

# Pipe Notes

American Guild of Organists – Milwaukee Chapter

P.O. Box 11731

Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53211

[www.agomilwaukee.org](http://www.agomilwaukee.org) • [chapter@agomilwaukee.org](mailto:chapter@agomilwaukee.org)

Volume 71 – May 2025



[www.agomilwaukee.org](http://www.agomilwaukee.org)



[www.youtube.com/  
@jameskennerley/videos](https://www.youtube.com/@jameskennerley/videos)



## Organ Concert

Sunday, May 4, 2025 | 3:00 PM

Saint Paul's Episcopal Church

914 E Knapp St | Milwaukee WI

*Parking available in the Lincoln School Lot*

*Co-sponsored by AGO Milwaukee Chapter and Saint Paul's Church*

### James Kennerley, Organist

*Municipal Organist for the City of Portland ME*

*Koztschmar Memorial Organ*

#### Program

Main title/March from Star Wars | Hedwig's Theme from Harry Potter — John Williams

Two scenes from Walt Disney's Fantasia — Silent Film Accompaniment | Overture to Candide — Leonard Bernstein

Toccata and Fugue in D minor, BWV 565 — Johann Sebastian Bach

Prélude et Fugue sur le nom d'Alain, op. 7 — Maurice Duruflé

Audience Hymn: Firmly I believe and truly — NASHOTAH HOUSE | Composed 1992 by Joseph A. Kucharski

#### Intermission

Psalm 94 — Anglican Chant by M. Camidge - Saint Paul's Choir

Sonata on the 94th Psalm — Julius Reubke

*I. Grave - Larghetto - Allegro con fuoco - Grave | II. Adagio - Lento | III. Allegro - Più mosso - Allegro assai*

*Post Concert Reception | Free will offering received.*

*The first half of the concert program is suitable for families with younger children.*

*A professionally staffed childcare center is available throughout the concert.*



James inside a pipe organ chamber.



James captivating an audience of young musicians!



Saint Paul's Anniversary Organ 1973  
Adams | Houghsen | Weistrock



Koztschmar Organ Recital  
Debut 2018 - James Kennerley



Chancel Organ 2011  
Schantz Organ Company

Chapter Directory  
[www.agomilwaukee.org](http://www.agomilwaukee.org)  
[chapter@agomilwaukee.org](mailto:chapter@agomilwaukee.org)

**Chapter Officers**  
**Dean**

John Schubring  
715-212-3078  
[dean@agomilwaukee.org](mailto:dean@agomilwaukee.org)

**Sub Dean**

David Bahrke  
414-232-6717  
[subdean@agomilwaukee.org](mailto:subdean@agomilwaukee.org)

**Secretary**

Mike Keegan  
414-225-1767  
[secretary@agomilwaukee.org](mailto:secretary@agomilwaukee.org)

**Treasurer**

Steven Jensen  
414-688-7838  
[treasurer@agomilwaukee.org](mailto:treasurer@agomilwaukee.org)

**Registrar**

David Bahrke  
[registrar@agomilwaukee.org](mailto:registrar@agomilwaukee.org)

**Executive Board**

**Class of 2025**

Kerri Kelly  
Thomas Koester  
J. Craig Sproat

**Class of 2026**

Michael Batcho  
Lee Erickson  
Paul Kasten  
Christian Rich

**North Central Regional  
Ambassador**

Dr. Catherine Rodland  
[northcentralra@agohq.org](mailto:northcentralra@agohq.org)

**James Kennerley, Organist**  
**Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 PM**  
**Saint Paul's Episcopal Church**  
914 E. Knapp Street  
Milwaukee WI

**AGO Milwaukee Chapter Annual Meeting**  
**Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 PM**

**Saint Paul's Community Room**

Enter through the front doors of the church.  
ADA ramp and entrance located in the courtyard.  
(914 E. Knapp Street) on the east side of the main church.



**Join us for a stellar organ concert!**

The American Guild of Organists- Milwaukee Chapter and Saint Paul's Episcopal Church invite you to an extraordinary organ concert featuring acclaimed organist James Kennerley **on Sunday, May 4, at 3:00 PM at the historic Saint Paul's Episcopal Church**, located at 914 E. Knapp Street, Milwaukee.

