January, 2016 Volume 32, Number 4



# THE OPUS

The official publication of the St. Louis Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

www.agostlouis.org

# A WEEKEND OF EXCELLENCE

With holiday festivities a memory (perhaps more of a blur . . . for whatever reason[s]), the Chapter's activities are off and running with a terrific opportunity to learn from the very gifted Nathan Laube in a master class at The First Presbyterian Church of Kirkwood, Saturday morning, 30 January, at 10:00 (breakfast will be served from 9:00). Our host will be the ever-gracious Bill Stein.

A star among young classical musicians, concert organist Nathan Laube has quickly earned a place among the organ world's elite performers. In addition to his busy performing schedule, Mr. Laube serves as Assistant Professor of Organ at The Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York. Mr. Laube earned his Bachelor of Music Degree at the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia. During his time at the Curtis Institute, he also served as an Assistant Organist at the Wanamaker Grand Court Organ at Macy's Department Store. As a recipient of a William Fulbright Grant, Mr. Laube spent the 2010–2011 academic year studying with Michel Bouvard and Jan Willem Jansen at the Conservatoire à Rayonnement Régional de Toulouse, where he



earned the Prix de Spécialisé with the mention "Très Bien" and "Félicitations du Jury," in addition to the Prix François Vidal from the city of Toulouse.

The participants for the morning's master class will be Ethan Schueler (a sophomore at Washington University, majoring in business with a minor in music, and a student of our own Barbara Raedeke); William Sullivan (a native of St. Louis and an active member of our Chapter, holding degrees from Washington University, Indiana University School of Music, and Webster University); and David Sinden (newly-appointed Director of Music at St. Peter's Church, Ladue, and a graduate of the Oberlin College Conservatory of Music and Indiana University). This will undoubtedly be a superb event with a master teacher and musician, three gifted organists, and a very fine instrument.

Please plan, too, on attending Mr. Laube's recital at the Cathedral Basilica the very next day at 2:30.

Cheers - Mark

(See "The Details" on Page 11)

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## FROM THE DEAN

# Pipe Organ as Faith Redactor

As I was listening to Simon Neiminski's recital at Third Baptist, a sense of wonder came over me. I also began to wonder, "What impact is had on my life when I attend organ recitals and hymn festivals?" Few things invoke a feeling of awe and wonder and an awareness of the sacred quite like a well-played, beautifully voiced pipe organ. The spirituality of organ music deepens my feelings of connection with the divine. At recitals recently, I heard "wow" audibly voiced around me after some particularly quality performances. How cool to be part of the arts that can claim the "wow factor," that raises us to something bigger than ourselves. Organists are called to work toward something beyond our own selves.

### **Drama Enactor**

What a diversity of sound is available in one instrument! Organists can be creative with various combinations in registration. Whether choosing a single family of sound or integrating many timbres, organists can "design" colorful ensembles to excite or soothing sounds to comfort. And that is only the beginning. When an organ is played well, listeners are treated to engaging, interesting performances which paint emotions along every spectrum of sound.

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The Official Publication
Of the St. Louis Chapter
Of the American Guild of
Organists
6622 Michigan Ave.
St. Louis, MO 63111-2805

January, 2016 Volume 32, No. 4 Nancy Barbee, Editor Published 8 times/year

You are invited to submit material to the editor for publication consideration. Material and calendar items should be e-mailed to: opusSLAGO@gmail.com

> February deadline is January 15

### **Excellence Exactor**

Organ builder Dan Jaeckel of Duluth helped me realize that a well-built pipe organ (especially tracker-action instruments) are some of the best teachers. The clarity of an organ helps us hear what is correct and work on what is lacking. By working with our instrument, we become teachable. What do we spend time doing? That is the activity at which you will "get good." For me, that means resolving to carve out a little extra rehearsal time and seeking out some fresh repertoire to explore. It also means appreciating and expressing that appreciation for the work done by colleagues to present excellent recitals or musical events.

