

A Letter From the Dean

Dear AGO Colleagues,

Linda Fulton treated us royally as is her custom when we gathered for the Epiphany Dinner at her home in January. We had some delicious soups, the most interesting of which was Crawfish Etouffee, made with shrimp, and eaten over rice. It was really impressive. She had made two other kinds of soup, and also Marie Blauwkamp brought a delicious chicken soup. We had so many accompaniments, that it was a real feast. Jerry treated us to a nice report of his organ tour of France last summer, complete with pictures. I think it sparked some interest in others in tours like that. Thanks to all those who contributed to the evening, particularly our hostess, Linda, who must have been doing dishes all the next day. Her house was bursting at the seams. We may need to move to a church next year.

Our special event this month will be a recital by Frederic Blanc on Sunday, February 26, 5 p.m., at Second Reformed in Zeeland. There will be a pre-concert talk at 3:30 for our chapter members. Holland AGO is co-sponsoring this event. Stay tuned about a master-class at Hope College late Monday afternoon, February 27. Feel free to announce this to your friends and fellow church members. We will hope for a wonderful crowd that day.

The year will continue with an organ crawl in March. See the accompanying information. Karen Howells is hard at work already. If you are able to contribute toward snacks at the end of the tour, contact Karen (765) 730-1696 or myself (629) 225-7418. The date is March 13, and the time is 7:00.

A reminder about the Calvin Worship Symposium this week, as announced earlier by Rhonda Edgington and the Annamae Rotman Young Organist Competition which was also sent earlier.

Plans for the 2023 Great Lakes AGO Regional Convention are well under way. It will be June 25-28, hosted by the North Shore IL Chapter. It was nice if we could get a carload together to attend. Our chapter is making a financial contribution to this. Please let it be known to one of our board members if you are interested in going.

I have appreciated the notes of sympathy on the sudden loss of my grandson in January. I have been somewhat out of commission for a few weeks.

With all good wishes,

Julia Colingsworth
Holland AGO Dean

Second Reformed Church of Zeeland Invites the Community to Second Series: Sublime Art in a Sacred Space

Members of the community are cordially invited to attend a free concert on Sunday, February 26, at 5 pm when we are delighted to welcome Frédéric Blanc, a French composer, organist and improviser.

The last student of Marie-Madeleine Duruflé, he is based as titular organist of Notre-Dame d'Auteuil in Paris. He has played concerts and given masterclasses internationally, especially in the United States. Blanc is focused on the French organ tradition and improvisation. Born in Bordeaux in 1967, Blanc first studied law for a year, then organ at the conservatories of Toulouse and Bordeaux with André Fleury, Marie-Claire Alain, Pierre Cogen and, from 1991, with Marie-Madeleine Duruflé. He lived in the Duruflés' apartment after they died, as custodian of their estate, which includes manuscripts, documents, correspondence, photographs, and their library.

He is also a member of the organ commission of Paris and a member of the commission for non-historic organs in the music department of the French Ministry of Culture. Blanc has held organ masterclasses at the Royal Academy of Music in London and at colleges and universities in the States including Valparaiso University, Stanford University, Hope College, Northwestern University, Southern Methodist University, the Curtis Institute of Music, University of Michigan and Arizona State University. We are excited to welcome him to our Second Series during the time he is presenting masterclasses in Holland at Hope College.

Recital attendees are cordially invited to attend a reception in the Gathering Place of Second Church after the performance. This is a special opportunity to meet Frédéric Blanc, to enjoy refreshments, and to share in conversation with community members from throughout the area. Convenient parking is available in the lot at the corner of Church Street and Cherry Avenue, with accessibility to, and throughout the church, from that entry.

Young Organist Upcoming Programs

Four of our young chapter members will be presenting recitals in the coming months:

Audrey Thomas will be at First Presbyterian Church, 508 Franklin Avenue in Grand Haven on Sunday March 19 at 4:00 p.m.

Three Hope College students will be giving their senior organ recitals:

Tim Nechuta on Saturday March 4 at 6:00 p.m.

Kelli Trudeau on Wednesday April 5 at 6:00 p.m.

Bethany Dame on Wednesday April 12 at 6:00 p.m.

Additionally, Bethany Dame will accompany the Hope College orchestra as they perform the first movement of Guilman's Symphony #1 for Organ and Orchestra Op. 42 on Friday, March 3 at 7:30 p.m. This is part of the program for the college's annual Concerto and Aria Concert.

All of the Hope College events will be in the concert hall of the Jack H. Miller Center for Musical Arts.



Save the Date!

The Holland Chapter of the AGO will host an Organ Crawl on Monday, March 13, 2023 starting at 7:00 pm.

We will visit the following Holland Churches:

Trinity Reformed Church

712 Apple Avenue

Maplewood Reformed Church

133 E 34th Street

First United Methodist Church

57 W 10th Street

Substitute Organist Available

Greetings to my Colleagues in Music Ministry!

As of this date, I am available to substitute long or short term. I am available for funerals, weddings and para-liturgies. I am a proficient organist, pianist, choral (adult and youth) and handbell director. I am also qualified and able to lead rehearsals I have served many parishes in the Grand Rapids Diocese over these past 40 years.

Please feel free to contact me at:

Eileen Hoogterp
1917 Furhman Road
Muskegon, Michigan 49441

231.755-0141 land line
231.736-9080 cell phone/text
eileenhoogterp@gmail.com

I am also happy to provide references upon request.

Thank you.

2022-2023 Calendar		
Sun Feb 26, 3:30 p.m.	Pre-concert talk for AGO chapter members with French organist Frederic Blanc	Second Reformed Church, Zeeland
Sun Feb 26, 5:00 p.m.	Frederic Blanc Organ Recital	Second Reformed Church, Zeeland
Fri Mar 3, 7:30 p.m.	Concerto & Aria Concert	Hope College Jack H. Miller Concert Hall
Sat Mar 4, 6:00 p.m.	Timothy Nechuta Senior Organ Recital	Hope College Jack H. Miller Concert Hall
Mon Mar 13, 7:00 p.m.	Holland church organ crawl	Starts at Trinity Reformed Church, 712 Apple Ave.
Sun Mar 19, 4:00 p.m.	Audrey Thomas Organ Recital	First Presbyterian Church, 508 Franklin Ave., Grand Haven
Wed Apr 5, 6:00 p.m.	Kelli Trudeau Senior Organ Recital	Hope College Jack H. Miller Concert Hall
Wed Apr 12, 6:00 p.m.	Bethany Dame Senior Organ Recital	Hope College Jack H. Miller Concert Hall
Sun April ??, 5:00 p.m.	Community Hymn Sing	Christ Memorial Church, 595 Graafschap Road, Holland 49423
Mon May 22, 7:30 p.m.	Members' Recital	Grace Episcopal Church, Holland
Mon Jun 19, 6:00 p.m.	Annual potluck picnic	Gordon Bruns' house, 4033 66 th Street, Holland 49423

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Chapter Officers for 2021-2022

Dean – Julia Colingsworth

Sub-Dean – Aaron Goodyke

Secretary - Karen Howells

Treasurer - Gordon Bruns

Board Member - Rick Van Oss

Student Board Member - Alex Cross

Newsletter Editor - Paul Dalman

Website – hollandareaago.org