



THE OPUS

November 2006

Volume 23

Number 3

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

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Reconnect with the Psalms at November Meeting

The book of Psalms has inspired generations of worshippers – priests in the Old Testament temple, sixth-century monastic communities,

sixteenth-century Lutherans and Calvinists, as well as contemporary spiritual communities like Taizé and Iona. This collected body of songs and prayers has played a central in Jewish and Christian liturgy, giving voice to ecstatic joy, deep lament, seething anger, tearful confession and simple thanks. The emotional range of the book is staggering and speaks to the depth and richness of our human

lives. But there are challenges to keeping the Psalms a central, vibrant part of our congregation's worship life. The texts can often be confusing or troubling and perhaps our congregations would rather that we focus on more "upbeat" material. Maybe the musical settings that we find all sound the same, or a sung psalm has become one more "thing" for the choir or cantor to prepare each week.

At this month's meeting on Nov. 27, you have an opportunity to reconnect and re-imagine the Psalms in a unique Psalm

Festival. The evening program will include diverse musical settings drawn from many traditions – responsorial, chanted in

• Ann Weems, noted author and poet, will read several poetic translations of the Psalms, including a poem from her collection *Psalms of Lament*.

• Rev. Dr. Christopher Grundy, Professor of Preaching and Worship at Eden Theological Seminary, will speak on how the Psalms help to form and reform our worship.

• Members and friends of the Guild will offer instrumental interpretations of the Psalms.

We hope that this event provides an opportunity for you to creatively reengage with these powerful poems and the spirituality that undergirds them.

Perhaps you will bring a setting or two to bring back to your congregation, and maybe you'll find a moment of comfort, challenge, inspiration or insight that will renew you in your work as a worship leader. We look forward to seeing you this month!

Planning Ahead

January 29, 2007: AGO National Chaplain Gregory Norton will be our guest at Ladue Chapel. Please invite your clergy-person to attend this meeting with you.

NOTE: This is the last Monday of the month.

— Paul Vasile

The Details

Date: Monday, Nov. 27
Event: Psalm Festival
Location: Second Baptist Church
9030 Clayton Road (at McKnight)
St. Louis, MO 63117
Time: 6:30 p.m. – Dinner
7:30 p.m. – Program
Host: Marilyn Short
Cost: \$8 for dinner
Reservations: Kathleen Bolduan (314-935-5517;
or kbolduan@artsci.wustl.edu)

(Vegetarians accommodated upon request. Please confirm your reservations by Friday, Nov. 24)

Directions: Second Baptist Church is on the southeast corner of Clayton and McKnight Roads. There are entrances from both streets.

From I-64/U.S. Route 40 Eastbound: Take the McKnight Road exit (#30), turn left onto McKnight and go north approximately one mile to the church, on the right.

From I-64/U.S. Route 40 Westbound: Take Clayton Road exit (#34B). Continue west on Clayton Road for 3.3 miles. The church will be on your left.

various languages, choral and spoken. And woven throughout our singing will be brief meditations by local clergy, a poet, and church musicians.

Special guests will include:

• Rabbi Mordecai Miller from Temple Brith Shalom Kneseth Israel in Clayton, who will speak on the central role of the Psalms in Jewish thought and worship.

• Dr. Marvin Marcus, who serves as a cantor at Temple Brith Shalom, will chant a psalm in Hebrew and share in musical leadership.

Holidays Offer Opportunities for Hearing Others

What a pleasure it was to see so many of you at St. Peters on Oct. 23. It was a great way to hear and meet Scott Montgomery, the new AGO Young Artist. Your attendance was also a way to tell Scott that the St. Louis organist community welcomes him and is interested in his career as a recitalist. We're grateful to Chapter photo-grapher Rene Zajner for his pictures that recap this and other of our recent activities.

As the holiday season approaches, there will be many opportunities to attend recitals and programs in the metro area.

Some of the events will be perennial favorites in the annual programming of professional groups. But many will be concerts presented by you and your AGO colleagues. I encourage you to scan the Events column of the OPUS and the listings in the Thursday "Get Out" section of the *Post-Dispatch*. And don't overlook the Religion section of the Saturday paper where many church events are listed. Select a concert and attend - see a new church, hear a new choir or organ, get some new repertoire ideas. After the concert, stay to greet the organist and

performers - it's a great way to show your interest in a colleague's endeavors and to draw us together as a community of church musicians.

