



THE OPUS

Volume 38
Issue 7

May 2022

Dean's Corner

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



Rick Burk, CAGO

Sub-Dean's Column

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.



Heather Martin Cooper - CAGO

Our closing banquet on May 23rd is quickly approaching. As has been announced for several months, our guest will be Elizabeth George, AGO Director of Member Management and Chapter Relations. 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 16th. When you read this, I implore you to pick up the phone or email your R.S.V.P. to Cathy Bolduan. The beginning of May will not be too soon to count your name in for the meal, but May 17th 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 16th. 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.

May Meeting – the details:

Monday, May 23, 2022

Third Baptist Church

620 N Grand Blvd.

St. Louis, MO 63103

6:30 p.m. - Dinner

7:30 p.m. - Installation of Chapter Officers and Guest Speaker

I look forward to seeing you on May 23rd.

Heather

Cost \$20 for dinner

RSVP to Cathy Bolduan *Right Now*

(314) 853-5011 or

kathleen.bolduan@gmail.com

AGO St. Louis Election Results

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.

Report on the Member Lenten Recital

Peace Lutheran Church in Mehlville served as the gathering place for the Saint Louis Chapter on March 28, 2022. Chapter Dean Rick Burk presided over the regular business meeting of the Executive Board. Then, thirty chapter members were welcomed by host Burnell Hackman, Director of Music of Peace, and served an Italian-style dinner made by members of the Peace Music Ministry. Important news and business items were shared as we finished the meal.

The Member Lenten Recital was a true highlight of our program year, as so many recent events had to be canceled or altered, due to the prevalence of COVID-19 in the area. We were welcomed, and new member Suzanne Chisum was presented with the AGO Achievement Award: The Organ Console. She earned it working with her teacher, Regina Morris. Then the sounds of the Martin Ott mechanical action instrument were displayed through artful playing by chapter members Kevin Huckshold, CAGO, Joy Elowsky, Matthew Gerhardt, Heather Martin Cooper, CAGO, and Jeffrey White, CAGO. Repertoire suitable to the liturgical season was played, including compositions by Dieterich Buxtehude, J.S. Bach, W.A. Mozart, Johannes Brahms, Jehan Alain, Janet Linker, and Michael Burkhardt.

- Dawn Riske



Saint Louis Chapter members who played for a Member Lenten Recital



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 will meet 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.

(continued on next page)

(2026 Convention article continued)

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	Mr. 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

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

(continued on next page)

(2026 Convention article continued)

Other Standing Committees

Advertising

Gifts and Grants

Volunteers and Hospitality

Promotions

Young Organist

John Powel Walsh, Chair

Dawn Riske, Chair

TBD

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

TBD

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





Congratulations to **Betsy Stull**, now certified as SP AGO, and **Scott Pluff** for getting his CAGO.

In case you don't remember:

Service Playing Certification (SPC)

Colleague Certification (CAGO)

Choir Master Certification (ChM)

Associateship Certification (AAGO)

Fellowship Certification (FAGO)



American Guild of Organists **PIPE ORGAN ENCOUNTERS**

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Rockford Chapter

Director: Jean Anderson

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We've been invited by the Rockford Chapter to join them in this adventure.
To access the brochure, follow this link: [POE+22 Brochure \(simplebooklet.com\)](https://www.agostlouis.org/POE+22%20Brochure%20(simplebooklet.com).).

From Andrzej Zahorski, Director of Music at St. Anselm Parish, Creve Coeur MO

There is probably no better way to honor Saint Cecilia--the patroness of the church music and musicians--than through live music and prayer. Although few historical facts about St. Cecilia's life can be ascertained, the effects of her patronage are tangible. St. Cecilia's inspiration is evidently present in numerous musical compositions, dedicated to her, and in lives and creative work of countless musicians, who, over many centuries, were greatly touched by God's grace bestowed through her intercessions.

One of the most explicit signs of St. Cecilia's patronage was the creation of St. Cecilia Academy. That institution, established in 1585 by Pope Sixtus V, had a mission of improving the church music and musical education. The Academy, after centuries of growth, remains in existence today, and is the oldest musical institution of international stature.

