Dean’s Column
JACOB BENDA

2022–23 Elections
It is that time of year when AGO chapters present to their respective membership a slate of nominees that will help direct the organization for years to come. I have been fortunate enough to work with some outstanding individuals within the TCAGO during the past seven years as a member of the program committee (2016–2018), sub dean and chair for the 2021 regional convention (2018–2021), and now as dean. It has been an honor to serve this chapter, but due to changes in my professional life it is time that I shift priorities and step down from leadership roles within the AGO. You may be scratching your head since the April issue of TAO listed me as a nominee for regional councilor — I respectfully rescinded my nomination after beginning at the University of St. Thomas in February. The nominees listed below will serve this chapter in remarkable ways.

I want to thank all of our nominees for your willingness to serve our chapter, especially David Jenkins and Kathrine Handford who already serve as Co-Chairs for the 2023 AGO Regional Convention being held in the Twin Cities. However, gratitude is due to each and every one of you for your support and dedication, and I look forward to seeing the chapter flourish for years to come.

Slate of Candidates for TCAGO Board
CAROLYN DIAMOND, NOMINATING COMMITTEE CHAIR
The Nominating Committee proposes the following slate of candidates for board members in the 2022 election:

**Officers**
- Dean: David Jenkins
- Sub Dean: Kathrine Handford
- Secretary: Carolyn Diamond
- Treasurer: David Geslin

**Members-at-Large (choose three)**
- Samuel Holmberg
- Ju Yong Lee
- Mary Newton
- Kenneth Vigne

The ballot will allow write-in candidates in all areas. Ballots, including biographies of candidates, will be mailed to chapter members in early April, and counted by May 1. The results will be published in the June issue of Pipenotes.

A Word from Our Chaplain
REV. JOHN SETTERLUND

The Poor
Throughout the Bible — old and newer sections — we read of “the poor.” Of course, there are many references to folks without sufficient food or protection, and to slaves and refugees. They seem to have only the mercy of God as their hope. Jesus made it clear throughout his life that these poor (whether in actual resources or “in spirit”) were of primary concern in God’s eyes, especially blessed. And Jesus, as the
embodiment of God’s rule, reached out to them: bread to the hungry, sight to the blind, healing to the sick, and hope to the distressed.

When an unsolicited woman spent some very expensive ointment on Jesus, his friends chided her for being terribly wasteful. She was. I probably would react the same way as they did. Jesus, however, praises her for a beautiful act of kindness. Jesus then adds, “you will always have the poor with you.” At a recent Bible study session, one person commented on those words, saying, “I wish he hadn’t said that!” And indeed, this has been an excuse for many a neglect of human need. But we read the rest of that sentence: “...and you can show kindness to them whenever you wish,” and we realize that God’s mercy can and should pour from us in greater flow.

Ours is an age of much suffering — poverty amidst wealth, hunger and waste, war and pandemic, isolation and overpopulation, guilt and exploitation — “poor” situations wherever we look. We also can find ways to “show kindness to them whenever you wish.” Local hunger and housing agencies, church-related relief programs, and all sorts of non-profits provide limitless avenues of service, ways for us to make our world whole.

JSS

A Passiontide Reflection
The Seven Last Words and Triumph of Christ
Jacob Benda, organist and director
Sunday, April 10, 2:00 p.m.
The Chapel of St. Thomas Aquinas
On Cleveland Avenue, between Ashland and Laurel
University of St. Thomas, Saint Paul

The Chapel Arts Series at the University of St. Thomas will present a program featuring music by Decker, Dubois, Stainer, Tournemire, Vaughan Williams, and Victoria performed by Jacob Benda, organist; Allison Ostrander, violinist; Laura LeVoir, soprano; Elena DeStasio Stabile, alto; David Walton, tenor; and Steven Hodulik, bass.

Diana Lee Lucker [née Kennelly] was born on July 9, 1932, in Seattle, Washington, and passed away on January 15, 2022. She was 89.

