



# Prairie Pippings

The Monthly Newsletter Of SDAGO

## A Message From the Sub-Dean

Carrie Groenewold, SDAGO Sub-Dean

Greetings, fellow organists!

I am happy to be serving the Sub-Dean of this AGO Chapter. Since I began last July, we have not had the opportunity to gather, except virtually, so here is a bit about myself. I grew up in rural, southwest Minnesota and became enamored with the pipe organ after attending a camp at Dordt University (formerly College) while in middle school. Playing the enormous Casavant was a thrill and led to my pursuit of degrees in Organ Performance and Church Music at Dordt. Later, I had the opportunity to study with Craig Cramer at the University of Notre Dame, obtaining a Master's in Sacred Music, and completed a D.M.A. at the University of Kansas studying under Michael Bauer. My doctoral project focused on the organ and choral music of Jan-Pieterszoon Sweelinck, particularly his Genevan psalm settings.

After serving as a full-time church musician for a number of years, most recently in Southwest Michigan, I accepted a position as the Joan Ringerwole Chair of Organ and Church Music at my alma mater, Dordt University, in Sioux Center, IA. I teach Theory and Church Music courses here, direct the women's choir, and teach private lessons—currently my studio has 15 students. I am working hard to restore the Church Music curriculum and have proposed a minor in Church Music. The Joan



Ringerwole Organ Recital Series allows Dordt to host concerts and masterclasses by notable organists; despite the pandemic, Isabelle Demers, head of the Organ Department at Baylor University, gave a masterclass and a fantastic recital last November. At the end of March, we are hoping to host Ken Cowan. You are always warmly invited to make the trip to Sioux Center to enjoy our concert series!

My hope is that you will be able to participate in our upcoming celebration of Johann Sebastian Bach, either as a participant, or as an appreciative audience member. One of my favorite quotes from Bach remains, “The aim and final end of all music should be none other than the glory of God and the refreshment of the soul.” May music—and especially the wealth of spectacular works by J. S. Bach—be a solace, a comfort, and a pleasure for your soul during these uncertain times.

Sincerely,

Carrie Groenewold

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# SDAGO Programs for 2020-21

March 19, 7:00 p.m.

## **Bach Birthday Bash**

Virtual Program Via SDAGO Website, Youtube, or Facebook.

March 26, 7:20 p.m.

## **Ken Cowan Recital - Tentative**

This event is in place of the Marco den Toom recital. Ken Cowan is Professor of Organ and head of the organ program at Rice University's Shepherd School of Music in Houston, Texas. This event is part of the Joan Ringerwole Organ Recital Series. Dordt University, Sioux Center, IA

April 24, times TBA

**Pedals, Pipes, and Pizza** in the morning featuring the organs at Our Saviors and a walk over to the Augustana Chapel to see the tracker. SDAGO Academy Auditions over lunch SDAGO Academy Recital following lunch/auditions. Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Sioux Falls

# Featured SDAGO Event



Our Bach Birthday Bash has consistently been one of our biggest events of the year!

This year is going to look a little different than in the past. We will be putting together a virtual program which will be premiered across our website, Youtube, and Facebook pages. Though we won't be able to be together in person, we'll be able to tour many local instruments all in one program!

The Bach Birthday Bash is a member driven event, so we need you to help create a program to celebrate the works of Bach! Contact SDAGO Communications Officer Matt Tylutki ([SouthDakotaAgo@gmail.com](mailto:SouthDakotaAgo@gmail.com)) if you would like to play on the program, and he will schedule a time to come film your performance. The deadline for filming is March 14th. The instrument at Our Savior's Lutheran in Sioux Falls is available for anyone who needs an instrument for recording.

## Photographing Instruments

We're running low on photos for our newsletter. We want to celebrate as many local instruments as possible. If you have any pictures of your instruments that you are willing to share, we want them to beautify our publications!

If you have professional photos to share, or would like to make an appointment to have pictures taken contact Matt Tylutki SDAGO Communications Officer.

**[SouthDakotaAgo@gmail.com](mailto:SouthDakotaAgo@gmail.com)**



# Chapter Leadership

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## Upcoming Episodes

# Pipedreams

Feb. 8: Imagining Color Listen to inspired improvisations and standard repertoire, spiritual tunes and jazz favorites.

Feb. 15: More Than Just Black and White Enjoy a color-full collection of music featuring Black composers, performers, and themes.

Feb. 22: A Diversity of Riches Further explore intriguing repertoire and inspired performances.

*Pipedreams airs each week in our area on KRSD 88.1 FM at 6AM Sunday mornings, or you can listen at any time at [www.pipedreams.org](http://www.pipedreams.org). Programs dates shown are the first day the program is available online. Live broadcast on KRSD is the following Sunday morning.*



Something for everyone!  
AGOGO virtual program year 20-21  
**FRIDAYS AT NOON EST**

videos will be premiered at:  
<https://www.youtube.com/user/GuildofOrganists>

**August 14-** Organ crawl: West Point Chapel  
**September 11-** Workshop:  
Church musicians and technology  
**September 25-** Panel: Organists of colors  
**October 9-** Panel: The Global Organist  
**November 13-** Organ crawl: Longwood Gardens  
**December 11-** Organ factory tour: Austin Organ Co.  
**January 8-** Webinar:  
Young conductors/organists guide to church music  
**February 12-** Organ crawl: Wanamaker  
**March 12-** Panel:  
Board positions in the guild/serving in leadership roles  
**April 9-** Organ factory tour: Taylor & Boody  
**May 7, 14, 21, 28-** Young organist recitals

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<https://www.agohq.org/ago-young-organists/>



Cover art: 2019  
Bach Birthday Bash,  
Augustana University  
Chapel

**Have your instrument featured** in the newsletter by submitting a photo or setting up a photography session with Matt Tylutki: [mttylutki@gmail.com](mailto:mttylutki@gmail.com)

## Follow us on Facebook!

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Get the latest on our website:  
<http://www.sdago.org/>