

Lehigh Valley Chapter

American Guild of Organists

September 2026

www.lvago.org



Chapter Officers 2026-2027

Dean: Jeffrey Raub

484-541-8322

raubjeffrey@gmail.com

Sub Dean: Michael Fister

484-767-2570

mjfister76@gmail.com

Secretary: Janice Butz

610-730-0328

janicebutz@gmail.com

Treasurer: Stephen Bueker

610-657-4188

sfbueker@rcn.com

Executive Committee

Charles Glandorf (2027)

Gary Raish (2027)

Robert Riday (2028)

Gwyneth Michel (2028)

Ellen Erb (2029)

Marisa Deshler (2029)

Letter from the Dean

Happy fall everyone! I bet all of you are as busy as I am preparing for the 2026-27 choir season! We have some awesome events coming up! Our first event of the year is a fall social at Our Lady of Perpetual Help church in Bethlehem (my place of work!) in our newly renovated hall! It will be a great time for us to socialize and get to know each other better! This is also a way to get new members involved in AGO so bring a friend who isn't a part or wouldn't regularly attend an event! It's going to be a great night with lots of food and wine! Make sure you RSVP by September 14th! More details below! On October 24th at 10:00, we will have a workshop on practical improvisation and instant modulations lead by Matthew Glandorf. This event will be held at Grace UCC in Northampton! Many more wonderful events to come, we hope to see all of you there!

Jeffrey





Your Lehigh Valley Chapter of
The American Guild of Organists
presents:

*LVAGO September Mixtur**

Sunday, September 20, 5:30 PM

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church

3219 Santee Road, Bethlehem, PA 18020

*A what? (A mixtur/mixture is a stop on the organ. We are a group not afraid to have a little pun with church music.)

This is not a concert, but rather a social gathering (food and wine, yes!) to share our love and passion for good church music with new friends who might just consider joining our chapter.

We will be serving an array of hors d'oeuvres with several beverages, including wine.

A brief program is planned, beginning with an explanation of what the AGO is, and how it has evolved into a current, relevant and fun organization celebrating decades, actually centuries, of church music. We have evolved from an organization focused primarily on the pipe organ and its musical literature, to one that explores current and modern trends and styles of music for worship including digital instruments, increased focus on choral music, connections with clergy, congregation and community outreach.

Our program will continue with some amusing anecdotes from our chapter members about their musical experiences as organists, pianists and choir directors during worship. We might even enjoy a fun little hymn sing with some slightly altered lyrics. Bloopers and blunders will also appear in our program.

Please consider attending our September Mixtur! New members are welcome and invited to consider sharing your love and passion for church music with us.

There is no cost for this event. Please contact Jeffrey Raub by Monday, 9/14, to make your reservation: raubjeffrey@gmail.com or 484-541-8322.

Positions Available

Organist (2)

Church: All Saints Episcopal Church, 310 North 2nd St., PO Box 147, Lehighton, PA 18235

Website: www.allsaintslehighton.org

Contact: Father Charlie Barebo, charliebarebo@otterbine.com, 610-509-8767

Weekly services: 1

Music Budget: \$200

Instruments: Pipe Organ, Piano

Weekly attendance: 35-45

Position Fill Date: 6/21/26

Application Deadline: ASAP

Total hours per week: 3 (1.5 playing services; 1-2 practicing music, less than 1 additional responsibility to congregation)

Salary: starting at \$156.32/week gross, 4 Sundays off per year, \$100 per wedding/funeral service

Benefits: book/music allowance, secretarial assistance, music library assistance, sick leave

Notes: We are searching for a musician who will stay within the suggestions of the Episcopal Musician's Handbook and will pick hymns that support the liturgical season/scripture of the day, and will be within the ability levels by the congregation to sing. The congregation loves music and singing hymns. Music is an integral part of the Episcopal service. We are a warm, welcoming and loving congregation.

