

World War and Its Effect on Organists Detailed at March Program

This month, we are pleased to welcome Dr. Nancy Ypma as our guest. She will give a lecture/recital entitled *Musicians in Time of War*. Her presentation will include a discussion of how World War II affected European organists, and how their music and faith sustained them through a very difficult time. She will discuss the composers Paul Hindemith, Jehan Alain, Hugo Distler and Olivier Messiaen. During the course of her lecture, she will perform organ selections by these composers.

Dr. Ypma is professor of music, head of the music department and chairman of the Humanities Division of McKendree University, Lebanon, Ill. As professor of music, she teaches courses in musicology, church music, organ, musical theater, and conducts the concert choir.

She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from UCLA. She received Master and Doctorate of Music degrees from Northwestern University.

As a concert organist, Dr. Ypma has performed throughout the United States, Canada and Europe. In



Dr. Nancy Ypma

addition to giving recitals, Dr. Ypma conducts master classes and serves as an adjudicator for competitions.

Dr. Ypma is organist and music director at Saint George's Episcopal Church, Belleville, Ill. She has served on the Executive Committee of the St. Louis AGO chapter.

Bill Aitken, organist and choirmaster, and St. Peter's Church Episcopal Church are frequent gracious hosts for chapter meetings. St. Peter's was founded as a

mission of Christ Church Cathedral in 1868. The current facility, in the Georgian Colonial style, was built in 1950.

The chancel organ was built by N. P. Mander of England in 2001. It is a mechanical action (tracker) organ of 53 ranks, 44 stops and three manuals. The organ is housed in chambers and cases of either side of the choir, requiring considerable engineering to accomplish the installation. The church also has a four-rank Mander chamber organ and a Tkach harpsichord.

I hope to see you at St. Peter's later this month.

—Henry Evans

The Details

Date:	Monday, March 23, 2009
Event:	Church Musicians in Time of War Lecture/Recital by Dr. Nancy Ypma
Location:	St. Peter's Episcopal Church 110 North Warson Road Ladue, MO 63124
Time:	Dinner – 6:30 p.m. Program – 7:30 p.m.
Host:	Bill Aitken
Cost:	\$10 for dinner
Reservations:	Kathleen Bolduan (314-725-1251 or kathleen.bolduan@gmail.com) (Please confirm reservations by Wednesday, March 18.)
Directions:	St. Peter's Episcopal Church is on the northeast corner of Ladue and Warson Roads.
From I-64/U.S. 40 East/Westbound:	Take Lindbergh North exit. Follow Lindbergh north to Ladue Road (third traffic light). Turn right onto Ladue Road and go one-half mile to a four-way stop at Warson Road. Church is across the street from Mary Institute/Country Day School.
From I-170 North/Southbound:	Exit at Ladue Road west. Proceed west on Ladue Road until you reach the four-way stop at Ladue and Warson Roads. St. Peter's Church will be on your right at that corner.

People Behaving Badly, or May the Force Be with You

Aren't people just awful sometimes (musicians included!)? I always tell myself that when people behave badly, it is more a reflection of their inner state of comfort with themselves than it is with any outward situation. Barry Green, in *The Inner Game of Music*, seems to agree. Naming "trust" as an essential quality of a successful musician, he says there are "three major obstacles to trust: worries about self-image, the feeling that things are out of your control, and doubts and fears about your own ability."

My goodness, isn't that a perfect list of the side effects of being an organist? There is a high level of expectation to meet, week after week, piece after piece. And we certainly are not as respected, beloved, and immune to criticism as we might wish we were. Most of us are

probably more critical of ourselves than is healthy...or even sane. And as far as that out-of-control feeling...at times it seems par for the course to me, as if I wouldn't know how to live without it. It is certainly no wonder that a lot of us are, most of the time, what could be described in current slang as "a hot mess."

Take heart! You are not alone. Musicians throughout history have described this well. One of my favorite descriptions comes from Agnes DeMille: "Living is a form of not being sure, not knowing what next or how. The moment you know, you begin to die a little. The artist never entirely knows. We guess. We may be wrong, but we take leap after leap in the dark." That's a beautiful way to describe what we do.

Sometimes I think that Pop Culture is

just ridiculous. But at other times, I wonder if, from The Force to The Secret, Somebody is trying to tell us all Something. Fear not. You are not alone, ever. Don't tighten up and fire off. Relax and radiate. You are in control! I can't even believe I'm admitting this in print: Sometimes I play a little game. I tune myself into the Universal Musician. If things are stressful and my heart is pounding, I close my eyes and say something like, "I am part of the Universal Musician, and I have the good will and experience of those who are, who have come before and who will come after, helping me at this very moment. I am not alone."

