

Summer 2025

Dean's Message

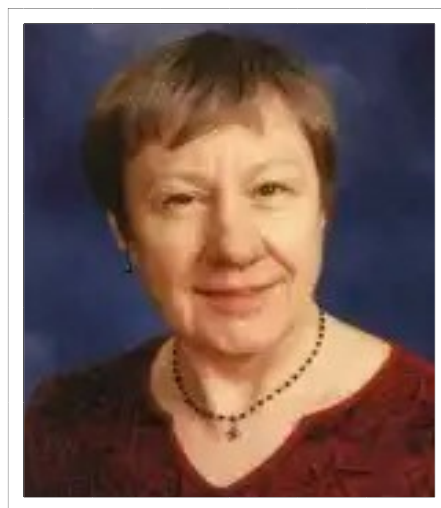
It seems that summer just got started, and yet we're mid-way into July already. I hope that each of you enjoys time for a bit of respite, as well as catching up on the "to-do" list.

On Monday, July 7, our North Central Regional Ambassador, Dr. Catherine Rodland, chaired a regional meeting on Zoom. Representatives from chapters in Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North and South Dakota, and Wisconsin participated. It was heartening to hear accomplishments as well as the challenges that some areas face. The St. Louis Chapter is truly blessed to have its membership and resources!

Speaking of membership, James Thomashower was also present at the meeting and encouraged anyone with questions or issues about the new membership software to contact the National office. They realize there are some growing pains and want to help all of us to maintain and enjoy our membership.

I look forward to seeing you all again in the fall!

Suzanne Manelli
Dean



Suzanne Manelli



The St. Louis AGO Chapter
and
The 2026 National AGO Convention
are hosting a fundraiser for the Convention
on **Friday, October 24, 2025**
at the Scottish Rite Cathedral in St. Louis.

6:00 - 7:00 pm - Hors d'oeuvres and bidding on silent auction items. Chance to purchase tickets for a 50/50 raffle. If you can help, contact Michele Sliger (michelleysliger@gmail.com or text 314.580.3242) to volunteer or to provide something for the silent auction.

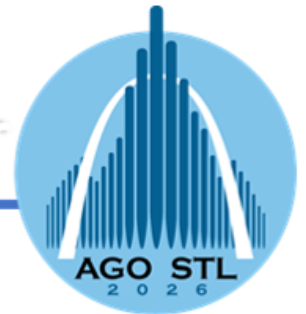
7:00 - 8:00 pm - Concert with intermission (Chapter members are invited to play a Halloween selection in costume or provide other musical entertainment). Halloween Costume Parade. Please contact Sub-Dean Biff Hackman (biffhackman@yahoo.com or text 314.650.9413) to volunteer to play.

8:00 pm - Dessert and awarding of Silent Auction winners and 50/50 drawing.

Proceeds will be used to support the 2026 National AGO Convention.
Tickets will go on sale soon.



Convention Coordinator



2026 National Convention

With our 2026 American Guild of Organists National Convention in St. Louis less than a year away, the Officers and the Convention and Steering Committee have been busy! To see a list of performers, commissioned works, venues and workshop sessions, please visit our website www.agostl2026.org.

We are thrilled to welcome attendees from across the nation to experience the rich musical heritage and vibrant culture of St. Louis. Our chosen venues will offer a memorable backdrop for each performance and workshop. Whether you are a seasoned organist or a newcomer eager to learn, there will be opportunities to connect, collaborate, and be inspired by colleagues and renowned artists alike. Stay tuned for announcements about special events and exclusive behind-the-scenes tours that will make this Convention truly unforgettable.

Convention Registration will open in November of 2025. Watch for more details.

Did you know registration fees only cover less than 50% of the cost of the Convention? Donations and sponsorship of events make up the balance. You can help by pledging to the 2026 Club or at any level you feel comfortable, sponsoring a commission or performer or by a general donation. If you visit our Convention website there is a very easy way to donate. If you or your church/company would like to sponsor an event or commission, please contact me and I can help with that process!

