

Welcome!

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Spring Reset

One of my favorite things about spring is waking up to birdsongs. The songbird choir seems to increase in joyfulness and number with the dawn of spring. Much like the emerging and bursting forth of new life and color in flora and fauna, “It is as though the whole creation cried: Alleluia!” These sights and sounds make my heart smile, filling me with overwhelming awe and gratitude for God the Artist and Creator.

This text, “as though the whole creation cried: Alleluia!”, is from the first verse of a favorite hymn, “When in Our Music God Is Glorified”, and follows the phrase, “When adoration leaves no room for pride. The two phrases are connected, with an implied cause and effect. This phrase about adoration caught my attention in a new way as I remembered it. Why is it so elusive for us, as worship leaders and musicians, to have such sole adoration, with only thoughts of our Creator, while worshipping on Sunday mornings?

“When adoration leaves no room for pride” is a description of a state of purpose, authenticity, and freedom in worship which can be difficult to access in today’s worship services with its camera closeups and live stream production designed to inspire our congregations, yet accompanied with the pressure to create the bigger and better with diminishing numbers of volunteers. Complete unencumbered adoration of God, with no distraction by thoughts of ourselves or others, pride or perfection, as we offer music to an audience of One, sounds so freeing!

We have now completed Holy Week and Easter music, and are within reach of slowing down rehearsal schedules at the end of spring. May we dedicate ourselves to time for resetting this spring, by practicing naming and verbalizing reasons for adoration, and developing a concentrated focus on the One we adore. May we discover newfound adoration through our music, leading us to the truth stated in the second verse: “How often, making music, we have found a new dimension in the world of sound, as worship moved us to a more profound Alleluia!”

Soli Deo Gloria,
Donna Davenport
Fayetteville-Sandhills AGO Chapter Dean



All In the Family: The Johnsons



Hello, fellow AGO members!

Alan Johnson here—grandfather of Will Johnson of Clinton. Both of us are members of the Sandhills. Formerly I was a member of the Wilmington, NC Chapter. Marcia Mervin asked me to write a bit about Will and me.

Will recently had the privilege of attending the High School Organ Competition hosted by NC School of the Arts and Salem College. Will has enjoyed studying piano and organ with Mrs. Jean Hatch of Clinton for three or four years, and he plays on the Casavant at Graves Memorial Presbyterian and the Reuter at First Baptist Clinton.

As you can imagine, Will's interest in organ is a dream come true for us grandparents who are extremely proud of him. He and I began organ studies at the same age of about 12 and are great sight readers(a gift). My organ studies began on a Hammond organ with a Presbyterian minister in Rose Hill. As an undergraduate, I studied with Dr. Paul Robinson at Wake Forest University on a four-manual Moeller. I have played for church functions for 60 years in the southeastern NC area and recently accepted the organist position at Roseboro Methodist Church. Will plays at his teacher's church once a month and fills in at the local Catholic Church. I hope to have him play at Roseboro from time to time

Will states his interest in organs stemmed from his grandfather's being an organist. His favorite composer is J.S. Bach and he is working on Pachelbel's "Canon in D." Grandpa's favorite is also Bach, and likes theater organ, as well.

In addition, Will is completing an Eagle scout project, plays soccer, tennis, and runs cross country as well as playing French horn at Clinton High School.

Will's advice to prospective organ students is "keep at it until you get comfortable with the organ. Then the fun begins."

Special thanks to Mrs. Jean Hatch, Will's parents, and the Sandhills Chapter. - - -

Alan Johnson

MOVING ON TO GRADUATE SCHOOL

IT IS WITH BOTH JOY AND SORROW THAT WE WISH THESE TWO TALENTED FSAGO MEMBERS THE VERY BEST AS THEY ENTER GRADUATE SCHOOL THIS FALL. THEY SHARED GREAT TALENT WITH US IN THE FSAGO CHAPTER AREA. AND THEY WILL MOST CERTAINLY BE MISSED!



