celebration of Christmas.” The concert will include traditional carols and congregational hymns, with the Chancel Choir, soloists, and orchestra.

Thursday, December 4, 7:30 p.m., Christmas with the Knoxville Chamber Chorale, St. John’s Cathedral, Knoxville, TN. Conducted by Dr. John R. Orr, this FREE concert features choral arrangements of Christmas classics as well as newer music arranged for a cappella choir. The concert will include holiday favorites as well as church standards such as Sweelinck’s Hodie Christus natus est and Quem pastores laudavere by James Bassi, and new arrangements of Away in a Manger and God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen by modern composer Ola Gjeilo. There will be a second performance on Thursday, December 11, 7:30 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, Oak Ridge

#### Lessons and Carols:

Sunday, December 7

St. Stephens Episcopal, Oak Ridge, TN 5:00 p.m.

Church of the Ascension, 5:30 p.m.

Farragut Presbyterian Church, Knoxville, TN 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 14

Westminster Presbyterian Church, Knoxville, TN. 5:00 p.m.

St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church, Maryville, TN 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 7, 6:00 p.m., Cedar Springs Presbyterian, Knoxville, TN. “The First Nowell - A Cedar Springs Christmas.” Come and enjoy an evening of familiar Christmas music featuring the Sanctuary Choir, Rejoice! Youth Choir and the Festival Orchestra.

Sunday, December 21, 7 p.m., First United Methodist Church, Oak Ridge, TN. Presented by the music ministry, the 2014 Christmas program this year features well-known Christmas songs and carols, arranged by Dan Goeller, Randal Bass, Dan Forrest, Robert Russell Bennett, Molly Ijames, Hector Berlioz, and others. Our adult choir will be joined by handbells and a guest orchestra in this worship service. Because this program is presented one night only, please make a reservation today for you and your group to attend. There is no fee, but your reservation helps us greatly in our planning.

Sunday, January 4, 6:00 p.m., Church of the Ascension, Knoxville, TN. Festival Eucharist for the Epiphany, choirs of Ascension in a service of readings and music of Appalachia featuring Evan Carawah, hammer dulcimer.

East Carolina University  
The Ninth Annual Young Artists Competition in Organ Performance  
March 20-21, 2015



The East Carolina University Young Artist Competition for Pre-College Organists is an innovative outreach program designed to inspire young musicians in our region to strive for the highest level of musicianship and technical accomplishment in organ performance. The competition is open to any pre-college student in North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee and Florida. In addition to generous monetary prizes, the competitors will also compete for the two additional prizes in Hymn playing and Bach interpretation. The competition will be staged in two rounds. From the recorded application round three finalists will be chosen to compete live on March 21, 2015. All three will receive prizes and will be considered for the two special prizes mentioned above: The Bach Prize and the Hymn-Playing Prize. Organists chosen for the Final Round arrive for practice on Thursday and/or Friday, and attend the 7:30 p.m. recital by the competition judge, Mickey Thomas Terry of Washington, DC. The organ competition will take place in the afternoon of Saturday March 21, on the Perkins and Wells Memorial Organ, C.B. Fisk, Opus 126, at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, which borders the ECU campus. The competition will conclude with the awarding of prizes; however competitors are encouraged to remain in Greenville for Sunday (March 22) services at St. Paul's Episcopal Church (9:00 & 11:00 a.m. Choral Eucharists) as well as Monday (March 23) when they are invited to observe sacred music lessons and classes. Competitors are also welcome to have a free organ lesson with Professor Andrew Scanlon, to be scheduled at a convenient time during the weekend. All recitals, masterclasses, and the competition itself are open to the public. Full organ competition details can be found below.

[Download organ competition application \(PDF file\)](#)

<http://www.ecu.edu/cs-cfac/music/organsacredmusic/fisk.cfm>



Newsletter Deadline: January 21

Please add these dates to your calendar or cut it out for a lovely addition to your refrigerator!

Program Date	Dinner Reservation Deadline	Newsletter Deadline
Monday, November 3	October 30	October 25
Monday, December 15	November 11	November 1
Tuesday, February 3	January 29	January 21
Monday, March 2	February 26	February 19
Monday, April 13	April 9	April 1
Friday, May 4	April 30	April 21

## \*\*\*\*\* Dinner Reservations \*\*\*\*\*

Please make your dinner reservations for

December 15, 2014  
 Church of the Ascension  
 Knoxville, TN

No later than  
 Monday, October 11

Cost \$13.50

By contacting  
 Jim Garvey  
 865-588-0589, extension 216  
[jgarvey@knoxvilleascension.org](mailto:jgarvey@knoxvilleascension.org)