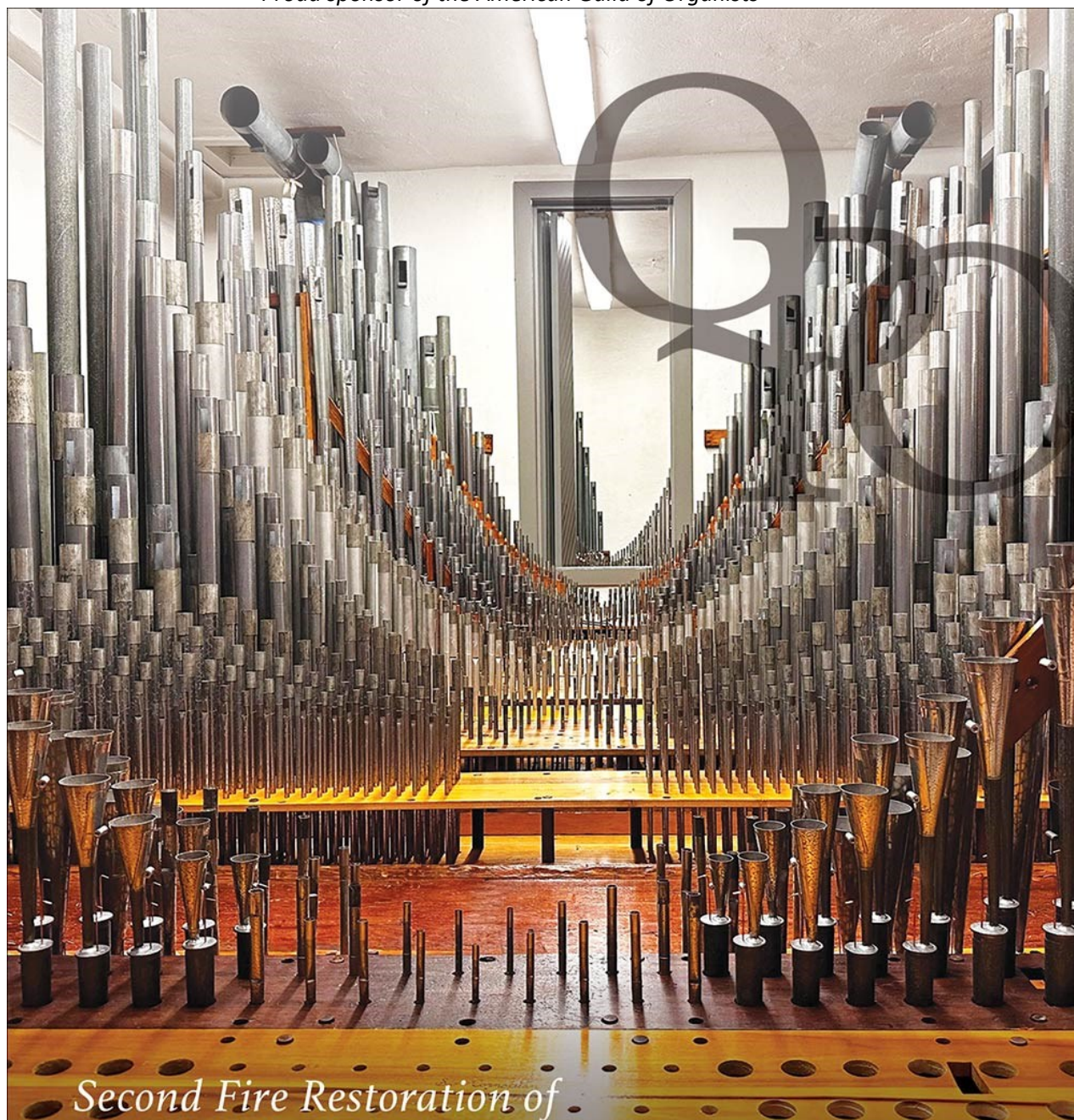
On Friday, October 24 the Convention Committee will be hosting a Halloween Concert at the Scottish Rite Cathedral. Chapter members are invited to play the 1904 Kimball Organ (dressed in costume and music appropriate to Halloween is encouraged). In addition, there will be refreshments and a silent auction. If you would like to play on the program, please contact Sub-Dean Biff Hackman at biffhackman@yahoo.com. If you would like to donate a gift basket or other item for the silent auction, or help with the reception, please contact Michelle Sliger at michelleysliger@gmail.com. Tickets will go on sale soon. There will be one price for attending the concert only (we hope to attract music students and their families to attend) and another price that will include both the reception and concert. Please put the date on your calendar.

