

Kirkebladet

May – June 2024 Nr. 3 – 89 årg.

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The Danish Lutheran Church of Vancouver

6010 Kincaid Street, Burnaby, British Columbia, V5G 4N3, Canada www.danishchurch.vancouver.bc.ca



Pastor's Report

One of the best things about being a pastor is the diversity of people you work with, and the variation in tasks that are to be done. A pastor conducts services and attends meetings. A pastor gives classes and has conversations. A pastor baptises and buries people. A pastor upholds traditions, while being innovative at the same time. A pastor – when time allows it – studies and attends all activities to tie everything together. And this is done not only in the church, but out and about as well. I tell you, being a pastor is fun – even when all of it squeezes together.

In March we had our AGM which made me look back at the year that had passed. New president, new secretary, relatively new pastor, new Cultural Family Coordinator, new bookkeeper, new landscapers, new... A person I saw on TV when I was a kid said that change always would lead to chaos. But this did not mean that one should be afraid of change – after all some changes are good. Rather one should accept being in chaos for a while and enjoy the benefits that eventually would come. At least so he argued.

I know a story about a guy called Noah. Once he was told that he had to face the chaos of change. He did not wish for it, but something simply had to be done. At least so he was told. He went through the chaos. Not at all at ease all the time but change simply was inevitable. When the chaos ended a new life awaited him. A life in which he found peace – peace through a blessing and a promise.

You are probably familiar with the story of Noah, and we can all probably agree that the changes that we have experienced in our church throughout the past year are not at all the same calibre. We still have activities that run just as in the good old days. We still are and forever will be 'The Danish Lutheran Church'. Nonetheless, throughout the changes that currently occur I find a huge comfort in Noah. At least he gives me courage to believe that as long as we remain true to our faith, chaos will always be followed by peace. Also, this courage is what makes me enjoy being a pastor despite all the diversity and variation that I experience. It all will be completed. What a blessing.







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From the Board

In case you were wondering, at the time of writing this report, 2024 started 2,328 hours ago. Last year had 365 days in it, while this year has 366 days in it. Some people may be having "runde" birthdays this year, while the rest will most likely have a regular birthday. A year in reflection...

Last year saw several changes in support infrastructure. After twenty-one years of running the church office, doing the church books, and ensuring the plants around the parking lot were properly weeded, Bodil retired. This left a large gap of knowledge and skill in the running of the church. In fact, the gap was big enough that we asked her to return until we could fill some of that gap with replacements. It took us over nine

months to finally plug that proverbial hole. Even now there are many aspects of Bodil's effort around the church we are still unravelling, which has us scrambling for patches. We are starting to turn the corner on this problem, but we have some months to go still. This will allow us to focus on other issues going forward.

Fridges in the kitchen that were failing have been replaced. The stove in the kitchen requires repair and retrofitting is being investigated. Thanks to the generous donation of Granly, landscapers were able to be hired to maintain our grounds each week. The printer in the office has been upgraded to better support the weekly and monthly printing that is required. Cleaning appliances such as vacuums were failing and have been replaced. As always, Poul Erik and recent recruit Steen have put in hundreds of hours to maintain the Memorial Walk which currently houses over 120 plaques. Jack has facilitated the cleaning of the outside of the church while he and Linda clean the inside of the church a couple of times a week. Major repairs and upgrades were accomplished at the parsonage to support our new Pastor and family. All in all, much work has been accomplished over this last year by our dedicated volunteers and support crew.

Various auxiliaries in the church continue to provide invaluable services to the community. The church held a Spring

Tea/Bake Sale and Fall Bazaar, along with workshops for Christmas. The auxiliaries are already planning for this year's events. The church has provided support for funerals, baptisms, and weddings. With proceeds from these events and additional donations, the church has been able to donate to the local food banks over the year. Among many other activities, the new auxiliary hosted the Spring Dinner last year. This year, to not have people driving home in the dark, the Spring Dinner has been changed to a Spring Lunch in May. The Sunday School auxiliary continues to sell embroideries and Viking hats, along with old klokkestrenge.

