



# Central Arkansas Chapter *American Guild of Organists*

# The *Clarion* January 2017



www.cacago.org

## Mission Statement

The mission of the American Guild of Organists 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.

## 2016-2017 Officers

Mike Metzler, *dean*  
Wayne Simpson, *sub-dean*  
Jess Anthony, *treasurer*  
Bill McCandless, *secretary*

## Executive Committee

Barbara Lusk (2017)  
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### DINNER RESERVATIONS

Robert Lindley

## From the Dean

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

I cannot believe it either. 2016 has come and gone. I feel the same way about getting old. How does it happen so fast?

A couple Sunday's ago, our Pastor asked, "Why did Jesus have to be born on Christmas?" His point was that it is too busy a time of year to have to find time to actually celebrate Jesus' birth.

Since most of us are church musicians, we can certainly relate to how busy the Christmas season is. At my church, it seemed like everything was either late to start with, or changed at the last minute. From the Children's service to the Christmas Eve candlelight service, everything seemed to be running behind. Now that the main Christmas services are behind us, it is all good.

After it is over, we do get a little time to rest and reflect on the gifts and blessings that we receive and that we bring to our congregations.

I am fortunate that my group appreciates the hard work and hours and hours that go into this season. I hope that you are appreciated at your church also.

To wrap up the Christmas Season, Richard Butler has invited us all to his annual Twelfth Night Party. The party will be at the "Little Hotze House," 1620 Main St., from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. on January 5. There will be light hors d'oeuvres, friends and Wassail. It is a drop by event. The home can only hold a limited number of people at a time, so hopefully everyone will not arrive at once. I look forward to it.

I hope to see you all at Christ Episcopal on Friday the 13th to celebrate the 23rd Annual Richard Hixson birthday concert performed by Joshua Stafford.

Mike

## Upcoming CACAGO Programs

### Friday, January 13

**Richard Hixson Birthday Concert**  
**Joshua Stafford, organist**  
Christ Episcopal Church  
509 Scott St.  
Little Rock, Arkansas

### Friday, February 3

**Damin Spritzer, organist**  
Pulaski Heights UMC  
4823 Woodlawn Dr.  
Little Rock, Arkansas

### Friday, March 3

**David Baskeyfield, organist**  
Cathedral of Saint Andrew  
617 Louisiana St.  
Little Rock, Arkansas

### Friday, April 28

**The 14th Annual Concert**  
**Celebrating the Life of**  
**Robert Young Ellis**  
**Monica Czausz, organist**  
First Presbyterian Church  
800 Scott St.  
Little Rock, Arkansas

### Friday, May 5

**Joby Bell, organist**  
First United Methodist Church  
200 W. 6th Ave.  
Pine Bluff, Arkansas

# JANUARY MEETING

## Richard Hixson Birthday Concert Joshua Stafford, *organist*

- |                              |                           |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| ☉ Friday, January 13, 2017   | 📍 Christ Episcopal Church |
| 6:15 P.M. – Punchbowl        | 509 Scott St.             |
| 6:45 P.M. – Dinner & Meeting | Little Rock, Arkansas     |
| 8:00 P.M. – Concert          |                           |

**DINNER RESERVATIONS:** The cost for dinner is \$15.00. For dinner reservations, contact Robert Lindley via e-mail ([dinner@cacago.org](mailto:dinner@cacago.org)), or phone (501) 217-6735, or complete the dinner reservation form on the chapter website. *Please provide the names of your guests so that nametags may be printed for them.*

**Dinner reservations are due by  
noon, Wednesday, January 11!**

**RECEPTION:** Following the concert, you are cordially invited to attend a reception at the home of Carl Miller, 1400 Spring St. The historic Queen Anne style Dibrell House, built in 1892, is grandly appointed and well worth a visit. Parking is available on Spring street, and behind the house.

