

February 2023

Dean's Corner

Happy New Year to you all! And in this new year, I want to thank Fern and Al Black for their years of service as our Directory Editors and Hospitality Coordinators! Fern and Al have served the Guild for many years, but felt it was time to retire. For now, Regina Morris and I will take over these tasks, but we would definitely entertain passing the torch to anyone who would like to volunteer.

If you have not signed up for February Flourish, I would encourage you to look over the information and see what might interest you in the wonderful sessions being set up. In past events, the participants always were enthusiastic and eager to learn. More information about February Flourish is in this newsletter (page 3), and as always, Dawn Riske and team have done a great job putting this together!

These next few months will have time being spent in planning for upcoming items: board elections, convention planning, program planning, etc. I hope that you will share your thoughts and ideas with us as we prepare and plan. I would like to know what would interest you. The elections will be held in April, and I encourage each of you to vote - instructions will be forthcoming.

Finally, I'd like to thank Rick Burk and Darwin Tanguilig for opening their home for the January 6th Epiphany party. It was a great time of food, fellowship and even some live music performed on a pump organ and piano!

I hope that your Epiphany season is going well as well as your preparations for the Lenten journey looking ahead to Easter! Remember, the Chapter is as much a resource as it is an educational organization, so please reach out if the Chapter can be of assistance.

Warm regards,

Jeff White, Dean
AGO St. Louis Chapter



Jeffrey White—Dean



Mary Beth Wittry
wittrym@stgabrielstl.org

Greetings and wishes for a blessed 2023 to all of you! As we all look ahead and plan things to come in the next year, please mark your calendars for upcoming Chapter events with our St. Louis AGO! In mid-February, Peace Lutheran Church will host our annual February Flourish beginning with an evening of Taizé prayer on Friday, continuing with an all-day Church Music Conference on Saturday, and concluding with an organ concert on Sunday afternoon. In March, there will be a Members' Concert at Grace United Methodist following a Chapter dinner. We have a few volunteers to play but are looking for more; a great winter project is learning new repertoire! Please contact me if you would like to perform!

Festival Flourish: A Trio of Happenings

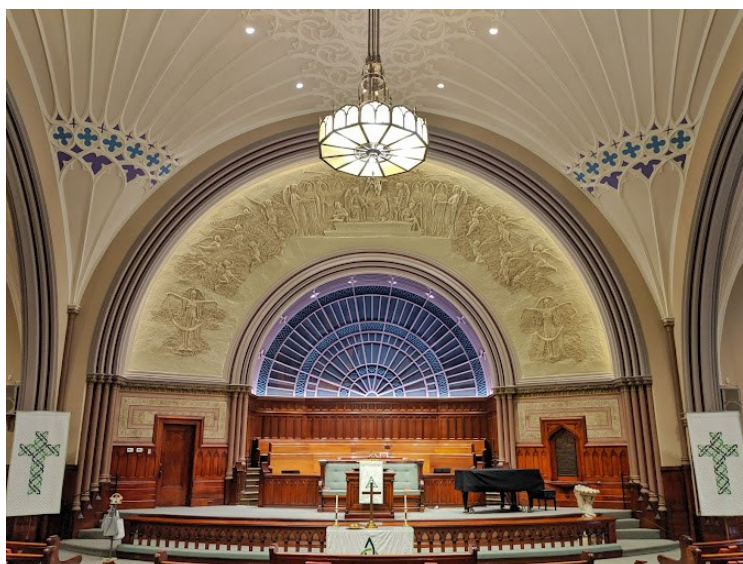
Peace Lutheran Church
[737 Barracksvue Rd.](#)
St. Louis, MO 63125

(See next page for more details!)

Members' Concert, Monday, March 27

Grace United Methodist, Sarah Bereza, host
6199 Waterman Boulevard
St. Louis, MO 63112

Dinner	6:30 p.m.
Concert	7:30 p.m.



February Flourish 2023

A Trio of Happenings—register today for the Saturday Workshop

**Peace Lutheran Church, 737 Barracksview Road
Saint Louis (Mehlville), MO 63125**

Friday, February 10, 2023

Taizé Prayer at 7:00 p.m. No charge, reception to follow

Saturday, February 11, 2023

Church Music Conference — 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, February 12, 2023

**Organ recital by Dr. Steven Wentz of
Concordia University Chicago at 3:00 p.m. Free and open to the public**

Presented by
American Guild of Organists--St. Louis Chapter

with support from
**Handbell Association of Greater Saint Louis
National Association of Pastoral Musicians--St. Louis Chapter**

**\$25 registration includes all Saturday workshops and lunch
\$10 registration for student attendance includes all workshops and lunch**

Register with [eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.com)

Organ, Choral, Handbell, and Multi-Cultural Ministry Workshops

Presenters: Dr. Sarah Bereza, Dr. Steven Wentz, Simeon Layne, Jr., Burnell Hackman, Carlos Flores Ramirez, Mark Lawson, Jacob B. Weber, David Erwin, Sherry Boland, Yvonne Sullivan, CAGO, Julie Binder, and Jeff White, CAGO. We also welcome our Regional Councillor, Mary Newton, DMA, CAGO.

