



THE OPUS

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

www.agostlouis.org

We've had a great year of AGO sponsored programs and May will prove to be just as educational (and fun)!



On Sunday, afternoon, May 20 at 3:00 pm Dr. Clay Christiansen will present a recital at Manchester United Methodist Church. The recital is Free and open to the public! He will also be the guest speaker at our Annual Meeting on Monday, May 21 at Webster Groves Christian Church where he will discuss his work with the Mormon Tabernacle Choir and the Tabernacle Organs. (details listed below)

Dr. Clay Christiansen was appointed organist at the world-famous Mormon Tabernacle on Temple Square in 1982. Before taking his post at the Tabernacle, he served for ten years as organist and choirmaster at St. Mark's Episcopal Cathedral in Salt Lake City, where he became known for his New Year's Eve Bach recitals and weekly half-hour radio concerts. He also served five years as organist for Congregation Kol Ami. As a

Tabernacle organist, Dr. Christiansen shares responsibilities at the console of the renowned Æolian-Skinner 206-rank, 11,623 pipe instrument in the Tabernacle, as well as the monumental Schoenstein 5-manual pipe organ in the nearby Conference Center, performing daily Temple Square organ recitals and as organist for the Mormon Tabernacle Choir's weekly broadcast of Music and the Spoken Word.

Dr. Christiansen's solo performances have taken him across the United States, Canada, and England. He has performed with the Mormon Tabernacle Choir in Europe and Israel and has been featured artist for such groups as the U.S. Air Force Band/Singing Sergeants, Chicago Brass Quintet, and the Danish Radio Choir. He has been invited to perform for conventions of the American Institute of Organbuilders and the American Guild of Organists.

A member of Phi Kappa Phi, Clay Christiansen completed a doctorate in composition at the University of Utah, including private studies with Vladimir Ussachevsky, Ramiro Cortes, and Bruce Reich. His doctoral dissertation is a cantata for chorus, orchestra, and soprano and tenor soloists titled "Isaiah, the Prophet." Dr. Christiansen also holds a Master of Music degree from the University of Utah, as well as a Bachelor of Music degree from Brigham Young University. Previously organ studies took place with J.J. Keeler at Brigham Young University, former Tabernacle organist Alexander Schreiner, and Robert Noehren, internationally acclaimed organist and University of Michigan Organist Emeritus.

Clay Christiansen's solo organ CD album Organ of the Mormon Tabernacle is on the Klavier label. Solo organ performances may also be heard on Now Let Us Rejoice: Organ Hymns for the Sabbath on the Mormon Tabernacle Choir label, St. Ambrose Catholic Church Premiere Recital, The King of Instruments documentary DVD and solo/duo performances on The Organ at the Mission Inn. His organ and vocal compositions are published by MorningStar Music Publishers, Harold Flammer, Jackman Music and SDG Press. His writings also include works for chorus, string quartet, woodwind trio, and chamber and symphony orchestras.

Dr. Christiansen and his wife, Diane, are the parents of 13 children and have 60 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Monday evening will begin at 6:30 pm with a meal (\$15.00) RSVP to: Kathleen.bolduan@gmail.com. The Annual Meeting, presentation of the Avis Blewett Award, installation of new officers and talk by Dr. Christiansen beginning at 7:30 pm.

We thank Mark Lawson and MorningStar Music for assisting with arrangements making Dr. Christiansen's trip to St. Louis possible.

It has been an honor serving as your sub-dean these past two years!!

Have a Great Summer!!!!

Thanks!!

Burnell L Hackman, Sub-dean

Ramblings from the Dean

“Does the AGO have a relevant place in my life?” This question was directed to me only a few days ago. A bit taken aback, I took a deep breath and, throttling all of the snarky retorts rushing to the teeth, simply replied, “well, yes, with the *caveat* that, like just about anything else in your life, it’s all in what you make of it.”