The music committee facilitated a few music events throughout the year. A few of these were classical guitar music by Mikkel Andersen, candlelight concert, jazz concert, and pop-up choirs. These events and others are planned again this year. With the help of Granly's donation, the scholarship committee has been able to setup a scholarship funding structure going forward.

Yes, it is a lot of work. However, we are all part of God's family, and we do all these things to glorify Him. Come and join us in making memories and preserving our Danish traditions.

Robert Taylor, President

Do you like the look of our new webpage? If you have any questions or recommendations, we would love to hear from you on email: help@danishchurch.vanocuver.bc.ca



New board members

At the AGM, four new board members were elected. We especially want to welcome the two newest and youngest members of the board who are elected for the first time:

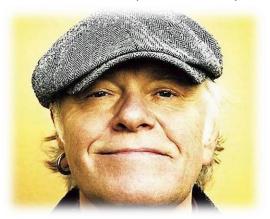
Cydney Rasmussen and Maren Collins.

Kim Larsen Sing-Along

It is time for another Night Church. This time we will have yet another Sing-Along Service, only this time we will sing songs by the famous Danish songwriter, Kim Larsen. Because of this, the songs will be in Danish. The sermon and 'hygge' will be in English though.

If you have not attended any of our Night Church events before, it is an evening where the church will be decorated in various colours to make a cozy and unique atmosphere. During the Sing-Along Service, the pastor gives a sermon on the songs of the artist we have selected. After the service, there will be time to chat and mingle over a drink.

The event will take place in the hall enabling people to have a drink while we sing and listen. The event will start at 7pm on Thursday the 6th of June.





Granly Legacy Fund

A quick reminder about the application for the Granly Legacy Fund's Scholarships. Deadline is June 1st 2024.

Application forms can be downloaded from the website.



Liberation Service / Spring Lunch

As usual we will celebrate the Danish Liberation Day during a service (see the picture on the front). This year we are lucky that May 5th is a Sunday making it the day for our festive and honouring event with national songs and flags.

Also, this year our service will be followed by a lunch. Previous years you might have attended our Spring Dinner. This year, we have converted it into a lunch, and thought it would be a lovely addition to our celebration of the Liberation. Please see the ad below for details.



Concert with Danish guitarist Mikkel Andersen

Once again, we are pleased to invite all of you to a concert with the Danish Guitarist, Mikkel Andersen. On Wednesday May 22nd at 7pm he will play a set of music for us entitled "Life Dance - the poetic guitar."

His concert will include pieces written by Johann Sebastian Bach, Miquel Llobet, Francisco Tarrega, Agustín Barrios Mangoré, and Isaac Albéniz. After the concert there will be refreshments downstairs.



Mom 'n Me – New event for babies and toddlers

In the church we are happy to see families with kids attending our activities and services. To make families feel even more welcome, we want to launch a new activity called 'Mom n' Me' where parents can bring their toddlers to the church for a fun activity with hymns and plays followed by 'hygge' and chats.

In Denmark, all parents are invited to attend what is known as a 'mødregruppe'. One of the most popular events these groups participate in, is called 'babysalmesang'. In Denmark, most babies start in Day Care before they turn 1, but since many parents here in Canada wait a little longer, we would like to offer an activity aiming for – not only babies – but toddlers and their parents (or grandparents) as well.

If it sounds intriguing, watch our promotion video on our Facebook site (called 'Danish Lutheran Church of Vancouver') – scan the QR-code. Our first event will take place on Tuesday 21st of May at 11am and we will strife to meet monthly.





Wild Play with the Youth Club

Finally, the weather allows us to be outside enabling us to enjoy the glorious nature that surrounds us. Because of this, the next event for teenagers that we would like to invite them to, will take place at the Wild Play in Maple Ridge on Saturday 25th of May at 11am.

The church will pay for lunch and entrance fee and will coordinate carpooling. Please let the Cultural Family Coordinator know if you want to join no later than the 20th of May.

Beer 'n Boardgames – New event for young adults

We have noticed that people on the Facebook site called 'Danes in Vancouver' have been asking about events for young adults. Events where people can either meet fellow Danes who have taken the same crazy decision to move more than 7.000 km away from home, Danes who are here either studying or working for a limited time, or Danes whose parents took the decision of moving some years ago.