Is that too Pop Culture for ya? Too far out? Well, look at it this way: "Therefore, having so vast a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, and throwing off everything that hinders us and especially the sin that so easily entangles us, let us keep running with endurance the race set before us." (Hebrews 12:1)

One of the purposes of the American Guild of Organists is to constantly remind you: We want to be your cloud of witnesses. You are not alone!

—Chuck Peery

The Ten Commandments of Organ Practice

1. Thou shalt practice every day, even if only for a short period.
2. Thou shalt NEVER practice faster than thou canst play perfectly, for it is written: Perfect Practice Makes Perfect.
3. Thou shalt NOT put off working on the hard parts; David did not invite Goliath to come back after tea.
4. Thou shalt work out a usable fingering, inscribe it on thy papyrus and NEVER vary from same, for Fumble Fingers Find Fate Fickle.
5. Thou shalt never apologize for thy playing, nor say "Oops!" when thou makest a mistake, for thou wilt only draw attention to things which otherwise would never be noticed by the thick people.
6. Thou shalt practice each composition in short segments; that thy fingers may not break off more than thy mind can chew.
7. Thou shalt listen...and not only to organists, for it is written: What this untidy world needs is fewer organists and more musicians who can play the organ.
8. Thou shalt NOT play pedals without shoes...for thy Odor-Eaters may be spent, and besides, it leads to sloppy playing.
9. Thou shalt begin and end each practice session with something thou canst play readily, that thou mayest not be discouraged.
10. Thou shalt always remember that thy practice is a labor of love and that by persistence (oft proved by thyself in other undertakings) thou canst bring to pass many wonders.

THE OPUS

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

March 2009
Volume 25, No. 7

Wayne King, Editor

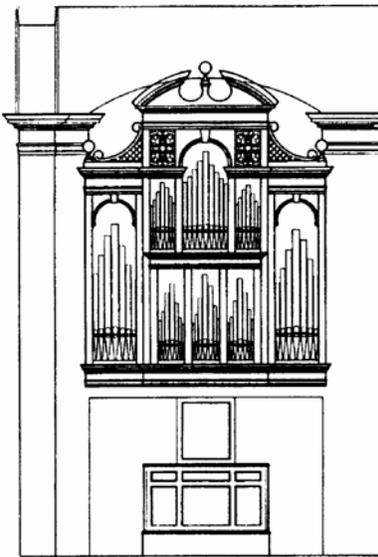
You are invited to submit material to the editor for publication consideration. Material and calendar items should be e-mailed to opusstlago@aol.com.

Next issue deadline: March 31, 2009



Dr. Pascual Presents Review Of Useful Liturgical Repertoire

Dr. Jennifer Pascual, music director/organist at St. Patrick's Cathedral, New York City, shared her suggestions for organ-based repertoire for the liturgical year during the chapter's February meeting at the St. Louis Cathedral Basilica. Her list included seasonal music that could be used by organists of all denominations. Dr. Pascual demonstrated a number of her choices on the Cathedral's organ.



ORGAN RECITAL & CHORAL EVENSONG

FIRST SUNDAYS from OCTOBER through MAY

The St. Peter's Singers - S. William Aitken, Director

Sunday, April 5

Recital & Choral Evensong for Palm Sunday

5:00 p.m. - **Martha Shaffer**, First Church of Christ, Scientist

5:30 p.m. - Evensong for Palm Sunday – Music of Orlando Gibbons

Holy Week – April 9, 10, 11, 12

7:30 p.m. - **Maundy Thursday** - Music of Kenneth Leighton

12 noon - **Good Friday Office** - Music of Tomas Luis de Victoria

7:30 p.m. - **Easter Vigil** - Plainsong Chant and French Carols

7:30, 9 & 11 a.m. - **Easter Day** - Choir with Brass

SAINT PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Warson and Ladue Roads • Saint Louis, Missouri

(One block east of Lindbergh Boulevard on Ladue Road)



On the Concert Horizon

Sunday, March 15, 3 p.m. First United Methodist Church, 801 First Capitol Drive, St. Charles, Mo. Organist Paul Jacobs in concert (Crescendo Concert Series). Preceded by pre-concert talk at 2:30 p.m. presented by musicologist Nancy Rubenstein. Tickets - Adult \$15; in advance \$12; Student \$5 with I.D. Information, 636-724-2507.

Saturday, March 21, 7:30 p.m. Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 327 Woods Mill Road, Manchester, Mo. Luther College Nordic Choir, conducted by Dr. Craig Arnold. Works by Scarlatti, Barber, Poulenc, Willan, Paulus along with folksongs and spirituals. Admission \$15 adults; \$8 children.

