



THE OPUS

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

www.agostlouis.org

2018 – 2019 Program Year

Monday, September 24

Psalmody Workshop, Dr. Clint McCann from Eden Seminary, presenter. **Presented in collaboration by AGO and NPM.** “‘I Am for Peace’ (Ps 120:7): Psalms for Justice-Seekers and Peacemakers.” From the presenter: “I am very pleased that Paul Vasile will be coming with me, and he will provide leadership for experiencing some Psalms related to this theme.”

The use of Psalmody in worship is quite widespread. As singers, choral conductors, accompanists and worship planners we are aware of the many musical genres used in presenting the Psalms. But how much time have we taken to explore the deeper historical and theological aspects of the Psalms we sing? We will have just such an opportunity at our September gathering under the leadership of Dr. J. Clinton (Clint) McCann, Evangelical Professor of Biblical Interpretation at Eden Theological Seminary. Dr. McCann's research and writing have focused on the Psalms and he served as chair of the Psalms Section of the Society of Biblical Literature for ten years.

Organizer: Rick Burk

Host: Jim Threlkeld

Hope United Church of Christ

6273 Eichelberger Street

St. Louis, Missouri 63109

5:30 pm Executive Committee Meeting

6:30 pm—Dinner

7:30 pm—Program

Monday, October 15

Creative Hymn Playing, Horst Buchholtz, presenter

Host: Dawn Riske

Venue: Christ The King Catholic Church

7316 Balson Avenue

St. Louis, Missouri 63130

5:30 pm—Executive Committee Meeting

6:30 pm—Dinner

7:30 pm—Program

Monday, November 5

Jennifer Pascual

Host: Bill Wade

Venue: Trinity Presbyterian Church

6800 Washington Avenue

University City, Missouri 63130

6:30 pm—Dinner

7:30 pm—Program

Saturday, February 9

**** February Flourish ****

Leadership: Dawn Riske and Committee

Hosts: Dana Self and Dolan Bayless

Kirkwood United Methodist Church

201 West Adams Avenue

Kirkwood, Missouri 63122

All Day

Monday, February 25

Working with Older Voices, Dr. Nicole Aldrich, presenter

Host: Suzanne Manelli

Venue: St. John's Lutheran Church

3738 Morganford Road

St. Louis, MO 63116

5:30 pm—Executive Committee Meeting

6:30 pm—Dinner

7:30 pm—Program

Monday, March 25

Members' Recital Music for Lent and Easter

Host: Brent Johnson

Venue: Third Baptist Church

620 North Grand Boulevard

St. Louis, MO 63103

5:30 pm—Executive Committee Meeting

6:30 pm—Dinner

7:30 pm—Program

(Continued on Page 3)

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

I am honored to have been chosen to serve as your Dean for the next two years. I pray you've had a restful summer and are ready to tackle the many musical endeavors you have lined up this fall.

We have many great programs planned for the upcoming year, and I hope you will take advantage of the opportunities for musical growth and fellowship!

Our big "push" for the year is that we will be hosting a Pipe Organ Encounter from July 28 – August 2, 2019. Dr. Horst Buchholz is Director of this event with a strong team of support staff. The Pipe Organ Encounter is designed for teenagers, age 13-18, who have achieved an intermediate level of keyboard proficiency. Previous organ study is not required. You will hear much more about this event in the coming months.

I look forward to working with an outstanding Executive Board and **YOU** as we go about the business of the Guild this year.

See you in September!

Burnell L. Hackman

Dean

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Of the St. Louis Chapter
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Nancy Barbee, Editor
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You are invited to submit material
to the editor for publication
consideration. Material and
calendar items should be
e-mailed to:
opusSLAGO@gmail.com

