

[Subscribe](#)

[Past Issues](#)

[Translate](#) ▼

[View this email in your browser](#)



# Fall Newsletter 2022

**Dean's Letter**



Happy Fall, everyone! This is my favorite time of the year. I love to feel the air change as it signals that it's time for different activities and to pull out music for the upcoming seasons. It's a mini-reunion as I revisit some of my favorite musical pieces that have been lying dormant for a few seasons. With the cooler weather, I spend more time outside to explore new hiking trails and see what I can find to inspire

me, and I reflect on my goals.

Last month I had the privilege of meeting with Elizabeth George, the Chief Membership Officer from the AGO. One of the things that stood out to me — one that you could even say *inspired* me — was to explore the national AGO's website.

There is SO much information there; it felt like a scavenger hunt! I still have not familiarized myself with all it has to offer. I highly encourage you to go to the site, but be prepared to spend a surprising amount of time exploring. It is a wonderful treat and you will find yourself returning often.

Lastly, the Board is very excited for our next in-person chapter event. Los Gatos United Methodist Church has graciously opened their doors for us for a **Fall Hymn Sing**. We will sing hymns and listen to variations of those hymns played by members of our own chapter. Afterwards we will have a light reception in the courtyard where we can talk, laugh, and share our love of music and the organ. It will be at 3:00 pm on Sunday, October 16th so please mark your calendars and I hope to see you there!

Until the 16th, stay healthy and continue to inspire those around you.

~ submitted by Elisabeth Pintar



~ poster design by Charlotte Pintar, age 11

## An Invitation from the Palo Alto/Peninsula Chapter:

On Saturday, October 22, organ enthusiasts will meet for carpools around 8:00 am to explore 2 unique organs in Monterey County: Email Rani Fischer if you would like to join in the fun: [ranifisc@gmail.com](mailto:ranifisc@gmail.com)

---

Are you interested in designing a new website for our chapter? We would like to create a fresh face for the San Jose AGO and we can monetarily compensate someone who will help us achieve a new online presence. Please reach out to Elisabeth Pintar, Dean, if you have ideas and/or expertise: [elisabethpintar@yahoo.com](mailto:elisabethpintar@yahoo.com)

---

## Report from Seattle, Installment 2

At the AGO National Convention, held July 3 – 7, four members of our chapter and one spouse attended this jam-packed musical extravaganza in Seattle which is blessed with many beautiful pipe organs. Each of us had a chance to reflect on our experience there, and our newsletters this year will include some reviews and

highlights. This month, Bob Rhodes gives his perspective on one of the evenings.

## Wednesday Evening at St. James Cathedral

The program consisted of two events; Vespers presented by the St. James choir and organist, and a Concert offered by organist Stefan Engels. Both featured the premieres of commissioned works. This Roman Catholic Cathedral is home to two large organs; one is at each end of the basilica. The 1907 Hutchings-Votey IV/52 can be played on the console of the 2000 Rosales III/49, creating an overpowering 101 rank instrument with a vast array of stops and expression choices.

The Office of Evening Prayer for the Feast of Saint James the Apostle is a part of every Sunday's schedule. This Wednesday night version was changed to include two commissioned choral works by Jessica French, who is a St. James choir member and published composer. Her choral prelude, using words from Christina Rossetti's Verses (1893) was well received and a lovely beginning to this sacred offering. She thoughtfully invited those in attendance to join in singing a portion of the melody, giving added strength to her *Earth, Strike Up Your Music*. French's *Pilgrimage*, included as a choral responsory in the liturgy, brought light to Sir Walter Raleigh's (1552-1618) lamentations *A Passionate Man's Pilgrimage*. At times it was not possible to clearly understand the choir's words, but this demonstrated why the detailed printed program was welcomed.

