

The American Guild of Organists

Windline—March/April 2021

Clearwater (FL) Chapter

www.clearwaterago.org

Bradley Swope, Dean

Thomas D. Huffman, *Windline* Editor



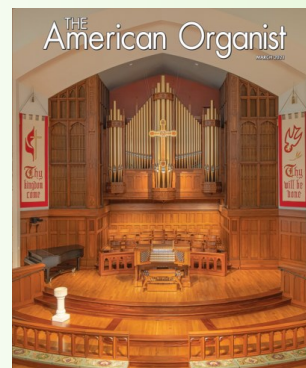
DEAN'S MESSAGE

I am really looking forward to Easter after what seems like a full year of Lent. We have deprived ourselves of visiting loved ones and singing together. We have lamented over more than half a million deaths from COVID-19 in our nation, yet I have seen many of you rise to the occasion of keeping worship going in new ways. Our chapter has had some excellent virtual events, but just today it was such a joy to have a board meeting where we began talking about “normal” chapter activities in the fall! This is a new way of experiencing the joy of resurrection, as our lives begin to bloom again. Thank you all for the many things you are doing right now to bring a much needed Easter to your congregations.

I am also glad to report that our upcoming slate of officers has three new names on it! Our national AGO leaders have been encouraging all chapters to invite persons into leadership who have not served before. This is another great example of new life and energy taking root. The new board assignments are published in this newsletter and we will have an installation service in May. Many thanks to our Nominating Committee: Priscilla Ortoski, chair; Cheryl Brouette and Kevin Johnson.

Blessings and joy to you all,

Bradley Swope, Dean



March 2021 TAO

CONCERTS AT PEACE MEMORIAL

110 S. Fort Harrison Ave.

Clearwater FL 33756

Sunday, March 14—3:00 p.m.

Dexter Kennedy, Organist

As the winner of the Grand Prix d'Interprétation at the 24th Concours International d'Orgue de Chartres, Dexter Kennedy has established himself internationally as "one of the greatest organists of our times" (Iceland Monitor). Praised for his "prodigious technique and grand style musicality" in *The American Organist*, Dexter Kennedy teaches at The College of Wooster (Ohio) as Instructor of Organ and Harpsichord. During the Fall 2017 semester, Kennedy served as Visiting Assistant Professor of Organ at Oberlin College Conservatory.

Kennedy is an active recitalist throughout both North America and Europe, having performed in great cathedrals, churches, and concert halls including: Notre-Dame de Paris; Berliner Dom; St. Bavokerk, Haarlem; Slovak Philharmonic Hall, Bratislava; Chartres Cathedral; Grossmünster, Zürich; Chichester Cathedral; Hallgrímskirkja, Reykjavik; Basilica of St. Nazaire, Carcassonne; Narbonne Cathedral; Auditorio Manuel de Falla, Granada; San Luigi Dei Francesi, Rome; St. Willibrordus Basilika, Echternach, Luxembourg; and Bergen Cathedral. His performances have been heard at the St. Albans International Organ Festival, the 51st Bratislava Music Festival, the Bergen International Organ Festival, the Conference of Roman Catholic Cathedral Musicians, the Bach en Bogotá Festival, and two regional conventions of the American Guild of Organists. He frequently performs as organist with the Boston Symphony Orchestra, joining the ensemble for three concert cycles in the 2018-2019 season, including a performance at Carnegie Hall in March of 2019. Recent concert highlights include: Wichita State University, Cornell University, Montreal Bach Festival, Arizona State University, and series of performances of Handel's *Messiah* with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra.

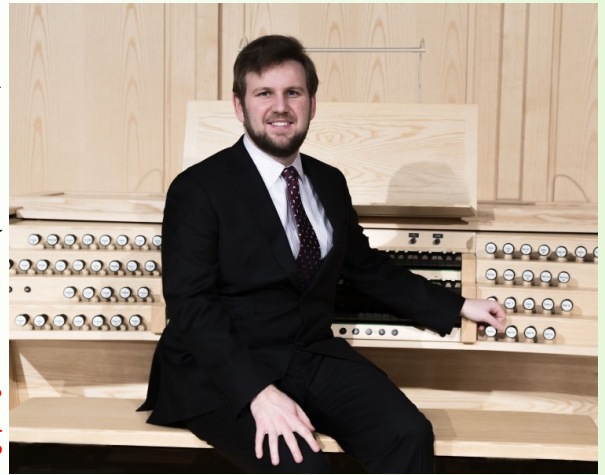
Dexter Kennedy holds the Artist Diploma from the Oberlin Conservatory of Music, where he was a pupil of James David Christie, and a Master of Music Degree from the Yale School of Music and Institute of Sacred Music. Other teachers include Martin Jean, Olivier Latry, and Jeffrey Brillhart (improvisation). He is currently Assistant Director of Music at Christ Church Grosse Pointe (MI). More information about Kennedy and his schedule can be found at his website, dexterkenedy.com



Dexter Kennedy is represented by Seven Eight Artists

Mr. Kennedy's appearance is made possible, in part, by the American Guild of Organists Clearwater Chapter.

Accommodation and hospitality for Mr. Kennedy is provided by the American guild of Organists Tampa Chapter.



Members of the AGO Clearwater Chapter may attend this concert for free by making a telephone reservation no later than Noon, Friday, March 12. Phone 800/479-8846 and leave your name and the number of persons in your party.

