



# Principal Pipings

Vol. 72, Issue 4 November, 2016

## Message From the Dean

*“Now Thank We All”*

Thanksgiving is fast becoming my favorite holiday. It combines all the pleasures of Christmas and other family gatherings, but with less of the hustle and bustle. Have you ever noticed how certain smells are capable of triggering instant memories? Aromas from a holiday kitchen can make us feel that grandparents, favorite aunts and uncles, and other loved ones are still with us.

It’s funny how music is like that, too. Certain songs and hymns can instantly transport us back to a special time or place, and bring long-ago memories to the forefront.

*“We Gather Together”*

Please make it a priority during this fall season to take full advantage of your AGO membership and all of the programs available to you. For our next gathering on November 19, at First Presbyterian Church, we will be observing the 2016 Max Reger Centennial. Dr. Christopher Anderson will be returning to Lexington, with special guest Carolyn Craig, to lead our program on Reger and his music. Full details may be found inside this newsletter. Allow yourself the time to invest in some new ideas and music, and enjoy making memories with your AGO Friends. After all, it’s not just our congregations who will enjoy the benefits of our freshly-sharpened skills, but we ourselves. I hope to see you there!

*“Ere the Winter Storms Begin”*

As of this Newsletter’s release, the Season of Advent is only four Sundays away, and we are all fully engaged in our work. Our choirs are busy rehearsing on a regular schedule, and personal practice time is suddenly at a premium. Despite all of this, it is important to invest some time in ourselves. Check the AGO Calendar of Events for opportunities of special interest to you. This may include supporting a student at his senior recital, or attending one of several All Saints offerings at area churches. You may choose to attend an Election Day recital, with hopes of reason, good taste and civility soon being restored. Perhaps it is time to consider preparing for one of the AGO Certification examinations.

*(Continued on page 4)*

# November Events

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**SUN / 11.6.16**

3.30p Concert

4.00p Evensong

**Maxine Thevenot, Organ**

**All Souls Evensong, The Cathedral Choir**

Christ Church Cathedral, Lexington, KY

**SUN / 11.6.16**

4.00p

**Margaret L. Dickinson, Organ**

Church of the Ascension, Frankfort, KY

**SUN / 11.6.16**

5.00p

**All Saints' Concert featuring the Fauré Requiem**

The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, Lexington, KY

**TUE / 11.8.16**

12.20p-12.50p

**Glenna Metcalfe, Organ**

Ransdell Chapel, Campbellsville University, Campbellsville, KY

**SAT / 11.19.16**

9.30a Gather, 10.00 Program

**Max Reger 100th Anniversary with Dr. Christopher Anderson**

First Presbyterian Church, Lexington, KY

**SUN / 11.20.16**

3.00p

**"Shaker Songs and Other American Hymn Treasures"**

**Madison Singers Fall Concert, Conductor: Dr. Stephen**

**Bolster, Assistant Conductor/Accompanist: Gabriel Evans**

First Christian Church, Richmond, KY

**SUN / 11.27.16**

5.00p

**Christmas in the Great Hall, Lexington Chamber Chorale**

Second Presbyterian Church, Lexington, KY

## Calling All Performers for Dec. 18 Christmas Concert

If you are interested in performing for our upcoming "Christmas Pipes" Organ Concert on Sunday, December 18, 2:00 p.m., at Central Baptist Church, please be in touch with Dean Larry Sharp right away! This will be much like last year's program. Up to eight performers will play Advent, Christmas or Epiphany selections of their choosing. Each performance will be limited to no longer than seven minutes. Donations will be accepted to benefit the Chapter's POE Scholarship Fund. Won't you please consider participating in this worthwhile (and quite enjoyable!) holiday event? Thank you!

