



TCAGO Events in March

Bach's Birthday Bash Saturday, March 21

The 335th anniversary of Johann Sebastian Bach's birth will be on March 21. This year, the annual TCAGO celebration of the anniversary is on the day itself. Featuring over thirty performers from the area, the venues include three churches, one chapel, and an artspace (in a former church).

The primary featured instrument is the organ, but attendees will also hear a marimba, violins, viola, cellos, a soprano, and a number of pianos.

Many thanks to Michael Barone for assembling the various programs, and the many members and friends of the TCAGO and the University of Minnesota School of Music, who are the performing artists. Thanks also to the co-sponsors of the day – the Bach Society of Minnesota, the University of Minnesota School of Music, the Saint Paul Conservatory of Music, and Classical Minnesota Public Radio/American Public Media's *Pipedreams*.

9:00-10:00 a.m.

[Saint Mary's Chapel, Saint Paul Seminary](#)
2260 Summit Avenue, Saint Paul

This first hour will be broadcast live on the network stations of Classical Minnesota Public Radio.

10:30-11:30 a.m.

[Saint Paul Conservatory of Music](#)
1524 Summit Avenue, Saint Paul

11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Lunch break

1:00-2:00 p.m.

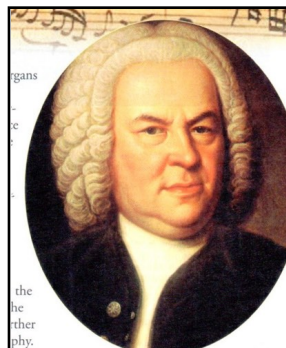
[Saint Thomas More Catholic Community](#)
1079 Summit Avenue, Saint Paul

2:30-3:30 p.m.

[St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church](#)
60 Kent Street N., Saint Paul

4:00-5:00 p.m.

[The House of Hope Presbyterian Church](#)
797 Summit Avenue, Saint Paul



March Events continued on next page

Chapter Events 2019-2020

Sunday, September 22

Opening Concert and Members Dinner
James D. Hicks, organist

Monday, September 30

Jean-Willy Kunz, jazz performance presenter

Tuesday, October 1

Jean-Willy Kunz, organist;
Branford Marsalis saxophonist

Thursday, October 10

Adam Brakel, organist

Paul Manz Centennial Commemoration

Friday, October 25

John Schwandt, organist

Saturday, October 26

Talks and Workshops – Paul Westermeyer,
David Cherwien, Mark Lawson, presenters

Saturday, November 2

Pipedreams Scholarships Auditions

Sunday, November 17

Chelsea Chen, organist, Rochester

Sunday, December 15

La Nativité du Seigneur
Raymond Johnston, organist

Friday, February 7

Eric Plutz plays Vierne

Saturday, February 22

Pipe Organ Discovery Day

Saturday, March 21

Bach's Birthday Bash

Friday/Saturday, March 27/28

Cameron Carpenter, organist
Minnesota Orchestra

Saturday, March 28

Student Competition

Tuesday, April 21

Dean Billmeyer, organist

Friday, April 24

Olivier Vernet and Cédric Meckler, organ duo

Sunday, June 7

Members Recital

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Cameron Carpenter and the Minnesota Orchestra

Friday/Saturday, March 27/28, 8:00 p.m.

Northrop Auditorium, University of Minnesota

Guest soloist Cameron Carpenter will appear with the Minnesota Orchestra, conducted by Akiko Fujimoto, in per-



formances of the *Symphonie Concertante for Organ and Orchestra* by Joseph Jongen, featuring the 108-rank Aeolian-Skinner pipe organ recently reinstated

in Northrop's main auditorium. Ticketing information is available [here](#).

[Cyrus Northrop Memorial Auditorium](#)

Univ. of Minnesota, 84 Church St. SE, Minneapolis

TCAGO Student Competition

Saturday, March 28, 9:30 a.m.-noon

Mount Olive Lutheran Church, Minneapolis

The registration deadline for performers was January 27 (as noted in the December/January issue of *Pipenotes*). However, the competitors' performances are open to the public. Anyone is welcome to listen.

[Mount Olive Lutheran Church](#)

3045 Chicago Ave. South, Minneapolis

Dean's Column

David Jenkins

In these columns I have often found myself drawn to writing about pedagogy – the learning and teaching of the organ. An excellent online resource is provided by the AGO with its "Educational Resources." The series of online instruction videos is called *Lessons for the New Organist*, and is intended expressly for pianists who find themselves wanting to learn how to play the organ. The instructor, Fred Hohman, was a classmate of mine at Eastman. I appreciate watching videos like these because they give me ideas about how to explain things in ways that I hope will be most helpful to my students.



