

EN CHAMADE

September 2025

Newsletter-PART II

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



THE WINCHESTER CHAPTER AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS Board of Directors

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AS SURE AS THE SUN WILL RISE,

For anyone who cares for the regional beauty of the mid-Atlantic, where the Valley of Virginia divides itself between mountains and plains, where it eventually opens up, and the Piedmont literally falls over the rocks of the Potomac River, this is our WAGO home, too. The members of the Winchester Chapter of the American Guild of Organists continue to provide endless opportunities to bring music, history, and quality performances to our communities. I relish the old stories that draw me in every time I have a conversation with my colleagues. These are solid friendships built from our like-minded appreciation of the organ and its music. Our sacred musical heritage will never run out of examples of tunes that have been heard for more than 400 years. To listen to heritage hymns and the wisdom that they hold is as important as ever.

Early colonialists anticipated that their efforts would shine a light on how hymns united and divided cultures and customs from many different countries. As settlements became solidly established, a vision of a promised land grew as well. Wealth grew, and the hoped-for freedom to exercise faith became intertwined with political ambition. Music documented how folks greeted the changes. What started as a mission to practice faith with freedom has helped build our country, sustain our faith, and inspire our artists' eyes to our country and its people. The opportunities are endless for us to "toot our horn"

This is a fitting beginning to our 2025-2026 year. Member (Treasurer) Carol Westervelt and her husband, John, will give us some history about White Post and the Meade Memorial Episcopal Church, and the history that predates their establishment. Joining them will be Matthew Frey, organist at Meade Memorial, who will add some music to the lecture. Having attended Episcopal Churches for my adult life, I have found it a pleasure to add a history lesson along with an opportunity to worship, particularly in Clarke County. Our former Dean, Dr. Seven Cooksey, gave a wonderful presentation in the summer of 2024 on the Old Bethel Baptist Church that sits on the banks of the Shenandoah River. He hoped that he could expand that program to include the oldest Episcopal Church west of the Blue Ridge Mountains, the Old Chapel. Today it is owned to Christ Church in Millwood (just off of Rt 340 between Berryville and Boyce). Dr. Cooksey was an extraordinary person, and plans are being made to select a significant and permanent legacy to honor him.

Please join us at Meade Memorial Church, White Post, for a bit of history and refreshment. The program starts at 3:00 PM.

Blessings,

Linda Beville, Dean WAGO

SEPTEMBER:

Quick Directions to Sunday's Meeting: --at the home of Carol and John Westervelt: 192 White Post Road, 22663 Rt 50 east out of Winchester from SU. -- Travel about 12 miles to the junction of Rt 50 and Rt 340. Turn right (at the Sheetz onto RT 340). White Post is a spur off to the side about 2 miles down the road. -- Turn left as you enter town.

The church is a large historic structure on your right.

OCTOBER:

A Fun Forum for our members and guests:

We have invited Mark Pichowicz to answer our questions about fixing troubles with your organ in church or at home. The meeting has been changed to Sunday, October 28, at 3:00 PM. The location (tent) is Bethel Lutheran Church (2077 North Frederick Pike) on Rt 522 west -- just beyond the Virginia Farm Market. Mark plans to use technology to help us explore what types of issues can cause you to panic. And he might even prove that a digital instrument is more expensive and time-consuming in the long run to repair than a traditional pipe organ. Mark is the owner of Markus Organs. And serves several organs. Bring your stories and questions.

NOTE: Program is changed to Sunday, October 28, at 4:00 PM---

Bethel Lutheran Church

A Gift of Music and Scholarship—addition to our Organ Library:-- I was surprised twice: First to hear of a request from Lindsey C. Walata, daughter of our talented Beverly Clarke (2024) to accept Beverly's extensive library of music, and 2. To hear that we even had a library! Dr Wayne Wold, the professor of Organ at SU Conservatory, Is housing the collection in the loft at Goodson Chapel? We need recommendations about setting up an improved system for getting the music. Will you volunteer?

Let us help you with your community concert season: Are you in a volunteer vocal or instrumental group? Send us a flier with details of your next concert or event. This includes groups from the Valley and Loudoun County/Leesburg!. The flier will be saved up to the month of your program.

Note: As a courtesy, please confer with your fellow directors so that programs are not on the same date and/or time.

Establishing a Precedent: -The Dr. Steven L. Cooksey Scholarship Award:

There is a new committee that is tasked with establishing a new scholarship honoring DR. Cooksey. Ted Dix (Chair), Judy Connelly, and Lon Quinones have met with me to discuss criteria and parameters for potentially two new awards.

The first action was to solicit common ways in which Most people saw Dr. Cooksey:” kind, gentleman”, “ creative leader”,” inspiration and mediator”, “performer, scholar, conductor”. If most experiences Dr. Cooksey had were in a similar fashion, then the way he inspired students would have these same elements. The committee is almost ready to submit a recommendation.

And we are thinking BIG.

I will announce a Board meeting soon, and please know that any member of the chapter is welcome to join us.

