

KIRKE HILSEN

MAY - JUNE
2024

THE STORY OF THE
FLOOD

CONSTITUTION DAY
AT SUNSET VILLA

CELEBRATE
SKT HANS

FEDERATION PARTY:
YOU ARE INVITED



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

SPRING FOOD FAIR MAY 4:

**COME AND ENJOY
DELICIOUS
DANISH FOOD**

CALENDAR FOR MAY-JUNE 2024

MAY

4. Danish Food Fair (pg. 5)
5. 🇨🇦 Confirmation. **Fifth Sunday after Easter, 10.30am**
7. Church Café 12-noon (pg. 6)
10. Folk dancing, 7:30 pm (pg. 6)
12. 🇨🇦 **Sixth Sunday after Easter 10.30am**
- with Pastor Pamela Kormano
14. Church Café 12-noon (pg. 6)
16. Golden Age Club, 12-noon (pg. 6)
18. Cancelled: KnitWits
19. 🇨🇦 **Pentecost Sunday 10.30am ***
- 23.-26. Federation Conference
26. 🇨🇦 **Trinity Sunday - 10.30am**
26. Special Sunday Lunch (Tickets required)
- 27.-31. Heritage Seminar in Niagara Falls
31. Folk dancing 7.30pm (pg.6)

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

* SERVICES ONLINE

We stream the services
marked with an "*" and share
them on our website
danchurch.ca/video

JUNE

2. 🇨🇦 **2:45 pm. Constitution Day (pg. 7)**
Open Air Service at Sunset Mindepark (No Service in Toronto)
4. Church Café 12-noon (pg. 6) Visit from Pastor Simon
7. Folk dancing 7:30 pm - Summer party (pg.6)
9. 🇨🇦 **Second Sunday in Trinity 10.30am ***
11. Church Café 12-noon (pg.6)
15. KnitWits Knitting Club 1pm
16. 🇨🇦 **Third Sunday in Trinity 10.30am**
18. Church Café 12-noon (pg.6)
20. Golden Age Club 12-noon , Barbeque in the park (pg.6)
22. Movie Saturday: Last two episodes, 1 pm
23. 🇨🇦 **4th Sunday in Trinity 10:30 pm ***
23. **Skt. Hans Celebration in the park after the service (pg.7)**
25. 12-noon: Church Café (pg.6)
30. No Service (Canada Day weekend)

*June 2 at 2.45 pm: Constitution Day
Service at Sunset Mindepark - a part
of Sunset Villa's Constitution Day
Celebration. Please bring a chair.*

JULY



*June 23: Join us when we celebrate
Skt Hans with a nice picnic in the
park. We look forward to seeing you
there*

We draw lines

Not long ago, while scrolling through Instagram, I stumbled upon a captivating post that immediately grabbed my attention. It was an illustration by David Hayward, better known by his Instagram alias, *nakedpastor*. What caught my eye was how precisely it depicted our human tendency to draw lines and set boundaries between ourselves and others. We have this innate desire to distinguish between who we consider genuine and those we wish to deny genuineness, often using these boundaries to exclude others.

Yet, there was someone who defied this pattern. He was both man and God. He was a boundary-breaker. In the gospel, we read about how he consistently stood on the side of the marginalized.

Jesus, in the illustration, is portrayed as someone who dismantles barriers between people. He reached out to lepers, the sick, women, children, and societal

outcasts, embracing them into his community of love and acceptance.

The Danish pastor and poet Johannes Møllehave also wrote about Jesus and lines. He writes this in a hymn:

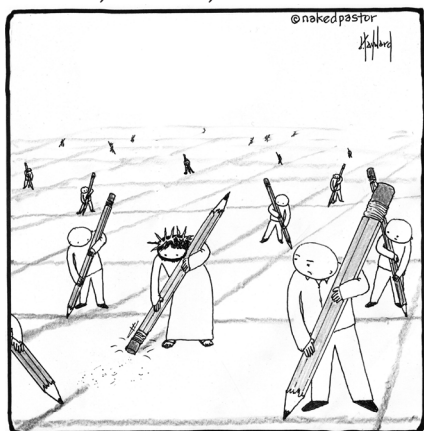
"He drew a line over every line that is set between you and me. So not one of those the Lord created shall be called outside and entirely lost." (translated by me)

That verse echoes Jesus' mission to erase the lines of division, ensuring that no one created by God would be deemed as outside or lost. His ultimate act of love, depicted by the cross, symbolizes his journey of companionship with all those who were and are excluded. Jesus disrupts our systematic boundary-drawing by drawing a line over our lines.

