



MAY / JUNE 2025

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***Deadline for the July /
August 2025 Newsletter is
June 15, 2025***

NOTES FROM THE DEAN



Greetings and Happy Easter,

Spring is a time of birth and growth, even in parched New Mexico. This particular spring feels like a time of uncertainty, as old norms seem to be disappearing, and the future feels unpredictable. Yet all around us we see signs of life; brighter evenings, colorful flowers, returned birds.

At a recent meeting, the members of the Chapter Executive Committee expressed hope that the 2025-2026 program year might be a time of regrowth for our AGO Chapter. Our Chapter is governed by “operating procedures” and those operating procedures outline an elaborate system of officers and committees to carry on robust activities throughout the year. Since COVID (and before, if we are honest) the Chapter’s operations have been more limited in scope than what is outlined in our governing documents.

The Executive Committee plans to address this in two ways. First, we plan to make revisions to the operating procedures to “right size” the structure of the Chapter, acknowledging that we have fewer members than in years past. Secondly, and more importantly, we hope to inspire our members to get more involved and serve as officers and committee members, bringing to fruition the structure we need to carry out our mission.

Each year the operating procedures state that the Chapter should conduct “General Meetings” in September and June. We have not done this in a number of years, but this June the Executive Committee invites you to join us for a general meeting and potluck dinner on Sunday, June 22 at 5:00 p.m. The meeting will be hosted at the home of Dean Jeremy Wirth. The address will be provided directly to those who RSVP. We hope to enjoy each other’s company and each other’s cooking and share a conversation about the AGO Chapter. We will talk realistically about making the structure and membership of the Chapter more robust in the coming year. Please plan to attend!

I wish you a joyous and music-filled spring.

Jeremy Wirth, Dean

USEFUL CHAPTER EMAILS

Dean: [Jeremy Wirth](#)

Treasurer: [John Homko](#)

Secretary: [Susan Eberlein](#)

Newsletter/Webmaster:

[Evelyn Henson](#)

ELECTION NOTES

In 2025 we will need to elect a new **Sub-Dean** and two **At-Large Members** of the Executive Committee of the Chapter. **James Yeager** has agreed to stand for election as **Sub-Dean**.

James Yeager writes:

“My life has been devoted to the organ and its art, both as scholar and performer. My devotion to A.G.O began as a high school senior. Service to the Guild has included: at the local level, Dean—Columbus Ohio Chapter (2005-2007); at the national level—Committee for Sharing Skills and Resources (2007-2015); and at the regional level—N. M. District Convener (2015-2021). Academic studies culminated with a D.M.A. from University of Colorado (1985). I taught as Professor and Director of Sacred Music at Pontifical College Josephinum in Worthington, Ohio (1984-2009), subsequently was bestowed Professor emeritus. Post-retirement career then led me to be Music Director/Organist at First Presbyterian Church in Albuquerque (2009-2021). I continue to work as a substitute organist as well as teaching organ students privately. I have also rekindled my youthful endeavors as composer over the past several years. If elected to serve as Sub-Dean, I would gladly continue this life of service with our Albuquerque Chapter.”

Greg Hassold and **Patricia Oakley** have agreed to stand as **Executive Committee members-at-large**.

Greg Hassold retired as Professor of Physics at Kettering University (Flint, MI), and as Organist at St. Christopher's Episcopal Church (Grand Blanc, MI). He and his wife Noralynn moved to Albuquerque two and a half years ago. He was on sabbatical many years ago at Sandia National Labs and the family enjoyed their year here. He and his wife always wanted to move back west. Since he attends St. Mark's, Jeremy persuaded him to get involved in the Guild. He's now the "third string" organist at St. Mark's Episcopal. He also enjoys travel, singing, Scottish country dance, and cardiac rehab.

Paricia Oakley is a retired mathematics professor. She moved to Albuquerque in 2015 and taught at UNM until July 2024. She has been a substitute organist at various churches in Albuquerque. Currently she serves as an organist at St. Thomas of Canterbury Church. She is also interested in early music and has, for the last few years, been a member of the Early Music Ensemble at UNM where she plays a variety of medieval and renaissance instruments, including the treble and tenor viola da gamba, the vielle and rebec, a variety of different recorders and crumhorns, and the portative organ.

*Ballots will be distributed via email (or mail for those without email) on May 8, 2025, and the deadline for voting will be **Memorial Day, May 26, 2025**.*

UPCOMING EVENTS

Workshop

Saturday, May 10th 10:30 - Workshop on the Basics of Organ Technique for Organists and Pianists at St. Luke Lutheran in Albuquerque, taught by Dr. Margaret-Mary Sauppé.

Do you know a pianist or beginning organist interested in a free class teaching the basics of playing the pipe organ? If so, why not persuade them to join us for a one-on-one lesson in an interactive group setting taught by Dr. Margaret-Mary Sauppé, a professional organist and a member of our Chapter. Participants are welcome to either bring a short piece (for piano or organ) to play, or to engage by listening and asking questions. Topics covered will include how the organ differs from the piano, how it works, and the basics of how to play the instrument. Players will receive personalized feedback on their technique. This is the perfect low-stress opportunity to play a REAL pipe organ and learn more about the very interesting and historic instrument at this church. See also our website: <https://agoabq.org/nm-organs/st-luke-lutheran-church/>

THE ALBUQUERQUE CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS PRESENTS

WORKSHOP ON THE BASICS OF PIPE ORGAN TECHNIQUE


An interactive group class for curious pianists and beginning organists

Saturday, May 10th, 2025
10:30AM-12:00PM

Learn about the pipe organ from Dr. Margaret-Mary Sauppé, D.M.A.

