

# ***The American Guild of Organists***

***Windline—November 2021***

**Clearwater (FL) Chapter**

[www.clearwaterago.org](http://www.clearwaterago.org)

**Dr. Shawn Thomas, Dean**

**Thomas D. Huffman, *Windline* Editor**

## ***From the Dean:***



Dear Friends,

Fall is here! As virus numbers continue to drop, our schedules are slowly beginning to fill up again. I hope you were able to view our Virtual PipeScreams concert. If you weren't able to watch 'live' on October 29, please check it out here:

<https://youtu.be/ahNUB7WcXaw>

Our November event is right around the corner on Friday, Nov. 19. Isn't it hard to believe this will be our first in-person event in nearly two years? I hope you can make it. We've arranged transportation and lunch for only \$30 per person, and we'll be playing at least 4 pipe organs in the downtown Gainesville area. Please bring music to share. An organ crawl is not a recital, but an opportunity to experience beautiful instruments and wonderful sounds and spaces. Additionally, most of the venues are within a few blocks walking distance, so wear good shoes and bring a mask (at least one venue is still requiring masks). Please RSVP to me ([shawn@poplargo.org](mailto:shawn@poplargo.org)) by Friday, November 5.

Our Musical Twelve Days is just around the corner. This was our most successful event last season, as we received nearly 650 video views over the twelve days. What a great opportunity to share our instrument with the community.

See you November 19!

*Shawn Thomas, Dean*

# ***Organ Crawl to Gainesville***

**Friday, November 19**

We will visit four Gainesville area organs at First Presbyterian, Holy Trinity Episcopal and the University of Florida. This will be a joint event with the St. Petersburg Chapter. The cost will be \$30.00 which includes transportation and lunch at Mojo Hogtown BBQ. (Bring payment check with you). Please RSVP with your menu choice to Shawn Thomas ([shawn@poplargo.org](mailto:shawn@poplargo.org)) by Friday, November 5.

8:00 am Depart Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 455 Missouri Ave, Largo

10:30 am Arrive Holy Trinity Episcopal Church

11:30 am Walk to Mojo BBQ (lunch menu below)

1:00 pm Walk to First Presbyterian Church

2:00 pm Drive to the University of Florida

3:30 pm Depart for Largo

## **Mojo Hogtown BBQ**

12 SE 2nd Ave. Gainesville, FL 32601

### **Prix Fixe Menu**

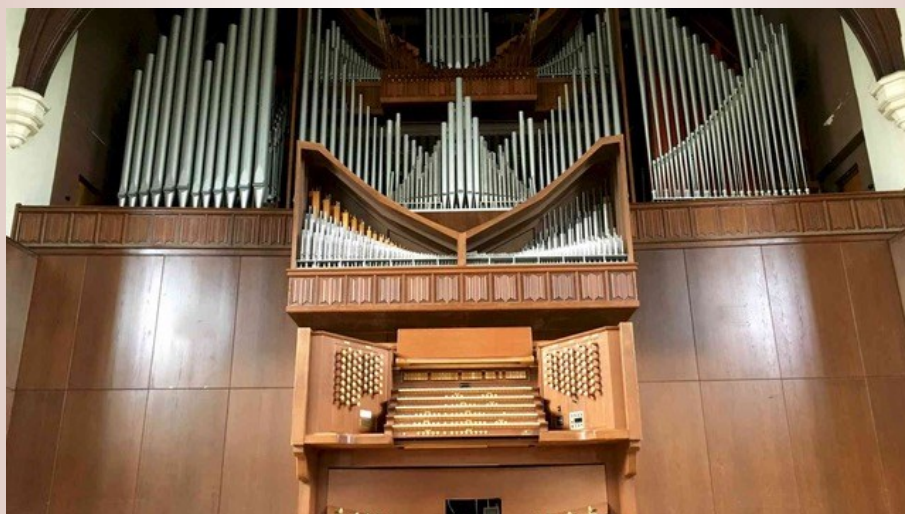
(Select one of the following entrees)

*North Carolina Pulled Pork or Pit Smoked Chicken  
with green beans, sweet potato mash, and Texas Toast*

