

# Principal Pipings

March 2022, Vol. 77, Issue 7



## Dean's Message

Hello AGO Friends,

With the arrival of meteorological spring a few days ago, we can look forward to warmer days and extended daylight. And there are also many AGO events on the horizon. Be sure to check the calendar of events on page 2 of this newsletter for all the details.

In this issue of Principal Pipings, we are starting a new column called "Meet the Member". We have a number of young members who have recently joined Lexington AGO (yay!) It occurred to us that they might not know some of the long-time chapter members, particularly since Covid has curtailed our in-person get-togethers. So Ted Gentry, chapter historian, will be bringing us periodic articles profiling some of the Lexington AGO elders. Thanks, Ted!

We are also excited to announce that, thanks to the efforts of member Clif Cason, the Bach Marathon returns this month after a two-year hiatus. See more details elsewhere in this newsletter about the Marathon and how you can participate.

It's going to be an exciting month! I hope to see you at an event real soon.

Happy Spring!

Jane

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## UPCOMING EVENTS - AGO sponsored events are in blue

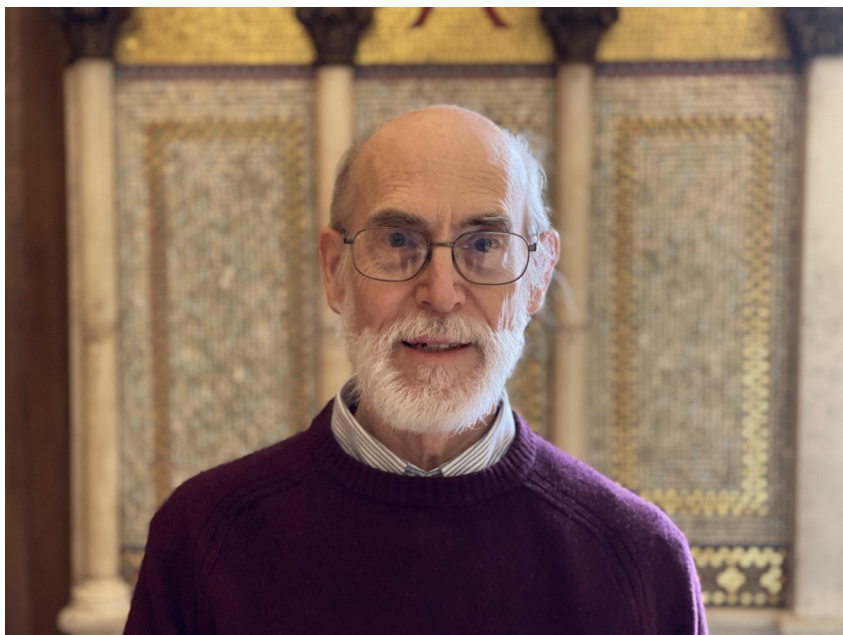
Saturday, March 12, 2022; 11:30 am	Incorporating Harpsichord into Worship; presented by Jack Ashworth; Southern Hills United Methodist Church, Lexington; lunch at 11:30 am, program at 1:00 pm
Sunday, April 10, 2022; 4:00 pm	Gabriel Faure's Requiem; Christ Church Cathedral, Lexington
Sunday, April 24, 2022; 5:00 pm	A World of Music; Lexington Chamber Chorale; Second Presbyterian Church, Lexington
Sunday, May 8, 2022; 3:00 pm	Janette Fishell recital, followed by Evensong; Church of the Good Shepherd, Lexington
Friday, May 13, 2022; 7:30 pm	Katie Minion Scheetz recital; Christ Church Cathedral, Lexington
Friday, May 20, 2022; 7:30 pm	SCAPA Madrigal Singers; Christ Church Cathedral, Lexington
Sunday, May 22, 2022; 3:30 pm	Grant Holcomb, organ, followed by Evensong; Christ Church Cathedral, Lexington
Friday, May 27, 2022; 7:30 pm	Alan Morrison recital, Cathedral of Christ the King, Lexington
June 2022 TBD	Installation Service with Meal, location TBD

## KING OF KINGS WITH BLUEGRASS ATOS POSTPONED

We are sorry to report that our collaborative program with the Bluegrass Chapter of the American Theatre Organ Society has had to be postponed until sometime next year. The Kentucky Theatre in Lexington has finally reopened after a long closure due to Covid, but there simply was not time to work out all the contractual details with the theatre management group and the theatre organist we had planned to get to accompany the silent film "King of Kings". Not to fear—we will be pursuing this joint program as soon as practical. And in the meantime, with the reopening of the theatre you can go see some great movies and enjoy hearing our members Bill Webber, Brian Hunt, and John Landon playing the Allen digital theatre organ before some of the evening shows. Work continues to restore the original WurliTzer theatre organ and return it to the theatre. If you're interested in helping out, you may contact any of these folks and they'll tell you how you can become involved in the project!

