



**SAN JOSE PIPINGS**  
 SAN JOSE CHAPTER OF THE AGO  
 August 2020 www.agosanjose.org



**Chapter Officers**

**Dean:** Susan Snook-Luther

**Sub Dean:** Elisabeth Pintar

**Secretary:** Darryl Parker

**Auditor/Budget:**  
Christine Merjanian  
Laurel Rogers

**Handbook:** Kay Lee

**Education/Resources & Historian:** Valerie Sterk

**Members at Large:**  
David Snook-Luther - 2021  
Kathy Dougherty – 2022  
Paula Seo - 2023

**Membership:**  
David Snook-Luther

**Newsletter:** Kenneth Talbot  
(408) 732-6094  
kitalbot@pacbell.net  
**Issue Deadline:** 25<sup>th</sup> of month

**Professional Concerns:**  
Dick Coulter

**Substitutes:** Dick Coulter

**Treasurer:** Janet Parent

**National Executive Director:**  
James E. Thomashower  
jet@agohq.org

**National AGO President:**  
Michael Bedford

**Region IX Councillor:**  
Matthew Burt  
matthewburt@gmail.com

**Northern CA District Convener:**  
John Karl Hirten  
jhirten@comcast.net

**Dean's Column**

**Greetings, Everyone!**

Despite our boats still being battered by the waves of the Covid 19 pandemic, we had an opportunity to experience “Beauty in the Midst of Chaos”, the title of AGO OrganFest 2020. This virtual extravaganza rose like a phoenix from the ashes of the cancelled National Convention in Atlanta. Powered by the determination and skills of a talented team of leaders, “Beauty in the Midst” drew on many of the performances planned for Atlanta, now presented in virtual format. Watching it, we were transported to a variety of venues and organs for virtuoso performances, and talks by AGO officials. Every day we were treated to a new organ work commissioned by the AGO. Each premiere was preceded by an interview with the composer conducted by Chelsea Chen, whom our chapter hosted for a Fall Workshop a number of years ago. Members of AGOSJ also might be interested to know that Aaron Tan, whom our chapter hosted at CUMC in May, 2018, was one of the featured performers on three of the five days of “Beauty in the Midst”. Did you miss this amazing virtual convention? Don't despair! If “Beauty” would help to “float your boat” right now, just go to [agoorganfest2020.org](http://agoorganfest2020.org).

*Susan Snook-Luther, Dean*

As you may know, **Christine Merjanian** is continuing her Chemotherapy which will last for quite a number of weeks. We ask our members to please keep her in their prayers that this procedure will work and that the Lord will bless her with His rich blessings.

**Christine – get better soon and be healthy!**

**Libby Codd Update**

**Libby Codd** is currently in a rehabilitation facility at The Forum and she can NOT receive visitors at this time. She would welcome phone calls. Her call phone number is (650) 353-6641. She seems to be doing well but gets tired easily.

She can receive mail through her daughter.  
 Libby Codd 555 Center Drive, Palo Alto, CA 94301  
 kclark@clarkklayw.com. Kenneth Talbot

---

## David Simi

15 November 1947 – 29 June 2020

Resident of San Jose

David passed into the arms of God surrounded by all his Holy Angels June 29th, 2020.

He graduated from SAN JOSE STATE UNIVERSITY



with a Master's Degree in music, his life's passion. After teaching at West Valley College and St. Paul's school, he spent 42 years as Professor of music at SJSU and 50 years as music director/organist at Christ the Good Shepherd Lutheran church.

Private services were held at Saint Paul's Catholic Church in San Francisco with burial to follow at The Italian Cemetery in Colma.

David was a long time member of our Chapter.

---

### OPEN POSITIONS

**AGO Members:** If you know of any Open Positions at any Church please let me know so that I can pass that information on to any members who call me. I know of one of our members who needs a position. Kenneth Talbot

**Presbyterian Church of Los Gatos**, 16575 Shannon Rd, Los Gatos, CA, is looking for a **Part-Time Organist/Pianist** to play one to two Sundays a month, a choir rehearsal the Thursday evening proceeding the Sunday playing, and for various church holy days. The salary is very competitive and available upon request.

**Abilities:** The applicant must have experience playing the organ and piano in church services and accompanying choirs and instrumentalists. Sight reading skills and a background in musical liturgy are required.

The church currently needs a third organist, who would join a rotating roster with two other organists. Each organist plays one or two times a month throughout the year, depending on the number of Sundays in a month. When the choir is in session, the organist playing a Sunday service usually rehearses with the choir the previous Thursday. The rotating organists decide their schedule, based on their availability and in collaboration with the music director.

Send resume, **references and letter of intention** to: michael.taylor@pclg.org 🎵

---

## Stanford Memorial Church

Dr. Robert Huw Morgan and others have been recording Sunday Morning and Wednesday Lunchtime Music on a YouTube channel. I have not seen any references for August or beyond.

The web address is

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTEJGegC9rg3FYUbmTIsLZg>. Check here for possible August and previous music.