Her first piano lessons were with her mother; she later attended the Juilliard School of Music. Her organ teachers included Ronald Hooper and Rupert Sircom. She received her BA, MA, and DMA from the University of Minnesota and studied there with Heinrich Fleischer and Dean Billmeyer. She was Assistant Professor of Music at Augsburg College and Bethel College and continued private teaching after that.

She was Organist at Mount Olivet Lutheran Church for 16 years, Interim Organist at Westminster Presbyterian Church, 1994–1995, and Organist at Wayzata Community Church (WCC), playing her first service there on September 10, 1995 and her last on July 24, 2016. The Hendrickson organ was installed shortly after her arrival, and she played the Dedication Recital on September 13, 1998. While at WCC she directed an annual Summer Organ Recital Series as well as a Concert Series of over 40 concerts per year including orchestral programs, choral, piano, small ensemble, and organ recitals. Many visiting organists performed, including Marie-Claire Alain, Cameron Carpenter, Lynne Davis, Christopher Herrick, Massimo Nosetti, and Fred Swann to name a few. She loved the organ at WCC!

She was very active in the TCAGO as a member of the Executive Board, Education Committee, Pipedreams Scholarship Committee, Dean, and the Executive Assistant for the 2008 National AGO Convention in Minneapolis.

She had a love for travel, family, friends, good music, and opera. She performed in recital in Scandinavia, Italy, and throughout the United States.

We often made music together, shared programs — solo and duet. We travelled together to the Des Moines Opera and to the Washington DC National AGO Convention. A wonderful trans-Atlantic crossing, a barge trip in the south of France. A favorite trip was an opera tour taking us to Paris, Rome, Venice, Salzburg, and Prague.

She was stubborn, persistent, and didn’t like conflict. She will be missed by many.

She is survived by three daughters, five step-children, and 16 great-grandchildren.
Lenten Concert at Cathedral

*Le Chemin de la Croix*

Stephen Hamilton, organist; Michael Barone, narrator

Friday, April 8, 2022, 7:00 p.m.

Cathedral of Saint Paul

239 Selby Avenue, Saint Paul

*Le Chemin de la Croix* (The Way of the Cross), by Marcel Dupré (1886–1971), is a musical meditation on each of the 14 Stations. Tracing the story of the Passion, this ambitious work was created in 1931. The concert is free with donations gratefully received.

This presentation, hosted by the Cathedral Heritage Foundation, features international concert artist Stephen Hamilton with narration by Michael Barone, host and senior executive producer of *Pipedreams*, distributed by American Public International.

The Cathedral of Saint Paul has two pipe organs, an E. M. Skinner Organ and Æolian-Skinner Organ, both of which underwent a complete restoration and expansion between 2010 and 2013 by Quimby Pipe Organs, Inc. The two organs now have a combined 94 ranks of pipes for a total of 5,848 pipes ranging in size from over 32 feet in length to as small as a ballpoint pen.

Eightieth Birthday Celebration

Sunday, April 24, 3:30 p.m.

James Callahan, composer and conductor

The Chapel of St. Thomas Aquinas

On Cleveland Avenue, between Ashland and Laurel

University of St. Thomas, Saint Paul

A concert for organ and orchestra will present the compositions of James Callahan. Organ Concerto No. 1, written for the 25th anniversary of the Gabriel Kney organ, will be performed by David Jenkins, organist, and Matthew George, conductor. The premiere of Organ Concerto No. 2, written for this occasion, will be performed by Jacob Benda, organist, and James Callahan, conductor. In addition, there will be an Aria from the church opera *Processions*, sung by Monica Murray, and a Passacaglia for solo viola, also receiving its premiere, played by Korey Konkol.

The Aria, a chaconne, tells the story of a mother whose sons were taken in the middle of the night. One of her sons returns and tells of his being tortured. The mother tries to comfort him.

The Passacaglia, while it probably will not elicit a chuckle, should bring a smile on listeners’ faces as they recognize the hints, references, near quotes, and styles of music from composers such as Bach, Wagner, Webern, Paganini, Strauss, and Chopin.

The program, co-sponsored by the Chapel Arts Series and the University of St. Thomas Music Department, is in celebration of Callahan’s 80th birthday and is free and open to the public.