# December Events

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FRI / 12.2.16

7.30p

**George Frederic Handel's Messiah**  
**Emily Albrink, Soprano, Ryland Angel, Countertenor, Richard Clement, Tenor, Evan Boyer, Bass**

**The Lexington Baroque Ensemble**  
**The Cathedral Choir, Erich Balling, Conductor, Kathleen Balling, Associate Conductor, Joel Pitchon, Concert Master**

Christ Church Cathedral, Lexington, KY

tickets: [www.ccclex.org/messiah](http://www.ccclex.org/messiah)

SUN / 12.4.16

7.00p

**Christmas with the Kentucky Bach Choir**

First Presbyterian Church, Lexington, KY

SAT / 12.10.16

8.00p

**A Cathedral Christmas with the Lexington Philharmonic**  
**Lexington Chamber Chorus**

Cathedral of Christ the King, Lexington, KY

SUN / 12.11.16

6.00p

**Blue Christmas with Pleasant Company**

Christ Church Cathedral, Lexington, KY

SUN / 12.18.16

2.00p

**Christmas Pipes: A program of seasonal music**  
**performed by chapter members**

Central Baptist Church, Lexington, KY

SUN / 12.18.16

5.00p

**A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols**

The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, Lexington, KY

SUN / 12.18.16

6.30p Prelude

7.00p Carols

**Organ Prelude**

**A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols, The Cathedral Choir**

Christ Church Cathedral, Lexington, KY

WED / 12.21.16

Noon

**A Ceremony of Carols by Benjamin Britten**  
**Roseanna Shafer, Harp and The Cathedral Girls Choir**

Christ Church Cathedral, Lexington, KY

# Chapter Program

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## Max Reger Centennial Program on Nov. 19

Please mark Saturday, November 19, on your calendars. Dr. Christopher Anderson will be presenting a special program to LexAGO Members, friends and guests at First Presbyterian Church, 171 Market Street. We will gather at 9:30 a.m. for breakfast treats, with the formal program beginning soon after, at 10:00.

As many of you are aware, 2016 marks the 100th anniversary of Max Reger's (1873-1916) death. Reger played a central role in the musical culture of his time, contributing works for every medium, except opera. His organ works, of which there are 28 opus numbers, including over 200 pieces, have found a secure place in the repertory. Yet, Reger's style of music, owing much to hyper-chromatic modernism, still eludes many organists today.

Dr. Christopher Anderson is an Associate Professor of Sacred Music at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, TX. He has written extensively on Max Reger and his music in two books and many essays. Chris will lead the lecture presentation on Reger and his music, as well as perform several selections for us.

As an added "surprise," we will also welcome Carolyn Craig, a third-year organ student from Indiana University, who will perform one of Reger's works for us. Many of you will remember Carolyn from her enthusiastically-received Lexington debut recital at Christ the King Cathedral last May.

Simply put, this is an AGO Program NOT to be missed! Please plan on joining us as we welcome Chris and Carolyn back to Lexington! This would be an excellent opportunity to bring a fellow LexAGO Member along, or to invite a guest, choir member or friend, so we may introduce him/her to the many, many benefits of AGO membership!

## Dean's Message (Continued)

There is much for which we should be thankful this fall, as we head into the busiest of church seasons. As always, I am grateful for your friendship and ongoing support of our Chapter -- the BEST AGO Chapter anywhere!

I'll look forward to seeing you on November 19, if not sooner.

Happy Thanksgiving,  
Larry Sharp

# Professional Development

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## AGO Certification Workshop

On Saturday, October 15, the Lexington AGO's Certification Workshop was hosted by James Humlong at Southern Hills UMC. Members gathered and were greeted with delicious homemade breakfast muffins prepared by LexAGO Members Nancy and Mike Dunn. Our guest speaker was Dr. Greg Gyllsdorff of Rockford, IL. Greg's topics covered all aspects of preparing for the AGO Certification exams. He discussed hymn selection and playing, exam repertory, choral accompaniment, sight-reading and transposition, emphasizing that each is a learnable skill.

Greg sums up the AGO Exam experience as follows: showing us new possibilities of accomplishment, teaching us new skills, and, most of all, helping us develop confidence.