WAGO Meet and Greet

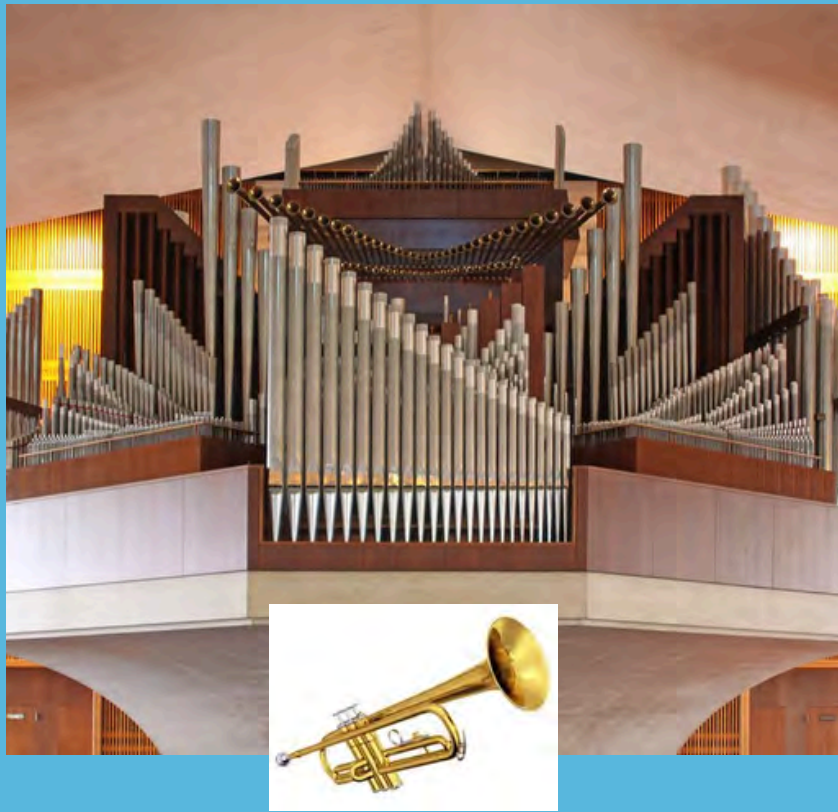
Sunday, Sept. 14 @ 3pm

Meade Memorial Episcopal Church

129 White Post Road

White Post, VA





Felix Hell, Organ and
Mary Elizabeth Bowden, Trumpet

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19
7:30P.M.

Goodson Chapel Recital
Hall

Shenandoah University Campus

Sunday, September 28th, 5:00pm



*For the Feast of
St. Michael & All Angels*

COME & SING! EVENSONG

at Trinity Episcopal Church

Come along and be part of the choir!

All are welcome!

Rehearsal 3:00pm; Evensong, 5:00pm

9108 John S Mosby Highway, Upperville, VA, 20184

Trinity, there's a place for you

**With music by H. Walford Davies
Vaughan Williams & Arthur Baynon**

**Guest conductor: Dr. Richard Robbins,
Director of Choral Activities, Shenandoah University
& Director of the Richmond Symphony Chorus**

Organists: Daniel Miller & Anna Smith

An offertory will be taken in support of the Trinity Church Music Program

To be part of the Evensong Choir e-mail Dan Miller

dan@trinityuppsville.org



2025-2026 Winchester AGO Programs

All dates pending/All presenters & performers pending

Month	Program	Description
Sunday Sept. 14 3 pm Friday Sept. 19 7:30 pm Sunday Sept. 28 5 pm	Meet and Greet at Meade Memorial Episcopal Church, 129 White Post Road, White Post Organ and Trumpet concert at Goodson Chapel Felix Hell, Organist & Mary Elizabeth Bowden, Trpt Shenandoah University Campus Come & Sing Evensong at Trinity Episcopal Church 9108 John S. Mosby Hwy, Upperville	Short history of this historical church by Westervelts Organ demo by resident organist Upcoming programs for 2025-2026 year Time to catch up with our members Come for a 3 pm rehearsal if you want to sing.
Sunday Oct. 12 At 3 pm	Mark Pichowitz on Organ Maintenance and much, much more	Location to be determined.
Sunday, Nov. 16 3 pm	Benefit Concert for Watts and Winchester Rescue Mission at Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church 26 W. Boscawen St., Winchester	Standing Ovation Performers Mimi Minigawa, award-winning concert pianist; Terry Sisk, Gigout Toccata in E minor ; Dan Miller; Duo Romano ; Alan Saucedo; Emily Bentgen and hopefully Duo Régalo!
DEC Friday Dec. 12 7 pm	No Meeting Bring a choir (or we'll have a WAGO Choir) and Join Felipe Dominguez for an Interfaith Christmas Concert at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 399 Apple Pie Ridge Rd., Winchester	
Sunday, Jan. 23 Snow date Feb. 1 3 pm	Viva Mozart Scholarship Concert with Dessert Tickets \$20 Possibly First Baptist, but we're still working on it.	Epistle Sonata #1 in Eb w 2 Vlns, Cello and organ Missa Brevis in D minor K65 w Choir, 2 vlns, organ Choir (Misc. 10 minutes additional choral pieces) Organ Solo Piano Solo Mozart Alleluia – 2 Sopranos (from Upperville?)
Sunday, Feb. 15 4:30-7:30	Valentine's Day/Mardi Gras/Shrove Tuesday Pot-luck Party (in lieu of our Epiphany Dinner)	Daniel Hanneman's Clubhouse 3 pm set-up Marilyn & Melody in charge of fun & frolic
Early MARCH	Goodson Chapel Tracker Organ Demo & Creative Hymn Introductions and Reharmonizations.	Wayne Wold will give us a Demo of the Goodson Chapel Tracker organ as well as a program on Creative Hymn Introductions and Reharmonizations
APRIL	No Meeting	
Saturday June 6	Heather Ankerbrand and Rickie Gearhart have organized a Fantastic Organ Crawl to several churches in Chambersburg including lunch. SAVE THE DATE on your 2026 Calendar NOW!!	Arr. Heather Ankerbrand and Ricky Gearhart See Flyer!!!



TUNING - MAINTENANCE

RELEATHERING - RELOCATION

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