Dr. Hohman recommends a few different method books to use for pianists who want to learn pedal technique. The "classic" is the *Method of Organ Playing* by Harold Gleason, the teacher of my first organ teacher Howard Don Small. Mr. Small schooled me carefully in the Gleason pedal technique, and I think I must have played not only all the pedal exercises in the book, but also all the pedal scales! When I tell my new students about the teachers

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that influenced me, I always start with Don Small and my connection through him to Harold Gleason, one of the most influential American organ teachers ever. Even though I no longer play the pedals exactly like the Gleason method, I always go back to the principles of the technique when I am having trouble with a passage. (Heels and knees together, inside part of the foot plays, pivot the body, move from the ankles, and so on.) I'm not sure that the Gleason method is still in print. I think it is only available in expensive used editions.

I have used two other method books successfully in my teaching: *Organ Technique, Modern and Early*, by George Ritchie (Oxford University Press), and *First Organ Book*, by Wayne Leupold (Wayne Leupold Editions). I like how the Ritchie book teaches early technique, especially the relationship of "ordinary touch" and strong and weak beats. Overall, the book has perhaps too much text relative to musical examples and pieces, but it could be used as a helpful reference. I use the *First Organ Book* with high schoolers, or maybe college beginner non-music majors with less piano background. The explanations are clear, and the exercises and pieces are motivating and set up for instant success. Wayne Leupold provides lots of additional teaching materials, available through his web site. Dr. Hohman also mentions a method by Don Cook, *Organ Tutor Organ 101*, which combines an online tutorial with a printed workbook.

None of these methods is a substitute for a good teacher of course, and a good teacher can probably teach successfully using various methods or curricula. My teacher at Oberlin, Garth Peacock, told me he started his beginning organ students right out with the *Largo* from *Bach's Organ Sonata No. 2!* Of course, his beginners were usually highly skilled pianists already. I have only had a couple of beginner organ students who were ready to take off right away without some serious time with an organ method.

Speaking of pedal technique, we will be treated in a few weeks to Cameron Carpenter's concerts at Northrop Auditorium. I vividly remember his 2008 convention performance at St. Andrew's of the *Stars and Stripes Forever*, with the piccolo part played on the pedals! I look forward to seeing you there. The TCAGO will have a promotion table in the foyer at Northrop. We are taking advantage of the opportunity to get the word out about the AGO and our 2021 regional convention.

Notice about Chapter Elections

The Nominating Committee members this year are Samuel Backman, Dee Ann Crossley, Mary Newton, Mary Joy Rieder (Chair), and Joseph Trucano.

The slate of candidates for chapter officers and the board will be announced in the April *Pipenotes*. Ballots will be prepared and mailed to eligible voting chapter members during the first week in April. Thank you to Mary Joy and the committee for their service to the chapter.



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TCAGO Membership

Laura Edman

Membership in the TCAGO is important. It provides us with many opportunities: events, concerts, workshops, online resources, job placement information and probably best of all – colleagues.

In my role as membership coordinator, I help the TCAGO retain current members, and invite and welcome new members to the organization. With the regional convention taking place in the Twin Cities in 2021, it's important to retain and expand our membership pool.

Will you help?

A simple way to aid the TCAGO is by renewing your membership when reminders appear in your email. The reminders appear three times to alert you that your yearly membership will soon expire. Renewing promptly helps TCAGO's registrar keep our records up to date.

Will you invite a friend or colleague?

Are there organists or friends in your church and community who aren't members of TCAGO? Invite these people to join you at TCAGO events. Feel free to have them contact me if they would like more information about the organization and its member benefits.

Will you consider being involved in the 2021 regional convention?

Sign up for a committee you are interested in. It's a great way to meet people and forge new relationships. Stay tuned for ways to be involved in the regional convention next year.

TCAGO depends on its members to welcome those who need training in basic organ skills, those who desire challenges in repertoire and skill development, and those who simply love the pipe organ for its variety and beautiful music.

Thank you for considering how you can help TCAGO retain current members and invite new organists and organ friends to the chapter.

[Laura Edman](#)

Additions to the 2019-2020 Directory

Britt Olson Dougall
Sr. Janis Haustein
Winston H. Kaehler
Nicolas Kees
JuYoung Lee
Nicole Millner
Isabel Munson
Roberta (Bobbi) Peterson

Call for Performers for Members Recital

Michael Barone

Now that planning for the Bach Birthday Bash on 3/21/20 is complete, I need to get started on the TCAGO *Members Recital* on Sunday, June 7, 4:00 p.m., at Bethel University in Arden Hills, featuring the splendid Blackinton pipe organ in Benson Great Hall.