Organist/Choirmaster (2)

Church: Church of Saint Luke (Roman Catholic), 818 Main St., Stroudsburg, PA 18360

Website: www.churchofsaintluke.org

Contact: Rev. Michael Quinnan, 570-421-9097, pastor@churchofsaintluke.org

Weekly services: 3 (Saturday at 4:00 and Sunday

at 8:00 & 10:30)

Ensembles: Adult choir - 12 members, Youth Choir - 6 members, cantor rehearsals

Music Budget: negotiable

Instruments: electronic organ (relatively new and grand piano

Weekly attendance: 200-500

Position Fill Date: 9/1/26

Application Deadline: 7/30/26

Total hours per week: 40 (8 leading rehearsals, 7 preparing/planning for rehearsals, 4 meetings, 3 administrative duties, 4 practicing, 4 additional responsibility to congregation)

Salary: \$45,000-50,000, Accrued PTO

Benefits: health insurance, book/music allowance, unemployment

Notes: Organist/Choirmaster is responsible for planning weekly music, choir practices, cantor practice, leading music in special prayer services during liturgical year. The person in this position collaborates closely with the Pastor to enhance worship, foster congregational singing and develop/maintain a vibrant choral program. Needs to have familiarity with Catholic Mass music and responses.

Music Director (1)

Church: Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, 121 South Home Avenue, Topton, PA 19562

Website: www.trinity-topton.com

Contact: Dennis Evans, 336-471-0077, dennyevans66@gmail.com

Weekly services: 1

Ensembles: Adult Choir - 5-8 members

Music Budget: \$1000

Instruments: Pipe Organ, 2 keyboards, 22 ranks

Weekly attendance: 35-40

Position Fill Date: 9/1/26

Application Deadline: none

Total hours per week: 8 (2 playing services; 1 leading rehearsals; 1 rehearsal preparation; 1 meetings; 1 administrative tasks; 2 practicing music)

Salary: \$12,000-17,000; 4 weeks paid vacation

Benefits: book/music allowance, secretarial assistance

Notes: In addition to weekly worship, opportunity to be supply organist at Grace Lutheran Church in Lutheran Home. They want a Prelude, Postlude and 2 hymns in their service, Our service ends at 10:00 a.m., theirs is at 10:30 a.m. They are 5 minutes away. Our organist has been their supply organist for the last 8 years. Grace pays a supply fee of \$150 per service.

Church Organist (1)

Church: St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, PO Box 120, 1565 Sleepy Hollow Road, Spinnerstown, PA 18968

Website: www.stjohnsofspinnerstown.org

Contact: Maureen Potsko, 610-216-8534, mpotsko@gmail.com

Weekly services: 1

Ensembles: Adult Choir - 8 members, Handbell Choir - 8 members (organist accompaniment only)

Music Budget: \$1500

Instruments: Walker Digital 3 manual organ

Weekly attendance: 45

Position Fill Date: 9/6/26

Application Deadline: ASAP

Total hours per week: 14.25-18/25 (1.75 playing services; 2 accompanying/supporting rehearsals; 3 preparing/planning for rehearsals; 2.5 meetings; 5-8 practicing)

Salary: \$12,320; 4 Sundays

Organist/Choir Director (1)

Church: St. Lukes (Old Williams) Lutheran

Church, 20 Church Rd., Hellertown, PA 18055

Website: www.stlukesoldwilliams.com

Contact: Pastor Harry Kocotos, 908-967-2035, harrykocotos@yahoo.com

Weekly services: 1

Ensembles: Adult Choir - 5 members

Instruments: Electronic Organ, 3 keyboards

Weekly attendance: 32

Position Fill Date: 8/1/26

Total hours per week: 3 (1.25 playing services; 1 rehearsal preparation; .25 preparing/planning for rehearsals; .5 practicing music)

Salary: \$10,000-14,000; 3 weeks paid vacation

Music Director (1)

Church: Washington United Methodist Church, 116 E. Washington Ave., Washington, NJ 07882

Website: www.washingtonumc.org

Contact: Donna Golda, SPRC Chair (908)619-2227, john.golda@verizon.net or Rev. Byungil Ahn, revbahn@gmail.com