---

## St. Mary's San Francisco

St. Mary's in San Francisco is streaming their "Musical Meditations" which occur every Sunday at 4 PM. The link to the streaming links is <https://www.youtube.com/archdioceseofsanfrancisco%20>. They can also be viewed later.

---

### Date to Remember

**6 Sep Sunday, Ugo Sforza**, Vienne Westminster Carillon, Triptyque. This performance is part of the St. Mary's Cathedral Vienne/Tournemire Festival. **Cathedral of St Mary of the Assumption**, 1111 Gough St., San Francisco, 4 PM \$10

🕒 **11 Sep Friday, Ugo Sforza**, organ, **Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church**, 728 W. Fremont Ave. Sunnyvale, **7:30 PM - CANCELLED**

---

### Next Executive Committee Meeting

The next meeting Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> August 2020 at 7:30 PM  
Zoom Meeting

---

---

## Theater Organ For Sale



For sale-Three manual Allen theater organ model 4600 with alternate classic voicing and 4 Allen HC15 speakers.

Organ and speakers in excellent condition. **\$4500.**  
Contact **Mike Cala** if interested and to schedule an appointment to see and play it. **510-516-9867** or e-mail [michaelcala232@gmail.com](mailto:michaelcala232@gmail.com) 🎵

---

## Streamed Tabernacle Organ Recitals

The **Tabernacle Choir at Temple Square** begin a livestream organ recital series from the Salt Lake Tabernacle on Temple Square which started on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of June. Noon (Mountain Time) recitals have now resumed via the internet, without an audience, three days a week, Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

A new feature is the recitals have a host, **Dr. Luke Howard** who is an Associate Professor of music history at BYU and a member of the Choir. He introduces the pieces that are to be performed and tells about the composers as well. He also provides comments in the running Chat column.

The easiest way to view the recitals is use the following web address:

<https://www.thetabernaclechoir.org>

Then click on the “**Piping Up: Tabernacle Organists in Concert,**” window.

This first recital (45 min long) was aired June 17, 2020, at 7 p.m. All five organists were involved with the final piece.

Kenneth Talbot 🎵

---

## New Allen Organ Dealer

Allen Organ Company has had a history in California and Nevada for over 50 years. **The Northern California Music Company, LLC** (<http://ncaorgans.com/>) was established in 2019 to continue the legacy of excellent customer care for churches, theaters, concert halls, and individuals within the Northern California and Western Nevada areas.

**CEO and President, Jim Swihart**, has been a musician and a technology specialist for over 30 years. He has a Bachelor of Science in Management Information Systems from California State University, Sacramento, and an Associate of Arts from Santa Barbara City College in Spanish (Language & Culture). Jim has also directed, composed, and participated as a featured choral soloist in venues throughout the world.

Combining Allen Organ’s legacy of Organ Sales and Service, as well as the unique talents of those working with **Northern California Music Company**, our goal is to exceed customer expectations in the pursuit of musical excellence.

We look forward to meeting with you and learning more about how we can serve you and your church.

**Please contact Jim Swihart to make an appointment.**

(916) 420-1712 (Talk/Text)

[jswihart3@outlook.com](mailto:jswihart3@outlook.com)

If any of your members have historical questions about Used Allen Organs, I’ll be happy to take the model and serial number to the Factory to uncover any history regarding the

organ. Plus, having a factory-rep (me) inspection of an Allen Instrument is always helpful in the process of purchasing. There is an inspection charge, but always good if you’re purchasing.

By the way, Jim Welch is a friend. He showed me the basics one-on-one for organs several years ago. As he prepares to depart for Israel, your local chapters will miss his presence. But he has an excellent gig at the BYU Jerusalem Center (one of the larger pipe organs in Jerusalem) lined up, when COVID allows. 🎵

---

## AGO CERTIFICATION WINNERS

We express our congratulations the following who completed the examinations for the follow AGO Certifications:

**Ruth J. Kamas**, the SPC Certification

**Renee G. Gastelum**, the CAGO Certification (former chapter member)

**Amelia Riegert**, SPC Certification

These Certification Winners were announced on the Wednesday AGO Organ Fest Streaming Broadcast.

---

## Filming an Organ Competition

Go to the Vox Humana Journal to read a very interesting article about filming an organ competition. The article is about Stacey Tenenbaum new film, “The Film *Pipe Dreams* and New Perspectives on Publicizing the Organ.” Stacey did not know anything about the organ until she made the film in 2008. I found this article very interesting to read.

<http://www.voxhumanajournal.com/>

---

## Organ Recitals Using ZOOM

Susan Snook-Luther sent me a newsletter she received from Promotionsmusic.org. They are producing recitals using Zoom. They sent Susan a newsletter in which they describe the process they use to produce a successful recital using Zoom. **If any of you are interested in the newsletter, send me an email and I will send it to you.**

David Jordan (a skilled pianist with a Master of Music degree in composition and a media artist) and Dr. Jeannine Jordan (a professional organist) are directors of the company. 🎵



---

## Categories of AGO Chapter Membership

**VOTING GENERAL MEMBERS** (age 30-64) consist of organists and choral conductors and other individuals who support the purposes of the Guild and who:

- 1) shall be approved by the Chapter,
- 2) shall be elected to membership by the National Council,
- 3) have paid the dues and fees set by the National Council.

