AUGUST 2024 NEWSLETTER

EN CHAMADE

"TO FOSTER A THRIVING COMMUNITY OF MUSICIANS WHO SHARE THEIR KNOWLEDGE AND INSPIRE PASSION FOR THE ORGAN."



THE WINCHESTER CHAPTER AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

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Welcome to the August 2024 Mini-Newsletter! As the summer sun blazes on, we hope you're staying cool and enjoying some well-deserved rest and relaxation. But don't get too comfortable – our fall events are right around the corner, and it's time to mark your calendars for an exciting season ahead!

Upcoming Fall Events: Our fall schedule is packed with inspiring events designed to elevate our collective musical spirits. From workshops to concerts, we've got something for everyone. Stay tuned for detailed announcements and make sure to save the dates included later in this newsletter!

Remembering Doug Russell: We invite you to join us in honoring the life of our dear friend, Doug Russell. Doug's passion for music and his unwavering spirit left an indelible mark on our community. We have the opportunity to come together and sing at his memorial service, celebrating his life through the music he loved so dearly. Wendy Oesterling shares some information on the coming pages.

Job Opportunities: Several local churches are seeking talented organists and music directors.

Whether you're looking for a new challenge or know someone who might be interested, these positions offer wonderful opportunities to serve our community through the gift of music. These job postings are included later in the newsletter.

A Bit of Summer Fun: As the temperatures rise, remember: it's so hot out there that even our organ pipes might be sweating! But seriously, take this time to recharge. Think of it as a musical rest – essential for creating beautiful harmonies when we come together again.

Thoughts on Summer and Rehearsals: In the words of Psalm 100:1-2, "Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands. Serve the Lord with gladness: come before his presence with singing." Let this be a reminder that our summer rest is a divine pause, a time to reflect and rejuvenate so that we can return to our rehearsals with renewed energy and enthusiasm.

May the rest of your summer be filled with joy, peace, and plenty of air conditioning! We look forward to seeing you all soon and making beautiful music together.

Blessings,

I hate it when the organist is away on holiday!

George Donovan

WAGO Newsletter Editor



WAGO Fall 2024 Events



Sunday, SEPTEMBER 22, at 3 pm at First Baptist Church, Winchester

<u>Hymn/Anthem Organ Registrations</u> presented by Terry Sisk, followed by an Organ Music swap and a Potluck Dinner

Bring organ music you aren't playing or any duplicates you have and put them on the swap table. After Terry presents a 45-minute program on selecting the best registrations for hymns and anthems, you can pick out some new organ music. Enjoy a Potluck dinner and you can go home with a full stomach and new additions to your organ music library.



<u>Friday, OCTOBER 25 at 7pm at</u> <u>Market Street UMC, Winchester</u>

<u>Spooky Halloween Concert featuring Wayne Wold</u> on Organ with <u>Marilyn Shenenberger and Terry Sisk</u> on 4-hand piano. Pumpkin Carols for all!

NOTE: This year, our October concert will replace the December concert we have done for the past umpteen years. It will be our concert to raise funds for the Winchester Rescue Mission and W.A.T.T.S. Bring a crowd!



Sunday, NOVEMBER 10 at Trinity Episcopal, Upperville

Bountiful Earth Concert by Caritas Nova, a professional women's vocal ensemble based in Northern Virginia comprised of freelance musicians and music teachers who formed the group in order to perform fine choral music.

See you there!



Singing in memory of our dear friend, Doug Russell

Dear friends,

You may have heard that our dear friend, Doug Russell, went on to new adventures with God on Thursday, July 11, at the age of 92 years. Doug had been ill for some months after suffering a couple of strokes. He never lost his sense of humor, as I'm sure you know!

His daughter, Kimberly, posted on Facebook -- "He has been thru so much the past 6 months and was an amazing example of strength and courage ♥ His laugh and wit will be greatly missed but his legacy will live forever.. Soar high above us DAD, you've earned your wings and enjoy that last TRAIN RIDE up that mountain!!"

There will be a service to celebrate Doug's remarkable life on Saturday, Aug. 17, 2:00 pm, at First Presbyterian Church in Winchester.

I am honored that Doug's daughters and his wife, Jeonghee, have asked me to invite all Doug's musical friends to make up a choir to sing at the service. Please consider this your cordial invitation.

