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**Central Hudson Valley Chapter**  
of the  
**American Guild of  
Organists**

**Newsletter – October 2024**

**Officers**

**John Vanderlee – Dean**  
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845-235-7203

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505-340-6178

**Laura Russell – At-Large Member**  
845-232-8601

**Chapter Web Site**

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

**Letter from the Sub-Dean**

I retired from St. John's Lutheran Church, Poughkeepsie in August 2020 after twenty-two years as Music Director. Before that, I was their Children's Choir Director for eight years. Many of you do not realize that I am currently serving as Director of Music at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Kent, CT (about 35-40 minutes from my Hopewell Jct. home). This position started out as a 6 month interim position and now I've been there for two years. I missed playing the organ and working with singers in the choir. And since the position is 12 hours per week, it fits well into my retirement schedule.

This morning in church, I took a moment to look back at other positions I've held and realized how different church life is today compared to almost fifty years ago when I was in graduate school. Life has changed. There are many sociologists and religious scholars who point to the decline in attendance and membership at faith-based institutions and say that church as we know it will not exist in another, say, 50 years. I feel that religion will always

be an active part of many people's lives. There will be differences – change is a part of life, and worship life will change and adapt.

I did not plan for this column to be a theological discussion about church in our society today; hence, the remarks above are brief. What I *would* like to say is that the Board members of CHVAGO are always trying to come up with innovative program ideas for membership to help us all as we plan for music in all the different churches and faiths we serve. If you have an idea for a program, or would like to have a topic covered, contact a board member – e-mail addresses and phone numbers are listed on our website. Or better yet, talk to any of us at an upcoming board meeting. Please see upcoming programs below:

7:30 PM Saturday, October 12, 2024

Christ Church, Poughkeepsie NY

**Bach to Broadway: The Other Bachs and PDQ Bach** “Time and Clocks”

New officers will be installed and distinguished service awards presented.

Admission - \$20.00

7:30 PM Friday, November 8, 2024 Bardavon Performing Arts Center

***The Big Parade* (1925 silent movie classic accompanied by John Baratta)**

**Veterans' Event** sponsored by CHVAGO & NYTOS.

Stay tuned for our always popular “Spuds ‘n’ Sundaes” in January and a presentation by Joe Bertolozzi in February. More to come in the spring!

Susan Guse

Sub-Dean

### **Deadline for Next Newsletter**

We are always glad to receive input for the chapter newsletter in the form of calendar items, reviews of recent concerts and events, biographies, letters, photographs, etc. In order to make sure these submissions can be processed in a timely fashion, please make sure they are received by the 23<sup>rd</sup> of each month. However, material such as calendar items may be submitted at any time; even if the material may not make it into the printed newsletter, it can be quickly posted on our web site at [www.chvago.org](http://www.chvago.org). You may submit newsletter or web site material by mail, e-mail, fax or phone. Just contact the editor, Susan LaGrande, using the information given above. Remember, the deadline for the next printed newsletter, to be available the first week in November 2024, is October 23.

### **Editor's Corner**

This newsletter is published by the Central Hudson Valley Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. The editor is:

Susan LaGrande

12 Montrose Lane

Wappingers Falls, NY 12590

Phone: 845-235-7203 - e-mail: [CHVAGOboard@gmail.com](mailto:CHVAGOboard@gmail.com)

### **List of Organ Substitutes**

The following chapter members have indicated on their membership application that they will serve as substitute organists. Please note that only CHVAGO members in good standing

are eligible to be included in this list, unless otherwise approved by the Board. However, it should not be assumed that these individuals are endorsed by the CHVAGO, and background checks are encouraged. More information about each substitute is provided on our web site at [www.chvago.org](http://www.chvago.org).

If you would like your name listed, or if you need to update your information, please contact the editor using the information above.