CONNOR LARSEN



DAVID JESSE

First, to preface. I'll be graduating from Campbell University in 2 weeks with my Bachelor's degree and have accepted an offer from Brigham Young University in a Master's program in organ performance. I'll be departing in early July.

Wow! What a wild ride it's been! Just 4 years ago I was making final plans to attend Campbell University and tying up loose ends in Utah. I never would have expected the wonderful adventure that awaited me here. From my small army of organ students to our handful of concerts, AGO lunches, and activities my life has been greatly enriched not only through the time spent together but from each one of you individually as well. I leave NC with bits of knowledge and tricks of the trade from all of you. As this chapter of life closes, I look forward to the newfound adventures that life has to offer and sincerely hope that we cross paths again. Thank you again for all you've done for me, I can't adequately express how much our time together has benefited me. Once again, thrilled for new beginnings, sad for journeys coming to a close...but...I'm always open to an excuse to come back and visit so keep me in the loop of things!!

Your friend, Connor

David Jesse, a native of Cincinnati, OH, earned his Bachelor of Music in Piano Performance from Miami University in 2021, with Drs. Siok Lian Tan and Frank Huang, as well as organ and harpsichord study under Prof. Heather MacPhail. Past intensives include the Brevard Music Festival (2017), the American Institute of Musical Studies (2018), the Gijón International Piano Festival (2022), and the Ian Hobson International Piano Festival (2023). During his time away from school, he served as Interim Organist at Brownson Memorial Presbyterian Church in Southern Pines, NC. This fall, he is thrilled to begin his Master of Music degree at Boston University under the tutelage of Prof. Pavel Nersessian.



"Dinner With Friends"

Friday, June 9
6:30 p.m.

Join us for Fun and Fellowship!

"Dinner With Friends"

A "Hail and Farewell" Event Honoring Our Chapter Members

Come and meet one another in a casual setting at Chris's Steak House to enjoy a meal together. The Chapter will provide a free "dinner on us" for our new members as well as a farewell meal for members leaving us soon!

Hail:

Robin Lynn Frye
Alan Johnson
Will Johnson
Wes Lockfaw
Tim Lloyd
Sylvia Wall

Farewell:

David Jesse (DJ)
Connor Larsen



2620 RAEFORD RD
FAYETTEVILLE, NC 28303

Ballots will be in your email SOON!

ELECTIONS 2023

THE OFFICES

According to the FSAGO Chapter Operating Procedures, drafted in May 2016, the Offices of Dean and Treasurer are up for election every two years with the possibility of re-election on odd-numbered years.

CANDIDATES 2023: Wes Lockfaw, Dean (new member); Diana Kirkpatrick, Treasurer (incumbent)

The Offices of Secretary and Sub-Dean are up for election, normally, on the even-numbered years only. However, with Connor Larsen moving away, we will be electing a Sub-Dean to complete Connor's term for a term of one year with the possibility of re-election next spring. **CANDIDATE 2023: Timothy Lloyd, Sub-Dean (new member).**

The Office of Secretary remains open, with no willing candidate available to serve at this time. Should you feel led to contribute in this capacity, please let us know!

Our current Dean, Donna Davenport, who served faithfully during the pandemic period, is ready to step down. Many thanks to Donna for her excellent leadership during this difficult time!

A MESSAGE FROM OUR DEAN

As I complete my terms of service as Dean of the Fayetteville-Sandhills AGO Chapter, I would like to thank our board members who have worked alongside me for the past 3 years. We had new territory to forge as we navigated through the pandemic and did our best to continue offering meaningful and inspirational programs and concerts within our community (both virtual and in-person), celebrations of special life events of members (new compositions, retirement, a new baby, relocations, graduation), the revival of our chapter newsletter, and personal connection through lunch fellowship.

