The Richmond STOPLIST

November 2026

DEAN'S LETTER TO MEMBERS



Dean’s Letter
November 2026

Dear Friends,

My overly ambitious Christmas program is waiting none too patiently in the background, a sure sign that November has arrived! October was warm, busy, and somehow even shorter than it felt. With each passing day, I’m reminded more intensely how close the holidays are.

I have just returned from an excellent trip to Lexington, Kentucky—the hometown of our Sub-Dean, Grant Holcomb—where I played a recital at the Cathedral of Christ the King on their lovely Randall Dyer and Associates organ from 2012. It was an excellent experience in a delightful acoustic. The program

was a direct outgrowth of music I prepared and studied at the HOST French Organ Academy coordinated by Bruce Stevens, which you learned about at our September program at St. Paul's. It came together in a thematically beautiful way, weaving together trips to France this summer, as well as last summer, where I studied Gregorian Chant at Abbaye Saint-Pierre de Solesmes, the Benedictine abbey notable for the restoration, promulgation, and continued research in chant.

I will repeat this program on Sunday, November 22, at 3:30 p.m. at the Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle in Washington, DC, on their stunning four-manual, 92-rank Lively-Fulcher organ, 1995/2018. Repertoire includes compositions by Grigny, Guilain, Franck, Duruflé, and Tournemire. The date, November 22, is significant: in the Catholic tradition. This year, it is the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe. Historically, it has also been the feast day of Saint Cecilia, patroness of music and musicians. I invite you to attend if you are able!

Many thanks to all who attended our October chapter program, and especially those who helped make it possible. Bryan Anderson played a diverse, engaging, and fun program on the Fisk organ at St. James's. I am grateful to the Whitmires and the staff at St. James's for their incredible hospitality, to Bruce and the ORRS committee, and to Stan Barnett for preparing dinner. We exceeded our attendance goal at the chapter dinner for the second month in a row. Can we make it three? Help us by encouraging your fellow chapter members to attend, or by inviting a friend, family member, neighbor, or colleague.

We have a very exciting chapter meeting lined up for November! On Friday, November 13, at Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church, we'll enjoy a chapter dinner at 6:00 pm. At 7:00, Eric Wall will offer a hymn festival entitled "The Song Never Dies." Eric joins us from White Memorial Presbyterian Church in Raleigh, North Carolina, as well as the notable Montreat Conference Center. On Saturday, November 14, he will offer a workshop on his new publication of hymn introductions and accompaniments entitled "Awake and Sing" at River Road Presbyterian Church at 10:00 a.m. Attendees are invited for coffee and donuts at 9:30.

In my last couple of letters, I mentioned that we are looking for volunteer to assist Judy Fiske as Membership Engagement Coordinator. The search continues. If you might be able to help, or you know someone who would,

please reach out!

I look forward to seeing you at our November chapter meeting! Best wishes and prayers for all as we journey through a busy fall season and ever closer to the holidays.

Fondly,
Joel S. Kumro, Dean

UPCOMING CHAPTER EVENTS

Friday, November 13 and Saturday, November 14
Hymn Festival and Workshop by Eric Wall
Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church, 1627 Monument Avenue, Richmond, and
River Road Presbyterian Church, 8960 River Road, Richmond

Friday, November 13, Chapter dinner: 6:00 p.m., Program: 7:00 p.m.
A Hymn Festival: "The Song Never Dies"
Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church

At this time of year—liturgically, seasonally, nationally—we sense a pull towards gathering. Acts 2 describes the early church as, "…Praising God and having the goodwill of all the people." When the church says, "The people of God," when the nation says, "We the people," the words may evoke the great possibilities of life together as well as the peculiar grief of these times. Songs, the people who sing, the places we gather for worship, music, and art: these sound in mystic chords and swelling choruses. On Friday, November 13th, songs, readings, and prayers offer space to remember, celebrate, mourn, hope; to listen for the many voices that tumble around us, through us, and beyond us; and to hear the One Voice in whom we live, move, and have our being.

Dinner: Chicken Cacciatore, Caesar Salad, Buttered Fettuccini, Italian String Beans, Bread, Italian Coconut Cupcake. Cost: $20. RSVP to Paul Honaker by noon, November 11.

Saturday, November 14, Coffee & Donuts: 9:30 a.m., Workshop, 10:00 a.m.

Presentation & workshop on "Awake and Sing," Eric Wall
River Road Presbyterian Church

Eric Wall, director of music at White Memorial Presbyterian Church in Raleigh, N.C., and renowned Presbyterian musician, recently published a series of hymn introductions and accompaniments entitled, "Awake and Sing," published by Augsburg Press. Eric is also the Conference Center Musician in Montreat, N.C. Join us as Eric shares his arrangements and provides practical, hands-on examples of diverse hymn playing and accompaniment. *Note the location change of the Saturday workshop to River Road Presbyterian, due to the Richmond Marathon.*

Tuesday, January 19, 2027
Presentation on the Renovation of the Casavant Organ by David Storey
First Baptist Church, 2709 Monument Ave., Richmond

Chapter meeting and dinner: 6:00 p.m., Program: 7:00 p.m.

