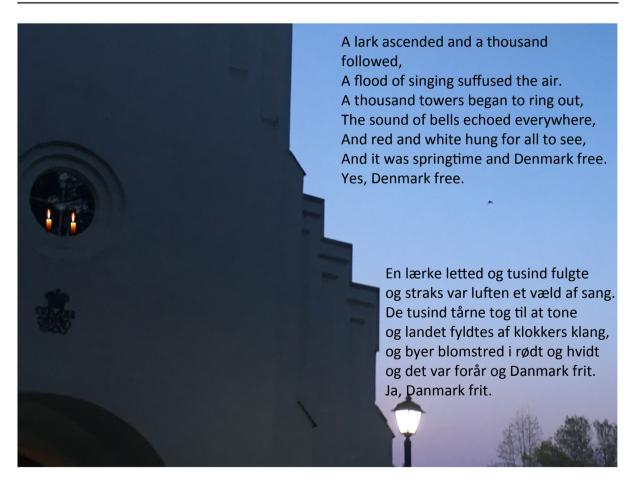


Kirkebladet

for den Danske Kirke i Vancouver, B.C.

May - June 2021 Nr. 3 – 86 årg.







Hvem - Hvad - Hvor

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The Kirkebladet is published by the Kirkeblad Committee of the Danish Lutheran Church 6 times per year. Kirkeblad Committee members are: The Pastor, Gwen Dahl, Ebba Gray, Søren Søndergaard, Sharole Tylor Donations to the Newsletter are very much appreciated. **Deadline for next issue is the 8th of June**



Pastor's Report

New rules and new restrictions... It's

hard on everybody by now but hang in there! If there is nothing else to hang on to, hang on to your faith!

Our faith is not some strength we have to find within ourselves; our faith is a rocksolid foundation based on Christ, lots of Spirit and our good Lord himself.

And this relationship goes way back. Our ancestors carried the testimony, and we have our history and traditions to help us through tough times and good times too. One of our most beloved Danish traditions doesn't go back more than 76 years. On the evening of May 4th Danes light candles in their windows to celebrate the liberation and end of WWII. This beautiful tradition is more emotional and powerful than ever this year since we are all longing for liberation. So, light a candle in your window and let us have faith that this too will come to an end. Another wonderful tradition this season is Danish Constitution Day. We usually have an outing and celebrate with music and entertainment at Scandinavian Centre, And Danish Constitution Day is worth celebrating! Because it's the birthday of our Danish Church. The Constitutional Act of the Realm of Denmark or in Danish: Danmarks Riges Grundlov is June 5th.

The queen is considered head of the church and the law states in § 4: The Evangelical-Lutheran Church of Denmark is the state church established by the Constitution.

Also, Pentecost is coming up. Pentecost means 50 and is celebrated 50 days after Easter on May 23rd this year. Pentecost is known as the birthday of the worldwide church, because this is the day when the Holy Spirit descended from Heaven 2000 years ago. The Spirit landed on the disciples like tongues of fire, and they were suddenly able to speak all languages and could unite Christians from all parts of the world in a holy fellowship.

Don't miss out on Ascension Day on May 13th! Ascension Day is for some reason not a Holiday in Canada, yet it's the day when Jesus ascended into Heaven and is definitely worth celebrating. Because this day in history means that Christ is now just as close to us here in Canada as he is to friends and family back in old Denmark. Jesus is no longer only close to his friends way back when in Jerusalem, but close to all of us; like we sing in the well-known children's song: He's got the whole world in his hands! So, no worries! Hang on to your history and all our traditions and hang in there! And if there's absolutely nothing else to hang on to, hang on to faith!

> God bless, Pastor Susanne



From the Board

It is a difficult time we are living in. We started to see the light at the end of the tunnel, and we were starting to plan for opening up the church again, then 2 days later everything was closed down, and now we don't know when we can open up. We just have to be patient and hope that it will come to an end.

At this time, I think that most of the congregation has had their first shot of vaccine, and that will bring the number of new infections down, and maybe then we can open the church again.

With the current regulations we are not going to be able to have our AGM on May 16th, 2021 as was mentioned in the last newsletter.

We are now calling the **AGM for July11th, 2021** at 1pm in the church.

This is just to give you an update because of the length of the delay. A special note will go out to the members 2 weeks before the meeting.

There is not much happening at the church so far this year. I am in the office once a week, and the board is keeping in touch via email and phone calls. We did have a very successful Spring Tea and Bake Sale lottery. We took in around \$9000 which is a lot more than we used to get. We **THANK YOU** very much for the way you responded to the lottery.

We are also receiving regular donations every month, which help keep the church running. It is not easy when the doors are closed, and we can't have any fund-raising functions. We want you to know that it is very much appreciated when the congregation still remembers their church.

Poul Erik with a little help from a few helpers, has been working hard to expand the Memorial Walk. If you haven't been by the church since we closed down, you might not recognise the front yard.

With the good weather we are getting now, we plan to start working on some outdoor services. At this time, we are allowed 4 outdoor services, so we could set up chairs in the driveway by the entrance to the church, but there would not be any socialising after the service and there would not be any singing allowed. We think it would be better than no service at all.

Be kind, be calm and be safe

Knud Nielsen President

Expansion of Memorial Walk

The very first plaque put down at the Danish Church's Memorial Walk, was for Pastor Immanuel Rasmussen on January 25, 2004. Pastor Rasmussen was the beloved pastor at the



former church on East 19th and Prince Albert for many years and he chose to stay in Canada after his term was over.

