

# THE OPUS

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2020

Volume 37 – Issue 3  
The official publication  
of the St. Louis Chapter  
of the American Guild



# Sub-Dean



## St. Louis AGO Chapter



Heather Martin Cooper (CAGO)

Dear Members:

Happy Autumn! May this greeting find you in good health and spirits.

What a treat we heard on Sunday, October 25<sup>th</sup>! Dr. Steven Ball played an excellent program celebrating Reformation Sunday, featuring compositions arranged or composed for the Carillon. In the first half, Dr. Ball explored a variety of arrangements of *Ein Feste Burg*, known to us as “A Mighty Fortress”. We also heard music from the 16<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> centuries, culminating in a premiere of Dr. Ball’s arrangement of the *Andante* from Mendelssohn’s Symphony in D, op. 107, “Reformation”. The second half of the program consisted of music composed specifically for the Carillon.

On November 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m., Mark Lawson will lead a *LIVE* virtual choral reading session focusing on accessible music that can be used during this time. There will be a talk-back session at the end to discuss the different kinds of literature that people feel they will be looking for in the months ahead.

Blessings to you for a fruitful autumn, and peaceful holidays.

Heather Martin Cooper (CAGO), Sub-Dean  
St. Louis AGO Chapter

Instructions for attending this event via Zoom will be emailed to all chapter members several days prior to the event. Anyone who wishes to attend but is not a member of the chapter is encouraged to email the St. Louis AGO Chapter Dean ([dean@agostlouis.org](mailto:dean@agostlouis.org)) to request the instructions on how to sign in to the event.

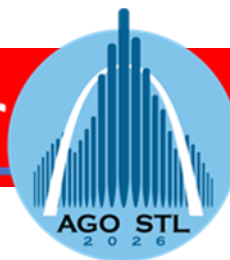
Unfortunately, our Choral Evensong, which was also scheduled for our other chapter event on November 15<sup>th</sup>, has been cancelled. We look forward to the opportunity to celebrate this in November, 2021.

What is NOT cancelled is our February Flourish event. Our committee has been meeting regularly and the online event promises to be rich in content to support church musicians in our area and well beyond. Grab your calendar now and make note of it. You might want to pencil in some time throughout the week of February 8<sup>th</sup> to preview some of the event videos. Definitely block off the morning of Saturday, February 13<sup>th</sup> for interactive presentations.



# Convention Coordinator

## 2026 National Convention



Burnell Hackman

Planning for the 2026 National AGO Convention is underway, and we need the assistance of our membership to make it a great success. There are many committees and sub-committees from workshops, to hospitality, to IT and transportation that need dedicated members like you! We have a survey on our website that details these positions and their responsibilities and lets you choose how you might best help make the St. Louis National Convention one of the best ever. The survey can be found here. ([Click here](#)) Please take the time and fill it out.

Another way to make the 2026 National Convention a success is by contributing or making a pledge over the next five years. This helps to ensure that recitalists, guest artists, and many, many services are secured for the convention and that out of town guests will truly enjoy and be enriched by the National Convention. On the next page is a list of "Giving Levels" for you to consider and make a pledge or contribution. Please follow the instructions, print and mail to Mike Kaberline at the address listed. You may also go our website to find the same information there. ([Click here](#))







## National American Guild of Organists Convention 2026 St. Louis, MO – GIVING LEVELS

Early fundraising in one of the keys to a very successful convention. Members of the St. Louis Chapter are encouraged to make a pledge to the convention which you can pay in five (5) installments over the next five years. We will track donations and place your name in the correct category in the Convention Program booklet. There will also be many opportunities to underwrite concerts and programming closer to the convention. Please fill out, print and follow instructions at the bottom of the page.

