

# Antiphon

*News from the Annapolis Chapter  
of the  
American Guild of Organists*



## July 2026

Dear Colleagues,

Happy 250th Birthday to America! The population of the United States has increased from 2.5 million in 1776 to over 327 million people today. I hope everyone takes time to celebrate the 4th of July in a grand fashion and participate in the many events planned to commemorate the occasion. Over 150 million hot dogs are consumed on the 4th of July annually. Also, National hot dog day is July 15th, so you have two days this month to feast. Vacation season is here, so be sure to take a nice break from your usual routines and enjoy yourselves. I plan on spending a week on Long Island to relax and visit family and friends.

Here are the results of our recent election of officers for the chapter. Dean: Bill Gilligan; Sub-Dean: Isaac Borocz; Treasurer: Scott Romanowski; Secretary: Cindy Carlton; Members at Large Class of 2027: Kerry Heyes & Betsy Lord; Class of 2028: Ben Touzeau & Diane Kinsley and Class of 2029: Susan Yoe & Michael Clarke. Thanks to Ben Garcia for serving on the board as a Member at Large for the Class of 2026. I am especially grateful for the assistance of Jenn-Marie Lewis and Cindy Carlton for their work in executing and completing the chapter election process.

The AGO National Convention in St Louis, MO is fast approaching on July 6-10, 2026. If you have never been to an AGO Convention, they are a unique chance to hear great concerts, attend informative workshops and meet fellow organists from across the country. Please check below in this newsletter to see the many events and conferences planned for this month.

Here are some interesting facts about the organ. Until about the year 1500, organs could only make one sound, regardless of how many pipes they had per note. Mechanisms were developed so that separate sets of pipes could be "stopped off." This meant they could be played alone, providing some variation in dynamics (degrees of loud and soft) and color. The organ didn't begin making its way into churches until approximately 900 AD. Many people today associate organs with a church setting; however, during the 1100 years before the organ was used in church, it was played at banquets, games and circuses. The organ was the most complex machine invented before the Industrial Revolution. There is an organ made entirely of bamboo located at St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church in Las Piñas Philippines. Building of the organ began in 1816 and was completed in 1824. Due to age and numerous natural disasters, including earthquakes and a typhoon, the organ was rendered unplayable. Many restorations have been made, most notably in the 1970s when it was sent to Germany for repairs. It is now playable and several recordings have been made of it. The annual International Bamboo Organ Festival was established to celebrate the restoration of the unique instrument.



Famous composers celebrating birthdays this month: Christoph Gluck 2 July (1714-1787); Stephen Foster 4 July (1826-1864); Louis-Claude Daquin 4 July (1694-1772); Giovanni Bonocini 18 July (1670-1747); Adolphe Adam 24 July (1803-1856) and Benedetto Marcello 31 July (1686-1739).

Warm Regards,  
Bill

## JOUSTING TOURNAMENT, ORGAN CONCERTS, & MORE!

Susan Yoe warmly invites all to come out on **August 29th** for the 159th Calvert County Jousting Tournament at Christ Church, Port Republic. There are concerts in the church from 1 to 4pm, beginning on the half hour. **AGO members are encouraged to let her know if they would like to play in the future for this event.** ([sudsyoe62@gmail.com](mailto:sudsyoe62@gmail.com)) Your support as an audience member is also greatly appreciated!

- ◆ Bazaar ~ 10am to 2pm ~ NO EARLY BIRDS ~ Attic Treasures, Country Store, Baked Goods, Books, Toys, Hospitality, Memorabilia; Reel Time Fishing Booth. Refreshments available. Pony Rides, Face Painting, Balloon Artist, and other activities for Children, plus music by Port Tobacco Pickers, and Tours of the One-Room Schoolhouse
- ◆ Jousting ~ Begins at 12 noon ~ Riders of all ages and their steeds compete for cash prizes and glory in Maryland's oldest competitive sport
- ◆ Tours ~ 10am to 1pm of Historic Christ Church
- ◆ Concerts ~ In Historic Christ Church ~ 1-4pm ~ A variety of music in the air-conditioned church
- ◆ Parish Hall Supper ~ 2-6pm ~ Tickets on sale 1:30pm-5:30pm ~ Served Family Style: Deviled Crab, Fried Chicken, Baked Ham (choice of 2), assorted side dishes, dessert, and drinks. \$28 Adults/\$12 Child (ages 6-12). Under 6 Free with paying adult. Note: Child's plate does not include crab.
- ◆ Boxed Supper ~ Noon to 6pm ~ Deviled Crab, Fried Chicken, Baked Ham (choice of 2), assorted side dishes, and dessert- \$28 each adult, no child box suppers. **Call 410-586-0565 the morning of August 30th to reserve.** Do not leave dinner orders on answering machine. Hosted by members of Christ Church, Calvert to benefit the ongoing mission of their church. Calvert County Leash Laws Apply to the Event. <http://www.christchurchcalvert.org>



