

THE OPUS

September 2006

Volume 23 Number 1

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

www.agostlouis.org

We're Gonna Crawl In Illinois to Kick Off The AGO Season!

I hope that you have had a refreshing summer and are beginning the fall with renewed energy and creativity. Our program committee has planned some fantastic events for our chapter this year (see schedule in this *OPUS* issue), and we hope that they will provide opportunities for you to grow musically, to connect with organ-ists from our area and beyond, and help you to become more a passionate advocate for the organ in your congregation and community.

The first event of the year is an organ crawl in Illinois on Saturday, September 23. We'll begin at St. Elizabeth's Catholic Church in Granite City, head over to Alton, and finally wend our way up the Great River Road to hear several instruments at Principia College. In addition to the great organs, this is a great opportunity to enjoy the beautiful scenery and the early fall weather. And after the crawl, you can enjoy lunch at Principia College, "Just Desserts" in Elsah, or one of many restaurants along the Great River Road or back in Alton.

You're strongly encouraged to carpool with friends and colleagues. Driving directions to all the locations are included here and a map of the entire route will be distributed before we depart from St. Elizabeth's that morning.

I look forward to seeing you on the 23rd! —Paul Vasile

Organ Crawl Schedule — Sept. 23

9:00 - 9:45 a.m.

St. Elizabeth's Catholic Church 2300 Pontoon Rd.

Allen/Moller (2002, 2/72)

2300 Pontoon Ra.

Granite City, IL, 62040-4021

Host: Jim Dedera

Directions to St. Elizabeth's: Take Interstate 55/70/40 E into Illinois. Take the IL-111 exit (exit 6) toward Wood River/Washington Park/Great River Road. Turn left onto IL-111 N and travel about 5 miles. Turn left onto Pontoon Road. The church is two miles ahead.

10:15 - 11:00 a.m.

First Presbyterian Church

Robert Dial (1991, 3/45)

Fourth and Alby (514 Alby Street)

Alton, IL, 62002-6253 Host: Robert Dial

Directions to First Presbyterian Church from St. Elizabeth's: Start out going west on Pontoon Road for 1.5 miles. Turn right onto Missouri Road, which becomes IL-3 N, and continue for almost 9 miles. Take a slight left onto Highway 143 W and continue 4 miles into downtown Alton. Turn right onto West 6th Street and take another quick right onto Alby Street.

11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Principia College Martin Ott (1992, 2/34)

Elsah, IL 62028-9799 Jean L. Rainwater Carillon - 39 bells Host: Dr. John Near (Royal Eijsbouts, The Netherlands)

Casavant (2006, 3/55)

11:30 a.m. – Demonstration of Martin Ott in the Chapel

Noon – Carillon demonstration

12:15 p.m. – Demonstration of Casavant in the auditorium by Dr. Near, followed by open console

Directions to Principia College from First Presbyterian Church: South on Alby Street and turn right onto Broadway Street, which becomes the Great River Road. About 10 miles up the Great River Road, turn off into the village of Elsah. At the first stop sign in the village, turn right and go up the hill to the college. The gate attendant will give instructions to parking and the Chapel.

Here We Go: An Exciting New Year for St. Louis AGO

A couple of weeks back, I stopped by the music store and, with uncharacteristic foresight for August, looked through the Christmas pieces. I bought an arrangement of "Joy to the World" which opens with 16th notes in the pedal – a simple recurring pattern for alternate toes which looked easy until I tried sight-reading it at the tempo marking. I soon realized how little I have practiced this summer.

It's hard to concentrate when the temperature in the sanctuary is over 80 degrees and even warmer at the organ console, an occupational condition which I'm sure I share with many of you. In July and August, my repertoire is strictly "summer music": pieces which I can register and rehearse in the hour between the end of the Sunday service and the end of the air conditioning.

September will bring a return of cooler weather as well as the return of monthly Guild meetings. The program committee has been hard at work since May, planning a varied series of lectures and recital events. Many thanks to Sub-Dean Paul Vasile and his committee – Cathy Bolduan, Ted

Cronbaugh, Henry Evans, David Erwin, Suzanne Manelli, and Jeff Nall – for their time and energy and great ideas!