Our community, St. Anselm parish in west St. Louis County, would like, therefore, to cherish St. Cecilia's memory by offering a special concert that will take place at our church on Thursday, May 26, at 7:00 pm. The program of our concert will feature music written by three preponderant figures from a short list of the most significant church music composers of all times: Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina - the first president of the St. Cecilia Academy, and his two students - Orlando di Lasso and Tomás Luis de Victoria.

Through the body of official documents, the Church gives a primacy to music based on scriptural texts. The instrumental music, however, has been, for many centuries, also used in connection with various forms of worship and liturgy. To present a range of contrasting expressions of the instrumental repertoire in the church setting, we selected music in two distinctive styles: chamber music of the Italian Baroque and solo organ of Spanish late Renaissance.

Our goal is to demonstrate the church music at its best, thus creating an ambience of contemplation and prayer that would provide an impetus for a spiritual growth.



A musical journey in honor of Saint Cecilia, the patroness of all musicians!

THURSDAY, MAY 26TH AT 7 PM

Come celebrate the beauty, depth, and richness
of the musical patrimony of the Church:



Harmonious and elegant,
yet virtuosic and passionate
instrumental music of the
Italian Baroque...

Vocal works dedicated to
the Mother of God by
Palestrina and Lasso, some
of the greatest composers of
sacred music...

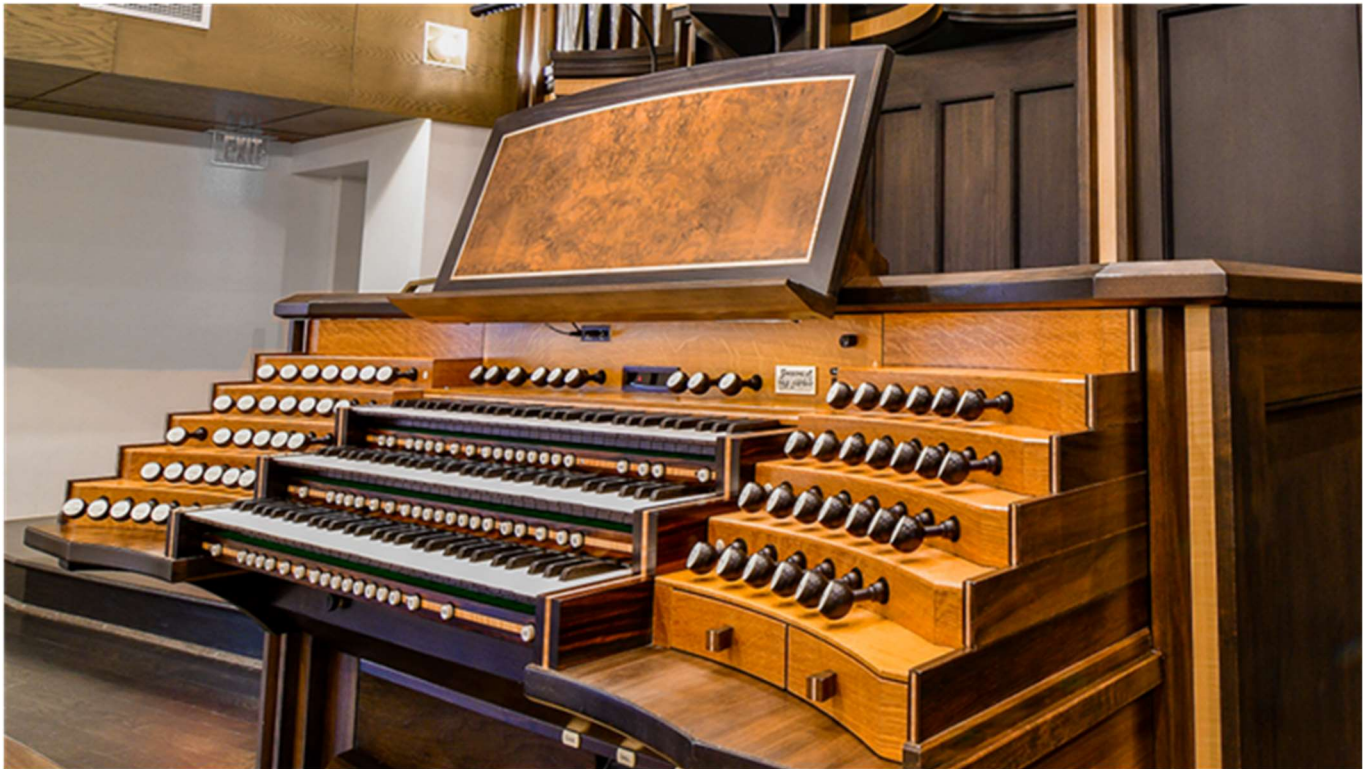
Mesmerizing music from the
Iberian Peninsula
played on our historical
Hradetzky organ...

