

October 2019

The American Guild of Organists

# San Francisco Chapter Newsletter

## Dean's Message

by Susanne Rommel

Almost one year ago, we reached out to you with an anonymous survey to receive feedback in regards to our program. Many responded to our survey, and your feedback was very valuable for us. Thanks again to everyone who responded!

Some of the input we collected was the wish from many members to further support our young organists. We heard your feedback and the opportunity to support many of our young organists is approaching: It is time to make plans for joining our second program event, the Youth Organist's Halloween Concert directed by Angela Kraft Cross on the 25th of October at 8pm.



For this concert, we are very honored to have AGO young organists what seems like from around the world perform for us: Count Chasula, JS RassBach, Sherlock Holmes, Harry Potter, Phantom of the Casavant, and others will play their favorite organ classics in minor keys in a spooky Halloween setting at the Congregational Church of San Mateo, 225 Tilton Avenue, San Mateo, CA.

Those are the stage names of some of the young organists, giving you an idea how special they will look performing in Halloween costumes. You are in for an amazing treat!

Behind their Halloween costumes, you will meet and enjoy listening to:

- Nataly Pak – Bach, *Tocatta and Fugue in D minor*
- Ryan Chi (Second prize winner in the 2019 AGO/Quimby RCYO competition) – Bach, *Fantasia and Fugue in G minor*
- Nathan Chi – Eugène Gigout, *Tocatta in B minor*
- Tim Warncke – Boëllmann, *Tocatta from Suite Gothique in C minor*
- Isaiah Rassbach – Ghoul Tune (with apologies to CS Lang, who wrote Tuba Tune) and Bach, *Little Prelude and Fugue in E minor*

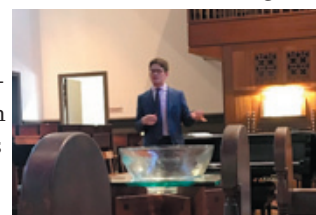
► **Dean's Message, page 3**

## Review: September Event

by William Vaughan

On Sunday, September 8, we held our opening guild event in partnership with St Mark's Church, Berkeley. Their Second Sundays Evensong and Organ Recital moved to a new time this year. Evensong began at 3pm, with George Emblom conducting the choir and Eric Choate accompanying them and the congregation. We were thrilled to hear works by local composers David Conte and John Karl Hirten. George has such a huge and magnificent choir at St Mark's.

Following Evensong, Bálint Karosi dazzled us with his organ playing. We were all spellbound by his technique. George presented Bálint with an improvisation theme, which was the hymn from Evensong, Old 113th. It was absolutely amazing to hear the many incredible variations.



Following Bálint's recital, we all gathered for refreshments in Lyons Hall, where there was a festive reception for the many people in attendance. There were also tables set up outside the hall with 30 boxes of organ music, all for FREE! By the end of the evening, 20 boxes were left.



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Submission deadline for the **November** issue is **October 10**

## R.I.P JARED JACOBSEN

from *The Post-Journal*, Jamestown, NY

CHAUTAUQUA — The longtime organist and coordinator of worship and sacred music at Chautauqua Institution has died following a car crash Tuesday afternoon in Ohio. Chautauqua Institution officials confirmed the death of Jared Jacobsen, 70. The crash took place on Route 84 near Geneva, Ohio. In a statement, Chautauqua Institution President Michael E. Hill said:



“While we await formal word of Jared’s wishes, we know our community is grieving this unspeakable loss. Many have described Jared and the music he masterfully created with the iconic Massey Memorial Organ at the Chautauqua Amphitheater as the “heart and soul” of Chautauqua. This sentiment speaks not only to Jared’s talent, but of his ever-presence during our summer assembly season, his untiring love for

music, and his generous willingness to share his passions with Chautauquans across generations. His music ushered in each day,

heralded the noontime and afternoon hours, and closed each Sunday evening of the summer assembly, keeping the time of a timeless community.

“He played his final service and concert on Sunday, August 25 — a service he curated and titled “Camp Meeting is Over.”

Jacobsen graduated from Girard High School in 1967. He was born in New Castle, Pa., in 1949.

According to his biography on the Girard School District Foundation’s website, Jacobsen began his musical career at the age of 5 as a piano student at Chautauqua Institution and has returned every year since.

