

# American Guild of Organists Blue Ridge Chapter

## May 2024

[www.blueridgeago.org](http://www.blueridgeago.org)



## Dr. Marilyn Keiser Organ Recital

May 16 · 7:00pm

St. James Episcopal Church  
766 N Main Street, Hendersonville NC

Sponsored by the Blue Ridge AGO and St. James  
Join us for a reception after the recital!

## Congratulations to chapter member Sean Coughlin!



The Association of Anglican Musicians is pleased to award the 2024 Brittenback-Meezan Presidential Award to Grace Church in the Mountains and their Music Director, Sean Coughlin. Intended as a resource for small- and mid-sized congregations in the Episcopal Church, the award is an annual grant which demonstrates the value of continuing education as a means of enlivening worship and deepening Christian understanding through music. In addition to attending the Annual Conference of the AAM in Minnesota (June 9-13), Mr. Coughlin plans to use the award to take organ lessons to develop greater facility with the breadth of the instrument as well as increase his familiarity with the Anglican musical tradition and Episcopal liturgy. He writes, "I am honored and extremely grateful to have been chosen for the Brittenback-Meezen Presidential Award from the Association of Anglican Musicians. As someone new to both the Episcopal Church and to the organ, I look forward to creating a strong musical foundation to build upon as I begin my pedagogical journey through private lessons.

I know this award will help enrich worship for our parishioners as I learn the fine art of hymn playing and all things pertaining to both the organ and Anglican music." Congratulations Sean!



## Nolan Anthony Recital

June 9 · 3:00pm

Works by Louis Clerambault, Florence Price,  
Louis Vierne, and Maurice Durufle

First United Methodist Church

325 North Broad Street, Brevard NC

Free and open to the public, love offering received

# CHORAL EVENSONG

The Rev. David Henson, Rector  
St. James Choir; Brad Gee, Conductor  
Tate Addis, Organist

**Sunday, May 5 at 5:00 p.m.**  
**Prelude begins at 4:45 p.m.**

Organ music of Myron Roberts,  
Craig Phillips, Thalben-Ball, Tournemire  
Choral Music: *O Taste and See*, Frank Boles  
*Preces & Responses*, Käthe Wright Kaufman  
*Evening Service in A Minor*, T. T. Noble  
*Greater Love Hath No Man*, John Ireland

St. James Episcopal Church  
766 N. Main Street  
Downtown Hendersonville, NC 28792  
[stjamesepiscopal.com](http://stjamesepiscopal.com)



[www.blueridgeago.org](http://www.blueridgeago.org)

# THE BLUE RIDGE RINGERS



## 2024 *Swingin' Spring*

Sunday, April 28, 4:00 p.m.  
Converse University, Daniel Recital Hall, Spartanburg, SC