Friday, February 19, 2027
Presentation on Organ Construction and Basic Maintenance by Scott Hayes
All Saints Episcopal Church, 8787 River Rd., Richmond

Chapter meeting and dinner: 6:00 p.m., Program: 7:00 p.m.

Friday, March 5, 2027
ORRS Recital: Eric Plutz
All Saints Episcopal Church, 8787 River Rd., Richmond

Chapter meeting and dinner: 6:00 p.m., Program: 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, April 27, 2027
April in Oregon Hill: A Members' Recital
St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 236 S. Laurel St., Richmond

Chapter meeting and dinner: 6:00 p.m., Program: 7:00 p.m.

Monday, May 24, 2027
Scholarship Recipient Recital
St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 12291 River Rd., Richmond

Chapter meeting and dinner: 6:00 p.m., Program: 7:00 p.m.

AROUND THE TOWN

Sunday, November 1, 4:00 pm
Choral Evensong for the Feast of All Saints'
St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 815 E. Grace St., Richmond

The St. Paul's Choir will present a service of Choral Evensong for the Feast of All Saints, featuring music by Howard Helvey, Philip Radcliffe, and Arvo Pärt. The service will be followed with a festive reception; all are welcome.

Sunday, November 1, 5:00 pm
Choral Evensong for All Souls
All Saints Episcopal Church, 8787 River Road, Richmond

Join us for Choral Evensong as part of our All Saints Day celebration. The Festival Choir, made up of All Saints singers and community members, will sing Herbert Howells' *Requiem*, one of the treasures of the Anglican choral tradition. The Schola Cantorum will sing Gerald Near's *Magnificat & Nunc Dimittis on Plainsong Tones*, and a setting of Psalm 84 by Peter Hallock. A community dinner will follow the service, and nursery care will be available. All are welcome!

Sunday, November 8, 10:30 am
VCU's Vox Concordia Treble Choir and Vocal Chamber Ensemble
Grace and Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, 8 N. Laurel St., Richmond

Conducted by Lisa Fusco, the ensembles will sing anthems and lead hymns and service music at the worship service.

Sunday, November 8, 4:00 pm
Choral Evensong for Veterans Day and Day of Remembrance
Grace and Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, 8 N. Laurel St., Richmond

The Choral Evensong will include music by Casurella, Shephard, and Vaughan Williams sung by the Parish Choir and conducted by Dr. Elizabeth Melcher Davis. Alexander Wilkerson, Jerry Grimes, and Ronald May, trumpet, and Spencer Koger, organist, will accompany the Parish Choir.

Thursday, November 12, 6:00 pm
Choral Evensong for the feast of St. Stephen (transferred)
St. Stephens Episcopal Church, 6000 Grove Avenue, Richmond

The St. Stephen's Choir will offer Choral Evensong in celebration of our parish's patron saint. While Stephen's feast day is December 26, here we transfer that observance to November and the Week of Compassion. Music by Margaret Burk, Harold Friedell, and Ernest Bullock.

Friday, November 13, 2026, 7:00 pm
Vox Humana Concert
River Road Church (Baptist), 8000 River Road, Richmond

The chamber choir *Vox Humana*, conducted by William Bradley Roberts, has been performing in the Richmond region since 2021. The group, comprising eight professional singers and a keyboard artist, sing a wide range of music by a diverse list of composers. Roberts, their founding music director, is a multifaceted conductor, composer, singer, and church musician. Come enjoy an evening of outstanding music for chamber choir. Tickets are free and are available at rrcb.org/eventbrite.

Sunday, November 22, 3:30 pm
Great Organ Concert Series presents Joel S. Kumro, organist

Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle, 1725 Rhode Island Ave NW, Washington DC

Organist and Richmond AGO chapter Dean will play a program of French organ music on the four-manual, 92-rank Lively-Fulcher organ, 1995/2018. Repertoire includes compositions by Grigny, Guilain, Franck, Duruflé, and Tournemire.

Saturday, December 5, 3:00 pm
Caroling in Monroe Park & Holiday Market
Grace & Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, 8 N. Laurel Street, Richmond

The Greater Richmond Children's Choir, RVA Street Singers, Grace & Holy Trinity Vocal Ensemble and Intergenerational Choir, and a brass quintet will lead Christmas carols for this year's Caroling in Monroe Park and Holiday Market. Local artisans, food trucks, and fun children's activities start at 3:00 p.m. The brass quintet begins at 4:15 with caroling at 4:30. Admission is free.

