



Kirkebladet

January – February 2024
Nr. 1 – 89 årg.

In this issue

- Millennials – who they are and why we need to understand them.
- Granly Legacy Funds – Scholarship.
- Spring Classes of Yoga and Mini Confirmation.
- Snowshoeing with the Youth Club.
- Fastelavn – Slå katten af tønden.
- Sing Along with ABBA.
- New Web Page.



The Danish Lutheran Church of Vancouver

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

www.danishchurch.vancouver.bc.ca



Pastor's Report

First, I would like to wish all of you a Happy New Year. May 2024 bring joy to all of us and to the church.

As you may have noticed, a lot of new activities were launched during the fall of 2023. I am happy to say that these activities have been launched with great success, and that the activities will continue to take place in the spring of 2024.

Most of the activities aim to attract a younger generation to our church. A generation (born 1980-1994) known as 'the Millennials'. As a new aspect of 'Kirkebladet' each issue will try to have a theme. And as the theme of this issue of 'Kirkebladet' it seemed obvious to talk a little about this generation – a generation I am a part of.

Many organizations – both in Denmark and in Canada – struggle to find volunteers to continue the activities that previous generations have established. To many, it seems that the young people of today – the Millennials – are not as willing to volunteer as previous generations. This is not true. They simply volunteer in a different way.

In my previous job in Denmark, I tried to investigate how the Millennials volunteered. Something I did for a year by asking all parents of children I baptized if they wanted to volunteer in the church. 80% said yes. A number that astonished me. By talking further with them, I discovered that what probably was the most important for them was that they could see the effect of their effort right away. Because of this, donating did not make sense to them. Nor did they want to volunteer simply because of good morals. What urged them to volunteer was if they cared for the matter and if they were able to trace a result.

The lack of donations and morals have made people say about the Millennials that they are cheap and selfish. Truly they are not. They are just devoted in a way that differs from previous generations. And in our efforts to include this generation into our congregation, I believe it is important for us try to think as a Millennial. Not for us to become alike, but because we eventually will need each other.



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There are valid reasons for few Millennial age Danes coming to the church regularly. Millennials have grown up in a connected world. They are less about in-person or face-to-face contact with others and more about connecting via smart phones and social media. They are less into reading books and more about searching the Internet. They would just as easily stream a current movie than go to a movie theatre. They are more comfortable being part of an online social group and have less desire to physically engage with diverse social groups like they would find in the church.

In this church, we have, on any given Sunday, mostly Silent Generations, Baby Boomers, and some Generation X people. We do NOT have the generation attending our church that will soon start to run this world or help sustain the Danish Lutheran Church of Vancouver, specifically Millennials and Generation Zs.

Thanks to the generous donation of Granly, that closed its doors because of this very problem, we have the opportunity to try and change things. Earlier this year we hired a Cultural Family Coordinator with a very specific five year plan to bring in more Millennials and Gen Z people. The goal for this first year is to develop a framework for reaching out to the younger crowd and start to build momentum. Year two - four have specific goals as to what we want to see

From the Board

“Millennials.” What does that even mean?

I have asked this question for years. It is becoming more important to understand the individuals that fit into this statistical gap we call “Millennials” and the effect they have on our church.

“Where have all the young men/women gone?” as the song asks. Where have all the young people gone from the church? We live in an intense time of technological change. As I write this report, I realize that the average age of our church is not from the Baby Boomers (1946 – 1964) but more from the Silent Generation (1925 – 1945). This means we are trying to span multiple generations to reach Millennials (1980 – 1994) and Gen Z (1995 – 2012).

happening in the Church with younger people. By year five the goal is to have many of our programs run solely by young people going forward, working along-side current volunteers to help exchange knowledge.

Best wishes for 2024!

Robert Taylor, President

president@danishchurch.vancouver.bc.ca



Thank you!

A big thank you to Andrea and Allison Wardrop for all the years you have been putting on the Lucia for the Danish Church. You have truly done an excellent job and kept the tradition alive for the Danish community. It is amazing how you can get these young kids to learn the Danish songs.

This year the group of children was quite young and not as many as before, but they did a wonderful performance. Also thank you to the parents for bringing your children.

Andrea and Allison have now decided to pass the reins over to someone else, and we truly hope someone out there will come forward and continue the tradition. It would be nice if the youngsters from this year could continue for years to come.

So, past Lucia participants or parents, do not be shy, come forward and let the church office know if you are interested.

Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



Granly Legacy Funds

The Granly Legacy Fund awards scholarships to further vocational or academic full-time or part-time studies. There are 5 scholarships at \$5,000 and 5 scholarships at \$2,500. The funds will be issued to the institutions the students will attend in the middle of August.

Preference will be given to an applicant with a connection to one of the local Danish churches (Granly Danish Lutheran Church or The Danish Lutheran Church of Vancouver) and/or having a Danish background through parent or grandparent.

Applications must be received by June 1, 2024 and should include:

1. Granly Legacy Fund application form.
2. Cover letter – Explain the Danish church and/or Danish family connection outlining as well your chosen line of future study. A maximum of two pages, typed.
3. Resume – Tell us about your education so far and also any awards that you may have received. Include general information about your work experiences, interests and community/volunteer experiences.
4. A transcript of latest marks from your current place of study - high school or other educational institution.
5. The applicant should provide one written reference from high school or college or university administrator (teacher, instructor) and one written reference from employer or volunteer supervisor. Should be current, dated and signed.
6. The application should be in pdf format and emailed to The Danish Lutheran Church: scholarships@danishchurch.vancouver.bc.ca.

The Selection Committee may request copies of originals, check documents for authenticity, and contact references.

The Selection Committee reserves the right to decline awarding a scholarship if there are no suitable applicants for the award.

The successful applicants and a guest will be invited to the Fall Dinner at the Danish Lutheran Church, Burnaby BC, in September.



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 bubbly 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.

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



Mini confirmation – Spring classes

Once again, we want to invite children of all ages to classes of Mini Confirmation. Mini Confirmation is a fun and creative activity for the children and their parents. You get to play and sing in the church, be creative and connect with a Danish community.

Each program of Mini Confirmation will consist of six biweekly classes. A program will be held in both the spring and the fall. The upcoming program will start on Thursday **February 22nd**. Every class will be from 4.30pm to 5.30pm.

During every class the children will create a little art piece that will be stored in the Church and shown at a little exhibition following the Family Service on the 2nd of June. Make sure to bring family and friends for the Family Service and the exhibition. After the exhibition, the children can take home their art pieces.

Deadline for registration is February 1st and admission is by free-will donation.



Yoga – Spring classes

During the fall we started having yoga classes in the church. Since it has been a great success, we will continue to have classes in the spring. We believe that – as a meditative form of exercise – yoga can help you grow both spiritually and physically. The church is happy that it can offer this to those of you who want to pursue this spiritual expression.

Yoga classes will be offered from the **21st of February** on two levels for twelve consecutive Wednesdays: Sitting yoga at 11am and hatha yoga at 5.30pm. Each class will last an hour and you must bring your own mat for the hatha yoga classes.

The deadline for registration is February 1st. Please write which level of yoga you are interested in. Admission is by free-will donation.



Youth Club – Snowshoe with the church

On the **3rd of March** we are inviting teenagers for a fun and active afternoon with the Youth Club. We will meet either in the church at 1pm (where you can get a lift) or at Cypress at 1.45pm. At 2pm we rent gear and go snowshoeing. After some good hours spent in the snow, we will end the day with a warm and well-deserved cup of hot chocolate.



The church will pay for the rental of equipment and admission will be by free-will donation. If you are interested in joining, make sure to let our Cultural Family Coordinator know.

If you want to register for any of the new activities please write our Cultural Family Coordinator, Camilla Ejsing, at camilla@danishchurch.vancouver.bc.ca

Sing Along with ABBA

In November, we held the first Sing Along service in the history of the church. It received great responses and people already started talking about which band or artist we should choose for our next Sing Along.

We are pleased to announce that our next Sing Along service will take place on the **22nd of February** at 7pm and will feature songs by the famous Swedish group ABBA. We have moved the event from taking place on a Friday to a Thursday hoping that this will enable more people to participate. If you missed our first Sing Along, make sure not to miss this one as the church – once again – will be decorated in all the colours of the rainbow.

During the Sing Along service the pastor will relate the ABBA songs we sing to the gospel. Following the service drinks and snacks will be served in the downstairs church hall.



Rummage Sale

Make sure to bring the big bike (or car) to church on **Saturday the 3rd of February** when we have our annual Rummage Sale from 11am to 2pm.

You never know what and how much you will find of used goods at good prices.