Jacobsen began his church music career at the age of 13 as organist for the Grace Episcopal Chapel in Fairview, PA.

He was the primary operator and guardian of the 112-year-old Massey Memorial Organ of four manuals and 5,640 pipes, located in the Amphitheater, which is the centerpiece of Chautauqua’s programming. He also shepherded the 50-voice Motet Choir for daily worship services and the 150-voice Chautauqua Choir for Sunday morning and evening worship, played weekly recitals on

► **Jacobsen**, page 6

from [www.firstlutheransd.org/memorium/jared-jacobsen/](http://www.firstlutheransd.org/memorium/jared-jacobsen/)

### IN MEMORIAM



It is with profound sadness that we must share with you news of the unexpected passing of our beloved Jared Jacobsen. Jared died Tuesday afternoon near Ashtabula, Ohio, the result of a tragic vehicle accident on a rural highway. Jared had just completed his summer at the Chautauqua Institution this past Sunday evening and was visiting friends in the nearby area before returning to San Diego Friday night. He would have resumed his place at our organ bench on Sunday morning for Pastor Kurt’s first day with us.

Jared has been sharing his gift of music with us at First Lutheran Church since 1996. His was the common thread that wove so many elements of our life in community together. For Jared, music was prayer, and preparing liturgies for worship a personal expression of devotion. We were blessed that we could share Jared with the summer community in Chautauqua, New York—a sacred place for Jared that he had called home since he was 5 years old. Imagine, 65 years of homecomings to the place where he developed his passion for the magnificence of the pipe organ, a place where he was also blessed to become the resident organist also beginning in 1996. Before coming to First, Jared had been the San Diego Civic Organist in the late 1970s and early 1980s, playing the Spreckels Organ in Balboa Park every Sunday afternoon, and other concerts throughout the year. He continued to play the Spreckels Organ as a guest recitalist each year.

When Jared returned to San Diego each September, he also resumed another of his favorite jobs as a faculty member at The Bishop’s School in La Jolla. Students referred to him as Mr. J. If the school’s music department was presenting a recital, a choir production, or an excellent presentation of Broadway’s best-known musicals, Jared was at the keyboard bringing light and life to the musical stage. His students will sorely miss his exuberance and knowledge.

In coming weeks, we at First Lutheran will gather as the whole church in one service to remember our dear brother Jared. The schedule for the memorial will be announced as soon as plans are completed. Other memorials are taking place as well, testament to the gift that Jared was to so many. A service will be live-streamed Friday morning, August 30, on the Chautauqua Institution’s Facebook page beginning at 8:00 AM Pacific Daylight Time. The Spreckels Organ Society will also remember Jared at a special event later in the fall.

Words at such a time fail us. They are inadequate to the depth of the emotions we have arising from within our hearts for the loss of such a special person. Scripture does offer these words of comfort from our Lord Jesus for a time such as this:

“Blessed are those who mourn,  
for they shall be comforted.”



## Letter

from Abner Gabriel Lumabas

August 23, 2019

American Guild of Organist San Francisco Chapter

Sir:

Greetings.

I would like to thank you for financially supporting me for my trip to Pipe Organ Encounter in Seattle, Washington. I learned many different tips and tricks about the organ while I stayed there. As well, I enjoyed many of the different activities and lessons within the program. It's hard to say exactly what the most enjoyable part of the program was, but if I had to choose it would be visiting the different churches and the organs within. At Pipe Organ Encounter we were given the opportunity to visit different churches and even play the organs within them. Each organ was unique, with different stops and sizes. As well the churches had beautiful architecture and felt very grand in design. My favorite organ I got to see was the theater organ, I was surprised by the many different sounds the organ was able to produce. Not only that, I was also intrigued by the theater organ's history with film making. The different stops and sound effects available on the organ were unlike any I have heard before, and the uniqueness of the theater organ is what really captured my attention.

As well, the faculty and teachers were passionate and knowledgeable about the organ, They worked hard to ensure that each and every one of us was able to learn something new from Pipe Organ Encounter. The daily agenda was fun and educational, as well as the recitals we were able to attend every night. Private lessons with the teachers helped me learn more about the organ, as well as get a sense of what type of music I liked most on the organ.

Once again I would like to thank you for helping me attend Pipe Organ Encounters. I had a wonderful time and look forward to many more years of playing the organ.

