



Kirkebladet

for den Danske Kirke i Vancouver, BC

May — June 2023

Nr. 3 — 88 årg.

On May 4th 1945 the end of the occupation was announced on BBC radio. The Danish people celebrated by burning their “blackout curtains” and “letting the light in (and out)” once again after 5 long years. Another spontaneous gesture was the lighting of candles and placing them on the window sills. This was the eve of **Liberation Day** - the end of WWII, which became official the following morning on May 5th

*Service in honour of this
May 7th



THE DANISH LUTHERAN CHURCH OF VANCOUVER, BC
6010 Kincaid Street, Burnaby, British Columbia, V5G 4N3, Canada
www.danishchurch.vancouver.bc.ca



Hvem - Hvad - Hvor

Church Directory

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Pastor's Report

Dear congregation,

Is it just me or does spring always seem to be a lot shorter than autumn? During spring I believe we have so many things to celebrate that time simply flies. Whereas autumn lack such celebrations – at least in Denmark where we do not celebrate Thanksgiving and where Halloween only slowly is getting to be a tradition that we are getting accustomed to.

Starting with Fastelavn, spring shows itself as a season full of celebrations. Then Easter comes with all its various holy days where the love of God and life everlasting is proclaimed. All of this we celebrated in the church with two family services, one dinner service, one contemplative service and a festive service on Easter morning.

As if all these services were not enough, we also have a lot to celebrate during the second part of spring:

On the 5th of May Danes will celebrate both The Liberation Day and The Great Prayer Day – the holiday where you eat 'hveder'. On the 14th of May Mothers are celebrated worldwide – Fathers are celebrated on the 18th of June. On the 18th of May Ascension Day is celebrated in Christian churches. On the 22nd of May I will learn what Victoria Day is all about, and on the 28th of May

spring ends its season full of celebrations with the celebration of Pentecost.

The list of holidays simply does not stop – and so time does not stop either. Spring is over before we know it. And June as well since we are celebrating both The Danish Constitution Day on the 5th of June and Sankt Hans (or Midsummer) on the 24th of June.

I still think it is a little weird that this is the last year we are to celebrate The Great Prayer Day since the Danish politicians decided to remove the holiday from 2024 and forward, but it sure is not because of lack of holidays throughout the spring – we still have plenty of festive days to gather around. Festive days that will make sure that spring is over before we know it – in a good way. And I am also sure that Danes will find other days to eat their 'hveder'. I guess you might be able to take away the holiday from a Dane, but Danes will always find ways to make 'hygge' with food. At least that is my experience.

I look forward to seeing you all throughout the rest of the spring and the beginning of the summer. Do not hesitate with making notes in the calendar about our upcoming events – the months will pass before you know it.

With kind regards,

Pastor Carsten



From the Board

President's Report

This year is moving quickly as we are already into the second quarter of the year.

With the new pastor came a need for a refresh at the parsonage. New flooring was laid, along with a new high-efficiency furnace to ensure many useful years going forward.

The printer in the church office was starting to show its age. This printer was purchased over ten years ago and proved to be a solid work horse of a machine for the church. As we analyzed the replacement of the printer, it became clear that the same model of the printer met all the criteria we were looking for. Therefore, we decided to replace the old printer with a newer version of the same model which was installed in April.

Despite the significant expenses in the first quarter with these and other such purchases, the church is in good standing thanks to the generous gift from Granly at the end of last year.

As most members are aware, Bodil Nielsen has been the office secretary for the past twenty five years. She has been an invaluable asset to the smooth running of the church over the years. Bodil decided that it was time to hang up her shingle and at the end of March passed on the baton to a new office secretary. In thanks for her years of service and support we presented Bodil, on behalf of the church membership, with a cheque to use towards her upcoming travels. We will also have a cake for her in May so others can wish her well in her new ventures. I am sure we will continue to see Bodil's smiling face around the church in the future.

The new voice you hear when you call the office is our new church secretary, Penny Fraser. Penny has been working with Bodil over the last few months to ensure the transition was as painless as possible. So please welcome Penny to her new role as church secretary.

As of the writing of this report, we are preparing for events such as a Classical Guitar Concert by Mikkel Andersen from Denmark on April 19th, a visit from the Danish Ambassador, Hanne Eskjær on April 23rd, followed by a lunch for all the volunteers, and the Spring Work Party on April 29th.

The first Rummage Sale and Spring Tea since the Covid restrictions were removed, successfully took place in March. Thank you to all the volunteers who invested a lot of time to make these events successful. They would not have happened without your dedication and support.