Several chapter members have expressed interest, both before the workshop and since, in taking an AGO Certification exam. Please contact me if you are interested in AGO Certification at any level. If there is sufficient interest, we could pair anyone preparing for an exam with a mentor, or plan additional workshops on individual areas of testing (sight-reading, transposition, harmonization, etc.).

Remember -- many organists of all ages have earned their Service Playing Certificate. To complete the requirements, you must:

- (1) Play three organ pieces from a list of works from different historical periods (baroque, romantic, contemporary).
- (2) Choose two hymns from the Exam Hymn Booklet, and play two stanzas of each.
- (3) Transpose a hymn from the Booklet no more than a whole step up or down.
- (4) Play the accompaniment to a psalm chant, taken from the Booklet.
- (5) Play two anthem accompaniments from a list of five.
- (6) Sight-read a one-page exercise written on two staves.

Start Practicing! (and Good Luck!) Larry Sharp

# Professional Development

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## Why I Have AGO Certification

When I became an organ major at Asbury College in the 60s, my organ teacher, Mrs. Era Wilder-Peniston, who had been chair of the piano department at UK and also had studied organ a year with Marcel Dupré in Paris, began “indoctrinating” me with stories of the American Guild of Organists. From the time when she was one of the first members of the Lexington AGO Chapter, she encouraged her students to pursue the AGO certifications.

In the early 70s, John Courter joined the faculty of Berea College and also the Lexington AGO chapter. At that time, there were no Service Playing Certificate or CAGO certificates offered. So, John and I embarked on the AGO certifications about the same time. The AAGO certification was completed successfully by both of us and then the FAGO certification appeared on the horizon.

To make a long story short, John completed his FAGO certification a little before me. You see, one of the items of the exam was to compose a short four part composition on a text provided away from the keyboard in 16th Counterpoint style, including the use of the C clefs. I failed that challenge by ½ a point. Unwilling to bend to failure, I spent the months until the next exam studying 16 century counterpoint. I don't recall my final score (maybe it was only 1 point better or maybe 10 points better) but I did receive a passing score and was awarded the FAGO certificate.

Let me encourage you to begin the trek to AGO certifications. Start with the service playing certificate and, with diligent practice, study and work, one day you,too, might hold the FAGO certificate. I will be happy to make myself available for anyone who needs some pointers or encouragement.

Submitted by Richard Dwyer, FAGO, Former Dean, LexAGO

## AGO News Briefs

1. Congratulations to Friend and Former Dean Clif Cason! Clif has accepted a new position as Music Director and Organist with the First Congregational Church of Akron, OH. We hope that Clif will maintain his close Lexington ties with us as a DUAL AGO member! Best wishes to Clif and his family.
2. Isabelle Demers is reaching out to each chapter on behalf of the newly-formed AGO Committee on the New Organist (CONO). If you would like to include your name on a list of organ teachers per region or area, please let Dean Larry Sharp know. This will include those willing to teach via FaceTime or Skype, etc. Isabelle will collect the names and contact information of those AGO members willing to teach a few (3?) pro bono organ lessons to beginners.

# Membership

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## Why I Am an AGO Member

A few years ago (well, I have to admit it was more than a few!), I had the privilege to play on a program for the Nashville Chapter of the AGO, where I met some very fine people. I was just in Junior College at the time, and students were not encouraged to become members of the AGO. Later, when I received a BM degree from UK, and had done a considerable amount of graduate work, I still had not joined the Lexington Chapter. After teaching piano and organ in my hometown, and organ at Berea College, I got married, and away we went to the army. Those two years gave me a lot of experience playing Hammond B (something) organs at the army post.

After we returned to Lexington, I finally joined the Lexington Chapter. It was a small chapter, nothing like today, but they were happy to have any new members who could do substitute work, and, before long, I was the Subdean, then two terms as Dean. In my years as Organist at Woodland Christian and First Presbyterian, and then as Organist/Director at Second Presbyterian, I became acquainted with some fine church musicians. While at Woodland, my husband was called up for the army again, and I got permission to practice at a couple of churches in Fort Smith, AR, and also to play part of a concert for the Ft. Smith Chapter of the AGO.

