# Pipenotes



Twin Cities Chapter of the American Guild of Organists Minneapolis & Saint Paul

Vol. 28 No. 5 February 2023

# Dean's Column

DAVID JENKINS

Until last Saturday I had never been to a "Hymnathon," much less played in one. I was invited to join a team of organists accompanying a day-long sing through of all the hymns in the *Hymnal* 1982. Held at St. Clement's Episcopal Church in Saint Paul, this spiritual, musical, and social



event was a fund raiser for the parish choir's pilgrimage to England this coming August. The choir, under director Mark Stahura and organist Nils Halker, will enjoy a week-long residency singing for services at historic St. Alban's Cathedral.

Stalwart choir members sang from the choir stalls, taking breaks to share a wonderful potluck lunch, while parishioners and friends in the nave came and went, partaking from the provided water and cough drops. At least during the time I was there, the enthusiasm and vocal cords never flagged, even though it took from about 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. to sing one verse of all 720 hymns in the book: 10 hours, 19 minutes, and 20 seconds! During my hour-and-a-half "shift" in the afternoon we sang about 100 hymns, from hymns of praise to hymns to the Holy Spirit.

My experience growing up with the Hymnal 1940, the predecessor of the Hymnal 1982, of course profoundly guided my faith and shaped my taste in sacred music. I distinctly recall the first time I became aware of the hymnal as a book of song. It was during daily chapel when I was in first or maybe second grade at Breck School on the River Road in Minneapolis. The temporary chapel was set up in the concrete basement "drill hall," while the school's "new" chapel was being built outside the Lower School wing. I remember I had the thrill of an "aha" moment when I discovered how to follow the lines of the hymn strophes from one staff to the next. A few of the hymns I liked then obviously did not wear well into the next generation of hymnals, like "I Sing a Song of the Saints of God" (with the charming bucolic image of the "shepherdess on the green") and "Fling Out the Banner" (with its slickly alliterative "sin sick souls sinking and perishing in the strife"). However, the hymn "All Things Bright and Beautiful" continues to charm!

I experienced the real power of hymns to stir the soul when my family joined Saint Mark's Episcopal Cathedral when I was in high school. Under Don Small's firm and fluent command of the Möller-Welte organ, hymn singing carried the whole sweep of the weekly service. As my teacher, Don schooled me in many of his hymn-playing techniques, but it would take many more years of experience for me to fully appreciate his skill and inspiration.

Looking at the *Hymnal* 1982 (with the caveat that I am not a hymnologist) I can see the same influences that shaped the generation of hymnals produced in the

### Chapter Events 2022–2023

Sunday, September 25

Opening Event: Gala Concert and Member Dinner

Saturday, October 8

Presentation and Masterclass with Bruce Neswick

Saturday, October 15

Pipedreams Organ Scholarship Auditions

Saturday, November 5

Hendrickson Retrospective Organ Crawl

Saturday, February 4

Pipe Organ Discovery Day with Isabelle Demers

Monday/Tuesday, February 27/28

Concert/Presentation with Jean-Baptiste Robin

Tuesday, March 7

Lecture Recital by Thomas Fielding: Henri Mulet's Esquisses Byzantines

Saturday, March 18

Before Bach's Birthday Bash

Saturday, March 25

Student Competition

Saturday, April 22

Pipedreams Organ Scholarship Auditions

**Spring date TBD** 

Pipe Organ Heritage Committee Field Trip Adventure

Friday, May 12

TCAGO Members Recital

### Inside

A Word from Our Chaplain 2
Isabelle Demers at U of M 3
WITNESS: Reawakening Love 3
Jean-Baptiste Robin in Saint Paul 4
Hamilton at Hamline Church 4
Events Calendar 5
TCAGO Board, Committees, etc. 8

1970s and 80s, such as the Lutheran Book of Worship and Worship, Third Edition. For many worshippers the changes were probably long overdue: to better match singable music with reformed liturgy and lectionary, address concerns of inclusive language, draw from new composers and texts, account for new cultural and mission realities. and more. However, these important hymnals were built on the model of the Hymnal 1940 in many ways. They were not arranged in convenient alphabetical order, but they were arranged according to how the Church prays—the Office, the sacraments, and the seasons. They contained a rich array of service music and psalmody. They preserved for the next generation a body of important hymns, and they drew from new sources for new expressions of timeless faith. As with worship itself, the music contained in these hymnals had, and still has, the role of expressing, strengthening, and forming faith.