*Beyond Vegetarian Burger  
with side salad*

*House Salad of Romaine Lettuce  
tomato, cucumber, monterey jack and cheddar cheeses,  
jalapeno cornbread croutons  
dressed with buttermilk ranch, bleu cheese, honey mustard,  
1000 island or vinaigrette  
iced unsweetened or sweetened tea, or water*

## *Organ Crawl—November 19*



University of Florida: E.M./Aeolian Skinner-Moller-Reuter(V/97)



Holy Trinity Episcopal: Visser-Rowland, 1995 (III/65)



First Presbyterian: C.B. Fisk, 2002 (III/52)



# ***Twelve Days of Christmas***

***December 25-January 6***

A Musical 12 Days of Christmas. As we did last year, each recording will debut daily through the twelve days. Recordings need to be completed by Monday, December 13. Be sure that the proper copyright permissions are obtained to be posted to *YouTube*. Contact Shawn Thomas to set up a time to record your piece.

## ***Twelfth Night Dinner***

**Friday, January 7, 2022**

**6:00 p.m.**

Twelfth Night Dinner at Alfano's Restaurant in Largo. After the meal we will enjoy entertainment by Christiane Vinet, Flute and Sebastian Johnson, Guitar. Menu choices are listed below. **RSVP to Bob Booth by December 30:**

**[rleroy48@yahoo.com](mailto:rleroy48@yahoo.com)** or (727) 244-5099.

Payment of \$31.75 per person (pay at the event) includes salad, entrée, dessert, non-alcoholic beverage. Make checks payable to Clearwater Chapter AGO. A cash bar is available.

### **Entrée Selections**

#### ***Penne Bolognese***

*Traditional sauce of ground beef, sausage & marinara over penne pasta.*

#### ***Canneloni Florentine***

*House made crepes filled with ground veal, spinach, & béchamel ,  
sauced with marinara and Alfredo*

#### ***Salmon Piccata***

*Fresh filet of Atlantic salmon with lemon butter and capers.*

#### ***Chicken Tetrizzini***

*Grilled chicken & crisp bacon served over fettuccini Alfredo.*

#### ***Eggplant Parmesan***

*Fresh eggplant baked with provolone cheese served with pasta marinara.*

#### ***Chicken Parmesan***

*Lightly breaded chicken breast baked with provolone cheese, sauced with Marinara*

# Calendar

- Sunday, November 14      Heather Thorn, Xylophone  
Peace Memorial Presbyterian, Clearwater—3:00 p.m.
- Sunday, November 14      Choral Concert (*see flyer on p. 6*)  
St. Ignatius of Antioch RC Church, Tarpon Springs—3:00 p.m.
- Sunday, November 14      *The Sounds of Glory*—Tampa Oratorio Society  
First Presbyterian, St. Petersburg—7:00 p.m. (*see page 8*)
- Friday, November 19      Organ Crawl to Gainesville (*see pages 2 and 3*)
- Sunday, December 13      Qol Quartet—vocal group with holiday favorites  
Peace Memorial Presbyterian—3:00 p.m.
- Sunday, December 19      Advent Concert with choir, handbells, instruments  
Church of the Good Shepherd, Dunedin—4:00 p.m.
- December 25-      A Musical 12 Days of Christmas.  
January 6      Recordings due Dec. 13
- Friday, January 7      Twelfth Night Dinner at Alfano's Restaurant, Largo.  
6:00 pm
- Sunday, February 6      Members recital  
St. Ignatius of Antioch RC Church, Tarpon Springs—3:00 p.m.
- Saturday, March 12      Pedals, Pipes and Pizza  
Episcopal Church of the Ascension, Clearwater  
An all day event for children and youth to get acquainted with  
the Organ and Carillon.
- Sunday, March 13      Erik Wm. Suter, Organ  
Peace Memorial Presbyterian, Clearwater—3:00 p.m.
- Saturday, April 2      Workshop with the Seipp/Sheets  
Trumpet and Organ Duo—11:00 a.m.
- Sunday, April 3      Seipp/Sheets Concert—3:00 p.m.  
Prince of Peace Lutheran, Largo

# *On Eagle's Wings: Here and beyond*

*a choral concert commemorating All Souls Month*

Sunday 3:00pm  
November 14, 2021

St. Ignatius of Antioch Catholic Church  
715 E. Orange Street  
Tarpon Springs, Florida  
Visit [www.st.ignatius.net](http://www.st.ignatius.net) for live-stream

*with special guest Fr. Michael*

*Free admission + Free will offering accepted* **Joncas**



# Obituary for Herman G. Fisher Jr.



(“George” was a former Executive Board member of the Clearwater Chapter. )

**H. G. Fisher, Jr.**, passed away on Thursday, October 14, 2021, in Trinity, Florida. He was born May 3, 1932 in Alamance, NC, the son of The Rev. Herman G. Fisher, Sr. and Ruby Lowder Fisher.

