

# The Tracker

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



**Jonathan Easter, organ**  
**Monday, September 10**  
**First Presbyterian Church**  
**620 State Street**  
**Knoxville, TN**  
**6:30 p.m. Dinner**  
**7:30 p.m. Program**

Join us for this very special evening where we will hear the organ at First Presbyterian, which has completed a major renovation by B. Rule and Company. The sanctuary organ at First Presbyterian Church was built by Casavant Freres dated 1963 and was designed by organ designer Lawrence Phelps.

For dinner we will enjoy a Mexican Fiesta by our wonderful caterer, Nancy Maland.



## *A Message from the Dean... Terrye Danner*

Greetings and welcome to a new and exciting year for the Knoxville Chapter American Guild of Organists (AGO). I was humbled as I reviewed once again the Preamble of the Code of Ethics for members of the AGO: “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.” It is indeed a privilege to be a part of such a group and to be reminded again of the responsibility it carries with it.

As your Dean, I can tell you that your newly elected slate of officers have been hard at work during the summer months – keeping our financial records in order while planning and adhering to our approved budget, which continues to be healthy as we begin our new AGO year (John Brock, Treasurer); keeping track of our membership (Karl Jacob, Registrar and Andrew Morehead, Membership Coordinator); obtaining locations, scheduling artists for inspiring programs as well as ensuring our catering needs are lined up for each and every monthly program (Rob Lynch, Sub-Dean); keeping detailed and accurate records of our AGO Board meetings (Mary Phillips, Secretary); examining the financial books of our chapter (Deborah Sanders and Cynthia Moses, Auditors); attending Board meetings and providing input to the work of our chapter as well as serving on committees as needed (Gail Hafner, Seth O’Kegley, and Karl Jacob – Members-At-Large). Accomplishing these tasks is not easy, but each of our Board members is committed to making our Knoxville chapter the best that it can possibly be. I am inspired by their work. If you see them at one of our meetings, take a few moments to thank them for their dedication to our local chapter – I assure you that this will be much appreciated.

Our first meeting of the year will be on Monday, September 10, 2018, at First Presbyterian Church, 620 State Street, Knoxville, TN. Dinner will begin at 6:30 (masterfully prepared by our AGO caterer, Nancy Maland) with the program beginning at 7:30 in the sanctuary. Jonathan Easter, Director of Fine Arts at St. Mark United Methodist Church in Atlanta, will present an organ recital. Mr. Easter holds two masters degrees from Emory University (organ performance and choral conducting). He also accompanies the Concert Choir and University choirs at Emory University as well as the Atlanta Master Chorale. This program will be a wonderful kick-off to our year!

Here are some things of importance that I need to bring to your attention:

- If you have not already done so, please renew your membership. Questions may be directed to Karl Jacob or Andrew Morehead.
- Continue giving to the Knoxville AGO operating fund - monies directed here will allow our chapter to flourish with outstanding programs, and to the Brock Organ Education Fund (BOEF) – monies directed here help educate our rising generations of organists. Both of these resources are in need of continual funding.
- Invite a friend or fellow musician who is not currently a member to attend one of our programs and see what we are all about. They will not be disappointed and we may just be able to grow our membership this year.

In closing, may I say how very honored I am to serve our Knoxville Chapter AGO. Please know that without your presence, participation, and support, our chapter would not be where it is today. YOU are appreciated and I look forward to seeing you at our September dinner and meeting.

Quote to remember: “Beautiful music is the art of the prophets that can calm the agitations of the soul. It is one of the most magnificent and delightful presents God has given us.” – Martin Luther

Blessings,  
Terrye Danner  
Dean, Knoxville Chapter AGO



Jonathan Easter is currently Director of Fine Arts and Organist at Saint Mark UMC in Atlanta, GA. In addition to weekly services at the church, he also accompanies for the choral program at Emory University and for the Atlanta Master Chorale, which has recently performed at National and Regional ACDA conventions and at the regional AGO conference in Charlotte, NC.

Jonathan Easter joined the staff of Saint Mark as Director of Fine Arts and Organist in July of 2016. He is a recent graduate of Emory University, where he studied with Timothy Albrecht and Dr. Eric Nelson and earned a double master's degree while playing the organ at Roswell Presbyterian Church. He

continues to work throughout the Emory music community accompanying the Emory University Chorus and Concert Choir and serves as the accompanist for the Atlanta Master Chorale under the direction of Dr. Eric Nelson. Recent highlights include co-conducting the featured ensemble for the Atlanta Rolling Stones concert, accompanying Jamie Barton mezzo-soprano for recitals at All Saints' Episcopal Church, serving as worship service organist for the Southeastern regional convention of the American Choral Directors Association and serving as an accompanist and co-presenter at the American Guild of Organists convention in Charlotte.