**Benefactor: \$10,000 and above**

**(\$2,000 per year for the next 5 years)**

**Posaune: \$7,500 - \$9,999**

**Bombarde: \$5,000 - \$7,499**

**Solo: \$2,027 - \$4,999**

**Club 2026: \$2,026**

**(All contributions at this level and higher will be invited to a special event before the convention)**

**Swell: \$1,000 - \$2,025**

**Great: \$500 - \$999**

**Choir: \$250 - \$499**

**Foundation: \$100 - \$249**

**Friend: Up to \$99**

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\_\_\_\_\_ **YES!! I would like to contribute to the 2026 National AGO Convention**

\_\_\_\_\_ **I wish to remain anonymous**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**I would like to contribute a total amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ payable over the next several years.**

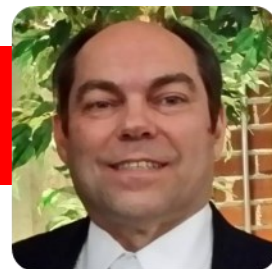
**(Donations can be divided into five (5) equal payments. All donations must be completed by 12/31/25)**

**Payments can be made via credit card at [www.agostlouis.org](http://www.agostlouis.org) (coming soon) or by check. Please mail to:**

**Mike Kaberline, 2026 AGO Convention**

**2 Holly Ridge Ct.**

**Swansea, IL 62226-2322**



Rick Burk (CAGO)

Dear Colleagues:

Another Christian Church Year will soon be coming to a close and the season of Advent will quickly be upon us. A common theme of Advent is HOPE.

Like me, I am sure most all of you are continually looking for signs of hope.

Our days seem to be filled with chaos from the COVID-19 pandemic, social unrest and political mayhem, not to mention what each of us may be facing on a personal level at any given moment. Many of the Scripture readings from the common

lectionary for the Advent season speak of both lament and hope. Perhaps with the prophet Isaiah we, too, cry out: "Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people." (Isaiah 64:9) Yet we also cling to hope as we are told: "Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the Glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken." (Isaiah 40: 4-5)



I have already been rehearsing with a soloist to prepare and record the aria "The People That Walked in Darkness" from the *Messiah* by G. F. Handel for one of our worship videos. Each time we have rehearsed, hearing those familiar words ("The people that walked in darkness have

seen a great light, and they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined") has filled me with hope. But I also have discovered the hymn text from 2008 by Mary Louise Bringle based on Isaiah 9:2-7. (The text appears as hymn #86 in the

Presbyterian Hymnal *Glory to God*.) I particularly find hope in the final stanza of the hymn:

*How vast is our God's dominion!  
How far truth and mercy extend.  
The zeal of the Lord will accomplish its purpose:  
Justice shall reign without end.*

May we all find hope to cling to during these challenging times. And may we, in turn, find ways to share that hope with others in our music making.

Since this issue of the *OPUS* covers both the months of November and December, let me say:  
Happy Thanksgiving; Merry Christmas; Happy Hanukkah; Joyous Kwanzaa!

Rick Burk (CAGO), Dean  
St. Louis AGO Chapter

# This Month's Event

St. Louis AGO Chapter 2020-2021



THIS EVENT HAS BEEN  
CANCELLED AND WILL BE  
RESCHEDULED IN THE FUTURE

Sunday, November 15, 2020 5:00 p.m.

Choral Evensong

Honoring the Ministry of Church Musicians

Church of St. Michael & St. George

Due to the pandemic and out of concern for everyone's safety, we are sorry to announce that this event has been cancelled and rescheduled for another time in the future.



## Virtual Choral Reading Session

Music for Christmas and Easter

Monday, November 16, 2020 7:00 p.m.



This is a ZOOM event. Instructions will be emailed to all chapter members several days prior to the event. If you know someone who is NOT a chapter member, but would love to attend, please have them send an email via this link ([CLICK HERE](#))



Mark Lawson

MorningStar Music Publishers

# Music Conference Coordinator

February Flourish 2021



Dawn Riske (CAGO)

## VIRTUAL CHURCH MUSIC CONFERENCE

Saturday, February 13, 2021 8:30 a.m. – NOON

**LIVE** Zoom sessions featuring topics in:  
Organ, Technology, Handbells, and Ministry

NEWS – EVENTS – REPERTOIRE –  
HYMN PRESENTATION by Chapter Members

This Conference sponsored by:

American Guild of Organists



Handbell Association of Greater St. Louis



National Association of Pastoral Musicians



On-Line Registration begins  
soon via: Eventbrite.