Meredith Baker	845-565-3321	Susan Guse	845-242-1478
Joe Bertolozzi	845-337-1216	Larry Hazard	845-452-0119
Owen Borda	914-734-2456	Eric Hepp	845-489-2625
Luca Cantone	703-554-5906	Wesley Joseph	845-849-0104
Greg Citarella	845-559-4013	Maris Kristapsons	845-635-0411
Richard C. Ehlenberg	845-687-6013	Timothy M. Lewis	914-374-2608
James Fitzwilliam	845-849-3606	Joanne Reed	845-361-3474
Justan Foster	518-965-2389	Dillon Streifeneder	845-532-2488
Jacob Friedman	914-305-0572	Nancy Vanderlee	845-266-3858
Carl J. Geiselhart	845-457-4830	Christopher Wynkoop	845-926-7389

## List of Organ Teachers

The following chapter members have indicated on their membership application that they will accept new organ students. Please note that only CHVAGO members in good standing are eligible to be included in this list, unless otherwise approved by the Board. However, it should not be assumed that these individuals are endorsed by the CHVAGO, and background checks are encouraged. More information about each teacher is provided on our web site at [www.chvago.org](http://www.chvago.org).

If you would like your name listed, or if you need to update your information, please contact the editor using the information above.

Meredith Baker	914-261-0028	Larry Hazard	845-452-0119
Gregory Citarella	845-559-4013	Timothy M. Lewis	914-374-2608
Justan Foster	518-965-2389	Dillon Streifeneder	845-532-2488

## Position Openings

### *Editor's Notes*

- The AGO, and by extension the Central Hudson Valley chapter, now requires all posted jobs in our Career Center include salary information. This change improves transparency for applicants and complies with applicable New York State laws, where the AGO is headquartered. We believe this change will encourage a more positive experience for our members seeking employment.
- *Hiring institutions are encouraged to check references from applicants' previous employers, and applicants should expect that prospective employers may require background checks. It should not be assumed that applicants who learn of position openings via these listings are endorsed by the Central Hudson Valley Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. Position openings are listed without charge for three months unless an extension is requested. If you would like to place a listing, please contact the editor, Susan LaGrande at 845-235-7203 or email [chvagoboard@gmail.com](mailto:chvagoboard@gmail.com).*

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC - (Part-Time)

**TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH - FISHKILL, NY** *Filled 9/1/2024*

ORGANIST/DIRECTOR OF MUSIC - (Part-Time)

**GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH - MILBROOK, NY** *Filled 9/1/2024*

ORGANIST - (Part-Time)

**CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH - NEWBURGH, NY**

One Sunday service at 10:00 AM (4 Sundays off per year, to be negotiated). Eight additional special services: Thanksgiving Eve, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, Holy Week Services: Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil (Saturday), Easter – Two Services, German Easter Service. Expected Competencies: Primary Instrument – Organ (with pedals), Secondary Instrument – Piano. Allen Digital organ, Kawai GS30 Grand Piano. Lutheran Book of Worship – Hymns and Service Music, and With One Voice – Hymns and Service Music.

Per Service Rate: \$150 (estimated \$8,700 per year) For Funeral and Wedding Service, Organist sets the fee. Choir accompanist – if agreed, compensation to be negotiated (rehearsal or performance).

[Christ Lutheran Church](#), 186 Fullerton Avenue, Newburgh, NY 12550

The Rev. Ernst A Mossel, Pastor

Church Office: 845-562-0824

Member of the New York Metropolitan Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Contact: [Daniel Madrid](#), 862-258-0106 2/1/2024

ORGANIST - (Part-Time)

**ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF SPRING VALLEY - SPRING VALLEY, NY**

One Sunday service at 10:00 AM. Seasonal services on Good Friday and Christmas Eve. No choir currently, but would be open to establishing protocol with the newly hired organist. Weddings/funerals: extra compensation which is paid directly by the engaging family. Gress-Miles pipe organ, 2-manuals 14 ranks (1963). Overall the organ is in great shape with a few repairs to be addressed in the near future. Tambourines and drums are occasionally used in worship. Salary range: \$190 - \$200 for each service. Today, we are a small but vibrant and welcoming church with a diverse congregation of about 80 families. We reach beyond the church to the larger community through outreach activities and active involvement in many community organizations. We also participate in local community update meetings hosted by the Mayor of Spring Valley. Our outreach ministry includes our Free Community Dinner and Food Pantry, our Senior's Outreach, Homeless Outreach, Drumming and Community Healthcare Network NG. We are presently in transition as we embark on a journey to select a priest which we have been without since June 2021. We are currently using Supply Clergy and have been blessed to maintain a steady congregation and attendance during this period. This time period has taught us that we have a strong congregation and that we are capable of preserving the church in all of its duties and endeavors. [Saint Paul's Episcopal Church of Spring Valley](#), 26 South Madison Avenue, Spring Valley, NY 10977. Phone 845-356-1857; Fax 845-356-1616; email: [stpaulssv@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulssv@gmail.com) [stpaulspringvalley.org](http://stpaulspringvalley.org) 9/19/2023

PARISH DIRECTOR OF MUSIC - Part-Time  
**THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-ST.JOSEPH AND OUR LADY OF MT. CARMEL -  
POUGHKEEPSIE, NY** *Filled 9/23/2024*

CHORAL DIRECTOR - (Part-Time)  
**CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH - POUGHKEEPSIE, NY**

We are looking for a Choral Director who can work with our organist, choir, and rector. We are seeking a professional, skilled conductor who is creative, nurturing, and collaborative. She/he/they will also be organized, have a good sense of humor, and be able to communicate well.

One Sunday Service at 10:30 AM plus additional services Holy Week, Christmas Eve, Christmas, and other times in liturgical year. Choir rehearsal on Wednesday nights at 7 PM and Sunday mornings at 9:30 AM.

Christ Church has a choir of between 10-16 voices. We are a progressive Christian community with a strong commitment to music. Our salary range is between \$15,000-\$20,000 depending on experience.

[Christ Episcopal Church](#), 20 Carroll Street, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601. To apply, please send a resume and cover letter to [rector@christchurchpok.org](mailto:rector@christchurchpok.org) by October 26, 2022. *Renewed 4/20/2023*

## Calendar of Events

*If you are interested in having an event posted on this calendar, please contact the web site administrator, [Susan LaGrande](#). Events are selected for inclusion based on their relevance and interest to the members of the Central Hudson Valley Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. The chapter reserves the right to decline or withdraw listings at any time.*

Tuesdays at 12:15 PM      Noontime Recitals at Goshen Presbyterian Church  
Great Music in Great Space - First Presbyterian Church in Goshen has recently renovated its 1931 Austin organ and is resuming its free noontime recital series, which will continue weekly on an ongoing basis. Jonathan B. Hall, DM, FAGO, minister of music of the church, will present manualiter and piano music, and there will be other visiting musicians. Programs will be held from 12:15 to 12:45 PM every Tuesday. All are welcome, all noontime recitals are free, and there is ample free parking and accessibility. [First Presbyterian Church in Goshen](#), 33 Park Place, Goshen, NY 10924. Info: 845-294-7991.

Saturday, October 12, 2024 7:30 PM	Bach to Broadway 2024 Experience the ultimate musical showdown at "Bach To Broadway" hosted by the New York Theatre Organ Society in collaboration with the Central Hudson Valley chapter of the American Guild of Organists and Christ Church. Join us for an electrifying organ duel featuring the remarkable talents of organists Nathan Avakian and James Fitzwilliam. These virtuosos will take the stage, showcasing their skills on the
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magnificent NYTOS Touring Theatre Organ and the Gress-Miles Pipe Organ. [Click here](#) for a printable poster.  
[Christ Episcopal Church](#), 20 Carroll Street, Poughkeepsie, NY 12501.  
Suggested donation \$20. Info: 845-452-8220.