Experience an unforgettable afternoon filled with a captivating blend of Kennerley's organ transcriptions of John Williams' *Star Wars Theme* and *Hedwig's Theme* from Harry Potter. Kennerley performs Silent Film Accompaniment for two scenes from Walt Disney's *Fantasia* and Leonard Bernstein's *Overture to Candide*. Classical masterpieces round out the concert's first half: J.S. Bach's *Tocatta and Fugue in D Minor*, BWV 565, and Maurice Duruflé's *Prelude et Fugue sur le nom d'Alain*, Opus 7. The audience will sing "Firmly I believe and truly," set to NASHOTAH HOUSE, composed in 1992 by Joseph A. Kucharski and recently published in *The Dallas Hymnary* ([www.selahpub.com](http://www.selahpub.com)).

After intermission, Kennerley will perform the monumental *Sonata on the 94th Psalm* by Julius Reubke. Saint Paul's Choir will sing verses of Psalm 94 set to an Anglican Chant Tone by M. Camidge prior to the Sonata.

Set within the magnificent St. Paul's Church, famous for its stunning Tiffany stained glass windows, main chancel, and antiphonal organs in the nave, this concert is a must-attend for both seasoned fans and newcomers to the world of organ music. The first half of the concert program caters to families with young children, and a professionally staffed childcare center is available throughout the concert. The organist will perform while scenes from Disney films are projected in front of the nave.

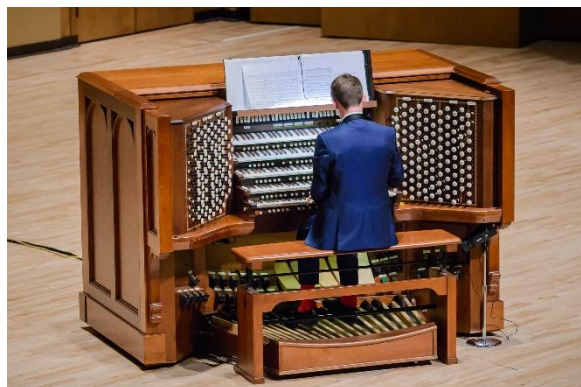
Saint Paul's Church is co-sponsoring the concert to honor Canon Dr. Joseph Kucharski's retirement and his distinguished career in church music. A reception will follow the concert in the Great Hall, hosted by Saint Paul's Parish Life Committee.

The concert is free, and a free-will offering will be accepted. The doors open at 2:15 PM, so arrive early to secure the best seats! Free parking is available at Lincoln School Center for the Arts. Enter from N. Marshall Street. An ADA ramp and entrance are located in the courtyard (914 E. Knapp Street) on the east side of the main church.

Don't miss your chance to be part of this enchanting musical experience. For more details, visit [www.jameskennerley.com](http://www.jameskennerley.com), [www.youtube.com/@jameskennerley](https://www.youtube.com/@jameskennerley), or contact: [SubDean@agomilwaukee.org](mailto:SubDean@agomilwaukee.org).

# Hymn and Service Music Playing Insights by James Kennerley

## A FREE workshop for Organists



Saturday, May 3, 2025 | 10:30 am-Noon  
Saint Paul's Episcopal Church – Sanctuary  
914 E. Knapp Street  
Milwaukee WI  
Enter through the main doors on E. Knapp Street.

James Kennerley is a masterful player of hymn and service music. Check out his YouTube Channel for inspiration. [ <https://www.youtube.com/user/jameskennerley> ].

The AGO Milwaukee Chapter is fortunate to present a workshop on hymn and service music playing, led by James, on Saturday May 3<sup>rd</sup>. from 10:30 am to 12:00 noon in the sanctuary of Saint Paul's Episcopal Church, located at 914 E. Knapp Street in Milwaukee. The AGO Milwaukee Chapter provides the workshop for free to organists and church musicians of all denominations.

Some topics to be covered:

Appropriate organ registrations for hymns and service music regarding congregation size and age. Use of mixtures – yes, or no?

Strategies for playing hymns requested funerals and weddings, where there is often no singing congregation.

The tempo of hymns and service music is adjusted for room acoustics.

Accompanying chant-style hymns and service music. Need for pedals? More foundational tone, less upper work?

How do you register the organ for leadership when a cantor is involved?

Use tone colors and swell expression pedals to highlight verses or text phrases.

Repeat seasonal hymns and effective pedagogy for congregational music.

Using hymn and choral arrangements, descants, free harmonizations, and improvisation.

