Dear Colleagues,

Our November program includes both our annual Pipelines Outreach Program on Wednesday, November 7th and a recital with organist Dexter Kennedy on Sunday, November 18th. This month’s programming would not be possible without our key sponsors and collaborators. First and foremost, I want to extend my gratitude to Stu VanderHeide whose generosity through the Anne Heyboer Vander Heide Fund allows us to offer Pipelines as an annual event. This outreach program will reach 900 students this year! I am not aware of any program in our nation that has an impact of this magnitude. I would also like to extend my thanks to Joel Gary who continues to work out all of the logistics and organization for this program.

Dexter Kennedy’s recital on November 18th is being co-sponsored by the chapter and Trinity Lutheran Church. Thanks to Larry Biser for the artist contract and overseeing all of the arrangements and details that go into making a recital happen.

Our November programming is truly a foretaste of things to come. The 2019 Regional Convention being held here in Grand Rapids from June 30, 2019-July 3, 2019 will be the result of generous patrons and colleagues in the individual churches who are making the vision a reality. I am so thankful and proud of the work and generosity that is going into this important event in the life of our chapter. I know you will be as thrilled as I am.

Convention registration begins on December 1, 2018. Be sure to take advantage of the early rate!

Peter Kurdziel, Dean
Monthly programs for 2018 – 2019

Here is the lineup of AGO meetings for this season, 2018-2019. Our meetings take place at various venues throughout the area and are typically the third Monday evening of the month although there are certainly exceptions. We generally begin with a punch bowl and social time at 6:30 p.m. followed by dinner at 7:00 p.m.

The cost for dinner is $15 and to encourage attendance by younger members the board has underwritten the cost of meals for all AGO members and guests under the age of 30. The cost of these meals will come from a dedicated fund that has been recently established for this purpose.

The program portion of the meeting follows at 8:00 p.m. and all programs are open to the public. On occasion free-will offerings will be accepted at the conclusion of some evening programs.

Dinner reservations are requested by the Wednesday prior to the meeting and members will be called by the Executive Council. You may also make your reservation by emailing agodinner@grago.org or calling our Treasurer, Errol Shewman at 307-7241.

Wednesday, November 7, 2018
9:30 a.m.
Central Reformed Church
10 College Avenue N.E.
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

Pipelines – A Program for Fourth Grade Students

Each year the Grand Rapids Chapter of the American Guild of Organists invites fourth grade students from the area to an hour long presentation of the pipe organ. This program was begun in 1995 and has grown to be a very popular feature among fourth grade teachers and students. In recent years there have been approximately 700 students at these programs. You may read more about Pipelines here: PIPELINES
**Sunday, November 18, 2018**

3:00 p.m.

**Trinity Lutheran Church**

2700 Fulton Street East

Grand Rapids, MI 49506

**Organ recital featuring concert organist**

**Dexter Kennedy**

As the winner of the Grand Prix d’Interprétation at the 24th Concours International d’Orgue de Chartres, Dexter Kennedy has established himself internationally as “one of the greatest organists of our times” (*Iceland Monitor*). Praised for his “prodigious technique and grand style musicality” in *The American Organist*, Dexter Kennedy currently serves on the music faculty of the College of Wooster (Ohio) as Instructor of Organ and Harpsichord. During the Fall 2017 semester, Kennedy served as Visiting Assistant Professor of Organ at Oberlin College Conservatory.

Kennedy is an active recitalist throughout both North America and Europe, having performed in great cathedrals, churches, and concert halls including: Notre-Dame de Paris; Berliner Dom; St. Bavokerk, Haarlem; Slovak Philharmonic Hall, Bratislava; Chartres Cathedral; Grossmünster, Zürich; Chichester Cathedral; Hallgrímskirkja, Reykjavik; Basilica of St. Nazaire, Carcassone; Narbonne Cathedral; Auditorio Manuel de Falla, Granada; San Luigi Dei Francesi, Rome; St. Willibrordus Basilika, Echternach, Luxembourg; and Bergen Cathedral.

Dexter Kennedy holds the Artist Diploma from the Oberlin Conservatory of Music, where he was a pupil of James David Christie, and a Master of Music Degree from the Yale School of Music and Institute of Sacred Music. Other teachers include Martin Jean, Olivier Latry, and Jeffrey Brillhart (improvisation). He is currently Assistant Organist at Christ Church Grosse Pointe (MI). In his spare time, he enjoys golfing and vigorously rooting for the professional sports teams in his native Detroit. More information about Kennedy and his schedule can be found at his website, [www.dexterkennedy.com](http://www.dexterkennedy.com)

Dexter Kennedy is represented by Seven Eight Artists.