Sunday, December 6, 4:00 pm
Advent Lessons and Carols
St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 815 E. Grace St., Richmond

The St. Paul's Choir presents a service of Advent Lessons and Carols: Looking for the Light. The service will feature music by Andrew Carter, Michael Wise, Henry Lebedinski, Craig Phillips, and Charles Wood. Festive reception to follow; all welcome.

Sunday, December 6, 4:00 pm
Organ, Brass, & Carols
St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 8400 St. Peter's Lane, New Kent

The "Sundays @ 4 Series" continues with a program of noels, carols, and seasonal music featuring RVA Brass, Larry Heath, organ, and voices. An Artist's Reception will follow the concert. No admission fee, donations appreciated.

Sunday, December 6, 2026, 7:30 pm
Vivaldi's Gloria in D Major, RV 589

River Road Church (Baptist), 8000 River Road, Richmond

Enjoy one of the most well-known choral-orchestral masterworks of the holiday season as the River Road Chancel Choir and orchestra perform Vivaldi's Gloria in D Major. This concert, including lessons and hymns for the season, marks the first concert series appearance of Richard W. Robbins, our new Minister of Music. Robbins also directs the Richmond Symphony Chorus and serves as editor for OCP Choral. Tickets are free and will be available at rrcb.org/eventbrite on November 1, 2026.

Wednesday, December 16, 7:00 pm
Winter Solstice Concert
St. Stephens Episcopal Church, 6000 Grove Avenue, Richmond

Sanctuary, the St. Stephen's *a cappella* Compline choir, offers a concert to feed the spirit on one of winter's longest nights. Seasonal music and poetry will center around the texts of the *Great O Antiphons*, pleas for longing and fulfillment at the darkest time of year. The program includes music of Kerensa Briggs, Melissa Dunphy, Paul Manz, James MacMillan, Robert McCormick, and Arvo Pärt.

Tickets are $20 ($10 for students) and available at www.ststephensRVA.org/solstice.

Thursday, December 17, 2026, 7:30 pm
Vienna Boys Choir: Christmas in Vienna
River Road Church (Baptist), 8000 River Road, Richmond

Presented by Virginia Arts Festival, the angelic voices of this most famous vocal group are ageless." (The Salt Lake Tribune)
The gifted and impeccably-trained young singers of the famed Vienna Boys Choir sustain a musical tradition that dates back to the 15th century, an unbroken chain of artistry that continues to resonate with audiences as it has for centuries.

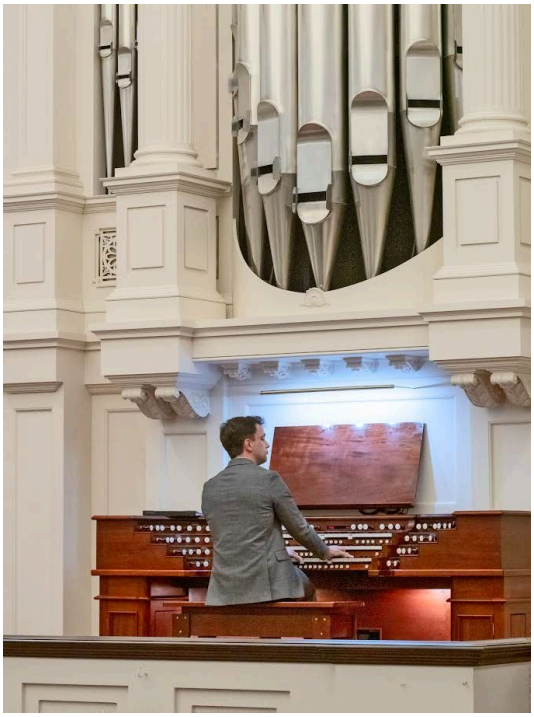
"Their voices soared and sparkled…[and] delivered their musical message of peace: music unites; it does not divide." (Colorado Springs Gazette). Tickets ($49-$65) are on sale now and sold via Virginia Arts Festival

at https://secure.vafest.org/3180/3198.

Sunday, December 20, 4:00 pm
Festival of Christmas Lessons & Carols
Grace & Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, 8 N. Laurel Street, Richmond

This worship service, presented by the Parish Choir and brass quintet, will include music by Burnett, Handel, Rutter, Shephard, and Vivaldi. The Parish Choir will be accompanied by Spencer Koger, organist, and conducted by Dr. Elizabeth Melcher Davis. Reception to follow.

NOVEMBER CHAPTER MEETING RECAP





Richmond, Va. Oct. 16, 2026 The Chapter's Organ Repertoire Recital Series began its 2026-27 season of three concerts with Bryan Anderson playing a free public concert for an audience of 110 at St. James's Episcopal Church (1999 C. B. Fisk, op. 112, 3m 60 stops), where members met and dined before he played. Works on the program included Anderson's transcriptions of Verdi: Overture to La Forza del Destino; Antheil: Toccata No. 2, W. 72; Frank Zappa: Peaches en Regalia; Louis Robilliard's transcription of Fauré: Fileuse from

Pelléas et Mélisande, op. 80; Bach: Prelude & Fugue in E Minor, Wedge, BWV 548; Vierne: Clair de lune, op. 53, no. 5; Dupré: Prelude & Fugue in G Minor, op. 7, no. 3; Wammes: Miroir; and Jongen: Sonata Eroïca. The church provided a reception following the concert.

