

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

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From the Dean

If the Shoe Fits: Choosing the Best Option for a Scholarship

I want to give you an update on our discernment regarding funding a path towards honoring Dr. Cooksey with any number of excellent options. First, it is not so easy as passing around a hat and requesting donations. We have been very successful with this type of fundraising for the Winchester Rescue Mission and WATTS.

(NOTE: Please remember our fall benefit fundraiser on Sunday afternoon, November 16th at 3:00 PM, Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, Winchester, for these two wonderful community services. We are in the discovery phase. I have to date, talked with Edward Jones Financial Advisor James Imho. James has lengthy credentials with money issues, such as raising funds, and the investment side of building a trust. I have also had a conversation with my attorney, Charles Alton, about the legal needs of a fiduciary responsibility. He recommended a well-known business called Charles Schwab. They are a national investment company, and the opening page will give you some idea of how specific a wealth portfolio can be. Mr Alton suggested that we might be well off to start with a CPA, as they would have knowledge of the parameters of the regulations.

And, the internet has an unending list of information that, like an ivy vine, leads to threads of topics. Both these gentlemen and some of our members say “Do Your Homework first”.

I have a pile of papers to hand out. I am directing my research topic as the type of scholarships that are most popular and available. There are competitions, grants, awards, and loans, just to pick a few. One source mentioned that most financial aid is given out based on need or merit. Some are given out regularly (every year or alternating years). Some have developed trusts, and some give out the awards as they have money to support the award.

So, you see that the options are bewildering. I am asking for your help. I would like to develop a survey and an assignment. * (Note: I will be away from November 7 through 16th. When I return, look for a communication from me and some suggestions of areas for research.. I would ask that you do some reading. Then we will get together and try to limit our options.

Also of primary importance is what to do in the meantime. One of our board members feels very strongly that we should ask for money right now and then fit the horse to the shoe, so to speak. I think we might consider what kind of timeline is reasonable for us to follow.

I was about to wrap up my finish to this newsletter when I received a call from one of our members who had recently found a young man who would be perfect for attending a PEO. Our member had only a brief acquaintance with the family, but had a discussion with the parent of the young high school student to see if a week at POE camp might be a good thing. Like tinder in the winter, the flame of curiosity was lit. Our member told me that they had already posted the POE sites and one was a fairly short drive between the family home and the POE location. I mentioned that we supported another young for two POE trips. Is this how you would remember Cooksey?

And about feeling overwhelmed, just be reminded of Dr. Cooksey who stopped at nothing to do his best for us.

Blessings and thanksgiving,
Linda

**The Winchester Chapter
of the American Guild of Organists present**

A Thanksgiving Benefit Concert

**for the Winchester Area Temporary Transitional Shelter
and the Winchester Rescue Mission**



**Sunday, November 16, 3 pm Grace
Evangelical Lutheran Church
26 W. Boscawen Street, Winchester**

Standing Ovation Performers:

Emily Bentgen – Oboe d'amore

Dave Boltz – Trumpet

Dan Miller – Organ

Mimi Minigawa – Piano

Charlene Romano – Flute

John Romano – Clarinet

Alan Saucedo – Cello

Terry Sisk – Organ

Anna Smith – Harp and Organ

Marilyn Shenenberger – Organ



**Join us for an afternoon of inspiring music
to benefit our neighbors in need.**

**Admission is free – Donations gratefully accepted for
WATTS and the Winchester Rescue Mission.**

WATTS & Winchester Rescue Mission Charity Concert

The Chapter is counting on you! All members and friends are asked to re-print copies of the flyer attached to the October Newsletter about the **WATTS** and **WINCHESTER RESCUE MISSION Charity Concert on November 16 at 3:00 PM in Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church at East Boscawen Street.**

And, more importantly,

PLEASE send a copy of the flyer to your church administration and choirs

(include children's and handbell choirs, too).

This is a critical task that will get all the churches in our region (including any one between Leesburg and Shenandoah Counties and their towns and villages.

2025-2026 AGO Programs, November - June

Month	Program	Description
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; Dan Miller and Anna Smith on Organ; Trio Atlas with Mimi, Charlene (Flute) and John Romano (Clarinet); Alan Saucedo and his son on Cello; Emily Bentgen, on Oboe d'amore, Dave Boltz on Trumpet, and Anna Smith on Harp with Terry Sisk on Organ.
DEC	No Meeting	
Friday Dec. 12 7 pm	Bring a choir (or we'll have a WAGO Choir) & join Felipe Dominguez for an Interfaith Christmas Concert	The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints 399 Apple Pie Ridge Rd., Winchester
Friday, Jan. 23 7 pm	Viva Mozart Scholarship Concert with Dessert Tickets \$20 First Baptist, 205 W. Piccadilly St., Winchester (Possible Snow date, Sunday, Feb 1 at 3 pm)	Epistle Sonata #1 in Eb w 2 Vlms, Cello and organ Missa Brevis in D minor K65 w Choir, 2 vlms, 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
Saturday Feb. 28 10 AM	Goodson Chapel Tracker Organ Demo & Creative Hymn Introductions and Reharmonizations and Free organ music for the taking!!	Wayne Wold will give us a Demo of the Goodson Chapel Tracker organ as well as a most helpful program on Creative Hymn Introductions and Reharmonizations
APRIL	No Meeting! Happy Easter!	
Sunday May 3 2 pm!	Mark Pichowitz – It's Too Early to Panic Emergency Fixes, Organ Maintenance and much, much more	Bethel Lutheran Church 2077 N. Frederick Pike Winchester
Saturday June 6	Heather Ankerbrand and Rickie Gearhart have organized a Fantastic Organ Crawl to several churches in Chambersburg including lunch.	See Flyer!!! SAVE the DATE on your 2026 Calendar NOW!!

GLORIA

Vivaldi & Rutter

November 22, 2025

7 pm

ONE PERFORMANCE ONLY

First Baptist Church

Winchester, VA

www.artschoralewinchester.org





Choral Evensong

Fall Choral Evensong

led by

The Sanctuary Choir of Emmanuel Episcopal Church

Sunday, November 23 , 2025, at 4:00 PM

reception to follow

the church is located at 9668 Maidstone Road

Route 17 and Interstate 66

Delaplane, VA 20144

G. F. HANDEL'S
MESSIAH

SING ALONG

November 30, 2025

7 pm

**First Baptist Church
Winchester, VA**

www.artschoralewinchester.org



Bring a non-perishable food item
to benefit Highland Food Pantry

A Free Will Offering Will Be Observed





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RELEATHERING - RELOCATION

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