## PROGRAM/PRESENTERS:

**ORGAN:** “Approaching the Theatre Organ from a Classical organ Background: Why It Matters More than Ever”  
(Dr. Steven Ball)

**ORGAN & GENERAL:** “Flourishing Inside the Pandemic Box: Finding Fulfilling Musical Expression Amid Disruption and Constraint”  
(Dr. Sarah Bereza)

**TECHNOLOGY:** “Use of Technology within Worship during a Pandemic and Beyond”  
(Jeff White, CAGO)

**HANDBELLS:** “Handbell Workshop”  
(To Be Announced)

**MINISTRY:** “Pastoral Care for Musicians in a Time of Pandemic”  
(Fr. Jeremy Secrist)

Watch for more information on the  
St. Louis AGO Web-site and in the *OPUS*.

Feel free to contact Coordinator  
Dawn Riske (CAGO) by sending an  
email to:

[februaryflourish @agostlouis.org](mailto:februaryflourish@agostlouis.org)



# Reminders/Information

St. Louis AGO Chapter 2020-2021



There will be a Chapter Board Meeting on Monday, November 9, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom. Please mark your calendars ASAP to remind yourself. Information on how to sign in to the meeting will be emailed to all Board members. Any Chapter member who would like to attend the meeting as a non-voting observer is requested to email Dean Burk for instructions. [dean@agostlouis.org](mailto:dean@agostlouis.org)



Books. Pamphlets. DVDs. CDs. Music.



EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES LIBRARY



## **OFFICERS:**

Dean – Rick Burk (CAGO)  
Sub-Dean – Heather Martin Cooper (CAGO)  
Secretary – Cathy Cassy  
Treasurer – Mike Kaberline  
Past Dean – Burnell Hackman

## **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:**

Class of 2021  
Martha Shaffer (CAGO)  
Bob Chamberlin  
Tim Jansen  
Class of 2022  
Dr. Steven Ball  
J.D. Brooks  
Dr. William Sullivan  
Class of 2023  
Gaye Anderson  
Andrew Peters  
Shawn Portell

## **APPOINTED POSITIONS:**

2026 Convention Coordinator  
Burnell Hackman  
Auditor  
Denis Doelling  
Dinner Reservations  
Dr. Cathy Bolduan  
Directory Editor  
Al Black  
Educational Resources  
Dr. Barbara Raedeke  
Exam Coordinator  
Brent Johnson  
Historian  
Randy Zerkel  
Membership Coordinator  
Kendra Ruesler

OPUS Editor  
Ted Cronbaugh  
Photographer  
Rene Zajner  
Professional Concerns Liaison  
Shawn Portell  
Publicity Liaison  
Dawn Riske (CAGO)  
Registrar  
Regina Morris  
Social Media  
Rene Zajner  
Webmaster  
Brent Johnson

2020-2021



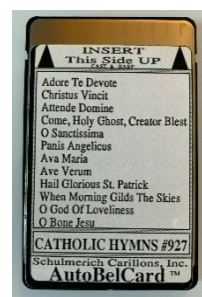
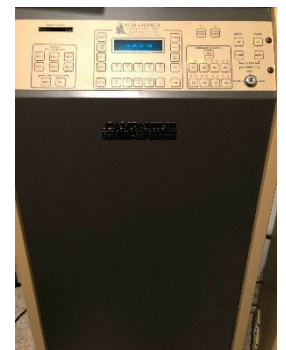
# Items for SALE

**Three Manual Allen Theatre Organ** (ADC 6500) Price is not listed. For more information about the organ and the selling price, please contact Chana Wooden, church administrator ([ckwooden@ggcstl.org](mailto:ckwooden@ggcstl.org)) of Greater Grace Church.