The next two months will be filled with planning and practicing that culminates on Christmas Eve. I hope that in the midst of making this time meaningful for your congregation, you will find peace and renewal for yourself. May your choir members stay in good voice, may all your pipes be in tune, and may your playing reflect the joy of the season!

— Martha Shaffer

Welcome New Chapter Members

We welcome the following new members who have recently joined the St. Louis Chapter, American Guild of Organists.

Gay Spears
Gregory Caldwell
J.D. Brooks
Cathy Cassy
Rad Bunting
Mark Ruff
David Cohen
Emily Pearce
Homer Ferguson
Brent Johnson
Michael Bavisik
Tyson Wunderlich
Jean Condron
Gary Miller

David Erwin
Sister Dorothy Venhaus, SSND
Heather Martin Cooper
Ju Young Lee
James Munden
Benjamin Weston
Nathan Jackson
Jim Randazzo
Katie Ammann
Bill Stein
Father Joseph Havrilka
Richard Jaeggi
Pamela Stuerke
Bill Robinson
Henry Kipp
Timothy Lyon
Laura Bollinger

STUDENT MEMBERS from the POE

David Ball
Ben Blasingame
Jenny Bower
Evan Culbertson
Matthew Cantowine
Rebecca Gee
Andrew Kenney
Nicole Reinhardt
John Schneier
Helen Schultz
Ellen Vierse
Joseph Wentzel

Volunteers Needed

Two people are needed to fill vacancies on the telephone committee. The committee works on an as-needed basis and is a vital link in Chapter communications. Contact Chairperson Regina Morris for details: 314-647-0475 or morrisrp@swbell.net.

Free Music On-Line

Stephen Best, dean of the Central New York Chapter, was commissioned to write a new piece to celebrate the 200th anniversary of First United Methodist Church, Schenectady, N.Y. The church agreed to his suggestion that the piece be made available free of charge to anyone interested in playing it. Mr. Best's composition, "Celebration!," which is inspired by "Rejoice" from Handel's "Messiah," can be downloaded at www.evensongmusic.net/celebration.html. Click on the word "Celebration" and print the music from the pdf file.

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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.

January issue deadline: Jan. 2, 2007

AGO Rising Star Scott Montgomery at October Meeting



Scott Montgomery, Program Chair Paul Vasile and Michael Laubert.

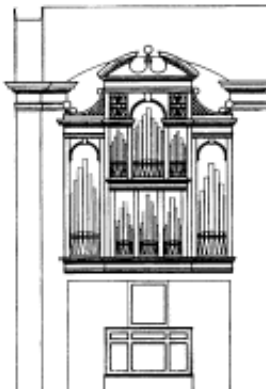
A Bach prelude and fugue on St. Peter's fine Mander organ.



A rapt "choir" audience...



Summer POE students were special guests. Front row: John Schneier and Andrew Kenney. Back row: Jenny Bower, Scott Montgomery and meeting host Bill Aitken.



ORGAN RECITAL & CHORAL EVENSONG

FIRST SUNDAYS from OCTOBER through MAY

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

Sunday, NOV. 5 – Organ Recital and Evensong

5:00 p.m. – *Michael J. Bennett, Organist – Lafayette, Indiana*

5:30 p.m. – All Saints' Evensong – Music of Sowerby, Howells and Victoria

Sunday, DEC. 3 – 5:00 p.m. – Christmas Concert

St. Peter's Choir & Chamber Orchestra: *Dixit & Magnificat – W. A. Mozart*
Ceremony of Carols – Benjamin Britten; Magnificat – J. S. Bach

Sunday, JAN. 7, 2007 – Organ Recital and Evensong

5:00 p.m. – *Earl Naylor, Organist – Emmanuel Episcopal Church, St. Louis*

5:30 p.m. – Epiphany Evensong – Music of Davies, Dyson and Stewart

SAINT PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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'Crawlers' Visit Illinois Organs in September to Kick Off AGO Season

Pipes of the Allen/Moller organ at St. Elizabeth's Catholic Church, Granite City.



