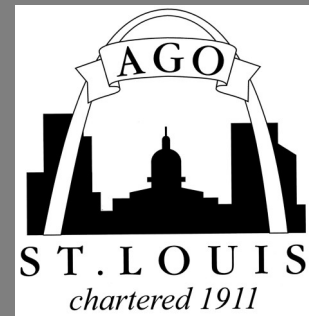


THE OPUS

Volume 37, Issue 4

January 2021



The official publication of the St. Louis Chapter of the American guild of Organists.
www.agostlouis.org

Due to illness and other unforeseen circumstances, the usual preparation and publication of *OPUS* was not feasible. This document will serve as a substitute for the usual format. Thank you for your understanding.

CANCELLED

January 8—Post-Christmas Get Together

Due to the continuing surge of COVID-19 and Zoom weariness, the post-holiday gathering has been cancelled. Until we are able to once again gather in person, an attempt will be made in the near future to provide for a virtual gathering of some sort. In the meantime, stay safe and well!



LETTER FROM THE DEAN

At the time of writing this I had just finished listening to the St. Thomas Church (New York) organ concert in which Nicolas Haigh played Messiaen's *La Nativité du Seigneur*. Being a Messiaen fan, I thoroughly enjoyed listening to this suite in its entirety. Nevertheless, it also underscored how much I am missing the opportunities to attend concerts in person. It's great that churches and musical groups are making concerts available online, but, as the lament goes, "it just isn't the same." One might think that after nine months of COVID restrictions we would have become accustomed to this reality, but part of me hopes that we never become so accepting of it that we lose hope of ever getting back to sharing and enjoying "in person" musical experiences. I applaud all of you who have found ways to continue some form or other of offering "live" concert performances in addition to your weekly worship services. On the other hand, I know many of you had to forego your usual holiday events. I hope that, like me, you have found some outlet for "attending" concerts and have shared those with your friends, families, parishioners, etc.

As we move into a new calendar year, there appear to be glimmers of hope that the worst of the pandemic may soon be behind us. I personally cannot wait for the opportunity to be with you all in person at future events at some point in 2021. The past six months is not how I had envisioned beginning my time in service as your Dean. When the time does come for all of us to resume all of our pre-COVID activities, perhaps we should not see it as a time to go back to the way things had been, but to move forward carrying with us various lessons we may have learned during this unusual past year. May these not only be lessons on how we might better look after our own physical health and well-being, but also how some of the technologies we have learned to use might continue to be of service to us as musicians.

In the meantime, I wish you all a healthier 2021.

Rick Burk

Dean



There will be a Chapter Executive Committee meeting on Monday, January 11, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom. Please mark your calendars 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 the Dean for instructions at dean@agostlouis.org.

IN MEMORIUM

We extend our deepest sympathies to chapter member Susan Carter Eichenberger upon the recent death of her husband, Ike Eichenberger. May the peace of the Christ-child be a comfort to Susan and all Ike's family and friends who now mourn.

Sarah Bryan Miller – Great Friend of the Organ

It is with sadness that we mark the passing of Sarah Bryan Miller, the classical music critic for the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, on November 28, 2020. Bryan, as she was known, had battled cancer for ten years with the utmost dignity and courage. She got her wish to die at home and at peace. She was a member of St. Peter's Episcopal Church, where she sang in the choir, and her great faith sustained her mightily in the battle with her disease. In 2000, when I became Dean of the St. Louis Chapter of the Guild, one of the first requests I got was from Bryan who wanted to do an interview about the pipe organ leading up to the upcoming concert called “Pipes Spectacular” that the national Guild was asking all chapters to do in the fall of that year. She wrote a wonderful piece about the organ and I know it contributed to the fantastic crowd we attracted to Christ Church Cathedral for that concert. She was a real supporter of all things that the organ contributes to the musical life of churches, concert halls, etc. In 2019 Bryan received the Avis Blewett Award from the St. Louis Chapter in recognition of the contributions she had made, and continued to make until very shortly before her death, to the musical life of the community. She will be missed by her family, friends and faithful readers. We are grateful for her support, encouragement and friendship.

Kathleen Bolduan



8514 Rosemary Avenue
Saint Louis, MO 63123
November 15, 2020

Dear and respected colleagues of the American Guild of Organists,

May you be strong and well as we make our way through days and weeks and months of doing our best in the midst of uncommon situations. I hope you have encouraging and compassionate people surrounding you. I am sure that you are bringing hope and light to the places where you serve.

February Flourish is set for Saturday, February 13, 2021. This Virtual Church Music Conference ought to be an interesting and helpful experience for Church Musicians, Organists, Singers, Bell Ringers, and anyone who appreciates sacred music. The speakers for our five pre-recorded seminars will have a lot of valuable information to share. Those recordings will be made available for viewing on February 4; watching them before the live Zoom gatherings on the 13th is strongly encouraged. The live Zoom discussions with the presenters on February 13 promise to be uplifting. I am glad to be directing this endeavor for another year: We have been south, west, north, and now we will be virtual!

