



Farewell, Jacob Taylor

Our chapter extends thanks and best wishes to Jacob Taylor, who has served with dedication and warmth as Dean over the past year. Jacob recently announced that he has accepted a new position at Trinity Presbyterian Church in Montgomery, Alabama, and will be relocating later this month. As such, he has resigned as dean of our chapter.

Reflecting on his time with the chapter, Jacob shared, “It has been a pleasure to serve you as dean this past year... I am very proud of our chapter and of our program season last year, and I know there will be many more great events in the future.”

We are grateful for Jacob’s leadership and enthusiasm, which have strengthened our community and programs. Sub-Dean Michael Messina is working to ensure a smooth transition as the chapter prepares to welcome new leadership.

We wish Jacob every success in his new role and look forward to staying connected.

INDIANAPOLIS AGO CHAPTER OFFICERS

2025-2026 ELECTED OFFICERS

Dean: ???
Sub-dean: Michael Messina
Secretary: Alan Jordan
Treasurer: Luke Kessler
Registrar: Nicholas Fennig

Members-at-large 2023-2026:
Susan Raccoli, Dawn Waddell
Members-at-large 2024-2027:
Matt Gerhard, Jodi Martin
Members-at-large 2025-2028:
Jordan Lewis, Richard Perry

APPOINTED POSITIONS

Archivist: Addie Yoder
Chaplain: The Rev. Steven M. Giovangelo
Exam Coordinator: Richard Perry
Grants Committee Chair: John Seest

Investment Committee Chair: Luke Kessler
Newsletter Editor: Robert Richter
OrgelKids Coordinator: Darrell Bailey
Webmaster: Paul Guyer

A JOYFUL START TO THE SEASON

Our first gathering of the year was a wonderful chapter picnic hosted by John Seest at his home. It was the perfect way to kick off a new season of music and fellowship. The weather cooperated beautifully, and it was a pleasure to reconnect, meet new members and friends, and enjoy good food and conversation together!

Many thanks to John for opening his home to us and for his gracious hospitality and, of course, to **Zoey**, his small but mighty co-host!

Thank you to all who attended and helped make the event such a success. It was a delightful reminder of the collegial spirit that makes our chapter special.



EXPLORE NATIONAL AGO ONLINE EVENTS

Did you know the National AGO offers a variety of online workshops, webinars, and educational sessions throughout the year? These programs, covering topics from performance practice and improvisation to church music leadership and organ maintenance, are a great way to stay inspired and connected with colleagues across the country.

Members are encouraged to browse upcoming opportunities and consider registering for one (or several!) of these excellent online offerings. You can find the full list of events on the AGO website here:

👉 agohq.org/iCore/Events

Take advantage of these accessible learning experiences and enrich your musical life - no travel required!

ONLINE EVENTS THIS MONTH:



The Weekend Organist: Working with Instrumentalists

October 6 | 7:00-8:00pm

With the festive Advent and Christmas seasons rapidly approaching, this practical workshop will help you to identify, contract, and effectively lead freelance musicians. Whether you hire a soloist, small ensemble, or an entire orchestra, you'll be prepared for those special services and concerts! [Click here](#) to register.



Virtual Pedagogy Conference 2025

October 9-11

This virtual conference offers a unique opportunity for organists, educators, and students to engage with innovative teaching methods and foster a deeper understanding of the learning process. Conference Theme: Pedagogies and Approaches to Practice



Beyond the Bench: Exploring Creative Side Gigs as a Young Organist

October 13 | 7:00-8:00pm

Being a church organist doesn't have to mean only playing on Sundays. Discover how to expand your work through teaching, accompanying, composing, or offering recitals. We'll cover creative ways to build your resume, income, and reputation—all while doing what you love. Former Councillor for Young Organists Jillian Gardner moderates this panel discussion with several successful young musicians. [Click here](#) to register.

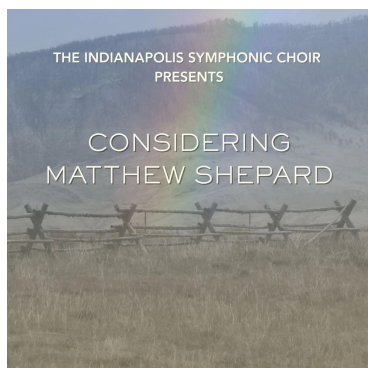
LOCAL EVENTS

CHORAL EVENSONG: ST PAUL'S CHOIR

Sunday, October 14 | 4:00pm | St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Choral Evensong, featuring music by Anton Bruckner, Kenneth Leighton, Charles V. Stanford and Orlando Gibbons.