Sincerely,

Abner Gabriel Lumabas

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## R.I.P. — Francis Claussen

from Steve Repasky

FRANCIS CLAUSSEN  
died aged 95 on Sat., Aug. 31, 2019

Long-time organist at the Norwegian Lutheran Church on Dolores Street

## New Members

from William Vaughan

Please welcome our new members:

Matthew Burt  
Merrill Collins  
Brother Dennis Duffy  
Natalie Ning  
Ron Whaley

### Young Organists

David Anderson  
Irene Sophie Geng  
Abner Gabriel Lumabas  
Dominic Pang  
Maribeth Suganuma

## Memorial Service — Douglas Franks

from Steve Repasky

### DOUGLAS FRANKS

May 13, 1949 — July 3, 2019

Memorial Service  
Saturday, November 9 at 4:00 p.m.  
All Saints Episcopal Church  
555 Waverly, Palo Alto

## Dean's Message, from front page

- Eddie Lee — Bach, Fugue in G minor
- Chase Olson — Vierne, 1st movement of Symphony No 1 in D minor
- And Angela Kraft Cross herself, with works by Vierne, Widor and Mulet Tu es Petra

We hope to see you all at this very special and spook-tacular event. Join us for a scary good time supporting our talented, young organists! Admission for SF AGO members is free.

## San Francisco AGO Chapter Donations

The SFAGO wishes to thank the following people for their financial support to the Chapter Donation category.

John M. Agraz	Terry M. O'Connor
Alan C. Black	Marian E. Ott
Jeanette Cool	Steven R. Rausch
Charles Corum	Father Robert K. Rien
Francis M. Cummings	W. Wayne Ritchie
Steven C. Gray	Gary C. Toops
Jud Hammon	Jon Townsend
Joe E. McClain	Vlada Volkova-Moran
Natsuko Murayama	

## SFAGO International Mailing Donations

The SFAGO thanks the following people for their financial support to the International Mailing category.

Terry M. O'Connor  
Vlada Volkova-Moran

## SFAGO Special Projects Donations

The SFAGO wishes to thank the following people for their financial support to the Special Projects category.

John M. Agraz	Natsuko Murayama
Josephine Bennington	Helen Pereira
Jeanette Cool	Gary C. Toops
Joseph A. Hansen	Vlada Volkova-Moran

## San Francisco AGO Chapter Recital Series Donors

The SFAGO wishes to thank the following people for their support of the Recital Series.

### Bombarde (\$1000+)

### Tuba Mirabilis (\$500-\$999)

Robert Tall & Associates, Inc.

### Trompette en Chamade (\$250-\$499)

John M. Agraz  
Thomas Flesher  
Father Robert K. Rien  
Susanne Rommel  
Christopher Tietze  
John Walko  
Timothy Zerlang

### Clarion (\$100-\$249)

Clara J. Co  
Charles Corum  
Gregory S. DeSantis  
Elizabeth H. Forsyth  
Jud Hammon  
Angela Kraft Cross  
Larry H. Marietta  
James Martin  
Natsuko Murayama  
W. Wayne Ritchie  
Allen G. Schell  
Jon Townsend  
William L. Vaughan  
William A. Visscher

### Hautbois (\$50-\$99)

Josephine Bennington  
Gary W. Jennings  
Reiko Oda Lane  
Stephen Luzmoor  
Helen Pereira  
Gary C. Toops

### Krummhorn (\$25-\$49)

Alan C. Black  
Gail M. Burnett  
Leilani Camara  
Jeanette Cool  
Robert H. Douglass  
Joseph A. Hansen  
Christopher Keady  
Martin A. Lilley  
Terry M. O'Connor  
Marian E. Ott  
Vlada Volkova-Moran

### Vox Humana (\$1-\$24)

*Thank you very much for your donations!* There is still plenty of time to send in a tax-deductible gift.

