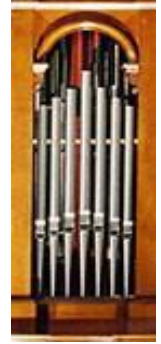




Pipeline



The Newsletter of the Nassau Chapter
of the American Guild of Organists
<http://www.nassauago.org>

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November 2025

♪♪Dean's Message♪♪

Dear Friends,

November is here, Thanksgiving is a couple of weeks away, and Christmas is right around the corner. My best wishes for a joyful Thanksgiving and a very successful and Merry Christmas!!! We have just celebrated a Spooky Organ Concert at Christ Church Manhasset, and the retirement of Larry Tremsky, Canon Musician at Church of the Incarnation, Garden City.

Next month will be full of musical choices with many Lessons & Carols services, musical concerts, and the beautiful reverence of Christmas Eve services!!

Then in January 2026, we will be treated with a rare opportunity. On Martin Luther King Day, January 19, Tom Trenney, a nationally known clinician, will present a day of workshops. The following is Mr. Trenney's bio.

TOM TRENNEY

Composer, conductor, organist, preacher, and teacher Tom Trenney has been blessed to serve as Minister of Music to First Plymouth Church in Lincoln, Nebraska, since 2009. In 2019, he became Director of Choirs at Nebraska Wesleyan University where he now holds the Susan Sehnert Stuart Endowed Professorship for Choral Music. Tom's choirs have been honored to perform for state, regional, and national conventions of the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA), and they have been award winners in the American Prize for choral ensembles. In 2024, Tom was named Music Educator of the Year by the Nebraska Music Education Association.

Tom has been a featured performer at churches, colleges, and concert halls across the country including Philadelphia's Kimmel Center, Seattle's Benoroya Hall,

Chapter Calendar

Monday, Jan 19, 9
AM: MLK Day
Workshop
with Tom Trenney.
Trinity Lutheran
Church, 40 W
Nicholai St,
Hicksville.

Kansas City's Kauffman Center, DC's Kennedy Center, and NYC's Carnegie Hall.

His choral compositions are published by Augsburg Fortress, Beckenhorst Press, Choristers Guild, E.C. Schirmer/Galaxy, Gentry, Morningstar, Musicspoke, Pavane, and G. Schirmer. His piece "From Generation to Generation" won the Raabe Prize for Excellence in Sacred Composition from the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians in 2023. As an organist, he was the first to win First Prize and Audience Prize in the American Guild of Organists National Competition in Organ Improvisation.

A graduate of the Cleveland Institute of Music and the Eastman School of Music, Tom is grateful for the inspiration of his teachers and mentors – especially Anton Armstrong, David Davidson, Craig Hella Johnson, (Mister) Fred Rogers, William Weinert, Anne Wilson and Todd Wilson.

The projected workshops for the day include:

From the Heart of a Composer–Explore some of Tom Trenney's compositions from the inside out, seeing how the music we sing can preach a sermon on the words we say.

Then Sings My Soul–Freeing the voice and opening up the spirit of the choir; group vocal technique, seating of choir, helpful language, teaching strategies.

Abacadabra-- Discover the magic of musical improvisation in a practical and engaging, empowering and uplifting workshop.

A short hymn festival.

And finally, a short organ program.

Please plan to attend this unique opportunity to hear and work with a gifted church musician. I had the opportunity last summer to see him in action at the ALCM's conference in Durham last summer. His improvisation workshop was one of the best I have observed in years. Not since a workshop with Gerre Hancock have I seen a clinician really connect with his audience. Please experience this for yourself and attend the day of workshops.

Again, please have a joyful Thanksgiving and a successful and Merry Christmas.

Gene

Spooky Concert

Walking through the church graveyard on the chilly, gray afternoon of October 26th certainly helped to set one's mind for a "Spooky Organ Recital". The church was semi-dark, lit by candles, which increased the anticipation.



A spooky atmosphere for the concert! Photo courtesy Dessie Montagna.

At 4 PM the organ burst forth with the opening strains of Bach's famous Toccata and Fugue in D Minor, played by Meredith Baker. What an appropriate piece with which to begin this concert! In a very different mood and style, the mysterious Aria from Vierne's Symphonie VI, played by Henry DeVries followed.