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Harpist

Classical

Sacred

Celtic
Despite the several unexpected twists and turns along the way (organ-fuction issues and resulting venue adaptations), Before Bach’s Birthday Bash 2022 was efficiently accomplished and happily received.

We printed 300 programs and ran out by the 4:00 p.m. event, and I would guess that, overall, about 500 people enjoyed the music of Bach and Reger in our three venues.

The morning broadcast went off without a hitch, thanks to my able MPR colleagues Evan Clark, Rachel

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available for solo and accompanimental service playing
Brees, Elizabeth Iverson, and Elizabeth Lyon...Clark and Brees were able to strike all of the equipment in the break between the 10:00 a.m. conclusion and the 10:30 resumption of performances at the Seminary. What began as a rather gray day turned pleasantly sunny just as our first concert was concluding, filling the interior of St. Mary’s Chapel with added color.

Performers were on-point, the occasional Reger interjections provided variety (and surprise…the movement from the Serenade for Flute, Violin, and Viola was particularly delightful...a side of this composer rarely encountered), and Dave Johnson’s carillon preludes to both BBBB elements at The House of Hope made being outside even more delightful.

Thanks to all participants, hosts, promoters and providers. The Before Bach Birthday Bashes have proven (again) to be a welcome element of the Twin Cities cultural landscape. TCAGO members, start thinking about what you’ll play in 2024!
Northrop and Twin Cities American Guild of Organists Present

Hector Olivera: Tantalizing Transcriptions and Tangos

In-person + Livestream Jun 5
On-demand through Jun 12

Internationally acclaimed organ virtuoso Hector Olivera makes his Northrop debut in a program that features works by Meyerbeer, Elmore, Franck, Vierne, and more.

The event begins with the premiere of a 45-minute documentary, *The Northrop Organ: Past, Present and Future*.

An evening with Mr. Olivera has been described as, “an event, a happening, a joyful celebration of the sheer power and pressure that a true virtuoso like Hector Olivera can unleash in a concert hall.”

—The Times

This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a Minnesota State Arts Board Operating Support grant, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.

Tickets at northrop.umn.edu

Photo: Hector Olivera. Photo courtesy of artist.
Choosing Love
VocalEssence Singers Of This Age
Sunday, April 24, 4:00 p.m.
Ordway Concert Hall
345 Washington Street, Saint Paul
Available free online beginning April 29

Reimagining our community as a beloved source of acceptance, affirmation, and love for every person is the inspiration for Choosing Love, a performance by the VocalEssence Singers Of This Age. The award-winning choir of high school students from diverse backgrounds will be joined by friends in performance highlighted by original collaborative compositions in song, movement, spoken word, and visual arts, marking the artistic culmination of a year of conversations and learning.

“I’m so proud of our young people,” says G. Phillip Shoultz, III, VocalEssence associate artistic director. “The program they created over the course of this incredibly challenging year is moving, loving and joyful.”

Single and series subscription tickets are available at www.vocalessence.org.

Register for TCAGO Closing Events
• Sunday, June 5, 2:00 p.m.
  Hector Olivera, concert with celebratory reception
  Available on-demand through June 12, 2022
• Monday, June 6, 7:00 p.m.
  Hector Olivera, presenter
  The Art of Transcription: Vivaldi’s “Seasons” and the Tangos of Astor Piazzola
  Both events at Northrop Carlson Family Stage
  84 Church Street SE, Minneapolis

Internationally acclaimed organ virtuoso Hector Olivera makes his Northrop debut in a program that features works by Meyerbeer, Elmore, Franck, Vierne and his own new transcriptions of Vivaldi’s “Seasons” and Tangos by Astor Piazzola. Beginning years ago as a child prodigy in Buenos Aires, the Juilliard-trained organist now commands the finest organs on the world stage.

The event on Sunday, June 5 will begin with the premiere of a 45-minute documentary, The Northrop Organ: Past, Present, and Future. The film, produced by the Twin Cities Chapter of the American Guild of Organists, tells the story of Northrop’s Æolian-Skinner pipe organ, Opus 892, from its beginning in 1932 to the present day. Tickets are available now at northrop.umn.edu.

