Dean’s Column

David Jenkins

Instruments of healing

With the approach of a new academic year, our seminary faculty and staff customarily prepare by gathering for two days of workshops, retreat, business meeting and socializing. One of the workshops this year focused on developing “cultural empathy” – for ourselves as faculty and staff, but especially for the sake of improving our teaching and other formation programs. We want to better prepare our seminarians, deacon candidates, and lay students to minister in a diverse culture, diverse city, and diverse church. The workshop caused me to think about our vocation as music ministers in our churches and synagogues in these difficult times, and how we are instruments of God’s healing.

The three panelists for our workshop were Fr. Erich Rutten, pastor of St. Peter Claver Church in Saint Paul, Fr. Michael Skluzacek, our director of pastoral formation and an experienced pastor of various Twin Cities parishes, and Dr. John Martens, a professor of scripture. Fr. Rutten reminded us that the Roman Catholic Church in the Twin Cities shares with the rest of the U.S. Catholic church a long history of racism. Archbishop Ireland personally founded St. Peter Claver Church over 125 years ago to provide a church home for African-American Catholics who found themselves not welcome at other Catholic churches in the area. Fr. Rutten described the struggles and joys of pastoring a church that is still working for unity and for a unified mission, while bringing together two groups: the “legacy” members of the parish – descendants of freed slaves who settled in the Rondo neighborhood – and more recent African immigrants to the Twin Cities.

Fr. Skluzacek related painful experiences of witnessing racism among his own parishioners over the years. Fr. Skluzacek shared his realization that the people to whom he preaches and ministers are all in need of healing: from sin, from broken families and relationships, from loneliness, from the effects of racism, poverty and injustice. He urged us to instill in our seminarians and lay students a sense that the people they encounter are all suffering, broken, or hurting in some way or another, and church ministry starts there. Dr. Martens reinforced this reconciliation theme by citing the many Gospel accounts in which Jesus heals people before he teaches them.

Our music holds a special power in promoting this ministry of healing. Catholic teaching says that the aim of sacred music is not therapy or emotional catharsis. Rather, the goal is the praise of God, through which we are all made to share in God’s holiness. As ministers of this musical praise, we can become instruments of Divine power and grace, to bring a world of healed and changed hearts, where people gain new hope, the lost are found, and hatred is overcome by love.
**TCAGO Members Relief Fund**

To this date we have received $4700 in donations to our chapter Members Relief Fund, and we have paid out three grants. Please do not hesitate to apply for one of these $500 grants if you have experienced financial hardship because of the effect of the pandemic. It may feel difficult for you to ask for help for some reason, or you may feel that the grant should go to someone in greater need. Be assured that your request will be kept confidential, and any members who have suffered job loss or reduction in pay, have lost income from self-employment sources such as teaching or gig work, or have experienced any other hardship can be considered for a grant. Please email your request to me, **David Jenkins**, or contact me if you have any questions. I’m grateful for the generosity of those who have donated to the Fund.

**Brunelle Musical Moments**

*Philip Brunelle*

*Philip Brunelle is beginning his 52nd year as Organist-Choirmaster at Plymouth Congregational Church, Minneapolis. His organ study was with Arthur B. Jennings, former Organ Professor at the University of Minnesota and his predecessor at Plymouth Church.*

During this time of coronavirus lockdown, I thought it would bring some joy to folks if I offered a noontime program for 10 minutes featuring a different composer each day – one who has had a role to play in these 51 years of my time at Plymouth Congregational Church and at VocalEssence. The idea was to highlight the choral and keyboard music of these composers, and by early August I had featured 100 composers! All of them are available via the websites of Plymouth Church and VocalEssence under *Musical Moments*.

It has been a delight for me to recall these men and women, composers from around the world, whose anthems and organ music have added greatly to musical history. It has also turned out to be very much appreciated by folks who tune in at noon each day (or at any time as all of the sessions are archived). Some of the composers will be very familiar and beloved and others, I suspect, will be new. Of course, if there are others that have not appeared yet – please be patient as there are another 100 to go!

We are so blest to have such a rich library of composers to choose from – and I hope that this list will cause you to consider some names you might have forgotten when the time comes (and it will!) for us to return to our houses of worship.
Ed. note: The project is ongoing. Check the Musical Moments website for additions after August 7.