Consider the offerings of the Guild: Conventions, continuing education opportunities, fellowship with like-minded colleagues, and even insurance plans. My experience with the AGO is not unlike many others: it started early (I played my first recital for the Johnstown, PA Chapter when I was eleven – Sweelinck, Handel, and Langlais), continued through college, and then with various Chapters following each career move. Though my degree of involvement fluctuated, I always sought out the local Chapter, attended meetings, and enjoyed the opportunity to visit with others who love the organ. Enduring friendships developed, and so very much of what I appreciate in the art of service-playing resulted from attending Guild-sponsored services and conferences.

The St. Louis Chapter has a wonderful, strong, enthusiastic history, and it continues to offer exceptional programs that address professional issues, broaden appreciation for our instrument, and encourage our acceptance for developing forms of musical expression in organ and choral literature, as well as worship.

Monday evening, 16 April, we recorded a “live” episode of the *King of Instruments* at First Presbyterian Church of Kirkwood. A terrific number of folk, members and non-members alike, joined with us to enjoy the fine caliber of playing and the splendid Casavant organ. An affirmation of the Guild’s relevance was the opportunity to meet and hear a young student of Bill Stein. This young man, Harry Studt, is a new member of our Chapter. Graced with poise and confidence, he easily took control of the mighty Casavant and wowed every listener. With Bill’s guidance, Harry joins a significant number of young people being challenged to preserve and promote our noble instrument, and to recognize the relevance that the American Guild of Organists can have in their life and career.

This is my last *rambling* as your Dean. My sincere thanks to the Executive Committee, and, most particularly, my predecessors Dawn Riske and Bill Wade, for fantastic support and encouragement. I am certain that the future of our Guild is bright!

Mark R. Scholtz
Dean

THE OPUS

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Material to the editor
For publication consideration.
Material and calendar items
Should be e-mailed to:
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Opening Hymn Festival
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- Nathaniel Gumbs

Monday, July 16 - 7:30 p.m.
Hymn Festival - Ysaye Barnwell

Wednesday, July 18 - 7:30 p.m.
Hymn Festival - "For Freedom's Sake"
- Urban Doxology

Thursday, July 19 - 10:30 a.m.
Closing Hymn Festival - "Taking Our Songs to the Streets"
- Paul Vasile

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Tune in to the King of Instruments every Sunday evening at 6pm on Radio Arts Foundation. Presented by the St. Louis AGO and the Organ Media Foundation

Episodes in May

- May 6 Concertos
- May 13 Craig Cramer, Carlo Curley, Catharine Crozier, Carson Cooman, Clay Christiansen, Chelsea Chen, Charles Callahan, and Cameron Carpenter
- May 20 Crowning Chorales
- May 27 The C-list

Tune in at 6pm on Sundays, 107.3 FM, 96.3 HD2 or streaming from RAFSTL.ORG. The RAF app is available on iTunes and Google Play.

For information about underwriting an episode of the King of Instruments, email koi@agostlouis.org.

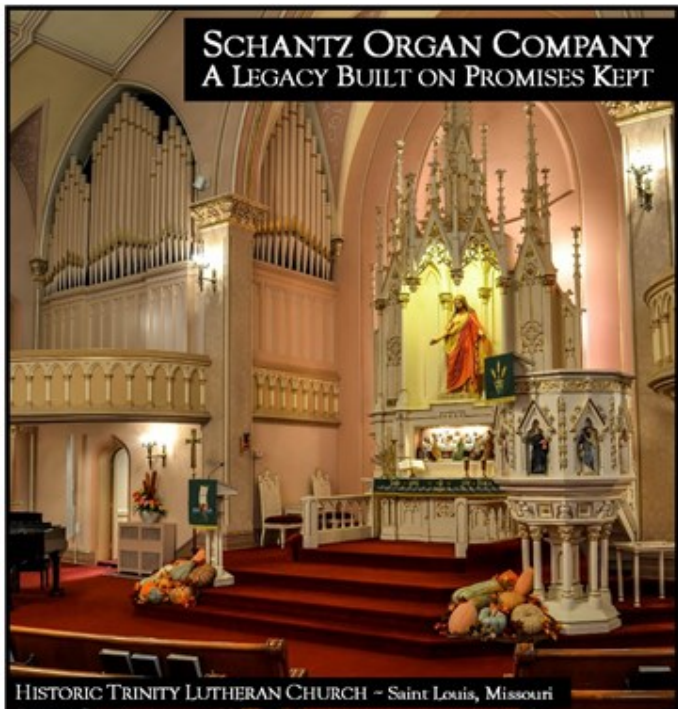
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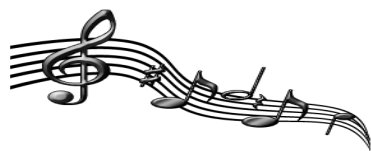
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UPCOMING CONCERTS

