



TCAGO Events in November

Pipedreams Scholarships Auditions

Saturday, November 2, 10:00 a.m.

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church, Edina

The TCAGO *Pipedreams* Organ Scholarships auditions will be held at Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church. Application forms were due October 28. New this year is a scholarship for adults.

[Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church](#)
500 Blake Road South, Edina

Chelsea Chen Recital

Sunday, November 17, 3:00 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church, Rochester

Acclaimed young soloist Chelsea Chen will present a guest recital featuring the Casavant organ at First Presbyterian Church in Rochester, Minnesota. Free/donation.

The recipient of the 2009 Lili Boulanger Memorial Award and winner of the 2005 Augustana/Reuter National Organ Competition, Ms. Chen is a graduate of Juilliard, where she received both her Bachelor's and Master's degrees. She was also a full scholarship recipient at Yale University, where she earned an Artist Diploma. Her major organ teachers included Thomas Murray, John Weaver, Paul Jacobs, Monte Maxwell and Leslie Robb, and her primary piano teachers included Baruch Arnon, Jane Bastien and Lori Bastien Vickers.



Ms. Chen has received acclaim as a composer since she premiered her own *Taiwanese Suite* (2003) and *Taiwan Tableaux* (2007) at the Spreckels Organ Pavilion in San Diego. *Jasmine Fantasy* (for violin, organ, and strings), has been performed by orchestras in the United States, China, and Indonesia. Her works have been featured repeatedly at regional and national conventions of the American Guild of Organists.

[First Presbyterian Church](#)
512 Third Street SW, Rochester

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

January tbd

Certification & Improv Workshop
Stephen Self, Mary Newton, presenters

Vierne Festival

Friday, February 7

Eric Plutz, organist

Saturday, February 8

Workshop – Jon Laukvik, presenter

Saturday, February 23

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

In This Issue

- 2 Dean's Column: The Star of the North Pipe Organ Competition
- 3 40th Anniversary of Dobson Organ at Bethany Lutheran College, Mankato
- 4 75th Anniversary Concert at Westwood Attn: All Churches with Bells or Carillons
- 5 *At the Console: A Tour of The Basilica's "Centennial" Organ*
- 5 *Pipe Dreams* – A Sound Unseen film
VocalEssence WITNESS: *What a Mighty God*
- 6 National Lutheran Choir Announces New Christmas Recording
Full Scholarships at Univ. of Notre Dame
Calendar of Events
- 8 TCAGO Board, Committees, etc.

Dean's Column

David Jenkins

The Star of the North Pipe Organ Competition

I am pleased to announce on behalf of the TCAGO Board that through the extraordinary generosity of David Engen and Ken Pengelly, a fund has been created to generate future ongoing grants that will enable the chapter to host an organ playing competition. Called *The Star of The North Pipe Organ Competition Fund*, the donors intend the competition to become the premier organist's award in the country, to be held in the Twin Cities every four years. The donors selected the TCAGO to facilitate the competition because of its national reputation and longstanding stability.



The winner of the competition will receive a cash prize of \$40,000 (adjusted for inflation), plus the future retirement income earnings from an invested \$100,000. The chapter will contract with Westwood Lutheran Church or St. Mark's Episcopal Cathedral to rent the space for the competition. It will be up to future Twin Cities chapter leaders to use their creativity to shape this competition according to the mission of the AGO – to generate interest in the pipe organ and organists, to promote the organ to new audiences, and to build up our profession. The competition could eventually be accompanied by a festival or other programming that would engender additional support from AGO members and the community at large.

This fund is held at InFaith Community Foundation, a national charity with a mission to serve donors, spread joy and change lives. Through custom giving funds, InFaith delivers each donor's charitable interests to charities serving local, national and global communities. Together with donors, InFaith grants nearly \$28 million annually. Our chapter can expect to work with the foundation in the future to turn the dreams and goals of our donors into a concrete reality. The grant from the fund will provide not only top-tier prize money to winners, but also generous support for the accompanying costs of promoting and administering a major music competition.

I am proud to be a member of the Twin Cities AGO, and I am always grateful for the collegiality, the dedication of our members, and great events and services that we offer our members and community. Our chapter and its organ and choral culture already have an enviable national reputation: because of the fine leaders, teachers, and performers that have come from our ranks; the general support for fine organs and choral music that pervades our community; the excellent colleges and universities that train our musicians; the active churches and denominational organizations in the region; generous corporate support for the arts in gen-

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eral; the excellent national and regional conventions that we have hosted; the many organ lovers and dedicated volunteers that support our mission; world class instruments; and as the home base of a National Public Radio program that promotes the organ in all its many dimensions. *The Star of the North* competition will add another exciting and unique pillar to this mix.

