

# KIRKE HILSEN

NOVEMBER  
DECEMBER  
2 0 2 4

# CHRISTMAS BOOTH

PASTOR'S CORNER:

"DO YOU  
BELIEVE  
IN ANGELS?"

LUCIA PAGEANT -  
WHAT A TRADITION

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

CHRISTMAS LOTTERY WITH  
GREAT PRIZES

Huge Pinecones!



DANISH  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
& CULTURAL CENTRE  
TORONTO


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






# CALENDAR FOR NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2024

## NOVEMBER


- 2. 1 pm: KnitWits
- 3.  **Alle Helgens søndag / All Saints Sunday** (pg.7)
- 5. 12-noon: Church Café (pg.6)
- 8. 7:30 pm: Folk dancing (pg.6)
- 10:  **23rd Sunday of Trinity.**  
Pastor Ilze Kuplens-Ewart  
Christmas Bazaar (pg.9)
- 16:  **24th Sunday of Trinity**
- 19. 12-noon: Church Café (pg.6)
- 19. 3.30 pm: Grundtvig Study Group.
- 21: 12-noon: Golden Age Club (pg.6)
- 22. 7:30 pm: Folk dancing (pg.6)
- 24:  **Last Sunday in the church year, Layman's Service**
- 26. 12-noon: Church Café (pg.6)
- 29. 7:30 pm: Folk dancing (pg.6)
- 30. 3 pm: Christmas Concert (pg.7)

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

## DECEMBER

- 1.  **1st Sunday of Advent (Lucia rehearsal)**
- 3. 12-noon: Church Café (pg.6)
- 6. 7:30 pm: Folk dancing (pg.6) - with Christmas party.
- 8:  **2nd Sunday in Advent: Lucia Pageant** (pg.7)
- 10. 12-noon: Church Café (pg.6)
- 12: 12-noon: Golden Age Club (pg.6) - Christmas Pot Luck
- 15:  **3rd Sunday of Advent: The nine readings**
- 17. 12-noon: Church Café (pg.6) with Christmas Party
- 22.  **4th Sunday of Advent**
- 24:  **2 pm: Christmas Eve**
- 25:  **11 am: Christmas Morning**
- 29.  **Christmas Sunday**

## JANUARY

- 5:  **Epiphany Sunday** - after the service  
we will watch the Danish King's  
New Year's speech.
- 10: 7:30 pm: Folk dancing (pg.6)



## "Do you believe in angels?"

We go to school. Every morning, my daughter and I walk together. Often, we walk with her friends. They know that I am a pastor. "Do you believe in Angels?" a boy asks me one early morning. He looks at me with serious eyes. My curiosity is piqued. First thing that comes to mind is a song that has been playing on repeat in my house lately. It is called "A song about Angels" and the first lines go:

*"Do you believe in angels?  
Do you still think they are here?  
Or have they long since left us,  
Vanished one by one?"*

"I guess I do," I say. I understand him if he doesn't. I have never exactly met an angel. But when I think they don't exist, I try to embrace myself and my doubt with great gentleness: I try to leave a door slightly ajar to the astonishing and wonderful world where God walks among people.

A few generations ago, it would have been unusual to doubt the existence of angels. Angels were a fixed part of people's religious world view—they were God's messengers, guardians of humanity, and a symbol of hope and protection. They existed in people's daily lives, in stories, in the church, in art, and in culture. Believing in angels wasn't just a conviction, but a natural extension of faith.

Today, the world is different. Our relationship with faith and the mystical has changed. We live in a time where many feel torn between rationality and spirituality.

We may have an instinctive urge to dismiss the existence of angels as superstition or symbols without real meaning, yet at the same time, we are drawn to the idea that there is more between heaven and earth. We can simultaneously say we don't believe in angels, yet still be moved by their beauty and presence when they appear in art, in Christmas decorations, or in a child's artistic creation.

On the way to school I think that is also what is at play between me and the boy. We don't exactly know that angels exist, but the boy proudly shows me a beautiful angel he built from scrappy newspapers. I think of the angels my grandmother used to make for me. She wasn't religious, but every year she created beautiful angels—some knitted, some made of lace, others of glass or paper. Always angels. She knew I loved them. Every year, they hang and decorate our Christmas tree. They light up the tree among all the other ornaments. And they remind me that Christmas is the time of year when God still walks among us.



Pastor  
Kirstine Rasmussen

**"There are no real angels!" a boy says to me one early morning."**



## What a glorious fall we have had...



*Sune Overgaard,  
President of  
the board.*

– sunshine and blue skies with mid-summer-like temperatures for September and even October. I hope you have been able to enjoy nature's gift to us. Likewise, I hope you have been able to enjoy some of the events being held at the church since Labour Day. Regular Sunday services are back, weekly activity groups are getting busy again, and special events are in the plans. All the cabinets and shelves that we lost from the floods have now been replaced.