This is the only significant classical pipe organ in a concert hall in the Twin Cities area, presenting a splendid venue for the TCAGO to promote organ music to the general public.

With that in mind, I am recruiting performers with something to say. Since this is not a church, I would prefer the repertoire be non-churchy, and heaven knows there is plenty of it available.

Unusual yet unusually beguiling music is encouraged. I've already signed up Jessica Park to play the world premiere of the last un-played item from the 24-piece cycle of *Preludes and Fugues that Pipedreams* commissioned from Henry Martin. You've heard others from this sequence played locally, but this will be an absolute first!

Please submit several repertoire suggestions (with full composer name, piece title, and duration in performance) and, as in the past, I will attempt to create a varied and colorful program from your repertoire suggestions. We can negotiate. Be imaginative, and flexible.

Feel free to suggest organ-plus scores, too, if you have another instrumentalist friend. The Bethel organ's console

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placement onstage is particularly friendly (visually and acoustically) for this sort of collaboration...organ+piano, organ+harp, organ+any wind-or-string-or-percussion instrument, etc.

You also might keep in mind various composer anniversaries for 2020:

James Hewitt (b. 6/4/1770...250th anniversary) wrote *Battle of Trenton*; I could narrate for you.

John LaMontaine (b. 3/17/1920...centenary).

Peter Racine Fricker (b. 9/5/1920...centenary) wrote a lovely *Pastorale*.

Ludwig van Beethoven (b. 12/17/1770...250th anniversary)...more here than you might imagine.

Louis Vierne (b. 10/8/1870...150th)...looking for the lesser-played pieces, please.

Bedrich Janacek (b. 1920...centenary).

Note: if you have previously indicated an interest in participating in this event, please re-apply, as my memory (and office clutter) may not have retained your initial submission. In case you are unfamiliar with the sound of the Blackinton instrument, it was well demonstrated last year by Isabelle Demers, as heard in this *Pipedreams* [program](#).

Should you wish to experience the organ before committing yourself, please reach out to hall manager [Amy Kelsey](#) for access. Due to the hall's busy schedule, there may be some challenges with access but, again, be flexible.

I look forward to hearing from you. Don't put this off...it will be great fun for you to get to play this instrument, and for the community at large to hear you perform.

[Michael Barone](#) 651-290-1539

Giacomo Benedetti Concert

Tuesday, March 3, 7:00 p.m.

St. Olaf Catholic Church, Minneapolis

The Italian Cultural Center of Minneapolis/Saint Paul is pleased to welcome renowned Florentine pianist, organist, and harpsichordist Giacomo Benedetti to the beautiful St. Olaf Catholic Church in downtown Minneapolis.

This concert aims to highlight the organ as a musical instrument through a repertoire that runs from Germany, France, and Italy at the beginning of the 17th and 18th centuries to conclude with an Italian overture from the 1800s.



This one-time-only concert takes place March 3, beginning at 7:00 p.m. There will be a reception preceding the concert at 6:30 p.m. There will be a fifteen-minute Q&A following the concert.

This is a free event open to everyone with a suggested donation of \$10 for ICC Members and \$15 for non-members.

[St. Olaf Catholic Church](#)

215 South Eighth Street, Minneapolis

Keyboard Artists Series 2020

First Presbyterian Church, Stillwater

You are invited to attend a series of organ/piano concerts presented by visiting organists at First Presbyterian Church. One year ago, the 1971 Schlicker organ was rededicated after its completion. Dobson Organ Company of Lake City, Iowa installed an 8' Principal stop on the Great, cleaned the organ, and added a beautiful Zymbelstern to the instrument.

The Thursday programs serve as preludes to a light lunch and faith talk in collaboration with the Faith Series during Lent. The Sunday program is a solo organ concert – a culmination of the music series followed by a reception.

The concerts are free and open to the public. All are welcome.

Thursday, March 5, 11:30 a.m.

Joseph Trucano, Organist,

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church, Shoreview

Thursday, March 12, 11:30 a.m.

Elaine Mann, Organist,

Grace Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, Wisconsin

Thursday, March 26, 11:30 a.m.

Chris Falteisek, Pianist and Organist,

Christ Episcopal Church, Woodbury

Sunday, March 29, 4:00 p.m.

Tom Ferry, Organist,

Como Park Lutheran Church, Saint Paul

[First Presbyterian Church](#)

6201 Osgood Avenue North, Stillwater

Organ Artist Concert: Hans-Ola Ericsson

Sunday, March 15, 3:00 p.m.

