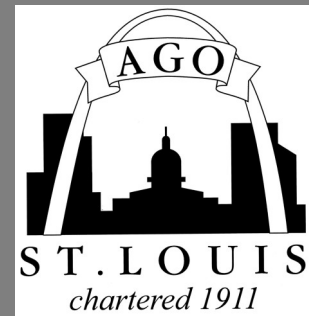


THE OPUS

Volume 38, Issue 7

May 2022



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

www.agostlouis.org

From the Dean

Dear Colleagues,

This month we will be holding our annual “meeting” which may sound a bit mundane, but the event is so much more than a business meeting. We will begin the evening with a chance to socialize around a wonderful dinner. Following the meal we will have the opportunity to meet our newly elected leaders as they are installed. We will also take a moment to remember those who are no longer in our midst due to death. And, as a highlight, we will be hearing words of encouragement from the Chief Membership Officer of the AGO, Elizabeth George.

As with any organization, membership is at the core of the AGO and our Chapter. Without members, there would be no organization. Therefore I would like to thank all of you who have continued to maintain your membership in our Chapter, and to welcome several new members who have joined in the past year. It is not just your financial support that keeps our Chapter viable, but more so your willingness to step forward and serve when asked; to share your talents with others; to offer support and encouragement to one another. During my term as Dean, I have never had anyone decline to serve in whatever role I may have asked them to serve. For that I am very grateful. That is one of the many signs that we have a strong AGO Chapter here in St. Louis.

Although membership renewals occur throughout the year, a majority of them still fall due around July 1. Please consider renewing your membership – whenever your due date may be. Together let us continue to build and maintain a strong presence in the AGO and in the St. Louis area.

Humbly,

Rick Burk

Dean

PS: Due to circumstances that I was not aware of the publication of this issue of The OPUS was delayed.

Program details from the Sub-Dean

Dear Members,

Glorious spring is upon us! Most of us have just celebrated Passover or begun the Easter celebration with the best music we use all year. I greet you with hope that your celebrations were life-giving, and that your recovery from all the extra work is by now complete.

Our closing banquet on May 23 is quickly approaching. As has been announced for several months, our guest will be Elizabeth George, Chief Membership Officer of the AGO. We will enjoy a dinner catered by Collective Catering at Third Baptist Church. The church requires use of this caterer, and their menu looks delicious!

Regarding the meal, we must have a final count one week prior to the meeting, May 16. When you read this, I implore you to pick up the phone or email your R.S.V.P. to Cathy Bolduan (314-853-5011 or Kathleen.bolduan@gmail.com). Today will not be too soon to count your name in for the meal, but May 17 will be too late! Our preliminary count will go to the caterer two weeks prior, and we simply must report a final count by the 16. Please, please, please respond early. Collective Catering is able to provide individual vegetarian meals upon request. If you require a vegetarian meal, please say so when you contact Cathy.

I look forward to seeing you on May 23.

Heather

Monday, May 23, 6:30 p.m.

**Third Baptist Church
620 North Grand Avenue**

Congratulations to our newly elected chapter officers and executive committee members:

Dean – Jeff White

Sub-Dean – Mary Beth Wittry

Class of 2025

David Sinden

Robert Raymond

Suzanne Chisum

They will be installed at our annual meeting on May 23 and officially begin their duties on July 1.

Thank you to all who participated in our election process by casting a ballot. A total of 85 votes were cast.



St. Louis 2026

AGO National Convention Update

Plans are beginning to take shape for our upcoming convention.

The Convention is July 6 – 10, 2026. The Hyatt Regency at the Arch is the Convention hotel.

The New Music Committee has been meeting and is narrowing down a long list of possible composers for consideration. They will meet again soon to further consider composers as they narrow the list down to eight. The committee's goal is to have a list ready to go to the National Council in March of 2023.

The Performance Committee met the first week of May to consider organists and groups for the convention.

Although no plans are in place, we hope our first evening will be an American Extravaganza celebrating our nation's Semiquincentennial.

The Worship Committee will begin work soon.

The Workshop Committee will begin their work in 2024.

In August the Officers of the Convention along with the Performance Chair, New Music Chair, Worship Chair and Workshop Chair will hold three days of in-person meetings where pros/cons of the Seattle convention will be discussed. They will begin putting together a schedule for the convention and possible performers and worship experiences. They will also tour some possible concert and reception sites.

During the August meeting the entire Steering Committee will have its first meeting.

A "Trio" from the National Office will visit in the Fall of 2023 to approve/or make suggestions of our plans. By this time a schedule, a list of performers and a preliminary budget should be in place.

The following Steering Committee members have been approved by the Executive Committee. The list will be forwarded to the National Council for approval. If your name is not on this list and you would like to serve in some capacity, please let me know.

We are striving to make diversity a major component of this convention.

We are asking all members to consider joining the 2026 Club. For a gift of \$2,026.00 you and a guest will be invited to a special Independence Day Celebration on July 4, 2026 in the Parkview Ballroom at the Hyatt which overlooks the Gateway Arch and July 4 fireworks.

