



Kirkebladet

November – December 2023
Nr. 6 – 88 årg.

In this issue

- Edmonton: 100 years and moving forward
- Night Church with The Beatles Sing Along
- Lucia practice and concerts
- In remembrance of...
 - All Saints Sunday
 - Remembrance Day
- Christmas Concerts:
 - Candlelit Concert
 - Big Band Concert

*We wish you a Merry
Christmas and a Happy
New Year*



The Danish Lutheran Church of Vancouver

6010 Kincaid Street, Burnaby, British Columbia, V5G 4N3, Canada

www.danishchurch.vancouver.bc.ca



Pastor's Report

It is a certain joy to write my page for this issue of 'Kirkebladet' as it is the first newsletter where I have experience with activities taking place. When we reach the 28th of November my family and I have lived in the country for a year, meaning that I have attended the activities that I am to write about.

To be honest, December 2022 is a little blurry to me. A lot of things happened – and a lot of things has happened since then. That said, it truly was a joy having a flashback to the time my family and I arrived in the church and the activities we attended during the first month of our Canadian life. Some of the pictures you find in this 'Kirkebladet' my wife and I took during our first month in Canada. I think that is wonderful.

This summer I went to two events that I want to share with you: First, the 100th Anniversary of the Ansgar Danish Lutheran Church in Edmonton. It was a lovely event. And I want personally to congratulate the congregation with their milestone. An article has been written about the anniversary that I hope you will enjoy reading.

Second, I attended the annual meeting of DSUK which gave me the opportunity to meet with three of my predecessors: Susanne Ivalo Rasmussen, Ruth Wegeberg Christensen, and Anne-Sophie Olander Christiansen. From all of them I pass on the warmest of greetings.

It was a true pleasure to meet with my predecessors. Not only did we get a chance to laugh together sharing stories and experiences, but they also passed on some of their wisdom and know-how that I truly appreciate. It will help me fill their shoes after them.

On the 17th of November the church will roll out the last of its new set of activities: I hope you will enjoy singing The Beatles together and have their songs interpreted in a Christian manner. Also, I hope you have enjoyed and value all the new activities that we have launched throughout the fall.

On behalf of my family and I, I wish you all a happy November and December and a Merry Christmas.



Contents

Pastor's Report	2
From the Board.....	4
100 years in Edmonton.....	5
Lucia	6
Night Church.....	7
Christmas Concerts.....	8
Candlelit Concert	8
Big Band Concert	8
Christmas Workshop.....	9
Christmas Family Service	9
Church Services.....	12
Baptisms	12
Funerals	12
Christmas Calendar.....	13
In remembrance of... ..	14
All Saints Sunday.....	14
Remembrance Day.....	14
Nine Readings Service.....	15
New Years Day Service.....	16
Danish Community Events.....	19
Church Directory.....	20



From the Board

This has been busy couple of months.

Thank you to everyone that has responded to the Fall Drive letter that went out around the end of August. This helps with the annual expenses we have since we are fully self-supported.

While attending the Ansgar 100th Anniversary in Edmonton in September, all the Canadian pastors and presidents had a meeting with the representatives from Denmark. One common theme that we are all struggling with retaining younger generations in the congregations. Carsten and I explained the initiative we have for reaching out to young families and were asked to keep them updated on the progress.

We have started to open up our new website to a few individuals in order to get feedback before we do a full launch in December. We are excited about the new look and feel for the website and expect it to be more user friendly for the internet savvy individuals while retaining the history and informative content of the existing one.

As with all things in this world, we have had to replace some equipment in the church. One significant item was the fridge in the kitchen. After reviewing the repair costs over the last few years, along with it breaking down again just before the Fall Bazaar, the board agreed that we needed to replace it with a new one. After consulting those individuals that use it the most, it was decided that two smaller fridges would be better than the current large one. As of this issue of the Kirkebladet we are still trying to make this happen.

This year has seen a whirlwind of change from new faces in the office to new faces on the board. As we move into the last issue of Kirkebladet for this calendar year we want like to thank everyone for their support physically, monetarily and through prayer. Through God's grace we work together as the body of Christ to help share his love.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the Board.

