

# KIRKE HILSEN

NOVEMBER  
DECEMBER  
2 0 2 3

LUCIA PAGEANT -  
WHAT A TRADITION

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

"DANISH MOVIE IN  
TORONTO:  
MISS VIBORG"



DANISH  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH  
TORONTO

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



PASTOR'S CORNER:

"HYGGE CAN'T  
BE FORCED -  
SO WHAT DO WE DO?"

# CALENDAR FOR NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2023

## NOVEMBER

- 3. 7:30 pm: Folk dancing (pg.6)
- 5: 🇨🇦 **Alle Helgens søndag / All Saints Sunday** (pg.7)
- 7. 12-noon: Church Café (pg.6)
- 10. 7:30 pm: Folk dancing (pg.6)
- 12: 🇨🇦 **23rd Sunday of Trinity.**
- 14. 12-noon: Church Café (pg.6)
- 18: Christmas Bazaar (pg.9)
- 19: 🇩🇰 **24th Sunday of Trinity**
- 21. 12-noon: Church Café (pg.6)
- 23: 12-noon: Golden Age Club (pg.6)
- 24. 7:30 pm: Folk dancing (pg.6)
- 26: 🇨🇦 **Last Sunday in the church year**
- 28. 12-noon: Church Café (pg.6)

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

## DECEMBER

- 1. 7:30 pm: Folk dancing (pg.6)
- 2: **3 pm: Christmas Concert** (pg.7)
- 3: 🇩🇰 **1st Sunday of Advent (Lucia rehearsal)**
- 5. 12-noon: Church Café (pg.6)
- 8. 7:30 pm: Folk dancing (pg.6) - with Christmas party.
- 10: 🇩🇰 🇨🇦 **2nd Sunday in Advent: Lucia Pageant** (pg.7)
- 12. 12-noon: Church Café (pg.6)
- 14: 12-noon: Golden Age Club (pg.6) - Christmas Pot Luck
- 17: 🇩🇰 **3rd Sunday of Advent: The nine readings**
- 19. 12-noon: Church Café (pg.6)
- 24: 🇩🇰 🇨🇦 **10.30 am: Christmas Eve**
- 25: 🇩🇰 **11 am: Christmas Morning**
- 31: Happy New Year - No Servicee

## JANUARY

- 5: 7:30 pm: Folk dancing (pg.6)
- 7: 🇩🇰 **First Sunday after Epiphany (Holy Three Kings' Day)** - after the service we will watch the Danish Queen's New Year's speech.



## "Hygge rimer på tygge"

At the Thanksgiving Dinner, Sune, the President of the church board said these words in his speech. It translates to: "Hygge rhymes with chewing." There's quite a bit of truth to that statement, I think. Hygge is absolutely connected to food.

And just the other night when I had a nice time with our oldest daughter she said to me: "Mom, it is always so hyggeligt when we have something to eat together."

So much of the Danish culture, maybe even any culture, is connected to food. Whether it be at the holidays or even just the weekday dinner where the heritage of the homeland is undeniable. Frikadeller, tar-teleter or a homemade loaf of ryebread. Nothing beats that **taste of home.**

**The traditional Christmas Bazaar** is just around the corner and we are excited. The import of Danish goods means that we can provide people with Danish food and candy. And the café with smørrebrød, gløgg and æbleskiver will also once again make people feel like coming home. We look forward to bringing a little piece of Denmark to you. And

we do hope you have a good time.

But writing this I find myself a bit puzzled over the idea of "Hygge". Because we can of course try and orchestrate "hygge" in the setting, but it cannot be manufactured. And even though it is often connected with food it is so much more than that.

**Hygge is a feeling, an atmosphere** that cannot be forced. And hygge is not a goal - it is what happens when we are. Because the concept of hygge is relational and social and the special feeling of hygge happens when we feel safe and have trust in one another.

In fact the Danish existentialist Kierkegaard even says that we burst the bubble of that certain feeling if we put it into words. So we can't even verbalize hygge as it happens. Then we ruin it.

So I hope you have a hyggelig Christmas - remember it is what happens when we are together in a trusting environment. Just being and sharing that moment. Then hygge will occur.



*Pastor*

*Kirstine Rasmussen*

**❗If someone says: "Isn't this hyggeligt - well then the bubble bursts and then it isn't really hyggeligt anymore."**

## Time is moving at a very quick pace



*Sune Overgaard,  
President of  
the board.*

**October has almost come and gone.** Where has it all disappeared to? Time is moving at a very quick pace for most of us. Usually that is a good thing - as long as you are doing something you like and is constructive. Like volunteering at the church and its many events. Try it – you might even like it! We are always looking for volunteers for help to set up or clean up, or just lend a hand. Offer your help to the pastor or any board member – I'm sure you will be warmly greeted.

Our activities and events were resurrected once again in September. Church services are back on track (have you met Pastor Kirstine yet –

nasium. Later still, we also said a sad farewell to Jørgen and Kirsten Flensted-Jensen as they returned to Denmark. We have been especially lucky to have pastors like Jørgen and also Pamela to help us in our time of need as we were waiting for the new pastor to arrive.

**October did finally bring us Kirstine and her family.** They helped us celebrate our annual Thanksgiving Dinner along with guests from the Consulate and pastors representing the Finnish, Swedish, and Canadian churches we are connected to. Great food, lovely music, exciting dancing, and smiling diners all helped to make it a wonderful evening. The next day was Kirstine's installation performed by Dean Selma Ravn from DSUK who came over from Denmark just for this special occasion. It was a memorable service and was followed up with a lovely smørrebrød lunch. Lastly in October we were planning for the Family Halloween Service where all sorts of costumes are expected to help celebrate a special day for the children.

