



THE OPUS

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

www.agostlouis.org

From the Dean . . .

I hope this issue of the OPUS arrives to find each of you totally caught up and well-rehearsed for the many musical demands of this season. There have been a few organists who have relocated in the past several months and I wish you well in your new positions. In addition to the Chapter meetings and programs, many churches and ensembles are planning musical events. Your participation and attendance at a colleague's program is always appreciated.

There are no Chapter meetings this year in March because we know most people are very busy with their own choirs, synagogues, programs and recitals. Several people have commented favorably about the quality and diversity of the programs we've had this year. I was especially appreciative of the program co-sponsored by our chapter and the St. Louis Chapter of National Association of Pastoral Musicians. I really appreciated the timely remarks made by Msgr. Telthorst.

The Executive Committee is encouraging all of our members to attend the 2013 AGO Region VI Convention in June in Springfield. In addition to taking advantage of the early registration discount, you can help by making a donation to the convention. This can be done in a number of ways: by taking out an advertisement in the convention book, by sponsoring an event, or simply by sending a donation. Information on advertisements and sponsorships are included in this issue and are also available on the convention website, springfield2013.com.

Our Chapter will be hosting the AGO 2015 North Central Regional Convention. Your participation (as a volunteer, attendee, and a contributor) is essential. Andrew Peters is our convention chairperson; please respond affirmatively when he or his committee members ask you to get involved in the 2015 convention. Thanks to everyone who made it to the Town Hall meeting on February 23. If you couldn't make it, there are still plenty of opportunities to get involved in the 2015 convention. Please contact Andrew Peters (music@secondchurch.net) to make your availability known.

We are in the process of reconciling our membership roster with the records of the National Office. Once that is completed, I will be able to provide an updated accounting of our new members this year. Thanks to all who have become new members and to those who have invited others to join. I have been advised by the National organization that they are moving forward in their plan to have all membership renewals available online. They are still in the testing phase, so it may or may not be available this year. You can always renew online through the chapter, just send Brent Johnson an e-mail and request the online payment link. Brent's e-mail is: brent@brentmjohnson.net

We have a member's recital in conjunction with our annual meeting in May. Trinity Presbyterian Church will be our host. If you are interested in playing on the program, please get your information to Stephen Eros (subdean@agostlouis.org) within the next several weeks.

If you plan to take one of the AGO certification exams, remember that our chapter will reimburse your registration fee IF you pass! As far as we know, we're the only chapter in the country offering this incentive to its members. Please consult the National AGO website: agohq.org for certification requirements. Also, contact Dawn Riske, CAGO (driskehoy@juno.com) to work out the details. We have members who are willing and able to lend you some of the test preparation materials, copies of old tests to test yourself, and listen to you play if you need a friendly pair of ears! I promise you will have a wonderful sense of accomplishment when you are notified that you passed.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the April 22nd program at St. Mark's Episcopal Church. Dr. Trent Patterson and the Webster University Chamber Singers will present a program on Choral Techniques and Literature.

All the best,
Bill Wade, CAGO, Dean

NEWS YOU CAN USE . . .

TRY OUT THESE RESOURCES!

Brent Johnson

This past Christmas I received a generous gift certificate for Shattinger Music. I didn't have any particular music needs, and since this was an unexpected gift, I decided to just go browse for anything that looked interesting. I was able to purchase a couple of useful books that might otherwise be out of my price range. With those in hand, I went searching for a final item that would use up the remainder of the value of the certificate. I came across a book of Debussy works transcribed for organ. This would be perfect; the person I received the gift from loves Debussy. I opened the book to peruse the table of contents, saw some titles I recognized, so I took my new-found treasures to the counter to check out.

A few days later I had some time to sit and go through the Debussy book. I have a recording of Keith Chapman playing some of these same works on the Wanamaker organ, so in my head I was hearing all of those wonderful symphonic sounds, even if my ears were hearing the disappointing sounds of my electronic practice organ. The print quality of the book was not fantastic, however, and looking back at the first of the pages, I realized this book, that was priced a bit dearly, was just a reprint of the original Durand edition. I pulled out my smartphone and opened the browser to imslp.org and there did a search for Debussy.

On the page containing Debussy's works, there it was, "12 Pièces pour grand orgue". Not only was it the book I had just purchased, but the exact same copy, all available in a free PDF file.