Participants in the Spooky Concert. Photo courtesy Dessie Montagna.

Then a change in instrument from pipe organ to human voice: the poem "Ghost Music" by Robert Graves, was read by the Rev. Stephen Tamke. Again, very different, but certainly appropriate for this program.

Back to the organ, Matthew Leone played the Toccata in D Minor composed in 1912 by Gaston Béliet. Not sure if this piece is well-known, but it was fascinating to hear it and certainly appropriate for this program.

Ruaraidh Sutherland continued at the organ with Bach's *monumental* Fantasia in G Minor (BWV542). Very, very serious!

We then again had a change of instrument, as Phyllis Sternemann read the poem "Mr. Macklin's Jack O'Lantern" by David McCord.

The concert continued back at the organ with the "Danse Macabre" (opus 40) by Saint-Saens, played by Judy Feuss. *Very spooky!*

The deep, ominous sounds of Boëllmann's Toccata (Suite Gothique), played by Gene McCoy, were a fitting conclusion to this most animated, interesting and enjoyable concert. Many, many thanks to all our participants for preparing this very special treat!

Submitted by Carol Dort

Larry Tremsky Honored at Evensong – Two Reviews

All Saints' Sunday brought our Cathedral community together for an unforgettable Evensong honoring Canon Larry Tremsky's 25 years as Director of Music. Dean Sniffen officiated as Bishop Provenzano installed Larry as an Honorary Canon of the Cathedral—a distinction reserved for those who have profoundly shaped our Cathedral and diocese.

Bishop Provenzano joined Bishops Wolf and Franklin, along with clergy who served alongside Larry throughout his remarkable tenure: Canons Murphy, Pae, and Griffith, Father Delaney and Father Tamke, as well as Honorary Canons Davis-Lawson and Beckmann. Former choir members returned to lift their voices with Larry one final time, and the Cathedral nave was filled

with members of the congregation, community, and the Nassau chapter of the American Guild of Organists, all there to honor their friend and colleague.

Simon Lole, a former BBC presenter and composer who wrote the morning's mass setting "Missa Brevis Garden City" in honor of Larry's time at the Cathedral, sat in the front row as a friend of both Larry and the Cathedral.



Stephen Tamke, our chaplain, Larry Tremsky and Stephen's brother Matt.

The music soared: Stanford's Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in A—a crown jewel of the evensong repertoire—filled the Cathedral alongside Samuel Sebastian Wesley's "Blessed be the God and Father." Canon Tremsky's own Lviv Preces and Responses received only their second-ever performance, while Gigout's Grand Choeur Dialogue and Vierne's Meditation resonated from the organ. Evensong concluded with a recent favorite hymn of the Cathedral staff and congregation: "How Shall I Sing That Majesty."

Twenty-five years of dedication. One extraordinary legacy.

.....

On Sunday, November 2nd, members of the chapter repaired to the Cathedral in Garden City to celebrate Larry Tremsky's 25 years as Canon Musician before his upcoming retirement to Lviv. Choral Evensong was sung by the Dean, and the

cathedral choir sang music by Lassus, Larry's own Preces & Responses, Stanford's Evening Canticles in A, and S. S. Wesley's evergreen anthem Blessed be the God and Father. David Preston accompanied on the renewed Casavant.



Ruaraidh Sutherland, subdean of the Nassau Chapter, presented Larry Tremsky with a plaque at the reception which followed Evensong.

Larry was installed as an honorary canon of the Cathedral, and the service concluded with his stylish offering of Gigout's *Grand Chœur Dialogué* (a pity more people didn't give him the courtesy of listening!)

A festive reception followed in the undercroft, and Larry was presented with a plaque by the Sub Dean on behalf of the Chapter. A glorious celebration, worthy of Larry's historic tenure. Especially touching were the many returning choristers who travelled from across the country to be there.

We wish him all the best in this exciting new chapter of his life and send him not only our best wishes but pledges of support for the future.