Sunday, March 22, 2:30 p.m. St. Louis Cathedral Basilica, 4431 Lindell Blvd., St. Louis, Mo. Organist Stephen Tharp in concert. Works by Wills, Simonds, Liszt, Mendelssohn, Demessieux and Hakim. Tickets \$10. Purchase online at www.stlcathedralconcerts.org or phone 314-533-7662.

Friday, April 10, 7:30 p.m. Second Baptist Church of Greater St. Louis, 9030 Clayton Road (at McKnight), Richmond Heights, Mo. Gabriel Faure's Requiem (1893 version ed. by John Rutter). Emily

Heslop, soprano; Leon Burke, bass. Free-will offering. Information, 314-991-3424 or www.2ndbc.org.

Sunday, April 19, 3 p.m. St. John Evangelical United Church of Christ, 307 Clay St., Belleville, Ill. A Musical Journey from Lent to Easter. Christopher Schroeder, organist. Music of Bach, Balcom, Durufle, and Mendelssohn. Free-will offering. Information, 618-344-2560.

Sunday, April 19, 4 p.m. Second Presbyterian Church, 4501 Westminster Place, St. Louis, Mo. Church's chorale and orchestra will present an all-Haydn concert under the direction of Andrew Peters. Program includes Lord Nelson Mass and Symphony 92. Free. Information, 314-367-0367.

Sunday, May 17, 3 p.m. First United Methodist Church, 801 First Capitol Drive, St. Charles, Mo. Jane Jennings, soprano, and Michael Boschert, baritone, in concert (Crescendo Concert Series). Pre-concert talk at 2:30 p.m. presented by musicologist Nancy Rubenstein. Tickets - Adult \$15; in advance \$12; Student \$5 with I.D. Information, 636-724-2507.

Holy Humor

A father was approached by his small son who told him proudly, "I know what the Bible means!" His father smiled and replied, "What do you mean, you 'know' what the Bible means?"

The son replied, "I do know!" "Okay," said his father. "What does the Bible mean?" "That's easy, Daddy..." the young boy replied excitedly, "It stands for 'Basic Information Before Leaving Earth'."



There was a very gracious lady who was mailing an old family Bible to her brother in another part of the country. "Is there anything breakable in here?" asked the postal clerk.

"Only the Ten Commandments." answered the lady.



While driving in Pennsylvania, a family caught up to an Amish carriage. The owner of the carriage obviously had a sense of humor, because attached to the back of the carriage was a hand printed sign:
"Energy efficient vehicle: Runs on oats and grass. Caution: Do not step in exhaust."

RODGERS ORGANS OF ST. LOUIS



Insignia series **insignia**
for home practice organ

Allegiant series **Allegiant**
organ for small chapels or churches

Trillium Masterpiece **Trillium MASTERPIECE**
custom organ - pipe - digital or combination

Ken Kohler
candk@eamware.net

314.344.1133 (ofc)
314.707.1188 (cell)

**St. Louis
Chapter
American Guild
of Organists**



Charles (Chuck) Peery
Dean

Henry Evans
Sub-Dean

Dr. Bill Wade, CAGO
Secretary

C. Dennis York
Treasurer-Registrar

Denis J. Doelling
Auditor

Executive Committee

Class of 2009
Stephen Mager, AAGO, ChM
Ken Rueter
Jeff White

Class of 2010
Brent Johnson
Regina Morris
Shawn Portell

Class of 2011
Cathy Cassy
Fr. Joseph Havrilka
Bill Stein

Committee Chairs

Dr. Barbara Raedeke
Educational Resources
(materials loan) 636-861-7076

Mary Hitchcock-Reinhart, CAGO
Historian

Denis J. Doelling
Placement (substitute list/job notices) - 314-962-4058
dcdoel@mindspring.com

Shawn Portell
Professional Concerns

Henry Evans
Programs

Dr. Kathleen Bolduan
Membership/Registrar -
314-725-1251;
kathleen.bolduan@gmail.com

Wayne King
OPUS Newsletter Editor

Luella Foster
Advertising Manager

Rene Zajner
Chapter Photographer

Fern and Al Black
Directory Editors

Send address changes or mailing labels requests to

Al Black
8056 Blackberry Ave.
St. Louis, MO 63130
314-645-6232 or 314-863-0850
awblack3@aol.com

Positions Available

Organist

Arlington United Methodist Church, 3770 McKelvey Rd., Bridgeton MO 63044, seeks an organist for traditional Sunday morning worship services at 8:30 and 11 a.m. The position entails providing introit, offertory, and benediction responses as well as accompanying the hymns and the choir anthem. The position also includes participation in the weekly choir rehearsal on Wednesday evenings from 7:30 to 9 p.m. Candidates should be able to embrace a wide variety of musical styles in worship. Please send an e-mail to aumc_sprc@yahoo.com for a complete job description.