MAY

Tuesday May 1—8:00 pm—Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis

St. Louis Symphony & Chorus Experience St. Louis's own world-class orchestra in one of the final performances under the baton of Maestro David Robertson as music director, all in the heavenly setting of the Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis. The program includes L'Ascension by Messaien and Four Sacred Pieces by Verdi, featuring the awe-inspiring St. Louis Symphony Chorus. This concert is supported in part by the Berges Family Foundation. We thank them for their support.

Friday May 4—11:30 am—Third Baptist Church

Friday Pipes at Third Baptist Church Join us each Friday at 12:30 p.m. for free recitals on the 72-rank Kilgen-Möller pipe organ of Third Baptist Church at the corner of Grand and Washington. Reception and refreshments follow each recital. Greg Santa Croce, Music Intern, Basilica of the Sacred Heart, University of Notre Dame performing. Grand Ave. at Washington, St. Louis.

Friday May 4—7:30 pm—First Presbyterian Church of Kirkwood

Annual Organ Dedication Anniversary Recital Concert organist Jeremy David Tarrant, organist and choirmaster of the Episcopal Cathedral Church of St. Paul in Detroit, will present the annual organ dedication anniversary recital this year. The recipient of numerous awards and honors, Mr. Tarrant was a finalist in the American Guild of Organists Regional Competitions. 100 East Adams St., Kirkwood, MO.

Sunday May 6—2:00 pm—Lafayette Park United Methodist Church

Lafayette Park Presents "Belonging" Doug Dilling, tenor will present a concert titled "Belonging" Sunday, May 6, 2018 at 2p. At the heart of many of our human interactions are the very deep, relatable and timeless human needs of love and connection. Friends, marriage and family are all about connections. This program offers an opportunity to reflect on our own need for connection... when in good or challenging times. Doug Dilling's professional music career spans nearly 40 years in Indianapolis area and the Midwest. As comfortable on the musical theatre stage as in a liturgical setting, Doug is an accomplished studio vocalist, frequently providing vocals for popular artists and publishers. Doug recently retired after 35 years of professional church singing for Indianapolis area churches and synagogues. He will perform a range of music including sacred to Broadway favorites that celebrate our diversity and the belief that we all have value and "belong". 2300 Lafayette Ave., St. Louis, MO

Friday May 11—11:30 am—Third Baptist Church

Friday Pipes at Third Baptist Church Join us each Friday at 12:30 p.m. for free recitals on the 72-rank Kilgen-Möller pipe organ of Third Baptist Church at the corner of Grand and Washington. Reception and refreshments follow each recital. Katie Burk, Music Intern, Trinity Episcopal Church, Bloomington, Indiana performing. Grand Ave. at Washington, St. Louis

Friday, May 18—12:30 pm—Third Baptist Church

Friday Pipes at Third Baptist Church Join us each Friday at 12:30 p.m. for free recitals on the 72-rank Kilgen-Möller pipe organ of Third Baptist Church at the corner of Grand and Washington. Reception and refreshments follow each recital. Linda Andrews, Organ Instructor at Western Illinois University, Macomb, Illinois performing. Grand Ave. at Washington, St. Louis

Sunday, May 20—3:00 pm—Manchester United Methodist Church

CHAPTER EVENT—Recital—Clay Christiansen, Organist, Mormon Tabernacle, Salt Lake City. 129 Woods Mill Road, Manchester, MO.