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**Mr. Kennedy’s Program will include:**

- Bruhns: Praeludium in G
- Storace: Ciaccona
- Bach: Trio Sonata IV
- Mozart: Andante in F, K. 616
- Pierné: Trois Pieces
- Mendelssohn: Andante and Variations in D
- Albright: 3 movements from Organbook III
- Litaize: "Lied"
- Litaize: Prelude et danse fuguée
Hymn Festival directed by John Ferguson

It is difficult to think of a hymn festival without associating the name of John Ferguson with the experience. Each year he is invited to design and lead such events in churches across the country and the world, as well as at regional and national conventions of the American Guild of Organists and the American Choral Directors Association. Although himself a Lutheran, his festivals are ecumenical celebrations drawing upon the greatest treasures of Christian song from many centuries, traditions, and styles. John Ferguson is now emeritus professor of organ and church music at St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota.

All are invited to join in what promises to be a special experience of wonderful hymn singing.

Hymn Workshop featuring John Ferguson

John Ferguson, better known to his students and colleagues as “Ferg,” is an acclaimed organist, choral conductor, composer and teacher, recognized nationally for his talents as an improviser and leader of congregational song. Before his career at St. Olaf College, Ferguson obtained degrees from Oberlin College, Kent State University and the Eastman School of Music; held a faculty position at Kent State; and served as music director and organist at Central Lutheran Church in Minneapolis. When he stepped onto campus at St. Olaf in 1983, Ferguson brought with him an enthusiasm for church music that has made a lasting impact on the students, faculty, and the greater community.

While at St. Olaf College, Ferguson was Professor of Organ and Church Music, conducted the St. Olaf Cantorei, and served as Cantor to the Student Congregation. During his tenure, the organ department at St. Olaf College defied national trends by growing in enrollment and quality.

Ferguson’s work at St. Olaf College was the inspiration and catalyst for a career in composing and arranging. He has more than 100 titles in print, including many based upon existing hymn texts and
tunes as well as newly commissioned texts. Along with colleague Anton Armstrong, Ferguson re-envisioned the St. Olaf Choral Series for Augsburg Fortress and worked to make it relevant to a wide variety of 21st-century choirs. Outside of the St. Olaf community he has designed and presented hymn festivals for national and regional conventions of the American Guild of Organists and American Choral Directors Association (ACDA). He also presented such events abroad in Seoul, South Korea and in Europe at the National Cathedral of Norway. Although he is a Lutheran, his festivals are ecumenical experiences drawing upon the greatest treasures of Christian song from many centuries, traditions and styles.

Other career highlights include his composition of *Who Is This* for choir and viola, which won the 2005 Raabe Prize for excellence in sacred composition; his 2012 honoring with the F. Melius Christiansen Lifetime Achievement Award from the ACDA of Minnesota; and his 2013 Faithful Servant Award from the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians, recognizing his “extraordinary contributions to the worship life of the church.” Although Ferguson officially retired in 2012, he continues to serve as Musical Advisor for *Sing For Joy*, providing guidance regarding musical selections and new recordings, and serving as ambassador of the program to audiences and congregations nationwide.

**Monday, February 18, 2019**

6:30 p.m. Punch Bowl  
7:00 p.m. Dinner  
8:00 p.m. Program  

**Second Congregational Church, U.C.C.**  
525 Cheshire Dive N.E.  
Grand Rapids, MI 49505  

**Recital by previous winners of the Annamae Rotman Young Organists Competition.**  
Previous winners of the the Annamae Rotman Young Organists Competition, Owen Tellinghuisen, Chan Gyu Jang, and Jonathan Bading will play. The Annamae Rotman Young Organist Competition was founded in 2013 by Dr. Richard Rotman in honor of his mother and is an annual competition. We thank him for his generous support of young organists.

We will also recognize the work of Bruce Klanderman and Joan Ringerwole for coordinating the organ competitions for the Grand Rapids Chapter of AGO for the past number of years. Both the Rotman and Quimby Competitions will take place in Grand Rapids on April 8 this year.
Monday April 8, 2019
1:00 p.m. Quimby Regional Competition for Young Organists
6:00 p.m. Punch Bowl 6:30 p.m. Dinner 6:30 p.m. Dinner
7:30 p.m. Annamae Rotman Young Organist Competition
Calvin Christian Reformed Church
700 Ethel Street S.E.
Grand Rapids, MI 49506

Young Organist Competitions
The AGO/Quimby Regional Competition for Young Organists is a national competition for organist born after July 2, 1997. The AGO/Quimby Regional Competitions for Young Organists are made possible by a generous grant from Michael Quimby, President, Quimby Pipe Organs, Inc.

