

# The Greater Columbia Organist

February 2024

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



**Greater Columbia Chapter's February Program:**

**A Silent Film Comedy Classic**

accompanied by

**Ron Carter, Theater Organist**

***Steamboat Bill, Jr. (1928)***

**starring Buster Keaton**

**Friday, February 23, 2024**

**7:00 p.m.**

**St. David Lutheran Church**

**132 St. David's Church Road**

**West Columbia, SC 29170**

Bring along family and friends, and prepare to have fun! Buster Keaton's silent film comedy, *Steamboat Bill, Jr.*, is now considered a masterpiece of the silent era, with no expense spared for gags and special effects. "Citified" college boy Bill, Jr. reunites with his burly riverboat owner father, who is competing with a new riverboat owner, King. When trouble arises, can Bill, Jr., measure up?

This family friendly event is open to the public free of charge; however, donations will be accepted for the chapter's scholarship fund for beginning and developing organists.

**Please help us publicize this event by posting this [flyer](#) in your church, choir room, and other places of interest.**

Ron Carter, a veteran theater organist in the Atlanta area, delights his audiences with artful portrayals of characters, emotions, and onscreen action through his improvisatory accompaniment. Ron is from Marietta, GA, where he has served as Organist/Music Director in churches for over 50 years. As an active member of the American Theater Organ Society (ATOS), Ron has presented numerous theatre organ concerts and silent film accompaniments throughout the southeast. He has received many awards in the field of theater organ, including 2009 Lifetime Achievement Award from the Atlanta Chapter of ATOS. Currently, Ron is the theatre organ consultant for Allen Organ Studios of Atlanta, and the House Organist for the Earl and Rachel Smith Strand Theatre in Marietta, GA.



## Catching Up with YOC Alumni Bruce Xu, 2017 YOC Winner

Bruce Xu, now a student at Rice University in Houston, Texas, is a native of Sloatsburg, New York. He was first introduced to the organ at the Methodist church in his hometown. Soon thereafter, he began lessons at age 9 with Jimrae Lenser and then continued with Craig Williams, organist at West Point Academy. Bruce then entered the high school program at the University of North Carolina School of the Arts (UNCSA) where he studied organ performance with Dr. Timothy Olsen. Concurrently he completed his organist internship at Augsburg Lutheran Church in Winston-Salem, N.C.



Schweitzer Organ Festival in Hartford, Connecticut.

Bruce won the UNCSA/Salem College High School Organ Competition in 2017. That same year, he was invited as a rising star to perform at the 2019 American Guild of Organists National Conference in Kansas City. In the Spring/Summer of 2017, Bruce won First Prize in six organ competitions: UNCSA/Salem College High School Organ Competition; Greater Columbia (S.C.) AGO Chapter Young Organist Competition; East Carolina University Young Artist Competition; AGO Quimby/RCYO Chapter Competition in Atlanta GA; and AGO Quimby/RCYO Regional Competition in Jacksonville FL.

Following high school, Bruce enrolled at Rice University in the Shepherd School of Music where he was an organ performance major studying with Professor Ken Cowan. 2022 was a banner year for Bruce in his organ career. On June 3, 2022, he won First Prize (\$3000) in the Arthur Poister Scholarship Competition. On June 9, 2022, he won First Prize and the Audience Prize at the 10th edition of the Quebec Organ Competition. This was followed in September 2022 by capturing first prize and the audience prize at the Albert

Bruce ('24) has switched to a major in Business Management and Finance in the Jones Graduate School of Business at Rice University; however, he continues to perform and serve churches. Presently, he serves a Presbyterian church in the Woodlands area near Houston.

His favorite thing about music is that it can be a source of expression, therapy, empathy, and connection. "I think music is such a beautiful thing in this world, and I feel grateful to have the ability to play the organ, sing, and play in musical groups; hopefully for as long as possible."