## EVENTS

**Every song tells a story—hear your favorites at these interactive concerts for all ages!**



These family-friendly presentations at four Anne Arundel County Library

branches feature a professional opera singer sharing their favorite pieces that celebrate storytelling through music.

### Concert Dates, Times, & Locations

- **Wednesday, July 15th**  
6-7pm at the Crofton Library
- **Monday, July 20th**  
6-7pm at Discoveries: Library at the Mall
- **Monday, July 27th**  
6-7pm at the Eastport Library

### Thursday, July 9th, 12:30pm Chamber Winds in the USNA Chapel.

The first Zimmermann Summer Chamber Music concert will feature the United States Naval Academy Band



Chamber Winds in the USNA Chapel. Naval Academy Band concerts are free and open to the public with no tickets required.



### Sing and Have Fun—St. Anne's Summer Choir is Here!

Are you and your family interested in singing in the choir? Do you have a friend who's interested in trying it out? Summer is the perfect time to do that! Bring your spouse, significant other, your kids, and friends - EVERYONE IS WELCOME! We gather in the choir room each Sunday morning at 9:15, do a quick rehearsal, and then we'll go to the loft to sing for the service. You don't need to have any prior experience or bring anything - we will supply the music and get you going. This is the perfect opportunity to try something new and to see how the music in our church works! Questions? Contact Lindsay Espinosa ([lespinosa@preschoolforthearts.org](mailto:lespinosa@preschoolforthearts.org)). St. Anne's Episcopal Church, Church Circle, Annapolis

## NEW MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

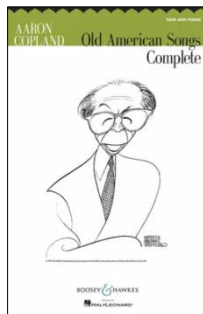


Betsy Lord will be compiling an updated Annapolis AGO Chapter Membership Directory in the next few weeks. Please email her any updated information you would like included, especially email address, phone number and mailing address. We would also like to include your place of employment, especially if you have a church position! Send your information or questions to: [betsy.lord@icloud.com](mailto:betsy.lord@icloud.com).

## Would you like to sing at Carnegie Hall in June 2027?

*This was sent to us from Kathy Hays, a member of Gloria Dei! Lutheran Church, with permission to share it with anyone interested:*

One of my choir directors, **Robert Huntington** (Queen Anne's Chorale, Easton), has been invited to conduct **Aaron Copland's suite of Old American Songs** with the New England Symphonic Ensemble at Carnegie Hall on Sunday, June 13, 2027. I plan to sing with this choir, and my husband is going along as a supportive non-singer.



I would be delighted for you to join me in NYC for five days beginning Thursday, June 10th (2027) to prepare and present this nostalgic collection of American folk songs (see list below). A minimum of 100 voices is needed.

### Old American Songs:

The Boatmen's Dance, The Dodger, Long Time Ago, Simple Gifts, I Bought Me a Cat, The Little Horses, Zion's Walls, The Golden Willow Tree, At the River, Ching-a-Ring Chaw

For more information, click this video here:  
[MidAmerica Productions: What to Expect.](#)

### **2027 Choral Full Package:**

<https://www.midamerica-music.com/choral-fc-package> Deposit due October 1st, 2026.

