

KIRKE HILSEN

AUGUST
SEPTEMBER
OCTOBER
2025

WELCOME BACK FEST IN
SEPTEMBER

MEMBER ENGAGEMENT
SURVEY

THANKSGIVING
DINNER IN OCTOBER

ACTIVITIES COMING
BACK IN SEPTEMBER



DANISH
LUTHERAN CHURCH
& CULTURAL CENTRE
TORONTO

"WHERE FRIENDS AND
FAMILY GATHER FOR
WORSHIP, FELLOWSHIP
AND DANISH CULTURE"



SAVE THE DATE:

OUR NEXT BAZAAR IS
COMING!

CALENDAR FOR AUGUST-SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER

AUGUST

17. 🇨🇦 **10th Sunday of Trinity, 10.30am**
with Pastor Ilze.

SEPTEMBER

1. **Labour Day.**
7. 🇨🇦 **13th Sunday in Trinity, 10.30 am**
Welcome Back Fest (pg.7).
9. Church Café, 12-noon (pg.8).
11. Golden Age Club, 12-noon (pg. 8)
12. Folkdancing, 7.30 pm (pg.8).
13. KnitWits, 1 pm (pg.12)
14. 🇩🇰 **14th Sunday of Trinity, 10.30 am.**
16. Church Café, 12-noon (pg.8).
Fall Bible Study, 3 pm (pg.12).
19. Folkdancing, 7.30 pm (pg.8).
21. 🇨🇦 **15th Sunday of Trinity, 10.30 am.**
23. Church Café, 12-noon (pg.8).
26. Folkdancing, 7.30 pm (pg.8).
27. 🇨🇦 **Starburst Family Service, 4 pm (pg.9)**
28. No Sunday Service, see Family Service above.
30. Church Café, 12-noon (pg.8).
Fall Bible Study, 3 pm (pg.12).

OCTOBER

3. Folkdancing, 7.30 pm (pg.8).
5. 🇩🇰 **17th Sunday in Trinity, 10.30 am.**
7. Church Café, 12-noon (pg.8).
9. Golden Age Club, 12-noon (pg. 8)
11. KnitWits "Grab a bag", 1 pm (pg.12)
12. 🇩🇰 **18th Sunday in Trinity, 10.30 am.**
13. Thanksgiving.
14. Church Café, 12-noon (pg.8).
Fall Bible Study, 3 pm (pg.12).
17. Folkdancing, 7.30 pm (pg.8).
18. Thanksgiving Dinner (pg.7).
19. 🇨🇦 **19th Sunday in Trinity, (Layman) 10.30 am.**
21. Church Café, 12-noon (pg.8).
24. 7:30 pm: Folkdancing (pg.8).
25. Movie Saturday, 1 pm (pg.12)
26. 🇨🇦 **Children's Hallowe'en Service, 10:30 am.**
28. Church Café, 12-noon (pg.8).

Sunday
Services at
10:30 am marked
with a flag. Services
in Danish 🇩🇰 or
English 🇨🇦

HALLOWEEN SERVICE FOR KIDS

On Sunday, October 26,
at 10:30 AM, the church
opens the doors for a Hal-
loween service for families
- and other scary crea-
tures. The children and
adults are invited to come
in costumes! After the
service, there is a lunch
and (u)hygge.



"When you grow old, you get different shoes, and then you don't dance as fast"



Pastor

Kirstine Rasmussen

► Quote from a 7-year-old participant at this year's summer camp

I'm sitting with my feet up. It's Friday afternoon, and once again, it is quiet in the church. The week has been filled with laughter, songs, conversations, and the smell of freshly baked buns – but now it's quiet. The tiredness is settling in, but so is the joy. The joy of having spent a fantastic week with a wonderful group of children who, over the course of five days, have left their lively mark on both the church space and our hearts.

This year's summer camp theme was Danish Holidays. And how do you fit all of Denmark's rich holiday traditions into just five days? You dive into it with imagination and curiosity.