Saint Mary's Chapel, Saint Paul Seminary, Saint Paul

The University of St. Thomas Department of Music presents Hans-Ola Ericsson in recital. Due to construction at the Chapel of St. Thomas Aquinas, the UST 2019-2020 *Organ Artist Series* has been moved to the seminary chapel on the 22-stop Noack tracker organ. The concert is co-sponsored by The UST Sacred Arts Festival, and by the Saint Paul Seminary in celebration of the 20th anniversary of the dedication of the Noack instrument.



Hans-Ola Ericsson is a renowned organist with hundreds of recitals and concerts, an esteemed pedagogue at several institutions, and a bold composer of contemporary music. Known for his renditions of music as diverse as Olivier Messiaen and John Cage, his interpretory range stretches between György Ligeti and the ubiquitous Johann Sebastian Bach. Among the crown jewels of the repertoire is the collected works of Messiaen and recently-completed recordings of Bach in chamber and organ settings. Since 2011, Ericsson has taught organ and church music at McGill University's Schulich School of Music.

The concert is free and open to the public. Parking is free in seminary Lot P for the event. More information is available [here](#) or call 651-962-5050.

Saint Mary's Chapel, Saint Paul Seminary
2260 Summit Avenue, Saint Paul

STEPHEN HAMILTON Concert Organist The 2020 Season	
March 7, 2020 9:30 AM – 1:00 PM	“Church Music Repertoire” Workshop Treasure Coast Florida AGO Community Church Vero Beach, Florida
March 8, 2020 4:00 PM	Dupré: “Le Chemin de la Croix” Community Church Vero Beach, Florida
April 21, 2020 8:00 PM	Durufié: <i>Requiem</i> First Lutheran Church Marshall, Minnesota
June 30, 2020 7:00 PM	The Aspen Music Festival Aspen Community Church Aspen, Colorado
July 29, 2020 7:30 PM	The Cathedral of Trier Trier, Germany
August 5, 2020 8:00 PM	Evangelical Lutheran Church Dresden, Germany
August 7, 2020 7:00 PM	St. Matthäus Lutheran Church Munich, Germany
November 7, 2020 7:00 PM	Duluth Superior Symphony Duluth, Minnesota
November 8, 2020 3:00 PM	Duluth Superior Symphony Cathedral of Christ the King Superior, Wisconsin
November 17, 2020 1:00 PM	St. Lawrence Jewry – Guildhall London, England

212-289-0615
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www.stephenjonhamilton.com

Choral Contemplative Prayer: *St. John Passion*

Sunday, March 29, 6:51 p.m.

Pilgrim Lutheran Church, Saint Paul

This service combines the *St. John Passion* by Heinrich Schütz (1585-1672) with movements from the *St. John Passion* by J.S. Bach (1685-1750) and liturgy from Compline. Led by the Pilgrim Contemplative Prayer Choir and Chancel Choir, featuring our Choral Scholar musicians and other soloists.

Free-will offering (\$15 suggested donation) to support the Choral Scholar program and other Pilgrim music ministries.

[Pilgrim Lutheran Church](#)

1935 St. Clair Avenue, Saint Paul

Oregon Bach Festival Organ Institute

June 29-July 4, 2020

The Oregon Bach Festival Organ Institute, led by Grammy Award-winning organist Paul Jacobs, is now accepting applications for the 2020 Season. In its seventh season, the Institute features organ study through master classes and education sessions within a classical music festival.

Participants and auditors explore organ technique and repertoire, especially the music of J.S. Bach, while attending a wide array of concerts and lectures in the beautiful Pacific Northwest.

Highlights of this summer's program include:

Live in-residence with other musicians of the Oregon Bach Festival.

Daily master classes with Paul Jacobs, Director of the Organ Institute.

Seminars in organ technique and performance on two superb instruments – the Hochhalter 1999 at First United Methodist and the Brombaugh Op. 19 at Central Lutheran Church in Eugene, Oregon.

Full recital *Fantasia and Fugue* performance by Paul Jacobs on June 29.

Free and reduced admission to select OBF concerts and events.

A final recital by the Institute participants on July 4.

A day-long organ crawl in Portland, Oregon, featuring four of the finest instruments in the Pacific Northwest

Participants are selected through auditions. The deadline for applications is Tuesday, March 24. Auditors can enroll until June 1. A generous grant from The Reed Foundation provides these talented musicians tuition-free access to the six-day course of master classes and performances, with no cost for room and board.