This act, as elegantly described, forms a cross, which became the ultimate symbol of his love and redemption for all. In a world where lines are constantly drawn to separate, Jesus invites us to erase those lines and embrace each other with love and compassion. Let us strive to follow his example, reaching out to those on the margins and building bridges of understanding and acceptance.



*Pastor
Kirstine Rasmussen*



I am a little late with this message this month



*Sune Overgaard,
President of
the board.*

No doubt you have all heard about both of the floods we had at the church basement. You can read about it elsewhere in this newsletter if you like, but please appreciate the difficulty of maintaining a facility like our busy church under those circumstances.

The good news is that we are moving forward and have access to all areas as before – although we will have to put up with boxes here and there, and what may look like parts of an unfinished area.

Things could be a lot worse – with that in mind we are grateful that we are able to use our church almost as we have before.

We are well into Spring, and it is the time when the church reaches out with many traditional and even new events that are looked forward to and enjoyed. The Holy Week was celebrated accordingly with palms, a sad and dark Thursday and Friday, and of course the excitement and joy of Easter morning. We held a successful AGM in the sanctuary complete with Zoom participation. It is important to provide alternate access to these important events that help guide the future of our church.

Thank you to all who took part in our AGM.

The week after we held a very exciting Nordic Service with participants from the Estonian, Finnish,

and Swedish Lutheran churches here in Toronto. Together with our Danish church, this group shares a Nordic/Baltic heritage that was wonderful to experience.

Thank you to the various pastors involved who put this joyful event together. We all look forward to doing this again in one of their churches.

The week after that we had our annual Royal Dinner complete with music, entertainment, and fantastic food. It goes without saying that if you were not there – you really missed out on a great evening.

Coming up very soon is the Danish Food Fair (May 4), and Confirmation Sunday (May 5).

It will be a real rush to see if the newsletter can get out in time for these two important events.

At least we have promoted via website and Facebook and email notices and look forward to great participation.

After that we have the Federation Conference where our church

After that we have the Federation Conference where our church is the host

is the host. This is a wonderful opportunity to show the rest of the Danish organizations in Canada what our church is all about. A few church members have signed up for the whole program – which is very much appreciated – but we really do need more sign-ups for the last two main events of the conference.

That would be the Dinner/Dance on Saturday May 25 at the Novotel North York, and the Closing Ceremony Luncheon on Sunday May 26 after the service.

Both events require ticket purchases, but we were able to allow our church members to do this at cost only.

There will be no “regular” coffee and fellowship after the service that day, but we hope you will buy a ticket and join us for a wonderful full-service luncheon.

You will see posters of these events elsewhere in the newsletter and in the church. I do hope you will join us to show your support for our church. As you can see, May is a very busy month. In June we have our annual outdoor service in the Mindepark at Sunset Villa, as well as our Skt. Hans Fest later that month. We are also planning a Parking Lot Garage Sale on Sat July 13 – something to keep in mind. We need new ideas as well as participation and support to help keep our church alive and well. Together we can make this happen. We are a church AND a cultural centre - our doors are open to everyone.

Best wishes for a pleasant and safe Spring.

SPRING BAZAAR WEBSHOP IS OPEN

Buy Danish sweets now while supplies last but only to May 31st.

Your orders will be shipped shortly after your purchase.

Visit danchurch.ca/bazaar

COME AND ENJOY SMØRREBRØD, HOTDOGS AND BOOTHS

Program for May 4:

On the day of the Bazaar you can get Smørrebrød, Hotdogs, Cakes, Coffee - and tons of hygge at the church.

10 am: Doors open: Doors open for imports, bake booth and hotdogs

11 am: Doors open for serving (Smørrebrød, coffee, desert and more)

2:30 pm: The food fair closes.



Online Language Lessons

Online Danish Lessons Starting Up Again!

