



Central Arkansas Chapter *American Guild of Organists*

The
Clarion
January 2022

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.

2021-2022 Officers

Bob Bidewell, *dean*
Charles Russell, *sub-dean*
Jess Anthony, *treasurer*
Jane Gamble, *secretary*

Executive Committee

Betty Cohen (2022)
Karen Horton (2023)
Jason Saugey (2024)

From the Dean

A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR to our Chapter Members and Chapter Friends! I hope the Christmas season was peaceful and wonderful. Again, we are so sorry we felt it necessary to cancel our Chapter Epiphany Party. With the surge of the Omicron variant of COVID, it was for the best. Here's hoping we will be able to socialize soon—and, what a party it will be!

We have some amazing events upcoming. I am so excited about the Choral Reading Workshop Jason Saugey has worked so diligently on. You can find out information on this February offering below. What a wonderful way to start 2022. All COVID-safe procedures will be in place. Invite your choristers, friends, perhaps someone considering joining our Chapter. The event is free and open to all! Other program offerings for the Winter and Spring seasons are found below.

In this issue of *The Clarion*, I have started a feature of our members who identify as “Young Organists.” This being YOYO (Year of the Young

Organist), a celebration of the American Guild of Organists, I thought it would be a great honor to introduce these fine people to our Chapter Members and Friends. This issue features our two “Daniels”—Daniel Smith and Daniel Gauger. This monthly feature will continue through our final newsletter of the year. We are planning a recital of these young musicians sometime soon.

A reminder that our substitute organist list is very lean. If you are willing and able to serve as a substitute, would you please e-mail me, bbidewell@sbcglobal.net, so we can get that updated on our website? Please confirm that you are available for either *All Services* or *Weddings and Funerals Only*. Please let me know by January 15.

Again, wishing you a very joyous New Year. Here's to health, happiness, and beautiful music!

Peace, my friends
Bob

Upcoming Newsletter

The February 2022 *Clarion* will be published Monday, January 31. 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 28.

FEBRUARY MEETING

Choral Reading Session *Anthems for Lent/Easter/Pentecost*

🕒 **Saturday, February 5, 2022**

10:00 A.M.

📍 **First United Methodist Church**

1610 Prince St.

Conway, Arkansas

As Christmastide draws to a close, and the season of Epiphany approaches, thoughts for some of us turn toward digging in to the choral music lists we drafted months ago for the upcoming Lenten preparation, the marking of Holy Week, the celebration of the Resurrection, and beyond, to the great festival of Pentecost and Whitsuntide. Or for others this might be a season of panicky self talk, fraught with the haunting question of questions: “What, by St. Loy, should we sing in Lent, for Easter, at, at, at...?!” Both for the benefit of those ahead of the game and for the ones still rifling furiously through the music stacks for the best possible choices, I am pleased to announce the upcoming Central Arkansas Chapter AGO Anthem Reading Session of repertoire for Lent, Easter, and Pentecost, hosted at First United Methodist Church, Conway (1610 Prince Street) on Saturday, February 5, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. The morning will begin at 9:00 a.m. in the church’s main gathering space for coffee and fellowship, then afterward we will move upstairs to the mezzanine level of the sanctuary for the anthem singing. Our location in the surrounding balcony will provide ample room to ensure compassionate distancing. Our time singing and learning together will begin with a brief service of Morning Prayer officiated by Rev. Dede Roberts, Executive Pastor of Conway First Methodist. Five presenters from throughout Central Arkansas will introduce us to a total of ten anthems they have found particularly effective in their own work in music ministry, some anthems more challenging and others easily accessible: but all good literature and quite singable by groups of various sizes and abilities, with texts suitable both to Protestant and Roman Catholic worship traditions. We welcome as our presenters five exemplary choral directors from around Central Arkansas: John Briggs, St. Margaret’s Episcopal, Little Rock; Joshua Brown, Director of Choral Activities, Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia; Keith Hearnberger, St. Michael’s Episcopal, Little Rock; Janet Gingerich, First United Methodist, Conway; and Charles Russell, Grace Lutheran, Little Rock. Collaborating at the organ and the piano we welcome Jane Gamble, Christ Church Episcopal, Little Rock; Leann Jones, Park Hill Christian Church, North Little Rock; Robert Clarke, First Presbyterian, Conway; and Jason Saugey, First United Methodist, Conway.

Besides its primary purpose as a continuing education opportunity for Chapter choir directors, keyboardists, and singers, the CACAGO Reading Session in February has been designed as an opportunity for our members (the organists, the organ enthusiasts, the singers, and the general lovers of sacred music) and our choirs to gather in combined, ecumenical worship: a union of Word and music, a perfect means whereby to render as a community a beautiful Sacrifice of Praise. It will be a time to renew, refresh, and to be inspired; and also a time to encourage healing, whether that might be from pandemic-related issues or from matters personal, physical, or professional. Gathering with friends for prayer and music is much needed balm.

Promotional materials regarding the CACAGO Anthem Reading Session (including driving directions to Conway FUMC) will be forthcoming soon for you to post in your choir rooms, studios, on parish information boards, and to include in whatever print and online media are available to you to trumpet good tidings. In the meantime, please encourage all your choir singers, your students, and all your chorally inclined friends and neighbors to attend. Also, keep in mind colleagues you might know who may have stepped away from the Guild, and others who have not yet joined. Warmly and in good cheer invite them to join us next month!

