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Dean's Column

David Jenkins

Church Music Institute

Have you ever wished you had access to a large database of quality sacred choral music, searchable by season, scripture reference, hymn tune, voicing and difficulty level, and be able to see a pdf preview of the score? Well, (I sound like a smooth salesman), thanks to your AGO membership, you can receive a discounted membership to the Church Music Institute, with its online Sacred Choral Music library.



Two summers ago, the AGO announced a partnership with the Church Music Institute, a Dallas-based organization that serves the advancement of sacred music through educational offerings and holds a large online library of printed sacred choral and organ music. According to our own Paul Westermeyer, founder Charlotte Kroeker organized CMI as a visionary, proactive response to the decline of instruction in music and worship at seminaries. Paul serves on the CMI board and teaches CMI-sponsored summer courses in church music and hymnody, in collaboration with Brite Seminary in Fort Worth.

In addition to the summer courses, CMI workshops have featured choral repertoire and techniques, organ literature for liturgy, worship planning, and a host of other topics. This summer, no surprise, their courses and workshops have been offered online. The most recent workshop focused on the technology for bringing choirs together during the COVID-19 pandemic. I hope that the necessity of hosting online events has widened their national presence.

CMI's online choral library interests me the most. The library is curated and catalogued by Charlotte's husband Robert Mann, a retired church musician and college organ professor. The search criteria for the choral library goes way beyond the simple title, composer, author. I looked under Advent with various configurations – for example, easy unison with organ, TTBB a cappella, and so on. The music, reviewable through downloadable pdfs, appears to be tasteful and durable. The catalogue page for each item includes scripture and lectionary references.

Other Choral Databases

There are a variety of other searchable online choral databases. IMSLP has a huge collection of mostly free music, but it is not very searchable unless you know what you are looking for already. The music reseller JW Pepper has a good choral catalogue, searchable by voicing, season, and so on, but there are few online sample pages. The major denominational choral publishers have searchable sites too, but they are, of course, trying to sell their stuff. The Roman Catholic publishers – big ones like GIA and OCP, or smaller ones like CanticaNova – feature search capabilities useful for liturgical planning. Perhaps

Chapter Events 2020-2021 No events have been scheduled at this tiime.

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you could let me know of other good sacred choral music databases. I think the CMI library fills a useful niche.

I know that right now many of us are grieving the temporary suspension of our choir rehearsals. Maybe this fallow period can give us some extra time to find new resources and new inspiration. I continue to grow in my appreciation for the depth of resources available from the AGO through its web pages. AGO members can access all the benefits of CMI at a highly-discounted rate. Just go to your Oncard page and click on "Update Personal Information" to get the link and a discount code for CMI membership. This might not be a bad time anyway for you to update your personal information on Oncard.

New Research and Information on our Chapter's Organ List

David Engen, with the help of other chapter members, has been updating the Organ List database that TCAGO maintains on our website.

Please check out new additions. (Many residences, theaters/auditoriums, and unusual venues have been added.)

Please check out instruments/venues you know about to see if you can add more information, photographs, etc.

The database includes five states (Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, South Dakota, North Dakota) and is dependent upon members submitting information about these places/instruments.

This is the link for the Organ List. This chapter resource is an enormous undertaking and labor of love. Originally begun by chapter member, Dick Greene, it is now coordinated by David Engen.

2020-2021 Organ Series

Wednesdays, 12:30 p.m. St. Olaf Catholic Church, Minneapolis

October 21

Joel Anderson, Director of Music and Principal Organist, St. Olaf Catholic Church, Minneapolis

November 18

Jacob Benda, Director of Sacred Music and Liturgy, Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, Minneapolis

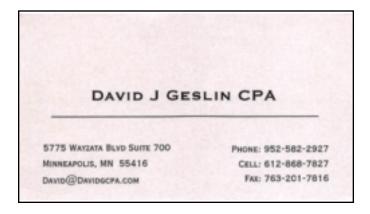
December 16

John Varona, Principal Organist, Christ United Methodist Church, Rochester

February 24

Kris Rizzotto, Director of Music Lake of the Isles Lutheran Church, Minneapolis





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March 24

Richard Gray, Director of Music

St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church, Saint Paul

April 21

Dean Billmeyer, University Organist
Professor of Music, University of Minnesota

May 19

Jessica Park, Assistant Director of Music, Chapel of St. Thomas Aquinas, University of St. Thomas

Tricks and Treats with the Mighty Organ

Friday, October 30, 6:00 p.m. St. Andrew's Lutheran Church, Mahtomedi

The 16th annual *Tricks and Treats with the Mighty Organ* concert will be presented by resident organist Bill Chouinard in the Sanctuary of St. Andrew's Lutheran Church on the mighty 1927 IV/108 Casavant/Schantz organ. The performance, replete with special lighting and video effects, is designed with young listeners in mind, and children are invited to come in costume and participate in a "virtual parade" video costume presentation.