Maya Reeves is a native Danish speaker and an experienced language teacher. We are very thrilled that she has offered up another round of online Danish lessons. This time, there will be TWO options to choose from to better accommodate all levels of learners: Tuesday Evenings will be for Level 3 and 4 (Medium and Advanced learners)
Dates: May 28, June 4, 11, 18, 25.

Thursday Evenings will be for Level 1 and 2 (Beginners)
Dates: May 30, June 6, 13, 20, 27.

Time for ALL lessons: 19:30-20:30.

Come and dance with the folk dancers

The Folkdancers dance May 10th and 31st, June 7, and again in September through early December (look for the dates in the Kirkehilsen almanac or on our web site www.danishfolk dancers.ca).

You can also e-mail the Folkdancers at info@danishfolk dancers.ca or just join us on our Friday folk dance nights.

We will be dancing our "End of season Party" June 7. We start about 7:30pm to 10pm (with a coffee break).

The Folk dancers



SPRING AT THE GOLDEN AGE CLUB

The GAC will meet next on Thursday, May 16th at noon for a delicious lunch and socializing, providing there is no construction going on. On June 20th we invite you to our annual barbecue in the park given by the Club.

There will be no lunches in July and August so you can enjoy the summer with family and friends. We will resume our lunches in September.

Enjoy the summer and I will look forward to seeing you all again in September. *Lilly*



CHURCH CAFE ON TUESDAYS

Spring has finally arrived, the birds are singing and the flowers peeking up at us.

Church Cafe will be held May 7 and May 14 at noon but due to the conference and seminar it is cancelled on May 21st and May 28th. On June 4th pastor Simon will visit the Church Cafe so I hope you can come and enjoy our good fellowship.

Regular Church Cafe meetings will be held starting at noon for the rest of June.

I trust you will have a happy summer holiday and we hope to see you on Tuesdays from Sept.10th onwards.

Liselotte

Skt Hans Fest

We are having our annual Skt Hans Fest on Sunday June 23, 2024. This year it will take place after the service at 10:30 am. We hope to have great weather for a nice picnic in the park to enjoy hamburgers and pop/water/coffee, along with strawberries and ice cream for dessert.

It will be a special event for all to enjoy – please plan to join us.



Constitution Day at Sunset Villa

The annual Constitution Day festivities are happening at Sunset Villa on Sunday June 2. The park opens at 10 am and they have exciting events for most of the day. It is always an enjoyable day in the country. We will also have our annual outdoor service in the

Mindepark at 2.45 pm. Please plan to join us as we are also dedicating the new niche wall after the service.

Please note: There will not be a service in the Toronto Danish church on Sunday June 2. We hope to see you at the Mindepark instead.



And the Lord said: “Let there be a flood.....”

Wait just a minute. I think the inference here is all wrong. I have very sincere doubts that the Lord had anything to do with the floods we have recently experienced here at the church.

Just to be clear – on April 3rd I got a call from the church saying that there was “a lot of water in the basement and I should maybe come out and have a look”.

Long story short – there was 2-3 inches of water in the basement; it was a problem with the main city sewer line; a call was placed to the city (311) for help; within two hours of my arrival, the restoration team was pumping water out of the basement as fast as it continued to come in from the drains. It took the city 22 hours before they fixed “their” problem –then we could start to fix our problem.

Despite our concerns, we were told "don't worry, we'll get it ready for you." They did pull through. And not only after the first flood, but also after the second almost identical flood three weeks later – again since the city did not properly fix the original problem the first time.

There are still boxes here and there and the appearance of an unfinished basement in some areas – but we can have access to what we need, and – with a little bit of patience and flexibility – we can continue with the great work that we do in our church. Actual repairs will also take time but this will happen in stages so that we will always have the use of our church as best as we can get.

There are many things to be thankful for - this restoration team is one of them.

Sune Overgaard



VALENTINE'S LOTTERY RESULTS

With your wonderful participation, we had another successful Valentine's Lottery. Over 1,100 tickets were sold generating almost \$4,700 in sales.

A very big thank you to the many participants who supported this fundraiser. And a special thank you goes to the kind donors – Malmholt Fine Jewellery, BoConcept, and a church member.