In order to make this event inviting to as many people as possible, we have set the registration fee at \$10. You can register via Eventbrite at www.eventbrite.com/e/february-flourish-tickets-128018317233. There is also a link on the Saint Louis Chapter webpage: agostlouis.org

Although the online event helps us keep the costs down in 2021, there are still expenses to cover as we prepare for and publicize a quality event. If you would like to place a digital advertisement in our digital Program Book, please prepare camera-ready copy in the size you desire. Send the advertising file to me via e-mail at musicdeac@gmail.com, or mail it to me at 8514 Rosemary Avenue, 63123. Contact Mike Kaberline to make your payment; write your check to "Saint Louis Chapter AGO" and mail it to

Mike Kaberline, Treasurer
Saint Louis Chapter AGO
2 Holly Ridge Ct.
Swansea, IL 62226-2322

If a PayPal transaction is preferred, contact Mike at: treasurer@agostlouis.org

Business-card size	(color or black and white)	\$ 25
Half page 5-1/2 X 8-1/2"	(color or black and white)	\$ 100
Full page 8-1/2 X 11"	(color or black and white)	\$ 200

It will be exciting to share the February Flourish event with people like you. I think all who attend will find it uplifting.

Thank you again for your support and for the important work you are doing at a time when such work is treasured.

Blessings,

Dawn Riske, CAGO

Director, February Flourish

February Flourish

A Virtual Conference for Church Musicians

Presented by

American Guild of Organists--St. Louis Chapter

in cooperation with

American Guild of Organists--Gateway Confluence Chapter

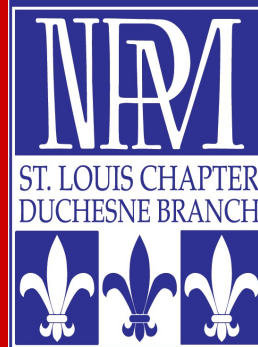
Saturday, February 13, 2021

8:30 a.m.-12:00 noon

\$10 registration fee gives access to five video presentations on timely topics with historic and contemporary information and insights into serving faithfully during “Coronatide”



Register at Eventbrite: www.eventbrite.com/e/february-flourish-tickets-128018317233



Saturday, February 13 SCHEDULE

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| 8:30-8:45 a.m. | A Time of Welcome: Check-in |
| 8:45-9:00 a.m. | Opening Remarks and Organ Work |
| 9:00-9:45 a.m. | Organ: Plenary Session by Dr. Steven Ball |
| 9:45-10:00 | Move to next Zoom |
| 10:00-10:45 | Organ/General: Session by Dr. Sarah Bereza |
| | Handbells: Session by Cathy Benton and HAGSTL |
| 10:45-11:00 | Move to next Zoom |
| 11:00-11:45 a.m. | Ministry: Session by Fr. Jeremy Secrist |

Through regular meetings and this February Flourish, we proudly support part-time, full-time, and volunteer musicians.

February Flourish Presentations



Organ and General:

**“Flourishing Inside the Pandemic Box:
Finding Fulfilling Musical Expression Amid
Disruption and Constraint”**

Dr. Sarah Bereza, Minister of Music at the First

Handbells:

“Handbell Roundtable: Ringing More with Less”

Cathy Benton and members of the



Technology:

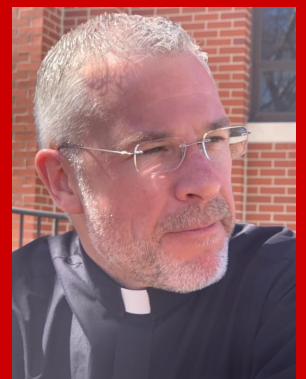
**"Use of Technology within Worship during a
Pandemic and Beyond"**

Jeff White, CAGO - Minister of Music at Historic Trinity
Lutheran Church in Souldard (Saint Louis), along with

Ministry:

“Pastoral Care for Musicians in a Time of Pandemic”

Fr. Jeremy Secrist, Pastor of St. Peter Catholic Church in
Jefferson City, Missouri



St. Louis Chapter American Guild of Organists**Rick Burk (CAGO)**

Dean

Heather Martin Cooper (CAGO)

Sub-Dean

Cathy Cassy

Secretary

Mike Kaberline

Treasurer

Burnell Hackman

Past Dean

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Timothy Jansen

Martha Shaffer (CAGO)

Class of 2022

Dr. Steven Ball

J. D. Brooks

Dr. William Sullivan

Class of 2023

Gaye Anderson

Andrew Peters

Shawn Portell

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Denis J. Doelling

Dinner Reservations

Dr. Cathy Bolduan

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Al Black

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THE OPUS

The Official Publication
of the St. Louis Chapter
of the American Guild of Organists
3526 Oxford Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63143-4209
January 2019 Vol. 35, No. 4
Ted Cronbaugh, Editor
Published 8 times/year

You are invited to submit material to the editor for publication consideration. Material and calendar items should be e-mailed to: ted.cronbaugh@gmail.com. Copy deadline for the February Issue is January 15

Send address changes or mailing labels requests to:

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