

# KIRKE HILSEN

SEPTEMBER  
OCTOBER  
2024

WELCOME BACK FEST  
IN SEPTEMBER

ART SHOW WITH  
DANISH ART

THANKSGIVING  
DINNER IN OCTOBER

DANES WORLD WIDE  
EVENT  
IN THE CHURCH

DANISH LUTHERAN CHURCH  
&  
CULTURAL CENTRE



DANISH  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
& CULTURAL CENTRE  
TORONTO

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

WE ARE  
**THE DANISH  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
AND  
CULTURAL CENTRE**

# CALENDAR FOR SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER

## SEPTEMBER

1. No Service (Long weekend).
8. 🇨🇦 10:30 am: Welcome Back Sunday (pg.5).
10. 12-noon: Church Café (pg.8).
13. 7:30 pm: Folkdancing (pg.8).
14. 1pm: Movie Saturday: "The shadow in my eye" (pg.12)
15. 🇩🇰 10:30 am: 16th Sunday in Trinity.  
Confirmation class starts.
17. 12-noon: Church Café. (pg.8)
20. 7:30 pm: Folkdancing.
21. 1pm: KnitWits knitting club (pg. 12)
22. 🇨🇦 10:30 am: 17th Sunday in Trinity. Pastor Ilze Kuplens-Ewans
24. 12-noon: Church Café.
24. 3.30 pm: Grundtvig Study Group.
26. 12-noon: Golden Age Club (pg.8).
27. 7:30 pm: Folkdancing.
28. 5pm: ART SHOW (pg. 7)
29. 🇩🇰 10:30 am: 18th Sunday in Trinity.

## OCTOBER

1. 12-noon: Church Café.
4. 7:30 pm: Folkdancing.
6. 🇨🇦 10:30 am: 19th Sunday in Trinity
7. Danes World Wide event
8. 12-noon: Church Café.
12. 1pm: Movie Saturday: "The Hunt" (pg. 12 )
13. 🇩🇰 10:30 am: 20th Sunday in Trinity
15. 12-noon: Church Café.
15. 3.30 pm: Grundtvig Study Group.
19. Federation meeting (pg. 10)
19. 6:00 pm: Thanksgiving Dinner (pg.6).
20. 🇩🇰 10:30 am: 20th Sunday in Trinity.
22. 12-noon: Church Café.
24. 12-noon: Golden Age Club.
25. 7:30 pm: Folkdancing.
26. 1pm: KnitWits
27. 🇨🇦 10:30 am: Children's Hallowe'en Service.
29. 12-noon: Church Café.

## NOVEMBER

1. 7:30 pm: Folkdancing.
3. 🇩🇰 🇨🇦 10:30 am: All Saints Service / Alle Helgens Dag (pg.10).  
Pastor Kirstine Rasmussen.

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

## HALLOWEEN SERVICE FOR KIDS

On Sunday, October 27, at 10:30 AM, the church opens the doors for a Halloween service for families - and other scary creatures. The children and adults are invited to come in costumes! After the service, there is a lunch and (u)hygge.



## The Mighty Mr. Grati

As many of you would know we have a beautiful park next to the church. Behind some bushes we even have a little berry patch.

Sometimes during the afternoon Zoe, my youngest daughter, and I go out there to pick blackberries, and last week she asked me if they were free (in Danish gratis)?

She's at that age where she's collecting interesting words and after spending the summer in Denmark suddenly her Danish language is starting to blossom. And I replied, "Yes, they're free. (Yes, they are "Gratis")

After all, we picked them from a bush and we do not really pay for them.

The next day, we went to pick berries again, and she asked, "Is this also free?"

I assured her that the whole park was free to use.

Then, when we visited some friends, she started asking if the food there was free. It was starting to get a little embarrassing.

And the questions kept coming. Are songs free? Is the lawn free? I started wondering, what is this about; but then I finally solved the mystery.

Because one day, she asked me: "Who is Mr. Grati?" (Mr. Free)



Who is Mr.

Grati?

Now I finally understood.

It was me who had misunderstood the whole thing.

The child had simply assumed that everything must belong to someone.

And all the things that were "Gratis" (free), must logically belong to a mighty Mr. Grati!