January 2024

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
	1 New Years Day Service 3pm	2 Knit2gether 1pm	3	4 Ladies Aux. 12pm	5	6
7 Service (Danish) 11 am	8	9 Board Mtg. 7pm	10 Kom-Sam. 1.30pm	11 Bible Study 9.30am New Aux. 7pm	12	13
14 Service w/lunch (English by Clifford) 11am	15	16	17	18 Bible Study 9.30am	19	20
21 Service (English by Clifford) 11am	22	23	24	25 Bible Study 9.30am	26	27
28 Service (English by Clifford) 11 am	29	30	31			

February 2024

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
				1 Bible Study 9.30am Ladies Aux. 12pm	2	3 Rummage sale 11am-2pm
4 Service (English by Clifford) 11 am	5	6 Knit2gether 1pm	7	8 Bible Study 9.30am New Aux 7pm	9	10 Valentine Dance 7.30pm
11 Fastelavn Family Service w/lunch 11am	12	13 Board Mtg. 7pm	14 Kom-Sam. 1.30pm	15 Bible Study 9.30am Dan. Man. 10am	16	17
18 Service (Danish) 11am	19	20	21 Yoga 11am/ 5.30pm	22 Bible Study 9.30am Mini conf. 4.30pm Sing Along 7pm	23	24
25 Service (English) 11 am	26 Swe./Can. Rest Home 10.30am	27	28 Yoga 11am/ 5.30pm Dania Hom. 11am	29 Bible Study 9.30am	29	30

Church Services

Weddings

Julie Kristy Marshall and Christopher James McLean were joined in holy matrimony on the 11th of November.

Juliana Craig and Alexander Marcus Andersen Hackney were joined in holy matrimony on the 12th of November.

Funerals

Annelise Zeuch Jessen was celebrated at Murrayville Cemetery on the 15th of November.

Pastors holiday

From the 11th of January to the 4th of February pastor Carsten will be on holiday. In his absence pastor Clifford will cover for him – not only on Sundays, but also if you need *emergency pastoral care*.

Please contact the office or the president if you need such care while pastor Carsten is absent.

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.

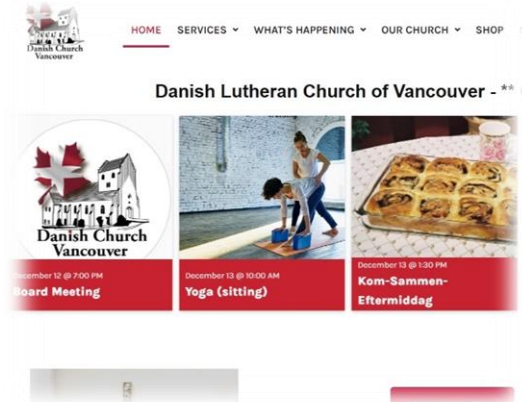


New web page

Have you visited our web page lately? You may have noticed that a lot has changed. A committee has been working for months to be able to launch a new web page.

The idea to refresh the web page we have been using and which has served us well forever, goes back several years but it turned out to be more practical to create a web page from scratch. We fully realize that it may take a little time to get used to the new layout but we, as committee members, feel that you will soon feel at home on the new site.

The committee – should you prefer the old web page – has made certain that the contents of the web page that Mogens Lemvig Hansen created (and which he has maintained for us during all these years), can still be found on the new site.



The new web page has gone through a lot of testing making sure that all the components would work as planned. Despite this if you find something that may not be working as you expected, please contact the committee at: help@danishchurch.vancouver.bc.ca

The current web page committee consists of Rob Taylor, Mogens Lemvig Hansen, Claus Sørensen, Sharole Tylor, Penny Fraser, and Jørgen Rohweder. We thank all the committee members for their tremendous contribution.

Valentines Dance

Bring a loved one to the church on **Saturday the 10th of February** at 7.30pm where we will have a Valentine's Concert and Dance featuring Linda Szentes and her fellow musicians.

For the first 45 minutes we will enjoy a concert and after a short break the band will play dance-inviting music. Admission by free-will donation.

The Danish Lutheran Church



Save the Date

Important future church dates we want you to reserve.

- **Annual General Meeting**
Sunday March 17th 12.30pm.
- **Easter Family Service**
Sunday March 24th at 11am.
- **Spring Tea and Bake Sale**
Saturday April 13th at 11am.
- **Queen Margrethe's Birthday**
Saturday April 20th.
More information to follow.
- **Spring Work Party**
Saturday May 4th at 8.30am.
- **Wild Play with the Youth Club**
Sunday May 12th 2pm.