These lists were compiled from AGO National remit forms. September 2018 – August 2019

**San Francisco Chapter American Guild of Organists**  
**2019 – 2020 Season\***

**Bálint Karosi in Concert – Co-Sponsored with St. Mark’s Episcopal Church**

*Sunday, September 8, 2019, 4pm (after 3pm Evensong)*

*St. Mark’s Episcopal Church, 2300 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, CA 94704*

**Youth Organist’s Halloween Concert**

Directed by Angela Kraft-Cross

*Friday, October 25, 2019, 8pm*

*Congregational Church of San Mateo, 225 Tilton Avenue, San Mateo, CA 94401*

**Advent Lessons and Carols**

Directed by Don Pearson

*Sunday, December 1, 2019, 4pm*

*St. Ignatius of Antioch, 3351 Contra Loma Blvd, Antioch, CA 94509*

**David Briggs in Concert – 10th Anniversary of the Conroy Memorial Organ**

*Tuesday, January 7, 2020, 7:30pm*

*Cathedral of Christ the Light, 2121 Harrison Street, Oakland, CA 94612*

**Weicheng Zhao in Concert – Co-sponsored with Grace Cathedral**

*Sunday, January 12, 2020, 4pm*

*Grace Cathedral, 1100 California Street, San Francisco, CA 94108*

**Cathedral Hill Organ Crawl**

*(President’s Day) Monday, February 17, 2020, 10am*

*Organs of the Cathedral Hill, San Francisco*

**Piano and Organ: Angela Kraft Cross and Jerome Lenk – Co-sponsored with Mission Dolores Basilica**

*Sunday, March 8, 2020, 4pm*

*Mission Dolores Basilica, 3321 16th Street, San Francisco, CA 94114*

**Annual Dinner and Choral Concert – St. Mary the Virgin and St. Dominic’s Choirs**

Directed by Simon Berry and Eric Choate

*Monday, May 18 2020, 6:30 dinner, 7:30 concert*

*St. Dominic’s Catholic Church, 2390 Bush Street, San Francisco, CA 94115*

\* Start times might change and will be announced closer to the events



## Steve's Organ Lit Corner

by Steve Repasky

**A Second Easy Album for Organ:** six pieces by contemporary British Composers.  
Oxford Univ. Press, 1975.

The word "easy" in the title is a tad misleading and probably should have been "moderately difficult". An even better title for this collection should have been: I Can't Believe It's Not Rutter.

Anyhow, this delightful 20-page collection contains works by Paul Drayton, Alan Ridout, William H. Harris, David Lord, Herbert Sumsion, and John Rutter. I play three pieces from this collection: Drayton's *Pavane*, Harris' *Prelude*, and of course Rutter's popular and rhythmic *Toccata in Seven*, in 7/8 meter. The *Pavane* utilizes a Middle Eastern style melody with a brisk middle section in a major key.



## Review, from front page

I wish to thank The Reverend Blake Sawicky, Rector of St Mark's, for presiding at Evensong and hosting us; George Emblom, Eric Choate, the choir and the hospitality team of St Mark's; and Steve Wallace for setting up the organ music.



Matthew Burt and Eric Choate



Wei Cheng and her boys with George Emblom



Perusing boxes of free organ music



## Jacobsen, from page 2

the Massey and the 1893 Tallman mechanical-action organ in the Hall of Christ, and appeared frequently as soloist with the Chautauqua Symphony and Music School Festival Orchestras.

When not at Chautauqua during the summer months, Jacobsen served as director of music for First Lutheran Church in downtown San Diego, and as a member of the performing arts faculty of The Bishop's School, an independent college-preparatory middle and high school in La Jolla, California.

# Classified Ads

Collected by David Howitt

This information is provided as a service to SFAGO members and the employing institutions. Inclusion of information in this column does not imply endorsement by the SFAGO. Send **Job Referrals** items, **Substitutes Available** notices, and **For Sale** items to: dhowitt@sjbalameda.org. Deadline for the **November** issue is **October 10**. Online listings available at: <https://www.sfago.org/classifieds>

## FOR SALE

**CONN 650 THEATRE ORGAN** with pipes and Leslie Speaker. Three manual organ with 32 note AGO pedal board. Split expression and combination action. This model was the flagship on the Conn Theatre Organ line and comes with a Model 700 Leslie speaker. Asking price is \$1,900. Interested parties please contact Rick Larsen at 925.899.5683 or [rldlarsen@pacbell.net](mailto:rldlarsen@pacbell.net)



**NEWMAN BROTHERS PARLOR REED ORGAN** is available for free. Late 19th century instrument in need of T.L.C. Interested parties please contact [MarilynLewisHampton@gmail.com](mailto:MarilynLewisHampton@gmail.com)