100 years with a Danish church in Edmonton

On the 17th of September pastor Carsten and the president of the board, Robert, went to Edmonton to participate in the celebration of the 100th anniversary of our sister church, Ansgar Danish Lutheran Church. Bjørn, Camilla and Ida participated as well.



Guests came all the way from Denmark. Among those were the newly appointed Bishop of Funen and the DSUK Churches Abroad, Mads Davidsen, the Dean of DSUK, Selma Ravn, and the president of DSUK, Anne Jensen.



It was a festive event, and a new altarpiece and organ were dedicated, something that was made possible due to the generous donation from the Granly Church. Bente and Manfred were present on behalf of Granly Church.

On the 16th of September the congregation had planned a Street Party. Music was played in and outside of the church, and people had a good opportunity to meet and mingle.

The church is located on a street with a lot of homeless people. They were invited as well and received free food and fun. It was a pleasure to see the church open to homeless during the celebration.

A huge congratulations to the congregation in Edmonton with their remarkable milestone.



Lucia

It is time to enroll if you want to participate in our annual Lucia Pop-Up Choir for children. No skills are required and there is no limit to the age. If you can participate in the practice and the performances, we would love to see you.

Lucia practice

The children will have five rehearsals following Sunday services:

- October 29th at 12:45-2:45pm.
- November 5th at 12:45-2:45pm.
- November 12th at 12:45-2:45pm.
- November 19th at 12:45-2:45pm.
- November 26th at 12:45-1:45pm.



Besides practicing the traditional Lucia pageant, the children will also practice a 'nisse' play. Songs will be in both Danish and English (but you do not need to speak Danish).

Lucia performances

The practice will end with three performances at three different Christmas events taking place in the Danish community:

Lucia at Dania Home

Following the last rehearsal, the Lucia Choir will have their first performance for the seniors at Dania Home at 2-4pm.

'Lucia Party' at the Danish Church

The children will perform their Lucia pageant and 'nisse' play on Saturday the 2nd of December at 7pm. From 6pm shops with Christmas crafts and homemade goodies will be open.



'Christmas by the Fireside' at the Scandinavian Community Center

On Friday the 8th of December at 6pm the Lucia Choir will perform their Lucia pageant and 'nisse' play as part of the 'Centers' Christmas celebration for children. Santa Claus will participate as well and it will be possible to buy Christmas sweets and drinks.



For more information and signup please contact Andrea at andrea.a.wardrop@gmail.com

Night Church

As a new initiative the church wants to invite the entire congregation for an open-church event called Night Church. It will take place on Friday the 17th of November from 7pm to 10pm. For every Night Church the church will be decorated into giving the room a specific atmosphere. Also, it will be possible to do various activities.



During the open-church a certain event or service will take place. For our first Night Church we have decided to make a Sing Along Service. Instead of hymns we will sing songs from a certain musician or band. On the 17th of November we will sing songs written by the iconic 60s band 'The Beatles' and the pastor will talk about how the songs relate to the gospel.

Christmas Concerts

During the month of December, we have several musical events taking place. Besides the Lucia Party and the Nine Readings Service, we have two concerts that will help you get in the right mood for Christmas.

Candlelit Concert

Join us on the 17th of December at 4pm for a lovely concert featuring music of the season with singing, choir, and instrumental performances. Also, the pastor will read for us a lovely Christmas story.

This year we have decided to move our concert featuring the choirs and musicians related to the church back to its original starting time at 4pm. This enables us to decorate the Church with candles giving the concert a cozy atmosphere.



Big Band Concert

If you pass by our church on a Tuesday evening you will notice that a Big Band is practicing in the basement. The band is led by a Dane and on the 12th of December at 7pm they will give a concert.

Get ready for Christmas with this lovely concert where the stage will be filled to the brim with brass instrument playing musicians.

Christmas Workshop

Do you want to 'bake' yourself ready for Christmas? Following the Sunday Service on November the 19th (between 2pm and 4.30pm) we will have our annual Christmas Workshop where we will bake all the traditional Danish Christmas cookies. It is kid-friendly, costs \$5.00 per family, and is a lot of fun.