### **Audience Attractor**

So many musicians—and organists—in the Saint Louis area are striving toward creations of the highest quality. And we would like to share this beauty with as many as possible. The interest and attendance at many area churches and venues are impressive. I hope you have all had an opportunity to squeeze into a "packed" organ concert. On the other hand, there are many organ events which display dwindling numbers in attendance. Part of the mission of the American Guild of Organists is to help promote and publicize what has already won our hearts. Perhaps it isn't a bad thing that we are bothered by low attendance—that might be what moves us into action or inspires us to get the word out in a new way. Help us honor the amazing work of area organists by attending recitals whenever you are able. Invite others to attend with you—a personal invitation can have a positive effect.

I look forward to sharing breakfast with you before this month's end, and to improving my craft by observing the Master Class. Together we can deepen our appreciation of the "King of Instruments" and make this another musical year for our Chapter!

Soli Deo gratias, Deaconess Dawn Riske, CAGO

## **CHAPTER NEWS**

## ... WHO FROM THEIR LABORS REST ...



We cannot adequately express the sorrow in conveying the news of the death of **Norbert Eugene Herman Krausz.**. Norbert was a dear and truest friend of not just our chapter, not just the regional and national membership of our Guild, but of all organists, and all musicians. "Music was his life".

Norbert, a loving brother, brother-in-law, uncle, great-uncle, great-great uncle and godfather, passed away on November 27, 2015.

Norbert served as the Assistant Director of Music/Organist at Historic Trinity Lutheran Church in the Soulard neighborhood of St. Louis. He received his degree in music from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale (SIUC) and has taught public school music in Kansas and Missouri. Norbert also appeared as a performer and was the Associate Producer at The Little Theater on the Square in Sullivan, Illinois for many years. He has served congregations and parishes in Illinois, Missouri, Kansas, and Nevada. Music was his life. He was a member of Historic Trinity Lutheran Church, St. Louis, MO; Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity; and American Guild of Organists.

Norbert is preceded in death by his parents, Elmer L. and Elsie C., nee Gilbert, Krausz, and his brothers, Charles and Enloe Krausz. He is survived by his sister, Evelyn Krausz; sisters-in-law, Mary Ann and Anna May Krausz; nieces and nephews, Yvonne (Mike) Doonan, Donna Krausz, Gerald (Mimi) Krausz, Craig (Michelle) Krausz, Mark (Mary Kay) Krausz, Deb (Brian) Gonzalez, Dawn

Stoneking, and Thomas (Lynn) Stoneking; great-nieces and great-nephews, Tim and Steven Doonan, Sam, Katie and Gus Krausz, Michael and Jack Krausz, Melissa (Brad) Kohnen, Matthew (Melinda) Krausz, Marsha (Tommy) Baro, Nicholas (Amanda) Gianoulakis, Britne and Danielle Gonzalez, Jackson, Evelyn, and Pearl Stoneking; and great, great-nieces, Lexie and Brinley Kohnen, and Mackenzie Krausz.

Memorials may be made to Historic Trinity Lutheran Church Organ Fund, St. Louis, MO or St. Peter Lutheran Church Cemetery Fund, New Memphis, IL.

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**Lora Elaine Simpson**, age 82 of St. Louis, Missouri passed away Friday, November 13, 2015. She was born March 18, 1933, in Springfield, MO. Lora received her Bachelor's from Missouri State University, Springfield and her Master's from **Indiana University**, Bloomington. She taught in the business department at Southwest Baptist University, Bolivar, from 1957 - 63 and then taught accounting at St. Louis Community College at Florissant Valley, 1964-94.

Lora was an accomplished organist. She served as interim or substitute organist in many churches (has played in more than 100 churches). In her retirement years she was an avid volunteer for Friendship International, ISI English classes, St. Louis Symphony, St. Louis Chamber of Commerce Visitors Bureau, The Touhill at UMSL and at her home church, First Baptist of Ferguson. She will be missed by her friends, her cousin Edith Sutton, and her longtime church family. Services: Memorial services were Friday, November 20, 2015, at First Baptist Church of Ferguson, MO. Burial was at Greenlawn Memorial Gardens, Springfield, MO.