Thursday, May 2, 2:00 p.m.  
\*\* Ardenwoods Retirement Community, Arden, NC

Sunday, May 5, 4:00 p.m.  
First Congregational UCC, Asheville, NC

Monday, May 6, 3:30 p.m.  
\*\* Tryon Estates, Columbus, NC

Sunday, May 12, 3:00 p.m.  
Fletcher United Methodist Church, Fletcher, NC

Monday, May 13, 6:30 p.m.  
\*\* College Walk Retirement Community, Brevard, NC

*For more information, email us at  
theblueridgeringers@gmail.com*

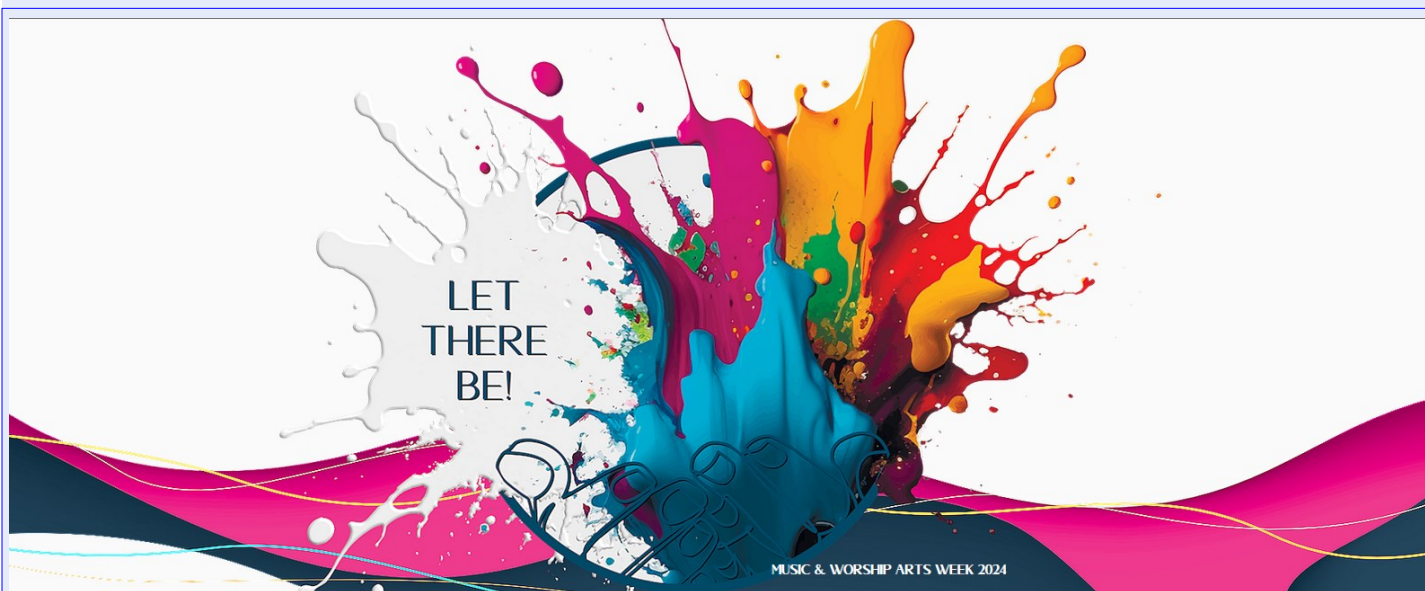
*Follow us on social media!  
facebook.com/theblueridgeringers*

*Free admission! Donations  
will be gratefully accepted.  
The Blue Ridge Ringers are a  
501(c)3 non-profit corporation.*

**\*\* This concert is at a Senior facility. Check with them to see if they are allowing visitors.**

## [www.SacredMusicDownloads.com](http://www.SacredMusicDownloads.com)

The brushing up of my website has lead me to a variety of data and insights which surprise and inspire me. SacredMusicDownloads.com (once AzaleaCircle.com) has finalized more than 650 transactions to all 50 states and six countries. The big sellers are the handbell arrangements and compositions, second are the original choral compositions. There is also a bLog section where I post various written thoughts that have appeared in church newsletters through the years. Taize, Transposition, and David Dancing before the Lord have appeared. The latest is a piece called "The 'P' Word". I am grateful to be a part of so many music ministries throughout the country. I have been talking to some of my friend composers to see if there is interest in expanding the website. My impression is that SacredMusicDownloads.com could become a bustling community of sacred music composers and people who want to support them. Soli Deo Gloria.