We have three committee chair and one liaison slots to fill. If you are interested, please let me know!

Program Book Chair

Advertising Chair

Promotions Chair

National Young Artists Competition in Organ Liaison

Members of the Steering Committee are:

Officers of the Convention

Convention Coordinator	Burnell Hackman
Executive Assistant	Rick Burk
Executive Secretary	Kendra Ruesler
Treasurer	Mike Kaberline
Registrar	Regina Morris
Vice-Registrar	Suzanne Manelli

Standing Committees

Program Committees

New Music	Dr. Sarah Bereza, Chair
Performance	Dr. Steven Ball, Chair
Workshop	Robert Raymond, Chair
Worship	Father Jeremy Secrist, Chair

Logistics Committees

Facilities	Scott Kennebeck, Chair
Hotel Liaison	Biff Hackman
Transportation	Timothy Clark, Co-Chair and James Threlkeld, Co-Chair
Exhibits	Chuck Chauvin, Chair

Communications Chair

	Jeff White
Website	Jeff White
Mobile App	Jeff White
Program Book	
Social Media Communications	Rene Zajner
Pre-Convention Photographer	Rene Zajner

Other Standing Committees

Advertising

Gifts and Grants

John Powel Walsh, Chair

Volunteers and Hospitality

Dawn Riske, Chair

Promotions

Young Organist

Dr. Nicholas Bideler, Chair

Finance Committee

Mike Kaberline, Chair/Treasurer

Liaisons

Chapter Liaison

Current Chapter Dean or Sub-dean

Rising Stars

Bill Stein

National Young Artists Competition in Organ

National Competition in Organ Improvisation Rose Whitmore

Not part of the Steering Committee, but we have asked the following to serve.

Morning Run/Fitness

Mary Hitchcock-Reinhart

Bill Stein

Pre/Post Convention Tours

Dr. Willian Sullivan

Respectfully Submitted,



Burnell Hackman

Convention Coordinator

PIPE ORGAN ENCOUNTER

If you or someone you know is interested in attending a Pipe Organ Encounter this summer, the link to the brochure for the POE in Rockford, IL may be accessed via this link: [POE+22 Brochure \(simplebooklet.com\)](#).



Our Chapter had scheduled and prepared for a February Flourish workshop on Saturday, February 13, 2022. Due to high COVID-19 infection rates, the proposed event was postponed until 2023. Rather than abandon all possibilities of gathering that weekend, the February Flourish planning team offered a Zoom meeting that morning. Chapter Dean Rick Burk and February Flourish Director Dawn Riske welcomed 18 participants to the virtual Zoom gathering. After a time of welcome, Bur-nell Hackman introduced the featured presenter, Dr. Steven Wente of Concordia University Chicago and First Saint Paul's Lutheran, Chicago. Those in attendance, including some friends from Illinois, enjoyed Dr. Wente's presentation entitled:

"How Different Musical Modalities Can Help Us in Service Playing." He shared tips regarding how to allow hymn playing to be informed by techniques from vocal and instrumental sound production. Those insights will help to keep our organ playing clear, on point and musical. Thanks to all who attended, and a big thank you to the presenters and planning team who will need to keep things activated for next year's gathering!



SAVE THE DATE
FEBRUARY FLOURISH 2023
A Trio of Happenings
February 10, 11, and 12, 2023
Peace Lutheran Church
Saint Louis, Missouri

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

Dean

Heather Martin Cooper (CAGO)

Sub-Dean

Gay Anderson

Secretary

Mike Kaberline

Treasurer

Burnell Hackman

Past Dean

Executive Committee***Class of 2022***

Dr. Steven Ball

J. D. Brooks

Dr. William Sullivan

Class of 2023

Shawn Portell

Kit LaMar

Vacancy

Class of 2024

Sarah Bereza

Jill Griffin

Vacancy

Appointed Positions***2026 Convention Coordinator***

Burnell Hackman

Auditor

Denis J. 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

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Material and calendar items should be e-mailed to: newsletter@agostlouis.org.

Send address changes or mailing labels requests to:

**Regina Morris
3526 Oxford Blvd
St. Louis MO 63143-4209**

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ST. PETER'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
EST. 1868

Choral and Organ Music at St. Peter's Episcopal Church

The Rev. David Hodges *Rector*
David Sinden *Organist & Director of Music*
S. William Aitken *Organist & Director of Music Emeritus*

Organ Vespers in Eastertide

Sunday, May 8

5:00 p.m.

A contemplative service of candlelight, chant, and music from our Mander organ.
Guest Organist: Matthew Gerhardt (St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Des Peres). Part of an ongoing celebration of the twentieth anniversary of St. Peter's Mander organ.

Organ Vespers on Trinity Sunday

Sunday, June 12

5:00 p.m.

This service includes music by Matthias Weckmann (c. 1616–1674), including his “O lux beata Trinitas” and Magnificat on the Second Tone.

Organ Vespers for the Feast of St. Mary Sunday, August 14

5:00 p.m.

Guest Organist: Barbara Raedeke, St. Mark's Episcopal Church, St. Louis

For full details visit specstl.org