For more information about the Organ Institute and the Oregon Bach Festival please visit our [website](#), or contact the [Festival](#) with any questions.

Calendar of Events

March

Tuesday, March 3, 7:00 p.m.

Giacomo Benedetti Concert
St. Olaf Catholic Church
215 South Eighth Street, Minneapolis

Thursday, March 5, 11:30 a.m.

Keyboard Artists Series 2020
Joseph Trucano, Organist, Shepherd of the Hills
Lutheran Church, Shoreview
First Presbyterian Church
6201 Osgood Avenue North, Stillwater

Thursday, March 12, 11:30 a.m.

Keyboard Artists Series 2020
Elaine Mann, Organist, Grace Lutheran Church,
Eau Claire, Wisconsin
First Presbyterian Church
6201 Osgood Avenue North, Stillwater

Sunday, March 15, 3:00 p.m.

Hans-Ola Ericsson, organist
Saint Mary's Chapel, Saint Paul Seminary
2260 Summit Avenue, Saint Paul

Sunday, March 15, 4:00 p.m.

Lenten Concert – Bob Chilcott's *St. John Passion*
Parish Choir; Soloists; Copper Street Brass Ensemble
Jessica Park, organist
St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church
60 Kent Street N., Saint Paul

Saturday, March 21, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. (TCAGO Event)

Bach's Birthday Bash
9:00 a.m. – Saint Mary's Chapel, Saint Paul Seminary
2260 Summit Avenue, Saint Paul
10:30 a.m. – Saint Paul Conservatory of Music
1524 Summit Avenue, Saint Paul
1:00 p.m. – Saint Thomas More Catholic Community
Summit Avenue at Lexington Avenue, Saint Paul
2:30 p.m. – St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church
60 Kent Street North, Saint Paul
4:00 p.m. – The House of Hope Presbyterian Church
797 Summit Avenue, Saint Paul

Thursday, March 26, 11:30 a.m.

Keyboard Artists Series 2020
Chris Falteisek, Pianist and Organist,
Christ Episcopal Church, Woodbury
First Presbyterian Church
6201 Osgood Avenue North, Stillwater

Friday/Saturday, March 27/28, 8:00 p.m. (TCAGO Event)

Joseph Jongen *Concertante for Organ and Orchestra*
Cameron Carpenter, organist
Minnesota Orchestra, Akiko Fujimoto, conductor
Cyrus Northrop Memorial Auditorium
University of Minnesota
84 Church Street SE, Minneapolis

Saturday, March 28, 9:30 a.m.-noon (TCAGO Event)

TCAGO Student Competition
Mount Olive Lutheran Church
3045 Chicago Avenue, Minneapolis

Sunday, March 29, 4:00 p.m.

Keyboard Artists Series 2020
Tom Ferry, Organist, Como Park Lutheran Church,
Saint Paul
First Presbyterian Church
6201 Osgood Avenue North, Stillwater

Sunday, March 29, 6:51 p.m.

Choral Contemplative Prayer: *St. John Passion*
Pilgrim Lutheran Church
1935 St. Clair Avenue, Saint Paul

April

Tuesday, April 21, 7:30 p.m. (TCAGO Event)

Organ Concert
Dean Billmeyer, organist
Cyrus Northrop Memorial Auditorium
University of Minnesota
84 Church Street SE, Minneapolis

Friday, April 24, 7:30 p.m. (TCAGO Event)

Organ duets
Olivier Vernet and Cédric Meckler, organ duo
St. Andrew's Lutheran Church
900 Stillwater Road, Mahtomedi

May

Sunday, May 3, 5:00 p.m.

Festival Choral Evensong
St. John the Evangelist Parish Choir
Christopher Stroh, guest organist
Saint Mark's Episcopal Cathedral
519 Oak Grove Street, Minneapolis

June

Sunday, June 7, 3:00 p.m. (TCAGO Event)

Members Recital
Benson Great Hall, Bethel University
3900 Bethel Drive, Arden Hills

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Chapter Website - www.tcago.org

Website Administrators: [David Engen](#) (c) 612-801-8662;
[Kirsten Uhlenberg](#) 651-646-8120

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Pipenotes

Pipenotes is the official publication of the Twin Cities Chapter, 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 [Merritt Nequette](#), editor.

Letters to the Editor

Signed Letters to the Editor are always welcome.

Mail letters to [Merritt Nequette](#).

2748 Lexington Avenue N., Saint Paul MN 55113

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 KJSN-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.

Unfortunately, the former Classical MPR Online Calendar has been terminated, though you can send non-organ-related church music series information directly to your favorite Classical MPR host and cross your fingers.