Repertoire showcases by MorningStar Music/ECS and Concordia Publishing House.



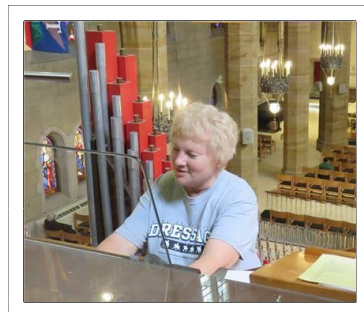
2023 NOMINEES

The following slate of nominees has been presented by the duly appointed nominating committee. We thank Regina Morris, Suzanne Chisum and Matt Gerhardt for serving on that committee. Additional nominations may be made by petition if each petition is signed by five (5) Chapter members in good standing and submitted to the Chapter Secretary within thirty (30) days of the announcement of the slate to the Chapter membership but no later than March 15. The actual election will take place between March 15 and April 15. Instructions for voting will appear in the March issue of The OPUS.

SECRETARY

GAYE ANDERSON

Gaye is the Organist/Choirmaster at St. Paul's Episcopal Parish in Alton, IL. She holds a Bachelor of Music Education degree with emphasis in Piano Performance from Greenville College in Greenville, IL and a Master's degree from Webster University, St. Louis in Organ Performance. Gaye is a student of Canon Precentor Dr. William Partridge at Christ Church Cathedral in St. Louis. She operates Livery Haus Music Studio in her hometown of Marine, IL and is also an equestrian instructor at the family-owned dressage and hunter/jumper stable Brier Bank Farm in Marine. Gaye is married to attorney Roy Anderson. They have been blessed with two children: Son, David (Organist/Music Director at St. Peter's UCC in Ferguson) and daughter, Lauren (artist). In her 'spare time', Gaye assists the staff at Gateway Music Group, LLC and enjoys antiques, renovating old houses, and playing with the family's two Jack Russell "hunt terriers."



TREASURER

MIKE KABERLINE

Mike began serving as Treasurer for the 2015 AGO Regional Convention in St. Louis and then as the Treasurer for the St. Louis Chapter shortly after. He has held positions in finance and financial reporting for several non-profit and political organizations – on national, state-wide, and local levels. In addition to managing a Healthcare Informatics company, he is also the Product Manager for three medical practice management software products for eMDs/CompuGroup Medical. Although not an organist, he has a long admiration and love of organ music and the physical design of organs.



NOMINEES CONTINUED

CLASS OF 2026

Stephen Jones

Stephen Jones is a composer pianist, organist, choir director and music teacher. He has composed music for solo piano, song cycles for piano and voice, chamber ensemble as well as orchestral pieces. Stephen studied music composition and theory with composer John Huggler at the University of Massachusetts Boston MA. After completing a BA in Theory and Composition and a BA in English Literature he went to graduate school in SUNY Fredonia New York. His primary composition teacher there was Donald Bohlen. He completed his Masters degree in Composition and Theory and earned his teaching certificate in Vocal music K-12. After twenty-five years teaching vocal music in the St. Louis Public Schools Stephen retired from teaching in June 2015. His career as a part-time church musician began when he started student teaching. He had been a choir director and an organist before moving to St. Louis. In St. Louis Stephen was the organist at St. Philips Lutheran for ten years and was the Minister of Music for ten years at Church of the Open Door UCC. His most recent position was at St. George Catholic Church—a position which was eliminated when St. George and St. Dominic Savio merged in May 2018. Stephen is currently the Music Director for St. Stephens Protomartyr Catholic church.



Mark Lawson

Mark W. Lawson is the President of ECS Publishing Group, parent company for E.C. Schirmer, Galaxy Music Corporation and MorningStar Music Publishers. Mr. Lawson has been active in developing digital delivery methods, strategizing about the development of music web-sites, and has been involved in numerous recording projects. As a publisher, he enjoys working with both new as well as established composers. He is actively involved in the Music Publishers Association, the Church Music Publishers Association, and serves on the board of directors of Chorus America.