By Cathedral of the Incarnation and Ruaraidh Sutherland

Our chaplain, The Rev'd Stephen C. Tamke

Stephen grew up here on Long Island, and as a boy, joined his brothers in the family tradition of singing in the Boy Choir at the Cathedral of the Incarnation. His older two brothers sang for Robert Ludwig, and Stephen entered the choir

and sang for Larry Tremsky for his chorister career. It is unusual but not surprising that the commitment to the choir and the church grew into a path to priesthood. He progressed from treble to alto, and during seminary days, continued singing alto in the DC area.

Stephen was ordained and assigned to St John's Church, Lattingtown, as Curate. After three years there, he was invited to Christ Church, Manhasset.

I was the Director of Music at that time of Covid, and was anxious to establish a music program at that small parish that I had served from '78-'84. But, Covid.

The Parish had worshipped on zoom since the pandemic began, and we were all looking forward to praying together in person. Stephen's arrival could not make that happen immediately, but following rules of separation, we began getting 3-4 of us together in the church, to send the zoom out from the sanctuary rather than our living rooms. One of my singers at a time, masked, me masked, a reader and our new Rector recorded services. Stephen wanted our wonderful organ to be heard, so we recorded concerts for Lent that were broadcast.

And eventually, we were allowed to meet together, but folks were hesitant (or very happy to have the option of watching the zoom in pajamas, while drinking their morning coffee.

Stephen was a blessing for a church musician to collaborate with. He understood more about organists and choir members than any priest I'd worked with since I was 13. My Lutheran Pastor in my later teenage years had a Masters degree from Union Theological seminary, and was a fine organist, tenor, and was my voice teacher for a while.

When I was elected Dean of the Nassau AGO chapter, it was natural to invite him to serve as our Chaplain. His support has remained faithful to us and our ministry for over three years now. We celebrated Larry's 25 years at our Cathedral this past weekend, and Stephen and his brother Matt joined in the celebration by singing Countertenor - Stephen sang Alto 1, Decani.

Stephen kindly sent me the photo of him with Larry and Matt. (See this photo in the article about Evensong). May we all enjoy at least one very musical clergy person in our careers!

Submitted by Meredith Baker

New Music Director Appointed at Cathedral of the Incarnation

The Cathedral of the Incarnation has announced that Canon Martin Green has been appointed as the next Canon Musician and Director of Music beginning in February 2026.

Canon Green has served as musician at St. Peter's Cathedral in San Diego for more than 26 years, where he built one of the West Coast's most dynamic cathedral music programs. He has also collaborated with the San Diego Symphony, La Jolla Symphony, San Diego Opera and the San Diego Master Chorale. He has conducted at AGO and Chorister Guild conventions and has been featured on NPR's Pipedreams. Canon Green, his wife Molly, a classical ballet teacher, and their children, Charles and Iris, will be relocating to Garden City. We look forward to their contributions to local music and arts.

Chapter Events

January 19th, 2026, 9 AM - MLK Day Workshop. A Day with Tom Trenney, Trinity Lutheran Church, Hicksville, 40 W Nicholai St, Hicksville. See dean's column and flyer in this newsletter. Save the date!

Other Upcoming Events

Wednesday, December 3rd, 7:30 PM. The Tallis Scholars *Mary and Child* (\$75/\$60 - Premium Event) St. John's Church, Cold Spring Harbor, NY. Celebrate the season with The Tallis Scholars, the world-renowned vocal ensemble celebrated for bringing Renaissance polyphony to breathtaking life. In their first-ever Long Island appearance, they present *Mary and Child* — a luminous Advent program exploring the mystery and majesty of the Nativity through works by Byrd, Tallis, and Britten, along with other sacred masters.

Fresh from sold-out performances at Carnegie Hall and Columbia University (2024), The Tallis Scholars are known for their crystal-clear tone, sublime blend, and ability to transform sacred music into moments of pure transcendence. Gather with us in the intimate acoustics of historic St. John's Church and *listen closer* to music that has inspired wonder for centuries.

Limited seats available — this performance is expected to sell out. A free pre-concert lecture by the Rev. Gideon L.K. Pollach begins at 6:30 PM.

Friday Evening, December 12, 7:30 PM

Advent/Christmas Concert

The Cathedral Choirs

Chamber Orchestra and Soloists

Michael L. Bower, Conductor

Maura Goodwin, Associate Conductor.

