

# American Guild of Organists Blue Ridge Chapter

## November, 2021



### Young Artists Recital

November 7 · 3:00pm · Grace Lutheran, Hendersonville

Dear friends and colleagues in the organ world,

I encourage you to plan to attend this Sunday, November 7 at 3:00, our Young Artists Recital! The AGO designated this year as "The Year of the Young Organist; celebrating young talent and musicianship in the pipe organ field." Our Blue Ridge Chapter is very excited to bring you some young talent that lives and works right here in our Blue Ridge area. Four young artists will present a recital of music, mostly organ, and including one outstanding violinist. We will hear Bach, Gigout, and Dupre, from "Partita on Ebenezer" to Concerto in F Major. This should be a most edifying program that celebrates our up-and-coming generation of musicians.

Our young artists are Mr. Brett Levi, Ms. Makena James, Mr. Hunter Holbert and Mr. Nolan Anthony. Mr. Levi is the Associate Director of Music and Organist at Covenant Presbyterian Church in Hendersonville. Ms. James was born here in Asheville and is studying remotely at Houghton College as a senior, with Dr. Judy Congdon. Mr. Holbert graduated in May 2021 with a Master of Music Performance with a concentration in Violin Performance from Appalachian State University. I'm probably being very prejudicial to say that I have known Nolan Anthony for a very, very long time, Nolan having grown up in my mother's church. I and my mom both delighted to watch him grow into the musician he has become. Nolan is currently a student at Furman University pursuing a degree in organ performance.



I hope you can make it to this very happy event; hearing these young people play. Come support them and give them your round of applause! All the best,

Tim Shepard, Dean  
Blue Ridge AGO

### Something for Everyone!

The AGO Young Organists had a full slate of virtual programs in 2020/2021, and they are all available to view online now. Where else can you see: organ crawls at West Point and Wanamaker's; a panel discussion on organists of color; a workshop on technology and church music; a Taylor & Boody factory tour; a young organist's recital; and more? Visit [youtube.com/user/guildoforganists](https://www.youtube.com/user/guildoforganists) to watch this treasure trove of programming from the comfort of your own home!

### COVID-19 Response

The American Guild of Organists continues to make a variety of excellent resources available to members during the continuing pandemic: <https://www.agohq.org/responding-to-covid-19/>  
**There is also a scholarship for anyone affected by the pandemic which will cover AGO dues.** Please do not hesitate to contact us if you or someone you know could benefit from this program!  
[www.agohq.org/responding-to-covid-19](https://www.agohq.org/responding-to-covid-19/)

## Concerts and Events

**Organ Recital**, November 7, 5:00 pm  
St. James Episcopal Church, Hendersonville  
Mr. Tate Addis, organ

**Opera Scenes**, December 1, 7:30 pm  
Dunham Music Building, Brevard College  
Brevard College students performing in Ingram Hall.

**Pan Harmonia, Holiday Flute and Harp**  
December 4, 3:00 pm  
St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Asheville  
Kate Steinbeck, flute; John Wickey, harp. Reserve seating at panharmonia.org

**Service of Lessons and Carols**, December 4, 7:30 pm  
Scott Concert Hall, Porter Center, Brevard College

**Bach's Lunch: Christmas Around the World**  
December 7, 12:05 pm, First Baptist Church, Asheville  
Bach's Lunch is Asheville's premiere organ concert series featuring organ faculty Tate Addis. All concerts are free and open to the public. [academyforthearts.org/bachs-lunch](http://academyforthearts.org/bachs-lunch) for details, and to watch previous programs.

**Christmas Organ Recital Series**, December 10 and 17, 12:30 pm  
Brevard First United Methodist Church, 325 N Broad St., Brevard, NC  
Timothy Shepard (12/10) & Vance Yoder (12/17), organists; 30-40 minutes

**An Appalachian Christmas**, December 11, 7:30 pm  
Blue Ridge Community College, Flat Rock NC  
Join us for the first program of our symphony season as we perform holiday favorites old and new, this time with a mountain flair. Featuring fiddler Julian Pinelli and Steep Canyon Rangers front man Graham Sharp on banjo to add some toe tapping to the usual caroling and merriment of this annual Hendersonville Symphony tradition. \$12-\$45, [hendersonvillesymphony.org](http://hendersonvillesymphony.org)

**Organ Concert: Once Upon a December**, December 19, 3:00 pm  
First United Methodist Church, Hendersonville NC. Makena James, organist  
A preview for this concert can be found here: [https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=icmZTr1cV\\_U](https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=icmZTr1cV_U)

**Handel's Messiah, Part I**, December 16, 7:30 pm  
Transylvania Choral Society and Orchestra, David Gresham, conductor  
Scott Concert Hall, Porter Center, Brevard College



*Reuter Opus 1571, First Baptist Asheville*

## Now Accepting Submissions!

**Want to see your next event advertised to music lovers and colleagues across Western North Carolina?** The Blue Ridge AGO newsletter and website are wonderful ways for you to communicate with your colleagues and audiences, and the price simply can't be beat! So next time you're premiering Cage's 4'3" arranged for 5-octave handbells, or thinking about selling that old harpsichord to make room for your growing collection of Soviet theremin prototypes, look no further than the Blue Ridge AGO! Submissions may be made to the editorial department by smoke signal, or emailed to: [cantordavid@stmarkslutheran.net](mailto:cantordavid@stmarkslutheran.net)