# FEBRUARY MEETING

## Organ Concert Damin Spritzer, *organist*

- |                              |                       |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| ☉ Friday, February 3, 2017   | 📍 Pulaski Heights UMC |
| 6:15 P.M. – Punchbowl        | 4823 Woodlawn Dr.     |
| 6:45 P.M. – Dinner & Meeting | Little Rock, Arkansas |
| 8:00 P.M. – Concert          |                       |

**DINNER RESERVATIONS:** The cost for dinner is \$15.00. For dinner reservations, contact Robert Lindley via e-mail ([dinner@cacago.org](mailto:dinner@cacago.org)), or phone (501) 217-6735, or complete the dinner reservation form on the chapter website. *Please provide the names of your guests so that nametags may be printed for them.*

**Dinner reservations are due by  
noon, Wednesday, February 1!**

## Biography of Joshua Stafford

The meticulous technique, innate yet highly mature musicality, and constant musical engagement exhibited by Joshua Stafford compelled the jury of the 2016 Longwood Gardens International Organ Competition to name him, out of 10 stellar competitors, the Pierre S. du Pont First Prize Winner of this illustrious event, earning him a cash award of \$40,000.

Already in demand as a recitalist, improviser, and choral accompanist, Joshua has performed at many notable venues, including the Wanamaker Organ in Philadelphia, the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington D.C., Philadelphia's Kimmel Center, Ocean Grove Auditorium in New Jersey, the Chautauqua Institution in New York, and Spivey Hall in Georgia. His recital at the 2015 Conference of the Association of Anglican Musicians was hailed as "technically flawless yet exceptionally nuanced and spontaneous." Joshua has appeared with the Curtis Symphony Orchestra and National Symphony Orchestra,

and recordings of his performances have been aired on MPR's *Pipedreams* and WRTI's *Wanamaker Organ Hour*.

A native of Jamestown, New York, Mr. Stafford received the bachelor of Music Degree from the Curtis Institute of Music in 2010 as a scholarship student of Alan Morrison. In 2012 he received his Master of Music degree from the Yale School of Music as a student of Thomas Murray (organ performance) and Jeffrey Brillhart (organ improvisation). Joshua was the recipient of both a full-tuition scholarship and the Robert Baker Award, given to a first year organ student who exhibits exceptional promise and achievement in their field of study.

Joshua Stafford is the Director of Music at St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Morristown, New Jersey, where he conducts an RSCM-based program with choirs of boys, girls, and adults. The chorister program is paired with an after-school outreach program for the city's underserved children, offering excellent music education at no cost.

## Biography of Damin Spritzer

After an appointment as Visiting Professor of Music at the University of Oklahoma for Fall 2014, Dr. Damin Spritzer has been appointed full-time Assistant Professor of Organ, beginning in Fall of 2015. She continues to serve the Cathedral Church of Saint Matthew in Dallas as Artist-in-Residence for the Cathedral Arts series, and was recently Adjunct Professor at the University of North Texas teaching Organ Literature and Sacred Music.

Praised for "enormous sensitivity and musicianship" by the AAM Journal and hailed as "elegantly assured" by the Dallas Morning News, recent recital appearances include the 2012 Piccolo Spoleto Festival in Charleston, South Carolina; the University of Houston 2012 Conference on Historical Eclecticism: Organ Building and Playing in the 21st Century; recitals in Kentucky, California, Arkansas, New York, Oregon, Georgia, and numerous appearances in Texas, including the Meyerson Symphony Center and the Big XII Trombone Conference in Lubbock. She was a featured artist at the AGO Regional Convention in Austin, TX in July of 2013, giving both a recital and a separate lecture on the life and music of R. L. Becker (1882-1956). In October of 2011 she was a guest lecturer at the University of Michigan 51st Annual Conference on Organ Music, and gave a similar lecture and performance about Becker's music in Louisville, KY in May of 2012. She has written an extended preface for a forth-coming multi-volume critical edition of Becker's organ works (Wayne Leupold Editions) and is writing a monograph on Becker as well.

Upcoming and recent performances include Sainte-Croix in Orléans, France; Dallas, Texas with *Pipedreams*; Texas

Camerata; Chicago, Illinois at Loyola University; Ft. Worth, Texas at Broadway Baptist; Methuen Memorial Music Hall in Massachusetts; New York City at St. Malachy's, "The Actor's Chapel"; a lecture on Becker at the 2016 National AGO convention in Houston; with Aaron David Miller at the Walt Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles; in Sao Paulo, Brazil at Igreja Nossa Senhora de Fátima and Paróquia Nossa Senhora da Boa Viagem in January of 2016; Oklahoma City at St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral; Trinity Episcopal Church in Tulsa, Oklahoma; at St. Philips Episcopal Church in Ardmore, Oklahoma; and the organ dedication recital at Resurrection Lutheran Church in Plano, Texas.