Sharon Whitlock

Sharon Whitlock moved to Wentzville from Rockford, IL in August 2022 to be close to her children and grandson after the death of her husband, Brad (married 41 years). Sharon worked as a Medical Technologist (Microbiology) for 31 years at Swedish American Hospital in Rockford and was active in the local figure skating club. She has written several figure skating novels. But Sharon's main involvements were and still are in music. She started piano lessons when she was seven and was playing in several churches by the time she was 13! Sharon was in demand in Rockford as an accompanist for choirs of all ages and experience levels, soloists, musical theater, music competitions, local arts festivals, and of course, for churches. Her church children's choir grew from 24 children to 70 children in three years. Sharon has also written music for children and adults. Sharon was also active in musical organizations in Rockford, including serving on the board of the Rockford Choral Union, and serving as the Chair of the Annual Chandler Starr Miller Youth Music Competition for a dozen years. She has presented workshops in Hymn History. Sharon is a member of the American Guild of Organists (AGO) and is a patroness for the Sigma Alpha Iota International (Women's) Music Fraternity.



Concert Calendar

A hymn festival featuring the works of Lisa Clark, hymnwriter and author will be presented on Sunday, February 5 at 4:00 p.m. at Hope Lutheran Church, 5218 Neosho Street, St. Louis. Lisa is a St. Louis native and serves as Senior Editor at Concordia Publishing House. The hymn festival will feature hymn texts written as part of her Ph.D. studies at the University of Bristol, England. The festival will be led by Jacob Weber and the combined choirs of Hope and Ascension Lutheran Churches. Visit hopelutheranstl.org for more information.



Sponsored by the Handbell Association of Greater St. Louis (HAGSTL), spRingfest 2023 with clinician Nick Hanson will take place on Saturday, February 25 at Our Savior Lutheran Church (1500 San Simeon Way, Fenton, MO). Set-up begins at 8:00 a.m. Mass ringing begins at 9:00 a.m. Lunch will be provided as part of the registration fee of \$40.00 per person prior to February 1 and \$50 per person after February 1. **A free public concert will take place at 3:00 p.m.** For more information and a registration form, visit stlbells.org.

As part of our February Flourish Trio of Happenings, Dr. Steven Wentz of Concordia University, Chicago, will present an organ recital on Sunday, February 13, 3:00 p.m. at Peace Lutheran Church. The recital is free and open to the public.



If you are hosting or sponsoring an event, or know of any that may be of interest to the members of our Chapter, please be sure to send that information to events@agostlouis.org so those events may be posted on the Chapter website. Thank you!

What a wonderful Epiphany gathering at Rick and Darwin's place on January 6!





American Guild of Organists
PIPE ORGAN ENCOUNTERS

2023

Registration opened on December 1, 2022

June 18-23

Wheaton, Illinois

[Fox Valley Chapter](#)

Wheaton College

Director: David A. Lincoln

630-655-2124

[Email Fox Valley POE Director](#)

[Fox Valley POE website](#)

Registration Deadline: May 15, 2023

Click [HERE](#) to view additional information and view the brochure.

June 25-30

Wichita, Kansas

[Wichita Chapter](#)

Wichita State University

Co-Director: Annette Lindal

316-215-4402

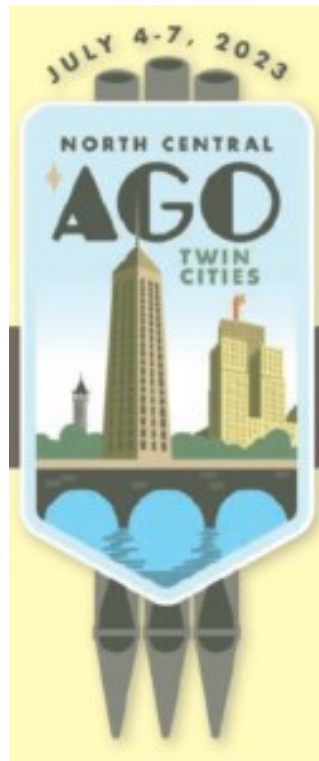
[Email Wichita POE Co-Director](#)

[Wichita POE website](#)

Registration Deadline: May 15, 2023

Click [HERE](#) to view additional information and view the brochure.

North Central Regional Convention



Hosted by the [Twin Cities Chapter](#)
Minneapolis/St. Paul, Minnesota
Hotel: Hilton Minneapolis

July 4-7, 2023

For detailed information visit the [Website](#).