How does the pipe organ work?
How do I play it?
How do I improve my playing?

To register in advance, please contact Dr. Sauppé at 813-502-7272



St Luke Lutheran Church
9100 Menaul Blvd NE
Albuquerque, NM 87112



POTLUCK AND GENERAL MEETING – SUNDAY, JUNE 22, @ 5:00PM



The Chapter Executive Committee will host a **General Meeting and Pot Luck Dinner** on **Sunday, June 22 at 5:00 p.m.** The meeting will be at the home of Jeremy Wirth, and the address will be provided to those who RSVP, closer to the date. You are welcome to bring any dish that you would like or bring only yourself if your schedule or budget prevents you from bringing food. There will be plenty to eat. Spouses and partners are welcome. Please RSVP to Jeremy at **505-358-6729** or jeremyrw77@gmail.com.

MUSIC AT THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOHN

The following posters give the details of special music and special services throughout the season. More information (and tickets where necessary) may be found at fcmabq.org There's generally no charge for special music at normal Cathedral worship – but check! Please share / print the posters with your church staff and congregation, or anyone you think might be interested.

Friends of Cathedral Music Presents

May 11, 2025 | 3:00 PM
**ORGAN RECITAL:
ERIC PLUTZ**



Visit www.fcmaq.org for more information.

Friends of Cathedral Music Presents

June 5, 2025 | 7:30 PM

CANADIAN PILGRIMAGE CONCERT



The Cathedral Choirs will be on tour to beautiful Victoria, British Columbia, Canada. The choral residency will occur at the Christ Church Cathedral (Anglican) on July 4 – 6, 2025. As part of their itinerary, they will sing two choral evensong services, a choral eucharist service, and a one-hour public concert. Please come wish them *bon voyage* as they share some of the repertoire they will sing on their *début* Canadian tour!



*No tickets are required for this event.
Donations gratefully accepted.
Visit www.fcmaabq.org for more information.*

TGIF CONCERTS – FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, SANTA FE

Thank Goodness It's Friday!

Whether you're ending your week or starting your weekend, every Friday evening First Presbyterian Church invites our Santa Fe neighbors and visitors from all over the world to our sanctuary to enjoy a short concert (30-45 minutes) of music: organ, voice and piano, choral, chamber music, solo instrumental, jazz, and more.

If you would like to perform on the TGIF Concert Series, [please see our program submission requirements.](#)

May

2 — Haewon Yang, piano

9 — High Desert Saxophone Quartet with Peggy Abbott

16 — First Presbyterian Church Bell Choir

23 — Greg Dufford, clarinet, and Peggy Lyon Bull, piano

30 —Folias Duo (Classical/Jazz) flute and guitar

June

6 — Flutiss X 4

13 — Flaviano Prosperini, violin, and Charlotte Rowe, piano

20 — eternal Summer Symphony Orchestra

27 — Greg Weger, cello and Sergio Rodriguez, piano

July

4 — Mark Clark, organ

11 — Andrew Paulson, baritone and Richard Bentley, piano

18 — Toby Blumenthal, piano

25 — Chaney Doane, piano

AGO-HQ INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SYSTEM

The long-awaited change from the ONCARD system to the new iMIS program happened on October 15, 2024. It is now essential that every member has their date of birth in the system, or it will charge you the full \$120 renewal subscription. The new policy DOES NOT provide for any grace period of paying dues beyond the renewal date. So, if you have a renewal date of January 1st and do not make your payment by that date, your membership will be cancelled approximately two weeks later. This pattern of processing will occur every month at each renewal date during the year. The AGO accepts payments by both credit cards and personal check.

Members should have received instructions about the new login procedure. You will be required to have a valid email address, which will be verified during the first login procedure. If you're unsure, ask our Dean, [Jeremy Wirth](#)



The whole year's calendar is on the Calendar page (use Agenda tab). Please notify the webmaster of events you would like to have advertised. Also, paid "[Positions Vacant](#)" or requests for volunteer musicians and singers can be advertised free of charge. Our website gets about 400 views per month. **NOTE:** our Facebook page has over 360 followers and can be used for posting notices about events, vacancies, etc. If you "Like" our page, you will receive new postings in your own News Feed.

Contact Us

AGO Albuquerque Chapter

14400 Soula Dr. NE
Albuquerque, NM 87123

Find us online at:

Website: agoabq.org

Facebook: [agoabq](https://www.facebook.com/agoabq)

The deadline for submissions for the next newsletter due to be published for July / August 2025, will be **June 15, 2025**. Please email news, articles, or photos, upcoming events or reports, plus any other website items to the Editor, [Evelyn Henson](#), by June 15, 2025. Thank you.

AGO ALBUQUERQUE CHAPTER

Secretary: 14400 Soula Dr. NE
Albuquerque, NM 87123