We began with Fastelavn, eagerly taking turns hitting the barrel. Then came the hope of Easter and blooming decorations, Grundlovsdag with the national anthem, birthday layer cakes, folk dancing, and community spirit, and Sankt Hans with bonfire and a witch on top – and finally, we ended with Christmas, rice pudding, æbleskiver, and dancing around the Christmas tree in the middle of July. It may sound a bit silly – but it was magical.

Because behind the homemade masks, braided Christmas hearts, and twist bread around the fire, something much bigger was hidden: the experience of belonging. The children played, learned, and laughed together. They spoke Danish and felt that they weren't alone in having one foot in Denmark and one in Canada. They saw themselves reflected in one another – and in us adults. And we? We were moved, inspired, and perhaps a little wiser.

There is something quite special about spending five intense days together. Small conversations over lunch, laughter during games, small conflicts that get resolved, and those quiet moments when a child comes to sit close by – just to be near. When we say goodbye, it's not to unfamiliar children – it's to young people we've come to care deeply about. And often, when we say goodbye, we can see that they've grown a little – not necessarily in height, but in confidence and experience.

As one of the youngest participants put it when we talked about growing older: "When you grow old, you get different shoes, and then you don't dance as fast." It made us smile. And perhaps it's true – maybe we don't dance as fast. But we still dance. And this week, we danced together – children and adults, young and old – in a shared rhythm of tradition, language, and joy.

Thank you to all who helped make it possible – children, parents, and volunteers alike. We're already looking forward to next year.



It is July – summer in the city



*Sune Overgaard,
President of
the board.*

Warm and sunny days with occasionally some very hot and humid ones as we have seen!! The kids are out of school and families are planning and looking forward to vacations. This is the best time of the year for many people. Let's hope that each and every one of you also keep in mind that you still have to be careful, cau-

Whether it is religious services or cultural events and customs or community participation – they all need a place to be seen and heard.

tious, and responsible when it comes to summer activities on streets and playgrounds and parks, and most important – on or near the water. Have a very enjoyable and safe summer.

Here at the church, we are also moving along through the various events and activities we usually have. In May we had our annual Spring Bazaar. It was again successful – no doubt the great weather helping us out. Having a few new booths also helped – check out the results elsewhere in this newsletter. We also enjoyed amazing baked goods courtesy of Anna at our "Sønderjysk Kaffebord".

In June, many of us went to Sunset Villa to celebrate Constitution Day. It was a very enjoyable day with comfortable weather for a change -- we even had a nice turnout for our outdoor service in the Mindepark. Later we also had our Skt Hans Fest complete with BBQ and the lottery draw. Weather conditions meant we had to retreat indoors, but a good time was had by all. The lottery results are also elsewhere in this newsletter.

Our on-line Community Engagement Survey was released in early July. We really would like everyone to take that survey as it will give the board a good look at what you the members are looking for and expecting from us. Whether it is religious services or cultural events and customs or community participation – they all need a place to be seen and heard – and that is our church and cultural centre. If you do nothing – don't be surprised that nothing happens. But if you do something – like volunteer and participate - who knows where we can go? July was exciting for the participants in the Danish day camp for kids. Lots of customs and culture was shared with



very excited and curious young faces. Most of the weekly activity groups have now shut down for the summer. We plan to have another summer service and BBQ on the last Sunday in July.

For August we are boxed in with holiday weekends at both ends, and with our pastor on holidays, we are only able to have one service in the middle of that month with our guest pastor Ilze. We hope you will join us if you are in town. September opens up with our Welcome Back Fest, and the church comes alive again with weekly activities and then some. Please check the calendar and/or website for details. We are having the Thanksgiving Dinner on Saturday Oct 18 – more to come later on that.

And just a note of appreciation – Carol and John Larsen (along with help from Lisa McConnell and Liselotte Ostergaard and others) have spent hours and days the last few months cleaning up all the nooks and crannies and other hiding spots here at the church. The Kai Munk room and Library as well as our many storage areas all have a fresh new and usable look. Thank you very much Carol and John and your team for your amazing efforts. We all get to enjoy the benefits of your hard work.

Remember – this is your church and cultural centre – take an active role in its plans. Together we can make things happen.

Sune Overgaard

Member Engagement Survey

- We want to hear your opinion!