St Agnes Cathedral, 29 Quealy Pl, Rockville Centre.

Sunday, December 14th, 4 PM. Lessons and Carols at St Kilian Church, 485 Conklin St, Farmingdale.

Sunday, December 14th, 4 PM. Lessons and Carols at Christ Episcopal Church, 1355 Northern Blvd, Manhasset. See flyer in this newsletter.

Sunday, December 14th, St. John's of Lattingtown, 325 Lattingtown Road, Locust Valley 11560: Handel's Messiah (Part 1). St. John's Choirs and festival orchestra, directed by Ruaraidh Sutherland.

Sarah Moulton Faux, Soprano

Katherine Lerner, Alto

Bryce Westervelt, Tenor

Henry Horstmann, Bass

Tickets \$50; see stjlat.org Music.

Sunday, December 14, 4 PM. A Festival of Lessons and Carols for Christmas. Cathedral of the Incarnation, 50 Cathedral Ave, Garden City. Early seating is advised for this service.

Saturday, February 7, 9:30 – 3:30. Suffolk Chapter Children's/Youth Choir Festival, Church of St Patrick, 400 W Main St, Huntington. See flyer in this newsletter for more details.

Friday, May 29, 7:30 PM. The South Shore Symphony & the Cathedral Choirs: Beethoven's "Symphony No. 9". St Agnes Cathedral, 29 Quealy Pl, Rockville Centre.

Donations Always Welcome!!

We have a big season planned for 2025-2026 and we look forward to seeing everyone and having everyone enjoy our events. The membership fees that the chapter receives only goes so far.

Anyone who would like to help out and make a donation to the Nassau Chapter of the AGO, please make your check out to "American Guild of Organists" and mail the check to our Chapter Treasurer:

Lawrence Bourguet
37 Webster Ave,
Manhasset, NY 11030.

His email address is treasurer@nassauago.org. Thank you very much for your help!!

Welcome New Chapter Member!

The Nassau Chapter welcomes new member Christian Cang Cuesta. We hope to see you at some upcoming chapter events.

National Substitute and Freelancer Lists

The AGO headquarters is developing national substitute and freelancer lists. You must be a member of the AGO to be listed on the substitute list, but non-AGO members can be listed on the freelancer list for \$50/year. For further information or to sign up, visit the national AGO website at <https://www.agohq.org> and click on SUBS/FREELANCERS.

Chapter Update & Renewal Reminder

Chapter members are reminded that if you can't find the most recent Pipeline, you can check our calendar on our website, www.nassauago.org.

Chapter members whose memberships are up for renewal should renew their memberships by signing onto the current AGO system--iMIS. Go

to www.agohq.org and click on SIGN IN. If you have any questions or difficulty, call AGO national headquarters at (212) 870-2310 or email our chapter registrar, Carol Dort, at cgwendort@aol.com.

New Bach Pieces

Bach scholars have attributed two more works to J.S. Bach, previously attributed to other composers, known now as BWV 1178 and 1179. Both are Chaconnes, one in d minor with a fugue and one in g minor. Both are available on IMSLP. The Chaconne in g minor is available under JS Bach's music in an edition by Christian Hesse. Here are the links to access them: [https://imslp.org/wiki/Chaconne_and_Fugue_in_D_minor%2C_BWV_1178_\(Bach%2C_Johann_Sebastian\)](https://imslp.org/wiki/Chaconne_and_Fugue_in_D_minor%2C_BWV_1178_(Bach%2C_Johann_Sebastian)) and [https://imslp.org/wiki/Chaconne_in_G_minor%2C_BWV_1179_\(Bach%2C_Johann_Sebastian\)](https://imslp.org/wiki/Chaconne_in_G_minor%2C_BWV_1179_(Bach%2C_Johann_Sebastian))

Open Position: Organist in Mt Sinai

Organist needed to play hymns (*New Century Hymnal*) during worship services at 10 a.m. on Sundays.

Mt. Sinai Congregational Church, an Open and Affirming member of the UCC, is located at 233 North Country Road, Mt. Sinai, NY 11766.

Pipe organ built by Zimmer & Son was installed in the church sanctuary in 1987. Church staff includes a pianist who plays preludes, postludes and offertories and works with the choir.