Congratulations are due to the lucky winners!!!! Here they are:

First Prize	\$1,000 Cash Gift -	Lorna Petersen, Caledon	ticket # 0171
Second Prize	BoConcept Chair -	Bodil Jensen, Nepean	ticket # 1975
Third Prize	Gold Dagmar Pendant	Onita Lutzen, Aurora	ticket # 1114
Fourth Prize	Lego Arctic Explorer	Peter Sorensen, Toronto	ticket # 2352
Fifth Prize	Royal CPH Figurine	Terry Jane Bland, Toronto	ticket # 1238

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



Pastoral Visit

Please contact Pastor Kirstine by email or phone if you or someone you know is in need of a pastoral visit. Pastor Kirstine is also able to bring communion to those who are not able to make it to the church.

Need someone with whom to talk?

Alice Olsen MSW, RSW, the late Esther Pedersen's daughter, and a qualified social worker, has kindly offered to speak confidentially to a member of the Danish Church for free over email.

All you have to do to avail yourself of her services is contact her at : Tukiegarde@gmail.com

2024 CONFIRMANDS:

Confirmed May 5, 2024:

**Cassius Johari Hansen
Karsen LeRoy Gibson Morse
Christian Sorensen
Hannah Jungersen Terp
Atlas Juhl Kongsted**

IN MEMORIAM

Preben Krohn

Bor: February 19, 2024, Copenhagen, Denmark

Died: March 10, 2024, Belleville, Ontario

Rigmor Hillerup

Born: April 18, 1929, Skuderløse, Denmark

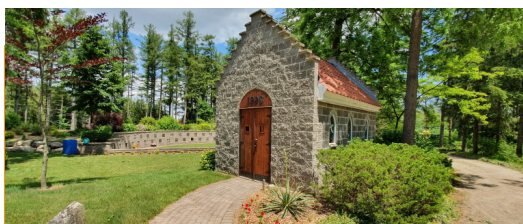
Died: April 6, 2024, Toronto, ON

Chris S. Pedersen

Born: June 25, 1942, Varde, Denmark

Died: April 23, 2024, Newmarket, Ontario

Memorial Service: DLC June 8, 11am



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

9 CHURCH SNAPSHOTS



March-April in the church: 1: Service with participation of the confirmation class
2: Easter at the church 3-6: Nordic Service
7-9: Royal Dinner with entertainment, Raffle and Speaker
10: 80th Birthday Celebration at Church Cafe





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

A church associated with The Danish Church Abroad / Danish Seamen's Church /

Danske Sømands og Udlandskirker (DSUK). www.dsuk.dk



Danske
Sømands- og
Udlandskirker

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

ACTIVITY CONTACTS

Music Coordinator	Brigitte Bogar	416-270-0333 music@danchurch.ca
Bazaars	Kirstine Rasmussen Hanne Simmelsgaard Lisa McConnell Keri Petersen	437-772-7247 bazaar@danchurch.ca 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	

Federation Conference

DINNER & DANCE

We are having a wonderful Dinner/Dance evening on
Saturday May 25 at the Novotel North York at 6 pm.

There will be a full course dinner along with music and
entertainment, and we will close out the evening with a live band
playing 50's and 60's tunes that we can all dance to. There will be a
cash bar and we have made arrangements for free parking
privileges. Tickets are \$65 each, and must be booked by May 14.

Please contact Kirstine or Sune for more details.
Join us for an exciting evening with the other conference
members.

F E D E R A T I O N C O N F E R E N C E

S U N D A Y L U N C H M A Y 2 6 , 2 0 2 4

We are having an eventful
Conference Closing Luncheon on
Sunday May 26 after the service.

This will be a full-service luncheon with Danish
sandwiches and refreshments. As well you can take part in the
Closing Ceremony where the "torch" is passed on to the next
Federation club who will host next year's conference.

Tickets for this event is \$25 for adults, and \$15 for kids - and
must be booked by May 19.

Please contact Kirstine or Sune for more details. We hope you
will join us for this exciting afternoon along with the other
conference members.

Please note: There will not be the regular
coffee and fellowship after the service this day.
To take part you will need to sign up for tickets.