I'm very excited about the September meeting. It's been several years since the Guild sponsored an organ crawl, and this trip to Illinois includes venues which have not previously hosted Chapter events. Please take advantage of the opportunity to see and hear four outstanding instruments, two of which were built by members of the St. Louis AGO Chapter.

The organ crawl will also be the first program which I attend as Chapter Dean. One of my priorities for the coming season is to meet as many of you as possible, and to connect faces with the names in the directory list. Looking forward to seeing you Saturday, Sept. 23.

—Martha Shaffer, Dean

OPUS Publication Guidelines

General News

You are invited to submit material to the editor for publication consideration. If you took part in educational tours or denominational workshops over the summer, heard recitals abroad or at major summer concert venues in the U.S., please consider writing a paragraph or two and sharing your experiences with your fellow members. Material should be e-mailed to OPUS Editor Wayne King at opusstlago@aol.com. The deadline is the FIRST day of every meeting month.

"On the Concert Horizon..."

To submit information for the events calendar column of the *OPUS*, please send information according to the following format:

day / date / time / venue / address / program / admission and/or contact information

Announcements with incomplete information cannot be published; lengthy press releases can not be accommodated. For time-sensitive items, please allow at least two months' lead time. We can control when the *OPUS* is published, but cannot control the actual delivery date by the Post Office. Sometimes it gets delivered in just a few days; other times, it takes more than a week after printing to go through the mail. And not everyone gets the issue on the same day. Send notices via e-mail to *opusstlago@aol.com*.

A special note: There are no plans to produce a separate "events" calendar as has been done previously. Therefore, it is especially important to e-mail your concert notices if you want publicity in *OPUS*. Again...receiving your notices two months in advance is an important requirement.

뺸 OPUS

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September 2006 Volume 23, No.1

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.

October issue deadline: Oct. 1

2006-2007 Programs St. Louis AGO Chapter

Here's our meeting schedule for the year. Get out your calendars right now and mark these dates. As usual, most of these meetings will be preceded by dinner and an opportunity for fellowship. Details of each meeting, and driving directions, will be provided in each monthly issue of *OPUS*. See Page 1 for information about the September meeting.

Monday, October 23 (a week earlier than usual meeting date)

Recital with Scott Montgomery Venue: St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Ladue

Scott Montgomery, winner of the 2006 AGO National Performance Competition at the convention in Chicago, is one of the "rising stars" in the American organ scene. Local students who attended our June POE will be invited to attend.

Monday, November 27

Psalm Festival

Venue: 2nd Baptist Church, Clayton

An evening to celebrate the book of Psalms and the central role that this songbook plays in Jewish and Christian worship.

December

No meeting. No OPUS published.

Monday, January 29

Organist/Clergy dialogue with AGO Chaplain Gregory Norton Venue: Ladue Chapel Presbyterian Church, Ladue

Members are invited to bring clergy and colleagues to hear AGO National Chaplain Gregory Norton. He is the minister of music at Pasadena Presbyterian Church, Pasadena, Calif., and is both an organist/choir director and ordained minister. He brings refreshing balance and insight into the pastoral role of church musicians.

Monday, February 19 (a week earlier than usual meeting date)

Workshop with Paul Jacobs

Venue: Cathedral Basilica, St. Louis City

Paul Jacobs has re-invigorated the American organ scene with his once-in-a-generation gifts as a performer. He is also creating new interest for the organ in the wider musical world, which has recognized him as a musician of rare stature. He will present a workshop on Olivier Messiaen.

Monday, March 26

Master Class with Christopher Young Venue: Parkway United Church of Christ, Des Peres

Dr. Christopher Young is professor of organ at Indiana University's Jacobs School of Music. Guild members will be invited to play in a master class setting.

Monday, April 30

Global Hymnody with C. Michael Hawn Venue: University United Methodist Church, University City

Dr. Hawn teaches at Perkins Seminary in Dallas, Texas, and is an expert in the area of global hymnody and enlivening congregational song. He will introduce us to new hymns and service music from around the world and give creative, thoughtful ways of incorporating them into a congregation's worship life.