Organist/Pianist

Delmar Baptist Church, 1001 Municipal Center Drive, Town & Country, MO 63131 (near Hwy. 40 and 270), seeks an organist/pianist. Duties include playing for one Sunday morning service year round plus Wednesday evening choir rehearsal for 9 months. Extra services during Advent, Ash Wednesday and Holy Week. Music in a broad range of styles, including classical European, American hymnody, and contemporary choruses. Contact Marsha Hussung, minister of music (314-432-1960 or delmarbc@hotmail.com).

Organist

Bonhomme Presbyterian Church, 14820 Conway Rd., Chesterfield, MO 63017, seeks an organist. Primary duties include playing for two traditional services each Sunday (8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.), seasonal services, and serving as accompanist for the chancel choir, which rehearses Wednesday at 7 p.m. 35-rank Reuter pipe organ which was built in 1969 and was updated/restored in 2003. For more information, contact Lynn Packwood (636-532-3486, ext. 715). Resumes may be sent to the church, ATTN: Organist Search.

Director of Music

St. John United Church of Christ, 405 S. Fifth St., St. Charles, MO 63301, seeks a director of music. St. John has a strong music program with a variety of musical groups including adult chancel choir, hand bell choir, youth and children choirs, and special musical groups. Director will minister within a team environment, seeking to inspire people of all ages to develop and use their musical gifts, use music as a vehicle to reach out to the larger community, and use music for fellowship within our the congregation. Must be proficient in both choral and instrumental music. For more information and a detailed job description, visit www.stjohnucc.org or e-mail friends@stjohnucc.org. To apply, e-mail your resume, a short (one page) statement as to how you would fit this position, and your most recent salary history to Amy Nunn at friends@stjohnucc.org.

Section Leaders

Saint Francis de Sales Oratory, 2653 Ohio Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63118, seeks tenor and bass section leaders. The choir rehearses Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. and sings at Sunday 10 a.m. Solemn High Mass (9 a.m. call). For more information or to schedule an audition, contact Nick Botkins, director of sacred music/master of the choirs at nbotkins@institute-christ-king.org (e-mail preferred) or 314-771-3100, ext 17. To learn about the Oratory visit www.institute-christ-king.org/stlouis/.

Minister(s) of Music

Westminster Presbyterian Church, 5300 Delmar Blvd., Saint Louis, MO 63112, seeks one part-time or two quarter-time minister(s) of music. Responsibilities include organist, adult and bell choir director, and administrative duties. Salary commensurate with experience. Experience with diverse communities preferred. Resumes accepted until March 15; westminsterstl@sbcglobal.net or 314-367-0999.

Ensemble Director

St. Monica Parish, 12136 Olive Blvd., Creve Coeur, MO 63141, seeks a liturgical musician to lead an instrumental ensemble for the 11:30 a.m. Sunday Mass. Proficiency in keyboard (piano and/or organ) or guitar required. Rehearsal is on Sundays from 10-11 a.m. The job entails 3-4 hours of work weekly; compensation is in line with Archdiocesan guidelines. Steinway grand piano, Martin Ott organ, 3 octaves Schulmerich handbells available. Contact Heather Martin Cooper, director of liturgical music (314-434-4211 or hmcooper@stmonicastl.org).

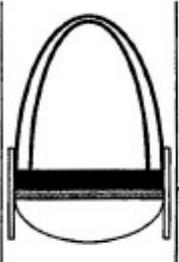
The OPUS

American Guild of Organists
St. Louis Chapter
8056 Blackberry Avenue
Saint Louis, MO 63130-2732

Return Service Requested

Dated material. Please deliver promptly.

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
ST. LOUIS, MO
Permit No. 2977



St. Louis Pipe Organ Co., Inc.

*Excellence
in organ rebuilding
and maintenance since 1922.*

Inquiries invited on

- *New organs*
- *Restorations*
- *Modernizations*
- *Service*

6128 Madison Ave
St. Louis, MO 63134

314-521-0085
Fax 314-521-2646



Excellence

A HIGHER LEVEL of EXCELLENCE

*Great musicians need extraordinary instruments
to deliver magnificent performances*

Paul W. Lohman - Toll free: 800-326-7426
E-mail: lohma004@umn.edu • www.schantzorgan.com



Schantz
Organ Company