Her second volume of Becker's organ music was released in November of 2014 for Raven Recordings, and was recorded in Orléans, France in April of 2013 at the Cathédrale Sainte-Croix d'Orléans. It received four stars from Choir & Organ, and the following praise from Classical Music Sentinel: "... Spritzer jumps right into the action with an assured confidence and refined musicality that quite simply reinforces the high level of craftsmanship and beauty inherent to the music of composer René Louis Becker... The opening Toccata in B-flat alone, which could easily intimidate many organists with its agitated left-hand and busy pedal work, moves forward at quite a pace under Spritzer's command, and thus reveals its determined musical lines all leading to a powerful finish... her choice of registration for the softly tender Cantilène, Op. 63 demonstrates an organist who knows how to balance colors on a sonic canvas... Both volumes belong on the shelves of all organ music enthusiasts."

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In April of 2011, she released a world premier commercial international recording of the music of René Louis Becker. Recorded in Pithiviers, France in 2010 at the newly renovated historic Cavaillé-Coll organ of the church of Saint-Salomon-Saint-Gregoire de Pithiviers, the disc has received glowing reviews. The 2011 September/October issue of Choir & Organ magazine gave the disc a full five stars, writing further that “Damin Spritzer serves both instrument and music well, alert to the music’s lyrical mien and harmonic muscle, negotiating the III/49 machine with an easy command of drama and a real feeling for Becker’s melody-led, cleanly-executed music...A second volume is eagerly awaited.” The AAM Journal wrote, ”The music comes alive under her touch!...This recording is a delight...” And a review from Classical Music Sentinel praised the recording, saying “...Damin Spritzer drives the music along with plenty of forward momentum which adds a singing quality to the melodic lines and an assured rhythmic movement to the toccatas and marches...the final glorious chord of the Marche Triomphale will make you glad you’re alive.”

Dr. Spritzer has been heard on Michael Barone’s nationally-syndicated *Pipedreams* radio broadcast on

programs including: Historical Eclecticism in Houston, Prayers and Alleluias, Twenty-Somethings, Merriment at the Meyerson, and *Pipedreams: Live!* performances at the Meyerson Symphony Center in Dallas, Texas in 2005, and at Saint Michael and All Angels in November of 2014. Tracks from her first CD for Raven have also been broadcast on *With Heart and Voice* out of Rochester, New York (program 1309, Psalms of Lament, Psalms of Reflection), on RVM radio in Montreal, Quebec, in the Netherlands on HET ORGELUUR op GROOTNIEUWSRADIO 1008 AM, in interview and broadcast on the Catholic Channel, SiriusXM 129, radio talk and music show, Sounds from the Spires, with Dr. Jennifer Pascual, Director of Music at Saint Patrick’s Cathedral in New York, and on WRR 101.1 in Dallas, Texas.

Her Doctor of Musical Arts degree was received from the University of North Texas, and she received her MM in Organ Performance from the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York and her BM in Organ Performance from the Oberlin Conservatory of Music. She serves on the Board of Directors for the Leupold Foundation, which is dedicated to the preservation of pipe organ music and culture, and has also been Active in the Dallas Chapter of the AGO in various roles and participates in Oklahoma chapters of the AGO.

## Treasurer’s Report

INCOME	EXPENSES
<p><b>REVENUE</b></p> <p>Dues <span style="float: right;">\$3,473.00</span></p> <p>Ad Sales</p> <p>Meals <span style="float: right;">\$2,090.00</span></p> <p>Carry Over (FY15) <span style="float: right;">\$9,068.70</span></p> <p>Other/Mail <span style="float: right;">\$14,631.70</span></p> <hr style="width: 100%;"/> <p><b>SUPPORT</b></p> <p>Individuals <span style="float: right;">\$6,055.77</span></p> <p>Other (ACH)</p> <p>Endowment <span style="float: right;">\$6,055.77</span></p> <hr style="width: 100%;"/> <p><b>TOTAL INCOME</b> <span style="float: right;">\$20,687.47</span></p>	<p><b>ADMINISTRATIVE</b></p> <p>Dues to National <span style="float: right;">\$1,054.50</span></p> <p>Catering/Reception <span style="float: right;">\$2,469.10</span></p> <p>Marketing/Public Relations</p> <p>Remaining Expenses <span style="float: right;">\$71.15</span></p> <hr style="width: 100%;"/> <p><span style="float: right;">\$3,594.75</span></p> <p><b>ARTISTIC</b></p> <p>Artist Fees/Housing <span style="float: right;">\$8,070.45</span></p> <p>Remaining Expenses (ACH)</p> <p>Tech/Production <span style="float: right;">\$8,070.45</span></p> <hr style="width: 100%;"/> <p><b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b> <span style="float: right;">\$11,665.20</span></p> <p><b>BALANCE</b> <span style="float: right;">\$9,022.27</span></p>