## DONATION / FREE

**RODGERS AMERICAN CLASSIC 101** for donation to an individual or organization. Two manual and pedal organ fitted with Hauptwerk software. Pipes are integrated into the computer system. You must be able to move it yourself. Interested parties should contact Steve Bergstrom at [docskb54@aol.com](mailto:docskb54@aol.com)



**FIVE RANK PIPE ORGAN** from various builders is available, "for the taking, as is." This instrument is suitable for home or a small chapel and is currently installed at the Lakeside Presbyterian Church, San Francisco. The pipe work was assembled from various builders and includes unified ranks from an 8' Gemshorn, 8' Flute, 4' Diapason, 2' Principal, 2 2/3' Quint. There's a digital 16' Bourdon for the bottom octave of two pedal stops with a speaker included for the digital stop. The measurements are 40" deep, 100" wide and it will fit under a 9' ceiling in order to accommodate a full-length 8' Gemshorn. Additional space will be needed for the blower - it isn't self-contained in the area under the chest.

Interested parties should contact the church office to look at the organ and speak with Pastor Chris Gellini (415.564.8833 at Lakeside Presbyterian Church, 201 Eucalyptus Drive, San Francisco or contact Daniel Anderson at 415.969.0381.



**SFAGO Newsletter** is published monthly, August thru May, with a Summer issue for June/July, by the San Francisco Chapter, American Guild of Organists. Opinions stated herein are those of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect official policies of this Chapter. The deadline for receipt of all newsletter items is the 10th of the month preceding publication.

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2019-2020

Last updated 08/01/2019

# Bay Area Concert Calendar

Collected by Brian Swager

# October <sup>2019</sup>

Events, dates, times, and locations are subject to change without notice. Compiled from flyers, press releases, and listings submitted by members and organizations. SFAGO is not responsible for errors, although every effort is made to be accurate. Submission deadline for the **November** issue is **October 10**. Send event listings to [sfagocal@gmail.com](mailto:sfagocal@gmail.com). For the most up-to-date calendar, visit [www.sfago.org](http://www.sfago.org), click on **Calendar**.

## Recurring Venues

Churches and institutions offering programs on a regular basis have been assigned abbreviations so as to save space in our listings. Abbreviations are listed below with the full name of the venue. When no city is stated, San Francisco is assumed.

- CACK:** Ch. of the Advent of Christ the King
- CCL-O:** Cath. of Christ the Light, Oakland
- CSMA:** Cath. of St Mary of the Assumption
- GC:** Grace Cathedral
- MDB:** Mission Dolores Basilica
- SME-B:** St Mark's Episcopal Ch, Berkeley
- SPE-BU:** St Paul's Episcopal Ch, Burlingame
- TESPE:** Trinity & St Peter's Episcopal Ch

## October

### 5 Saturday

**8pm.** Ars Minerva: operatic vignettes celebrating women of the Mediterranean. Tickets (\$25-\$45) and info at [eventbrite.com](http://eventbrite.com) World Cultural Center, 906 Broadway

### 6 Sunday

**2pm.** Northern European Choral Music. Marigalchor Kiel; Friederike Wiebken, Director. Freewill offering. St Mark's Lutheran Church

**4pm.** Nicholas Capozzoli, Organ. \$10 suggested donation. GC

**4pm.** Christopher Keady, Organ. Widor Festival: *Symphonie romane*. Free parking. Freewill offering. CSMA

**4pm.** St Francis Animal Blessing. St Ignatius of Antioch Church Choir. St Ignatius of Antioch Church, Antioch

**5pm.** Robert Gurney, Organ. Music of Franck & Vierne. Freewill offering. TESPE

### 9 Wednesday

**7:30pm.** James Welch, Organ. \$10. Stanford Memorial Church, Stanford

### 13 Sunday

**4pm.** Katya Kolesnikova, Organ. Widor Festival: *Symphony No. 2*. Free parking. Freewill offering. CSMA

**4pm.** Marek Kudlicki, Organ. Preceded by Evensong at 3pm. Freewill offering. Reception follows. SME-B

**4pm.** Jerome Lenk, Organ. Music of JS Bach. 30th anniversary as Basilica organist. \$10 suggested donation. MDB

### 20 Sunday

**3pm.** Paul Jacobs, Organ. Music of Bach, Mozart, Ives, and Vierne. Tickets: [sfsymphony.org](http://sfsymphony.org) Davies Symphony Hall