Hats off to the choir of St. Clement's for celebrating their hymnal, and to the parish for supporting the ministry of those musicians.

# A Word from Our Chaplain

REV. JOHN SETTERLUND

To begin a new year means remembering times past and, certainly, looking ahead with plans and hopes for the days and months ahead. Churches that follow the three-year system of weekly Bible readings find themselves immersed in a series of readings this year from the gospel "according to Matthew," an account that begins with the name of one "Emmanuel—God with us" and concludes with Jesus's word, "I am with you forever." In this gospel Jesus is shown to have requested his own baptism in the Jordan River in order "to fulfill all righteousness." Matthew then proceeds to describe true righteousness by Jesus's famous Sermon on the Mount, by many graphic parables, by his own example, and by instructing his followers to go out and spread God's messages to all people.

As we look ahead to our ministries of music and words, and our life-styles and decision-making, we would do

# **Submission Due Date for Pipenotes**

The due date for the March issue is **February 15**. Please send events for the Members' Calendar, articles, reports of musical events, and any photos to Jeremy.Haug@mountcalvary.org. Share your news with our community!

—The Editor

well to turn again to the pages of this favorite gospel for guidance. My attention has been focusing on chapters 26 and 27, Matthew's account of the arrest and trial of Jesus and his death and burial. There are numerous musical settings of this story, but none more profound and powerful than J. S. Bach's Saint Matthew Passion. From its first performance on Good Friday 1727 in Leipzig, to the composer's own revisions in the 1730s, to Mendelssohn's revival of it at Berlin in 1829—this oratorio remains a timeless message to all humanity.

One insight I have received in my recent studies is the call to discipleship, to come and follow in Jesus's footsteps, that emanates from this Passion. In its libretto the poet Picander reflects the spirit of 18th-century Germany in his meditations on the biblical events portrayed and by his exhortations to responding in faithfulness. One should hear "Come, help me lament!" In pity may I "pour the tears of my eyes as perfume" to honor the Savior, and may our hearts break when Jesus's friend Judas "has become a serpent" of betrayal. Though Jesus anguishes over fulfilling God's will, we can be comforted, as "his soul's despair redeems my death; his sadness fills me with joy. So his obedient sufferings must be reckoned as both bitter and sweet."

To complement all this, Bach has carefully selected a dozen verses of then-popular hymns for congregational reflection (whether sung or only heard) and three other hymns in more complex settings. These assisted the congregation of St. Thomas Church, as well as the audience at every subsequent hearing of the Saint Matthew Passion, to participate in its drama. We are called to listen, repent, and follow, especially as Lent and Holy Week approach. One point near the conclusion of the Passion, after Jesus "cried loudly again and was gone" and preparations were made for his burial, there is somehow a musical sigh-of-relief. and a soloist sings, "My heart, make yourself pure...He shall always find his sweet rest in me. World, depart! Let Jesus in!" In the year ahead may this gospel, this Passion, this promise enlighten, transform, and encourage us in every way.



# Isabelle Demers at U of M

Masterclass: Monday, February 6, 6:30 p.m. Concert: Tuesday, February 7, 7:30 p.m. Northrop, University of Minnesota 84 Church Street SE, Minneapolis

On Monday, February 6, visiting artist Isabelle Demers, Professor of Organ, McGill University School of Music, Montréal, will work with several current organ students,



listen to each student's prepared repertoire, and provide active feedback about their technique and artistry. The class will be open to the public for observation.

giving audiences a behind-the-scenes glimpse at the process of learning and rehearsing organ repertoire, as well as the mechanics of Northrop's 108-rank Æolian-Skinner organ (Op. 892). The class will also include a short demonstration and audience Q & A. The event is free and open to the public with required pre-registration.

Demers will perform the next evening on the same instrument, featuring transcriptions centered on themes of dance and including works by Bach, Mozart, and Stravinsky. The concert is a ticketed event, offered in-person, as a livestream, and on-demand through February 12.