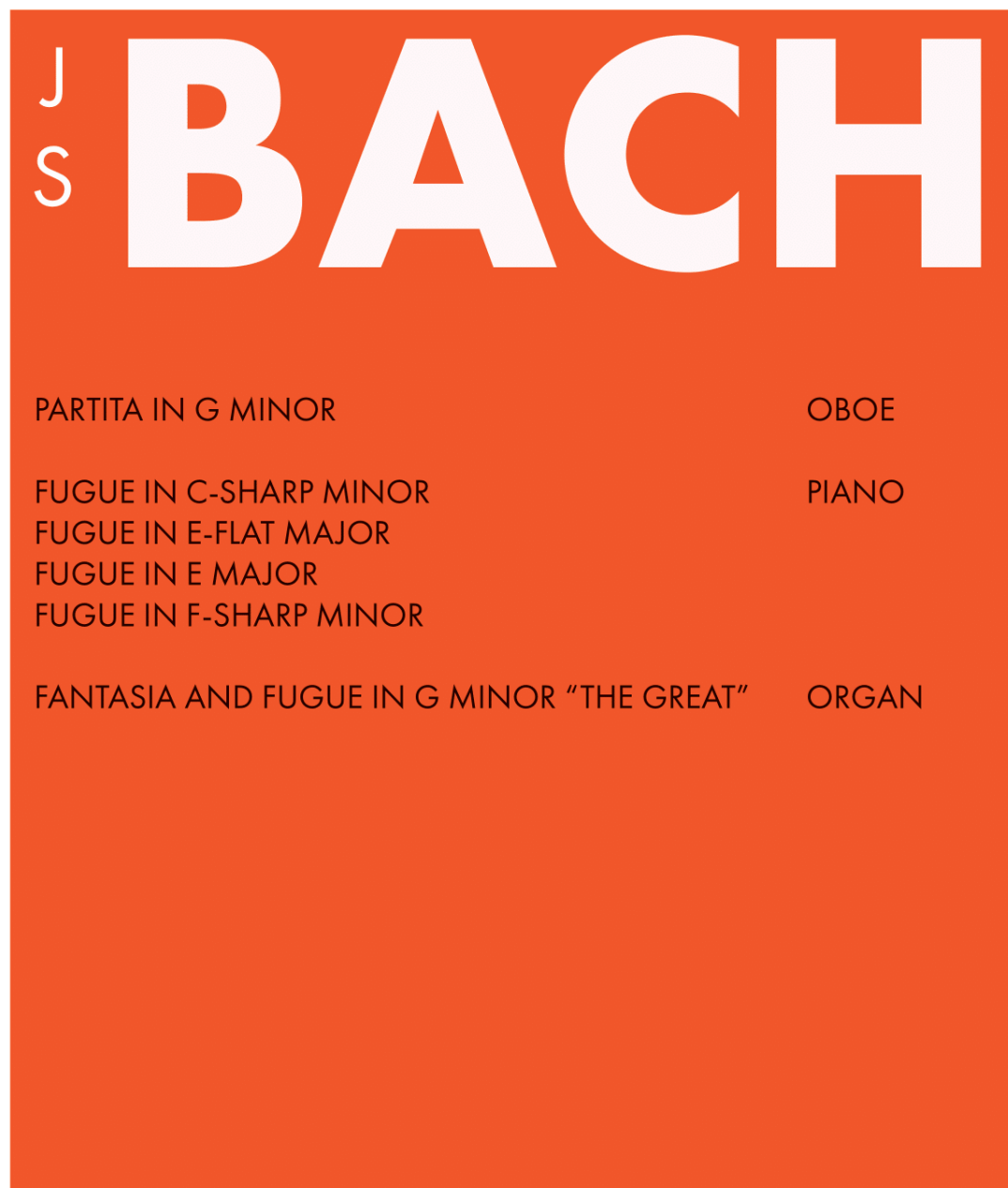


### Let There Be! Lake Junaluska, June 24-28 2024

Music & Worship Arts Week 2024 will magnify God's miraculous permission – Let There Be! – as a universe-shaping refrain of hope, wonder, and endless possibilities for all who work and volunteer in the glorious array of worship arts. Come! Join us as we embark on an awe-inspiring journey into God's creative power at work in the world! Music & Worship Arts Week (MWAW) is a multi-generational event hosted by The Fellowship of Worship Artists in the beautiful mountains of North Carolina at Lake Junaluska. This annual event is designed for worship leaders, musicians, artists, dancers, actors, and pastors of all denominations who seek education and renewal in a spirit of inclusivity and grace. We welcome all. MWAW offers participants the opportunity to work with and learn from renowned leaders in the fields of worship arts, make new friends and reconnect with colleagues, be renewed in a beautiful setting, and worship daily in creative and inspiring ways. Music & Worship Arts Week has been described as "one of the most palpable examples of God's artistic gifts at work", so if you haven't already done so, we hope that you'll take some time to learn more about this transformative event and make plans to join us at Lake Junaluska.

<https://www.thefellowshipowa.org/mwaw2024-registration>

# GRAY PEARSON presents



**J  
S BACH**

PARTITA IN G MINOR	OBOE
FUGUE IN C-SHARP MINOR	PIANO
FUGUE IN E-FLAT MAJOR	
FUGUE IN E MAJOR	
FUGUE IN F-SHARP MINOR	
FANTASIA AND FUGUE IN G MINOR "THE GREAT"	ORGAN

Steve and Judy Turner Recital Hall | Nashville, TN

4.20.24 | 12.00

Trinity Episcopal Church | Asheville, NC

5.24.24 | 19.00



## PONDER ANEW

SERVING AND LEADING  
THE CHURCH'S SONG

**JULY 22-25, 2024**

VALPARAISO UNIVERSITY

A worship and music conference  
sponsored by the Association of  
Lutheran Church Musicians in  
conjunction with the 2024 Lutheran  
Summer Music Academy and Festival