The church's main doors on E. Knapp Street will open at 10:00 a.m. The ADA ramp and entrance are situated in the courtyard on the east side of the church building. Parking is available in the church lot on the north side of the church and on the street.





**Manufacturing and Maintaining World Class Pipe Organs for 45 years**

Contact us for a comprehensive evaluation of your needs.

● New Instruments	● Tuning
● Restorations	● Emergency Service
● Rebuilds	● Releathering
● Relocations	● Console Upgrades
● Tonal Additions	● Solid State Conversions
● Revoicing	● Consultations
● Fire Restorations	● Water Damage Repair



708-544-4052 ● [info@berghausorgan.com](mailto:info@berghausorgan.com) ● 2151 Madison St., Bellwood, IL 60104 ● [www.berghausorgan.com](http://www.berghausorgan.com)

## May 2025

**3 (Sat) 10:30 James Kennerley Hymn Playing and Service Improvisation Clinic**  
**St. Paul's Episcopal Church**  
**914 E. Knapp St.**  
**Milwaukee, WI**

**4 (Sun) 1:30 Milwaukee Chapter Annual Meeting**  
**Guild Hall**  
**St. Paul's Episcopal Church**  
**914 E. Knapp St**  
**Milwaukee, WI**

**4 (Sun) 3:00 James Kennerley Organ Concert**  
**St. Paul's Episcopal Church**  
**914 E. Knapp St**  
**Milwaukee, WI**  
**Co-Sponsored with St. Paul's Episcopal Church**

**14 (Wed) 5:00 Keri Kelly, Junior Organ Recital**  
**Whitewater Congregational UCC**  
**133 Franklin St**  
**Whitewater, WI**

**17 (Sat) 7:00 Ringing Queens: A Pop Concert**  
**Memorial Lutheran Church**  
**7701 N. Green Bay Rd**  
**Glendale, WI**


**18 (Sun) 3:00 Ringing Queens: A Pop Concert**  
**Zao Church MKE**  
**2319 Kenwood Blvd**  
**Milwaukee, WI**

**18 (Sun) 3:00 Command Performance Big Band**  
**Gary McWithey Concert Series**  
**Brookfield Congregational Church, UCC**  
**16350 Gebhardt Rd**  
**Brookfield, WI**

**18 (Sun) 3:00 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Concert**  
**and Hymn Sing presented by Dr. Faythe Freese**  
**First Lutheran Church**  
**521 N. 8<sup>th</sup> St**  
**Manitowoc, WI**

**18 (Sun) 4:00 David Jonies, Organ Concert**  
**St. Stephen the Martyr Lutheran Church**  
**6101 S. 51<sup>st</sup> St**  
**Greendale, WI**

**18 (Sun) 4:00 Austin Farwell Concert**  
**Luther Memorial Church**  
**1021 University Ave**  
**Madison, WI**



**sound** INSPIRATION

Riedel enhances worship by inspiring the dynamic expression of speech and sound. By blending art and science we help silence unwanted noise and enrich the fullness, presence and clarity of speech and music. Pipe organ consultation provides comprehensive guidance for the restoration, rebuilding, or relocation of existing organs, as well as the design of new instruments, large or small.

Scott R Riedel & Associates, Ltd.  
819 North Cass Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53202-3908  
P: (414) 771-8966  
F: (414) 771-0138  
E: [consult@riedelassociates.com](mailto:consult@riedelassociates.com)  
[www.riedelassociates.com](http://www.riedelassociates.com)

**RIEDEL**  
hear the difference.

Acoustical Design & Testing  
Organ Consultation & Inspection  
Organ Maintenance & Tuning  
Sound & Video System Design, Evaluation, & Training



**David Bahrke** ✕  
**Organist**  
**Music and Choral Director**  
**Funerals - Weddings**  
**Substitute Musician**  
**Music Events**

**[dbahrke@me.com](mailto:dbahrke@me.com)**  
**414-232-6717**



New Organs    Renovation    Restoration    Tuning

# Buzard

Pipe Organ Builders

[www.buzardorgans.com](http://www.buzardorgans.com)




@BUZARDORGANS

Follow us on social media!




Hear our organs on Spotify!