Per diem salary is negotiable. Send resume to Susan Hoff, mshoff23@gmail.com. Church website is: msucc.org.

Open Position: St Andrew's Lutheran Church, Smithtown.

St Andrew's Lutheran Church
30 Brookside Dr
Smithtown, NY 11787
631-265-2288
info@standrewsofsmithtown.org
standrewsofsmithtown.org

NOW HIRING: Part Time MUSIC DIRECTOR
Help us lead joyful, Christ-centered worship through excellent music ministry.

Role Highlights

- Sunday Worship: Lead at 10:00 AM.
- Choirs: Direct adult choir; collaborate with children for the Christmas Program and select Sundays (Sept–June).
- Rehearsals: Weekly choir rehearsal Thursdays, 7:00 PM (or mutually agreed evening).
- Church Seasons & Holy Days: Be available for Advent, Lent, Holy Week, Easter, and Christmas services.
- Weddings & Funerals: First right of refusal; \$250 stipend per event.
- Instruments on site: 3 manual Galanti Praeludium digital organ and a grand piano.
- Vision: Encourage, coordinate, and expand special music (soloists, ensembles, instrumentalists).
- Salary \$20,000

To Apply

Please send your cover letter & résumé to Cindy Davis at: info@standrewsofsmithtown.org. St. Andrew's Lutheran Church is a Reconciling in Christ congregation that values musical excellence, collaboration, and a heart for worship. We joyfully welcome all of God's people to worship with us regardless of age, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, ability, or socio-economic circumstances.

ORGANIST NEEDED

For Charpentier's

Messe de Minuit pour Noël

with the

Long Island Symphonic Choral Association (LISCA)

PERFORMANCE DATE:

Friday, December 13, 2025

Location: St. James Roman Catholic Church, NY

REHEARSALS:

- **Tuesday, December 9**
- **Thursday, December 12**
Evening dress rehearsals, time TBD

We are seeking an experienced **organist** to

accompany our performance of **Marc-Antoine Charpentier's** beloved Baroque Christmas mass, the *Messe de Minuit pour Noël*. The piece is accompanied by **organ and SATB choir** and features traditional French Christmas carols.

Interested or know someone who is?

Please contact:

Laura Maturro

President, LISCA Board of Directors

631-514-9228 (cell)

631-371-4838 (office)

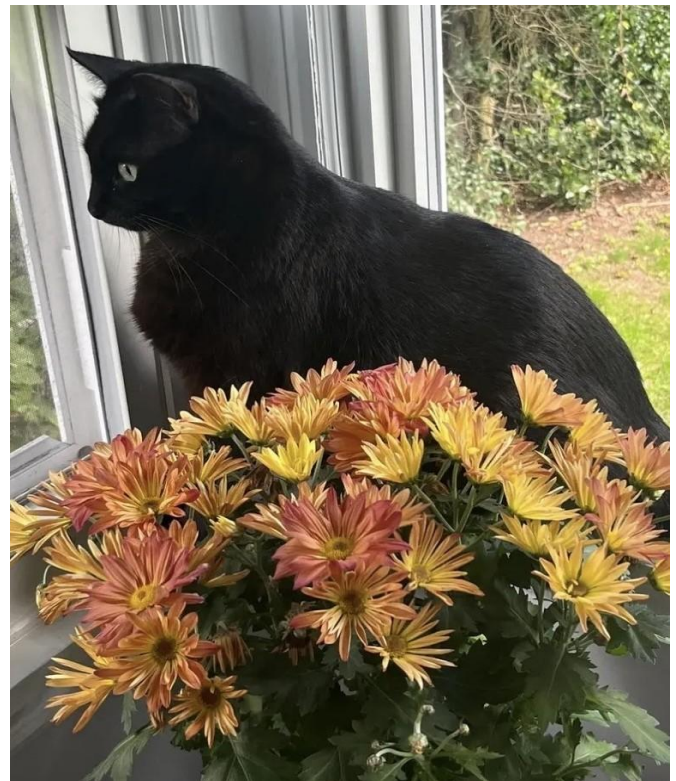
www.LISCA.org

Question of the Month:

Who is going to Ukraine with Larry Tremsky?