Cathy Bolduan tries out the Robert Dial organ at First Presbyterian Church, Alton, under the watchful eye of Henry Evans.



The Martin Ott instrument in the chapel at Principia College, Elsah.

Principia student Lisa Remington demonstrated the carillon at Principia College.





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John Near demonstrates the Casavant organ in Cox Auditorium at Principia College, Elsau, as Paul Vasile looks on.



Organs Visited
 Allen/Moller (2002, 2/72)
 St. Elizabeth's Catholic Church, Granite City, Ill.
 Host: Jim Dederá

Robert Dial (1991, 3/45)
 First Presbyterian Church, Alton, Illinois
 Host: Robert Dial

Martin Ott (1992, 2/34)
 Jean L. Rainwater Carillon (39 bells)
 Casavant (2005, 3/55)
 Principia College, Elsau, Ill.
 Host: John Near

Special thanks to Chapter photographer Rene Zajner for the photographs of events appearing in this OPUS issue.

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In Memoriam

Joseph O'Conner passed away on Thursday, Oct 28. He was a member of the Guild during the 1970s and 1980s. He had studied at Peabody Conservatory and The Julliard School. He was assistant organist at Christ Church Cathedral, organist and choir director at Des Presbyterian Church and First Presbyterian Church. He had a deep interest in the music of Olivier Messiaen. Joe will be remembered as host and recitalist of "King of Instruments," a series of radio programs which he wrote and produced for KWMU.



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Christmas at the Cathedral
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 Sunday, December 10, 2006 2:30 PM
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Missouri Collegiate Choirs Concert
 with the choirs of the University of Missouri, St. Louis
 University of Missouri, Columbia & Missouri State University
 Friday, January 12, 2007 8:00 PM

Cathedral Organist John Romeri & Tenor Scott Kennebeck
 Sunday, January 28, 2007 2:30 PM

Paul Jacobs, organist
 Julliard Music School
 Sunday, February 18, 2007 2:30 PM



St. Thomas Choir, New York City
 Monday, March 5, 2007 8:00 PM

Cathedral Concerts Gala
 Sunday, March 11, 2007 6:00 PM
 In the Starlight Roof & Zodiac Room, Chase Park Plaza
 featuring Susan Slaughter
 and the St. Louis Symphony Brass Quintet

The Tallis Scholars
 Sunday, March 25, 2007 7:30 PM

Chanticleer
 Thursday, April 19, 2007 8:00 PM

Felix Hell, organist
 Wednesday, July 18, 2007 7:30 PM



Group Rates Available. For tickets or more information call **314-533-7662**
 or visit www.StlCathedralConcerts.org
 Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis 4431 Lindell Boulevard

On the Concert Horizon...

Sunday, November 12, 3 p.m. St. Paul United Church of Christ, 115 West B Street, Belleville, Ill. Chamber music concert by St. Louis Symphony Orchestra players. Information: 618-233-3303.

Sunday, November 12, 4 p.m. Trinity Presbyterian Church, 6800 Washington Avenue, University City, MO 63130. Tom Zajac and the Kingsbury Ensemble perform Baroque works for recorder. Admission is free; a reception will follow. Information: 314-725-3840 or www.trinitycity.org.

Sunday, November 12, 5 p.m. Second Presbyterian Church, 4501 Westminster Place (at Taylor), St. Louis, MO 63108. Organ recital by Charles Collins. Program includes works by Bach, Mendelssohn, Rheinberger and Woodman. Free. Information: 314-367-0366 or music@secondchurch.net.

Sunday, November 12. St. Charles Foundry Arts Center, St. Charles, Mo. Organist Diane Bish in concert.

Sunday, November 19, 3 p.m. Graham Chapel on the campus of Washington University. Barbara Raedeke, instructor in organ, performs a concerto by Handel and University Organist William Partridge plays Poulenc's Organ Concerto and Walton's Crown Imperial March with the Washington University Symphony Orchestra, Dan Presgrave conductor.

Sunday, November 26, 3 p.m. Emmanuel Episcopal Church, 9 South Bompert Ave., Webster Groves, MO 63119. Organ recital by Earl Naylor. Works by Buxtehude, Guillain, Bach, Dubois, Barber, Manz and Vierne. Admission is free. Reception to follow. Information: 314-961-2393.