# Karen Beaumont

+++experienced+++  
 ORGAN RECITALIST  
 CHURCH MUSICIAN  
 ORGAN TEACHER

+++available for+++  
 RECITALS  
 SERVICE PLAYING  
 ORGAN LESSON

☎ 414-276-0499 (land line)  
 ✉ [kmbeaumont@hotmail.com](mailto:kmbeaumont@hotmail.com)  
 📍 <http://karenbeaumontorganist.mysite.com>

## AGO Certification Webinars and a New Member Webinar Mondays, April 28 – May 19

Are you planning to sit for one of the [AGO Certification](#) exams this summer? Candidates are invited to participate in a series of free weekly webinars that address key topics:

- May 5 – [Fugue \(CAGO, AAGO, FAGO\)](#)
- May 12 – [Ear Tests \(CAGO, AAGO, FAGO, ChM\)](#)
- May 19 – [Compositional Techniques \(AAGO, FAGO, ChM\)](#)

**New Members “Open House”  
 Monday, May 19  
 7–7:30 p.m. ET/4–4:30 p.m. PT**

Join Chief Membership Officer Elizabeth George for a tour of the AGO website and learn more about getting the most out of your membership!

[Click here](#) to register.

May 2025

I would like to invite all of you to our closing program for the 2024 – 2025 year. On Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> from 10:30 am – 12:00 pm James Kennerley will lead a workshop on Hymn and Service playing at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 914 E. Knapp St. This is **Free** for all, so please come and enjoy time together with friends new and old. You may enter through the front doors. On May 4<sup>th</sup> Kennerley will play a recital at St. Paul's at 3 pm. The first half of the program will include transcriptions and family friendly pieces. The second half of the program will include the monumental Ruebke 94<sup>th</sup> Psalm. This is a program you will not want to miss. (In case you missed the publicity James Kennerley was interviewed by Martha Brown for Urban Milwaukee, <https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2025/04/26/classical-james-kennerley-comes-to-town/>).

If you have not voted in the election yet, please do. You will need your password to login to the website to vote online. Hardcopy ballots will be available at the Annual Meeting on May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 1:30 pm at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 914 E. Knapp St, Milwaukee. The Meeting will be held in the **Community Room**, not the Great Hall as was the originally sent out. Please enter through the main church doors on Knapp Street, and someone will be there to give you directions to the room. Thank you for your membership and participation! Come and find out what we have been doing and working on!

As renew your membership this year, just a note from national that they are increasing dues this year across all membership levels by \$7. Just a reminder that dues are set and collected by the national office and not by the local chapter. Most of the increase will stay with the national office and we will get a minimal monetary increase from this. Thank you for your continued support of the Milwaukee Chapter and we would not be able to support our programming without your generous support. Thank you!

John Schubring



#### **IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING DUES**

Beginning with renewals effective on July 1, annual dues across all membership categories (Regular, Special, and Young Organist) will increase by \$7, with \$2 being distributed to chapters. This modest increase, approved by the National Council, will allow the AGO to continue offering high quality programs and services to our members, while providing additional financial support to chapters.

**Did You know that your membership can get you discounts to Hauptwerk, Sheet Music Plus, Onelicense and More?**

[Member Benefits](#)

# *AGO Milwaukee Chapter*

*Nominating Committee: Jim Burmeister, David Bahrke, Tom Koester, Lee Erickson*

## *Nominees:*

### **Board Members Class of 2027**



**Craig Sproat** is originally from the Outer Banks of North Carolina. Craig Sproat holds a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in organ performance from the University of Oklahoma. He also studied at Concordia University Wisconsin and Indiana University, where his teachers included James Freese, John Behnke, and John Schwandt. From 2011 to 2015, Craig taught private lessons and courses in organ and church music from the American Organ Institute at the University of Oklahoma. From 2015 to 2022, he was an Instructor at the Weitzenhoffer School of Musical Theatre at the University of Oklahoma, where he served as a staff accompanist, did some vocal coaching, and music-directed productions. In 2022, he was appointed Assistant Professor and Director of the undergraduate church music program at Concordia University Wisconsin. He also serves as the Kantor of Luther Memorial Chapel in Shorewood.



**Mary Seboldt** is a local, active church musician who has served a variety of churches in Iowa, Minnesota, and Wisconsin in performances, service playing, handbells, children's and adult choral, and worship planning leadership in many different styles of music.