Prior to moving back to Atlanta, Jonathan served as Music Director for St. Paul's by the Sea Episcopal Church in Jacksonville Beach, Florida. He also served as Collaborative Artist for the choral ensembles at the University of North Florida conducted by Dr. Cara Tasher. While in Jacksonville, he was an active recitalist, performing at the Cathedral-Basilica of St. Augustine, Memorial Presbyterian Church, and Jacobi Symphony Hall and performing with Jamie Barton, mezzo-soprano. He was also an active administrator in the music community, serving on the board of the Beaches Fine Arts Series and as Sub-Dean for the Jacksonville Chapter of the American Guild of Organists.

Jonathan earned his undergraduate degree from Shorter College where he studied with Dr. Peter Dewitt, Helen Ramsaur and sang with the Shorter Chorale under the direction of Dr. Martha Shaw. Jonathan loves his two dogs who you can often find helping him with work around the office.

Mr. Easter's program on September 10 will include:

Durufié Chorale Varie on Veni Creator

Bach Passacaglia in C minor

Alec Rowley Benedictus

Vierne Scherzo from Symphony #2 and Adagio from #3

Durufié Prelude and Fugue on the name Alain



One of the many facets of The American Guild of Organists is its many people who work to make the organization relevant to its members. Under the leadership of the National Council, a network of volunteer officials at the regional, district, and local levels directs the geographical activities of the Guild. For purposes of administration and representation, the Guild is divided into seven geographical regions, and each chapter is assigned to a district within a region. The Tennessee District Convener is our own Andrew Morehead.

The District of Tennessee is comprised of five chapters: Chattanooga, Knoxville, Nashville, Northeast TN-Southwest VA, and Memphis. While the core mission of the American Guild of Organists (AGO) is fulfilled through the grassroots work of many local chapters, the District Conveners serve to network neighboring chapters, to facilitate communication between those chapters and between them and the national headquarters, and to provide resources and development opportunities to those chapters.

Appointed District Conveners are responsible for the development of the Guild's interests in each state or area located within the Region. The District Convener assists the Regional Councillor in the work of the Region. Three core goals of the District Convener: bring the community together, delineate the many resources of the American Guild of Organists, and cultivate growth by broadening and enriching our programs and relationships. If you would like to know more, visit <https://tennesseeago.org> or contact Andrew (see website for contact information.)

Sunday,

## UPCOMING EVENTS

September 9th at 5p.m.

Evensong for Everyone. Enjoy a contemplative hour as our choir performs traditional Evensong. Stay afterward to greet the choir and converse with friends over a glass of wine or cup of tea. The first Evensong of the 2018-2019 Season will feature the joyful and dynamic music of Harold Friedell.

Monday, September 17, at 12:05 p.m.

Vocal Recital. Performing will be Stephen Boyce, tenor; Anna Thomas, flute and John Purifoy, piano

Sunday, September 30

8:30 & 11 am ~ Songs Unchanged, Yet Ever-Changing—A Hymn Festival Celebration features the Church Street Parish Adult, Youth & Children's Choirs



Over the next few months, we will highlight the musical adventures of some of our members over the summer months.

Jason Overall and Edie Johnson were Housemasters at the Carolina RSCM Course held at Duke University July 9-15. Jason was housemaster for the adults and Edie worked with a small group of teen girls. Martin Baker, Director of Music at Westminster Cathedral, led this week of intergenerational worship services and choral singing with approximately 100 participants (55 girls and 45 adults). The week culminated with a Sunday morning Eucharist service and Choral Evensong at which the choir sang music of C.V. Stanford, James MacMillan, Edward Elgar and Francisco Guerrero. Videos of the closing services can be found on this link. <http://carolinarscm.org/news/2018-thanks/>



## The 2018 Southern Cathedrals Festival (UK)

Carolyn Moser



The nave of Salisbury Cathedral, adorned by hundreds of origami doves placed there after the poisonings that occurred in that city this year.

In July, my sister, Agnes French, and I attended the annual Southern Cathedrals Festival. Held this year at Salisbury Cathedral, the festival features the choirs (girls, boys, and men) and musicians of Salisbury, Chichester, and Winchester cathedrals, as well as numerous other musicians. Because 2018 marks the 100th anniversary of the end of World War I, several of the services and concerts had a commemorative theme.

Among the many offerings, which extended from morning till late at night, we attended two of the five services: a choral evensong on Thursday that was recorded by BBC Radio and a packed Festival Eucharist on Saturday morning. For the choral evensong we arrived early enough to be able to sit right behind the pulpit, in the Quire, so we had a close-up view of the choir.