Our Welcome Back Fest was a nice way to get back into the swing of things. We hosted the Danish Art Show where many paintings and

### **“Before you know it, we will be planning for Christmas events”**

pictures made by Danish artists were shown. There were not as many folks at the event as we had hoped, but it was nice to see another multi-use option of the church supporting another form of culture in our community.

October brought us a Danes Worldwide event, a Thanksgiving service, a fabulous

Dinner, as well as a children's Halloween service. Time is moving very quickly now – and before you know it, we will be planning for Christmas events.

More on that later, but in the meantime, we are always looking for volunteers for help to set-up or clean-up, or just to lend a hand. Offer your help to the pastor or any board member – you will be warmly greeted.

Looking forward, we have many special events planned as we close out 2024. All Saints' Day will be held on Sun Nov 3, an orchestra concert by a high school from Ohio on Nov 4, our big annual Fall/Christmas Bazaar is next on Sat Nov 16 – complete with the Christmas Lottery being drawn then as well. The Christmas Concert on Sat Nov 30 will get us in the mood for the season.

The Lucia Pageant is on Sunday Dec. 8 with Christmas hygge in the Hall afterwards – great fun for all. Christmas Eve is on a Tuesday this year – we will have a 2:00 pm service in both English and Danish.

As you can see - lots of events to take part in. Remember to



check the calendar and website for details on these and other events – plan to join us for these festive celebrations.

Thanksgiving was also the first anniversary of having Kirstine as our pastor. I think we can all agree how lucky and happy we are to call her our pastor. She and her family (Frej, Tui and Zoe) have brightened our lives as well as lightened them with all the work they do for us. On behalf of all our members, I say “tusind tak”, and look forward to continue this relationship for many years to come.

Beginning with the next lottery, we are starting a new fund-raising goal – a new front window facing Finch Ave. The current window from 1964 is leaking when it rains, does not insulate for either heat or cold, and

clearly needs to be replaced. We want to make sure the window as seen from Finch Ave – will be a welcoming sight and representative of the rest of our beautiful building.

Remember - this is your church and cultural centre. It will be what you make of it. The opportunities are there – you just need to take part. Let us know if you have ideas for other events.

Best (early) wishes for a happy, safe, and joyful Christmas.

*Hilsen,  
Sune Overgaard*

# Join the folkdancers most Fridays

The fall colours are at their finest and the temperature is dropping. With summer and the Thanksgiving dinner performance behind us, we will continue our folk-dance Fridays with many easy traditional dances.

If you enjoyed our dancing at the dinner, and would like to participate, we would love to have you be part of our group, beginners are always welcome.

It is easy, just come to the DLC Cultural Centre (aka The Danish Church) any Friday night we are dancing, and we will be happy to show you how to dance Danish.

It is never too late to start an indoor activity involving good fun



and music.

We meet on most Fridays from 7:30 pm to 10 pm. (We are Not dancing Nov 01 and 15)

You can find our schedule at: [www.danishfolkdancers.ca](http://www.danishfolkdancers.ca), or right here in the kirkehilsen almanac or email us at; [info@danishfolkdancers.ca](mailto:info@danishfolkdancers.ca) to get a copy.

We will complete our fall schedule with a Christmas Dance Party, Friday December 06.

Our winter / spring season start again Friday January 10, 2025.

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## GOLDEN AGE CLUB MEETS ON THURSDAYS

I hope you are enjoying the beautiful colours of fall along with the great weather. We will meet again on November 21st for a great lunch. On December 12th we will celebrate Christmas with our pot luck lunch. Beer will be donated to the club.

Take care and take time to enjoy the fall.

*Lilly*

## CHURCH CAFE IS SONGS AND HYGGE

Church Cafe is still going strong! We continue to meet every Tuesday at noon in November, bringing our lunch and sharing dessert. We sing and laugh together and have many birthdays to celebrate.

We look forward to December and singing the well loved carols in English and Danish. On Dec.17 we will have our Christmas party complete with our traditional Christmas game.

Come and join the other 20- 25 people for a hyggelig afternoon.  
Glædelig Jul og Godt Nytår til alle!

*Liselotte*

# Upcoming events

## Lucia Pageant 2024

All children, young or old are invited to participate in our Lucia Pageant. It will take place on Sunday December 8 at 10:30 am.

To learn the songs, you will have to do a little homework and practice them at home as well as come for one rehearsal on Sunday December 1st at 11.30 am, when you will also be able to pick up your white gowns/shirts.

To help with the practise, you can find a video and song sheets on our website. On the Sunday of the Lucia Pageant, we will meet at 10:00 am in the church to practice the songs and the procession. Towards the end of the service we will perform the Lucia Pageant. After the service, there will be Christmas "hygge" in the Royal Hall with a Christmas tree, Christmas decorations, and other events for all to enjoy. This is always a special event for kids of all ages. We hope to see you – and your kids or grand kids – there!