Fall 2023 Lottery Results

- 1st prize: Recliner by ScanDesigns - Winner Garry D. Meyers
- 2nd prize: \$1,000 cash by Anonymous - Winner Ann Klausen
- 3rd prize: New Year's Eve Basket by T. Henriksen - Winner Peter Nielsen
- 4th prize: Deli Basket by Anonymous - Winner Pia Tofini Johnson
- 5th prize: Kageman by My Original Danish Pastry Baker - Winner Mike Rasmussen
- 6th prize: \$100 Save-on-Food by Anonymous - Winner Emily Svanholm

Thanks to those who donated the prizes – without your support there would be no lottery!



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**FASTELAVN
Sunday, February 11, 2024**

After the 11am Family Service on February 11, 2024, you are invited downstairs for our annual event.



We encourage everyone to dress up.

As usual there will be an opportunity to buy lunch.



- Pasta & Sauce, coffee, tea or juice — \$5.00
- Hot dog, coffee or tea or juice — — \$3.00
- Fastelavnsboller ————— \$1.00
- Coffee, tea or juice ————— \$1.00



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Vancouver	City Square	604-874-3481
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Monday, June 24	Cruising	T	
Tuesday, June 25	Icy Strait Point, AK	1:30pm	10:00pm
Wednesday, June 26	Skagway, AK 7:00am	8:30pm	
Thursday, June 27	Endicott Arm, AK (Cruising)		
Thursday, June 27	Juneau, AK 1:30pm	8:30pm	
Friday, June 28	Ketchikan, AK	2:00pm	8:30pm
Saturday, June 29	Inside Passage (Cruising)		
Sunday, June 30	Vancouver, BC, Canada	6:00am	



*Prices based on double occupancy in Canadian Dollars includes taxes and fees.
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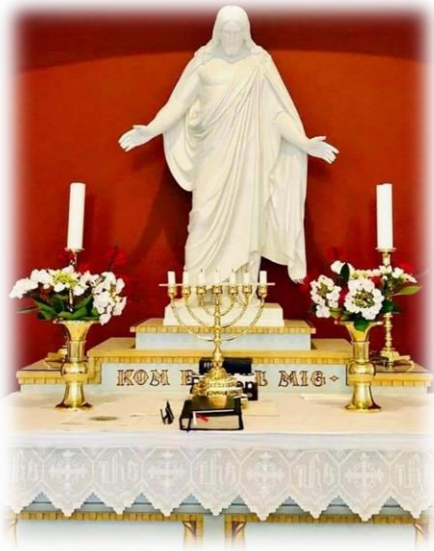
Tel: 604.299.2414
Fax: 604.299.7775

Danish Community Events

- **Kroaften at SCC**
Friday January 5th
Doors open 6pm. Food served at 7pm
For reservations contact:
danishhousesociety@gmail.com
Deadline January 2nd at 6pm.
- **Scandinavian Seniors Lunch at SCC**
Friday January 12th at 12noon.
For reservations contact:
tmolufsen@gmail.com
- **Kroaften at SCC**
Friday February 2nd
Doors open 6pm. Food served at 7pm.
For reservations contact:
danishhousesociety@gmail.com
Deadline January 30nd at 6pm.
- **Scandinavian Seniors Lunch at SCC**
Friday February 9th at 12noon.
For reservations contact:
tmolufsen@gmail.com



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

THE BOARD: board@danishchurch.vancouver.bc.ca

President: Robert Taylor, president@danishchurch.vancouver.bc.ca

Vice President: Gwen Dahl, vice-president@danishchurch.vancouver.bc.ca

Secretary: Ida Taylor, board-secretary@danishchurch.vancouver.bc.ca

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

Director: Karen Andersen, kandersen@danishchurch.vancouver.bc.ca

Alternate: Gyrithe Rickenbacher, grickenbacher@danishchurch.vancouver.bc.ca

Alternate: Ingelise Nielsen, inielsen@danishchurch.vancouver.bc.ca

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

Webmaster: Claus Sørensen, webmaster@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

Knit2gether: Gerd Mølhøj, 604-715-6025, gerdmolhoj@gmail.com

Kirkebladet: Bodil Nielsen, 778-592-0520, kirkebladet@danishchurch.vancouver.bc.ca