The 88th AGM was held on Sunday, March 12th with a quorum of 44 members in attendance. A number of members were coming off the board and new ones elected to the board. One such person having left the board is Knud Nielsen. Knud has been President many times, for a cumulative sixteen years. Along with the new board, Knud continues to help as I get my feet under me in the role as president. Thank you to all the board members that are leaving for your massive effort in keeping the church functioning over the years. I also want to thank the new members of the board for their dedication and look forward to working with them going forward.

I would like to thank everyone that has helped to ensure our events so far this year have been so successful.

Continued next page ...

President's Report *(continued from previous)*

However, we need to be diligent moving forward in support for the church with donations, assistance around the church, helping with activities such as tea and coffee after church, lunches, and various activities hosted at the church.

With the easing of health restrictions, the return of annual events, and the planned new events we look forward to seeing more of you throughout this year.

Robert Taylor, President

Congratulations to our newly elected Board Members for 2023-24

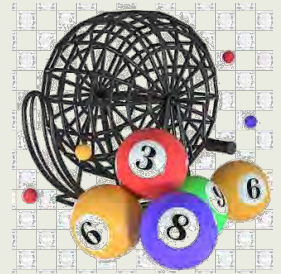
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- Treasurer — Ulla Prip Larsen
- Director — Karen Andersen
- Director — Jorgen Rohweder
- Director — Poul Erik Rasmussen
- Alternate — #1—Gyrithe Rickenbacher
- Alternate — #2—Ingelise Nielsen



SPRING DINNER 2023

Saturday, May 13, 2023 @ 6:00pm

R.S.V.P. by May 10th
to Penny at the office (604) 298-6112



\$35.00 gets you a delicious meal and 2 bingo cards

We are switching it up a little this year with some fun rounds of Bingo. Please come enjoy the evening of good food and good fun with your friends.

This year's dinner selection is hamburgerryg (smoked pork loin) and accompanying vegetables with an appetizer before, and of course dessert after of Ice cream and berries. Coffee tea and cookies.

Speed, luck and the right card — that's all it takes to win a prize.



Ground breaking for New Dania Seniors Affordable Housing Project

On Friday, Feb 10th, after a lot of work and some delays, the ground breaking ceremony was held for the latest addition to the Dania Campus. Even the sun was out, albeit was still cold.

There were speeches from BC Minister of Senior's housing, the Mayor of Burnaby, the MLAs for the Dania district. Several members of the BC Government and Burnaby City Counsel were present. After a brief ceremony, several notable people took turns using the supplied shovels to officially break ground for the new building.

All levels of government expressed confidence in the Dania Society's ability to not only complete the project, but also manage the building to the same high standard as the rest of the Dania campus.

Paul Christensen, President of the Dania Society, acknowledged that, after 80 years, the Dania Ladies Auxiliary has folded. The Mayor and the Dania President gave credit to the Auxiliary for all the hard work and great contributions to both the residents of Dania and the society in general. The Auxiliary helped make Dania Home a wonderful place to live.

After the ceremony, light refreshments were served outside the Carl Mortensen manner with a reception held in the lobby of the Manor.

... Sharole Tylor



Thank you!

It is time to say goodbye and thank you for all the support I have received these last 21 years I have been taking care of the church office. I have truly enjoyed it. It has been a pleasure to answer the phone and talked and helped the congregation from all over BC and beyond. It has also amazed me to see the generous support the Danish Church receives from all over. I was the person lucky enough to open all those donations coming in year after year. The Church would not have managed without the support. But now Penny Fraser is going to have the pleasure to take care of you and the office and I am sure she will do very well.

I sincerely thank the Board for their generous farewell gift that I received at the annual Board Dinner, I was truly surprised and grateful. Thank you for all the wishes for a happy retirement from so many of you.

In closing a joke from a Danish magazine: Hansen, recently retired, is out for a walk and meets a friend, who asks him how he is enjoying his retirement? Well, Hansen answers "retirement is fine, but I miss the weekends and holidays!"

Take care and smile . . .

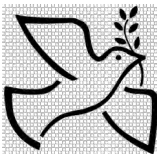
Bodil Nielsen

Baptism

April 9th: Miya Astrid Troen
Daughter of Miwako Watanabe
and Patrick Troen

Celebration of Life

March 15th: Lilly Bruhn



May 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 1:00pm Knit2gether (library)	3	4 9:30am Bible Study (library/Zoom) Noon - Ladies Aux. Mtg. (hall)	5	6
7 11:00am Flag/ Danish Liberation Day Service English  Lunch follows	8	9 7:00 Board Mtg. (library)	10 1:30pm Kom-Sammen Danish	11 9:30am Bible Study (library/Zoom)	12	13 6:00pm Spring Dinner Sign up now! 
14 11:00am Service English Mother's Day / Retrmt Cake  for Bodil	15	16	17	18 9:30am Bible Study (library/Zoom) 10:00am Dania Manor Service	19	20
21 11:00am Service Danish	22	23	24 11:00am Dania Home Service	25 9:30am Bible Study (library/Zoom)	26	27
28 11:00am Service English	29	30	31			

Pre-service Breakfasts

Come enjoy breakfast at **9:30am** before the service at 11:00am – **June 25th**.