If one walks into a room of church musicians, there is a mutual understanding that the people gathered have been given a special talent with which to glorify God. Each member understands the amount of work required by all the others to prepare service music. Each can express sympathy, joy, understanding and help to others who have, or will have experienced, difficult times in their work. And each can celebrate the good times with other members, when church work is indeed a blessing.

Submitted by Rev. Betsy Steiner, CAGO  
LexAGO Co-Chaplain and Former Dean

## Bad Music Joke of the Month

Q: Why did Bach have so many children?

A: Because his organ had no stops!

Please submit your joke to Newsletter Editor Scott Heydinger or Dean Larry Sharp.

## **A Note from Friend and former Member Rebecca Abbott**

Greetings to all of you Lexington folks. You're a GREAT bunch of people.

We were very happy to catch the David Cherwein Hymn Festival in Lexington in May, on a family vacation, and to see several of you in the front rows. Daisy, age 9, and Lucy Rose, age 6, are still being home schooled, so that evening counted toward the Ohio requirements for music ed.

Dean continues to work as a Film/Video professor at Mount Vernon Nazarene University in Mount Vernon, Ohio, while I serve as a Sunday-mornings-only church musician, adjunct organ instructor at MVNU, and seasonal accompanist at Kenyon College, in addition to guest lectures on hymn or music history topics. I do maintain the [www.hymnnotes.com](http://www.hymnnotes.com) web site, and about the time the October newsletter comes out, should have a fuzzy recording of a "Requiem" I wrote uploaded to a Facebook page for Abbott Music Lab.

## **Great Lakes Region Convention 2017**

Happy fall!

My name is Adam Zagotti, and I am the coordinator of our next Great Lakes Regional Convention in Youngstown, Ohio! We have quite a fantastic line-up of artists, organs, and workshops. as well as some spectacular meals and other fun things planned for you!

We hope that every chapter in our region will have representation at our convention. We have set the early registration fee, which will begin on January 1, 2017, at \$275.00. We thought this was a very reasonable fee that would be attractive to many people. We will stay at the beautiful and newly-expanded and remodeled Holiday Inn in Boardman, Ohio, a suburb just south of downtown. The hotel room rate is \$129.00 per night, with free parking and many free amenities. <http://holidayinnboardman.com/>

We will also feed you breakfast each day, and two dinners are being underwritten for you, as well! We have one of the finest chefs in Ohio cooking dinner for you twice during the convention!

We hope everyone will find our social media page on Facebook, as well as our convention website: [www.agoyoungstown.com](http://www.agoyoungstown.com)

There you can find links to artists, and view convention instruments, etc.

*(Continued on the next page)*



# Mailbox (cont'd)

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Please feel free to forward this email to every member of your chapter. If you or any members have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me!

We hope to see everyone in Youngstown in 2017!

Adam Zagotti  
Convention Coordinator

## New Chapter Yearbooks and Magnets

By now, each LexAGO Member should be in receipt of his/her personal copy of the 2016-17 Chapter Yearbook. If there are corrections to your personal listing, please contact Larry Sharp right away. A Yearbook Addendum will be planned for later in the year.

As an added “bonus” this year, all members have also received a refrigerator magnet, compliments of the Chapter Dean, listing each AGO Program for the coming year! Since the magnets and yearbooks are good marketing tools, please let Larry know if there is someone you know who would appreciate receiving these items from the Lexington AGO.

## AGO Trivia

Congratulations to James Humlong for his correct response to last month’s Trivia Question! James pointed out that Crestwood Christian Church seems to be the congregation with the most LexAGO members -- six in all! We believe Central Christian Church to be a close second, with five members. Congratulations, again, to James, who will receive his prize at a later date. Remember -- you can’t win if you don’t play!

Now, here is your Trivia Question for November. Be the first to contact Larry Sharp by email (ago-larry@att.net), and you will receive a prize! Good luck!

Q: Our program this month celebrates the Max Reger Centennial. The name Reger is a palindrome, meaning that it is spelled the same way backward or forward. Which other two LexAGO Members’ last names are, like Reger’s, also palindromes?



