

# The Treasure Coast Chapter

of the

## American Guild of Organists



Monthly Newsletter

February 2022

### A Message from the Dean

Have you ever thought about what your "mission statement" as a musician might be? Here is an interesting example from the last issue of "The American Organist" to prime the pump:

Nick's Elevator Speech: (a 90 second or less description of the mission of the AGO)

"The AGO is an association of organists, each of whom is striving to become the best musician possible, to better serve the congregation that's engaged us and honor the Creator who gifted us with our talent. We fund programs aimed at skill building for our current members, as well as programs to promote the instrument to the next generation of organists. Last, but certainly not least, we occasionally get to socialize and make music together."

I know it might be a heavy lift to improve on Nick's mission statement, but I'd really like to hear from you about how you see your calling as a church musician. What are you aiming at? What would you like to

achieve besides simply providing music for your church? How would you frame your personal mission statement? I'd love to hear from you and include them in upcoming newsletters.

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### News from Baden Griffin:

Chapter member Baden Griffin is pleased to announce that the donation of his classic church organ has been awarded to, and accepted by Christ Church, Vero Beach, where fellow member Brady Johnson is Organist and Choirmaster; and The Very Rev. Canon B. Keith Allen is Rector.

Mr. Griffin is especially pleased to see the instrument placed in a familiar area church, which has shown a commitment to the finest traditions of liturgical worship. He extends his personal thanks to Dean Jack VanderPlate, and all those from the chapter who may have been participant in this process.

## FIRST THURSDAY LUNCH WITH STEVE GIDDENS

When the Ocean Grill closed due to problems with covid, our subdean, Steve Giddens, saw an opportunity to host a "First Thursday Lunch" to meet with fellow members and show off his 3 manual Rogers organ and grand piano.

Be sure to RSVP by phone or email to Steve so that he can make appropriate preparations for the lunch.

## GET TO KNOW YOUR FELLOW TCCAGOers: Joey Rumberger



The Treasure Coast Chapter of the AGO's current scholarship student is Joseph Rumberger. Joey grew up in a musical household in which his mother played the piano, his grandfather played the accordion (this seems to be a recurring theme in the musical background of TCCAGOers!), and his father played the guitar.

Joey began taking piano lessons from his mother at about age seven. He began formal lessons four years ago on the piano at age 11. He remembers that the first pieces he really enjoyed were Beethoven's "Für Elise," and the first movement of the "Moonlight Sonata."

Joey's figured out that he had "perfect

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## First Thursday TCCAGO Luncheon February 3, 2022

12:30 PM

Hosted by Steve Giddens

5542 NW Burgin Street

Port Saint Lucie, FL 34986

561-236-9791

RSVP to [scgiddens@hotmail.com](mailto:scgiddens@hotmail.com)

This is in a private home and adequate space is available to observe social distancing.

### Directions:

From Midway Road, turn on to East Torino, turn right at flashing stop sign, North Torino. Turn right on to NW Del Cris, first left is NW Cotton, first right is NW Cruzan, first left is NW Burgin Street.

Parking on empty lot or driveway.

(Joey Rumberger)

pitch" while quite young. His interest in organ began about 2 years ago, and was sparked by interest in reed organs. He read about trackers, and from there developed an interest.

Joey enjoys antiques, and the old reed organs that were so popular 150 years ago caught his attention. For one thing, they share a number of similarities with the accordion. He was hooked, and began to restore an old organ given him in 2019. When it was completed, he donated that instrument to First Baptist Church in Fellsmere where, along with the piano, it is used every Sunday. The pastor's wife, Nancy Sparkman, was Joey's piano teacher.

The latest project is the restoration of a reed organ for Dr Adams. Since May of 2021, Joey has been making the wood and metal parts, while fabric and leather can easily be purchased from organ and piano supply houses.

Joey met Dr. Adams as a high school freshman, when Adams subbed for his music theory class. They talked "organ" and of course the idea of organ lessons came up. Joey was awarded the TCCAGO scholarship and began his studies.