I could picture him. The mighty Mr. Grati, who owned both the forest, the lawn and the songs -- and who allowed us to use all of it freely!

Who was Mr. Grati? It was obvious: "It's God!"

"Is it God?" she asked excitedly.

"Yes, it's one of God's names. I had just forgotten it." Because I really had. I knew that "gratis" means "something you can only pay for with thanks!"

There we stood, in the middle of Mr. Grati's clear August day, tasting the sweet and sour blackberries.

And that was okay, because he had given us permission to borrow it all, as much as we wanted.

It made me bubble with joy after that discovery.

All the most wonderful things that we can share with each other, they belong to Mr. Grati. And he lends them out left and right. And honestly, that's really kind of him!



# It is now past mid-August;



*Sune Overgaard,  
President of  
the board.*

... some trees already show changing colours and the CNE is open – all sure signs that summer is coming to an end. We have had very hot and humid days, very wet and dreary days, and even some wonderful bright, sunny and comfortable days - typical of a summer in the GTA.

**“We have a wonderful church where we can safely gather for worship and fellowship, and share our stories and experiences, and our culture and customs. Make an effort to join us and help us continue this meaningful side of our lives.**

Hopefully you and your families have all had a safe and enjoyable summer. Now we have to get ready for the fall season as we plan for the upcoming events at our church. Times are not easy with rising food and housing costs which affect all of us, but we still have much to be grateful for. We have a wonderful church where we can safely gather for worship and fellowship, and share our stories and experiences, and our culture and customs. Please join us and help us to continue this meaningful side of our lives. Activities in July and August

were a bit sporadic at the church. It was a challenge to coordinate the repairs in the basement due to the recent flooding while still allowing the French children's day camp to make use of the facilities as they needed. With luck, the final repairs – including new cabinets and shelving – should be done by Labour Day. We even managed to squeeze in a successful garage sale in July. We took some Sundays off for the summer long weekends, and the pastor and family had their summer vacation – but we did our best to have services one way or another. Keep in mind we are the only Danish church east of Alberta – so there are no other Danish ministers to call on, which makes it difficult to ensure services by our pastor for every Sunday. We also managed to get some exterior repairs made. We have repaved the area in front of the church and added two new accessible parking spaces closer to the elevator door. We put new signage on the front wall facing Finch. We repaved the back corner of the church, and part of the parking lot. We have also been upgrading the kitchen in the rectory and giving it a whole new open look.



We still have issues with our Wi-Fi and hope to get that fixed as we want to be able to broadcast live-streamed services again. Even though we had the lazy hazy days of summer – they were put to good use here at the church.

In September, we are gearing up for the fall season with all of our weekly/monthly activities getting back to full swing starting with our annual Welcome Back Fest on Sun Sept 8; we have an Art Show on Sat Sept 28; the Thanksgiving Dinner is on Sat Oct 19; and plans for the big Fall/Christmas bazaar on Nov 16 (including pre-orders for imports) are in process. Please check the calendar and website for details. Make sure you don't miss out!!

Remember - this is your church and cultural centre. The opportunities are there for you – we just want and need you to participate.

Have a great early Fall,

*Sune Overgaard*

## EXPLORING THE LEGACY OF N.F.S. GRUNDTVIG

Join us in a series of lectures dedicated to the life, work, and influence of N.F.S. Grundtvig, one of Denmark's most significant theologians, educators, and poets. Grundtvig's ideas have shaped not only the Danish educational system but also the cultural and spiritual life of Denmark and beyond.

Through these lectures, we will explore how Grundtvig's legacy continues to inspire and challenge us in contemporary society.

Join us as we journey through the life of a man whose ideas about faith, community, and learning remain as relevant today as they were in the 19th century.

The series is designed as an open conversation, a kind of folk high school experience, where everyone is welcome to participate. No prior knowledge of Grundtvig is necessary, as we will explore his writings and ideas together.

We will meet at the church Tuesday September 24 and October 15 at 3:30 PM after Church Cafe.



## WELCOME BACK FEST

### – join the fall season start-up

September is here and we need to get back to our fall routines after a long, hot, and humid summer. The Welcome Back Fest will be on **Sunday September 8**.

