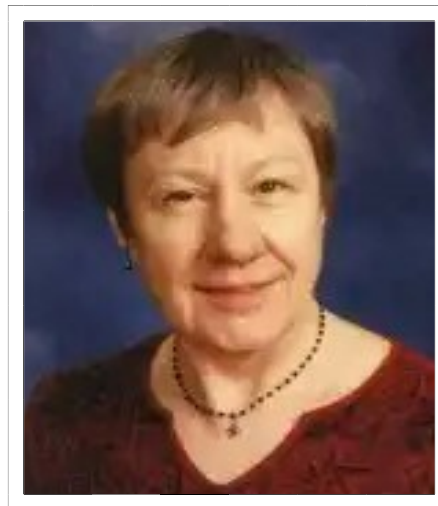


November 2025

Dean's Message

"Energy"... "Enthusiasm"... "Liveliness"... These were words that members of the AGO National Council used to describe the vibe they experienced in an October visit to St. Louis, planning for the 2026 National Convention. On October 16, they gathered with the Chapter Convention Steering Committee for a social dinner and short presentation about the upcoming Convention. Many of the National Council members had never been to St. Louis and were pleasantly surprised at the many amenities available - both musical and otherwise. Let's just say, toasted ravioli and gooey butter cake were eye openers for many of our visitors!



Suzanne Manelli

You may have seen an email from the AGO National Office about *The Loft*. Please check it out - it is a platform for AGO members to connect, share, and discuss topics of interest. It's a way that we can both provide and receive support and information from colleagues around the country.

At this writing, it is still not cool enough for the heat to be turned on, but I am hopeful it will happen in time to tune the organ for Christmas. I hope that your plans and preparations are successful as we near the Advent and Christmas seasons!

Suzanne Manelli
Dean



Biff Hackman
Sub-Dean

Sub-Dean's Message

Greetings STLAGO,

We had a wonderful kick-off to our 2025-2026 Program Year with a recital and lecture by Dr. Nicole Keller, Professor of Music and University Organist at the University of Michigan on September 22. She spoke with us about her research into the organ music of Florence Price. She also performed a recital the previous day in honor of the ten year anniversary of the Schoenstein & Co organ installation and sanctuary renovations at Ladue Chapel. Thank you to our host David Erwin, Minister of Music, for his hospitality.

We will meet next at the Episcopal Church of the Holy Communion on Monday, November 17 at 7:30 p.m. Parish Organist Earl Naylor will lead us through a demonstration of the recently rebuilt organ by Robert Dial which includes elements of the 1893 Farrand & Votey and 1924 M.P. Moller organs installed in the church. A meal will begin at 6:30 p.m.

We are still looking for a host for our 2026 Epiphany Party. If you are interested in hosting please contact me at 314-650-9413 or biffhackman@yahoo.com.

Here's to a peaceful Fall season,

Biff Hackman

Sub Dean, St. Louis Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

Monday, November 17

6:30 p.m. - Dinner

7:30 p.m. - Program

Episcopal Church of the Holy Communion

7401 Delmar Boulevard

University City, MO 63130

Please RSVP to Cathy Bolduan at 314-853-5011 or kathleen.bolduan@gmail.com to make your dinner reservation.

Cost is \$20.00 per person.

Meet us in
ST. LOUIS
2026 AGO National Convention
July 6 - 10, 2026

On Thursday, October 16, 2025, the National AGO Council and many of the AGO National Office staff met with members of the St. Louis 2026 Convention Steering Committee to enjoy a meal together, hear updates on the upcoming Convention and listen to Peace Lutheran Church's Martin Ott Pipe Organ. The National Council was very impressed with our Convention plans and were equally impressed with the eagerness of the Steering Committee to work together to create a great Convention.

Each night during the Convention we will feature a special cocktail. If you have a recipe for a favorite cocktail, please pass it on and we'll see if it can be included one evening at the Hyatt. Cocktails with organ-related names would be great. Please send me your suggestions to agostl2026@agostlouis.org.

We are about 250 days away from the start of the Convention!!

Happy Thanksgiving

Burnell L Hackman

Burnell Hackman
Convention Coordinator





WICKS ORGAN L.L.C.
HIGHLAND, ILLINOIS

Meet me in St. Louis!

Wicks is proud to have a part in the upcoming 2026 National Convention! Registration begins Fall 2025, but in the meantime, here is a small preview of some of our local instruments...

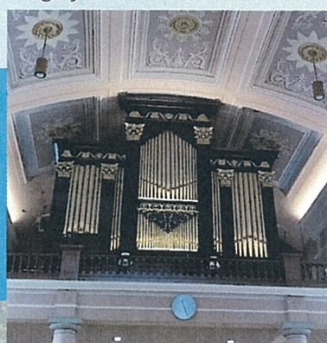
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Grants Available

The New York City Chapter will award grants of up to \$10,000 in 2026 from the Centennial Millennium Fund

Grant proposals (1 page, double-spaced maximum, in PDF format) are welcome for projects that will expand the general public's awareness of the pipe organ. Deadline for submission is December 31, 2025.



Please send your proposals to
Dr. Andrew Henderson, Chair
NYCAGO Centennial Millennium Fund Trustees
cmf@nycago.org

The Centennial Millennium Fund was created with proceeds from the 1996 National AGO Centennial Convention held in NYC.