October deadline is September 15

CHAPTER NEWS

May 21 was the date for the closing banquet and Annual Dinner meeting of the chapter. Webster Groves Christian Church hosted us, we all received a warm welcome from Director of Music Lisa Cripe, and shared a catered meal. During the meeting, results of the election were announced and new officers were installed by District Convener Bill Wade. Thanks were expressed to departing officers, especially Dean Mark Scholtz. David Robertson, departing director of the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra, was also honored as the recipient of the chapter's Avis Blewett Award for 2018. This award is presented in recognition of significant contributions made to the musical life of the greater St. Louis area. Clay Christiansen was the guest speaker for the evening. Many enjoyed his recital the previous day at Manchester United Methodist Church. Since 1982, Christiansen has served as organist at the Mormon Tabernacle on Temple Square in Salt Lake City. He shares responsibilities at the organ console for services, recitals, and the weekly radio program, "Music and the Spoken Word." Not only does he play the renowned 206-rank Aeolian-Skinner, he also plays the massive five-manual Schoenstein in the nearby Conference Center and several other fine instruments in chapels and halls around Temple Square. Many things have changed in the 36 years that he has been at the Tabernacle. He has seen the growth of the historic choir (established in 1847) to more than 400 singers, the development of the instrumental ensemble, the establishment of a handbell choir, and the expansion of the music program to 13 paid staff and 683 volunteers. He shared a wealth of interesting information on history, research, architecture, and educational processes that impact Latter-day Saints to this day. The recitals, performances, and music shared with the five million who visit Temple Square annually are amazing. Christiansen also has committee assignments, one of which is helping to design an eclectic and flexible organ which could be used in meeting houses in far-reaching locations. He also shared some stories of performance tours, the scope of his work, and his observations of the many people performing their work to the best of their ability. The convivial evening finished with questions, answers, and photographs.

(Continued from Page 1)

Monday, May 20

Annual Meeting and Organist Trivia

Host: Jeff White

*Venue: Faith Des Peres Presbyterian Church
11155 Clayton Road*

St. Louis, MO 63131

6:30 pm—Dinner

7:30 pm—Program

We are looking forward to seeing you at these events. Please come to have dinner with your fellow colleagues and enjoy fellowship time before each event. As always, feedback on the programs would be appreciated, and if there is something you would like to see in the future, your ideas are welcome!

Jeffrey A. White, Sub-Dean

inspiration for the soul
inspiration for the mind

February Flourish

AGO

inspiration for the mind



First there was **January Jubilee**. Now, we present: *February Flourish!*

A great day is planned on **Saturday, February 9, 2019** at Kirkwood United Methodist Church in Kirkwood. This day of organ, choral, handbell and technology workshops will be great for inviting church musicians to be enriched, and to consider membership in the AGO. This year will also include some specialized and challenging workshops aimed for musicians at more advanced skill levels. Because last year's Jubilee was so successful, the AGO National Committee on Sharing Skills and Resources contacted us so they can support and collaborate with us again this year. We thank Dolan Bayless and Dana Self for hosting us, and look forward to working with so much local talent to design an event which will be inspiring and memorable.

Keep on making music! Blessings,

Dawn Riske, CAGO

February Flourish Director



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Sunday, December 2 at 5:00 p.m.

For a full list of services and concerts visit stpetersepiscopal.org/music

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UPCOMING CONCERTS

SEPTEMBER

Friday, September 7—The Touhill, UMSL (The E. Desmond and Mary Ann Lee Theatre)

Concert—The Arianna String Quartet—Visionaries—Works of Beethoven, Bartok, and Schumann. Tickets (all seating) \$29.00
1 University Blvd, St. Louis, MO 63121-4400.

Sunday, September 9—7:00 pm—First Presbyterian Church of Kirkwood

Concert—The Metropolitan Orchestra of St. Louis with conductor Andrew Peters. The program includes Arvo Pärt's *Fratres*, Johannes Brahms' *Serenade No. 2*, and Antonin Dvorak's *Symphony No. 7*. For more information including ticket prices visit www.metro-orch.org or call 314-349-4497. 100 East Adams Road, Kirkwood, 63122.

OCTOBER

Friday October 5—12:30 pm—Third Baptist Church

Friday Pipes at Third Baptist Church Join us each Friday in October and November for recitals on the 72-rank pipe organ in the sanctuary of Third Baptist Church. These recitals are free and each one is followed by a reception with refreshments. Complete information is available at FridayPipes.com.

Sunday, October 7—4:00 pm—Second Presbyterian Church

Concert—The Perseid String Quartet. The ensemble is comprised of violinists Hannah Frey and Manuela Kaymakanova, violist Eliana Haig, and cellist Stephanie Hunt. The church is located at in the Central West End, St. Louis, 63108. The concert is part of the Coutts Music Series and is free to the community. For more information call 314-367-0367 or www.secondchurch.net.
4501 Westminster Place.