Please sign up by sending an email to either pastor Kirstine Rasmussen at [kr@danchurch.ca](mailto:kr@danchurch.ca) or music coordinator Brigitte Bogar at [music@danchurch.ca](mailto:music@danchurch.ca)



## All Saint's Service

TOGETHER IN  
REMEMBERING, MOURNING AND HOPING

**November 3rd at 10.30 am**

**we have a special  
All Saint's Service.**

**We will remember those who  
passed away during the last year,  
read their names and light  
candles.**

**Everyone are welcome and friends  
and family of the deceased are  
specially invited.**

## Welcome to our Christmas Concert

It is the time of year for wonderful Christmas traditions - also in the Danish Church. Therefore we are delighted that we can again invite you to a Christmas Concert with Music and songs of the season!

Enjoy the season's beautiful music and sing along to some of the best Christmas Carols.

**Join us on  
Saturday, November 30th, 2024, at  
3 pm.  
Free admission.**

Soprano: Brigitte Bogar  
Viola: Emily Eng  
Piano/Organ: Mark Fenger

After the concert, there is Christmas Hygge in the Royal Hall.

# Christmas Lottery 2024

As part of the Christmas Bazaar festivities on Sat Nov 16, we will also have the draw for the Christmas Lottery. Many of you have already received a book of lottery tickets sent earlier. The price is the same - \$25 for a book of 6. By purchasing these tickets, you are continuing to support our church. The process is also the same – please refer to the letter that comes with the tickets for specific instructions. Remember to mail

in your stubs or drop them off in person at the church. You can also pay by e-transfer or credit card, but make sure you still send in the ticket stubs as they are needed to go into the drum for the draw.

Again, this year we have great prizes thanks to donors like Malmholt Fine Jewellery, and some generous church members. Thank you and Good Luck !!! Check out the list below:

Prize #1	Cash Prize	\$1,000
Prize #2	Gold Dagmar Cross	\$ 735
Prize #3	Kay Bojesen Mr & Mrs Santa Claus	\$ 370
Prize #4	Lego Super Mario Express Train	\$ 260
Prize #5	Klarborg Santa Claus	\$ 100

Please make use of the stamped self-addressed envelope to return your payment and/or tickets stubs. Should you wish to add a donation for which you can get a tax receipt, this would also be gratefully accepted.



#4



#5



#3





# The Danish Christmas Bazaar is back in Toronto

✦ SATURDAY NOVEMBER 16 2024

Once again, we meet for hygge, Danish Imports, and Smørrebrød, and many booths with a variety of goods for sale.  
Welcome to this year's Christmas Bazaar!

There will be room for all as we open up all floors as well as the outside. Like last year, the import and other booths will be placed in the church sanctuary with space and room to browse. All food items will be served in our Food Court downstairs in the Royal Hall. Open faced sandwiches and bazaar café opens at 11 am.

You can enjoy Danish smørrebrød in the café, or bring it home. Unfortunately, you cannot pre-order Smørrebrød - you can only buy it in person. But we make over 900 sandwiches so there will be lots to go around.

The import booth with Danish Christmas candy will be bigger than ever. If you want to be sure that your favourite candy is still available, you can place an online order now in our web shop, and the order will be ready for pickup on November 16, or you can order online to have your order shipped after Nov 16. There will also be tables outside where we will sell glögg, hot chocolate, and æbleskiver. Find the webshop here:

Other activities will include a silent auction, a Christmas booth, bake booth, jewelry booth and white elephant (garage) sale, and many more. Welcome to the bazaar – an important fundraiser for the Church – and a great place to start the Christmas Season.

We will take credit cards in most of the booths, but bringing cash to the event is also a good idea.





## News from DSUK - Now *Danish Church abroad*

voted to adopt this name, which simplifies our identity while keeping individual church names unchanged. Our mission remains: to support Danes worldwide.

For 20 years, the Danish Seamen's and Foreign Churches have supported Danes at sea and abroad. We are now transitioning to the name Danish Church Abroad, reflecting our unified mission.

The representative assembly has

This name change marks the beginning of a refreshed presentation for our organization. Over the coming months, we will update our visual identity and communication to better reflect our modern approach. We look forward to sharing this new expression with our community.

Since Christmas comes but once a year,  
Let's make this Christmas glad,  
In spite of all there is to fear,  
And much to make us sad.  
May joy and happiness abound,  
May song and laughter both resound!



### SUNSET MINDEPARK

- THE DANISH URN CEMETERY IN ONTARIO

(Lic # 4138897 - adjacent to Sunset Villa)

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

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#### ACTIVITY CONTACTS

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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	

# 10 CHURCH **SNAPSHOTS**



**August, September and October in the church:**  
1: Former Pastors meet in Denmark  
2: Welcome (back) service with visit from Hanne Vejs  
3-4: Art Show  
5: Danes Worldwide event in the church  
6: Meeting in the Federation  
7: Gift for the Church in Pass Lake  
8: Thanksgiving Dinner with Folk Dancers  
9-10: Halloween Service