Monday, May 21

Annual Banquet and Awards Ceremony

Venue: TBD



Planning Books Available

Chapter member Mary Ann Hilgeman, CSJ, is retiring and is offering, free for the taking, some planning books she has acquired:

- 1. Sacramentary
- 2. Study edition of the Lectionary for Sundays and weekdays I have it in a looseleaf binder.
- 3. Lectionaries for Masses with Children, Study Edition, Weekdays and Years A and B
- 4. Paperback, "Preparing to Celebrate with Youth," by Marilyn J. Sweet

Her phone number is 314-678-0352.

Swann in Anniversary Concert

The Central Missouri Chapter of the American Guild of Organists will celebrate its 75th anniversary on Friday, Sept. 22, with a concert at 7:30 p.m., presented by AGO National President Frederick Swann.

The concert will be presented at Paul H. Linn Memorial United Methodist Church in Fayette, Mo., on the campus of Central Methodist University. The concert also celebrates the 75th anniversary of the church and its organ, Wicks Opus 850, a large 3-manual instrument. (Fayette is just west of Columbia, off I-70.)

St. Louis Chapter friends are especially invited to hear Mr. Swann and greet him during a reception following the concert.

On The Concert Horizon...

Saturday, September 24, 2 p.m. St. Gabriel Church, 6303 Nottingham Ave. The Gateway Ringers, the premier auditioned handbell choir in the St. Louis area, in concert. Welcomed by the parish in celebration of the Feast of the Archangels. St. Gabriel's adult and youth handbell choirs will participate. Information 314-353-6303.

Friday, September 29, 7:30 p.m. St. Paul UCC, 115 West B Street, Belleville, Ill. Bells In Motion Bell Pops from this semi-pro group from Springfield, Ill. Information 618-233-3303.

Sunday, October 8, 5 p.m. St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Warson and Ladue Roads. John Romeri, organ, and John Romeri II, flute. Choral Evensong follows at 5:30 p.m.

Sunday, October 8, 5 p.m. Second Presbyterian Church, 4501 Westminster Place (at Taylor), St. Louis. A Choral Service of Evening Prayer led by The Choir of Second Presbyterian Church, Charles Collins, organist and choir director. Schubert Mass in F (German Mass). 314-367-0366 or *music@secondchurch.net*.

Tuesday, October 17, 7:30 p.m. St. Paul UCC, 115 West B Street, Belleville, Ill. Crasdant Welsh folk music featuring triple harp player Robin Huw Bowen. Information 618-233-3303.

Friday, October 30, 7:30 p.m. Catherdral Basilica of St. Louis, 4431 Lindell Blvd. Westminster Cathedral Choir of London in concert. Tickets/information 314-533-7662.



SAINT LOUIS CATHEDRAL CONCERTS

Experience Great Music in a Great Space!





Westminster Cathedral Choir, London

Friday, October 20, 2006 8:00 PM

Vienna Choir Boys

Thursday, November 9, 2006 2:30 PM Friday, November 10, 2006 8:00 PM

Christmas at the Cathedral

with the choirs of the Archdiscese of St. Louis Sunday, December 10, 2006 2:30 PM

Missouri Collegiate Choirs Concert

with the chairs 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

Juilland 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 Startight Roof & Zodiac Rosen, Chase Park Plaza featuring Susan Staughter 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





Congratulations to Past Dean Stephen Mager

Stephen Mager spent the month of July in Bethesda, Md., as composer-in-residence and orchestra conductor for a production of his opera, *Dream of the Pacific*. Sponsored by the Washington National Opera's Center for Education and Training, *Dream of the Pacific* received four full performances as part of WNO's first presentation of an opera intended for family viewing and young audiences. Selected scenes were also performed on the Millennium Stage of the Kennedy Center.

Mr. Mager worked with a chorus of 20 young people ages 10 to 18, drawn from the Opera Institute for Young Singers and Opera Camp for Kids. Four adults from the WNO Young Artist Program sang the lead roles. The opera received favorable reviews in the *Washington Post*, and Mr. Mager had the opportunity to meet with WNO's General Director, Placido Domingo.

In the short time between the end of the Pipe Organ Encounter and his trip to Maryland, Stephen auditioned for graduate study at Indiana University in Bloomington. He will begin study this fall in the doctoral program in conducting. We express many thanks to Stephen for successfully guiding the Chapter as Dean for the past two years, congratulate him on his success with the opera, and wish him well in his new academic career.