Her organ degrees are from Wartburg College in Waverly, Ia., BME, and the University of Iowa City, Ia., MA in Organ Performance. Major teachers were Dr. Warren Schmidt, Gerhard Krapf, Dr. Delbert Disselhorst, and Dr. Delores Bruch. In addition, she attended the RSCM summer course at Addington Palace in London, England, and coached with Peter Hurford. Also included that summer was coaching with Harold Vogel in Germany.

Mary is proud to have studied with two students of Helmut Walcha. She has experience as a collaborative pianist and vocal coach. Milwaukee has a rich heritage of churches, organs, organ building, and music. The MCOAGO has done an excellent job of supporting that legacy. Our job for the future is to address the organist shortage, find creative ways to reach out to our local organists to interest them in the AGO Milwaukee Chapter and reach young musicians.

**Marilyn Schrader** has been a church organist for over six decades, two-thirds of that time at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Bay View. I studied music education and organ at UW-M. I taught elementary music in MPS for 33 years and took early retirement 24 years ago. During my retirement, I enjoyed traveling, reading, playing cards, and chilling with Gin Ger Lee, my feline companion. I have served on the AGO board as secretary, treasurer, sub-dean, and dean in many capacities. Therefore, I believe that I have the background to serve on the board. I encourage everyone to attend as many local events as possible. My sister Ann Lemmenes and I enjoy attending the regional and national AGO conventions. If you have never attended such, you are missing the boat. I hope to see you at All Saints' Cathedral **on March 16th** for a St. Patrick's Day Organ Recital and at Saint Paul's Church on **May 4th** for the Organ Concert performed by James Kennerley, Municipal Organist of Portland Maine, the Kotzshmar Memorial Organ.

## Secretary:



**Sharon Adel** began studying piano at age seven. She continued piano studies with the late Alan Biehn in Racine, Wisconsin. Sharon began studying the pipe organ at 27 years of age after her mother, an established church organist, encouraged Sharon to get into playing the organ. She studied privately with the late Dr. Marilyn Stulken, focusing on sacred church music and music theory. Sharon continued private pipe organ study with the late Gerald Buck of First Presbyterian Church, Racine. She became a member of AGO at this time. In 2022, after three years of intensive study, she received her Certification as Director of Music/Organist/Choir Director through the Sacred Music Institute of America. Sharon completed a week-long Organ Workshop at Concordia Theological Seminary - Ft. Wayne, Indiana, studied under Dr. Paul Grime, Kantor Kevin Hildebrand, and Kantor Matthew Macheimer and not only learned the importance of hymnody but also the sound theology that is behind it. She has been invited back each year to a summer concert series, Music and More, at First Presbyterian Church, Racine. She plays the William Johnson Opus 238 three

manual pipe organ annually. As an accomplished pianist and organist, she is currently Director of Music and Organist at St. John's Lutheran Church and School, Racine, Wisconsin, where she has the privilege of playing a three-manual Schlicker Pipe Organ. She directs the Senior Choir, Handbell Choir, and Hand Chime Choir. Her passion and goal is to continue her music ministry related to enhancing each worship service. She has taught private piano lessons for 35 years.

## Treasurer:



**Richard C. Ewert** is Director of Church music at Elm Grove Evangelical Lutheran Church (LCMS), Elm Grove, WI. He is a graduate of Carroll College (nka Carroll University), Waukesha, WI where he earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Applied Music–Organ Performance studying under Phyllis J. Stringham. Ewert earned a Master of Church Music degree from Concordia University Wisconsin studying organ with John A. Behnke and James W. Freese. During his college years, Ewert was a finalist in the Bach-a-thon scholarship competition (receiving the Keyboard Award) and played for a number of master classes at the University of Wisconsin-Extension and regional conventions of the American Guild of Organists (AGO). He taught organ, led worship, and played a recital at the Uhuru Highway Lutheran Cathedral of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Kenya (ELCK), Luther Plaza in Nairobi, Kenya. Ewert is also the accompanist for the Lutheran A Cappella Choir of Milwaukee (since fall 2017). When not at church or accompanying the Lutheran A Cappella Choir, you can find him playing piano at Von Maur for the shoppers.

Ewert has been a member of the Milwaukee Chapter of the AGO since 1976, served as Treasurer in the mid-1980's, as an Executive Board member (Class of 2022), and has played at a number of Members' Recitals. "I will work toward hosting events to fulfill the AGO's mission ...to foster a thriving community of musicians who share their knowledge and inspire passion for the organ."

*Thank you for your willingness to serve the Milwaukee Chapter!*