This conference – held in conjunction with Lutheran Summer Music – would have us Ponder Anew how to communicate God’s saving grace to all peoples in meaningful, relevant ways. Through workshops, discussions, worship, and hands-on learning opportunities, participants will strengthen their gifts and develop new skills in topics such as worship leadership, technology, composition, enriching assembly song and more, all the while forming connections from Generation to Generation with musicians in the LSM Academy. Thanks to a generous donation from Pauline and John Kiltinen, a high point of our exploration for this week will be a celebration of the 300th anniversary of Johann Sebastian Bach’s St. John Passion in the form of a presentation of this work by the ALCM and LSM communities. We will have opportunities to ponder the current relevance of Bach’s church compositions alongside other current practices to enliven and nurture the song of the church.

[www.alcm.org/2024-valparaiso/](http://www.alcm.org/2024-valparaiso/)



## Arts, Recreation, and Worship Conference May 6–11, 2024

ARW is a week long experiential opportunity to participate in recreation, worship, community, creativity, and the arts. The conference is designed for those who want to deepen their creativity, broaden their leadership skills and experience personal spiritual renewal. In addition to whole group worship and recreation events, participants select from a wide range of unique courses. Our learning together provides space for us to share in community that includes all of God’s voices.

[www.montreat.org/events/arw24](http://www.montreat.org/events/arw24)

For more information, please email Lisa Diedrick at [artsrecreationandworship@gmail.com](mailto:artsrecreationandworship@gmail.com)



# JULY 7-12, 2024

## FOR ADULTS

Arden, N.C.

*Hands-on learning & daily creative worship experiences with nationally renowned clinicians.*

- Adult Choir
- Organ Workshops
- Handbell Choirs
- HymnFest Choir
- Reading Sessions
- Hymn Festival

*Organ*

*Adult Choral*

*Handbells*

*Chaplain*



**CATHERINE  
RODLAND**  
ST. OLAF  
COLLEGE



**ZEB  
HIGHBEN**  
DUKE  
UNIVERSITY  
CHAPEL



**MICHAEL  
HELMAN**  
BREVARD-  
DAVIDSON RIVER  
PRESBYTERIAN



**REV. AMANDA  
HIGHBEN**  
DUKE  
UNIVERSITY  
LUTHERANS

**LUTHERIDGE.ORG/ADULT-MUSIC-WEEK**

## Open Positions

### **Our Savior Lutheran Church, Clyde, NC**

Our Savior Lutheran Church is looking for a part-time organist to play one or two Sundays per month, as well as special services throughout the year (Good Friday, Christmas, etc). OSLC is a small congregation with a traditional, liturgical worship service. We only need someone to play for the church service, no choir or other duties are needed. We are happy to work with various skill levels, whether a young student looking to grow as an organist, a retired organist still interested in playing occasionally, or anything in between! Compensation is per service, and will be based on experience. For more information please contact Office (at) oursaviorlutherannc.com or (828) 456-6493.

### **St. Andrew's on-the-Hill Episcopal Church, Canton, NC**

St. Andrew's seeks a part-time (10-12 hrs/wk) musician who is called to serve in ministry in a mutually creative and collaborative relationship with the Priest-in-charge, choir, and congregation. St. Andrew's is a congregation that is deeply committed to prayer, service, and community. We have musicians in our congregation who sing in a quartet, play the dulcimers (hammered and mountain), and direct our children's choir.

We seek a music director with experience on organ and piano as well as directing a small, volunteer adult choir. We currently have choir rehearsal on Wednesday evenings and before Sunday morning worship, which begins at 10:30. A year-round position is preferred, but other options will be considered. Compensation: \$19,000 - \$20,500, based on experience for a year-round position. Benefits include 4 weeks paid vacation and \$500/year for continuing education. If you are interested in seeing the full job description, please check our homepage at: [www.standrewscanton.org](http://www.standrewscanton.org) or contact Karen Barfield at: [rectorstandrewscanton@gmail.com](mailto:rectorstandrewscanton@gmail.com)