We will have a regular Sunday service, and then continue with a pasta lunch in the Royal Hall. Bring your family and friends. Come out and celebrate the return to full activity at our church. There will be a \$5 charge for adults, and a \$2 fee for children 6 to 18, and no charge for anyone 5 years or under.

## EVENT MED DANES WORLDWIDE

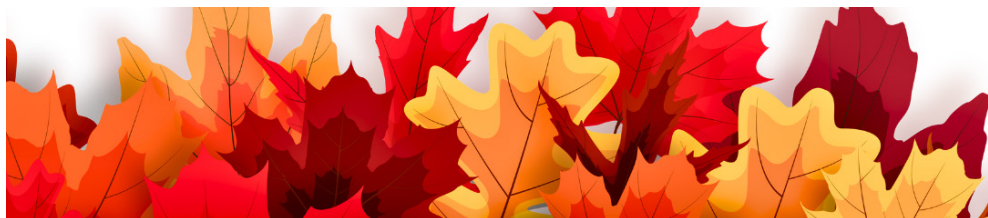
### NOTE: THIS EVENT WILL BE HELD IN DANISH

Kom og bliv klogere på de mange danske regler, når Danes Wordwides generalsekretær og juridiske rådgiver kommer på besøg i kirken **mandag den 7. oktober 2024 kl. 19:00 -21:00.**

Generalsekretær Michael Bach Petersen vil orientere om foreningens politiske arbejde for udlandsdanskere og fortælle om Danes World-

wides danskundervisningstilbud, herunder skoledansk og Den Danske Sommerskole. Jurist Karoline Blyt vil præsentere reglerne inden for bl.a. familiesammenføring, statsborger-skabsregler, skat, pension mv.

Der vil naturligvis være mulighed for at stille spørgsmål til både Michael og Karoline, ligesom det vil være muligt at aftale rådgivningssamtaler med Karoline dagen efter.



## THANKSGIVING DINNER READY FOR ANOTHER GREAT EVENING?

Our Annual Thanksgiving Dinner will be held on **Saturday October 19 at 6:00 pm** in the Royal Hall. A full course pork roast 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 anxious to have all 100 available seats sold. Our new pricing structure seems to have taken hold. The adult price per person will be \$40 with \$25 going for dinner costs – and \$15 going as a donation to the church for which you can get a tax receipt. Children 6 to 18 will be charged \$15 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. *Look forward to see you there.*



# ART SHOW

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The Danish Church & Cultural Centre and Danish Canadian Chamber of Commerce invite you to an inspiring evening of art, culture, and community!

Dozens of works from the private collection of community member Casper Mejer & Family will be for sale, including signed prints and original paintings from **renowned Danish artists**, including Jørgen Nash, Lis Zwick, Niels Sylvest, and many more!

**Everyone has a chance to take home a masterpiece.**

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**28 SEPTEMBER 2024**

5:00 PM - 9:30 PM

72 Finch Ave West, North York

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Entry: \$10 - includes a drink and fingerfood



# Danish Dancing at the church returns in September

**Do you like  
Danish music?  
Play an  
instrument?  
Enjoy dancing?**



Summer is almost over, and fall will soon be here.

What better time to be part of a Danish tradition involving good fun, physical activity, and music.

We are always looking for new dancers & musicians - not just Danes or Danish descendants - but anyone interested in Danish folk dance and music. We welcome everyone – especially beginners - and are happy to teach you the steps as needed.

If you play an instrument i.e. a fiddle, accordion or clarinet, or know some-

body who does and is interested in playing Danish folk music, send us an email or come and see what we are all about.

**We start Friday, September 13 at 7:30pm in the Royal Hall.**

If you like to participate, email us at [info@danishfolkdancers.ca](mailto:info@danishfolkdancers.ca) or just come and dance.

We dance most Friday nights at the Danish Church from September to May. You can find our calendar and more information on our website: [www.danishfolkdancers.ca](http://www.danishfolkdancers.ca)

*The Danish Folkdancers of Toronto*

## **GOLDEN AGE CLUB BACK IN THE FALL**

I hope you enjoyed our beautiful summer weather, now we can look forward to a colourful fall.

We will gather to celebrate the changing season with a delicious luncheon on September 26th.

and Thanksgiving on October 24th. I'm looking forward to seeing you again.