Beside 'baking' us ready for Christmas, we will also be 'making' us ready for Christmas by crafting a lot of Christmas decorations. Have you forgotten how to braid a Christmas star? Make sure to turn up and you will get the hang of it with a little help from a friend.



Christmas Family Service

With two weeks left for Christmas Eve we will ease the excitement with a Family Service on the 10th of December at 11am. The service will be shortened, made kid-friendly, and following the service we have a Christmas Tree in need of decorating. Hope all children (and child-minded) will help us make it the most beautiful Christmas tree.

Also, the Family Service is the last 'class' of the first set of Mini Confirmation classes that we have had in the history of church. The children participating in the Mini Confirmation have met during the fall, and following the Christmas Family Service they will be displaying what they have been up to.



November 2023

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
			1 Yoga 10am/5pm	2 Bible Study 9.30am Ladies Aux. 12pm Mini conf. 4pm	3	4
5 All Saints Service 5pm	6	7 Knit2gether 1pm	8 Yoga 10am/5pm Kom-Sam. 1.30pm	9 Bible Study 9.30am New Aux 7pm	10	11 Remem- brance Day at Dania 11am
12 Service w/lunch (English) 11am	13	14 Board Mtg. 7pm	15 Yoga 10am/5pm Dania Hom. 11am	16 Bible Study 9.30am Dania Man. 10am Mini conf. 4pm	17 Night church 7pm	18
19 Service (Danish) 11am Workshop 2pm	20	21 Baby/Todd. 11am	22 Yoga 10am/5pm	23 Bible Study 9.30am	24	25
26 Service (English) 11 am	27 Swe./Can. Rest Home 10am	28	29 Yoga 10am/5pm	30 Bible Study 9.30am Mini conf. 4pm		

December 2023

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
					1	2 Lucia Party 7pm (shops from 6pm)
3 9 Lessons 11am Swedish Service 5pm	4	5 Knit2gether 1pm	6 Yoga 10am/5pm	7 Bib. Study 9.30am Ladies Aux. 12pm	8	9
10 Christmas Family Service w/lunch 11am	11	12 Board Mtg. 4pm Big Band Concert 7pm	13 Yoga 10am/5pm Kom-Sam. 1.30pm	14 Auxiliaries Christmas Gathering 7pm	15 Victoria Service 4.30pm	16 Nanaimo Service 2pm
17 Service (Danish) 11am Candlelit Concert 4pm	18 Swe./Can. Rest Home 10am	19 Baby/Todd. 11am	20	21 Dan. Man. 10am	22 Norwegian service 7pm	23
24 Christmas Service 2.30/4pm	25 Christmas Day Service 11am	26 Dania Hom. 11am	27	28	29	30
31 No service	Jan 1 Service 3pm					

Church Services

Baptisms

Brooks Dennis Holst Lalonde was baptized in the church on the 22nd of October.

Funerals

Inge Rasmussen was celebrated in the church on the 26th of August.

Henning Silberbauer was celebrated in the church on the 30th of September.

Eli Helena Heldal was celebrated in the church on the 14th of October.

Lars Heldal was celebrated in the church on the 14th of October.

If you are considering any kind of church service, please contact the pastor and he will inform you about procedure, availability etc.

If you have special wishes, we will do our utmost to facilitate whatever you have in mind.



Christmas Calendar

- **Christmas Workshop** on Sunday November 19th at 2.00pm.
A family friendly Christmas activity for the whole family.
- **Lucia Party** on Saturday December 2nd at 6pm.
The Lucia choir will perform the traditional Lucia pageant, and afterwards they will perform a small 'nisse' play.
- **Nine Lessons and Carols** on Sunday December 3rd at 11am.
Instead of a sermon the service on the 1st Sunday in Advent will consist of nine readings in both Danish and English with music in between each reading.
- **Christmas Family Service** on Sunday December 10th at 11am.
A shortened and kid-friendly Christmas service.
- **Big Band Concert** on Tuesday December 12th at 7pm.
Get ready for Christmas with a stage filled with brass instrument playing musicians.
- **Candlelit Concert** on Sunday December 17th at 4pm.
A lovely concert featuring music of the season and a Christmas story.
- **Christmas Eve Service** on Sunday December 24th at 2.30pm and 4pm.
Join us for the greatest services of the holiday with songs and readings in both Danish and English.
- **Christmas Day Service** on Monday December 25th at 11am.
The service will be in Danish.