Sunday, December 3, 3 p.m. Salem-in-Ballwin United Methodist Church, 14825 Manchester Rd., Ballwin, MO 63011. Organ

dedication concert featuring music for Advent and Christmas. Bob Meinz, organist. Allen Protege organ, 2 manuals, 27 stops, 256 additional organ, orchestral and MIDI voices. Reception follows. Information: 636-256-7171.

Saturday, December 9, 7:30 p.m. Trinity Presbyterian Church, 6800 Washington Avenue, University City, MO 63130. Organ rededication recital performed by Paul Vasile. Program includes works by Bach, Bolcom, Reubke and Messiaen. Admission is free; a reception will follow. Information: 314-725-3840 or www.trinitycity.org.

Sunday, December 10, 3 p.m. St. Elizabeth Church, 2300 Pontoon Road, Granite City, IL 62040. St. Elizabeth Concert Series presents The Gateway Ringers in a special "Holiday with Bells" Christmas concert. Music will include sacred and secular favorites and some surprises. No admission. A free-will offering supports the Concert Series. Information: James Deder, 618 -876-1708.

Sunday, December 10, 5 p.m. Second Presbyterian Church, 4501 Westminster Place (at Taylor), St. Louis, MO 63108. A Concert of Music by Vivaldi. The church choir with orchestra and handbells, Charles Collins, organist and choir director, present Vivaldi's "Credo" and "Beatus vir." Free. Information: 314-367-0366 or music@secondchurch.net.

Sunday, December 17, 3 p.m. St. James the Greater Catholic Church, 6401 Wade. Saint Louis Chamber Chorus "A Celtic Christmas". Carols by Bax, Moeran, and Warlock; commissioned carol from Patrick Zuk. Information and tickets: 636-458-4343.

Friday, January 19, 7:30 p.m. St. Paul United Church of Christ, 115 West B Street, Belleville, Ill. Organ/Harp Recital. Dr. Kathleen Bolduan, organ. Charles Peery, harp. Information: 618-233-3303.

POE students stop outside First Congregational Church for a group photo before attending Evensong and the open console that followed. The event was a major Chapter undertaking in June.



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American Guild
of Organists**



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awblack3@aol.com

Positions Available

Organist/Accompanist

John Knox Presbyterian Church, 13200 New Halls Ferry Road, Florissant, MO 63033, is seeking a part-time organist and accompanist. Duties include playing for the traditional Sunday worship service at 8:45 a.m. and attending Wednesday choir rehearsal from 7:30-9 p.m. Salary is \$75 for each service and choir rehearsal. Contact Kim Kolander, director of music, at 314-412-7021.

Organist

Kirkwood Baptist Church, 221 N. Woodlawn, Kirkwood, MO 63122, is seeking a gifted individual to serve as church organist. Responsibilities include two Sunday morning services and a 1-2 hour choir rehearsal on Wednesday evenings, occasional special services and other music related responsibilities. The organ is an integral part of the church's worship life. The organ is a three-manual, 43 rank instrument built by Quimby that has an excellent variety of stops needed for the performance of organ literature from all periods. The organ was updated in the spring of 2003. Required skills necessary for this position: a thorough understanding of worship, excellent musicianship, excellent accompanying skills, diversity and experience in a variety of musical styles as well as a flexible team spirit. A sense of humor is vital! A job description is available upon request. The desired start date is February 2007. Contact Greg Lundberg at 314-965-2349, Ext. 20, or by e-mail glundberg@kirkwoodbaptist.org. Visit the church's Web site www.kirkwoodbaptist.org to learn about the church ministries and activities.

Choir Director

Union United Methodist Church, 3543 Watson Road, St. Louis, MO 63139, seeks to fill a new part-time choir director staff position for the 10 a.m. traditional service. In addition to abilities as a Chancel choir director, looking for someone who is interested in working to develop other parts of music ministry and can work with a team to develop worship. Must be able to accompany choir on piano or organ. Outside Sunday mornings and choir rehearsal, hours flexible. Contact Rev. Dianne Cochran for more information or e-mail resumes to uionumcstl@sbcglobal.net.