## INCORPORATING HARPSICHORD INTO WORSHIP—MARCH 12TH

You may have access to a harpsichord and be wondering, “What do I do with this? What can I do with this in a worship setting?” Come join us at on Saturday, March 12th when Jack Ashworth will present our program on Incorporating Harpsichord into Worship. Jack holds a degree in organ from Whitman College (1971) and a DMA from Stanford (1977), where he was organist for St. Anne’s Chapel (the Newman Center). He taught music history and collegium musicum at the University of Louisville from 1977 until his retirement in 2013. He says that he has also been a “circuit rider organist,” mainly subbing but also including interim stints in Louisville at The Cathedral of the Assumption, Highland Presbyterian, St.



Mark’s Episcopal, and Christ Church Cathedral, his current post since the fall of 2017. As a harpsichordist, Jack has performed with Baroque string and wind players both in solo recitals and as a member of workshop faculties.

Jack plans to briefly note the things a harpsichord should not be counted on to assist with in worship, as well as its place in Bach cantatas. He will also review many types of solo pieces usable for preludes, offertories, communion music, and even postludes, including both music written for the harpsichord and also standard organ rep that translates well. A handout will be provided.

The program will begin at 1:00 pm at Southern Hills United Methodist Church, 2356 Harrodsburg Road, in Lexington. If you would like to socialize beforehand, come to O’Charley’s in front of the old Turfland Mall (2099 Harrodsburg Road) at 11:30 am and ask for the AGO table. We hope to see many of you there!



## MEMBER NEWS

Congratulations to **Terry Ensor**, who recently celebrated **49 years** as organist at First Christian Church in Mt. Sterling. The church honored Terry with a reception after worship.

**Jim Fitzpatrick** recently had surgery on his shoulder. At last report, Jim says “my recent shoulder replacement surgery is going extremely well! X-rays show everything in its proper place and incision healed. My arm will be in a sling for 4 more weeks and I am to begin PT next week. It is remarkable that the shoulder is now pain free; my only discomfort is the sling and having to adapt to having the use of only one hand and not being allowed to drive.” We wish you a speedy recovery, Jim.

**Jeremiah Martin** recently presented a concert program with John Hosking to mark the inception of the Tonking Bursary at Truro School. The program was livestreamed, but you can still watch “Celtic Connections,” featuring music from England and Ireland, here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wzh2KLnlWt4>

## JOB OPENING

Hunter Presbyterian Church Seeks Interim Choir Director

-

Duties:

Select anthems appropriate to the liturgical season or specific emphasis of each Sunday (usually 1 per Sunday) and for a Maundy Thursday service

Communicate music selections to Administrative Assistant by Thursday morning

Rehearse the choir on anthems, hymns, and service music for about an hour on Wednesday evenings

Conduct the choir in warm-up and 11 a. m. Sunday services

Consult and coordinate with the pastor and organist

Keep the choral library in order

Hire professional musicians as appropriate to strengthen the choir or provide instrumental music (e. g. for Easter)

Dates of Service (negotiable):

March 2 - June 12, 2022

Compensation:

\$1,000/month

## MEET A MEMBER by Ted Gentry, Lexington AGO Historian



**RICHARD DWYER** has been a member of the Lexington AGO chapter for more than half a century. Currently in leadership at Liberty Road Faith Fellowship as organist-choir director, Richard has enjoyed a long and varied career as one of Lexington's most distinguished professional musicians, serving several area churches and institutions. He is a graduate of Asbury, where he studied with Era Peniston, our chapter's second Dean. Among other positions in the chapter, Richard served as Dean twice, 1972-74 and 1978-80. Ted Gentry interviewed him by email for the March newsletter.

**How did you become interested in organ?** When I was about 10 years old, my grandmother took me to a friend's church that had a pipe organ. We sat close to where I could see the organ. Fascinating! About seventh grade I went to a music store in my small town of about 10,000 people and bought an organ method book written by John Stainer, a book that I still have. During my high school years, I

attempted to teach myself from that book.