All performed by some of the finest musicians
of the Saint Louis metropolitan area:

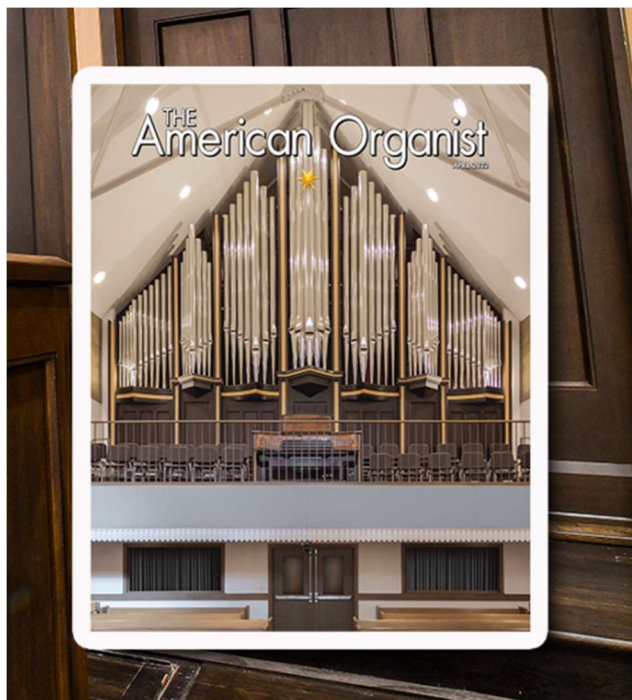
Elysium Instrumental Ensemble
Vox Fidentium Vocal Ensemble
Dr. Andrzej Zahorski, organ

(Questions? Contact the parish office at 314.878.2120.)

A photo from the April 2022 issue of TAO (just to fill this page!!!):



and the cover



First Lutheran Church
Cedar Rapids, Iowa

THE OPUS

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for publication consideration.
Material and calendar items should be e-mailed to
newsletter@agostlouis.org.

**Copy deadline for the Summer issue
is May 25.**

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CONTACT:
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OFFICERS:

Dean - Rick Burk
Sub-Dean - Heather Martin Cooper
Secretary - Gaye Anderson
Treasurer - Mike Kaberline
Past Dean - Burnell Hackman

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:Class of 2022

Dr. Steven Ball
J. D. Brooks
Dr. William Sullivan

Class of 2023

(Vacant)
Shawn Portell
Kit LaMar

Class of 2024

Sarah Bereza
Jill Griffin
(Vacant)

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
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2021-2022

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St. Louis Chapter

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David Sinden *Organist & Director of Music*
S. William Aitken *Organist & Director of Music Emeritus*

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

Joint Evensong Service at the Church of St. Michael and St. George

This service, sung jointly by the choirs of St. Peter's and the Church of St. Michael and St. George (CSMSG; Nicholas Bideler, Organist & Choirmaster), will be held on Sunday, June 5 at 5:00 p.m. at CSMSG (6345 Wydown Blvd). Music by Herbert Howells, Leo Sowerby, Howard Helvey, and Philip Stopford.

For full details visit specstl.org