Director of Music and Liturgy Coordinator

St. Gerard Majella Catholic Church, 1969 Dougherty Ferry Road, Kirkwood, MO, 63122 is seeing a full-time director of music and liturgy coordinator. For more information, contact Father Thomas Molina, 314-965-3985. Resumes can be faxed to 314-965-7650.

Organist

St. Giana Catholic Church, 331 Charity Drive, Lake St. Louis, MO 63367, is seeking an organist. Duties include playing for masses on Saturday at 5 p.m. and Sunday at 11 a.m. Contact Mrs. Paula Brown, 636-561-4669 for more information.

Choir Director

College United Methodist Church, 701 E Main St., Warrenton, MO 63383, is seeking an adult choir director. The position is part time, Sept.-May for the 10:30 a.m. Sunday service. Practice is Wednesday evenings. Resumes and inquiries may be sent to Pastor Christiane Batjer, 636-456-3390.

Choir Director

Gethsemane Lutheran Church, 3600 Hampton, St. Louis, Mo., is seeking a part-time choir director. For more information, contact Pastor Kendra Nolde at 352-8050.

Choir Accompanist

St. Luke's United Methodist Church, 2761 Telegraph Road, St. Louis, MO 63125, is seeking a part-time choir accompanist. Candidates must possess good piano skills and be able to work with volunteers and choir director. Experience in leading sectionals preferred. The position requires 1.5-hour choir rehearsal each Tuesday evening (except summer) and two services on Sunday morning at 8 and 11. Additional rehearsals for Christmas, Easter and other performances. Salary negotiable based on experience. Contact Rev. Jon Thompson at 314-892-5595 for further information or mail references and resume.

(Positions Available continued on back cover)

The OPUS

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

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Positions Available

(Continued from page 7)

Director of Music Liturgy

Queen of All Saints Catholic Church, 6603 Christopher Drive, St. Louis, MO 63129, is seeking a director of music liturgy to organize parish music program. Duties include coordinating with the directors of the contemporary ensembles, adult, youth and children's choirs. Candidate will be expected to play for some of the parish liturgies. Days and times to be determined at the interview. Contact Rev Joseph Simon at 314-846-8207, ext 204; fax 314-846-0636, or e-mail to jms@qasstl.org.

Organist

First United Methodist Church, 4349 St. John's Road, Washington, MO 63090, is seeking an organist/pianist. Duties include playing for Sunday worship at 10:30, accompanying children's and adult choir rehearsals on Wednesdays from 6 - 8:30 p.m. and Sunday at 9:45 a.m. Salary is \$80 per week. For more information, contact the church office at 636-239-4477 or the pastor at 816-510-5283.

Director of Liturgy/Music

Mary Mother of the Church, 5901 Kerth Road, 63128, is seeking a full-time director of liturgy/music. Candidates to be assessed on the basis of their collaborative liturgical competence, keyboard skills on piano and organ and choir direction talent. Salary to be

negotiated based on skills and the Pastoral Musicians' guidelines for the Arch-diocese of St. Louis. Resumes may be sent to The Search Team at the church. Fax 314- 894-3801; e-mail pastor@mmoc4u.org. Letters of recommendation and references are welcome.

Director of Music

St. Paul's Catholic Church, 15 Forest Knoll, Fenton, MO 63026, seeks a full or three-quarter time director of music. Duties include playing organ for Sunday 8:30 mass, holy days, funerals, weddings and school masses, direct choirs at 10 and 11:30 masses and planning liturgies. Would like to form two adult choirs, children's choir and handbell choir as well as develop cantor program. Salary follows Archdiocesan scale. For more information contact Fr. Mike at 636-343-1234, ext 138 or fax 636-343-4809.

Liturgist

St. Joseph Catholic School, Cottleville, Mo, is looking for a liturgist to plan school liturgies for the 2006-2007 school year. For more information please contact Mary Ellen Schraeder, principal, at info@stjoecot.org.

Minister of Music

Ivy Chapel UCC, 620 N. Woodsmill Rd., Chesterfield, MO 63017, is seeking a part-time minister of music. Duties include playing the organ and piano as well as directing the chancel and youth choirs. Fax resume to 314-434-5077, Attention: Search.