# GREAT MUSIC

at Christ Church Cathedral

## 2016-2017



### Evensongs

3:30pm Concerts

4:00pm Evensongs with Cathedral Choirs

October 2

February 26

November 6

March 19

January 22

May 21

### Friday, December 2

7:30pm George Frideric Handel's *Messiah*  
with the Cathedral Choir

*For ticket reservations visit*  
[www.ccclex.org/messiah](http://www.ccclex.org/messiah)



### Sunday, December 18

7:00pm A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols  
with the Cathedral Choir

### Wednesday, December 21

Noon *A Ceremony of Carols* by Benjamin Britten  
Roseanna Shafer, harp and the Cathedral Girls  
Choir



### Palm Sunday, April 9

4:00pm Gabriel Fauré's *Requiem* with the Choir of  
Men and Boys



*Please visit [www.ccclex.org](http://www.ccclex.org) to view the  
complete list of events.*

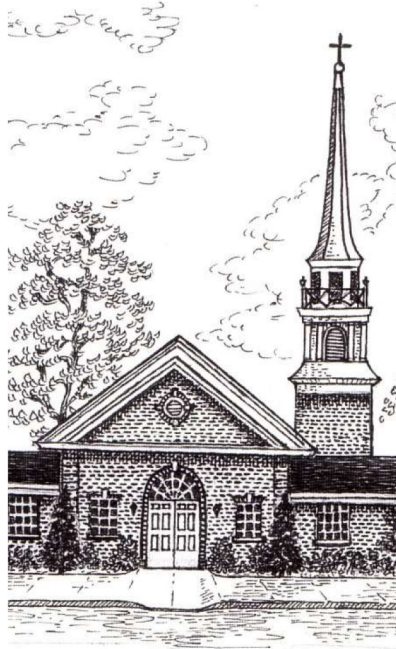
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# 2016 - 17 Music

at

## Beaumont Presbyterian Church

*1070 Lane Allen Road  
Lexington, KY 40504*



Dr. Wayne Gebb  
Music Director

Dr. Larry Sharp  
Organist

Sunday, October 9	Merrilee Elliott, flute Mozart, Faure'
Sunday, November 6	David Powell, oboe Telemann, Lynn Trapp
Sunday, November 27 Advent I	Bailey Yates, violin Rutter, Dandrieu, Bach
Sunday, December 4 Advent II	Advent Lessons & Carols SCAPA String Ensemble
Saturday, December 24 Christmas Eve	Premiere of Original Organ Composition by John S. Dixon
Lent, 2017 (TBA)	SCAPA String Ensemble
Sunday April 16 Easter	Brass Ensemble with Beaumont Choir

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

(859) 278-5062



## *Music & Liturgy at Good Shepherd*

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**9 October 2016 at 4:30 p.m.**

Organ concert - Dr. Schuyler Robinson,  
followed by Festal Choral Evensong at 5:00 p.m.

**6 November 2016 at 5:00 p.m.**

All Saints' Concert featuring the Fauré *Requiem*

**18 December 2016 at 5:00 p.m.**

A Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols

**17 February 2017 at 7:00 p.m.**

Organ Concert - Bruce Neswick

**18 February 2017, 10:00 – 12:30**

Open choir rehearsal under the direction of Bruce Neswick  
The choirs of Good Shepherd; St. John's, Versailles; & St. Michael's

**19 February 2017**

Choir Festival

11:15 a.m. Choral Eucharist & 5:00 p.m. Festal Choral Evensong  
under the direction of Bruce Neswick

**19 March 2017 at 4:30 p.m.**

Organ concert – Dr. Robert Bozeman,  
followed by Solemn Choral Evensong at 5:00 p.m.

**7 May 2017 at 4:30 p.m.**

Oboe concert by Dr. ToniMarie Marchioni,  
followed by Festal Choral Evensong at 5:00 p.m.

The Reverend Brian L. Cole, Rector  
Jon Johnson, Director of Music & Organist

**The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd**

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