As we mentioned during our Annual General Meeting back in April, your opinion is crucial for us to move forward and make the Church and Cultural Centre even better.

You can find the survey on our website: danchurch.ca. If you don't have access to the online version, a hard-copy version can be picked up at the Church upon request. Just let us know!

Your feedback and time is very appreciated.

Spring Bazaar 2025 results

We had another busy and successful bazaar on Saturday May 10. The set-up of booths on all floors and outside made it easier to get around with plenty of space to walk, talk, and shop. We also welcomed the Swedish and Finnish churches to set up booths where they displayed their goods. Having fantastic weather also helped to make it a very successful day and we want to thank all the many leaders and volunteers who helped to make it happen.

The net results below (as of the bazaar day only) are impressive, and we continued selling inventory until the end of the June.

Tusind tak !! – The Bazaar Committee

Coffee/Dessert Booth	\$626
Bake/Deli Booth	\$828
Sandwiches	\$5,303
Gift Booth / Danish Plates	\$885
Needlework Booth	\$634
Jewelry Booth	\$2,047
Hot Dogs/Buns	\$756
White Elephant	\$556
Imports Booth	\$6,024

Total	\$17,659
--------------	-----------------

Skt Hans Fest and lottery results

We had an interesting Skt Hans Fest at our church on Sunday, June 22, complete with a children's service – followed by a lunch of BBQ burgers, ice cream and fresh strawberries, and summer songs in our Royal Hall afterwards. With temps nearing 40 C, it made most sense to stay inside despite the good intentions of an outdoor fest in the park. We made the best of an

outdoor party – indoors!!

We also held the draw for our Skt Hans Lottery, which was successful with about \$4,300 in gross sales. A big thank you to all who participated in this fund-raising lottery. We also wish to thank the donors who helped to make this happen with their wonderful prizes.

Congratulations to the lucky winners!!!

1st Prize- \$1,000 Cash – Bodil Hodgson, Barrie (ticket # 1373)

2nd Prize- Gold Dagmar Cross– Kjeld Pedersen, Bramalea (ticket # 0794)

3rd Prize- Cuisinart Air Fryer/Oven – Eric Bock, Courtice (ticket # 1462)

4th Prize- Royal Copenhagen Vase –Alexandra Forer, North York (ticket # 0092)

5th Prize- Royal Copenhagen Figurine – Iris Pallas, Phelpston (ticket # 2138)



WELCOME BACK FEST – HELP US START THE FALL SEASON

Before you know it, September will be here, and we need to get back to our fall routines after a long and hot summer.

The Welcome Back Fest will be on **Sunday September 7**. We will have a regular Sunday service, and then continue with a BBQ lunch hopefully in our beautiful park (weather permitting).

Bring your family and friends. Come out and celebrate the return to full activity at the church.



THANKSGIVING DINNER HERE WE GO AGAIN!!!

Our Annual Thanksgiving Dinner will be held on **Saturday October 18 at 6:00 pm** in the Royal Hall. A full course roast pork dinner prepared by our favourite chef Hemant and his team. The meal will include salad, main course, and desert with coffee. There will be musical entertainment, refreshments available, a gift lottery draw, some well-loved songs to sing, a folk-dance performance, and maybe even a special guest speaker.

We are hoping to sell all 100 available seats. Our new pricing structure seems to have taken hold. The adult price per person will be \$60 with \$40 going for dinner costs – and \$20 going as a donation to the church, for which you can get a tax receipt. Children 6 to 18 will be charged \$25 each for dinner only, and those 5 and under no charge. Of course – additional donations are always welcome. Reservations and pre-payment are necessary on a first come – first served basis and can be done on-line by e-transfer or credit card, or in person at the church with cash or cheque on the sign-up list. Come and join us for a wonderful and exciting evening of food, fun, and entertainment while also supporting the church. *Looking forward to seeing you there.*



Church Cafe returns in September

Make someone's day over
the summer or in the early fall.

I hope to see you with
your smile **September 9th** when we
start **Church Cafe** again.
We will continue meeting each Tuesday
at noon singing, chatting and laughing
together.
Please bring your own lunch and we
will sign up for dessert.

Enjoy your summer and see you Sep-
tember 9th.