Immediately following the concert, join us for a celebratory reception at the Campus Club in Coffman Memorial Union hosted by the TCAGO. Connect with friends, colleagues, and lovers of organ music while enjoying a complimentary beverage and an inspired menu of locally sourced food prepared by executive chef, Beth Jones. Register for the reception at the above link when ordering your concert tickets.

The presentation by Hector Olivera on the evening of Monday, June 6 for the TCAGO is open to the public and is an in-person event only. Look for registration links in a future member email-blast.
Scholarship Opportunity

The TCAGO Spring 2022 *Pipedreams* Organ Scholarships Auditions will be on **Saturday, May 14 at 10:00 a.m.** at Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church, 500 Blake Road South in Edina.

The due date for application forms is **Monday, May 9.** The award is $500 towards organ lessons from a member of the TCAGO.

The scholarships will be directed toward students wishing to either begin or continue organ studies. Those living in the Twin Cities or surrounding areas, both students in grades 7–12, with the recommendation of their piano or organ teacher, as well as adult members of TCAGO, are eligible to audition. The applicants are not required to have any previous organ experience.

All auditionees are required to play (1) a Bach Invention or equivalent, (2) a contrasting piece from the Classical or Romantic period, (3) perform a hymn of your choice with two contrasting verses, (4) sight-read a hymn chosen by the committee, and have a brief interview with the committee.

For application forms and more details, please visit the [Pipedreams Organ Scholarships page](#) at TCAGO.org under the Education menu.

The TCAGO Pipedreams Organ Scholarships were established by the chapter to honor the significant contributions **Michael Barone** has made to the organ world.

Pipe Organ Discovery Day a Success

**TCAGO EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

On Saturday, March 5, our Twin Cities chapter hosted our annual Pipe Organ Discovery Day. This event provides students an opportunity to learn more about the pipe organ and expand their knowledge with hands-on experience playing pipe organs at two churches, located this year in Saint Paul. The event was free to participants and included a pizza lunch. Students also learned more about *Pipedreams* from its host, **Michael Barone**, attended short classes about how the pipe organ works to better understand the instrument and its history, and participated in science experiments to illustrate how sound works in the organ.

Comments from a student and her mother, also in attendance, illustrate the success of the event. The student remarked, “I was so glad that I attended this awesome organ camp. I went in knowing nothing and came out with lots of new knowledge. There were hands on demonstrations, time for me to play the organ, and lots of personal feedback and suggestions. Everyone there was super friendly and made this experience so memorable. If you want to learn more about the organ I highly recommend attending this wonderful event!” And her mother observed, “I was so impressed with this opportunity to introduce young people to the pipe organ. [My daughter] got to try out two magnificent organs in equally magnificent spaces under the watchful and supportive eye of several experienced organists. I enjoyed the inspiring words of J. Michael Barone, host of *Pipedreams*, who encouraged the young people to remain open to the opportunities that music may present to them throughout their lives, sometimes in unexpected ways.”

Thanks to Twin Cities Chapter members volunteering at the event to make it possible: **Michael Barone, Nils Halker, Geoff Olson, Richard Collman, Margaret Gohman, Phillip Radtke, Carsten Slostad, Martin Stachnik, and Phil Asgian.**

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In Every Corner Sing
Great River Chorale’s 20th Anniversary Concert
Mary Kay Geston, director; Stephen Hamilton, organist
Sunday, May 1, 2:00 p.m.
Saint John’s Abbey and University Church
2900 Abbey Plaza, Collegeville
In-person and Livestream; ticketed event

A concert of music for chorus and organ will celebrate 20 years for the 50-voice adult choir based in St. Cloud, including two premieres by René Clausen, as well as works by Vaughan Williams, Fauré, Rutter, and others. Two organ solos will be performed by Stephen Hamilton: “Te Deum,” from Trois Paraphrases Grégoriennes by Jean Langlais, and Dupré’s Prelude and Fugue in B Major, op. 36, no. 1.