The fruits of this fund will not be realized until possibly many years from now. It will be up to the next generation of chapter leaders to bring its full potential to reality. I'm grateful to David and Ken for their vision, their faith in the future of our profession, and their generosity in making this vision possible. If you have any questions about the gift and the competition planning, please feel free to contact me – [David Jenkins](#), 651-962-5793.

40th Anniversary of Dobson Organ at Bethany Lutheran College

Thursday, October 31 – Saturday, November 2, Bethany Lutheran College, Mankato

This year, Bethany Lutheran College observes the 40th Anniversary of the Dobson *Opus 10* organ in Trinity Chapel. Dobson Pipe Organ Builders was founded in 1974 by Lynn Alan Dobson in Lake City, Iowa. Since its founding, the firm has built over 100 organs throughout the United States and world. The *Opus 10* Dobson organ is a treasured instrument on the Bethany Campus. The organ is used daily throughout the school year for chapel services, lessons, vespers services, recitals, and special performances including *Christmas at Bethany*.



Thursday, October 31

4:30 p.m. – Organ Reformation Vespers featuring current Bethany organ students.

Friday, November 1

7:00 p.m. – Organ recital featuring Christopher Young. Dr. Young taught at Bethany for a time and is now a professor of music at the Jacobs School of Music at Indiana University and is a concert organist.



Saturday, November 2

9:30 a.m. – Meet and greet, browse the displays, music exchange. Please bring any music you might wish to donate to students or exchange with others.

10:00 a.m. – Alumni Marathon Recital

Noon – Cafeteria will be open until 12:30 p.m.

1:30 p.m. Lynn Dobson will present about his craft.

2:30 p.m. Browse the displays

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3:00 p.m. Hymn Festival with Bethany alumnus Jacob Weber ('10). Weber works for Concordia Publishing House and has published over 100 compositions.

[Bethany Lutheran College](#)
700 Luther Drive, Mankato

75th Anniversary Concert

Sunday, November 10, 3:00 p.m.
Westwood Lutheran Church, St. Louis Park

Guest soloist Michael Burkhardt and composer Ralph Johnson will join Andrew Paulson and other current resident musicians for a celebratory 75th anniversary concert. In particular, the program will honor the 37-year legacy of former music director Ronald A. Nelson. A special feature will be the world premiere of a new choral score based on *The Prayer of Good Courage*, featuring the Holtkamp-Dobson pipe organ. Free/donation.

[Westwood Lutheran Church](#)
9001 Cedar Lake Road, St. Louis Park

Attn: All Churches with Bells or Carillons

Linda Holmen, City of Bells, Inc.

Monday, November 11, is Veterans Day. City of Bells, a non-profit organization based in Minneapolis and dedicated to restoring and preserving tower bells and carillons in the Twin Cities area, is sponsoring an all-city-wide bell-ringing event to honor all service veterans.

We will be ringing the Liberty Bell at the state capitol, and our anchor churches are already on board to join us. The plan calls for bells all around the Twin Cities to ring for 11 minutes or 11 times at 11:00 a.m. on 11/11.



The churches already planning to join us are: the Cathedral of Saint Paul and House of Hope Presbyterian Church in Saint Paul; St. Mark's Episcopal Cathedral, The Basilica of Saint Mary, St. Olaf Catholic Church, Lake of the Isles Lutheran Church, and Central Lutheran Church in Minneapolis.

Join City of Bells and our anchor churches in honoring our veterans. Let's ring out our bells for everyone everywhere to hear!



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At The Console: A Tour of The Basilica's "Centennial" Organ

Saturday, November 16, 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, November 17, 10:30 a.m.

The Basilica of Saint Mary, Minneapolis

All are welcome to gather around The Basilica organ console after the conclusion of the regular weekend 5:00 p.m. and 9:30 a.m. Masses on November 16 and 17.

At the Console is an open and informal forum of organ demonstrations and Q&A with Basilica organist Chris Stroh.

Participants will experience first-hand the intricate workings of an organ console controlling *nearly* 4,900 organ pipes ranging in size from a pencil to over 32 feet tall!

This event anticipates the November 22nd Feast of Saint Cecilia, the patroness of musicians. The event is family-friendly, casual, and open to all people, ages, and interests.

[The Basilica of Saint Mary](#)

88 North 17th Street, Minneapolis

Pipe Dreams – A Sound Unseen Film

Saturday, November 16, 5:15 p.m.

Bryant Lake Bowl, Minneapolis

The *Sound Unseen* Film + Music Film Festival will run from November 12-17 in Minneapolis. This year, the Festival is screening the documentary film, *Pipe Dreams*, about Canada's International Organ Competition.

Pipe Dreams follows five organists as they compete. Held every three years in Montreal, this competition for organists under the age of 35, is one of the most exclusive competitions in the world. With over \$100,000 worth of prize money on the line, tensions run high as competitors vie for the top prize.