Bryan Anderson is Associate Music Director and Organist at the Episcopal Church of St. John the Divine in Houston, Texas, where he was recently appointed and played his first service on August 9, 2026. Previously, he was for eight years Director of Music at St. Thomas Episcopal Church and School in Houston.

Report and Photos by Bill Van Pelt
Photos are of Bryan Anderson at St. James's Episcopal Church, October 16, 2026.

NOVEMBER CHAPTER OUTING: "THE BYRD"



Phantom of the Opera Silent Film

On Sunday, October 25th, Richmond AGO members gathered to hear Ken Double play the Mighty Wurlitzer to accompany the 1925 silent film, *Phantom of the Opera*. While the organ itself is in need of love (the combination action is non-functional, and the pre-movie talk was serenaded by a cipher), the house was packed, the energy vibrant, and the enthusiasm high among the diverse

members of the public in attendance. Ken Double is a renowned theater organist, currently serving as organist at the Fox Theatre in Atlanta, and the movie showing was a fundraiser for organ maintenance at the Byrd. It is encouraging to see such public enthusiasm for the King of Instruments, in whatever context it is played.

Pictured left to right: James Ely, Grant Holcomb, Joel Kumro, Bob Gulledge, Lin Lunde, Demas Boudreaux, Ken Double.

LIST AND CONTACT INFORMATION FOR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, 2026-2027

Please contact any member of the Executive Committee with questions or concerns you might have about the AGO or Richmond Chapter.

DEAN
Joel Kumro (2027): jkumro@saintbenedictparish.org 804-254-8810, ext.112

SUB-DEAN
Grant Holcomb (2027): grantholcomb@rrpcusa.org 859-940-8774

SECRETARY
David Purdy, SPC (2027): davidcpurdy1000@gmail.com 804-241-2472

TREASURER
Kenna R. Payne (2027): kennajohnp@aol.com 804-512-5804

AUDITORS
Larry Heath (2027): lwheath51@gmail.com 804-212-9861
Doug Brown, MMA (2028) dbrown.gppc@gmail.com

MEMBERS AT-LARGE
Judy Fiske (2027): judyorganistfiske@gmail.com 804-399-2798
Don Traser (2027): donald.traser@gmail.com 804-644-0888
Gary Kunde (2028): musicdirector@gracelutheranrva.org 912-320-8681
Grant Hellmers (2029): grant.hellmers@gmail.com 804-355-815

Jeannine Uzel (2029): juzel64@gmail.com 804-932-9611
Diana Chou (2029): dchou@ststephensrva.org 804-288-2867 x326

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING NOTES

September 25, 2026
St. Benedict Catholic Church

* Kenna Payne presented the Chapter and ORRS Financial Statements through 6/30/26, and both were accepted.
* Kenna Payne presented the proposed budgets for the Chapter and ORRS for FYE June 30, 2027, and both were approved.
* Kenna Payne presented the Chapter Financial Statement through August 31, 2026 (2 months), which was accepted.
* Kenna Payne suggested that a financial summary should be released twice a year to chapter members. This procedure was supported by the committee.
* Kenna Payne reported that $3,210 has been contributed in memory of Steve Henley (through 9/24/26).
* Chapter auditors, Larry Heath and Doug Brown, completed their audit and state that they are satisfied with the Treasurer's record keeping and reporting, and that the Chapter remains financially healthy. The Auditors' Report was approved.

* Diana Chou's appointment to Grant Holcomb's vacated Executive Committee position was ratified, effective July 1, 2026.
* A new Membership Coordinator is needed. Judy Fiske, who previously functioned in this role, is willing to work together with another person to assume these responsibilities.

* At the recent September Chapter meeting, the names of deceased chapter members were read. It was proposed that this practice become an annual event, at the first meeting of the program year, and be included as a guideline in the Chapter's Procedural Guide.
* There are three members of the Richmond Chapter who are ready to take one of the AGO Professional Certification Exams. The Dean will contact members who have been involved in this process in the past and seek others who can

participate as proctors.
* Joel Kumro asked members of the Executive Committee to be prepared at the November meeting to discuss ways that the Richmond Chapter can effectively capture and pass along institutional knowledge.
* More members are requesting to pay for meals at Chapter dinners electronically. While Venmo is not a business option, Square appears to be a viable option. Further investigation will determine whether Square will work on our website, and a decision will be made about implementation at the November meeting.
* A procedure will be implemented whereby the meal cost will be stated clearly in every email communication regarding Chapter dinners.