To date we have 100 plaques on the Memorial Walk with names on them, but work is being done to expand the Memorial Walk.

Our hardworking volunteer Poul Erik, welds in place the plaques so that they cannot be stolen, pours the concrete at his home to make the tiles for the path, and is down on his knees weeding. Did I mention that he will be 86 this year? Several board members were on the job last week in the sunny weather helping Poul Erik, tamping down the ground to make room for the tiles, etc.

Poul Erik tells me that including the new extension, we will have 55 spaces available for you to remember your dearly departed. I know where I will be after I leave this earth. My name will be on the plaque below my husband's name. He passed away a few years ago. If you want to order a plaque, please call the church office 604-298-6112.

Ebba Grey

If you already have a plaque on the Memorial Walk, please do not attempt to clean it, instead Poul Erik Rasmussen asks that you give him a call at 604-526-1233



Celebration of Life

Eric E. Erickson passed away January 3, 2021 in Vancouver. A small private memorial service was officiated January 23rd at Hamilton Harron Funeral Home

Jens Brøndum passed away January 18, 2021 in Burnaby. A small private memorial service was officiated March 17th at The Danish Church.

May they rest in peace and rise in glory!
Æret være deres minde.

Donations in Memory

In memory of *Jens Brøndum*

Gerd Mølhøj May Ishikawa, Lene & Willy Olesen Robin and Don Tabata Lori Davis

In memory of *Eve Lyth*Julie Forbes



Coming out of the Woodwork!

In a community like ours at the Church, there are lots of different skills. We come with different professional backgrounds,

both in terms of craftsmanship, knowledge and passionate hobbies.

Therefore, when the situation last year changed, we started our handcraft DIY group: 'the Man Cave'. <u>Not</u> that you must be a man to join us, but we had to come up with a catchy name.

We work mainly with wood, but we are open to expanding if someone wants to contribute other skills.

Our first project, Corona restrictions in mind, has been making a wooden family game.

Each of us worked in our own 'cave' making the parts and then, finally, putting all those parts together.

I scoured Craigslist to find the right wood. It had to be good quality, because it must be lovely to touch and look at. By the way, the game is called Quarto.

'The Man Cave' is interested in new ideas, but most of all we are interested in more members coming out of the woodwork! So, if you can hit the nail on the head, we need you in our

handcraft group.

Please call **Steen Larsen** 604 551 5063



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(Click on the link above to learn about the game! Email version only.)



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Many thanks to everyone who contributed to supporting our Church Paper.

Your generosity contributed \$450.00 to the paper.

Thank you, Margit Hansson, Treasurer

INVESTMENT POLICY

Anxieties yield At a negative rate, Increasing in smallness The longer they wait



Piet Hein



Knit2gether

The *Knit2gether* group is a handful of people who meet in the church library, when we can again, on the first Tuesday of the month. We knit, talk and socialize.

We knit Viking hats, socks, baby cardigans and blankets for both the Church bazaars and for the Scandinavian Midsummer Festival. Our popular Viking hats are the greatest thing since sliced bread! We sell Viking hats to local Danes and people all over B.C. We've even exported Viking hats to other provinces, the US and Denmark.

We have knitting colleagues on Vancouver Island who knit and send us their products and we are so happy about. The Viking hats are just a tremendous success.

We don't know how many hats we've produced, but one of our members, Ritta, has knitted 300 hats and counting!

When we started knitting the Viking hats people were skeptical. We knitted 10 hats and put them on the table to sell at the first bazaar – they were gone in 20 minutes! Viking hats are now pre-ordered for the bazaar. The Viking hats are unique and come in a variety of colours and sizes for every member of the family. Buy them now for \$20 [small, medium or large].

We also knit Nisse-hats, bow ties, daddy/ son ties; and so much more! We want to follow up on the success with new products. If you want to knit with us, please give me a call. Even if we can't meet you in person now, we can knit together.

Gerd Mølhøj





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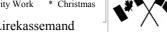


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Gudstjenester Maj - Juni 2021 Services

Rules and Covid restrictions are limiting christenings, weddings and funerals to 10 people (including pastor and organist).

That means most families decide to postpone baptisms and having a funeral for their loved ones.

Please accept my sincere condolences if you have lost a loved one! And congratulations to all new parents.

These are extremely difficult and challenging times when you just want to share special and emotional moments in life with friends and family!

Don't hesitate to call or send me an email if you have any questions or simply need to talk.

Pastor Susanne



If you would like to receive this weekly email, please advise ebba@shaw.ca.
You can click on the hyperlink above to see previous Greetings or type in the URL: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzxgN9ZB3yQsFE2Pp6p6QXA



Spring Lottery Winners!

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the tremendous success of the Church's Spring Lottery.

Tickets were drawn Saturday, March 27 at 2pm in the Church library.

HERE ARE THE LUCKY WINNERS:

1st Lisa Exley - \$1,000 from the Church Board

2nd Jef Poulsen - Celebration Basket

3rd Mogens Mogensen - Family Basket

4th Mette Yamaguchi - Easter Lunch Basket

5th Gert Nielsen - 24 stk smorrebrod

6th Joy Miller - Hansel Deli Basket

We'll be doing it again for the Fall Lottery. Thank you for your wonderful support.