Sign up on the sheet in the church hall or contact Doris by phone: 604-534-3707 or e-mail: knudnielsen@shaw.ca

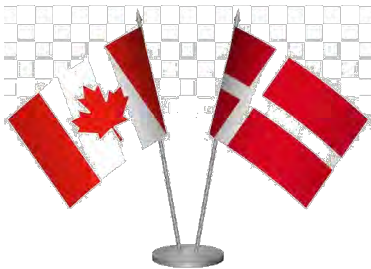
June 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>The service on Sunday, June 4th for Grundlovsdag / Constitution Day will be held at the Scandinavian Centre It will be a Danish and could be inside or out, depending on the weather. Bring your lunch.</p>				1 9:30am Bible Study (library/Zoom) Noon - Ladies Aux. Mtg. (hall)	2	3
4 11:00am Grundlovsdag / Constitution Day Service @ Scan. Centre Danish	5	6 1:00pm Knit2gether (library)	7	8 9:30am Bible Study (library/Zoom)	9	10
11 11:00am Service English Lunch downstairs Joint calendar planning mtg.	12	13 7:00 Board Mtg. (library)	14 1:30pm Kom-Sammen year-end outing Danish 	15 9:30am Bible Study (library/Zoom) 11:00am Dania Manor Service 7:00pm New Aux. Mtg. (hall)	16	17
18 11:00am Family Service English Joint Auxiliary mtg. following service	19	20	21	22 9:30am Bible Study (library/Zoom)	23	24
25 11:00am Service English Breakfast	26	27	28 11:00am Dania Home Service	29 9:30am Bible Study (library/Zoom)	30	1  Canada Day!

RECENT EVENTS

● On April 23rd the Danish Ambassador to Canada, Hanne Eskjær, and the Danish Honorary Consul to BC, Mikkel Strøjer, paid a visit to our church.

During coffee after the service, they both spoke and gave us a little insight into what they are doing. Afterward, they circulated among us for more individualized conversation, which this writer found very interesting and pleasant.



● On Wednesday 19th Danish classical guitarist, **Mikkel Andersen**, came to play for us as a part of his 2023 Canada Tour. Mikkel presented works by Bach, Villa-Lobos, Mangoré, Lauro, Tárrega and Albéniz.



There was a very good turnout for this concert. If we are lucky enough to have Mikkel back some time in the future, you should not miss it.



The lucky prize winners of the 2023 Spring Lottery were as follows:

- 1st prize Anne H. of Kamloops
- 2nd prize Eric B.
- 3rd prize Dana C. of Vancouver
- 4th prize Ritta S. of Burnaby
- 5th prize Inger H. Of Vancouver
- 6th prize Rose Marie B. of New West.

Congrats!

Thank you for playing!
Better luck next time for the rest of us



Kom Sammen

An afternoon of Danish culture and song — in Danish, of course — where the Pastor presents a “topic of interest” and conversation will ensue.

We meet in the Church Hall every 2nd Wednesday from 1:30 to 3:00pm for coffee and something sweet.



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24 Hours

Two internal meetings coming up in June:

Joint Calendar Planning Meeting — June 11th following lunch — representative Board members and Auxiliary members to discuss and solidify dates and events for the year ahead.

Joint Auxiliary Meeting — June 18th following Service — representatives from the various auxiliaries and groups getting together to discuss and coordinate efforts for the year ahead.



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Gudstjenester May — June 2023 Services



Church Services		
Sunday, May 7 th Pastor Carsten Hansen	11:00 AM English	Flag / Liberation Day
Sunday, May 14 th Pastor Carsten Hansen	11:00 AM English	
Sunday, May 21 th Pastor Carsten Hansen	11:00 AM Danish	
Sunday, May 28 th Pastor Clifford Reinhardt	11:00 AM English	
Sunday, Jun. 4 th Pastor Carsten Hansen	11:00 AM Danish	Grundlovsdag/Constitution Day at Scandinavian Centre (see calendar)
Sunday, Jun. 11 th Pastor Carsten Hansen	11:00 AM English	
Sunday, Jun. 18 th Pastor Carsten Hansen	11:00 AM English	Family Service
Sunday, Jun. 25 th Pastor Carsten Hansen	11:00 AM English	
Sunday, Jul. 2 th Pastor Clifford Reinhardt	11:00 AM English	