He is survived by his friend of 40 years, Louis Checkers; his son, John Michael Fisher, wife, Julie, granddaughter, Lindsey Snyder, husband, Sean, great grandson, Rylan Dean, daughter, Jane Elizabeth McElhaney, husband, Tom, granddaughter, Katie Henriques, husband, Alfredo, great grandchildren, Eleanor Joy (Ellie) and Zayn Alfredo, step grandchildren, Patrick McElhaney, wife, Jaclyn, Jeff McElhaney, wife, Jennifer, Bryan McElhaney, wife, Daniela, Jennifer Zapadenko, husband Joshua, and eight step great grandchildren. He is also survived by his sister, Anne Williams of Thomasville, NC, and his brother, John H. Fisher, wife, Linda, of Lexington, SC. He was predeceased by his parents, The Rev. Herman G. Fisher, Sr, wife, Ruby, Step Mother, Helen Fisher and his sister, Ruby Farish of Gulfshore, AL.

H. G. graduated from Central High School, Rutherfordton, NC and Lenoir Rhyne University, Hickory, NC with an AB in Music as an organ major. He graduated with honors and received the Senior Music Award. He also graduated from Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary, Columbia, S. C. with an STM Masters in Sacred Theology.

For fifty years H. G. served various banks in NC, SC, GA and FL as a trust officer. As a banker, most of his career was devoted to trust and investments, but during his entire lifetime he was involved in church music and shared his love of music as choir director and organist with many churches. It all began at the age of fourteen when H. G. directed his father's choir in high school and for over 70 years he continued his ministry of music. Some of his most memorable positions were Christ Episcopal Church in Raleigh, NC; St. Matthew United Methodist Church in Greenville, SC. and St. John's Lutheran Church in Atlanta, GA.

While living in Naples, H. G. served as Organist/Choir Director at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Naples for 20 years, Director of Music at Shepherd of the Glades Lutheran Church, Naples for 8 years and Director of Music and Organist at St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church, Ft. Myers Beach for 2 years. After his third retirement, he continued to assist other churches including Faith Lutheran Church, Lehigh Acres, Christus Victor Lutheran Church, Bonita Springs, Peace Lutheran Church, Ft. Myers and Grace Lutheran Church, Naples. He was directly involved in securing new pianos and pipe organs at both Emmanuel and Shepherd of the Glades which he considered outstanding achievements.

H. G. was involved in many musical organizations including the Naples-Marco Philharmonic Orchestra, the Naples Fine Arts Society, Association of Lutheran Church Musicians and Member-at Large of the Southwest Chapter Board of Directors of the American Guild of Organists.

In 2018 H. G. moved to Odessa, Florida to be close to his son and daughter in law, Mike and Julie Fisher. He continued to assist various churches as supply organist in the greater Tampa area and served on the Board of Directors of the Clearwater and Tampa American Guild of Organists.

A memorial service and celebration of his life will be held at a later date at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 777 Mooring Line Drive, Naples. His ashes will be interred in the memorial garden at Emmanuel and in the Fisher family plot in Faith, NC. In lieu of flowers, expressions of sympathy may be made to the Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary of Lenoir Rhyne University, Attn: Liz Cox, Box 7467, Hickory, NC 28603 for The Reverend Herman G. Fisher Scholarship for Sacred Music. Phone 828-328-1741 for online donation instructions.





# *Tampa Oratorio Singers*



## *The Sounds of Glory*

Music Director Nancy Callahan, Conductor

Sunday, November 7, 4:00 p.m. — Palma Ceia Presbyterian Church, Tampa \$20

Sunday, November 14, 7:00 p.m. — First Presbyterian Church, St. Petersburg (no ticket required, freewill offering)

Works of the great choral masters. “Gloria” choruses by Vivaldi, Haydn, Mozart, Schubert, Gounod, Rutter. Concert features professional soloists and full orchestra. [Click here](#) for box office.