Sunday May 20—3:00 pm—Mary Queen of Peace Catholic Church

Pro-Arte St. Louis - Magnificat: Music for Mary Pro-Arte's Spring concert, Magnificat: Music for Mary will feature a Magnificat by Parsons, and another by Schütz. We will also perform two Ave Maria settings. One by Ockegham, the other by Casali. Our repertoire is rounded out by four Regina Coeli settings by Croce, Cuello, de Cristo, and des Prez. Interspersed will be Gregorian and/or Ambrosian chants appropriate to the repertoire. 676 W Lockwood Ave. Webster Groves, MO

Monday May 21—6:30 pm—Webster Groves Christian Church

CHAPTER EVENT - Annual Dinner Meeting See our Syllabus Page for details - www.agostlouis.org. 1320 W. Lockwood Blvd., Glendale, MO 63122

Friday, May 25—12:30 pm—Third Baptist Church

Friday Pipes at Third Baptist Church. Join us each Friday at 12:30 for free recitals on the 72-rank Kilgen-Möller pipe organ of Third Baptist Church. Reception and refreshments follow each recital. Tyler Boehmer, a Master's degree candidate, University of Kansas will be performing. Grand Ave. at Washington, St. Louis

Friday June 1—7:00 pm—Immaculate Conception Church, Columbia, Illinois.

Hector Olivera Concert Free attendance. 411 Palmer Road, Columbia, IL

Saturday June 2—9:00 am—Immaculate Conception Church, Columbia, Illinois.

Hector Olivera—Master Class This event is held in conjunction with Hector's concert, the prior day. Free to attend, must register at www.allenorgansmidwest.com. 411 Palmer Road, Columbia, IL

OPEN POSITIONS

MUSIC COORDINATOR

The Music Coordinator will be responsible for coordinating the Music Ministry at St. Paul. This is a part time position which includes leading and promoting congregational participation in singing during the Sunday morning worship services to enhance the overall spiritual experience and coordinating music with other music ministries of the church.

General Expectations are as follows:

- Varied musical background well versed in both Traditional and Contemporary Music, which includes the ability to play musical instruments such as organ, and/or piano and keyboard for worship and accompanying soloists, duets, etc. Experience in leading choirs/groups also is a plus.
- Work closely with the Pastor in planning worship services – will require attending regular planning sessions.
- Recruit, coordinate, and work closely with volunteers of adult, children's and youth choirs with rehearsals as needed.
- In coordination with other music leaders, and consultation with Pastor, to plan for various choirs/groups to perform a minimum of once a month in both services, which, may include soloists, groups, or special music.
- Develop a continuing interest in the growth of overall music participation in the church (may include reviewing and bringing in outside talent to enhance the spiritual experiences of services).
- Will be required to play for special services as requested by Pastor for Easter, Lent, Christmas, etc. including presenting a Christmas cantata.
- May have opportunity to play at funerals and weddings.

Permanent employment in this position will depend on successful 90 day probation and review by the Staff-Parish Relations Committee.

Job description and application available at www.stpaulwired.org. Send cover letter and resume to: Staff-Parrish Committee, St. Paul UMC, 10 N. Center St., East Alton, IL 62024 or info@stpaulwired.org by May 1

MUSIC DIRECTOR

The Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration in Lake St. Louis, Missouri seeks a part-time Music Director responsible for the music during worship services. The Music Director will work under the direction of and in collaboration with the Rector. This position requires one who is musically talented, flexible, creative, and organized. The candidate must know sacred choral music, hymns, organ repertoire, and Episcopal liturgical practices. The candidate must possess the ability to lead, teach, sing, and encourage and inspire musical participation.