As the local Danish church, we truly want to facilitate this, and would therefore like to invite all young adults to such an event in the parsonage on Friday 10th of May at 7pm. We have called the event 'Beer 'n Boardgames', but you do not have to play boardgames to participate. It is all about being social (and sometimes boardgames can help in that).

We look forward to seeing you.

If you want to register (or just have questions) for either 'Mom 'n Me', 'Wild Play' and/or 'Beer 'n Boardgames', please write our Cultural Family Coordinator at:

camilla@danishchurch.vancouver.bc.ca / 672-999-7699

All the events of our Cultural Family Coordinator are by free-will donation.

Disney Family Service

Inspired by our Sing-Along Services, we want to invite all kids, parents and grandparents to the church for a Disney Family Service where we will sing a lot of songs known from Disney movies. During the service, these songs will be related to the gospel by the pastor.

We encourage all to come dressed up as their favorite character, and following the service there will be fun activities and food. It will take place on Sunday May 26^{th} at 11am.



May 2024

| Sun. | Mon. | Tue. | Wed. | Thu. | Fri. | Sat. |
|--|---|-------------------------|--|---|------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| | | | 1 Yoga 11am/5pm | Bib. Study 9:30am Ladies Aux. 12pm Mini conf. 3.30pm | 3 | 4 |
| 5 Liberation Service (English) 11am Spring Lunch 1pm | 6 | 7 Knit2gether 1pm | 8 Yoga 11am/5pm Kom-Sam. 1:30pm | 9 Bib. Study 9:30am New Aux 7pm | 10 Beer 'n Boardgames 7pm | 11 |
| 12 Service (English) w/lunch 11am | 13 | 14 Board Mtg. 7pm | 15 Yoga 11am/5pm | 16 Bible Study 9:30am Dania M. 10am Mini conf. 3.30pm | 17 | 18 |
| 19 Pentecost Service (Danish) 11am | 20 | 21 Mom 'n me 11am | 22 Dania H. 11am Concert w/ Mikkel A. 7pm | 23 Bible Study 9:30am | 24 | 25 Wild Play 11am |
| 26 Disney Family service (English) 11am | 27 Swe./Can. Rest Home 10:30am | 28 | 29 | 30 Bible Study 9:30am | 31 | 1 |

June 2024

| Sun. | Mon. | Tue. | Wed. | Thu. | Fri. | Sat. |
|--|---|-------------------------|----------------------------------|---|------|---------------------------------|
| Grundlovsdag Celebration and Service at SCC (Danish) 11am | 3 | 4 Knit2gether 1pm | 5 | 6 Ladies Aux. 12pm Kim Larsen Sing-Along 7pm | 7 | 8 |
| 9 Service (English) w/lunch 11am | 10 | 11 Board Mtg. 7pm | 12 Kom-Sam udflugt 11am | 13 New Aux 7pm | 14 | 15 |
| 16 EM-Soccer w/breakfast 9am Service (Danish) 11:15am | 17 | 18 Mom 'n me 11am | 19 | 20 EM-Soccer 9am Dan. M 10am | 21 | Midsummer Festival at SCC |
| 23 Midsummer Festival at SCC (No service) | 24 Swe./Can. Rest Home 10:30am | 25 EM-Soccer 9am | 26 Dania H. 11am | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 Service (English) w/confirma- tion 11am | | | | | | |

Church Services

Funerals

Erik Heinrich Esmann was celebrated in the church on the 20th of March.





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.



Save the Date

Important future church dates we want you to reserve.

Enrollment for Confirmation

If you know a teenager who would like to be confirmed in the church, the next issue of Kirkebladet will have information about this.

Pastor's summer vacation

Our pastor will be on holiday from the 30th of July to the 20th of August. It will be possible to arrange services with Pastor Clifford who also will be covering on Sundays, but if you prefer Pastor Carsten to conduct any service, please be aware of his vacation.

We wish you all a splendid summer.