**The Carolina Lakes Choral Society** of Sun City (Indian Land, SC) is seeking a new Artistic Director to lead the ensemble through the second half of the 2024 season and beyond. The group is a voluntary chorus made up of 50 -70 singers who are residents of the Sun City community. The group sings four-part music "from Bach to Broadway" with an emphasis on more contemporary selections. Novelty numbers frequently add to the fun at performances. Two concerts are presented each year, Spring and Fall. Each concert is a series of three performances held on a Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Rehearsals are held during the day. The Artistic Director is assisted by a professional accompanist at all rehearsals and at performances. The Artistic Director will have primary responsibility for selecting the theme of each concert. The primary requirement for the Director position is a love of choral music and the ability to conduct a group of volunteer singers who share that love of singing. While degrees in conducting and/or choral music are desirable, and experience is definitely a plus, the determining factor shall be the perceived ability and commitment to enhance the love of singing and to form the ensemble into an ever more professional sounding group. Revenues in support of the Choral Society are derived entirely from ticket revenues and member fees (to a small extent). Modest compensation for the position can be discussed. This is a perfect opportunity to supplement on-going studies or to serve the community by keeping a now 15-year tradition alive and well.

For further discussion, please contact: Joe Silien, President: [andijoe@comporium.net](mailto:andijoe@comporium.net), Kent Newcomb, Vice President: [cknewcomb@att.net](mailto:cknewcomb@att.net)



**First Presbyterian Church, Newton NC  
Director of Music staff position (Part-time)**

First Presbyterian Church of Newton, NC ([www.fpcnewton.org](http://www.fpcnewton.org)) is seeking a part-time Director of Music. Our active congregation of 320 members has a deep and long-standing love for what music brings to our worship, and we appreciate the same diversity of musical styles that we see represented in the diversity of Christ's church. The Director of Music position will require 15 – 18 hours weekly with a salary commensurate with training and experience. This staff position works alongside the minister to plan thematic worship services that incorporate appropriate and varied music through both choral and instrumental participation. He/she is responsible for the directing of the chancel choir that participates weekly in worship, and the handbell ensemble that participates quarterly or more either together or as a few members for special accompaniments. Also, he/she is responsible for administrative parts of the job such as copyright compliance for livestream services and bulletins, staff representative on some committees, maintenance of the church organs and pianos, and supervisor of and support to our staff organist/pianist/accompanist.

**Organist/Pianist/Accompanist staff position (Part-time)**

First Presbyterian Church of Newton, NC ([www.fpcnewton.org](http://www.fpcnewton.org)) is seeking a part-time Organist/Pianist/Accompanist position requires 10 – 12 hours weekly with a salary commensurate with training and experience. This staff person supports the Director of Music in the church music ministry. He/she serves as accompanist to the Chancel Choir in weekly rehearsals and worship services. He/she also accompanies soloist, duets, and instrumentalists who are participating in worship services. He/she will prepare liturgically appropriate music for the worship services to share as preludes, voluntaries, offertories and postludes. Our church organ is a Casavant Frères, Opus 3806, with three manual console and 47 ranks. Our sanctuary grand piano is a Yamaha C6X – 7ft. with polished Ebony finish.

To apply for either of these positions, please send a resume, references and contact information to  
First Presbyterian Church: Organist Search Committee  
701 N. Main Ave, Newton, NC 28658  
[kberry@fpcnewton.com](mailto:kberry@fpcnewton.com)

A full job description can be requested from the church office.



**Warren Wilson Presbyterian** is seeking a part time Director of Music Ministry to lead our music program as we continue to grow and prayerfully follow where God is leading us. We are a casual, warm, and friendly congregation, who values the Sacred worth and dignity of each person. We are an open and affirming congregation, committed to creating a welcoming and inclusive environment for all. As Director of Music Ministry, you will be responsible for leading our choir and providing musical accompaniment on organ and/or piano for our worship services. You will be essential, incorporating your own gifts and creativity. This position is for 16 hours per week, with a salary of \$20,157 - \$21,657 including paid vacation and sick leave.