German-born organist and Professor of Organ at Southern Methodist University, Stefan Engels claimed the mighty organs for the rest of the evening. His sometimes-bombastic registrations were accurate presentations of Bach and Sigfrid Karg-Elert. He introduced the third commissioned work for the evening, *Le Tombeau de Jean Langlais* (2021) by George Baker b. 1951. An international award-winning organist and composer, Dr. Baker also earned an M.D. and became a dermatologist, but he never ceased performing, composing, teaching, and recording. He currently teaches organ improvisation at SMU.

~ submitted by Bob Rhodes

*Editor's note: Professor Engels gave a fascinating presentation the following morning, in a workshop entitled Registering the Organ Music of J. S. Bach, or What is meant by "... his very own way of registering" (a quote from CPE and WF Bach). Please contact [Margaret Kvamme](#) if you would like an electronic copy of the extensive handout.*

---

## Obituary: Kathryn Daugherty



Our friend, former SJAGO board member Kathryn Dougherty passed away on August 27, 2022. Her Celebration of Life service will be held on October 15, 11:00 am at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Saratoga. Her obituary follows:

Kathy Dougherty passed away on August 27, 2022 from pancreatic cancer. She was born in Pequot Lakes, MN but grew up in Black River Falls, WI where she was valedictorian of her high school class. She received a Bachelor of Music degree magna cum laude from St. Olaf College. Her Master of Music degree was from Syracuse University. After teaching at the University of North Dakota and Broward Community College in Ft. Lauderdale, FL, Kathy was on the Music Faculty of West Valley Community College in Saratoga, CA for 33 years. After her retirement, Kathy enjoyed several years playing organ/piano for services, weddings, & funerals in churches of many denominations in the San Jose area. She has served as secretary and treasurer for the San Jose Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. She has also served as the secretary to the board of the West Valley-Mission Association of Retired Educators. Kathy met her husband Bill on a blind date in 1973 and they married that same year. They loved to travel internationally and visited over 50 countries. They also enjoyed playing bridge, exercising, reading, gardening and attending concerts. Kathy was preceded in death by her parents Rev. Raymond Huss and Cora Solomonson Huss; her sister, Marion Sides; and her brother, Rolf Huss. She is survived by her loving husband, Bill and her faithful niece, Kristin (Lisa Gossett) Olson. A celebration of life service will be held at 11 am on October 15 at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Saratoga followed by a reception. The family suggests memorials be given to the [church](#) or to [St. Olaf College](#). (giving links to each institution are live)

---

## Jobs Available

Los Gatos United Methodist Church: **Director of Choral and Contemporary Music Worship**. Services are once a week at 10 a.m. on Sundays, and alternate weekly between traditional and contemporary style. Lead Chancel Choir in bi-weekly Sunday services and weekly 1½ hour rehearsals. Lead contemporary praise band in alternate Sunday contemporary worship services and weekly 1½ hour rehearsals. One-half to three-quarter time. Annual salary \$35,000-45,000 commensurate with skills and experience. Contact Tom Waldrop, [twaldrop@sbcglobal.net](mailto:twaldrop@sbcglobal.net), 408-921-6705, or contact church office. A full job

description may be found [here](#).

Transfiguration Episcopal Church, San Mateo: **Director of Music**. Lead twice-monthly choir rehearsals, lead a choir planning team for two annual fundraisers, make creative use of the musical resources of the parish (with a special emphasis on children/youth). Salary range \$20,000 –\$22,000 depending on experience. Apply with a cover letter and resume to The Rev. Jennifer Hornbeck, Priest in Charge, Transfiguration Episcopal Church, 3900 Alameda de las Pulgas, San Mateo, CA 94403. [jennifer@transfig-sm.org](mailto:jennifer@transfig-sm.org).

---

## Concert & special services calendar

(Listed by Venue, in order of least to greatest drive time from downtown San Jose; note embedded Livestream links for some venues).