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### **JANUARY**

Wednesday, January 6—7:00 pm—Sts. Joachim and Ann Catholic Church NPM Epiphany Choir Festival. Bring your adult choir and all the Christmas music they already know! Each choir will sing a few minutes of music, as well as some larger selections for all. Open to public as a fundraiser for the Care Service. More information and RSVP: Orin Johnson, NPM Duchesne Branch Planning Coordinator. johnsono@stsja.org (636) 980-6255. 4112 McClay Rd., St. Charles MO 63110

Sunday, January 17—4:00 pm—Second Presbyterian Church Bach Society--Young Artist Recital. The 2015-2016 Bach Society of St. Louis Young Artists will be joined by pianist Sandra Geary. Soprano Madalyn Mentor, mezzo-soprano Katharine Menke, tenor Jimmy Stevens, and baritone Ravi Raghuram will perform Bach arias and more. Free and open to the public. For more information, call 314-367-0367. 4501 Westminster Place, 63108.

Sunday, January 24—8:30 & 10:30 am—Webster Groves Presbyterian Church. Worship service with Kirk Hanser, Guitar. Shawn Portell, Organist. spp@wgpc.org (314-962-9210 x 3211) 45 West Lockwood Ave., Webster Groves, MO

Sunday January 24—7:00 pm—Manchester United Methodist Church.
Organ Dedicatory Concert of 5 Manual Colby pipe organ by MUMC
Organist/Music Associate John Cargile featuring works by Bonnet,
Franck, Liszt and others. 129 Woods Mill Rd., Manchester MO 63011

Sunday, January 31--2:30 pm--Cathedral Basilica
Concert Organist, Nathan Laube. Assistant Professor of Music at the
Eastman School of Music, Nathan Laube has quickly earned a place
among the organ world's elite performers. His brilliant playing and
gracious demeanor have thrilled audiences and presenters across the
United States and in Europe, and his creative programming of
repertoire spanning five centuries, including his own virtuoso
transcriptions of orchestral works, have earned high praise from critics
and peers alike. \$15.00 general admission. For tickets call
(314) 533-7662 or visit www.Cathedral Concerts.org
4431 Lindell Boulevard 63108.

Sunday, January 31—3:00 pm—First Presbyterian Church of Kirkwood Con Spirito Concert Series—The Equinox Chamber Ensemble with Hyunsoon Whang, piano. 100 East Adams, Kirkwood, MO 63122

### **FEBRUARY**

Sunday, February 7—3:00 pm—Concordia Seminary
Bach at the Sem—Transfiguration. J. S. Bach: Cantata BWV 127, Herr
Jesu Christ, wahr Mensch un wahrer Gott; Concerto for violin in A minor, BWV 1041, movement 2; Aria for alto with choral, "Ich folge dir nach," from BWV 159, Sehet! Wir gehen hinauf gen Jerusalem; Cantata BWV 161, Komm du süßes Todesstunde; Cantata BWV 23, Du wahrer Gott und Davids Sohn. Free of charge. 801 Seminary Place, Saint Louis, MO 63105

# UPCOMING CONCERTS

Friday, February 12—12:00 noon—First Presbyterian Church of Kirkwood. Tree of Life Chapel Lenten Recital Series.

Piano Ensemble (2 pianos, 8 hands). 100 East Adams, Kirkwood, MO 63122

Saturday, February 13—6:30 pm—Peace Lutheran Church "Concerts at Peace" Valentine Dinner and Concert featuring The Orchestra of Peace and Chancel Choir. 737 Barracksview Road, St. Louis, MO 63125.

Sunday, February 14—3:00 pm—Second Presbyterian Church Concert—Saint Louis Chamber Chorus. Languish with Love—Music in honor of love: Romances by Robert Schumann, Rakastava by Jean Sibelius, and a hymn to Juno, goddess of marriage be Orlandus Lassus. Our modern masterwork is the passionate Amore Langueo of Francis Pott, which is paired with a commission from Clare Maclean. 4501 Westminster Place, 63108.

Friday, February 19—12:00 noon—First Presbyterian Church of Kirkwood. Tree of Life Chapel Lenten Recital Series—The Rosewood Ensemble with Bill Stein, Organ. 100 East Adams, Kirkwood, MO 63122

Sunday, February 21—8:30 am & 12:00 pm—Webster Groves Presbyterian Church. Worship services with Sherdonna Denholm, Singer/Songwriter. Shawn Portell, Organist. spp@wgpc.org (314-962-9210 x 3211) 45 West Lockwood Ave., Webster Groves, MO

Friday, February 26—12:00 noon—First Presbyterian Church of Kirkwood. Tree Of Life Chapel Lenten Recital Series—Jennifer Mazzoni, flute and Matt Mazzoni, Piano. 100 East Adams, Kirkwood, MO 63122

Saturday, February 27—7:30 pm and Sunday, February 28—3:00 pm—Lindenwood Auditorium, Belleville, IL

Masterworks Broadway Pops—The Masterworks Chorale,
Children's Choruses, and Jazz Ensemble. A concert with pizzazz!

