

THE OPUS

Volume 41 Issue No. 4

January 2025

Dean's Message

Happy New Year!

I hope that your holiday festivities were joyous and blessed. Many of you put in "overtime" for special services, programs and concerts, which are especially uplifting to our congregations and audiences at this time of year. There will be an opportunity to bask in some relaxation and refreshment at the Epiphany party on January 3. I trust that many of you will take advantage of that! (More details appear on page two.)



Dean

This second half of our program season continues to be a

busy and productive one. Suzanne Chisum is sharing more details about the February Flourish, which promises to be most engaging. (See page 3) Please encourage friends and acquaintances to attend on Sunday, Monday, or both! Also note that the choir for the hymn festival is volunteer; your choir members would be welcome to rehearse with Michael Burkhardt and participate in the service. March will usher in our member recital in conjunction with Pipes for Parkinsons. Biff, our Sub-Dean, will have more to say about that. And of course, preparations for the 2026 National Conference are on-going.

There are many ways for each of us to be involved in Chapter activities! Thank you all for making this an active and supportive organization.

Suzanne Manelli Dean Page 2 January 2025



Biff Hackman Sub-Dean

Sub-Dean's Message

Greetings STL AGO,

Happy New Year! Our Annual Epiphany Party is just around the corner. In advance I would like to extend a special thank you to Burnell and Kathy Hackman for hosting and to Kendra Ruesler for helping prepare the food. See the details below and be sure to RSVP to me at biffhackman@yahoo.com.

I look forward to seeing everyone at our February Flourish on the 16^t and 17th of next month. Suzanne Chisum and Mark Lawson have put together a fantastic Hymn Festival and workshop sessions under the

leadership of Michael Burkhardt. It will be a great weekend of music!

Our March Chapter event will be our Annual Member's Recital on March 17. The recital will be held at St. Mark's Episcopal Church (Juget-Sinclair Opus 32 II/23) at 7:30 p.m. There are still open spots to perform. If you would like to sign up please email me at biff-hackman@yahoo.com or call me at 314-650-9413.

Here's to a great 2025!

Biff Hackman Sub Dean, St. Louis Chapter AGO

JANUARY CHAPTER EVENT

Epiphany Party Friday, January 3, 2025 7:00 - 11:00 p.m.

Hackman Residence 5104 Chouteau's Bluff Drive St. Louis, MO 63111

Please RSVP to Sub-Dean, Biff Hackman by Sunday, December 29 via email at <u>biffhack-man@yahoo.com</u>. "Plus ones" welcome.



PRESENTS

MICHAEL BURKHARDT

international choral clinician, organist, and hymn festival leader





FEBRUARY 16, 2025 KIRKWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH 4:00 PM

Hymn Festival

Sponsored by MorningStar Music Publishers, Concordia Publishing House & Midwest Sheet Music Supported by NPM St. Louis & The Handbell Association of Greater St. Louis

Free. Open to the

More Information

211 N Woodlawn Ave

THE ST. LOUIS CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

PRESENTS

MICHAEL BURKHARDT

international choral clinician, organist, and hymn festival leader





FEBRUARY 17, 2025
KIRKWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH
EXHIBITS OPEN AT 2:00 PM. WORKSHOPS AT 3:00 PM

Workshops

Sponsored by MorningStar Music
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Registration fee \$25

Registration

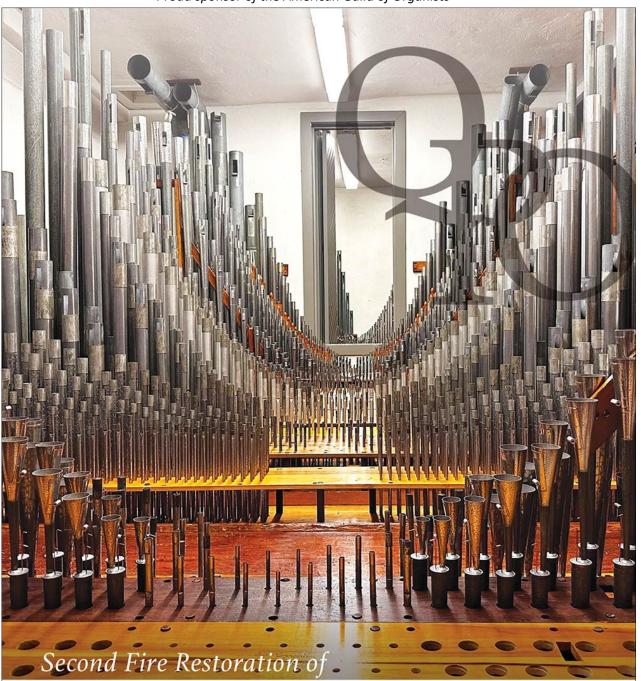
211 N Woodlawn Ave Kirkwood MO

For more information or to register online, go to the February Flourish section of our Chapter website at www.agostlouis.org and use the hyperlinks embedded in these two graphics.

