

# The Greater Columbia Organist



**December 2020**

A Publication of the Greater Columbia Chapter of the American Guild of Organists



## **IMPROVISATIONS ON HYMNS FOR THE ORGAN: LESSONS FROM PAUL MANZ**

A VIRTUAL PRESENTATION BY  
**Michael D. Costello**

**Thursday, January 14, 2021  
7:00-8:15 p.m.**

**Please join the Zoom meeting between 6:45 and 7:00 p.m.  
Watch for an email with the link several days before the meeting.**

From chorale preludes to hymn accompaniments and harmonizations, Paul Manz's work continues to inspire the church's song. In this session we will explore some of the compositional techniques that Manz employed to create inspiring improvisations based on hymns of the church. Exploring Manz's work will provide ideas for enriching leadership of the church's song, particularly for those who lead from the keyboard.

**The Rev. Michael D. Costello** served as Director of Music at St. Andrew's Lutheran Church in Columbia, SC, during his seminary studies at Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary. Following his graduation he continued for two years as Director of Music, but was also ordained and called to St. Andrew's as an Assistant Pastor. He is currently Cantor at Grace Lutheran Church and School in River Forest, Illinois, where his duties include playing the organ, directing choirs, and serving as an educator. He is also the Artistic Director of Chicago Choral Artists. Michael is best known for his creative hymn improvisations and sensitive service playing. His organ and choral compositions are published by several publishing houses, including MorningStar, Augsburg, and Concordia. Rev. Costello holds the Bachelor of Arts degree in Sacred Music from Lenoir-Rhyne University and the Master of Divinity degree from LTSS, where he also served on the adjunct faculty in music and liturgy.

## **Upcoming Chapter Events - Save the Dates**

### **Saturday, February 6, 10:00 a.m. to Noon: Choral Methods Webinar by Jeremy Mims**

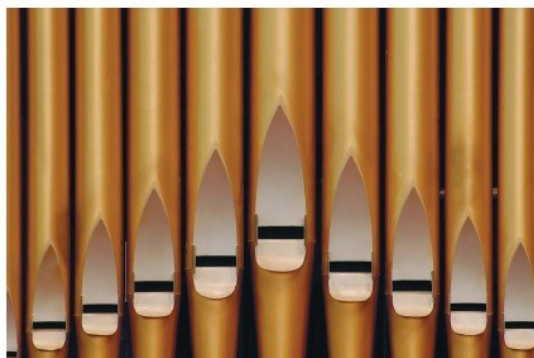
The topics will include plenty of practical advice for a church choir situation: warm ups, aging voices, choral tone with volunteers, etc. Dr. Jeremy Mims is Assistant Professor of Music and Director of Choral Activities at Winthrop University. He is also the Director of Music at Grace Lutheran Church, Rock Hill, SC, where he is the choir director and organist/pianist.

### **Friday, March 5, 7:00 p.m.: 2020 YOC Winner's Recital (virtual), with Laura Smith, Wichita, KS**

### **Saturday, March 6, 10:00 a.m. to Noon: 2021 Young Organist Competition (virtual)**

With continued uncertainty of the safety of traveling and "in-person" gatherings going into the spring months, both events are being held virtually. We are pleased that technology allows us to continue offering these gifted young organists this opportunity, even during a pandemic.

## **Young Organist Competition 2021**



Sponsored by the  
Greater Columbia AGO Chapter

Saturday, March 6, 2021  
Columbia, S.C.

Open to grades 8–12

First Prize \$1,500

Second Prize \$1,000

Third Prize \$750

Hymn Playing Award \$300

Bach Playing Award \$300

For rules and application [www.columbiaago.org](http://www.columbiaago.org)  
For more information contact [franceswebb@sc.rr.com](mailto:franceswebb@sc.rr.com) or 803-772-1492

Event subject to COVID-19 guidelines.

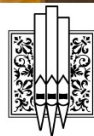
***The 20<sup>th</sup> of every month is the deadline for the following month's AGO newsletter. Information received after that time may not appear in that month's newsletter.***



## **December Birthdays**

12/11	Laura Sturgeon
12/21	Eddie Huss
12/26	Patricia Blackwell
12/26	Huger Caughman
12/27	Bill Johns
12/27	Robert Jones
12/28	Ruth Lackstrom
12/30	Ginny Holt





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# POSITIONS AVAILABLE

## **\*\* NEW LISTING - OR CHANGES**

Please contact Susan Sturkie (803-788-6807 or [sloopystur@aol.com](mailto:sloopystur@aol.com)) to update this information or for more information on these openings.