Underwritten by a gift from Art on the Square Foundation. This program features Broadway and pop favorites in dazzling choral arrangements, in two exhilarating performances in the refurbished auditorium at Lindenwood University-Belleville, IL campus.

February 28—6:30 pm—Peace Lutheran Church "Concerts at Peace"—Bell-a-bration. Bell-a-bration in cooperation with the Handbell Association of Greater St. Louis features several outstanding St. Louis Handbell Choirs. 737 Barracksview Road, St. Louis, MO 63125

# OPENING SERVICE AND RECITAL CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL

The 2015 North Central Regional Convention began with a festive opening service that followed words of welcome by William "Pat" Partridge, Canon Precentor, Christ Church; Andrew Peters, Convention Coordinator; and James Thomashower, Executive Director, American Guild of Organists.

The packed Cathedral resonated with hymn singing—the start of a week of fellowship and amazing musical performances. Following the worship service, we were treated to a recital by Christopher Marks, playing works of Seth Bingham, Marcel Dupré, and Leo Sowerby. Marks provided comments that included the remarkable coincidence of the similarity of birth dates and longevity of the three composers.

Christopher Mark



The Convention Photo Album continues on the next page with photos from Tuesday, June 23—The Fabulous Fox (Rev. Mark E. Gifford, theatre organist). Rev. Gifford not only plays the organ in a style reminiscent of his mentor, Stan Kann but also has remarkable comic talent. He combined his music and humor in a performance of "In the Garden" theater style!

Next was a trip to the Sheldon Concert Hall to hear the St. Louis Children's Choirs under the artistic direction of Barbara Berner. This talented group of young singers has performed at prominent venues both national and international. At the end of their concert, they filed out of the auditorium singing "... that music made together may one day heal mankind." This was a memory to cherish.

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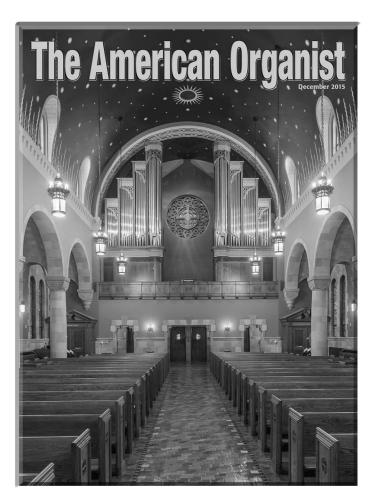
# AT THE FABULOUS FOX

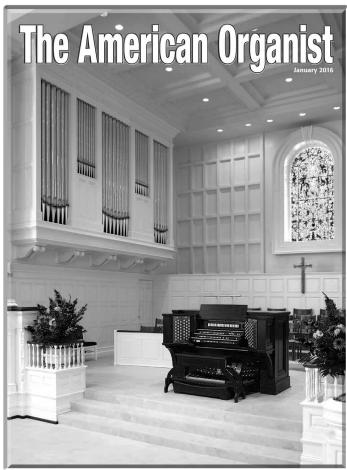






# A DOUBLE-HEADER!





The American Organist has featured two St. Louis organs on the covers in December and January.

In the December 2015 issue (above, left) is the Chapel of St. Joseph, Kenrick-Glennon Seminary, St. Louis MO—installation by A. E. Schlueter Pipe Organ Company, Lithonia, GA.

In the January 2016 issue (above, right) the cover features the Ladue Chapel Presbyterian Church—installation by Schoenstein and Company of Benicia, CA.

As this *Opus* goes to press, the January *TAO* has not been distributed. The National AGO has published this image of the January cover on their Facebook page.

The selection by TAO of two St. Louis organs during two consecutive months might be unprecedented.

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# Choral Evensong & Concerts at St. Peter's Episcopal Church



The Rev. Luke Jernagan, Rector

David Sinden, Organist & Director of Music

# **Epiphany Service of Lessons and Carols**

Sunday, January 10 at 5:30 p.m.