PDF sheet music is becoming more and more popular. Many publishers are starting to offer direct downloads of the music you buy. Some composers are even opting to skip the publishing industry altogether and are selling their works online, either through their own web sites, or other third-party services. However, the amount of free public-domain music available at the International Music Score Library Project, also known as the Petrucci Music Library, is a marvel in itself. Not only will you find classic editions, but you'll find newly re-published versions of particular works. It's not just organ music, either, but anything you can think of. The number of works is growing daily, and more and more music is falling into the public domain every day. It's always fun to browse through the stacks of a well-stocked music store, but it's far cheaper and quicker to find new and interesting things from the comfort of your own computer. The Debussy book has been returned to the music store, and I'll be more careful about how I spend my hard-earned gift certificates in the future.

Some websites to visit are:

www.imslp.org

www.free-scores.com

www.organmusicdownloads.com

www.sheetmusicarchive.net

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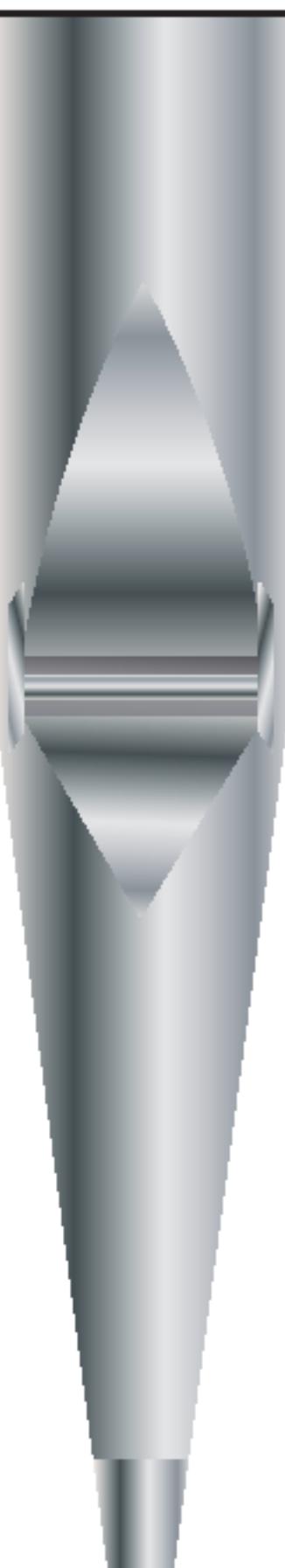
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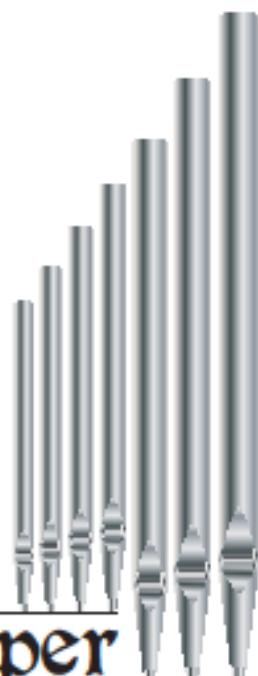
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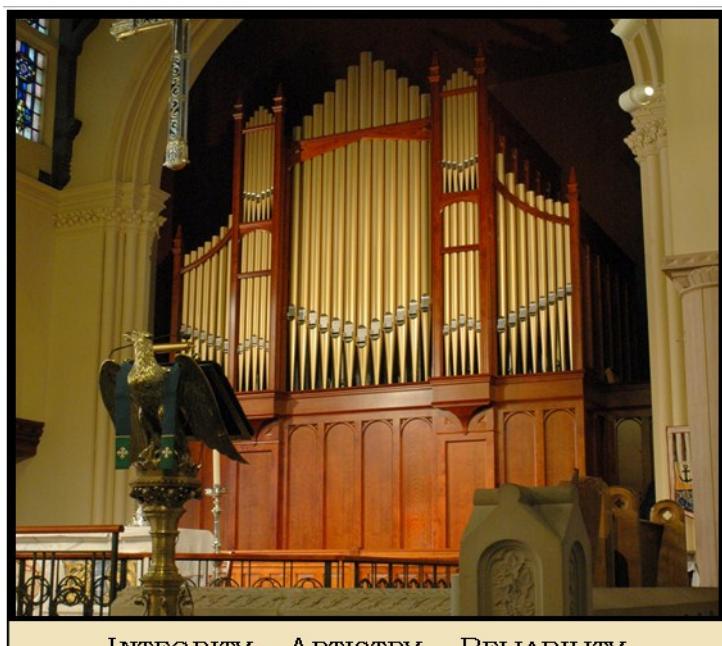
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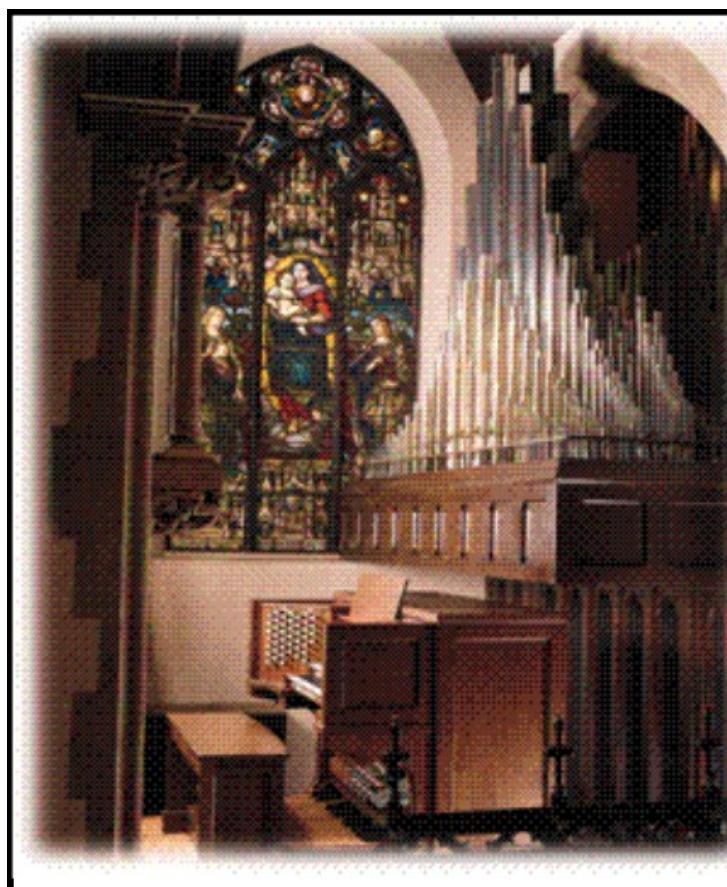
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AGO NORTH CENTRAL REGIONAL CONVENTION
JUNE, 2015