March 23 – Dominick Argento
March 24 – Egil Hovland
March 25 – Alice Parker
March 26 – David Evan Thomas
March 27 – Ludwig Van Beethoven
March 30 – Peter Schickele
March 31 – Carol Barnett

April 1 – J.S. Bach
April 2 – André Thomas
April 3 – Libby Larsen
April 6 – Francis Poulenc
April 7 – Stephen Paulus
April 8 – Conrad Susa
April 9 – Undine Smith Moore
April 10 – Paul Manz
April 13 – John Rutter
April 14 – Dame Ethel Smyth
April 15 – Aaron Copland
April 16 – Dave Brubeck
April 17 – Samuel Coleridge-Taylor
April 20 – Randall Davidson
April 21 – Jocelyn Hagen
April 22 – Steve Heitzeg (Earth Day)
April 23 – Daniel Kantor
April 24 – Sydney Guillaume
April 27 – Gabriel Fauré
April 28 – John Gardner
April 29 – Olivier Messiaen
April 30 – Ian Kellam

May 1 – Sir Benjamin Britten
May 4 – William Bolcom
May 5 – Herbert Howells
May 6 – Judith Bingham
May 7 – Jaakko Mäntyjärvi
May 8 – Gerardo Cárdenas (Cantaré)
May 11 – Jonathan Dove
May 12 – Rosephanye Powell
May 13 – Mark Sirett
May 14 – Gustav Holst
May 15 – Jesús López
May 18 – Felix Mendelssohn
May 19 – Fanny Mendelssohn-Hensel
May 20 – Ottorino Respighi
May 21 – Antonio Vivaldi
May 22 – Timothy Takach
May 25 – Leonard Bernstein
May 26 – Gerald Finzi
May 27 – Nathaniel Dett
May 28 – Hector Berlioz
May 29 – Florence Price
June 1 – Jake Runestad
June 2 – No program
June 3 – Julio Morales
June 4 – Adolphus Hailstork
June 5 – Sir John Tavener
June 6 – Richard Rodney Bennett
June 9 – Arthur Honegger
June 10 – Percy Grainger
June 11 – Amy Cheney Beach
June 12 – Eskil Hemberg
June 15 – Edvard Grieg
June 16 – Carlos Guastavino
June 17 – Ralph Vaughan Williams
June 18 – Evelyn Simpson Curenton
June 19 – Bob Chilcott
June 22 – Healey Willan
June 23 – Lennox Berkeley
June 24 – Lili Boulanger
June 25 – William Grant Still
June 26 – Gerald Near
June 29 – Hall Johnson
June 30 – Judith Weir

July 1 – Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
July 2 – Daniel Pinkham
July 3 – William Billings
July 6 – Harry T. Burleigh
July 7 – Peter Warlock
July 8 – Charles Ives
July 9 – Elizabeth Posten
July 10 – Henk Badings
July 13 – Javier Busto
July 14 – Marcel Dupré
July 15 – Jean Berger
July 16 – Eleanor Daley
July 17 – Sir William Walton
July 20 – Uzee Brown, Jr.
July 21 – Samuel Barber
July 22 – Dieterich Buxtehude
July 23 – Charles Hubert Hastings Parry
July 24 – Charles Villiers Stanford
July 27 – Ina Boyle
July 28 – Johannes Brahms
July 29 – Petr Eben
July 30 – Alberto Ginastera
July 31 – Yo-yo Ma

August 3 – William Byrd
August 4 – Maurice Duruflé
August 5 – Ola Gjeilo
August 6 – Calvin Hampton
August 7 – Moses Hogan
Northrop Presents
Katelyn Emerson, Organist
Tuesday, September 29, 7:30 p.m.
Carlson Family Stage
Live stream option available

Katelyn Emerson, who has "taken the organ world by storm" (The Diapason), makes her Northrop debut on the historic Aeolian-Skinner pipe organ with a program of German, English and French organ music. Known for her technical facility and musicianship, Emerson garners acclaim from new listeners of classical music to audiences of colleagues and organ aficionados alike. She is a prizewinner of competitions on three continents and has performed more than 110 solo and collaborative concerts throughout the U.S. and Europe since her first prize win at the 2016 AGO National Young Artists' competition.

Katelyn Emerson Masterclass
Monday, September 28, 7:00-8:30 p.m.
Carlson Family Stage
Free and open to the public, registration required with limited capacity.
Live stream option available
Cyrus Northrop Memorial Auditorium
University of Minnesota
84 Church Street SE, Minneapolis

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.

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