Respectfully submitted,
David Purdy
Secretary

NOVEMBER RICHMOND AGO BIRTHDAYS

Lawrence	Heath	3-Nov
Thomas Lee	Bailey	6-Nov
Christopher	Reynolds	6-Nov
Donald	Moro	7-Nov
Donald	Traser	19-Nov
Bettie	Brandt	20-Nov
Mary Beth	Bennett	24-Nov
Mary	Stutz	28-Nov

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Listings in this column appear for a maximum of 90 days and then are removed unless an extension is requested. When a listing is removed, therefore, it does not necessarily mean that the position has been filled. To submit a listing, contact Betty Girardeau at bettyg@redfamiliar.com or 804-647-0825.

First English Lutheran Church
1603 Monument Ave, Richmond, VA 23220

Seeking **part-time Music Director and Organist** for one liturgical-style Sunday morning worship and weekly adult choir rehearsal, with four paid section leaders. Other ensembles include handbell and youth choirs, which provide music for special services throughout the year. Other services annually include Ash Wednesday, Lenten and Holy Week, Advent to include Nativity Pageant, and Christmas Eve. The Music Director and Organist has first refusal for weddings and funerals. Allen Renaissance custom digital organ and two baby grand pianos. Candidates should be familiar with traditional sacred music and hymnody as well as more modern hymns and worship music arrangements. Salary range: $36,000 to $42,000/year with four weeks paid vacation and professional dues. Interested candidates should submit a resume and cover letter describing their experience to office@felcrichmond.org. A full job description can be provided by emailing or calling 804-355-9185.

Huguenot Road Baptist Church
10525 W Huguenot Rd, North Chesterfield, VA 23235

Seeking **part-time Organist** to provide organ and piano accompaniment for scheduled worship services, choir rehearsals, and special occasions in support of the music ministry. Primary duties include playing preludes, offertories, postludes, and accompaniments for weekly rehearsals with the Chancel Choir and other ensembles, as well as occasional organ concerts and demonstrations. Additional services throughout the year include Baccalaureates and other special events; the organist has first refusal and separate fee arrangements for weddings and funerals. 3-manual, 38-rank Bunn-Minette pipe organ, recently revoiced, and piano. Candidates should demonstrate proficiency on both pipe organ and piano/keyboard, strong sight-reading skills, and the ability to lead congregational song and conduct rehearsals when needed; improvisation skills are highly desired. Salary range: $20,000 to $24,000/year. Position reports directly to the Associate Pastor for Music, Worship, and Community, with annual performance reviews by the pastor and Human Resources Team. Applicants must successfully complete a background and credit check. Interested candidates should submit application materials to

Michelle Graham at michellegraham91@gmail.com. For full position details and inquiries, call 804-229-9241.

Abingdon Episcopal Church
4645 George Washington Memorial Highway, White Marsh VA 23061

Seeking a **part-time Minister of Music** to lead its music ministry and oversee the Arts at Abingdon concert series. This position includes serving as organist and choir director for one Sunday morning service and a weekly adult choir rehearsal. The volunteer choir of 8-14 members sings music from traditional church repertoire and uses paid soloists a couple of times a year. The organ is a 25-rank Walker tracker organ installed in 1989 and refurbished in 2022. Qualified candidates should have strong musical skills, experience leading church music programs, and a passion for enriching worship and community life. Familiarity with Episcopal liturgy and the Anglican musical tradition is preferred. Salary is $35,000-$45,000 depending on experience and qualifications. Benefits include: 4 weeks paid vacation, participation in The Episcopal Church Lay Retirement Plan, sabbatical and longevity programs, access to Episcopal Medical Trust insurance options, and use of church facilities and instruments for private lessons.

First English Lutheran Church
1603 Monument Ave, Richmond, VA 23220

First English Lutheran Church is seeking a **tenor section leader** for one weekly rehearsal and one Sunday morning traditional liturgical service per week, for a choir season that runs from the beginning of September through the beginning of June. Season Salary approximately $5,625 ($150 for rehearsal and Sunday service each week, plus $75 for additional services such as during Holy Week). The church is located at the intersection of Lombardy (Stuart Circle) and Monument Avenue. Interested candidates should contact Erin Stuhlman, Interim Choir Director, at erin.stuhlman@gmail.com.

Campbell Memorial Presbyterian Church
3712 Weems Road, Weems, VA, 22576

Seeking part-time **Traditional Music Director** for one Sunday morning 11:00AM worship service, and special service throughout the year, including Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Nativity Pageant, Christmas Eve, and other services as needed. The Music Director may be an organist or pianist.

Responsibilities include selecting music in consultation with the Pastor, coordinating occasional choir, solo, and instrumental music, recruiting and encouraging volunteer musicians, and collaborating with the Contemporary Music Director and church committees on special services and community events. Instruments include a 3 manual hybrid pipe/electronic organ and a Mason and Hamlin grand piano. First refusal is available for weddings and funerals, which average 3-4 per year. Candidates should be familiar with traditional sacred music and hymnody. Annual salary range $15,000-$18,000 per year and 4 weeks paid vacation.