Free of charge | www.stpaulsindy.org | 6050 North Meridian, Indianapolis IN 46208



INDIANAPOLIS SYMPHONIC CHOIR: CONSIDERING MATTHEW SHEPARD

Saturday, October 18 | 5:30pm | St. Christopher's Episcopal Church

The Indianapolis Symphonic Choir presents *Considering Matthew Shepard* — a moving choral work that reflects on the life, legacy, and impact of Matthew Shepard. Through music, poetry, and storytelling, this powerful performance invites us to reflect on love, compassion, and the ongoing fight for dignity and equality.

Tickets 'pay what you can' suggested \$5+ | indychoir.org | 1402 West Main Street, Carmel IN 46032

SPOOKY ORGAN CONCERT

Sunday, October 19 | 6:00pm | *Our lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, Indianapolis*

The Spooky Organ Concert is back, featuring Broadway standards, classic rock, and keyboard masterpieces celebrating "Songs and Dances of Death." Baritone Daniel Narducci returns, as do Dominic Duray, Erik Scull, Our Lady of Lourdes (OLL) father-and-son power duo Tad and Heath Nelson, and the OLL choir to close the evening with a few sing-alongs.



Free of charge | www.ollindy.org | 5333 East Washington Street, Indianapolis, IN 46219



ORGAN CONCERT: SIMON THOMAS JACOBS

Sunday, October 26 | 4:00pm | Northminster Presbyterian Church

Organist Simon Thomas Jacobs explores the colors of Northminster's 2020 C.B. Fisk organ.

www.northminster-indy.org | 1660 Kessler BLVD, Indianapolis, Indiana 46220

SPOOKENSONG: CHORAL EVENSONG

Sunday October 26 | 4:00pm | St. Paul's Episcopal Church

St. Paul's Indy dares to host this frightful liturgy! The treble and teen singers of St. Paul's Episcopal Church will combine with the staff singers of Trinity Episcopal Church and Christ Church Cathedral in a *tongue-in-cheek* service of Choral Evensong.



This service includes singers wearing Halloween costumes and music that is - in turns - dark and stormy and lighthearted. Spookensong will include Pumpkin Carols and there will be a reception afterwards.

Free of charge | www.stpaulsindy.org | 6050 North Meridian, Indianapolis IN 46208

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Second Presbyterian Church for the completion and dedication of their new chapel organ by Richards, Fowkes & Co.



OPEN POSITIONS

RESIDENT ORGANIST

Roberts Park United Methodist Church | robertsparkumc.org

401 N. Delaware St., Indianapolis, IN 46204

(317) 635-1636

Roberts Park United Methodist Church seeks a highly qualified organist/pianist who will provide dynamic pipe organ and piano music that enhances the worship experience and ministry of the church. The Resident Organist provides leadership for music in worship, facilitating the congregation's praise of God and prayer through song. Primary responsibilities include accompaniment of all service music, including hymns, songs, and choral music, as well as weekly solo works appropriate to the liturgical patterns and practices of the church. The Resident Organist is a member of the music staff and, accordingly, collaborates with the Worship Planning Committee (pastors, Music Director, and other worship staff) for planning and visioning of the worship life of the congregation. The Resident Organist reports directly to the Music Director. [For more information - click here](#)

ORGANIST/ACCOMPANIST

Oxford Presbyterian Church | oxfordpresbychurch.org

101 North Main Street, Oxford OH 45056

(513) 523-6364

The Church Organist will assist in selection of music, provide accompaniment for choir rehearsal and prepare and perform music for worship, accompanying the chancel choir and other soloists or ensembles as needed. The Organist may also play organ or piano music for weddings and funerals. Typical time commitment is 12 – 14 hours per week. [Full Job Description - click here](#)

MUSICAL DIRECTOR

Zion Evangelical United Church of Christ | www.zioneucc.org

603 N New Jersey Street Indianapolis, IN 46202

(317) 639-5411

Zion Evangelical United Church of Christ is looking for a music director who is responsible for leading the music program as the organist, pianist, choir director, and solo accompanist. Please see attached job description. The position requires being on site 8-10 hours per week and does include a benefits package. If interested in a part time position, please send an email with a resume to: zionmusicdirector24@gmail.com.



INDIANAPOLIS CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

indyago.org

Fanfare is the monthly newsletter publication of the Indianapolis Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. The deadline for submissions for the next edition - November 2025 - are due by **Monday, October 27, 2025**. Please email news, articles, photos, upcoming events, or reports to the editor,

Robert Richter: indyagofanfare@gmail.com