My organ teacher at Asbury College, Era Wilder-Peniston, was one of the founders of the Lexington AGO Chapter. She had been a student of Marcel Dupré, and she was very active in the Guild. Before joining the faculty at Asbury, she was Chair of the Piano Department at UK. She was a motivating force in my being active in the Guild and encouraged me to go forward with the AAGO and FAGO certificates.

**Are you from Lexington? If not, what brought you to the area?** I was born in Herrin, Illinois, a small town in the southern part of the state. I moved to Lexington in 1969 upon receiving a position as organist at Calvary Baptist Church, where I stayed until 2000.

**What professional positions have you held in the area?** In addition to serving at Calvary Baptist Church as organist, I served at Centenary United Methodist, the Andover Campus of First United Methodist Church, and presently I serve at the Liberty Road Faith Fellowship as organist-choir director. Throughout the years, I served adjunctly as organ instructor at Asbury Theological Seminary, Berea College, Eastern Kentucky University, and finally Transylvania University.

**Have you also enjoyed nonmusical vocations or interests?** I studied Pastoral Care and Counseling at the Lexington Theological Seminary, and in the last part of my tenure at Calvary Baptist, I was director of the Interfaith Samaritan Counseling Center. I also taught Spanish in the OLLI program at UK for 16 years, was accompanist for the Lexington Chamber Chorale for 19 years, and I am very active in English as a Second Language programs with our immigrant population.

**When did you join the AGO, and what offices have you held?** I was a member of the student AGO at Asbury College sponsored by the Lexington Chapter from 1962-1965. When I completed study at Indiana University and returned to Lexington in 1969, I rejoined the Lexington Chapter and have been a member since. I have served as Dean, Sub-Dean, and Secretary, as well as member of various committees.

(continued on page 7)



## 14th Annual Bach Marathon



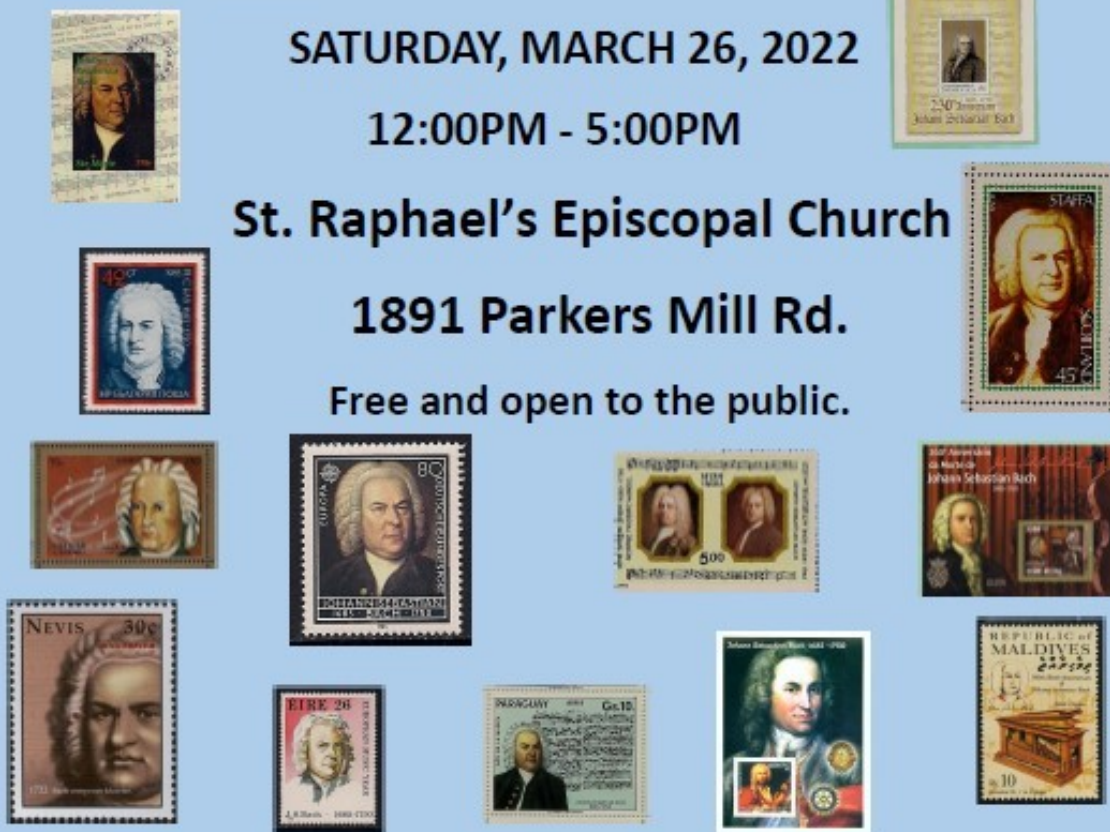
SATURDAY, MARCH 26, 2022

12:00PM - 5:00PM

St. Raphael's Episcopal Church

1891 Parkers Mill Rd.

Free and open to the public.