Weekly services: 1

Ensembles: Adult Choir - 7 members

Instruments: Pipe Organ, 3 keyboards and piano

Music Budget: \$3500

Weekly attendance: 50-60

Position Fill Date: September 2026

Application Deadline: ASAP

Total hours per week: 3.5 plus (1.5 playing services; 2 leading rehearsals;

Salary: \$20,000-25,000; 4 Sundays paid vacation

Notes: Washington UMC is a warm and welcoming congregation. We recently celebrated our 200th anniversary. Music is an important part of the Methodist service. This position includes playing for a weekly service as well as for special services during the year (Ash Wednesday, Holy

Week, Christmas Eve). The candidate would be expected to accompany the ault choir in rehearsals and during worship.

Director of Music (1)

Church: Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, 300 Roseberry Street, Phillipsburg, NJ 08865

Website: www.onlinegracelutheran.org

Contact: Judy Garrison, 908-859-0884

Weekly services: 2 (1 spoken, 1 with liturgy and music)

Ensembles: Adult Choir - 10 members

Instruments: Möller Double Artiste with recently installed Opus Two control system with MIDI interface; Casio Privia electronic keyboard

Music Budget: \$620

Weekly attendance: 69

Position Fill Date: 10/1/26

Total hours per week: 8-10 (2 playing services; 1.5 leading rehearsals; 2 preparing/planning; 3-4.5 practicing)

Salary: \$13,000-17,000; 2 weeks paid vacation

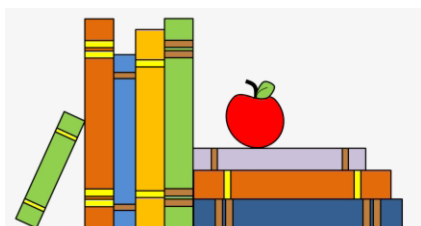
Benefits: book/music allowance, secretarial assistance

Notes: While Grace desires candidates who can play the organ, we would be open to those who are proficient on the piano and learning to play the organ. This could be a wonderful initial position for a budding organist.

LVAGO Organist Substitute List

If you would like to be included in the Organist Substitute List please forward your Name, Contact Information (phone/email) and Availability (Sundays, weekdays, etc) to Stephen Bueker, 2520 Clark Place, Easton, PA 18040; sfbueker@rcn.com.

Dale Bonenberger	Mon-Fri	917 328-9041
Ruthann Brandt	Mon-Sat	610 262-3304
Janice Butz	Mon -Fri	610 882-9388
Ellen Erb	Mon-Sat	570 350-0343
Charles Glandorf	Mon-Sat	610 416-1055
Eric Gombert	Mon-Sat	610 435-1641
Susan Hartney	Mon-Sat	610 360-6934
Joe Kaczmarek	Mon-Sat	484 433-4336
Jacqueline Kuba	Sun-Sat	570 386-4480
Michael Kuhnert	Mon-Sat	215 536-4345
Cristina Dinella Makowicz	Mon-Sat	585-732-8017
James Matz	Sun-Sat	610 367-8094
Linda Maule	Mon-Sat	610 258-5006
Richard McIntyre	Mon-Sat	908 283-4691
Jeffrey Raub	Mon-Sat	484 541-8322
Sally Reeser	Sun-Sat	610 730-6357
Michael Seroka	Mon-Sat	570 516-7207
Barbara Thomson	Sun-Sat	908 591-4499
Bruce Tonkin	Sun-Sat	610 220-5457
Dennis Varley	Sun-Sat	610 739-3567
Matthew Wary	Mon-Sat	610 743-0921
Stephen Ziminsky	Mon-Fri	610 417-2669
Freda Zimmerman	Mon-Fri	610 381-3089



Newsletter Editor

Marta Oberlin, martasgig@gmail.com

Placement Service

Please visit the Placement page on www.lvago.org for information and the Placement Service Information Sheet.

Newsletter Deadline

(October issue) Thursday, September 24, 2026