



# Principal Pipings

Vol. 70, Issue 6 January, 2015

## Greetings from the dean

Hello AGO Friends,

Now that the holiday season is behind us, I hope you can take some time to pursue whatever relaxes and refreshes you before it's time for Lent and Easter. We had a fun evening at our Twelfth Night party on January 6th—lots of good food and great conversation, and a little music too. Priscilla Hepburn was kind enough to also offer her home and organ (right across the street from our gathering spot at Bill's and my house) so we were able to play and hear two instruments! It was wonderful to welcome some of our newer members, too—we hope you'll come to lots of our upcoming events!

Speaking of upcoming events, February is packed with them so let's hope the weather cooperates. On Sunday, February 8th, the DiMartino/Robinson Duo will present a 4:00 pm recital at Centenary United Methodist in Lexington. On Saturday, February 21st, Bruce Neswick will give a 7:00 pm recital at Good Shepherd. This is in addition to Good Shepherd's regular concert series on Sundays at 4:15 pm—there are some outstanding performers scheduled in the upcoming weeks. And of course we can't forget Cameron Carpenter in concert at Norton Center for the Arts in Danville, Friday, February 27th at 8:00 pm. If you haven't already purchased your tickets, take advantage of the group rate that Zach Klobnak got for our AGO chapter—contact him at [zklobnak@gmail.com](mailto:zklobnak@gmail.com) for more information. I hope to see you at some of these events. For a complete listing of concerts in the area that may be of interest, check our website ([www.agolexington.org](http://www.agolexington.org))

It is with mixed feelings that we bid farewell this month to John Linker, organist/choirmaster at Church of the Good Shepherd. John, Molly, and Lila will be leaving in a few weeks to move to New Zealand, where John has been named Director of Music at ChristChurch Cathedral. This is a fantastic opportunity for John and his family, but a real loss for our local music scene. John served as Dean of our AGO chapter in 2003-2005, was on the Program Committee for our Regional Convention in 2011, hosted one of our Pedals, Pipes and Pizza events at Good Shepherd, and instituted the recital series (now in its second year) on the new Goulding and Wood organ there. Plus he's just an all-around great guy to know and have as a friend and colleague. John, we will certainly miss you, and we wish you Godspeed in this new adventure!

Jane

# Upcoming Calendar

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**SUN / 1.18.15**

3.30p Air City Wind Quintet

4.00p Evensong

**Recital and Evensong with the Choirs and Under the Direction of Aric Prentice, Lincoln Cathedral, U.K.**

Christ Church Cathedral, Lexington

**SUN / 1.18.15**

4.15p

**Organ Recital by Zach Klobnak**

Church of the Good Shepherd, Lexington

**SUN / 1.25.15**

4.15p

**Organ Recital by Robert Williamson**

Church of the Good Shepherd, Lexington

**SAT / 1.31.15**

10.00a

**Pedals and Pipes**

Christ Church UMC, Louisville

**SUN / 2.1.15**

4.15p

**Organ Recital by Doug O'Neill**

Church of the Good Shepherd, Lexington

**SUN / 2.8.15**

4.00p

**DiMartino/Robinson Duo Recital**

Centenary United Methodist Church, Lexington

**SUN / 2.8.15**

3.00p

**Dr. Joyce Finch Johnson, AAGO**

Trinity United Methodist, New Albany IN

**TUE / 2.10.15**

12.20p

**James Sperry, Organ Recital**

Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Campbellsville

**FRI / 2.13.15**

7.30p

**Wesley Roberts, Organ Recital**

Berea College, Berea,

# Upcoming Calendar

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THU / 2.19.15

8.00p

**Wesley Roberts, Organ Recital**

Ransdell Chapel, Campbellsville University, Campbellsville

SAT / 2.21.15

7.00p

**Bruce Neswick, Organ Recital**

Good Shepherd, Lexington

SUN / 2.22.15

4.15p

**Choir Concert by Universitatis Schola Cantorum**

Church of the Good Shepherd, Lexington

## Acclaimed Organist Cameron Carpenter to Play at Norton Center

FRI / 2.27.15

8.00p

**Cameron Carpenter, Organ**

Norton Center for the Arts, Centre College, Danville, KY

A special discounted ticket rate of \$30 is available for Lexington AGO members in the center section of the balcony. If you are interested in our group block, contact Zach Klobnak, zachary.klobnak@centre.edu, by January 31. All are welcome! More information about the event is available at:

<http://www.nortoncenter.com/event/cameron-carpenter-organ/>

## Lexington Chamber Chorale Needs Singers

The Lexington Chamber Chorale is auditioning bass singers. Contact Gary Anderson at garylander-son77@gmail.com or at 859-317-3353 for more information.

## Job Openings

Winchester First United Methodist Church has two part time openings, one each for a Director of Music Ministries and Church Organist/Pianist. Grace Episcopal Church in Hopkinsville is looking for an Organist/Choirmaster. See the website, [www.agolexington.org](http://www.agolexington.org) for details.

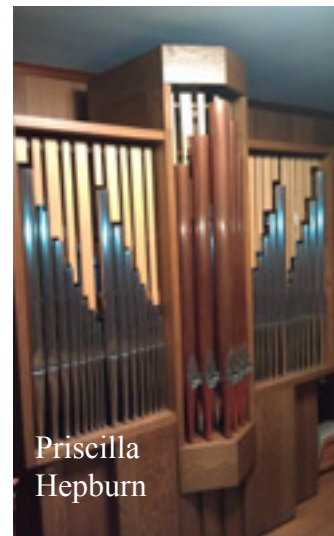
# Twelfth Night Party

## The “Cul-de-sac Crawl”

No, the chapter’s latest organ crawl didn’t take place on Tates Creek Rd., Church St. or any of the other neighborhoods with multiple churches. Rather, we spent the evening of January 6 on Belvoir Dr. in a residential neighborhood on suburban Lexington’s south side. Who would have thought - two pipe organs on the same cul-de-sac? Many thanks to AGO Dean and her husband Jane and Bill Johnson, and member Priscilla Hepburn for their hospitality and sharing these two unique instruments with us!



Bill & Jane  
Johnson



Priscilla  
Hepburn

# Dr. Necia Harkless

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Word has already gone out to the parish regarding the death of Dr. Necia Desiree Harkless. I join with her family and other parishioners in grief of losing this dear soul. She was 94 years young.

I snapped this photo of Necia at the console of Good Shepherd's organ shortly after its installation in June 2013. I've never known a more supportive and enthusiastic musician and general musical cheerleader than Necia.

Necia was a lifelong student in many disciplines, including music. She enjoyed trying her hand at composition and has a couple of anthems and many Anglican chants to her credit. I will miss our weekday visits where she would hang out in my office and tell me with great enthusiasm what her next composition project would be. One year she resolved to write an Anglican chant every day during Lent as her "Lenten discipline." While she didn't realize this goal in its entirety, her enthusiasm about setting her sights on such a lofty accomplishment was inspirational.

Good Shepherd Choir has been privileged to deliver premiere performances of one of her anthems and several Anglican chants both here and in Britain. In 2006 we dedicated an entire evening service to recognizing her lifetime of achievements. We all agreed it would be much better to recognize someone of her stature while she was well and healthy. And, thanks be to God, she lived another nine years after that!

Since the installation of our new organ, Necia would practice daily at the organ until her health dictated otherwise. On the Sundays she felt well enough, she would sit behind the organ console and we'd get into mischief in our little "musician's corner." During the closing voluntary she'd read the music over my shoulder and often hum along (actually that drove me nuts, as it's rather difficult to concentrate with such "interference!").

I miss my friend, but am happy that she is in a place with no pain, and may join the saints in eternal life. The inspiration she brought to so many is a testament to a rich life lived to the fullest. Rest in peace, Necia.

-- John Linker





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