**FEBRUARY 2-3, 2024**

Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary, Columbia, SC

Mt. Tabor Lutheran Church, West Columbia, SC

**REGISTRATION**

Registration is \$125 per person and includes Friday evening recital and receptions, all workshops and masterclass, and Saturday's continental breakfast and catered lunch.

For the recital only, the charge is \$10 per person at the door; LTSS students are free.

[lr.edu/religious-arts-festival](http://lr.edu/religious-arts-festival)



Janette Fishell



Michael Boney



Edmund Tompkins

Join us February 2-3, 2024 for our third annual Religious Arts Festival. This two-day event is designed for both part-time and full-time church musicians seeking to broaden their knowledge and practical skills. We welcome:

Janette Fishell, Organ recitalist and Organ clinician  
Organ Professor at Indiana University Jacobs School of Music

Michael Boney, Organ recitalist and Choral clinician  
Director of Music at St. John's Cathedral in Denver, CO

Edmund Tompkins, Handbell clinician  
Minister of Music at Morning Star Lutheran Church, Matthews, NC

This event is sponsored in part by Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary (The Anna Fisher Endowment) in collaboration with The SC Chapter of the Fellowship of Worship Artists, Greater Columbia Chapter of the American Guild of Organists, and Mt. Tabor Lutheran Church, West Columbia, SC.

**For questions, contact:**  
Patrick Hawkins, DMA, at **803.404.3805**  
Kim Heindl, at [kim.heindl@lr.edu](mailto:kim.heindl@lr.edu)



## Save the Dates for Winter/Spring Events

**SATURDAY, MARCH 9**, 10 a.m. - noon: **2024 YOC Competition**, Shandon UMC

**FRIDAY, APRIL 12**, 7 p.m.: **Chelsea Chen in Concert**, Trinity Cathedral

**FRIDAY, MAY 10\***, 7 p.m.: **Hymn Festival** at St. Andrews Lutheran Church  
**\*Please note new date for Hymn Festival**



**Lenten Organ Meditations**  
**1001 Fifth Avenue**  
**Conway, SC**

**Wednesdays at Noon during Lent**  
**A Free Event**

Co-sponsored by First United Methodist, Conway and  
Grand Strand Chapter of American Guild of Organists

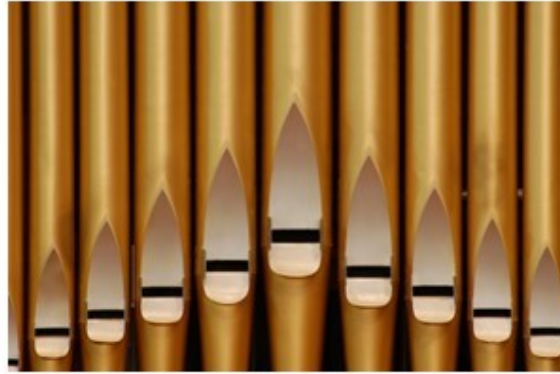
Organists are:

**Billy Fallaw** February 21  
**Jessica Eaton** February 28  
**Kevin Uppercue** March 6  
**Jim Hepler** March 13  
**Billy Fallaw** March 20





## Young Organist Competition 2024



Sponsored by the  
Greater Columbia AGO Chapter

Saturday, March 9, 2024  
Columbia, S.C.

Open to grades 8–12

First Prize \$2,500

Second Prize \$2,000

Third Prize \$1,500

Hymn Playing Award \$500

For rules and application see  
Young Organist Competition 2024  
at [www.columbiaago.org](http://www.columbiaago.org)

***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.***



# Chelsea Chen in Concert

Friday, April 12, 2024

7:00 PM

Trinity Cathedral

1100 Sumter St, Columbia, SC 29201



Photo by **Darius Liktorius**

**PIPEDREAMS** (Radio broadcast January 22, 2007) “... Chelsea played with confidence, style, and imagination at a level that many older performers would surely envy ... The [organ’s] future is in the hands [of] players such as Chelsea Chen who not only perform exceptionally well but also compose for the organ and encourage other friends of their generation to write for it too.”