Famous organ composers born in November:

- **David Briggs** (born November 1, 1962): An English organist and composer, he is highly regarded for his improvisational skills and his many orchestral transcriptions for the organ.
- **Leo Sowerby** (born November 3, 1895): This American composer, organist, and church musician was known for his vast output of compositions for the organ and other instruments.
- **Léon Boëllmann** (born November 7, 1862): The French composer and organist is best known for his *Suite gothique*, a staple of the organ repertoire.
- **François Couperin** (born November 10, 1668): The French Baroque composer, known as "Couperin the Great," was an organist and harpsichordist who wrote many works for keyboard.
- **Max Reger** (born November 15, 1873): A German composer, pianist, and organist, Reger created a significant body of complex and virtuosic works for the organ.
- **Sigfrid Karg-Elert** (born November 21, 1877): This German composer and organist was highly prolific, particularly known for his works for pipe and reed organs.
- **Pietro Yon** (born November 22, 1886): An Italian-born organist and composer who worked in the United States, Yon served as the organist at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York.
- **Charles Theodore Pachelbel** (baptized November 24, 1690): The son of the more famous Johann Pachelbel, Charles was also a German composer and organist who later moved to the American colonies.



American Guild
of Organists

St. Louis Chapter

2025-2026 Yearbook

By now you should have received your copy of the 2025-2026 Chapter Yearbook. If you have not received your copy or would like a second copy, please contact Registrar, Regina Morris at morrisrp@swbell.net.



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III/32

Trinity Lutheran Church

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Events Calendar

Check the Concerts and Events section of the Chapter website (www.agostlouis.org) 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.

Sunday, November 2 - 4:00 PM

Gateway Ringers Fall Concert: "Celebrating 30 Years of Ringing"
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
327 Woods Mill Rd., Ballwin, MO 63011

For more info, email the Gateway Ringers at info@gatewayringers.org or contact Jamie De Geer at (636) 391-6685.

Sunday, November 9 - 3:00 PM

Concert: Friends of Music Concerts
Eliot Unitarian Chapel
100 S Taylor Ave., Kirkwood, MO

Friends of Music Concerts announces the second concert of its 2025-2026 season. The program will feature works by W. A. Mozart, Zoltán Kodály, Alfred Schnittke, Mark Gottlieb, and Alyssa Morris, whose work "Convergence" will be a premiere performance. Featured performers include Bob Herman, English Horn; Thomas Pandolfi, piano; Pavel Ilyashov, violin; Shen Wen, piano; and the Arianna String Quartet. Free admission. The concert will be streamed live. For more information, please email: fomcrcc@gmail.com.

Wednesday, November 12 - 12:15 PM

Organ Recital: Bill Stein

Join us for a free half-hour recital performed on our beautiful Casavant organ.

For more information, please visit conspirito.kirkwoodpres.org

Friday, November 14 - 7:00 PM

Organ Recital: Dennis Bergin
Twin Oaks Presbyterian Church
1230 Big Bend Road, Ballwin, MO

St. Louis concert organist Dennis Bergin will present an organ recital, "Lo! He Comes To Us."

The concert is free and open to the public.

For further information, please contact Twin Oaks Presbyterian Church at (636) 861-1870.

Sunday, November 16 - 3:00 PM

Organ Recital: Pipes for Parkinsons
Ascension Catholic Church
230 Santa Maria Dr., Chesterfield, MO

To benefit the American Parkinson's Disease Association Pipes for Parkinson's St. Louis Chapter; featuring Kathleen Bolduan, Jinah Knapp, Mark Laverty (piano), James Marck, Earl Naylor, and Dawn Riske. Free admission. Freewill donations for APDA will be accepted. For more information, contact: pipesforparkinsonsstl@gmail.com.

Sunday, November 23 - 4:00 PM

Concert: *Vox Una* Youth Chorale
St. Joseph Parish, Cottleville
1355 Motherhead Rd., St. Charles, MO 63304

Vox Una is a select ensemble of students from Catholic high schools performing collegiate-level choral music in both liturgical and concert settings. They currently serve as Artists in Residence at the Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis. Free admission, no ticket required.

If you or your church has a musical event that you would like to have included in the calendar, **please** send an email to events@agostlouis.org and "cc" brent@brentmjohnson.net.

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/>.

DIRECTOR OF PARISH MUSIC

Peace Lutheran Church, 737 Barracksvue Road, Saint Louis, Missouri 63125 is searching for a Director of Parish Music. A full job description can be found at: [0e20459317_1759440402_peace-lutheran-church-director-of-parish-music-final.pdf](#) Interested candidates should submit a cover letter and resume to jtroesch96@gmail.com. Applications will be reviewed and selected candidates will be contacted for an interview.

ORGANIST

Faith Lutheran Church (ELCA) in O’Fallon, IL is seeking an organist. More is available at <https://www.agostlouis.org/organist-3/>. Interested candidate should submit a cover letter, resume and two professional references to hiringcmte@faithofallon.org.

ORGANIST

First Presbyterian Church of Alton, IL is seeking a part-time organist and accompanist. If interested, contact firstpres1831@gmail.com or call 618-465-3592.

CHOIR DIRECTOR / ORGANIST

Grace Episcopal Church, Kirkwood, is seeking a Choir director/Organist who will work with the Rector to craft liturgy while also being responsible for all vocal and bell choirs at Grace. Make application by sending cover letter, resume, and list of references to The Rev. Dr. Lisa Corry at lisa.corry@gracekirkwood.org

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

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.

BOARD OFFICERS

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:

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Burnell Hackman

Auditor

Denis J. Doelling

Certification Coordinator

Brent Johnson

Dinner Reservations

Dr. Cathy Bolduan

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Jeff White & Regina Morris

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Publicity Liaison

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Registrar

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Social Media Communications

Suzanne Chisum

Webmaster

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

Copy deadline for the December issue is November 10.

Send address changes or mailing label requests to:

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