



KIRKEBLADET

January -February 2026

Nr. 1 – 91 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

Some people fear chaos. I am not one of those. Rather opposite. I like change – or chaos – to stir me up every now and then. It keeps me awake and aware. It keeps making me reflect upon my past, my present, and my future. And in a spiritual sense, I believe it helps me appreciate the divine stability provided by God.

That said, there are certain things that I prefer staying untouched. My morning cup of coffee is one of them. I still look back with dread on the day where I poured oats in my coffee machine and beans in my bowl which I did not discover until I looked at the grayish substance in my coffee mug (the same mug every morning of course). I went straight back to bed.

I believe we all have certain things, traditions, and ways that we care about and would prefer left untouched. Also, our level of how to deal with chaos differs. No level is better than the other just as things, traditions, and ways cannot be measured. This I find to be true. But it leaves us with a dilemma: When change is forced upon us, how do we work together for the better? Because will not some immediately get creative whereas others will try to mend or adjust the old.

Well, as with most things, a balance probably is the best way forward. After all, you do not want someone heading straight to bed as the rest – the ones like me – get too creative. Nor would you want two trains running simultaneously in opposite directions as this would be counter productive. No. One would prefer all hands on deck in a time of chaos.

From working in a church environment where change seems to only happen slowly and in a limited way, I have come to appreciate and respect all who do not like chaos. It has pros as well – especially when both ends meet and communication is a success. Therefore, If you ever find me running too fast in the new year, please let me know and make me slow down – let us communicate. I do not intend to drive faster than the regulations, but sometimes I just get eager (as we all do when something is important to us).



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Photos, top to Bottom:

Dora Jorgensen, maker of the Advent Wreath,
(she is 103 years old)

Big Band Concert in Church Hall

Pastor hanging out with Lucia Choir at Rehearsal



From the Board

The end of another year and the beginning of new experiences.

Over the last year we have had a large amount of change. Mostly infrastructure changes that people would not necessarily be aware of. I want to once again thank all those volunteers who tirelessly work to keep our church looking good and functioning well.

Recently we have installed a community Book Exchange. You have probably seen these around, small shelf-like stands where people can look through the books, take a book to read, drop off a book for others to read. What makes ours special is that it is a replica of the church itself. Steen Larsen made an amazing miniature model of the

church to put in front of the church. In addition to books, Carsten has taken the opportunity to display the monthly poster of events in the Book Exchange.

This past year we have had quite a number of community events such as the Spring Tea and Bake Sale, Fall Bazaar, Liberation Day Dinner, Mortens Aften Dinner, Lucia Festival, Big Band Concert, Mid-Summer Festival Booth, Rummage Sale, Terry Fox Run Walk Roll, Harvest Dinner, Christmas Workshop, and Christmas Concert. I am sure I am missing others. All these events take time and energy and we are always looking for individuals that would like to help out. If you have time and would like to join our community of volunteers, please call the office and let us know.

We are looking forward to this coming year. A Royal Run is planned to coincide with the one in Denmark. We are planning a Family Afternoon in January where we will be serving spaghetti. Who does not like spaghetti? The usual events will still be held as well. We are hoping to open avenues of community support for people that want to connect with others.

We continue to support outreach activities through existing organizations such as the Whole Way House whenever we can.

Just because a year has ended, we do not relax and just say "Well done." There is more to do to help those who are looking for support.

Join us this year in making a difference for those that do not have support, for those that do not have a community to belong to.

Join us this year in saying, "Let's Go!"

Happy 2026!

Rob.

Fastelavn

The English word for Fastelavn is Shrovetide.

Fastelavn used to be a party that started the period of Lent. The purpose of this unique tradition was to scare off evil before one started to fast.

On Sunday, February 15th, there will be a Family Service in the church at 11am.

At 11:45 it will be time to 'slå katten af tønden' in the downstairs hall and eat 'fastelavnsboller'! At one time the barrel held a black cat, which represented evil, fortunately now, we can swing at a barrel, which is filled with candy instead.

It will be possible to buy food to go with the 'fastelavnsboller'.

Come in your favourite costume...

or goofy hat. 🧢



Even though The Sunday School is not currently operating, the Sunday School Auxiliary gave \$2550 to the church this year!

AGM

The 91st Annual General Meeting of the Danish Lutheran Church at 1pm:

- Sunday, April 12, 2026
- According to bylaws, membership deadline is January 12, 2026 (90 days prior)
- Digital membership cards will be emailed by end of 2025

If you are interested in serving on the Church Board and are a current member, please contact the Nomination Committee
Ebba Grey (ebba@shaw.ca)
or Ingelise Nielsen
(inielsen@danishchurch.vancouver.bc.ca)
or the Pastor



Re-Connecting

I feel fortunate to be employed in the Church Office. My parents, Anne and Fred Pagh, were very active in the church, and being here connects me to my family and childhood memories.