Applications are being accepted now. A job description is posted on our website: [warrenwilsonchurch.org](http://warrenwilsonchurch.org)  
Interested applicants please submit a CV, or resume, and three references to: [info \(at\) warrenwilsonchurch.org](mailto:info@warrenwilsonchurch.org)



**Fletcher United Methodist Church, Fletcher NC** is seeking a part-time Organist/Pianist. Under the direction of the Director of Music and the Pastor, this person is responsible for the planning and participation of organ and piano music in support of the worship services and programs of the church. He/she ensures that the music is presented in a manner that preaches the Gospel of Jesus Christ, provides glory to God, and inspires holy worship at all worship services. The Organist/Pianist will accompany rehearsals of the Chancel Choir one weekday evening per week (from early September through early June) and provide a year-round musical component for both Sunday worship services (8:30 and 11:00),

as well as special worship services throughout the year (i.e. Good Friday, Christmas Eve, etc.) Occasional assistance may also be needed for our Anticipate Ancient-Modern services, which occur on Wednesday evenings during Advent and Lent. A degree in organ and previous church-related music experience is preferred. For more information, email Blaine Russell, Director of Music: blaine (at) fletcherumc.org

**First Baptist Church, Weaverville, NC** is seeking a part-time organist. Qualifications: be a person feeling called by God and showing a love for Church music. 4 year college music degree preferred. Experience at the keyboard to help guide the church in worship. Comfortable with a wide variety of musical styles, possess good interpersonal skills. Duties: In cooperation with the Minister of Music, Pastor and the Music committee, be responsible for providing music for and accompanying choirs in all the regular services of the church (currently Sunday AM), special services and funerals (as schedule allows). Accompany the Adult Choir rehearsals (currently Wednesday evenings) and other Choirs as needed. Assist the Minister of Music and others in places of responsibility to carry out the ministry of the church. Advise and work with the Minister of Music on instrument maintenance: tunings and repairs. Benefits: Receive 2 Wednesdays and 2 Sundays paid vacation after the first six months of employment. Be allowed to attend conventions, conferences, and music meetings as the budget allows. Receive a salary and benefit review annually. Typical considerations will include cost of living, job performance, years of service. (Currently position - \$250 weekly approx. 15-20 hrs a week) Be treated with love and respect in keeping with the high calling as a minister of God in this chosen field. Further information about our church can be discovered at the website: [www.fbcwvl.org/](http://www.fbcwvl.org/) Please send inquiries and/or resumes to position (at) fbcwvl.org, (828) 645-6720

#### **Montmorenci United Methodist Church, Candler NC**

Montmorenci UMC is seeking a part-time Music Director/Organist for our church in Candler, NC. We are a loving congregation nestled in the mountains west of Asheville. We are known for our warm and inclusive spirit, where everyone is treated like family! The position is 8-10 hours a week with a salary of 12,000. Benefits include 2 weeks paid vacation. Primary job responsibilities include selection of music, Sunday morning worship, adult choir rehearsals, and special services. A more detailed description of duties can be obtained by contacting us. We have a three manual Johannus. If you have a passion for traditional music with a few twists, a heart for service, and a desire to be part of a warm and caring church family, we invite you to apply for this position. Inquiries and resumes can be sent to Glenda Patterson at allie100 (at) currently.com

#### **First Baptist Church, Burnsville, NC,**

First Baptist Church, affiliated with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, is looking to fill the part-time position of "Pianist". FBC Burnsville appreciates a blended music program that includes choral, hand bell, brass, small ensemble, and solo work. More information about First Baptist can be found on Facebook, FBCBurnsville, or our web site: [fbcburnsville.com](http://fbcburnsville.com). Applicants should email a resume to: fbcburnsville (at) gmail.com. Applications accepted until position is filled. Salary commensurate with experience. Call 828-682-2288 for more information.

**St. John's Church, Marion NC**

Organist/Church Musician (Part Time) Church musician will provide music and musical leadership at the regular Sunday services of the Parish, and for Holy Week, Christmas, and additional services. Musician will assist the Rector in the selection of hymns, anthems, and service music. Provide music for other occasions as requested. The ideal candidate will provide direction for a seasonal choir, handbells and other musical groups as needed and work to develop, and encourage, small ensembles, soloists and other talented musicians within the congregation. St. John's has a 2007, three manual Rodgers Allegiant digital organ. Qualifications: Knowledge of church music and organ repertoire for church services. Experience within the Episcopal/Anglican tradition preferred or willingness to learn. Proficiency in organ and piano. Experience directing a choir or ensemble (ideal) Self-motivated with a collegial style of leadership Part time salaried position requiring an average of 9-12 hours per week. Additional hours required for special services. Salary is \$805 per month (\$10,200 per year) 4 Sundays off per year \$250 towards continuing education per year. To apply send cover letter and resume via email to Rev. Erin Kirby, stjohanmarionclergy@gmail.com, or as a hardcopy to St. John's Church, Attention Rev. Kirby, P.O. Box 968, Marion, NC 28752. Position open until filled