Spring 2024 Lottery Results

1st Prize: \$1,000 (Anonymous)

2nd Prize: \$200 Gift Card (Hart House Restaurant)

3rd Prize: \$200 to SaveOn Foods (Anonymous)

4th Prize: 28 Smorrebrod (Anonymous)

5th Prize: Gift Basket SaveOn Foods (Anonymous)

6th Prize: Gift Basket (Hansel Deli, Cloverdale)

won by Janet Tricarico, North Burnaby won by Claire Rohweder, Vancouver won by Sharon Turner, Coquitlam won by Lily Kennedy, Burnaby won by Gert B. Nielsen, Port Coquitlam won by Lisbeth Davidson, Powell River

Congratulations to all the winners, thanks to all who donated, and thanks to all who participated. Our next lottery will be at the Fall Bazaar.



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The Scandinavian Community Centre

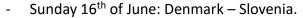
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e-mail: info@scancentre.org

EM-Soccer live in the Church

Do you enjoy watching soccer as much as our pastor? Are you just as excited about the Danish National Team qualifying for the European Championship? And do you miss a place to watch the games with fellow Danes? Well, your prayers have been answered. Denmark's three matches will be shown on the big screen in the church hall:



- Thursday 20th of June: Denmark England.
- Tuesday 25th of June: Denmark Serbia.



All matches kick-off at 9am and on Sunday 16th it will be possible to pre-order a breakfast buffet (\$10). Call the office to pre-order. The Sunday Service starts when the whistle blows.



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Danish Community Events

Kroaften at SCC

Friday May 3rd
Doors open 6pm. Food served at 7pm.
For reservations contact:
danishhousesociety@gmail.com
Deadline April 30th at 6pm.

Seniors Luncheon at SCC

Friday May 10th at 12noon. For reservations contact: tmolufsen@gmail.com

Spring Clean Up Day at SCC

Saturday May 11th
9am to 3pm (breakfast served at 8.30 and lunch served at 12.30)
Please notify the office at SCC if you plan to come:
info@scancentre.org

Kroaften at SCC

Friday June 7th
Doors open 6pm. Food served at 7pm.
For reservations contact:
danishhousesociety@gmail.com
Deadline May 28th at 6pm.

Seniors Luncheon at SCC

Friday June 14th at 12noon. For reservations contact: tmolufsen@gmail.com

*SCC = Scandinavian Community Center







'Grundlovsdag' Picnic

We will celebrate the Danish Constitution Day together with the Danish House Society at the Scandinavian Community Center. We will move our service to the great hall at the center, and they will set up for a cozy outdoor picnic.

Date: Sunday, June 2, 2024

10:30am: Arrive with your picnic baskets to our setting of tables and chairs in

the tented area on the field.

11:00am: Church Service performed by Pastor Carsten Molgaard Hansen.

12noon: Games on the field for the Children.

Midsummer Festival

This years' Midsummer Festival will take place on Saturday 22nd and Sunday 23rd of June at the Scandinavian Community Center. The Midsummer Festival is their biggest event of the year, and it attracts more than 3,000 visitors yearly.

Last year, we wanted to be present as a church throughout the festival. We achieved this by putting a church service in a bag and handed the bags out during the festival (cancelling the ordinary service). We will once again do this and look forward to seeing you.





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, rtaylor@danishchurch.vancouver.bc.ca

Vice President: Ingelise Nielsen, inielsen@danishchurch.vancouver.bc.ca

Secretary: Ida Taylor, itaylor@danishchurch.vancouver.bc.ca

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Director: Steen Larsen, slarsen@danishchurch.vancouver.bc.ca

Director: Tove Markussen, tmarkussen@danishchurch.vancouver.bc.ca **Director:** Poul Erik Rasmussen, prasmussen@danishchurch.vancouver.bc.ca

Alternate: Maren Collins, mcollins@danishchurch.vancouver.bc.ca

Alternate: Cydney Rasmussen, crasmussen@danishchurch.vancouver.bc.ca

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

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

 $\textbf{Memorial Garden:} \ Poul \ Erik \ Rasmussen, \ prasmussen@danishchurch.vancouver.bc.ca$

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