If you do not have internet access, you may contact Suzanne Chisum at februaryflourish@agostlouis.org.

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Events Galendar

Check the Concerts and Events section of the Chapter website (<u>www.agostlouis.org</u>) for the most current list of upcoming events. When visiting that page, be sure to click on the heading of each concert listing for full details, including contact information, driving directions, etc.

January 12, 2025 - 3:00 p.m.

Brian Woods, piano
First Presbyterian Church of Kirkwood
2024-2025 Con Spirito Concert Series
A native of St Louis, Brian Woods combines formidable technique
and unique artistry with a charismatic presentational style.
A retiring offering will be collected.

February 2, 2025 - 3:00 p.m.

The IMI Chamber Players First Presbyterian Church of Kirkwood 2024- 2025 Con Spirito Concert Series

This concert features the IMI Chamber Players' woodwind quintet (flute, oboe, clarinet, bassoon, and horn) and will feature music composed by Black musicians in recognition of Black History Month.

A retiring offering will be collected.

If you or your church or organization has an organ/musical event that you would like to have included in the calendar, <u>please</u> send an email to David Sinden at <u>events@agostlouis.org</u>. You are also advised to "cc" Brent Johnson at <u>brent@brentmjohnson.net</u>.

A celebration of life will be held for Trish Partidge (late wife of Chapter member, Pat Partridge) at 11:00 a.m. on Sunday, January 19, 2025, at The Piper Palm House located in Tower Grove Park, with a reception immediately following.

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With the Convention a year and half away, the wheels of the Convention are turning swiftly.

We are working with venues and artists to get contracts signed. We plan to have a grand unveiling of the Convention at our May Annual Meeting. You won't want to miss that!

The Gifts and Grants Committee needs a new chair. We are looking into a Gala Fundraiser in October to support the Convention.

Many small Convention details are underway including a transportation schedule and procuring a decorator company for the Exhibit Hall. The Advertising and Program Book committee are looking for additional members.

Dawn Riske, Volunteer Coordinator, will begin recruiting volunteers later in 2025.

As we enter 2025, we have much to be thankful for.

As we prepare to bring the organ world to St. Louis in 2026, we hope you will join us in the endeavor!!

Convention Coordinator

Runell & Hand

2026 National American Guild of Organist Convention

Saint Louis, Missouri

Visit and Like the 2026 Convention Facebook page at:

AGO National Convention - St. Louis 2026

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Restoration work from Wicks

Zion United Methodist - Gordonville, Missouri





The original stenciled design of this Jackson tracker organ was hidden under a layer of flaking, yellow varnish.

The pipes were stripped to bare metal, repainted and hand stenciled using copies of the original decorative patterns.



Repairs were made to all of the pipes, and new tuning slides were fabricated.



The organ was pitched to A=440, and given a thorough revoicing to achieve a more cohesive sound.

(618) 654-2191 wicksorgan.com





(Please note that some positions may no longer be available past the time of going to press.)

These listings below are only a <u>brief</u> synopsis of the job descriptions. For more details on these job opportunities, please visit the "Open Positions" section of our website at https://www.agostlouis.org/job-openings/.

CHOIR DIRECTOR

Parkway United Church of Christ seeks a part-time choir director. If you feel that we could be a good fit for you and your gifts, please send a cover letter and resume to employment@parkwayucc.org. Please indicate that you are applying for the choir director position.

ORGANIST/PIANIST

Parkway United Church of Christ seeks a part-time organist/pianist who is dynamic, flexible and eclectic. If you feel that we could be a good fit for you and your gifts, please send a cover letter and resume to employment@parkwayucc.org. Please indicate that you are applying for the organist/pianist position.

SALES/MARKETING

Steinway Piano Gallery, Maryland Heights, MO is expanding their staff to include an additional associate in sales and marketing. The position will offer a career path to someone who would like to represent the world's finest pianos. For more information contact Gerry Malzone at 314-344-1133.

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Trinity Presbyterian Church is seeking a Director of Music. Interested applicants should send a cover letter and resume to: melanie.smith@trinityucity.org.