Chapter Personnel Changes

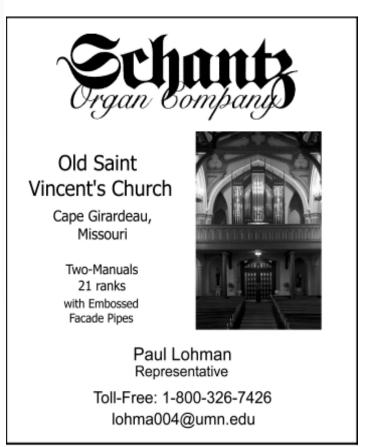
Cindy Gee, organist at Memorial Presbyterian Church, has been appointed to succeed Luella Foster as Chapter secretary. Luella has resigned due to work commitments. We wish her well in her new position. Jeff White has been appointed to serve the remaining year of Tim Allen's term on the Executive Committee. Jeff is the organist/choir master at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in South County.

Certification? Certainly!

Perhaps this is the year you are ready to take a certification examination for the Guild. Whether you prepare for Service Playing or Choir Master, for Colleague, Associate, or Fellow, you will improve your own skills and strengthen the gifts you share with your faith community. Specific requirements are listed in the July 2006 issue of *The American Organist*. If you have an interest or would like more information, contact the chapter exam coordinator, Dawn Hoy at St. Joan of Arc Church (314-832-2838); e-mail *riskehoy@aol.com*.

Looking for a Home...

Hammond B-100 organ with full pedal board, as-is and free to the taker. Contact Kathy Howard via e-mail at *km_howard* @ *msn.com*.



ChicAGO2006 National Convention Report

ChicAGO 2006 was a trio sonata of activity from the Ken Cowan pre-convention concert and improvisation semi-finals to the final concert at the Moody Memorial Church. My family and I attended Sunday morning services at St. James Church, home of Leo Sowerby, followed by the Young Artist Competition in Organ Performance Sunday afternoon. In the evening, we walked to Orchestra Hall for a program of 20th c. compositions by Wacher, Ran, Proulx, Miller, and Escaich which overwhelmed our eardrums. Back at the hotel, Hospitality and Exhibits welcomed us until midnight.

On Monday at 7 a.m., 30 buses left for Valparaiso U. for opening worship. National Chaplain Rev. Gregory Norton, Rev. Peter Gomes, and President Fred Swann spoke at the annual meeting at Rockefeller Memorial Chapel (U. Chicago). Mrs. Pleasant Rowland of the American Girl Company received the Guild Award for donating an organ and promoting organ concerts in her home civic center. Evening activities

were a choice of July 4th fireworks at the Navy Pier or incredible improvisation "fireworks" at St. James. Then we walked to Fourth Presbyterian for a quiet *a capella* Compline with the Schola Antiqua.

Tuesday opened with worship at 8:30 am at Holy Name Cathedral, where Rene Zajner sang in the choir. We heard magnificent recitals by Janette Fischell with *Tango, for the Feet* (Livre d'orgue – Ferke) and by Stefan Engels, who performed the most beautiful piece of the week, *Cappricio for Organ and Violin* (2005) by

Naji Hakim. The Composers' Forum featured Naji Hakim, Richard Proulx, Augusta Reed Thomas, and Sharon Willis. St. Mary of the Angels RC was the evening site of *A Song to David* by David Albright with choir, soloists, challenging organ, narrators and audience. The day closed with late evening prayer at Fourth Presbyterian with Schola Cantorum.

Wednesday we traveled to Evanston to hear Sophie-Veronique Cauchefer-Choplin or Thomas Murray and Wolfgang Seifen. The class on improvisation covered 18^{th} c. German, 20^{th} c. French, and 21^{st} c. American styles. At noon, I walked down the street to

Trinity Methodist (Chicago Temple) for a refreshing service with the Canadian group "Sanctuary": organ, harp, and guitar. At 4, St. Mary's RC church held sung Vespers. In the evening, we heard the Bach Week Festival Orchestra and Cathedral Singers.

On Thursday at 7 a.m., buses took us to Wheaton College and Grace UMC to hear the organ duo Alan and Jeanine Morrison, and

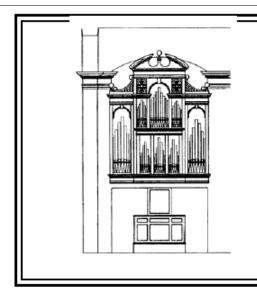


Cathederal of the Holy Name

Glen Ellyn Children's Chorus with the House of Hope Presbyterian Choir performing commissioned pieces by Paulus and Ferko.