Interested candidates should submit a resume and cover letter describing their experience and interest in serving Campbell Memorial Presbyterian Church. Contact Joel Morgan at joel.morgan@campbellchurch.net

---

St. John's Episcopal Church
12201 Richmond Street, Chester

Seeking a **tenor section leader**. Weekly calls on Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings with occasional extra calls throughout the year (Christmas Eve, Holy Week, etc.) Compensation $600/month, paid as an independent contractor. Contact Aubrey Lindsey at 804-748-2182 or alindsey@stjohnschester.com.

SUBSTITUTES

The AGO Members listed below have indicated a desire to be called for substituting at services. No specific qualifications are implied by their inclusion on this list. The employer is responsible for determining that a substitute will adequately meet any needs. If you have questions or wish to add or remove your name, contact Betty Girardeau, bettyg@redfamiliar.com or 804-647-

0825.

Substitutes Available for All Services and Events (including Sunday Mornings)

Mary Campbell: 804-337-3935 maryecampbell@comcast.net (1st Sunday only)
Raymond Chenault: 404-368-7113 rchenaultduo@gmail.com
Marianne Crean: 804-360-2976 creanm@stcva.org
Debbie Davis: 804-921-8234 purerair@gmail.com
Sharon Freude: 804-353-4683 freudemusic@earthlink.net
Teresa Hudson: 804-245-0827 hudsonrt@alumni.vcu.edu
Evelyn Kerschbaumer: 804-744-3147 elkersch@gmail.com
Don Moro: 804-652-9311 donmoro@gmail.com
Kevin White: 434-979-4922 kevinwhitepiano@gmail.com

Substitutes Available for Non-Sunday Morning Services and Events Only

Mikey Fuller: 804-896-2713 me@mikeyfuller.com
Elizabeth Hargrove: 804-339-5701 f.hargrovejr@comcast.net
Larry Heath: 804-212-9861 lwheath51@gmail.com
Margie K. Heath: 804-387-6948 mbtwig@aol.com
Grant Hellmers: 804-878-4416 grant.hellmers@gmail.com
Terry Hicks: 310-271-4953 rterrick1@gmail.com
Carla Kay: 570 234-6544 carlakaymusic@gmail.com
Joel Kumro: 716-803-4699 jkumro@saintbenedictparish.org
Ed Schutt: 804-564-4887 e.schutt@comcast.net
Ryan Tibbetts: 302-354-2001 rtibbetts@stmarysgoochland.org
Cheryl Van Ornam: 804-814-6677 ago.cheryl@gmail.com

NEW CHAPTER MEMBER ACCEPTING PIANO STUDENTS



Recently, the Richmond AGO Chapter welcomed Devon G. Shifflett, MM, as its newest member, and **he's taking on piano students.**

Devon Shifflett serves as the Music Minister and Organist of Saint James Armenian Church, Instructor of Piano at Hampden–Sydney College and maintains an active private piano studio. He holds a Master of Music in Performance and Piano Pedagogy from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, where he also earned post-baccalaureate certificates in Historical

Keyboard Performance and Musicology. He received both a Bachelor of Music in Piano Performance and a Bachelor of Arts in History from Longwood University, graduating summa cum laude. An active performer and educator, Devon regularly presents research on piano pedagogy at national conferences and enjoys helping musicians of all ages grow in their love of music.

He's teaching children and adults at Saint James Armenian and welcoming new students to his piano studio. If you or any of your colleagues hear of someone looking for piano lessons, he'd be grateful for the referral. Devon's website is shifflettpianostudio.com and he can be reached at shifflettpiano@gmail.com.





ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS CONCERT RIVER ROAD CHANCEL CHOIR

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2026 AT 7:30PM

RIVER ROAD CHURCH, BAPTIST
8000 RIVER ROAD, RVA 23229
Free tickets at rrcb.org/eventbrite



INVITATION TO STUDY, FROM KATHY TOOLE

Learn Faster, Perform Better: A Musician's Guide to the Neuroscience of Practice by Molly Gebrian distills research studies offering compelling information about how the brain absorbs and retains new information. One begins to understand how despite our best efforts, how easy it is to work against ourselves. With degrees in both music and neuroscience, Gebrian helps us more purposefully engage different parts of our brain for better long-term retention. For example, one key to learning faster and performing better is to take more breaks: Gebrian helps us understand more fully how the brain continues the work of practice away from our instruments.

While I've been challenged to maintain a sustained focus on working with the material, it is already proving to be a game-changer for me. Early success has me eagerly anticipating previously persistent fragile passages as I return to music performed through the years. My imagination as I approach challenging passages has expanded. Indeed, I am learning to accomplish more in less time.