ORGANIST

First Church of Christ, Scientist Town and Country, Missouri, is seeking an organist for our Sunday and Wednesday church services. If you are interested in auditioning or have any questions, please contact Bruce Bollinger, Music Committee Chair, at 314-971-2258 or bb3340@aol.com.

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

St. John United Church of Christ, Manchester, is looking for a Director of Music. Contact Kevin@stjohnmanchester.org for a complete position description.

ORGANIST/PIANIST

Resurrection Lutheran Church, 1211 W. Homer M Adams Pkwy, Godfrey IL is seeking an organist or pianist. For more information or to apply please contact Neal at 618-433-1611 or Pastor Jan at 618-250-1608.

ORGANIST

Memorial United Methodist Church, a growing and welcoming faith community in Farmington, MO, is looking for someone to play our pipe organ for our 10:30 .m. Sunday morning service. Resumes should be sent to Shannon Davis, the senior pastor, at Shannon.davis@memorialumc.church or Memorial United Methodist Church, 425 North Street, Farmington, MO, 63640.

ORGANIST

First Unitarian Church of St Louis, a liberal faith community in the Central West End neighborhood, is seeking an organist/accompanist. To apply, send cover letter and resume to musicsearch1@firstuustlouis.org.

ORGANIST

First Church of Christ, Scientist in Clarkson Valley, Missouri, is seeking a talented organist for our Sunday and Wednesday church services. If you are interested in auditioning or have any questions, please contact Heather Tibbetts, Music Committee Chairman, at 314-320-6194 or hmstibbetts@gmail.com.

ORGANIST

St. Anthony's Catholic Church, Sullivan, MO is seeking a part-time organist or organist/choir master to begin leading us in music at our Sunday Liturgy as soon as possible. For questions or to apply please call Pastor Fr. Noah Waldman directly at (636) 688-0900.

TENOR SECTION LEADER

Third Baptist Church, St. Louis is seeking application for a Tenor section leader. Contact the Director of Music for information about this paid position, its responsibilities and expectations: pbarnes@third-baptist.org.

ORGANIST OR PIANIST

Eldon United Methodist Church, Eldon, MO, is seeking organist or pianist to accompany our Sunday 10:00 a.m. worship service. Please contact pastoramanda@eldonumc.org for more information or to apply.

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(Continued from page 9)

ORGANIST

Friedens United Church of Christ in Marissa, IL is seeking a part-time organist. To apply or for more information please contact Rev. Brett Palmer at marissafriedens@gmail.com or call the church office at 618-295-2004.

MUSIC DIRECTOR

New Baden (IL) Zion UCC is seeking a part time musician to fill several different roles. To apply or for additional information, please contact council president Rodney Washburn at rodneywashburn1@gmail.com.

ORGANIST

First Presbyterian Church of Alton, Illinois is seeking a part-time organist. Contact Vickie Oberlink 618-791-2562 or email First Presbyterian Church of Alton at firstpres1831@gmail.com.

ORGANIST (OR ORGANIST/CHOIRMASTER)

St. Michael's Episcopal Church, O'Fallon IL is seeking to find a part-time organist or organist/choir master to begin leading us in music as soon as possible. For questions or to apply please call Fr. Gregory Wilde at the church office (618-632-6168).

ORGANIST

St. Paul United Church of Christ in Belleville, IL is seeking an individual to contribute excellent organ and piano offerings for our worship services. If interested, please send your resume with three references to musicsearch@stpaulucc.org.

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BOARD OFFICERS



2024-2025 Chapter Leadership Team

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Dean - Suzanne Manelli Sub-Dean - Biff Hackman Secretary - Gave Anderson Treasurer - Mike Kaberline Past Dean - Jeffrey White

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Class of 2025

Suzanne Chisum **Bob Raymond** David Sinden

Class of 2026

Stephen Jones Mark Lawson Sharon Whitlock

Class of 2027

Mary Hitchcock-Reinhart **Earl Naylor** Spencer Smith

APPOINTED POSITIONS:

2026 Convention Coordinator Burnell Hackman

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Brent Johnson





Check out our presence on Facebook

Consider following our "Saint Louis Chapter AGO American Guild of Organists" Facebook Page. View photos from the AGO Events and Meetings. Stay abreast of all the organ happenings in the St. Louis area.

Have you joined the STL AGO Member Group yet?

Our "AGO St. Louis Members" Group is a private group where you can find humor, post questions and ask questions of others in the St. Louis Chapter of the American Guild of Organists.

For more information on either, please contact Suzanne Chisum at suzchisum@gmail.com.

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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 February issue is January 15.

Send address changes or mailing label requests to:
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