Turning right onto Parkers Mill Rd. from Man-O-War, St. Raphael's is located 1.4 miles on the left.  
Driving from Versailles Rd. towards Man-O-War, St. Raphael's is located .8 miles on the right.  
Lane Allen Rd. comes to an end at Parkers Mill Rd. Turn right and the church is to the left.

## BACH MARATHON RETURNS ON SATURDAY, MARCH 26TH

The Bach Marathon started in 2007. It was twelve hours in length and musicians from all backgrounds performed compositions solely by J.S. Bach. The marathon has featured choirs, instrumental ensembles as well as solo instrumentalists and vocalists. Instrumentalists have included strings, brass, guitar, even a banjo! One year we had a trombonist play a cello suite. There is no purist approach to this event. It is Bach for the people, by the people. Over the years the marathon has had numerous cantatas performed as well as the complete cello suites, the flute sonatas and Bach's organ works, the latter taking seven years to accomplish.

After a Covid-induced break the marathon is returning, hosted this year by St. Raphael's Episcopal Church in Lexington. St. Raphael's features a lovely two-manual, 21-stop, 10-rank organ by Randall Dyer and Associates. Specifications for the organ may be found on the Lexington AGO website under "Local Organs."

The timeframe for the marathon has been reduced to six hours. This year the marathon will begin at 12:00pm and conclude at 6pm. All participants and audience members will be asked to wear masks. There will not be a mandate for vaccinations, but all performers are strongly encouraged to have both vaccinations and the booster. Safety for everyone is paramount.

The heart of the marathon has been that the performers do not receive a fee. However, there are limited funds available to pay accompanists. You should also know that attendance is very spotty. Sometimes you may be playing for fellow musicians gathered to perform, or with an audience of ten. There could be more attendees, but this is not a major event, yet. We hope that one day the marathon will be a well-known and appreciated event that people look forward to every year.

If you are interested in performing or have someone in your studio who would like to play or sing, please contact Clif Cason at [clif.cason@gmail.com](mailto:clif.cason@gmail.com). Performances are limited to fifteen minutes per person with ensembles and larger groups allotted more time based on the composition(s) length.

## MEET A MEMBER—continued from page 5

**How has the chapter changed through the years?** When I started with the Lexington Chapter in 1969, we had a rigid schedule of meeting the Second Tuesday of every month from Sept to May with an occasional Saturday meeting for a workshop. Also, when I joined, the task of the Sub-Dean was to plan the monthly programs. When I became Dean, I called the Executive Committee together early in August to plan meetings until the end of May.

**As an experienced organist who has witnessed many changes in our profession, what advice do you have for young student organists who are currently preparing to become church musicians and music teachers?** If you are in beginning stages of studying organ or starting to serve as organist in a church, in addition to your developing repertoire, (1) sight-read at least a page of music regularly. (2) Transpose a hymn as part of your regular practice sessions beginning with the melody if you have difficulty with all four parts. (3) Develop a filing system for your music both in the computer and in a filing cabinet. Even though it has been improved throughout the years, particularly with the advent of computers, I still use the same system. (4) Develop mentors and friends who can guide you through the pitfalls and motivate you to continue. (5) Finally, you will soon realize that very few organists can make a livable income serving as organist alone. So, develop other interests to the point of a second career that will make it possible to spend time with your first choice: the organ.

## COMING EVENTS

# GREAT MUSIC

at Christ Church Cathedral  
Spring 2022



### *Gabriel Fauré's Requiem*

**PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 10**  
**4:00pm**

The Cathedral Choir  
Erich Balling, *Conductor*  
Kathleen Balling, *Associate Conductor*  
Lisa Hall, *organ*  
Michael Preacely, *bass soloist*  
Sally Kelton, *harp*  
Clyde Beavers, *cello*  
Margie Karp, *violin*  
David Davenport, *timpani*

### Concert & Evensong

**SUNDAY, MAY 22**

3:30pm Grant Holcomb, organ  
University of Kentucky

4:00pm Evensong  
with Chorister Recognitions  
with the Cathedral Choir



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Great Music Series, and Friends of Cathedral Music.*



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## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Welcome to **Matthew Kim**. Matthew's email address is [matthew.kim@uky.edu](mailto:matthew.kim@uky.edu).