Each of the three grueling elimination rounds provides increasing dramatic tension, culminating in the final awards ceremony. Who will take home the big prize?

[Bryant Lake Bowl](#)

810 West Lake Street, Minneapolis

VocalEssence WITNESS:

What A Mighty God

Sunday, November 17, 4:00 p.m.

St. Andrew's Lutheran Church, Mahtomedi

Spirituals are in the spotlight as the VocalEssence Chorus & Ensemble Singers welcome Dr. André Thomas, NaGuanda Nobles, and Christian Mark Gibbs to honor the tradition of African-American spirituals in a special performance.



Dr. André Thomas will conduct the Midwest premiere of his *Mass: A Celebration of Love and Joy*.

Joining the VocalEssence Chorus & Ensemble Singers will be the VocalEssence Singers Of This Age and guest soloists NaGuanda Nobles and Christian Mark Gibbs.

VocalEssence Associate Conductor G. Phillip Shoultz, III, provided some commentary on this program: "Using little more than their voices and their faith, enslaved African Americans invented music that allowed an expression of both sorrow and hope for freedom, right under the noses of their oppressors. A spiritual was a vehicle for storytelling, secret-sharing and plan-making – and became the foundation of uniquely American sounds like gospel, blues, and jazz. Dr. Thomas has dedicated his life to choral and spiritual music, and with his help, our audiences will leave inspired and filled with spirit themselves."

Ticket holders are invited to attend a post-concert conversation from 6:00 to 6:30 p.m. Ticket information is available at [VocalEssence](#).

[St. Andrew's Lutheran Church](#)

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National Lutheran Choir Announces New Christmas Recording

Carols We Love to Sing finishes a trilogy of audience favorites, *Hymns We Love to Sing*, Vols. 1 & 2.

This recording includes carols sung by choir and congregation in choral and organ settings by Sir David Willcocks, Larry Fleming, Stephen Paulus, Paul Manz and David Cherwien. Artistic Director David Cherwien is at the organ, along with Rachel Brandwein (harp), and Sarah Carmack (oboe), all assisting the featured musical resources: the song of the assembly.

Cherwien states, "Contrary to what many people think these days, hymns are indeed important for a lot of people. They are communal and provide individuals with strength at times of intense emotion, such as grief, or even extreme joy and a sense of contentment. The canon of Christmas carols is known by many, being people of faith or not – and one cannot help but join the singing.

Among the carols are four newly-available choral publications through MorningStar Music Publishers, including David Cherwien's arrangement of *Oh, Come Little Children*. Cherwien also furnished a transcription, from a live recording by Paul Manz, of a setting of *On Christmas Night* (Sussex Carol) for unison choir/congregation and organ. Additionally, settings by Cherwien of *Silent Night* and *Joy to the World* will be available in 2020.

Full Scholarships Available - MSM & DMA in Organ Performance at the University of Notre Dame

Craig Cramer, DMA, Professor of Organ

At the moment I am recruiting students for our two-year Master of Sacred Music and three-year Doctor of Musical Arts programs in Organ, which are part of the University of Notre Dame's ecumenical Program in Sacred Music.

The MSM students play two recitals, and the DMA students play three, one of which is a lecture recital. The studio meets weekly for an organ performance class, and the students have ample opportunity to perform on campus.

All students receive full-tuition scholarships, health insurance, and an assistantship that supplies a generous stipend. Typically an MSM organ student on an assistantship works in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart on campus, while DMA organ students are placed off campus in local churches.

Details of the programs be found [here](#).

Calendar of Events

November

Friday-Saturday, November 1-2

40th Anniversary of Dobson Organ Opus 10
Bethany Lutheran College
700 Luther Drive, Mankato

Saturday, November 2, 10:00 a.m. (TCAGO Event)

Pipedreams Organ Scholarships Auditions
Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church
500 Blake Road South, Edina

Wednesday, November 6, 12:25 p.m.

St. Olaf Organ Recital Series

Richard Gray, organist

St. Olaf Catholic Church

215 South Eighth Street, Minneapolis

Sunday, November 10, 3:00 p.m.

Led Forward By God's Hand

75th Anniversary Concert

Westwood Lutheran Church

9001 Cedar Lake Road, St. Louis Park

Monday, November 11, 11:00 a.m.

Bell Ringing for Veterans Day

Wednesday, November 13, 12:25 p.m.

St. Olaf Organ Recital Series

Liisa Keränen, organist

St. Olaf Catholic Church

215 South Eighth Street, Minneapolis

Saturday, November 16, 5:15 p.m.

Pipe Dreams

Sound Unseen Film + Music Film Festival

Bryant Lake Bowl

810 West Lake Street, Minneapolis

Saturday, November 16, 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, November 17, 10:30 a.m.