## Open Positions

### First Congregational UCC, Asheville NC

First Congregational UCC seeks a part-time (8-10 hours/week) organist to begin January 2022. **Music duties** include: In consultation/collaboration with the Music Director and Senior Minister, select varied and seasonally appropriate hymns and music for weekly worship services; Collaborate with the Music Director to play the organ/piano for weekly services including, but not limited to, the Prelude, congregational hymns, accompaniment for choir, Offertory and Postlude; Provide accompaniment for choir and instrumental and vocal ensemble rehearsals one night per week, on Sundays, and for other seasonal music, e.g., Christmas Eve; Assist Music Director in recruiting and rehearsing with guest musicians; In the Music Director's absence, periodically direct the Chancel Choir; For additional fees, play at weddings and funerals. **Administrative duties** include: Collaborate with the Music Director to submit music budget proposals to the Senior Minister when requested; Assist the Music Director in overseeing citations of copyright compliance for all reproduced music; Assist the Music Director with submitting / maintaining / updating information on Music pages of church website. For more information or to apply, please contact [fcuccavlpersonnel@gmail.com](mailto:fcuccavlpersonnel@gmail.com)

### St. Francis Episcopal Church, Rutherfordton NC

St. Francis Episcopal is seeking a part-time Minister of Music (Organist/Choirmaster) 15-18 hours/week. The Minister of Music will bring a sense of enjoyment, experience, and enthusiasm to this position and to our worshipping community. **Qualifications:** Be an accomplished organist, pianist and music minister; Knowledge of traditional Anglican Music including hymns from 1982 Hymnal, LEVAS, liturgy of The Episcopal Church, and recording media; Experience in encouraging congregational involvement; Ability to adapt to and engage with various members of the congregation. **Responsibilities:** Develop and/or enhance the current music program to foster choral and congregational involvement with consideration for the current environment; Plan and provide music according to the liturgical calendar together with the clergy; Lease and provide music for all required services, including certain scheduled non-Sunday services; Strengthen and broaden the musical offering at St. Francis; Coordinate and administer all music related programs. For more information or to apply, please contact [rector@stfrancisrutherford.org](mailto:rector@stfrancisrutherford.org)



*St. Francis Episcopal, Rutherfordton*

### Fairfield Mountains Chapel, Lake Lure, NC

Fairfield Mountains Chapel is an Interdenominational church with a well developed music program. We are searching for an experienced church organist. The organist needs to be a strong team player with excellent Christian values who will work closely with the Music Director, Pianist and Pastor for weekly Sunday morning services. The position also requires music for special occasions such as Christmas, Maundy Thursday and Easter, with additional practice sessions with piano and choir and possibly weddings and funerals. Our well-maintained Cornell Zimmer 2001 two manual hybrid organ hosts 601 pipes distributed on the Great and Pedal divisions. 34 digital stops are spread among the Swell, Great and Pedal divisions. The pipes and speakers are at the rear of our 300 seat auditorium, about forty feet from the console. The compensation for this permanent part-time position will be commensurate with the level of experience. Please forward resumes to [mclardy10@gmail.com](mailto:mclardy10@gmail.com)

### Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Asheville, NC

Emmanuel Lutheran Church seeks a Music Director-Traditional Services. As an employee of a Lutheran Church and School, the focus of our work together is the proclamation of the Gospel. This employee will be in charge of the organization and presentation of the music for the Traditional Services at Emmanuel Lutheran Church. This person will have knowledge and experience in liturgical / Lutheran church music and plan the music for the Services cooperatively with and under the direction of the Pastor. The employee will schedule the paid organists, plan the music and conduct the choir(s), the handbell choir, soloists, and any additional groups as may be needed, including instrumental ensembles, for special Services. Interpersonal skills are essential to recruit volunteers for the various musical groups that are presenting music for those Services. Skills in arranging music and playing the organ are desired, but not essential. This person will be a non-voting member of the Worship Committee. It is expected that these tasks will normally take about 15 hours a week. Two (2) weeks of vacation per year. Offering \$375 per week. Contact [jcmehrling@juno.com](mailto:jcmehrling@juno.com)

# Blue Ridge AGO Chapter

Founded  
August 15, 2013

## OFFICERS

**Tim Shepard**  
Dean

**Vance Yoder**  
Secretary

**Howard Bakken**  
Treasurer

**Burton Bumgarner**  
**Mark Acker**  
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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.

## Substitute List

**Please note** that in order to protect the privacy of our members, we do not publish their contact information publicly. Please contact [cantordavid@stmarkslutheran.net](mailto:cantordavid@stmarkslutheran.net) to get in touch with a substitute, or use the submission form on our website: [www.blueridgeago.org](http://www.blueridgeago.org)

Steve Bennett: Organ (in AVL area)

David Foster: Organ, choir

Annette Hudson: Piano

Mary Huff: Organ, choir

Makena James: Organ, piano, choir

Virginia McKnight: Organ, piano, choir

Robert McWithey: Organ preferred, choir

Gary Mitchell: Organ, piano, choir

Elaine Myers: Organ, piano, choir

Dustin Phillips: Piano