The Music Director will:

1. Prepare and provide musical accompaniment, and provide leadership and direction for Sunday services, which include prelude/postlude, hymns, and service music. Additional services include Holy Week, Christmas, and other special occasions such as weddings and funerals.
2. Select hymns and service music in collaboration with the Rector. Available resources include the three Episcopal hymnals and other approved music.
3. Play the organ and piano proficiently for accompaniment of hymns as well as anthems, solos, and prelude/postlude music. Must be able to sight-read.
4. Demonstrate an ability to lead congregational singing, teach new hymns, and reintroduce the congregation to the joy of singing, with a goal to reestablish and sustain a choir.
5. Spend the necessary time in preparation and rehearsal to ensure a high-quality musical result.
6. Develop and maintain constructive and cooperative working relationships with others.
7. Tend to administrative matters as needed, such as planning for the church year, ordering music, maintaining the music library, communicating in a timely manner, and supplying information for worship bulletins, newsletters, and publicity.
8. Spend approximately 8 to 12 hours per week to fulfill the responsibilities. Qualifications

A Bachelor of Music degree is preferred with a minimum of 3 years of experience.

Interested candidates should send a cover letter and resume to the Rector, the Rev. Lu-Anne Conner, at lu-anne.conner@transfigurationchurch.org by May 1, 2018

“ . . . Who From Their Labors Rest . . . ”

Mabel Schickedanz (December 1, 1919-April 26, 2018). Mabel was a lifelong homemaker and gifted musician. A member of Friedens United Church of Christ in Marissa, Illinois, Mabel faithfully played the organ for 75 years. She directed both the adult and children’s choir, served on the church council and the women’s guild. A true lover of music, Mabel participated in the RSVP choir through the Southwestern Illinois Community College, The Risdonaires Kitchen Band, and the Open House Theatre. She lent her talent at countless school functions and weddings. She also worked for a time as a hairdresser and at the First National Bank of Marissa, as well as at Triefenbach Ford. Mabel was an amazing cook and homemaker. She was preceded in death by her parents, Henry and Louisa (Sinn) Triefenbach, and by her husband of 72 years, Irving Schickedanz, whom she married on April 23, 1944 at Friedens UCC and who passed away on July 13, 2016. She was also preceded in death by two brothers: Alvin (Alberta) Triefenbach, Leroy (Mildred Triefenbach, and by one sister, Mildred (Chester) Gorman.

Mabel is survived by two sons: David (Judith) Schickedanz of Brookline, MA; John (Lea) Schickedanz Barrett of Marissa, IL and by grandchildren Jody (Josh) Giuntoli of Olympia WA, Stacey (David) Pilbean of Marissa, Adam (Heather) Bennett Schickedanz of Los Angeles, CA. She is also survived by five nieces and nephews.

Editor’s note: I’ve known and admired Mabel since the beginning of my seven-year tenure at Friedens. I have never heard Mabel utter a single negative thing about anyone! She has been my encourager-in-chief. Mabel attended an AGO opening worship service at Christ Church Cathedral, and I had the pleasure of introducing her to William “Pat” Partridge who expressed amazement at Mabel’s 75-year tenure as organist.

Eaves, Eleonora M. (nee Lusivic) Born in St. Louis February 9, 1927, died April 13, 2018. Beloved wife of the late Russell G. Eaves, and married 58 years.

In 1935, Anna and Ivan Lusivic, Sr. had started Hrvatski Pomladak Tamburitza Group, Eleonora was a member until it was disbanded in 1945 when the boys left for military service. In 1961, when they reestablished the Croatian Jr. Tamburitza Eleonora was an assistant instructor until 1964 and with the passing of Ivan Lusivic, Sr. she became musical director emerita, a 6-month experiment that lasted more than 57 years. Over 500 names comprise the student roster. The Hall of Fame in the T.A.A. recognizes extraordinary dedication to the tamburitza and its music. The entire Lusivic family, Ivan Sr., Anna, Eleonora and Ivan, Jr. are the only entire family in the Hall of Fame. She was a member of Lodge 50 Croatian Fraternal Union for 72 years. She was the organist and choir director for 75 years at St. Joseph Croatian Church. In 1977, she was selected to be guest conductor of the CFU Tamburitza festival held in St. Louis, the first woman to be so honored. The climax of the weekend was when she directed over 900 Jr. Tamburitizens assembled on the stage of Kiel Auditorium in an arrangement of U Boj U Boj from the opera “Zrinski.” She was president of the Mothers Club in 1963. She received many accolades from the Bayless school system where she raised funds to build a new school addition which houses equipment for a closed circuit TV studio, from the Boy Scouts of America for her service as a den mother and from the American Red Cross. Services were arranged by Chulick Funeral Home. 10:00 am Mass was at St. Joseph Croatian Church was Thursday, April 19, at St. Joseph Croatian Church. Interment at Resurrection Cemetery. As the late Anna Lusivic said and Eleonora would agree, “Do not mourn for me or wear black. Celebrate the wonderful exciting life I’ve had singing, dancing and wearing bright colors. “