Afternoon workshops were highlighted by French improvisation techniques with the incredible Sophie Choplin, and Hungarian and Canadian composers, including Gardonyi. The closing concert was at the 4,000 seat Moody Memorial Church with new commissioned works by Hailstork, Willis, and Hampton. The ChicAGO closing reception at the hotel featured Paul Bisaccia and Gershwin piano.

— Luella Foster



ORGAN RECITAL & CHORAL EVENSONG

FIRST SUNDAYS from OCTOBER through MAY
The St. Peter's Singers - S. William Aitken, Director

SUNDAY, OCT. 1 - Organ Recital and Evensong

5:00 p.m. –John Romeri, Organ & John Romeri II, Flute5:30 p.m. – Choral Evensong – Music of Tallis, Kelly, Byrd

Sunday, OCT. 15, 10:30 a.m. – Mozart Missa Brevis in G (K 140)

Sunday, OCT. 22, 10:30 a.m. - Norwich Cathedral Men & Boys Choir

Tuesday, OCT. 24, 7:30 p.m. - SCOTT MONTGOMERY - Organ Recital

SAINT PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Warson and Ladue Roads • Saint Louis, Missouri (One block east of Lindbergh Boulevard on Ladue Road)

St. Louis Chapter American Guild of Organists



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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

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. More 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.

Director of Music

Zion United Methodist Church, 1603 Union Road, St. Louis, MO 63125, seeks to fill a new part time Director of Music staff position for the 8 and 11 traditional services. In addition to abilities as a chancel choir director, looking for someone who is interested in developing a children's music ministry, other vocal options for the traditional services and a handbell choir. Hope to fill position starting in September. Outside Sunday mornings, hours flexible. Contact Rev. Ann Rathert 314-631-6504 for more information or e-mail resumes to zion-umc@charterinternet.com.

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*.

Organis

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.

Children's Music Ministry Director

Kirkwood United Methodist Church. Tasks include rehearsing and conducting 3 children's choirs, a handchime choir, developing a summer children's music ministry, and interfacing music ministry with children's education ministry. Salary is commensurate with degree/s, skills, and experience. Ministry job can be accomplished in an average of 5-7 hours per week year round. Interested persons may contact Dolan Bayless, director of music at the church office 314-966-8167 or by e-mail dolan@kirkwoodumc.org for a complete job description and to apply.

(Positions Available continued on back cover)

non-Profit Organization Bastao G. B.U And G. B.L. LOUIS, MO TT. LOUIS, MO TT. LOUIS STREET



American Guild of Organists

St. Louis Chapter

8056 Blackberry Avenue
Saint Louis, MO 63130-2732

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Interim Organist
Fenton United Methodist Church, 800 Cravois Road, Fenton, MO 63026, is seeking an interim pianist/organist. Services are on Sunday mornings at 9 and 11. Possibility of becoming permanent position. Respond to church office at 636-343-5010 between the hours of 8 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Director of Music 52. Parl'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 information contact Fr. Mike at 636-343-1234, ext 138 or fax

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 Noodsmill Rd., Chesterfield, MO 63017, is seeking a part-time minister of music. Duties include playing the

choirs. Fax resume to 314-434-5077, Attention: Search.

organ and piano as well as directing the chancel and youth

Choir Director First Christian Church, Edwardsville, Ill., seeks a choir director to be responsible for the choral ministry of our traditional worship service, including weekly rehearsals (Sept. - June) and Sunday morning worship participation. Resumes and inquiries may be directed to Rev. James Brooks at 618-656-7498 or e-mail

jrbrooks@fccedwardsville.org.

Organist Fresbyterian Church, Jackson, Mo., has an immediate opening for an organist. Primary responsibilities include Sunday worship at 10 a.m. and Wednesday night choir rehearsal. Special services as the seasons require. Contact Rev. Grant Gillard 573-243-4265, or Susan Venable 537-243-2243, or Jane Hull 573-243-5484 or e-mail reddoorswarmhearts@yahoo.com.