There will be many ways to volunteer for the Convention. Watch the Convention website and this space for more details.

Burnell Hackman
Convention Coordinator
Agostl2026@agostlouis.org
314-650-9415

Visit the Convention website at:
www.agostl2026.org.

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Second Fire Restoration of
Æolian-Skinner
Opus 150-A

IV/151

Douglass Hunt, Project Consultant
Completed November, 2024

Quimby Pipe Organs, Inc.
P.O. Box 434 Warrensburg, MO 64093
660.747.3066 info@quimbypipeorgans.com

www.quimbypipeorgans.com



St. Louis Chapter members and friends presented a benefit "Pipes for Parkinson's" concert at Sacred Heart Church in Florissant on June 28: Dr. Sarah Bereza, Robert Schneider, Dr. Kathleen Bolduan, Cindy Vantine, and Marvin Smith.

With more activity beginning in the Fall, if you or your church has an organ/musical event that you would like to have included in the calendar, **please** send an email to David Sinden at events@agostlouis.org and "cc" Brent Johnson at brent@brentmjohnson.net.



As of a few weeks ago, over 5,000 members had yet to create login credentials through the AGO National website. If you have not already done so, please do this ASAP so that you will be able to access your profile and update your membership information, along with your birth date, so that your membership dues category will be reflected accurately. Your username in iMIS is your email address. After you sign in, click on "forgot password?" and you will automatically be sent a link with instructions on how to create a password.

Once you have set up your credentials in iMIS, be sure to renew your membership when your renewal date approaches. Our Chapter has a great program year planned for 2025—2026. Your membership dues help fund these events. Being a member of the St. Louis Chapter allows you to enjoy camaraderie with other organists in our area. Membership also includes a subscription to The American Organist (TAO) Magazine in printed and digital form or in digital form only as well as our Chapter newsletter, The OPUS. To renew, visit <https://www.agohq.org/>.

The logo for 'King of Instruments' features the word 'KING' in large, white, bold, sans-serif capital letters. A yellow crown with three points is positioned above the 'G'. Below 'KING' is the word 'INSTRUMENTS' in smaller, white, bold, sans-serif capital letters. A stylized orange hand with a black outline is pointing upwards towards the 'KING' text.

**Sundays at
7:00 AM**

**Classic
107.3 FM**

**Find past episodes online
at kingofinstruments.show**

Aug 4	Baroque Beckeraths
Aug 11	Simply Schoenstein
Aug 18	Definitely Dobson
Aug 25	Let's Letourneau

Sponsorship opportunities are available.
Email koi@kingofinstruments.show.

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Restoration work from Wicks

Zion United Methodist - Gordonville, Missouri

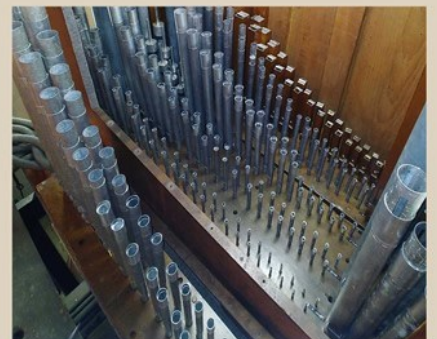


The original stenciled design of this Jackson tracker organ was hidden under a layer of flaking, yellow varnish.

▶ 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

Open POSITIONS

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

For more details on these and other job opportunities, please visit the “Open Positions” section of our website at <https://www.agostlouis.org/job-openings/>.

ORGANIST/PIANIST

St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, a progressive and welcoming congregation in the Carondelet neighborhood of St. Louis, at 6518 Michigan Avenue, is seeking an organist or pianist each Sunday and for special Holy Days. Duties include playing hymns and service music such as preludes, voluntaries and postludes. Sunday service is at 10:30 a.m. Salary will be based on experience. For more information, or to apply, please contact the Rev. Jeff Goldone at 314-910-8076 or jgoldone@yahoo.com. Visit our website at www.carondeletchurch.org.