*Pipedreams host Michael Barone*



**CENTRAL**  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*Gabriel Smallwood*  
H A R P S I C H O R D

**in recital**

*in a program of keyboard music from Naples  
at the beginning of the 17th Century*

**February 18, 2024**

**3:00 PM**  
*free admission*

Corner of Irby and Cheves streets  
Florence, SC

***Our sympathies go to the family and friends of AGO member  
Dan McGehee who died on December 26.***

July 30, 1950 - December 26, 2023







## NATIONAL LUTHERAN CHOIR IN THE CAROLINAS

**March 2, 3:00 p.m.**

**St. Stephen's Lutheran Church**

119 North Church Street, Lexington SC 29072

Tickets \$25.00 \*\*

Take a journey with the National Lutheran Choir! Join us for a concert of music from the Lutheran canon and works that explore the common struggle through life's journeys, both those chosen and those forced upon us. When the road gets long and our legs get heavy, we share the stories of those who have gone before us and pave the way for those who will come after. Works from the Lutheran choral tradition by composers such as Heinrich Schutz, Knut Nystedt, and F. Melius Christiansen will stand side by side with diverse selections from Florence Price, Stacey Gibbs, Alice Parker, Zanaida Robles, and others which highlight the stories of enslaved Africans, immigrants, and refugees in the United States.

**CLICK HERE TO  
PURCHASE TICKETS**



# Palmetto Bronze

Lowcountry Community Handbell Ensemble



## LOWCOUNTRY HANDBELL WORKSHOP

Friday Night & Saturday

March 8-9, 2024

Fri. 6:00-9:00 PM Sat. 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Palmetto Bronze Mini-Concert on Friday night

Summerville Baptist Church

417 Central Avenue

Summerville, SC 29483

Clinician

Martha S. Matthews

Kalamazoo Ringers Director

### Martha Matthews, Clinician



Martha Matthews holds a Bachelor of Music Education from Houghton College and a Master of Flute Performance from the University of Idaho. A 34-year veteran of handbells, Martha conducts the longest consistently running community handbell ensemble in the country, Kalamazoo Ringers. She founded and conducted Philadelphia Bronze, an advanced auditioned ensemble with the motto "elegant energy." Martha was Director of Sales at Malmark Bellcraftsmen, Inc. and served on Area II and IV boards of Handbell Musicians of America.

**Early-bird Registration - \$45**

Deadline: January 12, 2024

**Regular Registration - \$50**

Deadline: February 23, 2024

For more information, visit [www.palmettobronze.com](http://www.palmettobronze.com) or scan QR Code



# CHORAL EVENSONG

AT TRINITY EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL

\*\*\*\*\*  
February 4, 18 and 25 at 4:00 p.m.

1100 SUMTER ST., COLUMBIA  
FREE AND OPEN TO ALL  
TRINITYSC.ORG



February 4: music by Howells, L'Estrange, and Tavener  
February 18: music by Ayleward, Tallis, and Byrd  
February 25: music by Ayleward, MacDonald, and Friedell

# BACH VESPERS

FEBRUARY 11 AT 4:00 P.M.  
1100 SUMTER ST., COLUMBIA  
FREE AND OPEN TO ALL

The Cathedral Singers and the  
North Carolina Baroque Orchestra  
offer Cantata 230, *Lobet den Herrn*



TRINITY EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL



## The New Lincoln Organ St. John's Anglican Church, Florence, S. C.

The history of St. John's parish, established in 1866, predates Florence. Their current worship edifice was constructed in 1889. The Lincoln organ is the third known organ, the first being a 1911 Hinners organ, which was replaced in 1939 by Möller Opus 6803. This organ, with additions and modifications, served the congregation until it was removed in January 2022 for work to begin on their new instrument.