Take care, *Lilly*

## **CHURCH CAFE STARTS AGAIN**

I hope you had a good summer and have many events for which to be thankful. Most of us are really looking forward to seeing the whole group together.

We meet again **Tuesday Sept. 10 and every following Tuesday at noon** for laughter, songs, games and fellowship. We ask you to bring your own lunch but will continue to sign up for making dessert to share with all.

Come if you can. We are a very friendly group!

*Liselotte*



# Greetings from the Ambassador

It is a great pleasure to have arrived here in Canada to serve as the new Ambassador of Denmark. On 13 September I will present my credentials to the Governor General at Rideau Hall in Ottawa and formally become the Danish Ambassador to Canada. This is my third consecutive posting, after having been ambassador to Norway and the



**"In the future I look forward to meet more Danish companies and the local Danish community."**

Netherlands, and I can't wait to explore more of this vast and beautiful country. The Kingdom of Denmark and Canada are not only neighbours, but also share a wide range of core values with strong support for human rights and democratic values. As ambassador, my main task will be to further strengthen the good relationship between Denmark and Canada.

I have already had the chance to visit wonderful Toronto, and met with both my good colleagues at the Consulate General and with Danish businesses. In the future I look forward to meet more Danish companies and the local

Danish community. As an Embassy, we are fortunate to have such a strong Danish community across Canada with Danish churches, societies, businesses and all the members of the Federation of Danish Associations in Canada. It is very important for us to provide services and represent the Danes in Canada, and we are truly grateful for all the good cooperation and assistance we receive in return. I can't wait to meet the Danish communities in Ontario and all over Canada, and learn more about this beautiful country and the Danish-Canadian community.

I hope you have had a great summer, and hopefully I will get to visit the church and meet some of you next time I am in Toronto.

Jarl Frijs-Madsen

## FALL MEETING: ONTARIO REGION

On Sat. Oct. 19 at 2 pm the Danish Church in Toronto will be hosting the Fall Meeting of the Ontario Region of the Federation of Danish Associations in Canada.

Everyone involved with any membership group is very welcome to attend and hear reports from the Danish groups in Ontario.

We hope to exchange ideas, elect the president, secretary and treasurer for the upcoming year, and hear about the 100th anniversary of the Danish colony in Pass Lake. All attending the meeting will be given a complimentary copy of a book about Pass Lake, donated by Rolf.

We would really like you to join us for the Thanksgiving Dinner at the church as well. Note: reservations required. We hope to see you at the meeting and the Thanksgiving dinner.

The Board of the Ontario Region

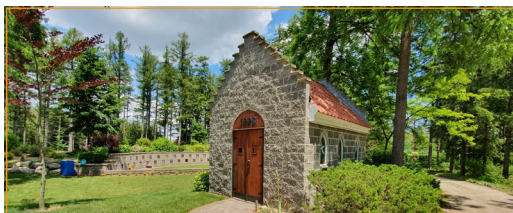
## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED – CAN YOU HELP?

As you no doubt are aware, the church is run mostly by volunteers. Many of our current volunteers have been at it for several years, and would be grateful for some extra help. We are talking about helping out at any of our special events, dinners, bazaars, hygge fests, etc., or even Sunday coffee.

No experience necessary – just a willingness to help us out. Please contact any board member with your contact info if you are interested and able. The more we are there to help – the easier the work becomes. And a big extra thank you to those who are willing to do so.

## LIGHTING CANDLES IN REMEMBRANCE OF THOSE PASSED AWAY

On All Saints Sunday (Alle Helgens søndag) **November 3rd 10:30** we will remember those who passed away during the last year, read their names and light candles. It is a service for all, and friends and family of the deceased are specially invited.