With parents gone, or aging, and less time required for young families, lets get together. Reach out to schaffe@danishchurch.vancouver.bc.ca if you are interested,. we can create a group...and then make plans.



-Susanne Pagh Chaffe (Confirmation Class of 1976)

Church Services

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.



Pastor's Spring Break

Our pastor will be on holiday from the 11th of March to the 29th of March. In his absence, it will be possible to arrange services with a substitute Pastor by contacting the office.



Family Afternoon

Calling all parents and children! On **Saturday the 10th of January at 4pm** we would like to invite families to the church for a fun afternoon and evening. We will start the day with an interactive *service*. Then we will play some *games* and make some *crafts*. And to send all home on full stomachs, we will finish the event with *Spaghetti*!

As a theme, the service, games, and crafts will all be focusing on *New Year*. We will talk about good and bad in the past, expectations for the future, and about always remembering to be in the present.

Also, we will need to decorate a fabulous New Year dinner table for the spaghetti.



Save the Date

Important future church dates we want you to reserve.

- **Spring Work Party, March 7th**

Come help us keep the Church nice and clean. Breakfast will be served 9.30am. Cleaning will begin 10am. Lunch will end the day at 12noon.



- **AGM, April 12th**

We will have our Annual General Meeting at 1pm following an English Service.



- **Spring Tea and Bake Sale, April 18th**

If your sweet Danish tooth has not been satisfied in a while, come by the church for lovely 'lagkage' and other treats.



January 2026

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
				1 New Year's Service 3pm	2	3
4 Service (Danish) 11am	5	6 Knit2gether 1pm	7	8 Bible Study 9:30am Ladies Aux. 12noon	9	10 Family Afternoon 4 – 6:30pm
11 Service (English) 11am Lunch Games	12	13 New Auxiliary 12:30pm	14 Kom-Sam. 1:30pm	15 Bible Study 9:30am Dania Manor Service 10:30am	16	17
18 Service (Danish) 11am	19	20	21 Movie Afternoon Lunch 11:30 Movie 12:30	22 Bible Study 9:30am	23	24
25 Service (English) 11am	26 Swe./Can. Rest Home 10:30am	27 Board Mtg. 7pm	28 Dania Home 11am	29 Bible Study 9:30am	30 College and Career TBA	31

February 2026

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
1 Service (Danish) 11am	2	3 Knit2gether 1pm	4	5 Bible Study 9:30am Ladies Aux. 12noon	6	7
8 Service (English) 11am Lunch Games	9	10 New Auxiliary 12:30pm	11 Kom-Sam. 1:30pm	12 Bible Study 9:30am	13	14
15 Family Service and Fastelavn 11am	16	17	18 Movie Afternoon Lunch 11:30 Movie 12:30	19 Bible Study 9:30am Dania Manor Service 10:30am	20	21 Rummage Sale 11am-2pm
22 Service (English) 11am	23 Swe./Can. Rest Home 10:30am	24 Board Mtg. 7pm	25 Dania Home 11am	26 Bible Study 9:30am	27 Col/Car Cypress Mountain	28

Rummage Sale



Throughout the year people donate so many wonderful items to the church. There will be all kinds of treasures and bargains for sale at very reasonable prices on:

Saturday, February 21st

From 11am to 2pm



This event is hosted by the Ladies' Auxiliary, a group that has been contributing since the 1930's. In addition, they set up and serve coffee at funerals. Most recently this group handed over a cheque for **\$4000!**

Please contact Ebba Grey
ebba@shaw.ca if you wish to join.

Church Bazaar and Fall Lottery

Even with a Postal Strike, we still managed to sell tickets for \$3,175.00. Well done! Thank you to everyone, especially to those who came by to get tickets and drop money off in advance, buy tickets over the phone, and to Janet Mowatt who took tickets to sell at the Vancouver Island Thanksgiving services.

This years' winners are:

- 1st prize: Tove Jorgensen, Surrey, BC (Stressless Chair with Footstool donated by Scandesigns)
- 2nd prize: Tom Russell, Victoria, BC (\$1000)
- 3rd prize: Susanne Berry, West Vancouver, BC (New Year's Basket including Kransekage baked by Ted Henriksen)
- 4th prize: Poul Erik Rasmussen, Burnaby, BC (Georg Jensen Christmas ornaments)
- 5th prize: Kirsten Klausen, Powell River, BC (\$125 Deli Basket from Cloverdale Deli)

The Bazaar is an annual event always on the last Saturday of October. All the various auxiliaries and other volunteers come together for community and to make this a success.

The 'New' auxiliary meets through the year, sometimes to craft Nisser for sale, and they are also responsible for the Open Face Sandwiches that we all enjoy so much at the Bazaar. The history of this group is that initially they branched out from the Ladies' auxiliary as some of them entered the workforce and preferred to meet in the evening, of course this is many years ago. We also have men active in this group. Thanks to their labours, this group was able to donate \$10,450 to the church this year.