In 2017 Aeolian-Skinner Opus 1338 was purchased for the nucleus of a new organ for St. John's parish. The fifteen - rank instrument had served First United Methodist Church, Starkville, Mississippi, from 1956 until it was replaced by a digital organ. It was the intent of St. John's to create a new organ in the style of Aeolian-Skinner, and the opportunity to begin with the Starkville organ was a tremendous boost.



The contract was signed in January 2020 for a new instrument built by Lincoln Pipe Organs, Inc., of Lincolnton, N.C. With slight modifications, this instrument has been built as a four division organ (Great, Swell, Choir, and Pedal) with 37 pipe ranks and 23 digital voices. The Great organ has one digital voice (the 16') and utilizes four ranks of the Aeolian-Skinner; the Swell organ is entirely pipe (and almost completely Aeolian-Skinner); the Choir organ is Walker digital (Aeolian-Skinner and Skinner samples); and the Pedal organ is a pipe-digital combination.

The console is French terraced drawknob to give the organist-choirmaster better visibility for choral conducting, and is movable.

Great and Pedal divisions are exposed on the east wall, and the Swell (with some pedal) is in the chamber on the south wall of the Chancel.

Five ranks of the Möller were used: the former Dulciana was revoiced as a celeste for the Aeolian-Skinner Flauto Dolce on the Great; the string and string celeste were used in the Swell organ as a Dolce Celeste II, 32 pipes of the Melodia became the Flute Cantique 4' in the Pedal organ; and the Bourdon is in the Pedal organ at 16' and 8' pitch. Immediately after the contract was signed in January 2020, the Covid pandemic struck, closing suppliers that were needed for the organ's construction. Then, when preparations were being made to the historic church building, structural defects were discovered in the North wall of the Nave. These setbacks turned what St. John's hoped would be a 6-month project into a nearly 4-year project! St. John's parish is overjoyed to now be able to enjoy the organ and their restored church. The organ was first played in public worship on November 5, 2023 and dedicated on January 13-14, 2024, with Joby Bell playing the dedicatory recitals. (Specifications listed on next page)

--Jim Hepler, Minister of Music/Organist



## ***Lincoln Pipe Organ***

### **Great Organ**

~Quintatön 16  
Principal 8 (façade)  
\*Holzgedackt 8  
^Flute Harmonique 8  
\*Flauto Dolce 8  
+Flauto Celeste 8  
Octave 4  
Open Flute 4  
\*Quint 2 2/3  
\*Super Octave 2  
Terz 1 3/5  
Mixture IV 1 1/3  
Trumpet 8  
Tuba Minor 8 (Ch.)  
Chimes (Walker Digital)  
Zimbelstern  
Swell to Great 16  
Swell to Great 8  
Swell to Great 4  
Choir to Great 16  
Choir to Great 8  
Choir to Great 4  
MIDI

### **Swell Organ**

\*Rohrbass 16  
\*Geigen Diapason 8  
\*Rohrflöte 8  
\*Viola Pomposa 8  
\*Viola Celeste 8  
+Dolce Celeste II 8  
\*Principal 4  
\*Spitzflöte 4  
Fifteenth 2  
\*Plein Jeu III 1 1/3  
\*Bassoon 16  
\*Hautbois 8  
#Trompette 8  
#Clarion 4  
Tremulant  
Swell to Swell 16  
Swell Unison off  
Swell to Swell 4  
MIDI

### **~Choir Organ**

Violoncello 16  
Tenore 8  
Cor de Nuit 8  
Erzähler 8  
Erzähler Celeste 8  
Gemshorn 4  
Nachthorn 4  
Nazard 2 2/3  
Piccolo 2  
Tierce 1 3/5  
Sifflöte 1  
Corno di bassetto 16  
Cor anglais 8  
Clarinete 8  
Rohrschalmei 4  
Tuba Minor 8  
Chimes (Great)  
Tremulant  
Swell to Choir 16  
Swell to Choir 8  
Swell to Choir 4  
Choir to Choir 16  
Choir Unison off  
Choir to Choir 4  
~Harp