This candlelit service of readings and music celebrates the coming of Christ, the Magi's visit, and the presentation in the Temple.

# Choral Evensong for the First Sunday in Lent

Sunday, February 14 at 5:30 p.m.

A traditional service of scripture, prayer, and music in the evening.

# Choral Evensong for the Fifth Sunday in Lent

Sunday, March 13 at 5:30 p.m.

St. Peter's Episcopal Church • 110 North Warson Road • St. Louis, Missouri 63124 • (314) 993-2306

### stpetersepiscopal.org/music

**AGO Saint Louis** is a community on Facebook (agostlouis), and we now have over 425 people who like us. Chances are that you are one of them, but if not—and if you are on Facebook - then you too should be a part of our Social Media community.

Having such a large community offers your chapter a primary advantage: the opportunity to communicate information timely to many people. We now see large numbers of people who have seen our postings, and more people are responding to them. You are encouraged to submit items about your music program for broadcast to our community, and we now have three channels of communication available to us. Facebook, as the primary broadcast channel. Our web site—www.agostlouis.org—as a secondary channel, and notable for its "event calendar", plus listings of job openings and available member substitutes. Finally, the Opus, which you have in your hand.

We are happy communicate to you the success of our Facebook page, with this summary of some very recent posts:

- PDQ Bach makes a return—seen by 757 people
- Sharing "Bach at the Sem", Advent photo album—seen by 43 people
- Incredible fact about Ludwig van Beethoven—over 50 hymn tunes attributed to this master—seen by 67 people
- A moment of Zen—the restart of the Atlantic Boardwalk Organ Blower—seen by 155 people
- "Sing Along Messiah"—seen by 73 people
- St. Louis Chamber concert at Historic Trinity Lutheran Church—seen by 94 people
- Organ accompaniment on BBC—seen by 294 people
- combined postings on "Lessons & Carols"—seen by over 130 people
- Organlive.com posting of "Joy to the World—Carols for Brass, Chorus and Organ"—seen by 217 people
- BBC podcast about composers and carol writing—seen by 439 people

If you have an event which should be listed on our events calendar, then please use our online form for submission (http://www.agostlouis.org/event-submission). If you have any pictures or stories to be shared on Facebook, then please contact our Social Media Coordinator: rene.zajner@gmail.com

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### **OPEN POSITIONS**

## **ORGANIST--WEDDING**

I am looking for an organist to play a wedding at First Baptist Church of St. Ann on Feb 13th, 2016. Organ only – no soloists. Trumpet voluntary, Mendelssohn Wedding March and Pachelbel's Canon in D. Please contact Gina Miller at 785 5418 or redbyrde@aol.com

## PIANIST—THEATER PRODUCTION

I am in search of someone interested in playing the piano for the Alfresco Arts and Theater production of **Two by Two** (Richard Rogers musical) in Granite City, IL. It is community theater but they will pay the pianist \$300.00. The theater is a beautifully renovated Church across from our Granite City Township Hall on Delmar, close to our Library. Rehearsals begin in January and the show dates are Feb 27 & 28 and March 5-6. Please contact me if you know of anyone that would be interested in doing this. Contact: Cathy Cassy—Cmcass @yahoo.com (618) 931-0062

#### THE DETAILS

Event: Master Class with Nathan Laube

**Location:** First Presbyterian Church

100 East Adams Avenue

Kirkwood, MO 63122

Date: Saturday, January 30. 2016

Time: Breakfast—9:00 am; Master Class—10:00 am

Host: Bill Stein

**Cost:** \$10 with a reservations: \$12 at the door

**Reservations:** Kathleen Bolduan (314-725-1251) or

Kathleen.bolduan@gmail.com by 1/20/16

Directions: From I-44: Take exit 278 (Big Bend). Keep right onto Big Bend. Turn right

onto S. Kirkwood, then right onto East Adams.

From I-64 (Eastbound): Take exit for US-67 & US-61 South toward Lindbergh

Blvd. Keep left onto US-61 southbound. Turn left onto East Adams.

From 270: Take the exit for Dougherty Ferry Rd. Go east on Dougherty

Ferry, then right onto New Ballas Rd, which becomes Adams.

# THE OPUS

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