**Upcoming Newsletter**

The February 2017 Clarion will be published Monday, January 30. If you have any items to submit (news, events, announcements, job postings, personal ads, opinion pieces, prayer requests) please send them to adam@cacago.org. The deadline is Friday, January 27.

# January Program

Joshua Stafford, *organist*

## Organ Concerto in A minor, BWV 593

I. Allegro

II. Adagio

III. Allegro

Johann Sebastian Bach

(1685-1750)

after Antonio Vivaldi

(1678-1741)

## Ciaccona

Bernardo Storace

(1637-1707)

## Great Eighteen Chorale Preludes

O lamm Gottes unschuldig, BWV 656

Johann Sebastian Bach

## Fantasia sopra Freu dich sehr, o meine Seele

Johann Ludwig Krebs

(1713-1780)

## Passacaglia in C minor, BWV 582

Johann Sebastian Bach

## INTERMISSION

## Carnival Overture, Op. 92

Antonín Dvořák

(1841-1904)

trans. Edwin H. Lemare

(1865-1934)

## Two Preludes on Early American Hymn Tunes:

“There is a happy land”

“I love thee, my Lord”

George Shearing

(1919-2011)

## Prelude and Fugue in B major, Op. 99, No. 2

Camille Saint-Saëns

(1835-1921)

## Sonata Eroïca, Op. 94

Joseph Jongen

(1873-1953)

# February Program

Damin Spritzer, *organist*

## Fanfare

Arthur Wills

(b. 1926)

## Cortège Académique

Ernest MacMillan

(1893-1973)

## Rêve d'Ange

René Louis Becker

(1882-1956)

## Fantasia, Op. 188

Charles Hubert Hastings Parry

(1848-1918)

## Piece d'Orgue, BWV 572

J. S. Bach

(1685-1750)

## Symphonie Domenicale, Op. 39,

No. 11

### Aria

Léonce de Saint-Martin

(1886-1954)

## Postlude de Fête: Te Deum

### Laudamus

Léonce de Saint-Martin

## Resurrection

Lament

Rising

The Ecstasy

Reflection

Larry King

(1932-1990)

## Benedictus, Op. 54

Charles Valentin Alkan

(1813-1888)

arr. Spritzer

## Cinq Invocations:

Pulchra ut luna

Elucta ut sol

Henri Dallier

(1849-1934)



## Positions Available

### Lakewood United Methodist Church North Little Rock, Arkansas

**Position:** Part-time Choir Director

**Job Description:** Lakewood United Methodist Church in North Little Rock, AR is seeking a part-time choir director for traditional worship services. Responsibilities include preparing and leading weekly rehearsals for two traditional choirs (Wednesday evenings, 7:15 to 8:30 p.m. and Sunday mornings 8:00 to 8:45 a.m.), and directing choirs during Sunday morning worship at 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. The choir director will also plan and provide music for special services including Christmas Eve, Holy Week, and other events as planned. For more information, please contact:

**Rev. Luke Conway**  
Lakewood United Methodist Church  
1922 Topf Rd  
North Little Rock, AR 72116

**Phone:** (501) 773-3339  
**E-mail:** lconway@lakewood-umc.org

### First Christian Church Little Rock, Arkansas

**Position:** Part-time Accompanist  
**Compensation:** Based on experience

**Job Description:** First Christian Church in Little Rock is seeking an accompanist to play the piano for our blended worship service. The accompanist would play for one worship service on Sunday mornings at 10:30 a.m. They would also have the responsibility to play for choir rehearsals on Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. First Christian is an historical church that traces its heritage back to 1832 in Little Rock. We seek an energetic and flexible pianist who is comfortable with classical music as well as assisting our choir and congregation in singing the hymns of the faith. This is a part-time position. Compensation will be based on experience. Please send all applications to:

**Rev. Dr. Charles Wallace**  
**E-mail:** crwallace35@gmail.com

Trinity Cathedral presents  
Howard Payne University  
Concert Choir

Thursday, January 28, 2017 • 7:00 P.M.