### **Pedal Organ**

~Contra Violone 32  
~Contrabass 16  
+Bourdon 16  
~Flûte Conique 16  
Violoncello 16 (Choir)  
Principal 8 (façade)  
+Bourdon 8  
Tenore 8 (Choir)  
Gedackt 8 (Swell)  
Choral Bass 4  
+Flute Cantique 4  
Rauch Quint II 2 2/3  
Mixture II 1 1/3  
~Contra Bassoon 32  
~Posuane 16  
Bassoon 16 (Swell)  
~Trompette 8

Rohrschalmei 4 (Choir)  
Tuba Minor 8 (Choir)  
Chimes (Great)  
Great to Pedal 8  
Swell to Pedal 8  
Swell to Pedal 4  
Choir to Pedal 8  
Choir to Pedal 4  
MIDI

\*Aeolian-Skinner Opus  
1338  
+Möller Opus 6803  
~Walker Digital  
#Aeolian-Skinner Opus  
1010  
^In memory of  
*Marshall Thompson*  
(1940-2018)

*The organ is in memory  
of Emily Dixon  
Patterson (1924-2018)  
and R. Weston  
Patterson (1923-2021).*



- 2/02 Ed Brown
- 2/11 Janet Schmidt
- 2/11 Karen Shevenell
- 2/15 Don Alcorn
- 2/20 FrankBallard
- 2/21 David Lowry
- 2/22 Chuck Wilson
- 2/26 James Johnson
- 2/28 Timothy Belflowers

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## 2023 - 2024 CHAPTER ADMINISTRATION

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*American Guild of Organists*  
**PIPE ORGAN ENCOUNTERS**

**2024**

## ***Pipe Organ Encounters***

*for beginning and intermediate organists, ages 13-18*

***July 14-19, 2024***

***Winston-Salem, North Carolina***

*Piedmont NC Chapter AGO*

*UNC School of the Arts*

*Director: Dr. Timothy J. Olsen*

*405-535-8124*

*Email the Winston-Salem POE Director*

*Registration Deadline: June 15, 2023*

## ***Pipe Organ Encounter-Plus***

*for Adults, ages 19 and over*

***June 10-14, 2024***

***Chattanooga, Tennessee***

*Chattanooga Chapter AGO*

*Director: John Wigal, MM*

*423-821-1583*

*Email the Chattanooga POE+ Director*

*Registration Deadline: May 9, 2023*



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# AUGSBURG MUSIC

Leading the Church's Song

## Summer 2024 Music Clinics

### FEATURED CLINICIANS



**David Cherwien**



**Mark Sedio**

David Cherwien and Mark Sedio will lead new music reading sessions for adult choir, organ/piano, and children's choir, as well as lead workshops and a hymn festival. Choristers Guild will also sponsor a handbell repertoire session.

**Columbia, SC - JULY 19-20**

**St. Paul's Lutheran Church**

<https://www.augsburgfortress.org/music/summer-music-clinics/>

# POSITIONS AVAILABLE

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.

**\*\* NEW LISTING OR CHANGES IN JOB DESCRIPTION OR AD**

## **DARLINGTON**

**Darlington Presbyterian Church**, Organist Position (PT) Darlington Presbyterian Church, EPC, is currently looking to hire an organist who is a committed Christian desiring to use his/her talents for the Lord. In addition to having skill in organ performance as a soloist, the position requires expertise in accompanying choir rehearsals, soloists, and congregational singing on both the organ and piano. The ability to sight-read and to play choral parts are needed skills as well. DPC has one worship service each week (Sunday 11:00 a.m.) and preparation for that service includes accompanying the Children's Choir rehearsal and Chancel Choir rehearsal on Wednesday nights. We also enjoy several seasonal special worship services during the year: Maundy Thursday, Easter Sunrise, Christmas Festival of Lessons & Carols, 2 Christmas Eve Services.