I warmly welcome our incoming dean, Wes Lockfaw, and look forward to what he will bring to our Fayetteville-Sandhills chapter through his gifts and strengths. I challenge you the members to support him and the entire board, and to become active in helping them as they work to sustain and grow the vibrancy of our chapter! The best is yet to come!

Blessings,
Donna Davenport

POSITION OPENINGS

First Presbyterian Church, Whiteville, NC, seeks Organist or Organist/Choir Director.

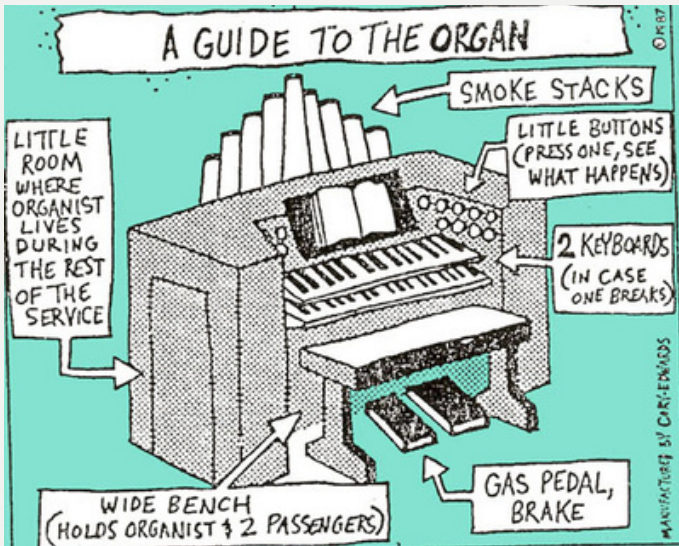
Part-time:

Adult, children & bell choirs. Sundays, mid-week adult choir rehearsal, periodic children and bell choir rehearsals. Also, special services for Advent, Lent, church member weddings and funerals.

Salary commensurate with professional training and experience. For job description & application contact the church office (lynn@fpcwhiteville.org).

AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS- FAYETTEVILLE-SANDHILLS AREA CHAPTER #468 OFFICERS

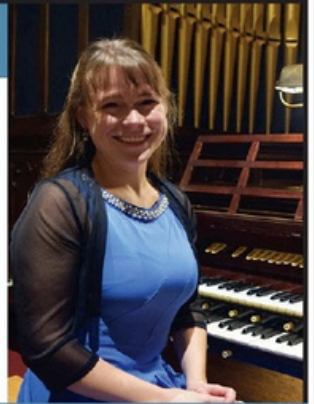
Dean- Donna Davenport
Sub-Dean- Connor Larsen
Treasurer- Diana Kirkpatrick
Newsletter Editor - Marcia Mervin
Chaplain- Fr. Jack Morrison
CONTACT: fayettesandhillsago@gmail.com



PIANIST / ORGANIST



needed part-time at Congregational Church of Pinehurst, UCC to assist Music Director in producing a comprehensive and uplifting music ministry for our progressive congregation.



The following musical accompaniment is required:

- Sunday 10am Service
- Seasonal Worship Services
- Funerals/Memorial Services
- Weddings
- Community Events
- Vocalists and Instrumentalists.

Other responsibilities include mid-week evening choir rehearsals and arranging for guest vocalists and other musicians as needed.

Email resume to: congregationalchurchofpinehurst@gmail.com

RODGERS

THE SOUND CHOICE



Saint James Catholic Church
Conway, South Carolina
Rodgers Imagine 351



Cedar Falls Baptist Church
Fayetteville, North Carolina
Rodgers Imagine 351



Faith Baptist Church
Taylors, South Carolina
Rodgers Imagine 351



Macedonia Lutheran Church
Burlington, North Carolina
Rodgers Imagine 351



Apex United Methodist Church
Apex, North Carolina
Rodgers Infinity 367 custom



Sacred Heart Catholic Church
Salisbury, North Carolina
Rodgers Infinity 367 custom

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