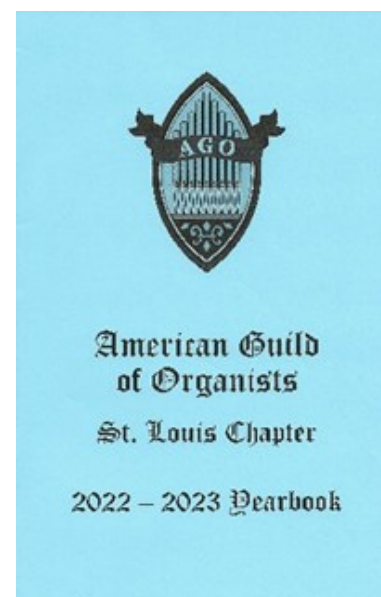
David Jenkins, Convention Co-Coordinator
651-353-3409
dpjen2007@gmail.com

Kathrine Handford, Convention Co-Coordinator
612-747-7861

YEARBOOK UPDATES

In this and future issues of THE OPUS there will be an opportunity to provide corrections and changes to member entries as needed by sending the updated information to newsletter@agostlouis.org. Be sure to also keep your information in ON-CARD up to date.

For current members of our Chapter whose listing does not appear in the 2022-2023 Yearbook, please send your information to newsletter@agostlouis.org IF you would like the information to be shared with our membership via a future issue of THE OPUS.



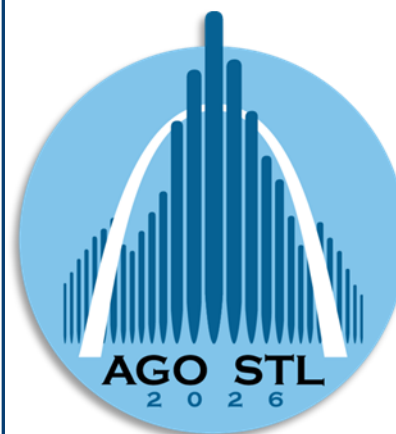
Another reminder—if you have not yet done so, please take a few moments and take a look at the [Facebook Page](#) and select “Like” to follow. If you would like to be a member of the [Facebook Group](#), please scan the QR code to the right.



AGO NATIONAL CONVENTION

July 6—10, 2026

[Click here for more information](#)



2022-2023 Leadership Team

OFFICERS:

Dean - Jeff White
 Sub-Dean - Mary Beth Wittry
 Secretary - Gaye Anderson
 Treasurer - Mike Kaberline
 Past Dean - Rick Burk

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Class of 2023

Kit LaMar
 Shawn Portell
 Bill Sullivan

Class of 2024

Sarah Bereza
 Chuck Chauvin
 Jill Griffin

Class of 2025

Suzanne Chisum
 Bob Raymond
 David Sinden

APPOINTED POSITIONS:

2026 Convention Coordinator

Burnell Hackman

Auditor

Denis J. Doelling

Certification Coordinator

Brent Johnson

Dinner Reservations

Dr. Cathy Bolduan

Directory Editors

Jeff White & Regina Morris

Educational Resources

Dr. Barbara Raedeke

Historian

Randy Zerkel

Membership Coordinator

Mary Beth Wittry

OPUS Editor

Rick Burk

Photographer

Dawn Riske (Interim)

Placement

Denis J. Doelling

Professional Concerns Liaison

Shawn Portell

Programs

Mary Beth Wittry

Publicity Liaison

Dawn Riske

Registrar

Regina Morris

Social Media Communications

Suzanne Chisum

Webmaster

Brent Johnson

THE OPUS

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 of the American Guild of Organists
 3526 Oxford Blvd.
 St. Louis, MO 63143-4209
 January 2023 - Vol. 38, No. 4

You are invited to submit material for publication consideration.
 Material and calendar items should be e-mailed to newsletter@agostlouis.org.

Copy deadline for the March issue is February 15.

Send address changes or mailing label requests to:

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

THE OPUS

American Guild of Organists

St. Louis Chapter

3526 Oxford Blvd

St. Louis, MO 63143-4209

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Non-Profit
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Remaining St. Louis Chapter Programs/Meetings

February 10-12

February Flourish at Peace Lutheran Church

March 27

Member's Recital at Grace United Methodist Church

May 22

Closing Banquet with Installation of officers and Chapter awards
at the Motherhouse of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet.

Add these to your personal calendar. Dates and places may change, so please watch for THE OPUS newsletter or check the chapter web site.