Liselotte.

GOLDEN AGE CLUB IS BACK

I hope everyone is enjoying this won-
derful summer.
The G.A.C. will resume their monthly
luncheons on
**September 11th. at 12 noon and
again on October 9th.**
All are welcome to join us for a deli-
cious lunch and good conversation.

Looking forward to seeing everyone
on September 11th.

Take care and stay safe, *Lilly*



“ If you see
someone without a
smile today,
Give them one of
yours!”

FOLKDANCING CLUB STARTS AGAIN IN SEPTEMBER

The folkdancers, after dancing at the
Constitution day festivities, are taking
the summer off, but will return again
September 12.

Have a safe and happy summer,

The Danish Folkdancers of Toronto



Upcoming Music And Folk Dance Workshops

In an effort to further explore Danish culture, we are tentatively looking forward to hosting **Kristian Bugge**, one of Denmark's rigsspillemand (folk musician, fiddler), and **Henrik Larsen**, a well-known Danish folk dance instructor, in Toronto on the

Thanksgiving weekend (Oct 10-12). If arrangements can be made, both have agreed to do workshops that weekend. Watch our web site for opportunities to hear Kristian play, and dance under Henrik's direction.

Save the date:

The Danish Christmas Bazaar is back!

This November 15, let's meet for hygge, Danish Imports, and new vendor booths and activities for children.

Start this Christmas season at the Danish Christmas Bazaar! Like last year, all floors and the outdoors will be open for you to browse, shop, and mingle.

Stock up on Danish imports and visit the booths placed in the church sanctuary. All food items will be served in our food court downstairs in the Royal Hall. Open-faced sandwiches and the bazaar café open at 11 am. You can enjoy Danish smørrebrød in the café or bring it home.

There will also be tables outside where we will sell glögg, hot chocolate, and æbleskiver. Don't miss out on the new modern Scandinavian booth, silent auction, Christmas booth, bake booth, jewelry booth, white elephant (garage) sale. We will also have new kids activities for the younger crowd.

Stay tuned for updates and more information about our imports shop.

See you there!

BAZAAR DONATIONS WANTED!

The church is now accepting donations of unwanted jewelry, purses, and similar items for our upcoming bazaar. If you have gently used accessories you'd like to pass on, please drop them off at the church office. Thank you for your support!

PAY WITH
E-TRANSFERS
AND CREDIT CARD

The Danish Church accepts donations and other payments to the church via electronic transfer and by Credit Card. We are 100% self-funding, so support of all sizes is welcome.

Read more on
danchurch.ca/pay



Starburst

Family Service

SATURDAY - SEPT 27
4 - 7 PM

DANISH LUTHERAN CHURCH
72 FINCH AVE WEST

Join us for an afternoon service filled with worship, reflection, and community as we talk **about the importance of water in religion**. Whether you were part of our first gathering or are joining for the first time, you are warmly welcome!

Following the service, we will gather for a time of fun, creativity, games, and discussions that connect to the day's theme.

We'll close the evening with a shared dinner at the Church. We kindly ask for a small **donation** to help cover the costs.

Bring your **children, grandchildren, parents or friends**. Let's celebrate the joy of togetherness and faith as a community!

For more information, contact Pastor Kirstine.

IN MEMORIAM

Jens Kristian Kristensen

Born: July 23, 1930, Aalborg, Denmark
Died: October 7, 2024

WEDDING:

Shirin Karoubi
Jonas Dalggaard Nielsen
June 27, 2025



SUNSET MINDEPARK -
THE DANISH URN CEMETERY IN ONTARIO

Sales:
Sune Overgaard 416-709-3139
(suneovergaard@hotmail.com)

Interment Director:
Soren Sondergaard 519-821-9296
(sondergaards@rogers.com)