She has appeared in recital in Oman, Australia, New Zealand, the US, Canada, and throughout Europe. Dr. Demers is in continual high demand by her colleagues as witnessed by performances for numerous regional and national conventions of the AGO, the Organ Historical Society, and others. She has released multiple CD recordings on the Acis and Pro Organo labels. Her latest CD, recorded at Chicago's Rockefeller Chapel, was released in January 2020. A native of Québec and a doctoral graduate of the Juilliard School, Dr. Demers was recently appointed Associate Professor of Organ at McGill University; she was formerly Head of the Organ Program at Baylor University.



# WITNESS: Reawakening Love

The New Renaissance and VocalEssence Sunday, February 26, 4:00 p.m. Orchestra Hall, 1111 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis

Stories of struggle, resilience, and celebration come to musical life to honor Black History Month through an exhilarating collaboration between VocalEssence and Minneapolis-based artist Joe Davis and The New Renaissance, an artistic production company that cultivates immersive experiences at the nexus of poetry, music, and

The concert will stitch together stories from West African traditions, including the concept of Ubuntu, which means "I am because we are." The work will apply the philosophy of Ubuntu, covering styles as wide ranging as soul, funk, jazz, gospel, hip-hop, and new choral octavos. The audience will become part of the creation—each attendee receiving a piece of fabric to embellish, which will later be sewn into quilts to be unveiled at the 2024 Witness performance.

"In 1991, VocalEssence created WITNESS to celebrate the artistic contributions of African Americans to the fine arts and to our common cultural heritage," says Philip Brunelle, VocalEssence artistic director and founder. "We proudly continue this tradition with the newest WITNESS installment, 'Reawakening Love.' The music calls for the revival of love, the rebirth of peace, and the emergence of a community where violence ceases."

Joe Davis, founder and director of The New Renaissance, employs in his work poetry, music, theater, and dance to shape culture. Davis is also the co-creator of JUSTmove, racial justice education through art. He has keynoted, facilitated conversations, and served as a teaching artist at hundreds of high schools and universities across the country including most recently as Artist-in-Residence at Luther Seminary where he earned a Master's degree in Theology of the Arts.

Tickets, priced between \$25 and \$45, are available online now. For season tickets, details about the season, individual tickets and other information, please visit vocalessence.org.



# Jean-Baptiste Robin in Saint Paul

Concert: Monday, February 27, 7:00 p.m. Presentation: Tuesday, February 28, 7:00 p.m. See the article for locations

French organist-composer Jean-Baptiste Robin will perform a solo recital on Monday, February 27 at 7:00 p.m. at Church of Saint Mark, 2001 Dayton Avenue, Saint Paul. He will give the US premiere of an anonymous manuscript from 17th-century France on the hymn Pange lingua, in addition to performing works by Bach, Schumann, Widor, Franck, Vierne, and Robin. The recital will conclude with an improvisation on a given theme. The concert is free with donations accepted.

On Tuesday, February 28 at 7:00 p.m., M. Robin will give a presentation-workshop at The St. Thomas Aguinas Chapel of the University of St. Thomas, Cleveland Avenue at Ashland, Saint Paul. The two-part presentation, Behind the Notes, will focus on the influences on style and ornamentation in French Baroque organ music, as well as newly discovered manuscripts of César Franck. This event is free and sponsored by the TCAGO; information about event registration will be in an upcoming TCAGO member email.

M. Robin succeeds a long line of French organists, including François Couperin, Louis Marchand, Louis-Claude Daquin, and Claude Balbastre, having been appointed Organist of the Royal Chapel at the Palace of Versailles in 2010. He also serves as Professor of Organ and Composition at the Conservatoire à Rayonnement Régional in Versailles. He tours frequently and has performed in 20 European



countries, Russia, Israel, China, Japan, South Korea, Canada, and nearly half of the fifty states in the US.

As a master teacher, he has been a distinguished artist-in-residence at Yale University and a professor at the International Summer

Academy for Organists in Haarlem, Holland. He has taught numerous master classes for the AGO, Oberlin Conservatory of Music, and the Beijing Central Conservatory, China.

# Christopher D. Wallace D.M.A., President/Owner Office: 877-531-2199 / Cell: 612-554-3350 / CDW@allenorgans.com Allen Organs of the Twin Cities, Inc. Allen Organs of Iowa 4920 Highway 169 North / New Hope, MN 55428 321 8th Street, Unit C / Bettendorf, IA 52722 Certified Service Technicians:

# Hamilton at Hamline Church

Stephen Hamilton, organist Sunday, March 5, 4:00 p.m. Hamline Church, 1514 Englewood Ave, Saint Paul

Stephen Hamilton commemorates the 200th anniversary of César Franck's birth with his presentation of the Franck Pastorale on Hamline Church's dynamic Frères Casavant organ. He'll also



honor the 50th anniversary of the death of Marcel Dupré with his performances of Dupré's Prelude and Fugue in B Major, and Variations on a Noel. Other composers on the program include Reger, Lidon, and Bach. Artist reception to follow. Free will offering; \$20 suggested donation.