Sunday October 7 - 4:00 pm - St. Paul's Lutheran Church (Des Peres) Hymn Festival with John Behnke Join Music at St. Paul's as we welcome composer and organist Dr. John Behnke for the first event of our 27th season. Dr. Behnke will play the Martin Ott Pipe Organ, and he will be joined by St. Paul's choir, instrumentalists, and the congregation.

Friday October 12 - 12:30 pm - Third Baptist Church

Friday Pipes at Third Baptist Church Join us each Friday in October and November for recitals on the 72-rank pipe organ in the sanctuary of Third Baptist Church. These recitals are free and each one is followed by a reception with refreshments. Complete information is available at FridayPipes.com.

NOVEMBER

Friday-Sunday, November 2-4—The Touhill, UMSL (Anheuser-Busch Performance Hall)

Romeo & Juliet. Saint Louis Ballet presents Shakespeare's most endearing story as a full-length ballet with original choreography by Artistic Director Gen Horiuchi. Tickets available at touhill.org or by phone at 314-516-4949. Prices: \$69, \$61, \$51, \$35. 1 University Boulevard, St. Louis, MO 63121-4400.

Friday, November 2—8:00 pm—The Touhill, UMSL (E. Desmond and Mary Ann Lee Theatre).

Death and Transcendence. Works of Schubert and Beethoven. All tickets \$29. 1 University Boulevard, St. Louis, MO 63121-4400.

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. . . WHO FROM THEIR LABORS REST . . .

John L. Bernthal, in Heaven on Monday, May 21, 2018, at age 90. Beloved husband to the late Eunice A. Bernthal (nee Kassel) for 61 years; loving father of Diane (Carlos Andres) Bernthal and Karen (Bill) Berg; dear grandfather of Will and Ben Berg; dear brother of Jim (Elsie) Bernthal; dear brother-in-law, uncle, cousin and friend to many. John was a longtime member of our AGO Chapter. Memorials to Epiphany Lutheran Church are appreciated. Funeral arrangements were handled by John L. Ziegenhein & Sons Funeral Homes on Gravois Rd. Visitation was at Epiphany Lutheran Church, and interment was at St. Trinity Cemetery.

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**Dr. Ronald Arnatt** has passed away. He was born January 16th, 1930 and died Thursday, August 23, 2018. Dr. Arnatt was very active in our guild, presented many programs, and served on various committees. He also was an Avis Blewett honoree.

Dr. Arnatt was the Founder and Director of the Saint Louis Chamber Chorus and Director of the Bach Society Chorus. Dr. Arnatt had an exceptional professional career spanning both sides of the Atlantic. After receiving his music education at Trinity College, London, and Durham University in England, he emigrated to the United States.

In the United States, Dr. Arnatt held professorial or Director of Music positions at Trinity Church in Boston, Westminster Choir College in Princeton, American University, Christ Church Cathedral in St. Louis, the University of Missouri St. Louis, and with the St. Louis Chamber Orchestra and Chorus. He was known internationally for his choral, organ, and brass compositions. Dr. Arnatt was past President of the American Guild of Organists. His final post was Director of Music and Organist at St. John's Church in Beverly Farms, Massachusetts.

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**THE DETAILS**

**Event:** Psalmody Workshop

**Date:** Monday, September 24

**Location:** Hope United Church of Christ  
6273 Eichelberger Street  
St. Louis, MO 63109

**Host:** Jim Threlkeld

**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/[bouldan@gmail.com](mailto:bouldan@gmail.com)

**Time:** 5:30 – Executive Committee Meeting  
6:30 – Dinner

**Directions:** **From points East (Using the Poplar Street Bridge):** Take Exit 40B toward Tulsa/Memphis onto I-44/I-55 S. Take exit 207/290 toward Tulsa/12th St./Gravois Ave onto I-44. Take Exit 284B toward Arsenal St. Turn right on Arsenal, and then left on Jamieson Ave. Turn left onto Eichelberger St. The church will be on your left.

**From points West (using I-64):** Take exit 33C toward McCausland Ave. turn left on Arsenal, then right on Jamieson, then left on Eichelberger. The church will be on the left.

**From Points North (using I-270 W):** Take Exit 26A toward Clayton/St. Louis Airport onto I-170 S. Take left exit 1A toward US 40E onto I-64 E. Take exit 33C toward McCausland Ave. Turn left onto Arsenal, then right on Jamieson, then left on Eichelberger. The church will be on your left.

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