**4pm.** Solemn Evensong & Benediction for Pentecost XIX. Schola Adventus; Paul M Ellison, Director. Music of Howells, Smith, Stanford, and Vale. Reception follows. CACK

**4pm.** David Hatt, Organ. Widor Festival: *Suite latine, Three New Pieces*. Free parking. Freewill offering. CSMA

### 25 Friday

**7:30pm.** "Hunchback of Notre Dame" Silent Film accompanied by Don Pearson. St Ignatius of Antioch Church, Antioch

**8pm. SFAGO EVENT** Youth Organists' Halloween Concert. Congregational Church of San Mateo

### 26 Saturday

**7:30pm.** James Welch, Organ; with Eleanor Muhawi, Erin McOmber, Christian Hales, and Nicholas Welch. Halloween Concert. \$10 suggested donation. St Mark's Episcopal Church, Palo Alto

### 27 Sunday

**4pm.** Alexander Ffinch, Organ. Free parking. Freewill offering. CSMA

## Looking Ahead

## November

### 1 Friday

**6:30pm.** Procession & High Mass for the Feast of All Saints. Schola Adventus; Paul M Ellison, Director. Music of Bach, Harris, Victoria, and Willan. Reception follows. CACK

### 2 Saturday

**11am.** All Souls' Solemn Mass. *Requiem* for choir, organ, and orchestra by David Briggs. Rudi de Vos, Director. CCL-O

**6:30pm.** High Latin Mass of Requiem for the Solemnity of All Souls. Schola Adventus; Paul M Ellison, Director. Gregorian chants including *Dies irae*. Reception follows. CACK

### 3 Sunday

**4pm.** Benjamin Sheen, Organ. \$10 suggested donation. GC

**4pm.** Raymond Hawkins, Organ. Free parking. Freewill offering. CSMA

**5pm.** Evensong. Organ recital by Chase Olson follows at 5:30. Freewill offering. TESPE

### 10 Sunday

**10am.** All Souls' Sunday. Mozart: *Requiem*. Choir of St Paul's & Chamber Orchestra. SPE-B

**4pm.** Amanda Mole, Organ. Preceded by Evensong at 3pm. Freewill offering. Reception follows. SME-B

**4pm.** David Troiano, Organ. Free parking. Freewill offering. CSMA

**4pm.** Eric Choate, Organ. \$10 suggested donation. MDB

### 17 Sunday

**4pm.** Hannah Tarley, Violin. Free parking. Freewill offering. CSMA

### 24 Sunday

**4pm.** Jin Kyung Lim, Organ; with the Amabilis Ensemble. Free parking. Freewill offering. CSMA

## December

### 1 Sunday

**4pm. SFAGO EVENT** Advent Lessons & Carols. Don Pearson, Director. St Ignatius of Antioch Catholic Church, Antioch

**5:30pm.** Advent Procession. Cathedral Camerata; Rudy de Vos, Director. Music of Batten, Palestrina, Distler, Gabriel Jackson, and Malcolm Archer. Freewill offering. CCL-O

### 7 Saturday

**5pm.** Advent Lessons & Carols. Choir of St Paul's; Susan Jane Matthews, Director. Melissa Dunphy *O Oriens*; Ēriks Ešenvalds *Magnificat*; Stephen Cleobury *Joys Seven*. Christmas CD Release Party at Reception: *Searching for Stars* SPE-BU

### 8 Sunday

**4pm.** Emma Whitten, Organ. Preceded by Evensong at 3pm. Freewill offering. Reception follows. SME-B

### 15 Sunday

**4pm.** Christmas Concert. Choir of St Paul's, Chamber Orchestra & Organ. Chiara Cozzolani *Magnificat*; Antonio Vivaldi *Gloria*. Tickets on sale in November. SPE-BU

### 17 Tuesday

**7:30pm.** Jonathan Dimmock, Organ. Messiaen: *La Nativité*. Freewill offering. CCL-O

## January 2020

### 5 Sunday

**3pm.** Jens Korndörfer, Organ. Music of Reger, Bach, Thalben-Ball, Foote, Decker, Dupré, Aubertin, and Guilmant. Tickets: [sfsymphony.org](http://sfsymphony.org) Davies Symphony Hall