During the lessons, Joey and Adams got into the subject of the reed organ. Adams had owned one for some time, and was hoping to get it restored some day. So it was decided that Joey would go ahead and do the restoration.

Organists sometimes play music

written for the harmonium. These pieces are mostly for French art harmonia. America's parlor organs are simpler and were mass produced to be affordable - not as complex as the French harmonia which are used in concert and orchestral works. Another big difference is that the French art harmonia work with positive wind pressure, while the simpler reed organs use suction.

Joey notes that music has definitely opened a lot of doors, and given him a lot of opportunities. He is passionate about music, especially when others enjoy it. He is planning to go into music as a career, though which college and detailed plans are still to be worked out.

Joey hopes to be successful in these endeavors; and wants to use that success to touch people, and enrich the lives of others; and to inspire young people to enjoy music.

We are delighted to have such a fine young man as our TCCAGO scholarship student!

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### **MEMBERS' DIRECTORY ONLINE**

The Members Directory is available on our TCCAGO website, on a newly-created "Members Only" page. This saves paper, postage, and handling by our volunteers, and keeps the Directory at your fingertips. Visit <https://tccago.org/> and scroll down to the middle of the Home Page. Click on the Button labeled "Sign up for

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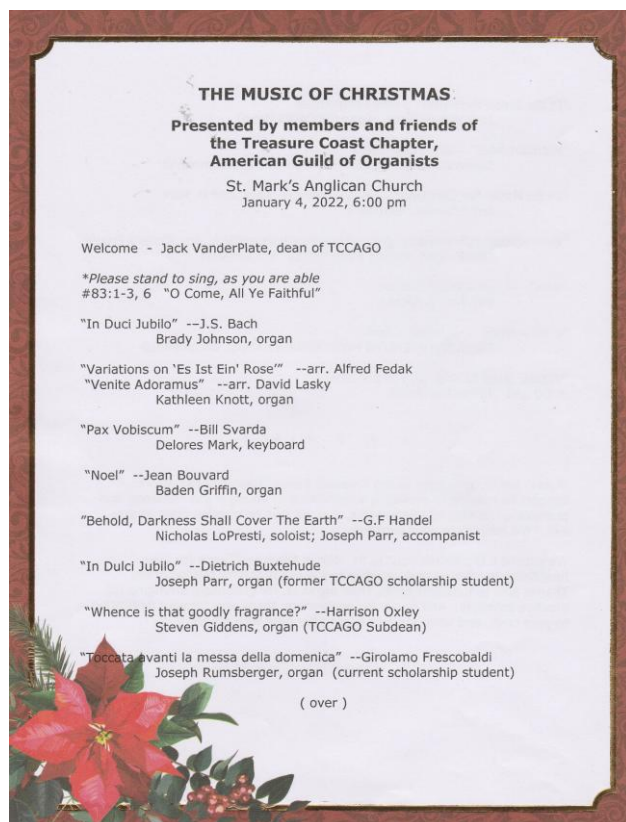
(Members Directory)

Members' Page" and you'll receive simple instructions to gain access.

If you are experiencing difficulty using a password to get the Directory, Dan Kroger or Claire Klein can email you a PDF copy of the Directory. To be clear, you will be sent a digital copy attached to an email. Not a printed copy!