I am looking to form a small group of those who may be interested in studying this book together to discuss and record our experiences as we apply the concepts and practices for ourselves and/or those we teach. This endeavor may eventually be foundational for sharing with the chapter in a future program.

Contact Kathy Toole to express your interest or questions.





For more than five decades, Canadian Brass has captivated audiences around the world with its extraordinary musicianship, signature humor, and dynamic stage presence. The ensemble has performed everywhere from Carnegie Hall to television specials and international tours spanning North America, Europe, Asia, and beyond. Now, they're coming to RVA for one night at Richmond's First Baptist Church: November 29, from 7-9 p.m.

Tickets are $65 for general admission. Visit rfbc.link/canadianbrass to get yours before they're gone!

STAY CONNECTED

Please send *Stoplist* submissions to Demas Boudreaux by the 20th of each month to be included in the following month's newsletter.

Notify us of any changes in your mailing or email addresses so you will continue to receive your copy of the *Stoplist* without interruption.

Upcoming Music Ministry

10/22	7:00 PM	**Compline Worship Service** (Livestream Available | Church)
10/27	12:30 PM	**VCU Convocation** (Free Admission | Church)
11/08	10:30 AM	**Holy Eucharist with VCU's Vox Concordia Treble Choir & Vocal Chamber Ensemble** (Livestream Available | Church)
11/08	4:00 PM	**Choral Evensong for Veterans Day & Day of Remembrance** (Livestream Available | Church)
12/05	3:00 PM	**Caroling in Monroe Park & Holiday Market** (Music Begins at 4:15 PM | *8 N. Laurel Street*)
12/20	4:00 PM	**Festival of Christmas Lessons & Carols with Reception** (Livestream Available | Church)
01/24	10:30 AM	**Holy Eucharist with Greater Richmond Children's Choir** (Livestream Available | Church)
03/11	7:00 PM	**Compline Worship Service** (Livestream Available | Church)
03/13	4:00 PM	**A Musical Offering: A Lenten Recital in Gibson Memorial Chapel** (Free Admission | *Chapel*)
04/10	4:00 PM	**"Heard at the Movies" with Reception** (Free Admission | *Parish Hall*)
04/20	12:30 PM	**VCU Convocation** (Free Admission | Church)
04/25	10:30 AM	**Holy Eucharist with "Gloria" by Antonio Vivaldi with Reception** (Livestream Available | Church)

Music Ministry Staff

Dr. Elizabeth Melcher Davis
Choirmaster & Organist

Spencer Koger
Assistant Choirmaster & Organist

Abigail Stinnett
Intergenerational Choir Director

Scan to Sign Up for the Monthly Music eNews or visit ghtc.org/music

Scan to Watch Music Ministry on GHTC's YouTube Channel or visit youtube.com/@ghtc

Scan to Listen to Music Ministry on SoundCloud or visit soundcloud.com/ghtcmusic

Grace & Holy Trinity Church
8 N. Laurel Street • Richmond, VA 23220
(804) 359-5628
ghtc.org



Compline Worship Services

Thursdays, October 22, 2026 & March 11, 2027 | 7:00 PM

Come and experience the beauty of the contemplative Compline worship service led by the Parish Choir.

Virginia Commonwealth University Convocation

Tuesdays, October 27, 2026 & April 20, 2027 | 12:30 PM

Join us on Tuesday, October 27th at 12:30 p.m. in the church for a special performance featuring talented student musicians from VCU's wind, brass, voice, and piano studios. They will offer a varied selection of music that highlights the artistry, dedication, and versatility of these emerging musicians. *Admission is free.*

Holy Eucharist with VCU's Vox Concordia Treble Choir & Vocal Chamber Ensemble

Sunday, November 8, 2026 | 10:30 AM

VCU's Vox Concordia Treble Choir and Vocal Chamber Ensemble, conducted by Lisa Fusco, will sing anthems and lead the hymns and service music at the worship service.

Choral Evensong for Veterans Day & Day of Remembrance

Sunday, November 8, 2026 | 4:00 PM

The Choral Evensong will include music by Casurella, Shephard, and Vaughan Williams sung by the Parish Choir.



Caroling in Monroe Park & Holiday Market

Saturday, December 5, 2026 | 3:00 PM

The Greater Richmond Children's Choir, RVA Street Singers, Grace & Holy Trinity Vocal Ensemble and Intergenerational Choir, and a brass quintet will lead Christmas carols for this year's Caroling in Monroe Park and Holiday Market on Saturday, December 5th. There will be local artisans, food trucks, and fun children's activities starting at 3:00 p.m. The brass quintet music will begin at 4:15 p.m. with caroling following at 4:30 p.m.



Festival of Christmas Lessons & Carols

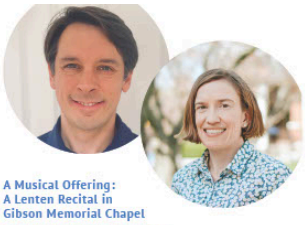
Sunday, December 20, 2026 | 4:00 PM

This worship service, presented by the Parish Choir and brass quintet, will include music by Burnett, Handel, Rutter, Shephard, and Vivaldi. There will be a reception in the Parish Hall following the worship service.