CHAPTER NEWS

It's official! Here are the election results.

Dean, Burnell Hackman
Sub-Dean, Jeff White
Executive Board, Class of 2021
 Nick Botkins
 Bob Chamberlain
 Timothy Jansen

OTHER NEWS:

Ladies, Be Good!

. . . across the centuries, women composers have shared their exceptional creativity.

Here's a "shout-out" to Barbara Harbach! On April 16, Barbara was one of the featured artists on Pipedreams. The program featured works by women composers. The segment was recorded on the Aeolian-Skinner at Christ Church Cathedral, St. Louis and featured *A celebration of Hymns (Erre Gyere; Gloria; Vater unser; Darwall's 148th)* performed by Barbara Harbach.

The Blewett Award

The motion has passed in the Executive Committee to accept the nomination of Maestro David Robertson as the 2018 Avis Blewett recipient. Thanks to Stephen Jones (Executive Committee representative), Kathleen Bolduan, and Dawn Riske for their work in the nominating process.

Errata! In the April issue, credit went to Rene Zajner for **all** the events photography. The photograph of the Organ Crawl was the fine work of Biff Hackman, son of our newly elected Dean, Burnell. "*Mea Culpa*" says the editor!

St. Louis Chapter American Guild Of Organists

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Burnell Hackman

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THE DETAILS

Event:	Recital, Dr. Clay Christiansen, Mormon Tabernacle Organist
Location:	Manchester United Methodist Church 129 Woods Mill Rd., Manchester, MO
Date:	Sunday, May 20
Time:	3:00 pm
Cost:	Free and open to the public
Reservations:	None Required
Driving Directions:	From all locations —Use I-270 and exit at Manchester Road. Be aware of signage for Manchester Road (westbound). Follow Manchester Road (aka Historic US Route 66) to Creve Coeur Avenue (turn right). The church is an imposing building on your right.

THE DETAILS

Event:	Annual Meeting with Speaker, Clay Christiansen
Location:	Webster Groves Christian Church 1320 West Lockwood Blvd, in Glendale, MO
Cost:	Dinner—\$15.00
Reservations:	Contact Kathleen Bolduan for reservations as much in advance as possible. Phone or text 314-853-5011 or email Kathleen.bolduan@gmail.com
Driving Directions:	From Illinois—(using the Poplar Street Bridge). Take the exit for I-55/I-44, then at the fork follow signage for I-44. Follow I-44 to exit 279 (Berry Road). Keep right at the off-ramp to turn north on Berry Rd. Turn Left on Lockwood. The church will be at the corner, parking entrance is to the left. From points west—using I-64. Exit at 28A to merge onto US-61 (South Lindbergh Blvd.) Take N. Woodlawn Ave. to West Lockwood Avenue, You will merge onto S. Lindbergh. From South County —Get on I-255 (which becomes I-270). After about 5 miles, use the right 2 lanes to take exit 5A to merge onto I-44 /US-50 toward St. Louis follow I-44 for about 2.4 miles. Take exit 278 to merge onto Big Bend Rd. Then take S. Sappington Road to W. Lockwood Ave. Use the right lane to merge onto Big Bend Rd. After about 1.8 miles, use the right lane to merge onto Big Bend Road. Turn left onto S. Sappington Rd., which turns left and becomes Argonne Dr. Turn right onto N. Sappington, then turn right onto West Lockwood Ave. The church will be on the right.

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St. Louis Chapter

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