The choir will sing two anthems: "Hymn of Promise" by Natalie Sleeth and "How Can I Keep From Singing," arr. by Ginger Littleton. I will conduct and Jeonghee will accompany. Jeonghee will also play the organ for the service.

The choir will rehearse the day of the service at noon. I will send details later.

Please contact me to confirm whether or not you can sing with the choir. Also, feel free to pass this invitation and service information along to anybody not on this list. I don't want to leave anybody out! All Doug's friends, of course, are invited to sing for the service.

It would be helpful to know who can sing and which part you prefer to sing. Also, feel free to contact me with any questions or comments by email/phone/text.

I look forward to hearing from you and joining together to celebrate Doug's life. We are all so fortunate to have known him and made music with him!

hugs to you all,

Wendy Oesterling 540-539-7646



Looking for a position?

Know someone looking for a new position?

Let's help spread the word!

Emmanuel Episcopal Church, Woodstock, VA is searching for a Cantor.

Duties include leading congregational singing, singing the appointed psalm of the day and possibly a hymn like offertory once a month. One service at 11:15.

This is a paid position and is open to a male or female singer.

For more information, please contact:

The Very Rev. Kathleen Murray, Rector ~ Wilson E. Troxell, organist 122 E Court Street ~ Woodstock, VA 22664 ~ <u>beckfordrector@gmail.com</u> ~ 540-459-2720

Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church, Winchester, VA

Part-time organist, 20-25 hours/week

Includes playing for weekend Masses, holy days, solemnities, choir rehearsals, with opportunities for additional income through funerals and weddings. Strong keyboard and improvisational skills, and knowledge of Catholic liturgy.

Inquires - cricketts@sacredheartwinchester.org

Emmanuel Episcopal Church, Staunton VA

seeks a dynamic and collaborative Director of Music to lead the church's music program with joy, creativity, and enthusiasm. Successful applicant will be highly involved in shaping the future musical direction of the church, together with the Rector.

This is a part-time position of 12 hours per week (negotiable). We are offering a salary range of \$20,000 to \$25,000 commensurate with experience, plus fees for weddings and funerals. We also offer 4 Sundays paid leave per year, along with one for Educational / professional development (5 total) plus two paid sick days (Sundays)

For a more complete position description and application, please visit <u>www.emmanuelstaunton.org</u>

Calvary Episcopal Church, Front Royal, Virginia

seeks to fill the positions of

ORGANIST AND CHOIR DIRECTOR

Part Time (6-16 hours weekly, depending on whether the position is shared or split.

Pay is \$12,000-\$24,000 annually. We are flexible in our search and know that we may fulfill our needs in one person or two. The salary offered will be commensurate with how the music positions are filled and the education and experience of candidates.

For more information and a position description please contact parishadmin@calvaryepiscopalchurch.org.

The King of Instruments & The Instrument of Kings Trumpet & Organ Duo

Engaging ~ Innovative ~ Entertaining ~ Virtuosic ~ Diverse

A Unique Concert Blend of Music and Video

Trumpeter, Chuck Seipp, teams up with organists, Todd Fickley, and Craig Williams, for multimedia concert presentations by The King of Instruments & The Instrument of Kings.

<u>CHUCK SEIPP</u> is Sergeant Major (retired) from The United States Army Band, "Pershing's Own", in Washington, D.C. and is fortunate to have the opportunity to collaborate with these two amazing artists, performing varied entertaining community programs, moving patriotic concerts, as well as specialized programming for AGO and university concerts.

TODD FICKLEY is the Organist for National Presbyterian Church in Washington, D.C., as well as conductor and international concert solo and recording artist.

<u>CRAIG WILLIAMS</u> is Organist and Choirmaster of Cadet Chapel, United States Military Academy West Point, NY, and international concert solo and recording artist.

This duo is unlike any ensemble performing today. Custom musical arrangements of virtuoso, beautiful, entertaining, humorous, and patriotic selections enhance the exquisite blend of their instruments. Coupled visually with specialized videos, these musicians craft a unique and engaging concert experience for all ages, creating extraordinary connection with their audiences.

Thoughtful programming, artistic arrangements and powerful, innovative, and interactive video presentations make this duo today's musicians to watch.

I would be delighted to discuss with you the possibility of either duo joining your AGO community for a performance.

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For more information, check out www.cjseippmusic.com

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Dr. Steven Cooksey



Ms. Melody Harmon



Mr. George Donovan



Mr. Mark Lindgren



Mr. Terry Sisk