Mail:
13 - 7150 RR2 Concession 1,
Puslinch, ON N0B 2J0

More Info: www.mindepark.ca



DANISH LUTHERAN CHURCH OF TORONTO

72 Finch Avenue West, Toronto, ON, M2N 2H4.

Phone in Church Hall: 416-222-0990. Office: 416-222-2494

E-mail: mail@danchurch.ca

Website: www.danishchurchtoronto.ca

Facebook: facebook.com/danishchurchtoronto



Den Danske
Kirke i Udlandet

A church associated with The Danish Church Abroad / Den Danske Kirke i Udlandet (DKU)

www.dendanskekirke.dk

Pastor	Kirstine Rasmussen	437-772-7247 (cell)
	72 Finch Ave. West	416-222-2494 (office)
	Toronto, ON, M2N 2H4	kr@danchurch.ca
President	Sune Overgaard	416-709-3139
	4105 Treetop Crescent	suneovergaard@hotmail.com
	Mississauga, ON, L5L 2L6	
Vice-President	Lilly Nielsen	905-665-3080
	22 Carroll St.	lillyn@rogers.com
	Whitby, ON, L1N 7Y4	
Treasurer	Lisa McConnell	905-459-3850
	14 Watson Cres.	lpetersen@rogers.com
	Brampton, ON, L6W 1E7	
Secretary	Gerda Andersen	416-565-4193
	403 - 600 Eglinton Avenue East	andersengerda9@gmail.com
	Toronto, ON M4P 1P3	
Director of Outreach	Susanne Truelsen	416-912-4389
		susanne.truelsen@gmail.com
Directors	Joan Skovhøj	905-642-8748
	John Uffe	416-424-1370
	Mark Fenger	416-300-8464
	Keri Pedersen	647-880-2060
	Malou Kongsted	647-293-7645

ACTIVITY CONTACTS

Music Coordinator	Brigitte Bogar	416-270-0333
		music@danchurch.ca
Bazaars	Kirstine Rasmussen	437-772-7247
		bazaar@danchurch.ca
	Lisa McConnell	905-459-3850
	Keri Pedersen	647-880-2060
Folk Dancers	Audrey Urszulan	416-702-8651
Golden Age Club	Lilly Nielsen	905-665-3080
Church Café	Liselotte Østergaard	905-898-3779
Kirke Hilsen	Sune Overgaard, Gerda Andersen and Kirstine Rasmussen	

Movie Saturday: Experience Danish Cinema

Join us for a heartfelt afternoon of film and conversation as we screen *Sult*—a Danish romantic drama from 2025 that explores the deep longing and emotional complexity of a couple facing fertility challenges.

Based on Tine Høeg's acclaimed novel from 2022, *Sult* (Hunger) captures the ache of unfulfilled dreams and the fragility of love in modern Copenhagen.



Movie: *Sult*
Date: October 25
Time: 1pm

The film is in Danish with English subtitles, making it accessible to all. Come, bring a friend, enjoy some popcorn, and immerse yourself in the power of Danish storytelling. All are welcome!

Join KnitWits This Fall!

Are you a knitter—or would you like to be? Come join our cozy KnitWits gatherings this fall! We meet in the church to chat, sip coffee, and work on knitting projects together for the Fall Bazaar and beyond.

Ideal Date:

1. Take me to the Yarn store.
2. Leave me with your credit card.
3. Pick me up in two hours.

On October 11, we're doing something special: "Grab a Bag" day! You'll receive a small bag with yarn and a pattern to knit a modern Scandinavian item for our special Bazaar booth. It's a fun way to try something new and contribute with a creative surprise!

We have yarn and patterns available if needed, and all skill levels are warmly welcome—whether you're casting on your first stitches or you've knit for decades. Come be part of the hygge and help us stitch a little joy into the season!

Fall Bible Study: Women of the Old Testament

We invite you to join a thoughtful and inspiring Bible Study series focusing on key women of the Old Testament—their stories, struggles, and the wisdom they offer us today.

We'll begin with Eve (Sep 16), move into the complex relationship between Sarah and Hagar (Sep 30), and finish with the layered lives of Leah and Rachel (Oct 14). Together, we'll read their stories closely

and reflect on how they influenced the biblical narrative. We'll explore their significance in Christianity—how they are remembered in tradition, theology, and spiritual life—and also discuss how their experiences speak to issues of identity, agency, sisterhood, and faith.

All are welcome—whether you're new to Bible study or returning with questions and insights of your own. Come join the conversation!