**Black Mountain Presbyterian, Black Mountain NC**

Black Mountain Presbyterian Church, a vibrant and progressive community of faith in Black Mountain, NC, is seeking a classically trained organist. This individual would support worship services that elevate the rich heritage of sacred choral and organ music found in the Presbyterian (PCUSA) liturgy. The organist will serve an integral part-time role, joining an energetic and collegial staff. The Organist will report to the Director of Music and assist in the development and implementation of a comprehensive music ministry plan congruent with the vision and mission of Black Mountain Presbyterian Church. Bachelor's degree in music or related field preferred (equivalent experience will be considered). Since this is a part-time position, benefits are not included. Salary is negotiable and will be dependent upon experience level. For more information about Black Mountain Presbyterian Church: [bmpcnc.org](http://bmpcnc.org) Interested candidates should submit a resume and cover letter to Aaron Price, Director of Music and Worship Arts, at "aaron (@) bmpcnc.org". Candidates are encouraged to include links to audio and/or video recordings of past performances. For more information, contact Aaron Price at 828-669-2725.

**Lutheran Chapel Church, Gastonia NC**

Lutheran Chapel Church seeks an Organist/Assistant to the Director of Music. Position Objective: To coordinate and assist with the music programs primarily through accompaniment on the organ and piano while reflecting the church mission and theology. Part-time position, 4-5 hours/week average. Salary Range: \$10,400 - \$13,400 Responsibilities: Collaborate with the Pastor, Director of Music and Worship and Music committee in preparation for worship services and any special music requests. Enthusiastically accompany and assist with Music Ministry programs that facilitate cross-generational spiritual growth and enhance the worship experience. Be an active participant in weekly and seasonal worship services. Provide accompaniment for funerals as needed and as available. Necessary Qualifications: Must love music! Highly skilled accompanist. Proficient in most styles of playing piano. Proficient organist preferred, but not required. Must have a desire to learn. Competent music director. Experience working with children. Bachelors or Associate degree in music or equivalent training/work experience. If you are interested in applying for this position, please send your professional cover letter and resume to: Lutheran Chapel Church, Attn: Organist/Assistant to Music Director Search Committee, 702 N. New Hope Road, Gastonia, NC 28054 or by emailing churchoffice (at) lutheranchapelchurch.org

**First Presbyterian Church, Albemarle NC**

First Presbyterian Church of Albemarle, NC seeks an organist for Sunday morning worship, adult choir rehearsals, and special services. Past worship services can be viewed on YouTube. Worship occurs on Sundays at 11:00. Applicants for this position should contact Ann Crutchfield, 704 985 2050 or [ann.benson.crutchfield@gmail.com](mailto:ann.benson.crutchfield@gmail.com) to arrange an interview and audition opportunity. Applicants will be expected to play traditional hymns for singing, a prelude, offertory, and postlude. The applicant may be requested to accompany a vocal and/or instrumental soloist during the audition. Piano proficiency is expected in playing open score during adult choir rehearsals. Salary: \$18,000 – 24,000. Vacation: 3 weeks. Degree in Church music or Organ performance preferred. Organ: Orgues Letourneau – Opus 105 2007, 2 manuals, 30 ranks, 22 stops.

# Blue Ridge AGO Chapter

[www.blueridgeago.org](http://www.blueridgeago.org)

Founded  
August 15, 2013

## OFFICERS

**Vance Yoder**  
Dean

**Thomas Bernard**  
Treasurer and Sub Dean

**JC Cecconi**  
Secretary

**Rhonda Furr**  
**Timothy Wissler**  
**Hunter Holbert**  
**Michael Helman**  
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**Tim Shepard**  
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**David Anderson**  
Newsletter Editor

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National Office:  
475 Riverside Drive  
Suite 1260  
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## About Us

Our mission is to enrich lives through organ and choral music. To achieve this, we encourage excellence in the performance of organ and choral music; inspire, educate, and offer certification for organists and choral conductors; provide networking, fellowship, and mutual support; nurture future generations of organists; promote the organ in its historic and evolving roles; and engage wider audiences with organ and choral music.

## Area Organs

Brevard—Davidson River Presbyterian Church, Brevard NC  
Cornel Zimmer Organ Builders Opus 21, 1997



Originally Casavant Frères Ltée. (Opus 3082, 1970)

when you have a cipher and  
get it to go away by  
pressing the key repeatedly