### **CHARLESTON**

**Martin Luther Lutheran Church** is seeking a part-time Music Director to lead our music on Sunday morning and for other services. We need someone who plays organ and piano, can direct our choir, and can start a handbell choir. Directing a children's choir could be a possibility as we are slowly gaining children.

Profile:

- One service: 9:00a.m., and weekly Adult Choir rehearsal
- Other services as needed (Christmas Eve, Advent and Lenten Wednesday evenings, Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, funerals and weddings as needed)
- An organ and a grand piano are in the sanctuary. Pianos in the choir room and fellowship hall.

Contact the congregation for details outlining qualifications, responsibilities, etc. Persons interested in applying should provide a complete resume and professional references. Send resume and references to Martin Luther Lutheran Church at [MLLC@knology.net](mailto:MLLC@knology.net)

Church Office phone: (843) 795-4855 1605 Harborview Rd. Charleston (James Island), SC 29412

### **COLUMBIA**

**Sherwood Forest Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church**, Columbia SC, has opening for a part time (20 hours/month) church organist/pianist and choir accompanist. We are a small traditional hymn singing congregation. Duties include regular Sunday worship as well as special services. To apply, email resume/ letter to [Secretary@sherwoodforestchurch.com](mailto:Secretary@sherwoodforestchurch.com) or call 803-787-6370.

**St. Mark United Methodist Church**, 3200 Lyles St, 29201, an open and welcoming small congregation in Columbia, SC, is seeking a part-time organist or pianist. Duties include planning and playing for the 11:00 a.m. Sunday worship service and accompanying the chancel choir which practices at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday mornings. Experience appropriate for a church keyboard musician is desired. The congregation enjoys a variety of music from classical to contemporary. Instruments include a two manual Allen digital organ, a new Yamaha digital piano, and a Schulmerich carillon. Please send resume with cover letter to [stmarkumccola@gmail.com](mailto:stmarkumccola@gmail.com) or call Wayne Hall at (803) 252-7297 for more information.

**St. Michael and All Angels' Episcopal Church**, 6408 Bridgewood Rd., Columbia, SC 29206, Director of Music, part time. Working knowledge of church music with a preference for experience with liturgical worship/music. Ability to play organ and piano to support congregational and choir singing. The candidate should have a vibrant and active faith and leadership experience in conducting choirs. We have a broad range of musical tastes spanning traditional hymnody/choral music and contemporary/praise music. The ideal candidate will be able to record him/herself and other basic tech skills along with handbell experience. The position is part time and hourly, approximately 12-15 hours per week which includes personal practice time. Once normative worship resumes, the choirs rehearse September through May. The choirs do not rehearse in the summer months, though the music director is expected to lead music for worship during the summer months. We are a parish that understands the importance of music ministry and will be supportive of your ministry and your personal growth as a musician. If you are interested in the position, please contact the Rev. Charles Smith with your letter of interest and CV at [vicar@saintmichaelepiscopal.org](mailto:vicar@saintmichaelepiscopal.org). (GCAGO members contact Susan for job description. Others, please contact the church.

**Trenholm Road United Methodist Church**, located at 3401 Trenholm Road in Forest Acres, seeks a part-time organist/pianist (10-15 hours per week). Regular duties will include providing service music for two Sunday worship services (8:45 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.), accompanying Wednesday night choir rehearsals (6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.), and playing for special seasonal services as needed. Sanctuary instruments are a three manual, 36-rank Austin pipe organ (1981), and a Steinway Grand (Model M) piano. Applicants should send a cover letter, resume and contact information for two references to [sfletcher@trumc.org](mailto:sfletcher@trumc.org).