**Voting General Members** are eligible to:

- 1) take Guild examinations for certification,
- 2) be nominated for election to Chapter, Regional, and National Office,
- 3) serve on National Committees,
- 4) vote in Chapter, Regional, and National elections,
- 5) receive the official journal of the Guild (The American Organist).

**VOTING SPECIAL MEMBERS** – age 65 or older, or disabled

All of the items listed for Voting General Members apply to Special Members.

**YOUNG ORGANIST MEMBERS** – under the age of 30

All of the items listed for Voting General Members apply to Young Organist Members.

**CHAPTER FRIENDS** shall consist of those individuals who:

- 1) support the purposes of the Guild,
- 2) are NOT organists or choral conductors,
- 3) have paid the dues and fees set by the Chapter.

The privileges of **Chapter Friends** are:

- 1) participation in Chapter activities,
- 2) receipt of Chapter publications.

**Chapter Friends**

- 1) shall require no election to membership,
- 2) shall have no vote,
- 3) cannot be listed on our Chapter Substitute Organist list.

There are also **DUAL GENERAL, DUAL SPECIAL, AND DUAL YOUNG ORGANIST** categories for those who wish to belong to more than one Chapter. All of the items listed for Voting General Members apply to Dual Members.

---

## Remember Your Membership Renewal

You can renew by going to [www.agohq.org](http://www.agohq.org) and select “Membership” and then Membership/Update” you can renew anytime by calling the national office (212-870-2310) with a credit card. Be sure to renew now so that you will not miss any ATO issues. 🎵

## AGO San Jose Music Calendar

### Venue Locations

**CSMA:** Cathedral of St Mary of the Assumption, 1111 Gough St., San Francisco, "Musical Meditations"  
Streaming Link address of the concerts:  
<https://www.youtube.com/archdioceseofsanfrancisco%20>

**GC:** Grace Cathedral, 1100 California St. San Francisco

★ Chapter Event      ▶ Chapter Member

### Every Saturday at 4 PM

**Organ,** Legion of Honor, Lincoln Park, 34<sup>th</sup> Ave & Clement St., San Francisco.  
Jonathan Dimmock, organist

**Stanford: Has YouTube files of music recorded on Sundays and Lunchtime Wednesday recitals by Dr. Robert Huw Morgan and others.** Check

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTEJGegC9rg3FYUbmTIsLZg>. This

address gives access to music during July but I have not seen any references for August. (K. Talbot)

### August 2020

#### **2 Sunday**

**Quantum Quartet: Jeanette Wilkin Tietze**, piano, and **Wendy Loder**, Violin, **CSMA, 4 PM \$10**

#### **9 Sunday**

**Cathedral Vierne/Tournemire Festival: Jordan Prescott**, Organ. Vierne: Symphony No. 1, **CSMA, 4 PM \$10**

#### **9 Sunday**

**Ben Bachmann: Online**, Organ. Vierne: Symphony No. 1, **GC, 4 PM**,  
<https://gracecathedral.org/events/organ-recital-with-ben-bachmann-online/>

#### **9 Sunday**

**Cathedral Vierne/Tournemire Festival: Jordan Prescott**, Organ. Vierne: Symphony No. 1, **CSMA, 4 PM \$10**

#### **16 Sunday**

**Ricardo Ramirez** (Chicago), Organ. Works by Durufle, Bach, and Ramirez, including an improvisation. Program includes an improvisation and is part of a series of performances celebrating the **50th anniversary year of St. Mary's Cathedral.**, **CSMA, 4 PM \$10**

#### **23 Sunday**

**Angela Kraft Cross**, organ, Cathedral Vierne/Tournemire

Festival, Vierne's Symphony No. 4, **CSMA, 4 PM \$10**

#### **30 Sunday**

**Christoph Tietze**, organ, **CSMA, 4 PM \$10**

### September 2020

#### **6 Sunday**

**Ugo Sforza** (Italy, Austria), organ, Vierne Westminster Carillon, Triptyque. This performance is part of the St. Mary's Cathedral Vierne/Tournemire Festival. **CSMA, 4 PM \$10**

#### **11 Friday- CANCELLED**

★ **Ugo Sforza**, organ, **Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church**, 728 W. Fremont Ave. Sunnyvale, **7:30 PM**

#### **20 Sunday**

▶ **Jin Kyung Lim**, organ, **CSMA, 4 PM \$10**

### Nov 2020

#### **22 Sunday**

▶ **Jin Kyung Lim**, organ, **CSMA, 4 PM \$10**

# American Guild of Organists

## San Jose Chapter

582 Dublin Way, Sunnyvale, CA 94087-3323



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

FIRST CLASS