The Annamae Rotman Young Organist Competition was founded and underwritten by Dr. Richard Rotman in honor of his mother, Annamae Rotman. A competitor must be under 24 years of age as of August 1 of the competition year and be a resident of Kent County, MI or any county adjacent to Kent County and/or a resident student attending a junior high school, senior high school, college, or university in Kent County or any county adjacent to Kent County.

Monday, April 22, 2019
6:30 p.m. Punch Bowl
7:00 p.m. Dinner
8:00 p.m. Program
Venue to be announced

The Organ Used With Orchestra
Brazilian-born Marcelo Lehninger is in his third year as Music Director of the Grand Rapids Symphony. He previously served as Music Director of the New West Symphony in Los Angeles, for which the League of American Orchestras awarded him the Helen H. Thompson Award for Emerging Music Directors. Marcelo was appointed Assistant Conductor of the Boston Symphony Orchestra by James Levine, and, after a very successful two year tenure that included stepping in for Maestro Levine on short notice in Boston and on tour at Carnegie Hall, was later promoted to Associate Conductor.
Sacred Music at the Cathedral presents

Dr. Thomas Fielding
organist in recital

Friday, 9 November 2018 at 7pm

Dr. Fielding is the Cathedral director of music, an IU Jacobs School of Music graduate and Arthur Poister and San Marino Competitions first prize laureate.

His program will include works by Bruhns, Haydn, Bach, Pärt, Reger and more!

Open to the public with free will donations.

St. Augustine Cathedral
542 W. Michigan Ave.
Kalamazoo, MI 49007 • 269.345.5147
www.stakalamazoo.org/concert-series
British vocal ensemble VOCES8 inspires through music and the joy of singing. Versatility is central to the ensemble’s performance ethos.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4 | 7:30PM
PARK CHURCH UCC

$5 | STUDENTS
$25 | GENERAL ADMISSION

10 E PARK PL NE, GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49503
(616) 459-3203 // OFFICE@PARKCHURCHGR.ORG
From our Friends in Muskegon

Muskegon-Lakeshore Chapter

2018—2019 Program

November 16, 2018 at 7 p.m.
“Magnum Opus — The Fritts Pipe Organ at the University of Notre Dame” — Dr. Andrew McShane
First Congregational Church in Muskegon

January 4, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.
“Twelfth Night Party”
Home of Floyd and Caron Farmer

February 23, 2019 at 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
“Vocal Techniques for Choral Singing”
Dr. Michael Match, clinician
Mona Shores Middle School

March 10, 2019 at 4 p.m.
“Young Artist Recital” — Daniel Chang
First Presbyterian Church in Grand Haven

May 5, 2019 at 3 p.m.
“In Memoriam — Members’ Recital”
Central United Methodist Church

Holland AGO Chapter

November 5, 2018 at 7:30 p.m.
“Organ Plus — sharing our favorites and finding new treasures” — Bring your favorite Organ-plus repertoire to play for each other (Organ + instrument, organ 4 hand, or organ and piano). OR just come to listen and get ideas. This list will be shared in an future newsletter.

Feeding the Soul of the City 2018-2019

St. Paul’s Episcopal Church
1006 Third Street
Muskegon, MI 49440

All performances are held
Tuesdays from 12:15 to 12:45 p.m.
unless otherwise noted.

November 27, 2018
The Lafayette Woodwind Quintet-classical music

December 9, 2018
Grand Rapids Choir of Men and Boys
Festival of Lessons and Carols
(This is a Sunday at 5:00 p.m.)

December 18, 2018
Caron Farmer
“Christmas at the Organ"

February 26, 2019
Clifford Jazz Quartet

March 26, 2019
Campbell’s Clarinet Collage
(GVSU clarinet students under the direction of Dr. Arthur Campbell)

April 23, 2019
Reeths-Puffer Madrigal Singers
(student vocal ensemble)

May 28, 2019
GVSU Steel Drum Band

June 11, 2019
Max and Ruth Bloomquist folk and bluegrass music
Dexter Kennedy
Organist

November 18, 2018
3:00 PM

Celebration of Music Concert Series
Trinity Lutheran Church
2700 Fulton Street East
Grand Rapids, MI 49506