**Darlington Presbyterian Church, EPC**, 311 Pearl Street, Darlington, SC, 29532. Church Organist / Choir Accompanist (PT). Darlington Presbyterian Church, EPC is located in the lovely county seat of Darlington. Founded in 1827, Darlington Presbyterian Church has 400 plus members who enjoy a rich history of worship, ministry, and missions. Our worship services are centered on the Word of God as we celebrate our Savior through a meaningful liturgy in the Reformed Tradition. DPC offers a live-stream 11 a.m. morning worship that is musically led by the Chancel Choir, is accompanied by a 1988, 3 manual, Schantz Pipe Organ, and is supported with an occasional soloist, Handbell Choir, and other instrumental groups. The Chancel Choir presents each year two seasonal offerings, a Maundy Thursday service and a Christmas Festival of Lessons and Carols. Additionally, DPC continues its annual tradition of holding two Christmas Eve services for the community. Darlington Presbyterian Church, EPC is seeking a committed Christian whose desire it is to use his/her God given talents in service to the Lord and His people. This position requires skill in organ performance as a soloist, and in piano and organ performance as an accompanist to choirs, instrumentalists, soloists, and congregational singing. The ability to sight read and to play choral parts are needed skills as well. Salary: \$15,000 (plus \$2,000 traveling expenses) Responsibilities include playing for the weekly 11a.m. Sunday morning worship service which includes pre-worship rehearsals with the Chancel Choir and other musicians as needed; accompanying Wednesday evening choir rehearsals with the Children's and Chancel Choirs; playing for seasonal worship services and their respective rehearsals; and being available to play for the weddings, funerals and memorial services of church members and their families, for which additional compensation is given. Interested candidates should email a cover letter and resume to Dr. Teresa Irwin, the Director of Music Ministries, at [tirwin1685@gmail.com](mailto:tirwin1685@gmail.com).

### **GOOSE CREEK**

**St. Timothy Lutheran Church**, PO Box 807, Goose Creek SC 29445, Part Time Organist Position. 2012 Allen Quantum Q265D, 37-stop 2-manual console. The ideal candidate has experience playing a traditional liturgical service and accompanying a choir; vies organ skills as a service to God and as a vital part of worship leadership; is open to and reliant on following God's Spirit in a team environment. Please submit resume to: [info@sainttimothylutheran.org](mailto:info@sainttimothylutheran.org) with subject line Organist or Music Ministry.

### **HARTSVILLE**

**Our Shepherd Lutheran Church**, 1410 W Bobo Newsom Hwy., Hartsville SC 29550  
Yamaha Clavinova. \$85 per service. For more information, contact Vicar Mike Lang at [Michael.lang@my.lc.edu](mailto:Michael.lang@my.lc.edu)

**St Bartholomew's Church**, Hartsville, SC is in search of a part-time Organist. Duties include Sunday services, choir rehearsals, and any special services during the year. Vacation and continuing education included. Salary is \$180 per week and \$100 for additional services. Our instrument is a 32-rank, two manual, Casavant Freres Limitee. The organist reports to the Choir Director and the Rector.

Send your resume to St. Bartholomew's at the address or via email.

103 Campus Drive, Hartsville, SC 29550 [stbartchurch@gmail.com](mailto:stbartchurch@gmail.com)-Church Office: (843) 332-8765

### **IRMO**

**Bethlehem Lutheran Church**, in Irmo SC is seeking a part-time Director of Music / Organist. The Director is expected to rehearse and direct the chancel choir and bell choir, and coordinate with the pastor on worship music selections. The salary for the position will be commensurate with the level of education and experience of the applicant. Send resumes and contact information to Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Irmo, SC 29063, or e-mail address [bethluch@bellsouth.net](mailto:bethluch@bellsouth.net).

### **JOHNSTON**

**Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church** is seeking a part-time Director of Music to support its worship and music ministry. The Director needs to be knowledgeable of traditional Lutheran worship, have good skills as an organist and pianist, be capable of conducting a volunteer choral choir and handbell choir, and supporting and encouraging the congregation's song. We have one Sunday service at 11:00 a.m. Choir rehearsal is at 9:00 a.m. on Sundays. Applicants should send their resumes with two or three references to Lib Cumbee, Chair of the Worship and Music Committee, [cumbeeelizabeth42@gmail.com](mailto:cumbeeelizabeth42@gmail.com)

### **LEXINGTON**

**Pilgrim Lutheran Church** in Lexington, SC, is seeking a committed Christian to provide organ/piano music and accompaniment for scheduled worship services and other activities in support of the music ministry of the church. Having a pivotal role in the musical life of the church, this individual should be a strong team player as a full partner with the ministerial staff and the Director of Traditional Music at Pilgrim Lutheran. Please submit a letter of recommendation and resumé to Susan Cafferty at [susan@wearepilgrim.com](mailto:susan@wearepilgrim.com).