Many of you saw the documentary movie "Pipe Dreams" last year. Now, there's an opportunity to participate in a Q&A session with the director Stacey Tenenbaum. Our colleagues across the river, in the new Gateway Confluence Chapter of the AGO are hosting this event. It will be a Zoom meeting on Wednesday, November 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. If you plan on attending, please RSVP to [Rene Zajner](mailto:rene.zajner@gmail.com) in order to obtain Zoom meeting details. This meeting will also be hosted on Facebook at this link ([Click here](#))

**Schulmerich Electronic Carillon** Unit (purchased in 1990) – Basilican MKIII Model #36-1642-000. Unit uses Autobel cards for programming music. The unit plugs into a normal electric outlet. Requires wiring to outdoor speakers (not included). Ten Autobel cards are included and are already programmed into the music library on the device. Two (2) copies of the instruction manual are included. For more information, please contact Regina Morris at Church of the Little Flower ([morrisrp@swbellnet](mailto:morrisrp@swbellnet))

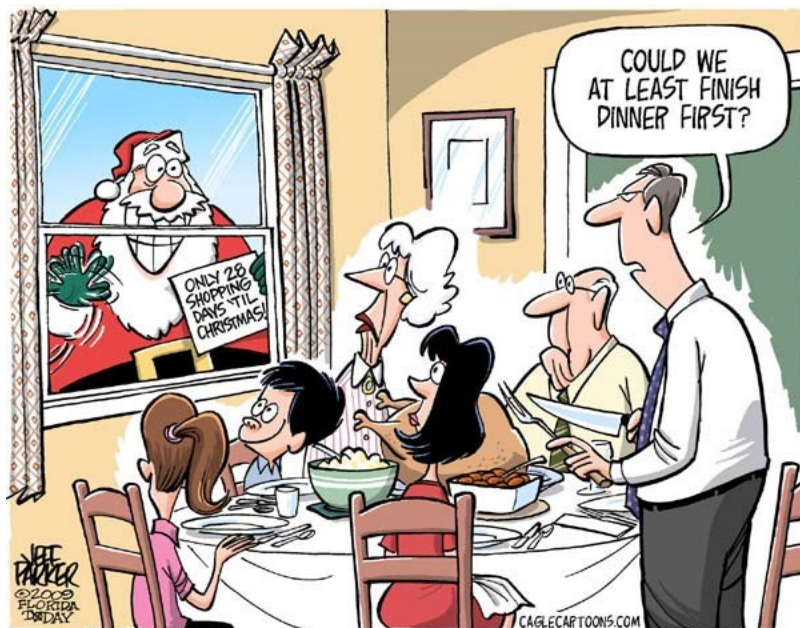




# THE *LAST* PAGE



## CHRISTMAS LIGHTS



### ON THE CALENDAR.....

**Sunday, November 1** – 4:00 p.m. [Second Presbyterian Church](#) *Air on Six Strings* “Air on Six Strings features Jennifer Nitchman, Flute and Mark Akin, Guitar. This concert is free and will be featured virtually ONLY on this date and time. To watch/listen, please visit <https://secondchurch.net/youtube-concerts> then enter the password: spcyoutbeconcert

**Monday, November 9** - 6:30 p.m. St. Louis Chapter Executive Board Meeting. This meeting will be held via Zoom. Instructions will be emailed to all board members. If any chapter member who would like to attend as a non-voting observer, please contact the Dean for instructions. [dean@agostlouis.org](mailto:dean@agostlouis.org)

**Monday, November 16** – 7:00 p.m. [MorningStar](#) Virtual Reading Session. Instructions for attending this Zoom event will be emailed to all chapter members prior to the event. If you are not a chapter member and would like to attend as a guest, please click here to send an email to the chapter Dean. ([Click Here](#))