Hamilton has performed hundreds of international solo recitals, including Paris' Notre Dame and St. Sulpice; London's Westminster Abbey and St. Paul's Cathedral; San Francisco's Grace Cathedral; Washington's National Cathedral; and New York's St. John the Divine, Saint Thomas Church, and St. Ignatius Loyola. His moving interpretation of Dupré's Le Chemin de la Croix has received over sixty performances.

Hamilton is Minister of Music Emeritus at New York City's Church of the Holy Trinity (Episcopal) and served the faculties of Manhattan School of Music, and Queens College. His church music repertoire classes have been popular presentations at seven National Conventions of the American Guild of Organists.

A native of Iowa, Hamilton began his private organ studies in the fourth grade with Russell Saunders at Drake University. His Bachelor's and Master's degrees were earned at Southern Illinois University. His study with John Walker earned him the Doctor of Musical Arts degree at the Manhattan School of Music. He also pursued rigorous private studies with legendary organists Arthur Poister and Marie-Claire Alain.

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# **Events Calendar**

Please confirm details of events with the venue before attending.

### **FEBRUARY**

### Saturday, Feb. 4, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. (TCAGO Event)

Pipe Organ Discovery Day with special guest Isabelle Demers (McGill University, Montréal) and participation of the Young Women Organists Cohort

Ferguson Hall (West Bank) and Northrop (main campus, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis Pre-registration required by January 26

Sunday, February 5, 4:00 p.m.

Singing in Wonder (hymn festival): David Cherwien, organist; Jennifer Baker, narrator; Trinity Resurrection Choir and Ensemble

### Lutheran Church of the Resurrection

3115 Victoria Street North, Roseville

Sunday, February 5, 4:00 p.m.

Organ Concert Series: Joshua Lindgren

Como Park Lutheran Church

1376 Hoyt Avenue West, Saint Paul

Monday, February 6, 6:30 p.m.

Class: Isabelle Demers, Professor of Organ, McGill Univ.

Northrop, University of Minnesota 84 Church Street SE, Minneapolis

Tuesday, February 7, 12:35 p.m.

Tuesday Organ Recitals: Samuel Backman, organist

Church of Saint Louis, King of France

506 Cedar Street, Saint Paul

Tuesday, February 7, 7:30 p.m.

Isabelle Demers, organist

Northrop, University of Minnesota

84 Church Street SE, Minneapolis

Ticketed event

Sunday, February 12, 4:00 p.m.

Organ Concert Series: Stacie Lightner, organist

Como Park Lutheran Church

1376 Hoyt Avenue West, Saint Paul

Tuesday, February 14, 12:35 p.m.

Tuesday Organ Recitals: Joseph Ripka, organist

Church of Saint Louis, King of France

506 Cedar Street, Saint Paul

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Wednesday, February 15, 12:30 p.m.

Noontime Series: Mary Newton

St. Olaf Catholic Church

215 South Eighth Street, Minneapolis

Sunday, February 26, 4:00 p.m.

Lenten Procession Service

David Cherwien, organist

**Mount Olive Lutheran Church** 

3045 Chicago Avenue South, Minneapolis

continued on page 7

### MUSIC AND ARTS SERIES AT HAMLINE CHURCH PRESENTS

# Stephen Hamilton, Organist



### **SUNDAY MARCH 5 AT 4:00PM** HAMLINE CHURCH 1514 ENGLEWOOD AVE ST PAUL

Internationally acclaimed concert organist Stephen Hamilton commemorates the 200th anniversary of Cesar Franck's birth with his presentation of the Franck Pastorale. Other compositions by Bach, Reger, and Dupré. Frères Casavant organ. Artist reception to follow. Free will offering. \$20 Suggested Donation.