All singers, orchestra and soloists have been vaccinated against Covid-19. Audience masks are requested as per CDC guidelines.



## Chapter Officers—A Closer Look



*Each issue of The Windline will include a brief biographical sketch of one of our Clearwater Chapter Officers. This month's focus is on Executive Board member, Mark Prater.*

Mark Prater retired after 14 years as Director of Music/Organist at First Presbyterian Church of Brandon, having previously served at Lutheran, Episcopal, and Roman Catholic churches. He received the Bachelor of Music Education degree from the University of Memphis and has earned the *Associate* and *Choir Master* Certificates from the A.G.O. Mark has lived in Clearwater since 1982 and he and his wife, Margi, spend many weeks throughout the year on the road camping! Mark has generously served the chapter in several capacities including sub dean, secretary, board member and nominating committee chair.



In an effort to grow the community of younger musicians in the pipe organ field, the American Guild of Organists has declared this year the “Year of the Young Organist”. Through the sharing of performances by young musicians and the publication of resources, we hope to bring more visibility to the new generation of musicians. Additionally, 1 year of free Guild membership is now available for all current, lapsed, and new members under the age of 30.

### ***Positions Available***

**Trinity Presbyterian Church, Clearwater, FL** is looking for a Tenor and a Bass section leader. Contact Gabe Irizarry, Director. 727-446-6210. [Trinityclearwater@gmail.com](mailto:Trinityclearwater@gmail.com)

**Northwood Presbyterian Church in Clearwater, Florida** is seeking an Organist. A detailed position description may be viewed [here](#) or by visiting <http://northwoodpc.org/resources/career-opportunities/>. Interested candidates may send cover letter and resume to [northwoodsearch@yahoo.com](mailto:northwoodsearch@yahoo.com). Please place “Organist Position” in the subject line.

# 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 calling (727) 845-4745 or emailing [tap.tortoski1@verizon.net](mailto: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.

Brent Douglas	(727) 459-7025 O, O/D
Grayce Hillman	(727) 642-7322 O, O/D, V
Roberta Hoopes	(727) 560-3962 D
Dr. Linda Pointer	(727) 441-1099 O, O/D
Dr. Sandra Rogers	(727) 560-2376 O, O/D, V
Donald Rolander	(727) 804-6314 (cell) O, O/D

## AVAILABLE FOR EVENTS—NOT SUNDAY MORNING

Stephen Allen	(813) 968-7095 O, O/D
Peggy BeVille	(727) 726-8457 O
	(727) 403-8166 (cell)
Cheryl Brouette	(727) 453-0317 O
Tom Huffman	(727) 409-8726 O, O/D

## Clearwater AGO 2021-2022 Officers

### DEAN:

Shawn Thomas  
[shawn@poplargo.org](mailto:shawn@poplargo.org)

### BOARD MEMBERS

Carol Alexander (2022)  
Mark Prater, AAGO, ChM (2022)  
Bobbie Hoopes (2023)  
Tom Hoehn (2023)  
Linda Pointer (2024)  
Brandon Vennink (2024)

### GROM EDUCATION FUND

### PETERSON SCHOLARSHIP

FUND  
Tom Huffman, Chair  
[hufftom@aol.com](mailto:hufftom@aol.com)

### PLACEMENT

### COORDINATOR

Priscilla Ortoski  
[tap.tortoski1@verizon.net](mailto:tap.tortoski1@verizon.net)  
(727) 845-4745

### SUB-DEAN:

Timothy Belk

### SECRETARY:

Peggy BeVille

### TREASURER:

Bob Booth

### MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY:

Edward Peterson  
(727) 787-0922



TAO November 2021

## VOICE CLASS

For 14 years and older

Auditions: must match pitch, reading music a plus

### Sandra Rogers

DMA Voice Teacher/Class Director

Meet in Kirk Hall at Church of the Good Shepherd, Dunedin

Saturdays, 2:15-3:00 p.m.

For information TEXT ONLY (727) 560-2376

Email: [rosalandsandra@gmail.com](mailto:rosalandsandra@gmail.com)