General admission tickets at greatriverchorale.org or at the door. Adults, $18; youth and students (w/ID), pay-what-you-can ($5 suggested).

Sixty on the Bench
Bill Wilson, organist, and the choir of Golden Valley Lutheran Church
Sunday, May 1, 3:00 p.m.
Golden Valley Lutheran Church
5501 Glenwood Avenue, Golden Valley

Celebrating 60 Years of Service Playing
Organist Bill Wilson will play favorites gleaned from 60 years. The choir of Golden Valley Lutheran Church will sing the première of Triumphant in His Grace by composer George Berglund. “Cash-or-Can” donations for the Prism Food Shelf of Golden Valley will be received at the concert. The hour-long concert is free and open to the public.

Calendar of Events
Please check in advance with the venue for COVID-19 precautions or program postponements/cancellations.

APRIL
Saturday, April 2, 7:30 p.m.
Organ program
David P. Jenkins, organist
St. Mary’s Chapel, Saint Paul Seminary
2260 Summit Avenue, Saint Paul

Tuesday, April 5, 12:35 p.m.
Tuesday Organ Recitals
Gregory Hand, organist; Scott Conklin, violinist
Church of Saint Louis, King-of-France
506 Cedar Street, Saint Paul

Wednesday, April 6, noon
Lenten Organ Series
Joseph Trucano
Chapel of Westminster Presbyterian Church
1200 Marquette Avenue, Minneapolis
LIVE OR VIA LIVESTREAM

Friday, April 8, 7:00 p.m.
Dupré: Le Chemin de la Croix
Stephen Hamilton, organist; Michael Barone, narrator
Cathedral of Saint Paul
239 Selby Avenue, Saint Paul

Sunday, April 10, 2:00 p.m.
A Passiontide Reflection
Jacob Benda, organist and director
The Chapel of St. Thomas Aquinas
On Cleveland Avenue, between Ashland and Laurel
University of St. Thomas, Saint Paul

Sunday, April 10, 6:30 p.m.
Hymn Festival
Nathanial Gumbs, organist
Christ Chapel, Gustavus Adolphus College
800 West College Avenue, Saint Peter

Friday, April 15, 7:30 p.m.
Program of Music for Good Friday, including Charpentier’s Le Reniement de Saint-Pierre and Franz Liszt’s Via Crucis
Raymond Johnston, organist; Cathedral Singers
Saint Mark’s Episcopal Cathedral
519 Oak Grove Street, Minneapolis

Tuesday, April 19, 7:00 p.m.
Haydn: Little Organ Mass
Stephen Hamilton, organist
First Lutheran Church
100 Church Street, Marshall

Wednesday, April 20, 12:30 p.m.
Concert
Christopher Ganza, organist
St. Olaf Catholic Church
215 South Eighth Street, Minneapolis
Saturday, April 23, 2:00 p.m.
Master’s Degree Student Recital
Abbey Dupuy, organist
Saint John's Abbey and University Church
2900 Abbey Plaza, Collegeville

Sunday, April 24, 3:30 p.m.
Celebration of 80th Birthday
James Callahan, composer and conductor
The Chapel of St. Thomas Aquinas
On Cleveland Avenue, between Ashland and Laurel
University of St. Thomas, Saint Paul

Sunday, April 24, 4:00 p.m.
Choosing Love
VocalEssence Singers Of This Age
Ordway Concert Hall
345 Washington Street, Saint Paul
LIVE; FIND ONLINE BEGINNING APRIL 29

Sunday, April 24, 4:00 p.m.
Twin Cities Trumpet Ensemble
James Olcott, director; John Stender, organist
First Presbyterian Church
512 Third Street SW, Rochester

Tuesday, April 26, 12:35 p.m.
Tuesday Organ Recitals
Carolyn Diamond, organist
Church of Saint Louis, King-of-France
506 Cedar Street, Saint Paul

Friday, April 29, 7:30 p.m.
Hymn Festival
James Abbington, organist
Saint John's Abbey and University Church
2900 Abbey Plaza, Collegeville