MORE INFO hamlinechurch.org/worship/music-arts-series/ Dr. David Kozisek, Artistic Director (music.arts.hc@gmail.com)





1514 Englewood Avenue | Saint Paul, MN 55104 All are welcome | hamlinechurch.org | 651.645.0667



2022-23 Season

# Northrop Music Series

# Isabelle Demers, Organ Recital

In-person / Livestream Feb 7 On-demand through Feb 12

Fritz Lang's Metropolis:
Silent Film with Live Music
Featuring Peter Richard Conte, organ

In-person / Livestream Mar 19 On-demand through Mar 26

Cinema's First Nasty Women: Silent Cinema Shorts with Live Music Featuring Dreamland Faces

In-person / Livestream Apr 4
On-demand through Apr 9

GTCYS Symphony Celebrating Dean Billmeyer

In-person / Livestream Apr 18
On-demand through Apr 23

Get tickets at northrop.umn.edu

Photo © Tony Nelson Photography.

**NORTHROP** 

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University of Minnesota

Driven to Discover\*\*

Monday, February 27, 7:00 p.m.

Concert: Jean-Baptiste Robin, organist

The Church of Saint Mark

2001 Dayton Avenue, Saint Paul

### Tuesday, February 28, 7:00 p.m. (TCAGO Event)

Presentation & Workshop: Jean-Baptiste Robin

The Chapel of St. Thomas Aquinas

University of St. Thomas

Cleveland Avenue at Ashland, Saint Paul

#### **MARCH**

Sunday, March 5, 4:00 p.m.

Concert: Stephen Hamilton, organist

Hamline United Methodist Church

1514 Englewood Avenue, Saint Paul

Tuesday, March 7, 12:35 p.m.

Tuesday Organ Recitals: Adam Tabajdi, organist

Church of Saint Louis, King of France

506 Cedar Street, Saint Paul

Tuesday, March 7, 7:00 p.m.

"Illustrated" Concert: Thomas Fielding, organist

Henri Mulet's Esquisses Byzantines (Byzantine Sketches)

St. Olaf Catholic Church

215 South Eighth Street, Minneapolis

Wednesday, March 8, 11:30 a.m.

Joseph Trucano, organist

Augustana Lutheran Church

1400 South Robert Street, West St. Paul

Tuesday, March 14, 12:35 p.m.

Tuesday Organ Recitals: Andrew Schaeffer, organist

Church of Saint Louis, King of France

506 Cedar Street, Saint Paul

Wednesday, March 15, 11:30 a.m.

Katie Gunn, organist & TCAGO 2022 Competition Winner

Augustana Lutheran Church

1400 South Robert Street, West St. Paul

Wednesday, March 15, 12:30 p.m.

Noontime Series: Stephen Self

St. Olaf Catholic Church

215 South Eighth Street, Minneapolis

LIVESTREAM

Saturday, March 18, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Before Bach's Birthday Bash

Saint Mark's Episcopal Cathedral

Hennepin Avenue Methodist Church

First Unitarian Society

Lake of the Isles Lutheran Church

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Wednesday, March 22, 11:30 a.m.

Kathrine Handford, organist

Augustana Lutheran Church

1400 South Robert Street, West St. Paul

### Saturday, Mar. 25, 1:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. (TCAGO Event)

**Student Competition** 

The Chapel of St. Thomas Aguinas

University of St. Thomas

Cleveland Avenue at Ashland, Saint Paul

### Support the Twin Cities Chapter of the AGO

The mission of the American Guild of Organists is to enrich lives through organ and choral music. To achieve this, we:

- encourage excellence in the performance of organ and choral music;
- inspire, educate, and offer certification for organists and choral conductors;
- provide networking, fellowship, and mutual support;
- nurture future generations of organists;
- promote the organ in its historic and evolving roles; and
- engage wider audiences with organ and choral music.

Consider how the Twin Cities Chapter has fulfilled this mission for you and support the work of the chapter.

To get involved in the important work of the chapter and contribute your talents, check out TCAGO.org > About > Volunteer, or donate directly to the TCAGO through the chapter's dedicated giving space:

paypal.com/us/fundraiser/charity/1952040 (No Paypal account required.) Thank you for your consideration!

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### **Other Committees and Appointments**

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**Archives:** Joshua Lindgren (c) 785-906-0418, (h) 952-476-0662; John Setterlund

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# **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.



TCAGO C/O DAVID J GESLIN 5775 WAYZATA BLVD – STE 700 MINNEAPOLIS MN 55416