## SUNSET MINDEPARK - THE DANISH URN CEMETERY IN ONTARIO

(Lic # 4138897 - adjacent to Sunset Villa)

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

Sales: Sune Overgaard 416-709-3139

or [suneovergaard@hotmail.com](mailto:suneovergaard@hotmail.com)

Interments: Soren Sondergaard 519-821-9296

or [sondergaards@rogers.com](mailto:sondergaards@rogers.com)

More info: [www.mindepark.ca](http://www.mindepark.ca)



## DANISH LUTHERAN CHURCH OF TORONTO

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E-mail: [mail@danchurch.ca](mailto:mail@danchurch.ca)

Website: [www.danishchurchtoronto.ca](http://www.danishchurchtoronto.ca)

Facebook: [facebook.com/danishchurchtoronto](https://facebook.com/danishchurchtoronto)

A church associated with The Danish Church Abroad / Danish Seamen's Church /  
Danske Sømands og Udlandskirker (DSUK). [www.dsuk.dk](http://www.dsuk.dk)



Pastor	Kirstine Rasmussen 72 Finch Ave. West Toronto, ON, M2N 2H4	437-772-7247 (cell) 416-222-2494 (office) <a href="mailto:kr@danchurch.ca">kr@danchurch.ca</a>
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Treasurer	Lisa McConnell 14 Watson Cres. Brampton, ON, L6W 1E7	905-459-3850 <a href="mailto:lpetersen@rogers.com">lpetersen@rogers.com</a>
Secretary	Gerda Andersen 403 - 600 Eglinton Avenue East Toronto, ON M4P 1P3	416-565-4193 <a href="mailto:andersengerda9@gmail.com">andersengerda9@gmail.com</a>
Director of Outreach	Susanne Truelsen	416-912-4389 <a href="mailto:susanne.truelsen@gmail.com">susanne.truelsen@gmail.com</a>
Directors	Joan Skovhøj John Uffe Mark Fenger Keri Pedersen	905-642-8748 416-424-1370 416-300-8464 647-880-2060

### ACTIVITY CONTACTS

Music Coordinator	Brigitte Bogar	416-270-0333 <a href="mailto:music@danchurch.ca">music@danchurch.ca</a>
Bazaars	Kirstine Rasmussen  Hanne Simmelsgaard Lisa McConnell Keri Pedersen	437-772-7247 <a href="mailto:bazaar@danchurch.ca">bazaar@danchurch.ca</a> 416-652-5287 905-459-3850 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	

# Join us for Danish Movie Saturdays

Experience the charm of Danish cinema with two special screenings, featuring acclaimed Danish films with English subtitles. Whether you're a fan of international movies or curious about

Danish culture, these events are the perfect way to spend a cozy Saturday afternoon. All are welcome—bring a friend, enjoy some popcorn, and immerse yourself in the storytelling of Denmark.



Movie: Skyggen i mit øje  
Date: September 14  
Time: 1pm



Movie: Jagten  
Date: October 12  
Time: 1pm

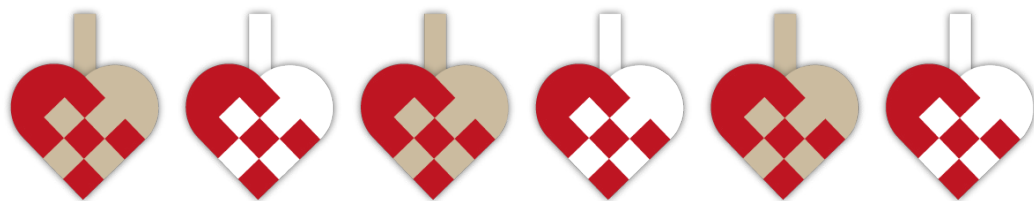
## Calling All Knitters!

Are you passionate about knitting and eager to contribute to our Fall Bazaar? Do you want to connect with fellow crafters in a warm and welcoming environment? Then join us at KnitWits!



Bring your love for knitting as we come together to create hats, scarves, and more for our Bazaar. We provide the yarn and patterns if needed—you bring your time and talent. Whether you're just starting out or have years of experience, everyone is welcome.

Location: Danish Lutheran Church  
Meeting Times: 1-3pm on the following dates:  
September 21, October 26 and November 2



## *Pre-order your Christmas candy soon!*

It is soon Christmas and time for the Danish Christmas Bazaar in our church in Toronto. Our webshop plans to open the week of October 7.

Then you can pre-order your Danish Christmas sweets and food.

The items will be ready for pick-up on Saturday, November 16, 2024.

Orders that need shipping will be sent out around the time of the bazaar.

Find the bazaar here - and much more information:

[www.danishchurchtoronto.ca/bazaar](http://www.danishchurchtoronto.ca/bazaar)