Saturday, April 30, 9:00 a.m.
Masterclass with James Abbington
Saint John's Abbey and University Church
2900 Abbey Plaza, Collegeville

Saturday, April 30 (TCAGO Event)
Virtual Student Competition

MAY

Sunday, May 1, 2:00 p.m.
Great River Chorale's 20th Anniversary Concert
Mary Kay Geston, director; Stephen Hamilton, organist
Saint John's Abbey and University Church
2900 Abbey Plaza, Collegeville

Sunday, May 1, 3:00 p.m.
Sixty on the Bench
Bill Wilson, organist; Golden Valley Lutheran Church Choir
Golden Valley Lutheran Church
5501 Glenwood Ave, Golden Valley

Sunday, May 1, 4:00 p.m.
The Earth Sings Beauty
National Lutheran Choir
St. Andrew's Lutheran Church
900 Stillwater Road, Mahtomedi

Tuesday, May 3, 12:35 p.m.
Tuesday Organ Recitals
Kris Rizzotto, organist
Church of Saint Louis, King-of-France
506 Cedar Street, Saint Paul

Thursday, May 5, noon
Concert
Kris Rizotto, organist
St. Paul-Reformation Lutheran Church
100 Oxford Street North, Saint Paul

Sunday, May 8, 3:00 p.m.
Concert
Catherine Rodland and James Bobb, organists
Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church
12650 Johnny Cake Ridge Road, Apple Valley

Sunday, May 8, 4:00 p.m.
Stewart Copeland's Satan's Fall
VocalEssence
Central Lutheran Church
333 South 12th Street, Minneapolis

Tuesday, May 10, 12:35 p.m.
Tuesday Organ Recitals
Michal Szostak (Warsaw, Poland)
Church of Saint Louis, King-of-France
506 Cedar Street, Saint Paul

Saturday, May 14, 10:00 a.m. (TCAGO Event)
Pipedreams Organ Scholarship Auditions
Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church
500 Blake Road South, Edina

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Find us on social media:

Pipenotes

Pipenotes is the official publication of the Twin Cities Chapter of the American Guild of Organists and is published nine times a year, September through June. December and January is a combined issue.

Deadline date

Information for Pipenotes should be received no later than the fifteenth of the month preceding publication. Materials may be sent to Kirsten Uhlenberg, editor.

Letters to the Editor

Signed Letters to the Editor are always welcome. Send an email to Kirsten Uhlenberg, editor.

TCAGO Event Promotion via Pipedreams

A comprehensive listing of organ events statewide is available online via the Pipedreams Organ Calendar. Information there is only as good as the information provided to it, so you are encouraged to send event listings for inclusion at the earliest possible time.

For both on-air and website listings of organ-related activities, please send information to Pipedreams host (and longtime TCAGO member) Michael Barone, or by mail to: Pipedreams Calendar, 480 Cedar St., Saint Paul, MN 55101. In a pinch, you may call 651-290-1539.

You are also encouraged to regularly request organ selections on the Friday Favorites show with Steven Staruch. Help promote the inclusion of more organ music in MPR’s programming.

NOTE: It is requested that you include this text in printed programs for any local organ concerts you play or present:

Enjoy the gamut of the pipe organ experience...from ancient to modern, sacred to secular, classical to popular...with weekly broadcasts of Pipedreams from American Public Media. Broadcasts in the Twin Cities are heard Sunday mornings (6–8 a.m.) on KSJN-99.5FM and other stations in the Classical MPR network. For your convenience, Pipedreams also is globally available 24/7 at www.pipedreams.org or www.yourclassical.org/pipedreams.

The Organ Calendar is accessible online and is read in week-appropriate summaries beginning at 7:00 a.m. during each Sunday morning Pipedreams broadcast.

Additional note from Michael:

In these covid-complicated days, mail is better sent to me at my home address: 456 Cherokee Ave., Saint Paul MN 55107. The office phone still works, and I get emails of messages left there.

Pipenotes Newsletter Advertising Rates

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