



Dear Organ Enthusiasts,

The Omaha Chapter of the American Guild of Organists welcomes you to our website. We are thrilled to share our passion for the “King of Instruments” with you! Please join us at any event we share here. You are welcome.

The mission of the American Guild of Organists is to foster a thriving community of musicians who share their knowledge and inspire passion for the organ. To that end, the Omaha Chapter seeks to provide opportunities to fulfill this mission. We participate in a pilot program led by Elizabeth George, Chief Membership Officer of the American Guild of Organists, to strengthen, engage, and retain members in our chapter. Two other chapters are doing the same. Our successes will be shared so that every AGO chapter in the country can not only survive but grow and thrive.

I’m sure that you are aware the world is changing! Organizations must change if we are to remain relevant. This has been true throughout history. Change is not to be feared but welcomed and celebrated as the path to a bright future.

Your Board of Directors and concerned chapter members have completed the initial stages of a Strategic Plan. To strengthen, engage, and retain members, we begin with three objectives.

#### GOAL #1: GROWING YOUNG ORGANISTS MEMBER SEGMENT

- Partnering with The Omaha Conservatory of Music for organ lessons
- Targeted programming and collaborative events specifically for young organists
- Information sharing and marketing to young organists

#### GOAL #2: UTILIZING MICRO-VOLUNTEERISM TO RECRUIT NEW VOLUNTEERS

- Planners must develop a delegating mindset and not do everything themselves
- Task force, team, other terms rather than “committee”
- Survey all members
- Develop systems for “one and done” tasks

#### GOAL \$3: OPPORTUNITIES TO GROW AWARENESS OF THE OMAHA CHAPTER

Develop contact and resource lists and relationships with organizations open to sharing

- Promotion schedule
- Redefine “Chapter Friend” and share information regularly
- Clergy relationships

Will you join us in supporting this work? We need your help. If you are not a member you can:

1. Attend our events. You are always welcome.
2. Share our information with others, especially friends who play the organ.
3. Pay for your institution's organist to become a member of the Omaha AGO.
4. Donate to our scholarship fund so that new organists may take lessons.
5. Join! You may join as a full member or as a Chapter Friend.

We hope that the love and use of the organ continues! New pipe organs continue to be installed and played. So do not give up hope! Yes, the world is changing. With your help the organ, its music, and its musicians will not only remain a part of the future but have an important role in our musical journeys.

I am available to talk with you about the organ, the Omaha AGO, and how I or the chapter can support and encourage you. Call or text 402-317-8887 or email [omahago@gmail.com](mailto:omahago@gmail.com) and I'll be glad to help!

Be encouraged!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Jeff Hanna', written in a cursive style.