RIGHT HERE IN SAINT LOUIS!

Be a part of planning the convention!! Share your ideas for programs and workshops!!

The Steering Committee for the 2015 Regional Convention wants your suggestions to help them develop an outstanding list of recitals and programs which will highlight the talent in our region. (Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin, Wyoming)

To get your thinking started:

Is there an artist you would like to hear live in St. Louis?

Do you think there's a particular organ or venue that would be interesting?

Can you recommend a good workshop presenter?

What about personnel concerns?

Need some ideas for your children's programs?

Want to learn more about historic performance practice?

The life and works of a specific composer?

Please use the space below to list your ideas and suggestions. Return this page to Andrew Peters, Convention Coordinator, either by regular mail, e-mail, or fax.

Andrew Peters
2nd Presbyterian Church
4501 Westminster Place
St. Louis, MO 63108 - 1801
music@secondchurch.net fax 314-367-8592



UPCOMING CONCERTS

MARCH

Friday, March 8—7:30 pm

St. Paul Fine Arts Series, Belleville, IL

University of Missouri MU STEEL. The Steel Drum Ensemble lends a tropical flair to not only calypso and Caribbean tunes, but to a variety of styles of music as well! Contact: [618-233-3303](tel:618-233-3303) www.stpaulucc.org

Sunday, March 10—4:00 pm

Second Presbyterian Church

Derek Dalke, tenor section leader at Second Presbyterian Church, presents a program for the Lenten season with organist Andrew Peters. The afternoon features hymns and songs appropriate to Lent, drawn from the Old and New Testaments. The Bible readings associated with this season are not limited to Christ's temptation in the Wilderness and Ezekial's 'dry bones.' More than that, the lectionary prepares us for Easter by offering a history of God's covenant and a portrait of salvation: from Noah, Abraham, and David to the prodigal son, Lazarus, and the woman at the well.

Friday, March 15—8:00 pm

Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis

Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra. "The House of Dreams" Contact: www.CathedralConcerts.org

Sunday, March 17—3:00 pm

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

Recital by Gail Archer, international concert organist, recording artist, and Grammy nominee. Her recital will

include works by Buxtehude, Bach, Johanna Senfter, Charles Ives, Samuel Barber, Alla Borzova, and Olivier Messiaen. The recital is offered as part of the "Concerts at St. Mark's" series. A reception will follow the recital. There is no charge for the concert but there is an opportunity for free-will offering in support of the concert series.