**St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 13601 Saratoga Ave., Saratoga.** Saturday, October 15, 2023, 11:00 am: **Kathryn Dougherty Celebration of Life**

-----

**Los Gatos United Methodist Church, 111 Church St (next to LGHS).** Sunday, October 16, 3:00 pm: **SJ AGO Chapter's Fall Hymn Sing**; all are welcome; please invite your choir, congregation, friends and family

-----

**First Congregational Church, San Mateo, 194 W San Mateo Ave.** Friday, October 28, 7:00 pm: Young organists will present a Hallowe'en concert

-----

**St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic Cathedral, San Francisco, 1111 Gough St. @ Cleary** (Parking under/beside the cathedral). These concerts are live-streamed and available here (simply click on the url):

<https://YouTube.com/cathedralofstmaryoftheassumption>

Sunday, October 9, 4:00 pm: Robert Gurney, organ. César Franck: Fantaisies in A and C, Choral in a-minor. This recital is part of the Cathedral Franck Cycle, celebrating the composer's 200th birthday.

Sunday, October 16, 4:00 pm: David Hatt, organ and piano. César Franck: Variations Symphonique; Prélude, Choral, et Fugue. This recital is part of the Cathedral Franck Cycle, celebrating the composer's 200th birthday.



Sunday, October 23, 4:00 pm: Alexander Ffinch (UK), organ

Sunday, October 30, 4:00 pm: Jin Kyung Lim, piano, with violin. César Franck: Violin Sonata. This recital is part of the Cathedral Franck Cycle, celebrating the composer's 200th birthday

-----

**Grace Cathedral, San Francisco, 110 California St. at Taylor** (pay parking underneath the cathedral, entrance is on Taylor Street between California and Sacramento streets. A \$10 donation is requested. These concerts are live-streamed and available here (simply click on the url): <https://gracecathedral.org/watch-grace-cathedral/>

Sunday, October 9, 4:00 pm and 8:00 pm: Complete works of César Franck. Scott Dettra (Dallas, Texas), organ

Sunday, November 4, 4:00 pm: Christopher Keady and Christopher Pharo, organ

Sunday, November 13, 11:00 am: Mozart Requiem, as part of the Eucharist

-----

**St. John The Evangelist Episcopal Church, 15th St @ Julian, San Francisco.**

Sunday, October 23, 4:00 pm: Duane Soubirous, organ, Wine/cheese reception.

Sunday, November 15, 4:00 pm: Shelby Yamin (violin) and Caitlyn Koester (harpsichord), Wine/cheese reception

-----

**Presidio Chapel, San Francisco, 130 Fisher Loop.** Sunday, October 23, 4:00 pm: James Parrish Smith, organ

-----

**St. John's Lutheran Church (Sacramento Valley AGO Chapter Event) 1701 L St, Sacramento.**

Sunday, November 6, 3:00 pm: Notre-Dame, Paris organist Olivier Latry in concert, plus he will give remarks at the reception following, about the restoration process for the Notre-Dame organ post-fire. More info and link to tickets (strongly encouraged to guarantee your seat) may be found [here](#).



## Your SJ AGO Board 2022 - 2023

Dean: Elisabeth Pintar

Secretary: Melanie Cervi

Treasurer: Eric Holderman

Newsletter Editor: Margaret Kvamme

Handbook/Directory: Kay Lee

Education/Resources; Historian: Valerie Sterk

Budget/Auditors: Christine Merjanian, Cathryn Wilkinson

Members-at-large: David Snook-Luther, Paula Seo, Laura Green

---

The next newsletter will be published in late November. The deadline for submitting concert listings, articles, photos, job listings and notices of instruments for sale, etc. is **November 14**. Click on the red button below for a set-up email where you can conveniently type and attach items.

submit newsletter content



*Copyright (C) 2022, SJ Chapter AGO, All rights reserved.*  
contact: [margaret.m.kvamme@gmail.com](mailto:margaret.m.kvamme@gmail.com)  
c/o Presbyterian Church of Los Gatos

Want to change how you receive these emails?  
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe](#)

Grow your business with  mailchimp