I look forward to greeting you on Saturday, February 5 and welcoming you all to First United Methodist, Conway.

Jason Saugey

Upcoming CACAGO Programs

Saturday, February 5, 10:00 A.M.

Choral Reading Session
Anthems for Lent/Easter/Pentecost
 First United Methodist Church
 1610 Prince St.
 Conway, Arkansas

Friday, April T.B.A., 7:30 P.M.

Scott Montgomery, organist
 First Presbyterian Church
 800 Scott St.
 Little Rock, Arkansas

Tuesday, March 15, 7:00 P.M.

Rees Roberts, organist
 St. Luke's Episcopal Church
 4106 John F. Kennedy Blvd.
 North Little Rock, Arkansas

Friday, May 13, 7:30 P.M.

Kevin Kwan, organist
 Cathedral of St. Andrew
 617 Louisiana St.
 Little Rock, Arkansas

Year of the Young Organist



Daniel Smith

Daniel Smith, originally from Houston, Texas, lives in Searcy with his wife and one-month-old son. He is serving in his fourth year of teaching 6th-8th grade choirs for the Searcy public school system. He also serves as organist for First United Methodist Church in Augusta.

Daniel studied organ with Ann King during his high school years and Ms. Hye-Jean Choi (organ professor at Hardin Simmons University) while he attended Abilene Christian University. He graduated from Harding University with a degree in music.

Daniel serves as a collaborative pianist for many surrounding public and private schools and university choirs.

He states, "I am honored and humbled to somehow be in the same circle as so many accomplished and talented organists. I have always loved making music at the organ console, but acknowledge I have much to learn!"



Daniel Gauger

Daniel Gauger is currently in his junior year at the University of Oklahoma studying organ performance with Dr. Adam Pajan and Dr. Damin Spritzer.

He is a native of Little Rock and an alumnus of Little Rock Central High School. Before heading to Oklahoma, Daniel studied organ with Jim Maase and Bob Bidewell. Upon graduating high school, he was awarded the Stanley and Arminta Berry Music and Arts Scholarship through Pulaski Heights United Methodist Church.

Daniel is currently serving as Organ Scholar at St. Thomas More University Parish, Norman, Oklahoma, under the Interim Organist/Choirmaster Dr. Damin Spritzer.

Daniel says, "I'm honored to assist and learn from Dr. Spritzer as her Organ Scholar until such time a new Organist/Choirmaster is hired."

Treasurer's Report

INCOME	EXPENSES
<p>REVENUE</p> <p>Dues \$1,643.00</p> <p>Ad Sales</p> <p>Meals</p> <p>Carry Over (FY20) \$2,527.88</p> <p>Other/Mail</p> <hr style="width: 100px; margin-left: auto; margin-right: 0;"/> <p style="text-align: right;">\$4,170.88</p> <p>SUPPORT</p> <p>Individuals \$3,532.08</p> <p>Other (ACH)</p> <p>Endowment \$1,263.00</p> <hr style="width: 100px; margin-left: auto; margin-right: 0;"/> <p style="text-align: right;">\$4,795.08</p> <hr style="width: 100px; margin-left: auto; margin-right: 0;"/> <p>TOTAL INCOME \$8,965.96</p>	<p>ADMINISTRATIVE</p> <p>Dues to National</p> <p>Catering/Reception</p> <p>Marketing/Public Relations</p> <p>Remaining Expenses \$412.24</p> <hr style="width: 100px; margin-left: auto; margin-right: 0;"/> <p style="text-align: right;">\$412.24</p> <p>ARTISTIC</p> <p>Artist Fees/Housing \$2,205.12</p> <p>Remaining Expenses (ACH)</p> <p>Tech/Production</p> <hr style="width: 100px; margin-left: auto; margin-right: 0;"/> <p style="text-align: right;">\$2,205.12</p> <hr style="width: 100px; margin-left: auto; margin-right: 0;"/> <p>TOTAL EXPENSES \$2,617.36</p> <p>BALANCE \$6,348.60</p>

CRCCM XXXIX ANNUAL CONFERENCE

January 3-6, 2022

The Cathedral of Saint Andrew is pleased to host the thirty-ninth annual conference of the Conference of Roman Catholic Cathedral Musicians (CRCCM) this January 3-6 in Little Rock. Beau Baldwin and Rosemarie Ochoa, Cathedral Organists, are members of this organization. This is the first time since 1994 that this annual conference has been held in the South. We expect about forty musicians from all over the country to come to Little Rock for this conference. The group is also headed to Subiaco and Altus as well. There are several liturgies and a Mass that are open to the public. We hope that you might consider coming to these: the Cathedral Choir will be singing, and the music will be festive! The conference liturgical schedule for the week:

- Monday, January 3—Choral Vespers: 6:00-7:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, January 4—Sung Morning Prayer: 9:00-9:30 a.m.
- Tuesday, January 4—Organ Recital with Colin MacKnight: 5:15-7:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, January 5—Mass at Subiaco Abbey Church: 2:00 p.m.
- Thursday, January 6—Sung Morning Prayer: 9:00-9:30 a.m.
- Thursday, January 6—Closing Mass of the Conference: 5:00-6:15 p.m.