The choral concerts were in several venues—the cathedral, the cathedral school, and nearby St. Thomas’s Church—using different combinations of choirs, soloists, and instruments. We attended a Thursday afternoon performance entitled “Concert with Poetry—Come Jesus, Come” that interspersed war poetry with Bach motets and music by Elgar and Ireland. The Friday evening concert was Handel’s Coronation Anthems and Purcell’s *Te Deum* and *Jubilate*, accompanied by period instruments. Saturday night’s grand finale was the Brahms Requiem, performed in the back of the cathedral.

Solo performances included three successive nights of piano concerts in the north transept. Entitled “Late Night Bach,” they featured Bach’s French Suites and other keyboard pieces. The solo organ concert, shown on a big screen, was given by Daniel Cook, organist at Durham Cathedral, who played Parry, Bach, Willan, and Widor (*Symphonie V*).

Needless to say, all the music we heard was wonderful and moving. We came away with a deep admiration for all the choristers, who sang a taxing amount of difficult music over this five-day period. And the same work and dedication was true of the cathedral musicians. As a single example, the music director of Salisbury Cathedral, David Halls, directed two choral evensongs; played the piano in an Elgar Piano Quintet; directed the Brahms Requiem—after which he performed the third of the Late Night Bach concerts—and was one of the three directors of the other choral concerts. If you are able to go to one of these festivals, I cannot recommend them too highly.

*Postscript:* Before attending the Southern Cathedrals Festival, my sister and I were on a National Trust tour, during which we saw three “house” organs—two at Castle Howard, in the long gallery and in the private chapel, and a very large one in Blenheim Palace. We also toured York Minster, where we not only saw the organ console but also, by sheer chance, heard the vocal group The Sixteen warming up for a late afternoon concert.



**Norris Religious Fellowship**  
[www.NorrisRF.org](http://www.NorrisRF.org)

**Hiring  
Musicians**

**More Info**  
[Karen@NorrisRF.org](mailto:Karen@NorrisRF.org)



# Knoxville Chapter of The American Guild of Organists 2018-2019 Programs

Monday, September 10

*Jonathan Easter, organ*

First Presbyterian Church

Knoxville, TN

Tuesday, October 16

*Woosug Kang, organ*

Church Street UMC

Knoxville, TN

Monday, November 5

*Marriage of Convenience or*

*Match Made in Heaven: Text and*

*Tune Combinations in Hymns*

Mel Bringle

First Presbyterian Church

Oak Ridge, TN

Monday, December 17

*Lessons and Carols Service*

Sacred Heart Cathedral

Knoxville, TN

*No meeting in January*

Monday, February 4

*Befriending the Butterflies:*

*Techniques for reducing (and even embracing!) performance anxiety for church musicians*

Dr. Edie Johnson

Our Lady of Fatima Church

Alcoa, TN

Tuesday, March 5

*Brian Glikes, organ*

First UMC

Oak Ridge, TN

Tuesday, April 9

*AGO Student Recital*

Tennessee Valley Unitarian

Universalist Church

Knoxville, TN

Monday, May 6

*AGO Member Recital*

Location TBD



Find us on:  
**facebook**

@ KNOXVILLE AGO

### 2018/2019 AGO Board Members

Terrye Danner, Dean; tadanner@charter.net  
 Rob Lynch, Sub-Dean; pianorob88@hotmail.com  
 Mary Phillips, Secretary; phillips.mary95@yahoo.com  
 John Brock, Treasurer; jbrock@utk.edu  
 Simon Hogg, Past Dean; shogg86@me.com  
 Karl Jacob, Registrar; karljake@gmail.com  
 Andrew Morehead, Membership Coordinator; bamorehead@gmail.com  
 Gail Hafner, Member-at-Large 2019; gailandart@charter.net  
 Karl Jacob, Member-at-Large 2020; karljake@aol.com  
 Seth O'Kegley, Member-at-Large 2021; okegley.seth@gmail.com  
 Deborah Sanders, Auditor; sbsdeb@musfiber.com  
 Cynthia Moses, Auditor; cynthia@c21mmr.com

Need a Sub!! Here is a list of those available in our area.

John Brock	jbrock@utk.edu	865-577-7153
Brenda Goslee	bgoslee@juno.com	865-776-4494
Karen Ladd	kladd@utk.edu	865-690-9488
Beverly Landguth	bevlandguth141@gmail.com	843-422-0070
Mary Phillips	phillips.mary95@yahoo.com	615-414-0526
Ann Schwartz	302fas@gmail.com	423-884-3994

**ARE YOU AVAILABLE TO SUB?**

**EMAIL [tnewsom3@utk.edu](mailto:tnewsom3@utk.edu) TO BE ADDED TO THIS LIST**

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

Please make your dinner reservations for  
 Monday, September 10, 2018  
 First Presbyterian Church, Knoxville, TN  
 no later than **Thursday, September 6**. The cost is \$12.00  
 Contact: Karl Jacob at 865-335-1174 or karljake@aol.com