CDC Guidelines will be observed

- **Doors will open at 2:30 p.m.** to minimize congregating outside and in entrance areas;
- Patrons will answer **self-screening**, submit to a **temperature scan**, and **sanitize hands** prior to entry;
- Masks will be **required** at all times;
- Patrons will be **seated socially distanced** a minimum of six feet apart;
- Patrons will **remain seated** after the concert until excused by an usher;
- There will be **no post-concert reception**;
- Concerts will be **limited to 60-minutes**, without intermission;
- Restrooms are will be **sanitized** between usages.

For help in navigating these new procedures, telephone 800 479 8846.



John Weaver 1937-2021 | In Memoriam

A giant of the organ world has died; John Weaver passed away February 1, 2021 at the age of 83. Paul Jacobs has written a fitting tribute to the man he succeeded as Chair of the Organ Department at Julliard. [Click here](#)

PROPOSED SLATE OF OFFICERS 2021-2022

The Chapter Officer Nominating Committee appointed by the Dean consists of Priscilla Ortoski, Chair; Cheryl Brouette and Kevin Johnson. They present this slate of officers for the upcoming year beginning June 30 or immediately following their election and installation.

Dean - Shawn Thomas
Sub Dean - Timothy Belk
Secretary - Peggy Beville
Treasurer - Bob Booth
Membership Secretary - Edward Peterson
Newsletter Editor - Tom Huffman
Placement Coordinator - Priscilla Ortoski

Class of 2022
Carol Alexander
Mark Prater, AAGO, Ch.M.

Class of 2023
Tom Hoehn
Bobbie Hoopes

Class of 2024
Keith Rasmussen
Brandon Vennick

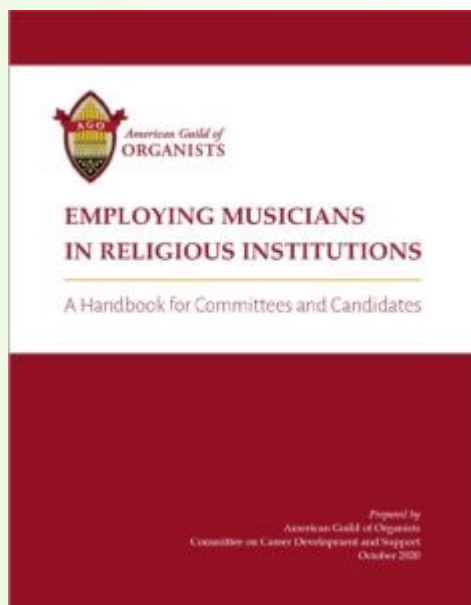
SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

The Clearwater Chapter maintains two scholarship funds: The Grom Educational and Scholarship Fund and The Peterson Scholarship Fund. You may easily make a contribution to either of these funds or to the chapter's General Fund by clicking on the link "Donate" on the Chapter website: clearwaterago.org. This secure link allows payment by debit or credit card or by PayPal.

We acknowledge a recent gift to the scholarship funds by Mr. Edward Peterson.

EMPLOYING MUSICIANS IN RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS

A Handbook for Committees and Candidates



The Guild has produced a new document reflecting the settlement with the FTC that guides both job seekers and committees regarding hiring practices, determining salaries, and more. This 36-page booklet is free by simply downloading from the national website agohq.org. [Click here](#) to go right to it.

From the Preface: Guidelines will help religious leaders and congregations conduct an effective search and make appropriate choices of personnel. It is important that employers clearly define their needs and expectations regarding the available position(s). A religious institution's development of a compensation "package" must reflect the time requirements of the position and skill level of the candidate. It is our hope that this booklet will be useful to religious institutions and musicians .

SUBSTITUTES AVAILABLE

(O=Organist only; O/D=Organist/Director; D=Director only; V=Vocalist)

Please send updates or corrections for this list to Placement Coordinator Priscilla Ortoski by call (727) 845-4745 or emailing tap.tortoski1@verizon.net. Inclusion in the lists below does not constitute the Chapter's endorsement of skills, and thus it encourages interviews with prospective substitutes. Those listed must be a member of The American Guild of Organists.

Peggy BeVille	(727) 726-8457 O (727) 403-8166 (cell)
Cheryl Brouette	(727) 453-0317 O
Brent Douglas	(727) 459-7025 O, O/D
Grayce Hillman	(727) 642-7322 O, O/D, V
Roberta Hoopes	(727) 442-8333 D
Matt Lancaster	(727) 313-5129 O
Donald Rolander	(727) 392-4442 O, O/D (727) 804-6314 (cell)
Robert Shone, CAGO	(727) 789-6527 O, O/D rcshone@aol.com
Dr. Linda Pointer	(727) 441-1099 O, O/D
Herman G. (George) Fisher	(727) 339-3077 O (239) 398-4966 (cell)

AVAILABLE FOR EVENTS—NOT SUNDAY MORNING

Stephen Allen	(813) 968-7095 O, O/D
Tom Huffman	(727) 409-8726 O, O/D
Dr. Sandra Rogers	(727) 560-2376 O, O/D, V

Clearwater AGO 2020-2021 Officers

DEAN:

Bradley Swope
bradley@firstmethodistclearwater.org

BOARD MEMBERS

Tom Huffman (2021)
Don Rolander (2021)
Carol Alexander (2022)
George Fisher (2022)
Bobbie Hoopes (2023)
Timothy Belk (2023)

GROM EDUCATION FUND

PETERSON SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Tom Huffman, Chair
bufftom@aol.com

PLACEMENT

COORDINATOR

Priscilla Ortoski
tap.tortoski1@verizon.net
(727) 845-4745

SUB-DEAN:

Shawn Thomas

SECRETARY:

Dr. Linda Pointer

TREASURER:

Bob Booth

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY:

Edward Peterson
(727) 787-0922