Sunday, March 24—7:30 pm

Manchester United Methodist Church, Manchester (West County)

MUMC Chancel Choir is joined by VOCES8 from London for Handel's MESSIAH with Kevin McBeth, conductor, John Cargile, organist and orchestra. The international award-winning octet, VOCES8, has established itself at the forefront of British a cappella singing. Performing a repertoire ranging from Renaissance polyphony to unique Jazz and Pop arrangements, the group has been praised for stunning performance, exquisite singing and creating a sound that spans the entire range of vocal colour. VOCES8 tours internationally and has a series of disc releases on Signum Classics including *Aces High*, *Bach Motets* and the latest release, *A Choral Tapestry*. Presented as part of the Joy of Music Series, admission is free. For more information about VOCES8 visit their website at <http://www.voces8.com/>.

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UPCOMING CONCERTS

(Continued from Page 5)

MARCH

Friday, March 29—8:00 pm

Second Baptist Church

Good Friday service featuring "The Seven Last Words of Christ" by Theodore Dubois, edited by Hal H. Hopson. Soloists Jessica Klinger Cisell, Daniel A. Pickett, and Greg Storkan will be accompanied by chorus and chamber orchestra. A goodwill offering will be taken. 9030 Clayton Road at McKnight Road.

[\(314\) 991-3424](tel:(314)991-3424) www.2ndbc.org

APRIL

Saturday, April 6—8:00 pm

Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis

Regensberg Cathedral Choir

www.CathedralConcerts.org

Sunday, April 7—4:00 p.m.

St Andrews Episcopal Church, Edwardsville

SIUE Faculty Trumpet Recital with John Korak, Robert Souza, the SIUE Trumpet Ensemble and Henry Evans, Organist. Free event.

Sunday, April 7—7:00 pm

Ladue Chapel Presbyterian Church

Bach's Cantata 4, *Christ lag in Todesbanden*, proclaiming Christ's triumph over the grave, is joined by the charming *Mass in G* by the youthful Franz Schubert.

Friday, April 12—7:30 pm

St. Paul Fine Arts Series, Belleville, IL

Christopher Houlihan, Concert Organist, 'Houli' is widely acknowledged as one of the brightest stars in the new generation of American organists!

Contact: [618-233-3303](tel:618-233-3303) www.stpaulucc.org

Thursday, April 18—7:30 pm

St. Paul UCC, Belleville, IL

Elmhurst College Concert Choir and BTHSE Concert Choir "In Concert."

Contact: [618-233-3303](tel:618-233-3303) www.stpaulucc.org

Sunday, April 21—4:00 pm

Second Presbyterian Church

Earth Day Hymn Festival. Join us the day prior to Earth Day for an exciting Hymn Festival—hymns and readings with the choirs of Second Presbyterian Church and Grace United Methodist Church. Organist Andrew Peters, trumpeter Susan Slaughter and St. Louis Symphony Orchestra brass members will lead the singing as we celebrate the joy of Creation.

GAIL ARCHER AT ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL

Gail Archer, international concert organist, recording artist, and Grammy nominee will play an organ recital at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 4714 Clifton Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri, on Sunday afternoon, March 17th at 3:00 PM. Her recital will include works by Buxtehude, Bach, Johanna Senfter, Charles Ives, Samuel Barber, Alla Borzova, and Olivier Messiaen. In 2008 Gail Archer was the first American women to play the entire works of Olivier Messiaen in celebration of the centennial of the composer's birth. Her numerous recordings cover a wide range of musical styles from the music of Franz Lizst and Mendelssohn to that of Sweelinck and Bach with her latest recording featuring American composers. Ms. Archer is college organist at Vassar College and director of the music program at Barnard College, Columbia University where she directs the Barnard-Columbia Chorus. She serves as director of the artist and young organ artist recitals at historic Central Synagogue, New York City. The recital is offered as part of the "Concerts at St. Mark's" series. A reception will follow the recital. There is no charge for the concert but there is an opportunity for free-will offering in support of the concert series.

**St. Louis
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OPUS Newsletter Editors

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requests to:

Al Black

8056 Blackberry Ave.

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awblack3@aol.com

OPEN POSITIONS

ORGANIST

St. Paul's Episcopal church, 6518 Michigan Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri, 63111 is seeking an organist to come worship with us. We are a historic, urban Episcopal Church that sits in the heart of the Carondelet neighborhood in South St. Louis City. St. Paul's is a feisty little church with a big heart. St. Paul's takes seriously its call to be disciples of Christ, and is passionate about worshiping and praising God for the grace, glory, and love that God has rained down upon us. Our worship uses the traditional Episcopal liturgy of the 1979 Book of Common Prayer, and the 1982 Episcopal hymnbook. We have one service at 10:00 am, and other special services during the church year. A knowledge of traditional liturgical services would be appreciated. We are GLBT friendly. Please contact Fr. Robert Ard. Church: 314-352-0370; cell: 314-619-9214 <http://www.carondeletchurch.org/index.html>

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY

Idlewild Presbyterian Church, Memphis, TN is seeking a full-time Director of Music Ministry to oversee the entire music program for our 1500-member congregation. Major responsibilities include, but are not limited to, serving as organist for all regular and special worship services, rehearsing and conducting the adult choir, and planning with the church staff worship team for music and worship. Minimum degree requirements are master's degree in a field of music and five or more years of church experience.

