

A Letter From the Dean

Hello to All of You AGO Friends,

What a joy it was in September to see so many of you in person!!! I believe we had around 16 at our potluck and recital. Thanks to Alex Cross for the hospitality at Christ Memorial. What a tasty potluck it was. We have some real chefs in our group. It was wonderful to have so many members play on the recital. Thanks to Rick VanOss for coordinating this program. We were introduced to some new and old pieces for Advent, Christmas, and beyond. It was especially nice to have several of our "younger" organists, considering this is the Year of the Young Organist. We welcomed brand new member, Ruth Baker, who drove up from South Haven where she has relocated. We were also delighted that Linda Fulton brought a guest, Karen Stam.

We are only a week away from our next meeting, which will be Monday, October 25th at Third Reformed. The topic is one we had hoped to pursue last year..."The Aging Voice." It strikes close to home for some of us, and if not now, you will all be there someday. Our speaker is Linda Dykstra from Hope College. If the topic isn't enough to interest you, please come for the fellowship. I do feel strongly that we need each other in these times which seem harder than usual. Also feel free to bring/invite any of your choir members who may have an interest in this topic. **ALSO NOTE THAT THIRD CHURCH REQUIRES MASKS OF ALL VISITORS.**

Our own local organists, Bethany Dame Aaron Goodyke, and Audrey Thomas are playing in a Grand Rapids AGO recital on October 18 at 7:30 p.m., at Cathedral of St. Andrew in Grand Rapids. You should have received a separate announcement about that. I plan to be there to cheer them on, and hopefully some of the rest of you will be also.

It is not too soon to be talking about our very special program on Monday, November 22. Brenda Portman, from Cincinnati, Ohio, will be presenting a workshop on "Twentieth and Twenty-First Century Composers for the Organ. It will be at Hope Church at 7:30. Please make every effort to attend this and please bring other organists who may not be members of our chapter. The Muskegon, Kalamazoo and Grand Rapids chapters will be our guests for this highlight of our year.

Of interest is the fact that our presenter in March, Larry Visser, won first place, above 212 other entries, for his hymn tune "Embrace", in the 2021 Hymn Tune Search of the Hymn Society of the United States and Canada. The text for his hymn tune, "With Open Arms Christ Welcomes You," was written by Thomas H. Troeger. Congratulations to Larry. We surely look forward to his program.

I look forward to seeing all of you soon!

Julia

2021-2022 Calendar		
Mon Oct 18, 7:30 p.m.	Grand Rapids Chapter AGO Young Organist Concert ,including our chapter members Bethany Dame, Aaron Goodyke, and Audrey Thomas	St. Andrew Cathedral, Grand Rapids
Mon Oct 25, 7:30 p.m.	Aging Voices - Linda Dykstra, retired Hope College voice professor	Third Reformed Church, Holland
Mon Nov 22, 7:30 p.m.	Brenda Portman – Significant 20 th and 21 st Century Composers for the Organ	Hope Church, Holland
Mon Jan 10, 6:00 p.m.	Annual Epiphany party	Linda Fulton's house
Mon Feb 21, 7:30 p.m.	South side Holland organ crawl, ending up at the First Reformed Church's music library	Starting location TBA
Mon Mar 21, 7:30 p.m.	Larry Visser's Music	2 nd Reformed Church, Zeeland
Mon Apr 25, 7:30 p.m.	Music for organ with other instruments	TBA
Mon Jun 20, 6:00	Annual members picnic	Judy Koeman's house

Chapter Officers for 2021-2022

Dean – Julia Colingsworth
 Sub-Dean - Linda Fulton
 Secretary - Karen Howells
 Treasurer - Gordon Bruns
 Board Member - Rick Van Oss
 Student Board Member - Alex Cross
 Newsletter Editor - Paul Dalman

Website – hollandareaago.org