Come out to a meeting. There will be Cake.

College and Career Group (Col/Car Grp)

The College and Career Group have been active all year and always welcome new members. Please reach out to Cydney at crasmussen@danishchurch.vancouver.bc.ca and she will add you to the WhatsApp Group.

Some Highlights of the past year include:

- Wall and Rock climbing
- Paint Night
- T-shirt making
- Archery
- Picnic at the Fireworks
- Terry Fox Run
- Murder Mystery Night
- JuleHygge



Plans are still being finalized for 7:30pm Friday, January 30 , details will be sent out. We hope that an outing can be made to an Improv or Comedy Show.

At 8:00pm on Friday, February 27 the plans are to go to Cypress Mountain for their “Lights to the Lodge” snowshoe walk, more details to come.

Rides can always be arranged.

Community Services Committee

As reported in the July/August 2025 issue of Kirkebladet, in late 2024 we donated \$17,300 to Whole Way House (WWH) in support of their work for the 289 Veterans or low income housing residents at Chelsea Terrace, our next door neighbour.

We expected that a somewhat similar amount be donated in 2025, however, the situation is a bit more complicated. For three years WWH ran a pilot project for the BC Ministry of Housing for 4 housing units, one of which is Chelsea Terrace. WWH received \$420,000 or \$105,000 for each housing unit per year.

The pilot project finished in April 2025, and WWH submitted their report as required, but has heard nothing back since from the Ministry.

WWH would of course be appreciative of any amount we would be able to donate towards their work at Chelsea Terrace, but what is most urgently needed (their words) is \$26,500 (1/4 of \$105,000), if possible, to cover their 1st Quarter 2026 expenses for staff and the usual activities they currently carry out at Chelsea Terrace. This would give them some 'breathing room' to arrange for additional funding.

In the meantime WWH is actively pursuing other donors/revenue sources.

The \$26,500 cover the following, (including 2 staff members at Chelsea Terrace 2 and 3 times a week, respectively):

- Welcome Packages
- Holiday Family Dinners and Boxes of Hope
- Morning Coffee and Tea Time
- Super Smoothies & Soup Weekly Program
- Special Monthly Adventures
- Monthly Birthday Parties
- Clean Team
- Chaplaincy

This request was discussed at the November 2025 Board meeting. As we had some room left within our total 2025 budget of \$ 70,000 for Community Services, it was approved that we donate \$25,000 to WWH. We have just received the following response from Jenny Konkin, President and co-founder of Whole Way House:

WOW !! I just wanted to say a big thank you for your support.

We are so grateful for the partnership of the Danish Lutheran Church and your faithful giving.

As we head into our Christmas Family Dinners next week, we are incredibly thankful that we are able to celebrate with the seniors at Chelsea Terrace with a beautiful Christmas Family Dinner and gifts to ensure they are not alone through the holidays. And because of your generous gift, we can ensure their community programs and vital support services continue through the new year!

Thank you to Jorgen Rohweder and Lene Olesen, they have given many hours in the past year to investigate the opportunities for giving on our behalf. It's a big responsibility and they do it with compassion and understanding of the interests of the community and our congregation.

Movie Matinee

Join us for a movie on the 3rd Wednesday of the Month! We will start at 11:30 with a light lunch, followed by a **movie at 12:30**. What we have planned:



Wednesday, January 21,
Efter Brylluppet

Wednesday, February 18
Oh Happy Day



Come and join us for a fun afternoon – Bento Pastro

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Danish Community Events

- **Seniors Luncheon at SCC**
Friday, January 9th at 12noon.
For reservations contact:
tmolufsen@gmail.com
- **Kroaften at SCC**
Friday, February 6th
For reservations contact:
[*danishhousesociety@gmail.com*](mailto:danishhousesociety@gmail.com)
- **Seniors Luncheon at SCC**
Friday, February 13th at 12noon.
For reservations contact:
[*tmolufsen@gmail.com*](mailto:tmolufsen@gmail.com)



Church Directory



DANISH CHURCH OFFICE

Open **10am to 1pm** on Tues./Wed./Thurs.

Phone: 604-298-6112

Email: office@danishchurch.vancouver.bc.ca

Secretary: Susanne Pagh Chaffe

PASTOR CARSTEN MØLGAARD HANSEN

Friday is our Pastor's day off

Phone: 604-521-8014

Email: pastor@danishchurch.vancouver.bc.ca

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

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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, 604-526-1233,
prasmussen@danishchurch.vancouver.bc.ca

Søndags Skolens Kvindeforening: Lene Olesen, wolle@telus.net

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

Kirkebladet: kirkebladet@danishchurch.vancouver.bc.ca