The Sanctuary organ is a Bedient 3-manual, 69-rank instrument built in 1988 with further additions in 2004. The Chapel organ is a 1976 2-manual 13 rank-Moeller. Salary range is \$42,000-\$60,000 with all benefits as required by PCUSA. The church's website is www.idlewildchurch.org. Applications and questions should be sent to: Barry White, Chair of the Music Search Committee by email: BFWHite@farris-law.com or by fax: Attn Barry White (901-259-7180).

ORGANIST/PIANIST

Gethsemane Lutheran Church, 3600 Hampton Ave, St. Louis, MO is seeking a part-time (1/4) Organist-Pianist. Duties include playing for two services each Sunday, plus special seasonal services. Candidate should be comfortable with a variety of musical styles and accompanying choral rehearsals. Contact Pastor Kendra Nolde at 314-352-8050 or send resumes to prkendra-glc@swbell.net

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Lord of Life Lutheran Church, Chesterfield MO is seeking a Music Director. For complete descriptions please refer to www.agostlouis.org. The successful candidate will be the primary musician for all services and special services such as weddings and funerals, will be responsible for scheduling substitute organists/pianists when needed (four Sunday's per year), and will direct handbell choir and youth music programs as described on the agostlouis.org website. Bachelor's degree in music, church music, or other related degree. Demonstrated knowledge of Lutheran theology, liturgical practice, and use of music in worship. Demonstrated skill and competency at the keyboard, particularly organ and piano, and a working knowledge of other instruments. Send resumes to secretary@lordoflifelcms.org

THE OPUS

American Guild of Organists

St. Louis Chapter

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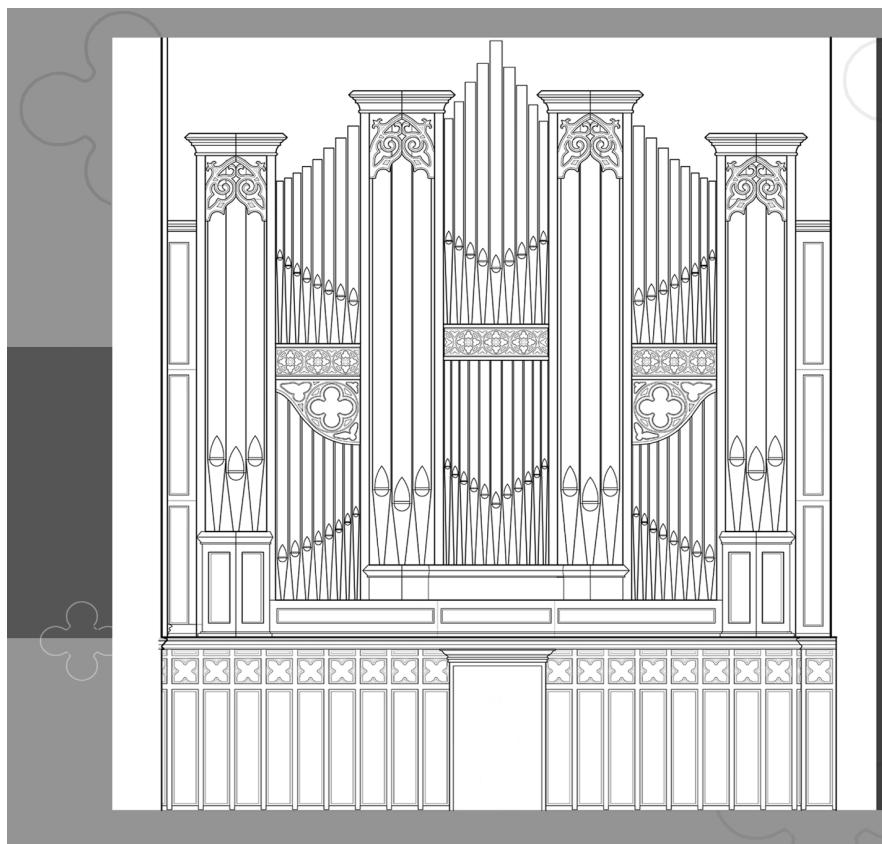
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