Interested candidates are welcome to send a cover letter and resume to Dr. Irwin, the Dir. of Music Ministries at [tirwin1685@gmail.com](mailto:tirwin1685@gmail.com).

## **HARTSVILLE**

**St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church**, Hartsville, SC, is in search of a part-time Organist. Duties include Sunday services, Wednesday night choir rehearsals, and any special services during the year. Salary is \$300 per week (negotiable) and extra for additional services. The Organist gets two days paid vacation plus sick leave. Our instrument is a 32-rank, two manual, Casavant Freres Limitee. The Organist reports to the Music Director and the Rector. If interested in the position, please send your resume to St. Bartholomew's at 103 Campus Dr. Hartsville, SC 29550 or via email at [stbartsepiscopal@gmail.com](mailto:stbartsepiscopal@gmail.com).

## **LEXINGTON**

**Pilgrim Lutheran Church** in Lexington, SC, Pilgrim Lutheran Church, Lexington, is seeking a committed Christian to provide organ/piano music and accompaniment for scheduled worship services, rehearsals 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 with the ministerial staff as needed and with the Director of Music at Pilgrim Lutheran. Please submit a letter of recommendation and resumé to Susan Cafferty at [susan@wearepilgrim.com](mailto:susan@wearepilgrim.com).

## **MOUNT PLEASANT**

**Hibben United Methodist Church**, 690 Coleman Blvd, Mount Pleasant, SC 29464

Organist and Choirmaster Part Time: Responsible for planning, leading and coordination for the overall music ministries of Hibben UMC Church. Principal duties are Sunday morning worship, special services such as Christmas and Easter, weekly Choir rehearsals, ensemble and volunteer coordination, and planning with worship committee, staff and other volunteers to create worship that is energetic and true to the value system of a congregation that strives to serve and grow in discipleship and mission. Principle report is to the Lead Pastor and administrative accountability is to Staff Parish Relations Committee.

Salary and hours will be determined based on experience and other qualifications. A successful background check is required for this position. To apply, please submit a resume with a cover letter and three professional references to [srprice@comcast.net](mailto:srprice@comcast.net). Please contact Mr. Price or Rev. Sara White ([revsara@hibbenumc.org](mailto:revsara@hibbenumc.org)) to request a complete job description.



## **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, SC 29116 or emailed to [jane@fbcorangeburg.org](mailto:jane@fbcorangeburg.org).

## **ROCK HILL**

**\*\*Ebenezer Presbyterian Church, Associate Reformed**, 2132 Ebenezer Road, Rock Hill SC. This job opening at Ebenezer Presbyterian Church in Rock Hill for Director of Music has been changed to a **full-time job** that is now titled **Director of Music Ministry/Organist**. The link below will take those interested to the specifics on how to apply, the specifications of our pipe organ, and the new job description with salary included.

<https://ebenezerarp.org/sermons-other-resources/job-opening-music-ministryorganist>

(Yes, without a "t" at the end)

## **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.

## **WINNSBORO**

**Sion Presbyterian Church** (PCUSA) in Winnsboro is seeking a part-time music director/organist or pianist to provide music on Sundays at the 11 a.m. worship service and at the 9:30 a.m. adult choir rehearsal preceding the Sunday service. Duties include preparing and playing a prelude, offertory, choral anthem, hymns and postlude. Additional services throughout the year include one Christmas Eve service. Any other services will be discussed on a one-to-one basis, with additional compensation for the musician.

The church instruments include a Kegg pipe organ, a Steinway grand piano and three octaves of handbells. Sion is a traditional church with a congregation who loves and appreciates quality music and the efforts of musicians. This position has potential for growth in the adult choir as well as the formation of a handbell choir.

Sion Presbyterian is 30 miles north of Columbia. The church is flexible regarding terms of employment and the music position can be permanent, part-time, interim or Sunday by Sunday. The salary is \$200 per week, and this may be negotiable depending on qualifications and commitment.

For questions or more information, please call the Sion church office at 803-635-3391 and leave a message for Lynne Douglass.