Welcome to **Owen Sammons**. Owen lives in Paris, KY and his email address is [owensammons@gmail.com](mailto:owensammons@gmail.com). Throughout the pandemic Owen began collecting video and audio recording equipment, and he has started piecing these elements together into a series he is calling "Organ Explorer." The first episode, featuring the 1923 Kilgen at Church of the Annunciation in Paris, can be viewed at [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rtW\\_42Q6j9Q](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rtW_42Q6j9Q) In the second episode, Grant Holcomb gives a tour and demonstration of the 1960 Holtkamp at Central Christian Church in Lexington. That video is available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RD0UcTkau2I>

## U OF FLORIDA SACRED MUSIC WORKSHOP

Greetings!

I invite you to come to Gainesville in May for UF's Sacred Music Workshop. Dates of this year's workshop are May 1-3. Detailed information about the workshop may be found on our website: <https://uflsmw.wixsite.com/home>.

Trey Clegg will be our primary guest clinician. Trey wears many hats: organist/music director at First Congregational Church, Atlanta; Founder/Director of the The Trey Clegg Singers; and instructor at Spelman College. Also joining us will be Matthew Estes (Music Director at Ascension Lutheran in Clearwater); Elena Baquerizo (she's completing her MM at Juilliard will play an organ recital for us LIVE this year); J.D. Cain (UF DMA choral conducting student), Zach Zaroogian (UF Carillon Studio Member), and much more!

Registration is now open: <https://reg.conferences.dce.ufl.edu/SSP/1400084028>

Only \$75 if you register before April 15th.

Start looking at your calendar . . . it would be wonderful to see you in person this year!

Best,

Laura Ellis, DMA

Associate Director & Professor of Music

University of Florida

326 MUB

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## 2021-2022

### Concerts & Evensongs

3:30pm Concert

4:00pm Evensong with Cathedral Choirs

September 26

February 27

November 7

May 22



### Friday, December 3

7:30pm George Frideric Handel's *Messiah*

Part 1 and Hallelujah Chorus

with the Cathedral Choir

*For ticket reservations visit*

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



### Sunday, December 12

7:00pm A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

with the Cathedral Choir

### Tuesday, December 21

Noon *A Ceremony of Carols* by Benjamin Britten

Rachel Renee Miller, harp

and the Cathedral Girls Choir



### Palm Sunday, April 10

4:00pm Gabriel Fauré's *Requiem*

with the Cathedral Choir



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## DIVERTIMENTO

### Numerology and Bach

by Clif Cason

Assigning numbers to letters, e.g. A equals 1, B equals 2, etc., the sum of numbers for Bach equals 14.

This is the 14th Annual Bach Marathon!

Using the same formula, the sum of numbers for J.S. Bach equals 41, the mirror of 14.

Other geek facts: In German nomenclature, the note B natural is named H and the B flat named B. The Bach name becomes a musical cryptogram, B-flat, A, C, B-natural.

In the catalogue for the 1985 exhibition *300 Jahre Hohann Sebastian Bach* in Stuttgart, Germany, Ulrich Prinz lists 409 works by 320 composers from the 17th to the 20th century using the BACH motif (thank you, Wikipedia). Bach used the motif in a number of his own compositions, most famously as a fugue subject in the last *Contrapunctus* of *The Art of the Fugue*. Some musicologists believe there are examples where Bach signed his name in the 41st measure of a composition. I don't have any examples to support that hypothesis but ask that you investigate the forty-first measure in your Bach scores and let us know if you find the B-flat, A, C, B natural motif.

The Bach Marathon began in 2007 with one year off because of Covid (2020). That makes this the fourteenth year of the Annual Bach Marathons. In 2050, the three hundredth year of Bach's death, the Bach Marathon will have existed for forty-two years which is  $14 \times 3$ . Three is symbolic and spiritual number (see <https://www.bookofthrees.com/the-symbolism-and-spiritual-significance-of-the-number-three/>).

Cheers to those who are around in 2050 for the 42th Annual Bach Marathon.