Hints: He has 4 paws and here is his picture.

Yes, it's Felix the Cat!



We are seeking an experienced **organist** to

TOM TRENNEY



2026 MLK

CONFERENCE

JAN. 19, 2026, 9 AM

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

40 W. Nicholai St. Hicksville, NY 11801

Admissions: \$50 for AGO members, \$60 for non-members.

Catered lunch included!

The church is a short walk from Hicksville LIRR Train Station. An easy ride from NYC!

A Once-in-a-Lifetime Long Island Debut
THE TALLIS SCHOLARS

MARY AND CHILD
Music of Byrd, Tallis, Britten

CONCERTS *by the* POND



WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3 - 7:30 PM
ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, COLD SPRING HARBOR, NY

Reserve Your Seat Before It Sells Out



St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

250 Neighborhood Road
Mastic Beach, NY 11951

is looking for a permanent position for
an organist for Sunday Services
10:00 am (1 hour) at \$200.00 per service.

There is NO CHOIR
(The organ is a 2 manual, un-enclosed pipe organ)

Also looking for an organist for
Christmas Eve Service
8:00 pm for \$300.00

Please contact: Bea Blankenship
sushi08@optonline.net
631 433-8487



A FESTIVAL OF



NINE LESSONS
& CAROLS

⦿ CHRIST CHURCH EPISCOPAL ⦿
1355 NORTHERN BLVD. MANHASSET NY 11030
THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
SUNDAY DECEMBER 14, 2025
AT FOUR O'CLOCK IN THE EVENING

Announcing the Suffolk Chapter, American Guild of Organists
2026 Children's/Youth Choir Festival
 William Margiotta, Guest Conductor



Saturday, February 7, 2026 9:30 am – 3:30 pm

St. Patrick's RC Church, Huntington, New York

“Sing Through the Seasons”

You and your Children's/Youth Choir are invited to participate in the Suffolk AGO Youth Choir Festival.

William Margiotta holds both a Bachelor of Fine Arts and a Master of Science degree in Music Education from C.W. Post, Long Island University. He also holds New York State Permanent Teacher Certification and a Certificate in Advanced Studies in Educational Leadership.

Mr. Margiotta was a member of the Locust Valley Middle and High School faculty from 1984 until his retirement in 2017, serving as Subject Matter Coordinator for the district's music department. In addition to directing the Middle School and High School choral programs and the High School Chamber Singers, he was the Musical Director and Producer for the school's annual spring musical and fall drama productions.

In addition to his work in education, Mr. Margiotta has an extensive background in church and community music. He has served as organist, choir director, and tenor soloist at numerous churches across Long Island, including Our Lady of Mercy in Hicksville, St. Rocco in Glen Cove, St. James in Seaford, Christ Church Episcopal in Oyster Bay, and St. Patrick's in Huntington. He currently serves as Music Director and Organist at St. Anthony of Padua in East Northport.

Beyond his school and church commitments, Mr. Margiotta has been Vocal and Orchestral Director in Residence for the Tulsa Theatre Arts program in Oklahoma and for the Rockville Centre Guild for the Arts. His career reflects a lifelong dedication to choral excellence, music education, and the performing arts.

All music is from the St. James Music Press and will be sent out to participants

The festival rehearsals are from 9:30 am – 2:00 pm with a concluding festival service open to the public at 2:30 pm. Each church is asked to help fund this project with a registration fee of **\$75.00**.

All choirs are invited, regardless of size!

If you are interested in participating, **please return this registration form to: Eleanor Gould, 437 Ralph Avenue, Central Islip, NY 11722, by December 1, 2025.**

Checks payable to: “Suffolk Chapter AGO”

More detailed information about the festival will be sent to you or you may call Bill Margiotta (516-841-6971) or Deanna Muro (631-361-3393).

Suffolk AGO 2026 Children's/Youth Choir Festival Registration Form

Name _____ Yes, we will participate in this year's festival.
 Please send info.

Church _____

Address for mailings _____ We are interested, send more information.

_____ Email address _____

Phone _____ Approximate number in choir _____

If you know of a church choir that might be interested in participating, please list the church, pastor or choir director, and their address, phone number and/or email address so we can send them festival information.