## ANTIPHON SUBMISSIONS WELCOME!

As members of the American Guild of Organists, we want to encourage and support each other in our church music ministries. Please send details about your concerts and events to Kerry Heyes, our Antiphon editor, by the 20th of each month. Kerry would also like to include news about members. We want to know if:

- you recently changed jobs or retired
- you are traveling somewhere over the summer for a workshop, class or performance opportunity
- any personal news you would like to share

## CONVENTIONS/CONFERENCES

### **American Guild of Organists National Convention**

**July 6-10, 2026**

St. Louis, Missouri

<https://web.cvent.com/event/fdadaa37-8ca8-48de-ba86-373c87010edc/websitePage:6e12c009-3562-4eb4-8899-9e944836e4f7>

### **Association of Lutheran Church Musicians July 13-16, 2026**

St. Olaf College, Northfield, Minnesota

<https://alcm.org/2026-st-olaf/>

### **The Hymn Society in the United States and Canada**

**July 19 – 22, 2026**

Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton, New Jersey

<https://thehymnsociety.org/event/>

### **National Association of Pastoral Musicians July 19-24, 2026**

Catholic University of America, Washington, DC

<https://npm.org/2026-convention-information/>

### **The Gospel Music Workshop of America International Convention**

**July 25 - August 1, 2026**

Sheraton Greensboro at Four Seasons Hotel & Koury Convention Center, Greensboro, North Carolina

<https://gmwanational.net/>

## JOB LISTINGS

This link brings you to detailed job descriptions for the job postings listed below.

<https://annapolisago.org/job-openings/>

### **All Hallows Episcopal Church** in

Davidsonville, an historic Episcopal community worshipping in two locations, is seeking a new Director of Music/Organist. Currently this paid role is half time, but with potential to grow as the congregation and musical program grows.

**Gloria Dei! Lutheran Church** in Arnold, MD seeks an enthusiastic and passionate musician to lead the music ministry of the church.

Duties include playing for 1 Sunday service, directing and accompanying the adult and children/youth choirs. Familiarity and experience in church music and liturgy are preferred. Baldwin baby grand piano and a Makin English Cathedral 2 manual digital organ. Salary commensurate with experience.

**Ginger Cove** in Annapolis seeks organist.

11am Sunday non-denominational service includes prelude, postlude, three hymns, no choir, no rehearsals. Our organ is a two-manual Rodgers with MIDI. Pay to be discussed. Applicants should send resume or questions to Fran Jackson, Religious Life Committee at [Franjackson756@gmail.com](mailto:Franjackson756@gmail.com).

### **Lanham United Methodist Church,**

**Lanham, MD** is seeking an organist to play their 2-manual pipe organ, which was rebuilt by R.A. Daffer in 1988. Currently the church does not have a choir, and there is one service each Sunday.

**St. James' Episcopal Parish** in Lothian, MD seeks a gifted musician to serve as organist and choirmaster to plan, rehearse, and conduct the music for weekly liturgies and special services, with the assistance of regular volunteer musicians and instrumentalists hired for special liturgies.

**Providence Presbyterian Church**, in Fairfax, VA is seeking Organist and Accompanist.

<https://www.providencechurch.org/employment/>

**Holy Family Catholic Church**, in

Randallstown, MD is seeking Director of Music.

[https://www.holyfamilyrandallstown.org/\\_files/ugd/76d452\\_1dc63885960d4905b4a93de874967523.pdf](https://www.holyfamilyrandallstown.org/_files/ugd/76d452_1dc63885960d4905b4a93de874967523.pdf)

## AUGUST ANTIPHON

Please send submissions for our next issue to Kerry Heyes, [kadams61@yahoo.com](mailto:kadams61@yahoo.com) by **July 20th**. Thanks!

## AGO WEBSITE - [ago.org](http://ago.org)

Updates have made things easier when renewing dues. You may also want to explore new features on the website. Here is an easy step-by-step guide:

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/Welcome-to-our-new-website-.html?soid=1130570232331&aid=NRrPX8fKqLs>

## CHAPTER OFFICERS

**Dean:** Bill Gilligan

**Sub-Dean:** Isaac Borocz

**Secretary:** Cindy Carlton

**Treasurer:** Scott Romanoski

## MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

**Class of 2027:** Kerry Heyes, Betsy Lord

**Class of 2028:** Ben Touzeau, Diane Kinsley

**Class of 2029:** Michael A. Clarke, Susan Yoe

## CHAPTER WEBSITE

[annapolisago.org](http://annapolisago.org)

## CHAPTER EMAIL

[AGOAnnapolis@gmail.com](mailto:AGOAnnapolis@gmail.com)



<https://www.facebook.com/AnnapolisAGO>