At the Console – A Tour of the Basilica Organ

The Basilica of Saint Mary

88 North 17th Street, Minneapolis

Sunday, November 17, 3:00 p.m. (TCAGO Event)

Organ Recital

Chelsea Chen, organist

First Presbyterian Church

512 Third Street SW., Rochester

Sunday, November 17, 4:00 p.m.

VocalEssence WITNESS: *What a Mighty God*

St. Andrew's Lutheran Church

900 Stillwater Road, Mahtomedi

Sunday, November 17, 4:00 p.m.

Choral Evensong

Episcopal Homes of Minnesota

490 Lynnhurst Ave. E., Saint Paul

Wednesday, November 20, 12:25 p.m.

St. Olaf Organ Recital Series

Joel Anderson, organist

St. Olaf Catholic Church

215 South Eighth Street, Minneapolis

Wednesday, November 27, 12:25 p.m.
 St. Olaf Organ Recital Series
 John Varona, organist
 St. Olaf Catholic Church
 215 South Eighth Street, Minneapolis

December

Wednesday, December 4, 12:25 p.m.
 St. Olaf Organ Recital Series
 Jessica Park, organist
 St. Olaf Catholic Church
 215 South Eighth Street, Minneapolis

Saturday, December 7, 7:30 p.m.
 Welcome Christmas – *God-Jul!*
 VocalEssence Chorus & Ensemble Singers
 Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church
 12650 Johnny Cake Ridge Rd., Apple Valley

Sunday, December 8, 4:00 p.m.
 Welcome Christmas – *God-Jul!*
 VocalEssence Chorus & Ensemble Singers
 Plymouth Congregational Church
 1900 Nicollet Ave. at Franklin, Minneapolis

Friday, December 13, 7:30 p.m.
 Welcome Christmas – *God-Jul!*
 VocalEssence Chorus & Ensemble Singers
 Plymouth Congregational Church
 1900 Nicollet Ave. at Franklin, Minneapolis

Sunday, December 15, 2:30 p.m. (TCAGO Event)
 Messiaen *La Nativité du Seigneur*
 Raymond Johnston, organist
 Saint Mark's Episcopal Cathedral
 519 Oak Grove Street, Minneapolis

Sunday, December 15, 4:00 p.m.
 A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols
 Parish Choir and Handbell Ensembles
 St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church
 60 Kent Street N., Saint Paul

Sunday, December 15, 4:00 p.m.
 Welcome Christmas – *God-Jul!*
 VocalEssence Chorus & Ensemble Singers
 Roseville Lutheran Church
 1215 West Roselawn Avenue, Roseville

January

Date TBD (TCAGO Event)
 Winter Workshop
 Certification and Improv Workshop
 Stephen Self and Mary Newton, presenters
 Location TBD

Sunday, January 26, 4:00 p.m.
 Organ Concert
 Kirk Michael Rich, Director of Music,
 All Saints Episcopal Church, Atlanta, GA
 St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church
 60 Kent Street N., Saint Paul

February

Friday, February 7, 7:30 p.m. (TCAGO Event)
 Vierne Festival Recital
 Eric Plutz, organist
 The Basilica of Saint Mary
 88 North 17th Street, Minneapolis

Saturday, February 8, 9:00 a.m.-noon (TCAGO Event)
 Vierne Festival Workshop
 Jon Laukvik, presenter
 St. Olaf Catholic Church
 215 South Eighth Street, Minneapolis

Saturday, February 8, 9:00 a.m.-noon
 Choral Masterclass and Workshop
 Jong-Won Park, Director of Choral Activities,
 University of Wisconsin-River Falls
 St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church
 60 Kent Street N., Saint Paul

Saturday, February 23, time TBD (TCAGO Event)
 Pipe Organ Discovery Day
 Location TBD

March

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
 Location TBD

Friday/Saturday, March 27/28, 8:00 p.m. (TCAGO Event)
 Joseph Jongen *Concertante for Organ and Orchestra*
 Cameron Carpenter, organist
 Minnesota Orchestra
 Cyrus Northrop Memorial Auditorium
 University of Minnesota
 84 Church Street SE, Minneapolis

Saturday, March 28, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. (TCAGO Event)
 TCAGO Student Competition
 Mount Olive Lutheran Church
 3045 Chicago Avenue, Minneapolis

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

TCAGO Elected Board

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 Sub Dean: [Jacob Benda](#) (c) 612-298-9692, (w) 952-881-8671 ext 318
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 Class of 2021: Jessica Park, Phillip Radtke, Joseph Trucano
 Class of 2022: Liisa Keränen, Cynthia Mortensen, Andrew Paulson

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TCAGO Organ Database: [David Engen](#) (c) 612-801-8662

Chapter Website - www.tcago.org

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

Facebook - facebook.com/twincitiesAGO

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.

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.