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## THE MUSIC OF CHRISTMAS

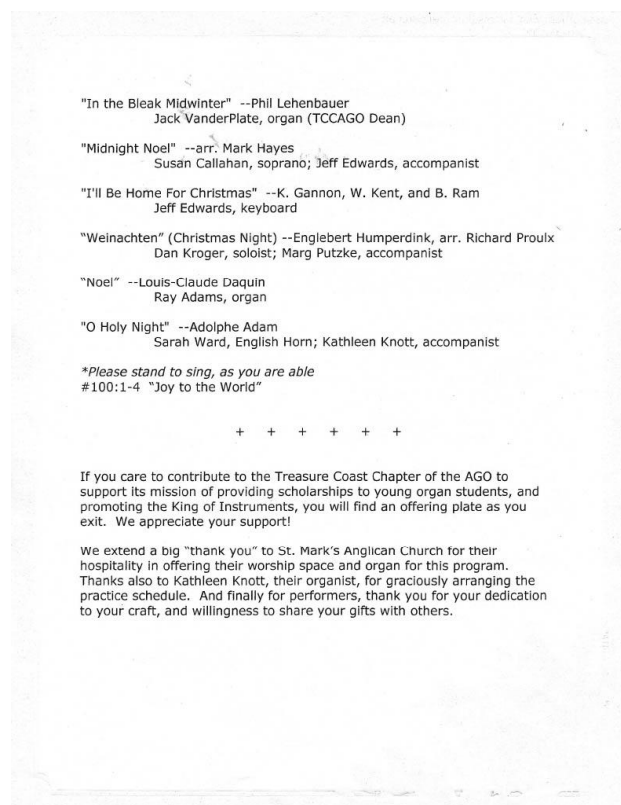


Our first Christmas event in quite a while was offererd on January 4 – "The Music of Christmas."

We had an appreciative audience who came out to hear 14 performers playing or singing their favorite Christmas pieces.

How do we know that the audience was appreciative? Well, several people asked if we would do this again next year. What's more, we raised \$500 for our scholarship fund!

Many thanks go to Fr. Mike Ward, rector of St. Mark's Anglican Church, to the vestry of the church, and also to Kathleen Knott who graciously arranged for our rehearsal times.



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## OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUNG ORGANISTS

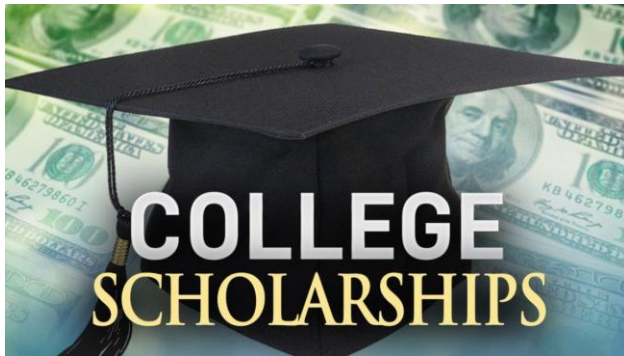
### the National AGO Convention

The Young Organist Steering Committee of the National Convention in Seattle is offering \$10,000 in scholarships for AGO young organists to attend the convention. Details and an application form can be found at <https://www.agohq.org/scholarships/>

**OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUNG ORGANISTS – continued**

**Ronald G. Pogorzelski–Lester D. Yankee Memorial Scholarships**

**(February 15 Deadline)**



The AGO will award two scholarships (\$15,000 each) for the 2022–23 academic year. One scholarship will be awarded to an entering college freshman and one to a college student currently enrolled at either the freshman, sophomore, or junior level. The online application period is January 1–February 15, 2022. Applicants must have already completed a FAFSA application for the 2022–23 academic year. Go to: <<https://www.agohq.org/education/pogorzelski-yankee-memorial-scholarships/>> to learn more.

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**An Invitation From the Space Coast Chapter**

Our next chapter event will be a members’ recital at Ascension Lutheran on Sunday, February 6.

Our next get-together will be on February 25 at Advent Lutheran for a master class with Michael Hey, associate organist and choirmaster at St. Patrick’s Cathedral in New York City. We will begin that evening with a

potluck dinner at 6 PM – bring a salad or dessert and we will provide the main course and beverages. Will also need some volunteers to play for him that evening. Please let Lori Jahn know that you’d like to participate in this. Michael will play a recital at Advent Lutheran on Sunday afternoon and I hope to see you there.