Holy Eucharist with Greater Richmond Children's Choir

Sunday, January 24, 2027 | 10:30 AM

The internationally award-winning Greater Richmond Children's Choir (GRCC), led by Artistic Director, Crystal Jonkman, and Associate Director, Roshan Chakane, will sing anthems and lead the hymns and service music at the worship service. Now in its 30th season, GRCC has sung on four continents in over 40 languages and is recognized for its commitment to excellence and diversity.



A Musical Offering: A Lenten Recital in Gibson Memorial Chapel

Saturday, March 13, 2027 | 4:00 PM

Well-known Richmond musicians Ryan Tibbetts, organist, and Katharine Tibbetts, cellist and flutist, will perform solo and ensemble works by Johann Sebastian Bach, Herbert Howells, Camille Saint-Saëns and Ethel Smyth. *Admission is free.*

"Heard at the Movies"

Saturday, April 10, 2027 | 4:00 PM

Join the talented musicians of GHTC for a lively concert featuring movie classics from Casablanca, Born Free, Titanic, James Bond, and more in the Parish Hall. The vocalists will be accompanied by Spencer Koger, pianist. There will be a reception following the concert. *Admission is free.*

Holy Eucharist with "Gloria" by Antonio Vivaldi

Sunday, April 25, 2027 | 10:30 AM

The Parish Choir will present Vivaldi's beautiful "Gloria" with chamber ensemble and organ. Soloists for the worship service will include Keely Borland, Abigail Stinnett, and Caroline Whisnant. The work will be accompanied by Spencer Koger, organist, and conducted by Dr. Elizabeth Melcher Davis. The music will be sung within the context of the Holy Eucharist liturgy. There will be a reception following the worship service.



FOR PHOTOGRAPHS AND ORGAN SPECIFICATIONS OF CENTRAL VIRGINIA CHURCHES, PLEASE VISIT

www.ChurchesOfVirginia.org

Why Daffer?

Allen organs
POWERED BY APEX TECHNOLOGY

Trusted Partnerships with Leading Builders

As representatives of world-class builders including the Allen Organ Company and Fratelli Ruffatti, we offer a **curated range of instruments** backed by sustainably, innovation and craftsmanship.



A True Ministry Mindset

We understand that **church music** is not a performance—it **is worship**. Our work is guided by a deep respect for liturgy, tradition, and the role music plays in the life of your congregation.



R.A. Daffer Church Organs, INC.
ESTABLISHED 1977

OFFERING PIPE, DIGITAL, and COMBINATION ORGAN SOLUTIONS

Sales@DafferOrgans.com | 410-792-2252 | www.DafferOrgans.com

Markus Organs

TUNING - MAINTENANCE - RELEATHERING - RELOCATION

WWW.MARKUSORGANS.COM (402) 215-7420

BEAUTIFUL CONTINUO ORGAN FOR RENT

The organ can be delivered to your performance venue two days prior to use. It is tuned the day prior to use and then picked up not later than the day after use. Renter is responsible for the safe keeping of the organ while in possession and arranging ready and easy access for delivery, tuning and pick up. Mileage for delivery is extra when outside Baltimore City.



C-d''' (51 notes) transposing keyboard
A - 392, 415, 440, 465 Hz
8' Gedackt
4' Flute
2' Principal

1. Organ is mounted on a stage dolly for easy moving
2. Blower is self-contained within the case
3. Volume controlled with opening panels
4. Equal Temperament
5. Unequal Temperament Tuning is available for additional charge
6. Set-up and Tuning included in rental
7. Gentle tone, perfect for chamber and choral music
8. Plugs into standard 110 volt outlet, extension cord included

To schedule an inspection or inquire about dates and rates please contact; **David M. Storey, Inc.**
Pipe Organ Builders and Restorers, Baltimore, Maryland, 410-889-3800 – davidmstoreyinc@gmail.com





MUSICAL RESTORATIONS LLC

PRESERVATION, QUALITY, RESTORATION

EXPERIENCED PIPE ORGAN MAINTENANCE SERVICES, RESTORATION, EMERGENCY SERVICES

Robert H. Lent
Post Office Box 1
Dayton, VA 22821
540-292-8550

musicalrestorations@yahoo.com
www.musicalrestorations.com

Copyright © 2026 Richmond Chapter American Guild of Organists, All rights reserved.
You are receiving this email because you are a member of the Richmond Chapter American Guild of Organists and have shared your email address with the chapter for chapter correspondence.

Our mailing address is:
Richmond Chapter American Guild of Organists
PO Box 8644
Richmond, VA 23226
Add us to your address book

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can update your preferences or unsubscribe from this list.