ORGANIST OR PIANIST

Zion Lutheran Church ELCA, 123 Carson Road, Ferguson, is seeking a regular organist and/or pianist for our Sunday worship services. Worship begins at 9:30 a.m. Please contact The Rev. Matthew Schlake-Kruse for more information at mrkruse@gmail.com.

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Incarnate Word Catholic Church is seeking a Music Director that will be responsible for planning and leading music at three of the weekend liturgies (one on Saturday evening, two on Sunday morning), weddings, funerals, and other major liturgies. They will also be expected to supervise and train other musicians, choirs, and cantors as needed to support worship by the congregation. The position is somewhat flexible and can be offered as either full-time or part-time. Salary is dependent on experience and qualifications. Please send a cover letter and resume to David Olson at dolson@incarnate-word.org to be considered for this position.

ORGANIST OR PIANIST

Calvary United Church of Christ, 2501 Hartland Ave, Overland, MO 63114 is seeking a paid summer intern to enhance our worship experience with the potential to transfer to a permanent position. Contact jmotter-man@sbcglobal.net.

ORGANIST

Christ Church Cathedral in Louisville, KY is seeking a part-time Organist. Full job descriptions may be accessed at <https://ccclou.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/Music-Director-2025-FINAL-.pdf>.

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Christ Church Cathedral in Louisville, KY is seeking a part-time Director of Music. Director may also be able to fill open organist position if they have the skills. Full job descriptions can be accessed at <https://ccclou.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/Music-Director-2025-FINAL-.pdf>.

(Continued on page 9)

(Continued from page 8)

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.

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.



Jumpstart into Fall

**August 23, 2025
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**

**Second Presbyterian Church
4501 Westminster Place
St. Louis, MO 63108**

Join us for this exciting event to Jumpstart your new ringing year!

Bring your entire choir, half your choir or just yourself.

This event includes handbell reading sessions to play through newly published repertoire and a breakout workshop of your choice. Basic handbell supplies, new music and HAGSTL garage sale items will be available for purchase.

You won't want to miss participating in this Jumpstart event!

For more information, including the schedule, costs and workshop options, or to register, go to www.stlbells.org.

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The Steinway Piano Gallery is your local representative for sales, service, and leasing of the world's finest instruments.

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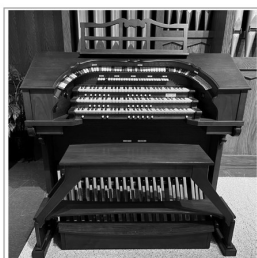


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314 344-1133

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2025-2026 Chapter Leadership Team



OFFICERS:

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

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Class of 2026

Stephen Jones
 Mark Lawson
 Sharon Whitlock

Class of 2027

Mary Hitchcock-Reinhart
 Earl Naylor
 Spencer Smith

Class of 2028

Joseph Arndt
 Luella Foster
 Matthew Gerhardt

APPOINTED POSITIONS:

2026 Convention Coordinator

Burnell Hackman

Auditor

Denis J. Doelling

Certification Coordinator

Brent Johnson

Dinner Reservations

Dr. Cathy Bolduan

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Brent Johnson

If you or someone you know is interested in placing an ad or business card in an upcoming issue, please contact The OPUS Editor at newsletter@agostlouis.org. There is the option to include an ad in every issue of The OPUS for one year (beginning with the September issue), or for select issues throughout the year. Payment must be received in advance to insure that the ad will be included. Credit card payments may be made online via our Chapter website (www.agostlouis.org) under the "Newsletter" section. Payments by check should be sent to our Treasurer, Mike Kaberline, at 2 Holly Ridge Ct., Swansea, IL 62226. Ad rates are listed on the Chapter website.



THE OPUS

American Guild of Organists

St. Louis Chapter

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THE OPUS

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Summer 2025- Vol .41, No. 9

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 September issue is August 10.

Send address changes or mailing label requests to:

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