**St. Matthew's Lutheran Church**, 1273 Calks Ferry Road, Lexington, is searching for a Parish Musician. Responsibilities include playing for one Sunday morning service and directing/rehearsing adult and youth choirs. The applicant needs to have experience playing a variety of hymn styles on the organ and piano as well as seeking out and encouraging congregation members to share their music skills during worship. Resumes should be emailed to [sml.sec.lex@gmail.com](mailto:sml.sec.lex@gmail.com). For more information, please call Pastor Seth Gibson at 803.957.9345.

**Saxe Gotha Presbyterian Church** of Lexington, SC, is seeking applications to fill the part time position of Organist/Music Associate. SGPC is a thriving ECO non-liturgical congregation in the heart of Lexington, SC, with an engaging music and arts ministry. The organist will serve on a team that includes the Director of Music and Arts, several audio/visual specialists and a staff pianist. Qualified candidates will possess at least an undergraduate degree in music and/or appropriate experience in a traditional worship setting. All interested candidates should contact Director of Music and Arts, Hal McIntosh at [hmcintosh@saxegotha.org](mailto:hmcintosh@saxegotha.org) or 803-359-7770, extension 13.

#### **MOUNT PLEASANT**

**All Saints Lutheran Church**, Mount Pleasant, is seeking a Part-Time Music Ministry Associate to partner with the Music Director to support and enhance our multi-generational music program, with an emphasis on children and youth music. The position is 15 hrs/week, with the possibility of increasing to 25 hrs with additional Communications responsibilities. Please send a cover letter, resumé, and the names and contact information of three professional references to Rev. Litman-Koon at [pastor.glk@gmail.com](mailto:pastor.glk@gmail.com).

#### **NEWBERRY**

**\*\*Newberry ARP Church**, Organist for Sunday morning worship service. Contact Pastor Seth Yi, [sethyi1969@gmail.com](mailto:sethyi1969@gmail.com), Church 803-276-1485, Cell 318-680-4375, [www.newberryarp.org](http://www.newberryarp.org). Organ specifications: <http://www.columbiaago.org/ColumbiaOrgans/Organs/NewberryARP.pdf>

#### **ORANGEBURG**

**First Baptist Church of Orangeburg** is seeking a part-time organist to provide service music for Sunday worship, as well as special occasions throughout the year. Regular duties include accompanying Wednesday night choir rehearsal (7:00 pm) and playing for Sunday worship services (11:00 a.m.). The organ is a Moller, 3 manual: swell; great; choir, with 31 ranks from the original installation. The pedal board was built to AGO standard. The organ was installed in 1968 and rebuilt by Schlueter Pipe Organ Company of Lithonia, Georgia in 2007, with additional Walker digital stops added. Resumés may be sent to First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 637, Orangeburg, South Carolina, 29116 or emailed to [jane@fbcorangeburg.org](mailto:jane@fbcorangeburg.org).

#### **SAINT MATTHEWS**

**St. Paul U.M.C.**, 1808 Bridge Street, Saint Matthews, SC 29135. We have an opening for an organist and choir director. Job requirements include choir practice at 9:30 a.m on Sunday mornings (or another time during the week) and worship service on Sundays from 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Some additional services throughout the year (Christmas Eve, funerals, etc.) may also be requested. The instrument is a 1937 Moeller Pipe Organ. Please call (803) 874-2166 or email at [stpaulsmumc@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulsmumc@gmail.com) for more details. Pastor: Rev. Sara Relaford, Church Secretary: Lori Worsencroft

#### **SENECA**

**Saint Mark United Methodist Church**, 616 Quincy Road, Seneca, SC 29678. Director of Choral and Music Ministries, Half Time (20-25 hours/week) Organist/ Accompanist for Traditional Worship, Part time, 3-4 Hours per week with occasional special rehearsals and services. Church Contact: 864-882-2603, [www.smumcsc.org](http://www.smumcsc.org), Fb and Twitter, 616 Quincy Road, Seneca, SC 29678. Contact/How to Apply: Send resumé to Lynn Dobson, [lynndobson64@gmail.com](mailto:lynndobson64@gmail.com), Chair of Staff Parish Relationship Committee- SPRC, per the discipline of the United Methodist Church. Greater Columbia AGO members contact [sloopystur@aol.com](mailto:sloopystur@aol.com) for complete job descriptions. Others, please contact the church.