Trinity Episcopal Cathedral  
310 W. 17th St.  
Little Rock, Arkansas

The Howard Payne University Concert Choir from Brownwood, TX in their 2017 touring concert "Creator Created Creating: My Maker's Bounding Line" on Saturday evening, January 28th at 7:00 p.m. in the Cathedral, 17th and Spring St. in downtown Little Rock. This concert is drawn from "The Creation" by Joseph Haydn but includes many other choral masterpieces, all of which refer to the act of creation. The event is free and open to the public.

# Arts Calendar

**Friday, January 13 – 8:00 P.M.**

CACAGO: Josh Stafford, organist  
Christ Episcopal Church  
Little Rock, AR

**Saturday, January 28 – 7:00 P.M.**

Howard Payne University Concert Choir  
Trinity Episcopal Cathedral  
Little Rock, AR

**Saturday, January 28 – 7:30 P.M.**

ASO: Rachmaninoff's Third  
Robinson Center Music Hall  
Little Rock, AR

**Sunday, January 29 – 3:00 P.M.**

ASO: Rachmaninoff's Third  
Robinson Center Music Hall  
Little Rock, AR

**Tuesday, January 31 – 7:00 P.M.**

ASO Chamber: Strauss & Debussy  
Clinton Presidential Center  
Little Rock, AR

**Friday, February 3 – 8:00 P.M.**

CACAGO: Damin Spritzer, organist  
Pulaski Heights United Methodist Church  
Little Rock, AR

**Saturday, February 11 – 7:30 P.M.**

ASO Pops: Rock On!  
Robinson Center Music Hall  
Little Rock, AR

**Sunday, February 12 – 3:00 P.M.**

ASO Pops: Rock On!  
Robinson Center Music Hall  
Little Rock, AR

**Thursday, February 23 – 7:30 P.M.**

Little Rock Wind Symphony  
Second Presbyterian Church  
Little Rock, AR

**Thursday, February 23 – 7:30 P.M.**

LRCMS: Parker Quartet  
UALR: Stella Boyle Smith Auditorium  
Little Rock, AR

**Saturday, February 25 – 7:30 P.M.**

ASO: Mahler's 2nd  
Robinson Center Music Hall  
Little Rock, AR

**Sunday, February 26 – 3:00 P.M.**

ASO: Mahler's 2nd  
Robinson Center Music Hall  
Little Rock, AR

**Tuesday, February 28 – 7:00 P.M.**

ASO Chamber: Tchaikovsky  
Clinton Presidential Center  
Little Rock, AR

**Friday, March 3 – 8:00 P.M.**

CACAGO: David Baskeyfield, organist  
Cathedral of Saint Andrew the Apostle  
Little Rock, AR

**Saturday, March 4 – 7:30 P.M.**

ASO Pops: John Lennon  
Robinson Center Music Hall  
Little Rock, AR

**Sunday, March 5 – 3:00 P.M.**

ASO Pops: John Lennon  
Robinson Center Music Hall  
Little Rock, AR

**Friday, March 17 – 7:30 P.M.**

Arkansas Chamber Singers  
St. James United Methodist Church  
Little Rock, AR

**Tuesday, March 28 – 7:00 P.M.**

ASO Chamber: Haydn & Brahms  
Clinton Presidential Center  
Little Rock, AR

**Saturday, April 8 – 7:30 P.M.**

ASO: Beethoven & Blue Jeans  
Robinson Center Music Hall  
Little Rock, AR

**Sunday, April 9 – 3:00 P.M.**

ASO: Beethoven & Blue Jeans  
Robinson Center Music Hall  
Little Rock, AR

**Tuesday, April 11 – 7:00 P.M.**

ASO Chamber: Airs & Dances  
Clinton Presidential Center  
Little Rock, AR

**Thursday, April 20 – 7:30 P.M.**

Little Rock Wind Symphony  
Second Presbyterian Church  
Little Rock, AR