Individually-wrapped treats will be distributed after the program, and a free-will offering will be receivable both prior to and following the concert.

Registration is limited and required for attendance. Masks will be required for all except for children under 5 years of age.

Due to Covid-19 restrictions and guidelines, concert seating will be appropriately distanced, and pizza will not be available prior to the concert.

St. Andrew's Lutheran Church 900 Stillwater Road, Mahtomedi









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All Souls' Day Recital

Monday, November 2, 7:30 p.m. Cathedral of Saint Paul, Saint Paul

Christopher Ganza, Cathedral of Saint Paul Choirmaster-Organist will present an organ recital for All Souls' Day on the historic pipe organs of the Cathedral.

The Cathedral is a socially-distanced and safe environment. Masks will be required.

Repertoire will include Les Paroles Finales de Saint Louis by Richard Proulx, Prélude et Fugue sur le nom d'Alain, Op 7 by Maurice Duruflé, and two Elegies, one by George Thalben-Ball, and one by James Biery, former Director of Sacred Music at the Cathedral.

The program honors our beloved dead and features the warm sonorities of the pipe organs in a magnificent acoustic. Free parking is available in the Selby lots or on the streets as marked.

Free-will offering.

Cathedral of Saint Paul 239 Selby Avenue, Saint Paul

Fall 2020 Concert Series

Saint Thomas Church Fifth Avenue, New York

Patrick Fennig, Concert Series Manager

Like many in our industry, we have spent the spring and summer reimagining our concert series for this extraordinary time.

Our Fall 2020 season is being presented entirely on a digital platform. Of course, this format of presentation is not ideal, but it has created new opportunities for viewership. Our concerts are now available to those who cannot travel to be with us in person.

Many of our biggest supporters are members of the American Guild of Organists. For that reason, we would like to offer a discounted ticket (50% off) to all AGO members for our Fall 2020 season. In order to purchase a discounted ticket, one can simply visit our ticketing page and enter the promo code: AGO.

The events are video presentations. Instructions for viewing each concert will be included in your ticket purchase confirmation email. Events are "premiered" at a specified time and available on-demand for a limited time after the premiere. All concerts are pre-recorded in Saint Thomas Church in compliance with recommendations from the CDC and Episcopal Diocese of New York at the time of the recording.





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Calendar of Events

October

Wednesday, October 21, 12:30 p.m.

St. Olaf Organ Series

Joel Anderson, resident organist

St. Olaf Catholic Church

215 South Eighth Street, Minneapolis

Friday, October 30, 6:00 p.m.

Tricks and Treats with the Mighty Organ

Bill Chouinard, organist

St. Andrew's Lutheran Church

900 Stillwater Road, Mahtomedi

November

Monday, November 2, 7:30 p.m.

All Souls' Day Recital

Christopher Ganza, organist

Cathedral of Saint Paul

239 Selby Avenue, Saint Paul

Wednesday, November 18, 12:30 p.m.

St. Olaf Organ Series

Jacob Benda, Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, Minneapolis

St. Olaf Catholic Church

215 South Eighth Street, Minneapolis

December

Wednesday, December 16, 12:30 p.m.

St. Olaf Organ Series

John Varona, Christ United Methodist Church, Rochester

St. Olaf Catholic Church

215 South Eighth Street, Minneapolis

February

Wednesday, February 24, 12:30 p.m.

St. Olaf Organ Series

Kris Rizzotto, Lake of the Isles Lutheran Church,

Minneapolis

St. Olaf Catholic Church

215 South Eighth Street, Minneapolis

March

Wednesday, March 24, 12:30 p.m.

St. Olaf Organ Series

Richard Gray, St. John the Evangelist

Episcopal Church, Saint Paul

St. Olaf Catholic Church

215 South Eighth Street, Minneapolis

April

Tuesday, April 13, 7:30 p.m.

Symphonic Bach

Paul Jacobs, organist

Northrop Auditorium, University of Minnesota

84 Church Street SE, Minneapolis

Wednesday, April 21, 12:30 p.m.

St. Olaf Organ Series

Dean Billmeyer, University Organist and

Professor of Music, University of Minnesota

St. Olaf Catholic Church

215 South Eighth Street, Minneapolis

May

Wednesday, May 19, 12:30 p.m.

St. Olaf Organ Series

Jessica Park, Chapel of St. Thomas Aquinas,

University of St. Thomas

St. Olaf Catholic Church

215 South Eighth Street, Minneapolis

TCAGO Elected Board

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Chapter Website - www.tcago.org

Website Administrators: David Engen (c) 612-801-8662;

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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 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.

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.