Jerry Davidson

Dean, Space Coast Chapter AGO



"WINTER MUSICAL INTERVAL WITH PIPES"  
Space Coast Chapter Members’ Recital



**Space Coast Chapter of the American Guild of Organists and Ascension Lutheran Church**

**PRESENTS**

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2022  
3:00 p.m.**

**Ascension Lutheran Church  
1053 Pinetree Dr.  
Satellite Beach, FL 32937**

All residents and visitors have an afternoon delight to listen to a variety of pipe organ music, with sounds of mixture of music of Classical Composers to enrich your afternoon of entertainment by professional organists and musicians of Space Coast Florida. The program will include classical and popular works for an audience of all ages to enjoy

Public is Welcome      Bring your Family and Friends  
Free Concert              Donations Welcomed

For information: 321-610-8613 or 321-914-4419



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**Member News:**

Dr. Neal Campbell discusses the Aeolian-Skinner organs with G. Donald Harrison signature nameplates, part 1 of 2, in the February 2022 issue of "The Diapason."

(Member News)

Dr. Campbell is also one of seven administrators and moderators of a fascinating group on FaceBook, "G. Donald Harrison & The American Classic Organ." Make a visit to the group and you will be hooked!

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### **Did You Miss Anton Armstrong?**

For those who may have wanted to take in the Anton Armtstrong webinar mentioned in "A Message From the Dean" in the January newsletter but were not able to, here is the link to the recorded webinar:

<https://youtu.be/L1yDpGGx3J4>.

Both Anton's handout and the chat log are attached.

Also, watch for future webinars to be announced soon at <https://alcm.org/>.

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### **TCCAGO Officers For 2021-2**

Dean: Jack VanderPlate

Subdean: Steven Giddens

Secretary/Treasurer: Paul Ives

Scholarship Chair: Brady Johnson

Chaplain: Rev. Dr. Michael Carter

Webmaster: Claire Klein

### **Board Members**

Class of 2022

Class of 2023: Jill Truax

Class of 2024: Dr. Tom Goetz

## **Woman Composer Sunday, March 6, 2022**

The AGO, the Society of Women Organists (SWO), and the Royal College of Organists (RCO) will celebrate Woman Composer Sunday on March 6, 2022, as a lead-in to International Women's Day on March 8.

Join in the celebration! Plan to program at least one piece of choral or organ music by a woman composer during your Sunday church service, or at any other time during that weekend, and help to highlight the talents of women in advance of International Women's Day (March 8).

If possible, upload your performance on social media with the hashtags #WomanComposerSunday and #SWomenOrganists.

Lists of repertoire suggestions can be found at:

<https://www.societyofwomenorganists.co.uk/>

and

[https://cf545cc5-9cc8-4758-94b7-4afceeca3a52.filesusr.com/ugd/db5fb\\_c\\_62b43052d39947be955b72b5e7cca8b.pdf](https://cf545cc5-9cc8-4758-94b7-4afceeca3a52.filesusr.com/ugd/db5fb_c_62b43052d39947be955b72b5e7cca8b.pdf)

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"Area Events"

On Next Page

If you would like to include your church's events in this calendar which is also available on the TCCAGO website, email the dean at [jvdplate@gmail.com](mailto:jvdplate@gmail.com)

## AREA EVENTS OF INTEREST

Thursday Feb 3	12:30 pm	First Thursday Luncheon	Steve Giddon's home 5542 Nw Burgin St. Port St Lucie	RSVP to Steve: (561) 236-9791 <a href="mailto:scgiddens@hotmail.com">scgiddens@hotmail.com</a>
Sunday, Feb. 6	3:00 pm	Space Coast Chapter Members' Recital	Ascension Lutheran 1053 Pinetree Drive Indian Harbour Beach, FL	Contact: Jerry Davidson, (321) 914-4419
Monday, Feb 7	12:15 pm	TCCAGO Board Meeting	Lutheran Church of the Redeemer (Vero Beach) 900 27 <sup>th</sup> Avenue	Jack VanderPlate <a href="mailto:jvdplate@gmail.com">jvdplate@gmail.com</a>
Friday, Feb 25	6:00 pm 7:00 pm	Potluck Master Class (M Hey) (Bring salad or desert)	Advent Lutheran Church 7550 North Wickham Rd Melbourne, FL 32940	
Sunday, Feb 27	3:00 pm	Michael Hey Concert	Advent Lutheran Church	