Friday,  
November 8,  
2024  
7:30 PM

Veterans' Event - Silent Movie with Live Organ Accompaniment  
CHVAGO and the New York Theatre Organ Society will present [The Big Parade](#), a silent movie classic from 1925, with [John Baratta](#) providing live organ accompaniment on the [mighty Wurlitzer pipe organ](#). [Bardavon 1869 Opera House](#), 35 Market Street, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601. Admission is free. Info: 845-473-2072

Saturday,  
November 9,  
2024  
7:00 PM

Concerts Con Brio presents Breezy Hill Woodwind Quintet with guest pianist James Fitzwilliam. Music by Rimsky-Korsakov, Scott Joplin, JS Bach, Grieg, Lennon/McCartney & more! [Christ Episcopal Church](#), 20 Carroll Street, Poughkeepsie, NY. Suggested donation of \$25 at the door. Info: 845-452-8220

Sunday,  
November 10,  
2024  
2:00 PM

West Point Cadet Chapel Organ Recital by Caroline Robinson  
[Caroline Robinson](#) previously held the post of Organist and Associate Choirmaster at the Cathedral of St. Philip in Atlanta, GA, and is now Assistant Professor of Music at the University of Michigan. [Cadet Chapel, USMA, West Point, NY](#). All recitals require a Department of Defense ID or Visitors' Pass from the Visitor Control Center to enter West Point. Entry to the Cadet Chapel and recital are free to the public. All Cadet Chapel organ recitals and concerts are free to the general public.  
Info: [craig.s.williams58.civ@army.mil](mailto:craig.s.williams58.civ@army.mil)

Sunday,  
December 8,  
2024  
4:00 PM

Annual Handel's Messiah  
[Cadet Chapel, USMA, West Point, NY](#). For this event, a Visitor's Pass will not be required. Visitors will only need a picture ID, and they will be allowed to enter West Point 2 hours prior to the concert. All Cadet Chapel organ recitals and concerts are free to the general public.  
Info: [craig.s.williams58.civ@army.mil](mailto:craig.s.williams58.civ@army.mil)

Sunday,  
February 23,  
2025  
2:00 PM

West Point Cadet Chapel Organ Recital by John A. Wolfe  
[Dr. John A. Wolfe](#), an alumnus of Vassar College, is a New York City-based organist, choral conductor and music educator. [Cadet Chapel, USMA, West Point, NY](#). All recitals require a Department of Defense ID or Visitors' Pass from the Visitor Control Center to enter West Point. Entry to the Cadet Chapel and recital are free to the public. All Cadet Chapel organ recitals and concerts are free to the general public.  
Info: [craig.s.williams58.civ@army.mil](mailto:craig.s.williams58.civ@army.mil)

Sunday, March  
30, 2025

West Point Cadet Chapel Organ Recital by Colin Mark Andrews  
[Colin Andrews](#) is one of only four organists in the world to have recorded

2:00 PM the complete organ works of Messiaen. Since the autumn of 2009, he has been Adjunct Professor of Music at Indiana University. [Cadet Chapel, USMA, West Point, NY](#). All recitals require a Department of Defense ID or Visitors' Pass from the Visitor Control Center to enter West Point. Entry to the Cadet Chapel and recital are free to the public. All Cadet Chapel organ recitals and concerts are free to the general public.  
Info: [craig.s.williams58.civ@army.mil](mailto:craig.s.williams58.civ@army.mil)

Sunday, May 4, 2025  
2:00 PM West Point Cadet Chapel Organ Recital by Gail Archer  
[Gail Archer](#) is a professor of music at Barnard College, and also serves as college organist at Vassar College. [Cadet Chapel, USMA, West Point, NY](#). All recitals require a Department of Defense ID or Visitors' Pass from the Visitor Control Center to enter West Point. Entry to the Cadet Chapel and recital are free to the public. All Cadet Chapel organ recitals and concerts are free to the general public.  
Info: [craig.s.williams58.civ@army.mil](mailto:craig.s.williams58.civ@army.mil)



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Soli Deo Gloria