In remembrance of...

All Saints Sunday

On All Saints Sunday – the 7th of November – our usual service will be moved to 5pm and changed into being a service where we remember and honor our loved ones who passed away.

The pastor will read out the names of all those who had their memorial service through, at or connected to the Danish Church throughout the year. Also, if you ask him to, he will read out the name of anyone you want to remember and honor.



After the service we carry candles out to the Memorial Walk and then supper will be served downstairs in the church hall. If you will be staying for dinner the price for the meal is \$15 a person. Please write or call the Church Office if you want to participate in the supper.

Remembrance Day

The church will participate in the celebration of Remembrance Day on Saturday the 11th of November at Dania Home. The celebration starts as 11am. Please contact Dania for more information.

Remembrance Day (also known as poppy day) is a Memorial Day to honor armed forces who died in the First World War, subsequent wars, peace-keeping missions, and other international military engagements.



*Tider skal komme / tider skal henrulle / slægt skal følge slægters gang / aldrig forstummer /
tonen fra Himlen / i sjælens glade pilgrimssang.*

Nine Lessons and Carols

Instead of a sermon the service on the 1st Sunday in Advent (3rd of December at 11am) will consist of nine readings in both Danish and English with music in between each reading.

The readings will tell us the story of Jesus all through the creation of the world and the prophecy of a savior to Christmas Eve. Having such a service is an Anglican tradition that we will try out for the first time.



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New Years Day Service

Happy New Year!

On the first day of the new year, we will have a festive service at 3pm followed by bubbles and 'kransekage'.

With the service we thank God for the year that has passed and look forward to the coming year with all its blessings.

We look forward to seeing you!



Please be advised that the Sunday Service on the 31st of December is cancelled due to a service the following day.



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Danish Community Events

- **Kroaften at SCC**
Friday November 3rd at 7pm.
- **Seniors Lunch at SCC**
Friday November 10th at 12noon.
- **Remembrance Day at Dania**
Saturday November 11th at 11am.
- **Christmas Kroaften at SCC**
Friday December 1st at 7pm.
- **Seniors Christmas Lunch at SCC**
Friday December 8th at 12noon.
- **Christmas by the Fireside**
Friday December 8th at 6pm.



In 2024 the Vancouver Holocaust Education Centre will set up an exhibition called "Rescuers" in which a significant part will pertain to the rescue of Denmark's Jews in 1943. They are currently looking for primary source material (original documents, photographs, artifacts, posters, newspapers etc.) and personal stories related to the following topics:

- *Rescue of Jews in Denmark*
- *Danish Jews residing in Sweden after leaving Denmark*
- *Jewish life in Denmark during the Second World War*
- *Deportation from Denmark to the Theresienstadt ghetto*

If you are able to help them, please send an email to 'research@vhed.org'

Church Directory



DANISH CHURCH OFFICE

Open 9am to 12noon on Tues./Wed./Thurs.

Phone: 604-298-6112

Email: office@danishchurch.vancouver.bc.ca

Secretary: Penny Fraser

PASTOR CARSTEN MØLGAARD HANSEN

Friday is day off

Phone: 604-521-8014

Email: pastor@danishchurch.vancouver.bc.ca

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C.F.C.: Camilla Sofie Ejsing, 672-999-7699, camilla@danishchurch.vancouver.bc.ca

Organist: Janet Mowatt, 604-987-8788, jamowatt@yahoo.com

Webmaster: Mogens L. Hansen, 604-320-0809, mogens@danishchurch.vancouver.bc.ca

Ladies Auxiliary and memorial coffee: Ebba Grey, 604-990-3550, ebba@shaw.ca

The New Auxiliary: Doris Nielsen, 604-534-3707, knudnielsen@shaw.ca

Memorial Garden: Poul Erik Rasmussen, prasmussen@danishchurch.vancouver.bc.ca

Søndags Skolens Kvindeforening: Lene Olesen, 604-539-7555, wolle@telus.net

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