### !! We are a church AND a cultural centre"

she is our latest amazing and lovely addition!!), weekly activity groups are getting busy again and special events are being planned for. Our Welcome Back Fest was enjoyed by many both at the service and the follow up BBQ in our park. Later we welcomed Hanne Vejs as a guest pastor and had a great visit from over 50 students from the Sønderborg Gym-

**Looking forward we have many special events**





**planned** as we try to close out 2023. All Saints' Day will be held on Sun Nov 5 to remember the lives of those we have lost in the past year.

Of course, our big annual Fall/ Christmas Bazaar is next on the list on Sat Nov 18. Always an important and well-loved event.

Please check the notice elsewhere for details. We have a Christmas Sing-Along happening on Saturday, Dec. 2 – always a great harbinger for Christmas. The Lucia Pageant is on Sunday, Dec. 10 – great fun for all - big or small. As Christmas Eve is on a Sunday this year – we will have a 10:30 am 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 – but do plan to join us for these festive celebrations.

**You will find the 2024 membership renewal** as part of this newsletter. It is important to be listed as a voting member so you can participate in the AGM. It also allows us to update our address, email, and

phone records – and gives you a chance to send in a donation – also very important.

**We are still working on getting the internet fixed** – somehow not an easy task. There will be no lottery this fall. Instead, we plan to do it for Valentine's Day. And a reminder that the web shop is now open for imports orders. These can be picked up at the bazaar on Sat Nov 18. We will of course be selling our fantastic smørrebrød at the bazaar as well – but we are not able to take advance orders for them. However, there will be plenty available for all – just have a bit of patience as we do our best to work through the sandwich line.

Remember - this is your church and cultural centre. It will be what you make of it. The opportunities are there – we just need you to take part in it. I know it is a bit early – but warm, safe, and joyful Christmas greetings to all.

*Hilsen,  
Sune Overgaard*

## JOIN THE FOLKDANCERS MOST FRIDAYS



► *"It is never too late to start an indoor activity involving good fun and music."*

With the temperature dropping and the fall colours at their finest, warm weather and our fall performance at the Thanksgiving dinner behind us, we will continue our folkdance Fridays with more relaxed dancing, completing the fall schedule with our **Christmas party, Friday December 08.**

If you enjoyed our dancing at the Thanksgiving dinner, we would love to have you be part of our group,

beginners are always welcome. It is easy, just come to the Danish church on Friday night and we will be happy to show you how to dance Danish.

We meet on most Fridays (look for the dates on [www.danishfolkdancers.ca](http://www.danishfolkdancers.ca), in the kirkehilsen almanac) from 7:30 pm to 10 pm or email us at; [info@danishfolkdancers.ca](mailto:info@danishfolkdancers.ca).

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### CHURCH CAFE IS SONGS AND HYGGE

If you are home on Tuesdays, why not give the Church Cafe a try? We are a friendly group and would love to see you there! Come and meet our new pastor. As usual please bring your own lunch at noon. Dessert will be provided by volunteers. We celebrate traditions, birthdays and have a hyggelig afternoon together.

In late November and early in December, we will be singing the well loved Danish and Canadian Christmas carols. December 19th will be our usual Christmas party to the end of the season. Please bring two wrapped gifts for our game.

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### GOLDEN AGE CLUB MEETS ON THURSDAYS

Thank you for all your help at the last luncheon. We will meet again on November 23rd for a tasty fall luncheon.

On December 14th we will gather for our Christmas pot luck luncheon and dance around the Christmas tree singing familiar Christmas songs.

Now remember we are entering the winter season so weather will always have the final say.

Take care,

Lilly

The Church Café group.

# Upcoming events

## LIGHTING CANDLES IN REMEMBRANCE OF THOSE PASSED

On All Saints Sunday (Alle Helgens søndag) **November 5th 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.

Note: Daylight savings time ends Nov. 5

## Lucia Pageant 2023

All children, young or old are invited to participate in our Lucia Pageant. It will take place on Sunday December 10 at 10:30 am. To learn the songs, you will have to do a little homework and practice them at home.

To help with that, you can find a video and song sheets on our website.

We will have a little rehearsal on Sun Dec 3 when you are there to pick up your white gowns/shirts. On the Sunday of the Lucia Pageant, we will meet at 10:00 am and practice the songs while the adults are attending the service. At the end of the service, that is when we will do the Lucia Pageant. After 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!



## Welcome to our Christmas Concert

'Tis the season to enjoy a Christmas Sing-Along Concert. Enjoy the beautiful music of the season, and sing along to well-known Christmas Carols.

Join us on **Saturday, December 2, 2023, 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 under the church.

## NEWS FROM THE ROYAL DANISH CONSULATE



In August, we welcomed Karina Bech to Toronto in her new role as Consul General and Trade Commissioner. Karina starts her position with a wealth of knowledge on international strategy, business development, and commercial public affairs. Prior to her position in Toronto, Karina worked in both private and public sectors in Denmark, Kenya, and the Philippines. Her most recent posting being Head of Trade in Nairobi.

### DANISH MOVIE ON THE BIG SCREEN DOWNTOWN TORONTO

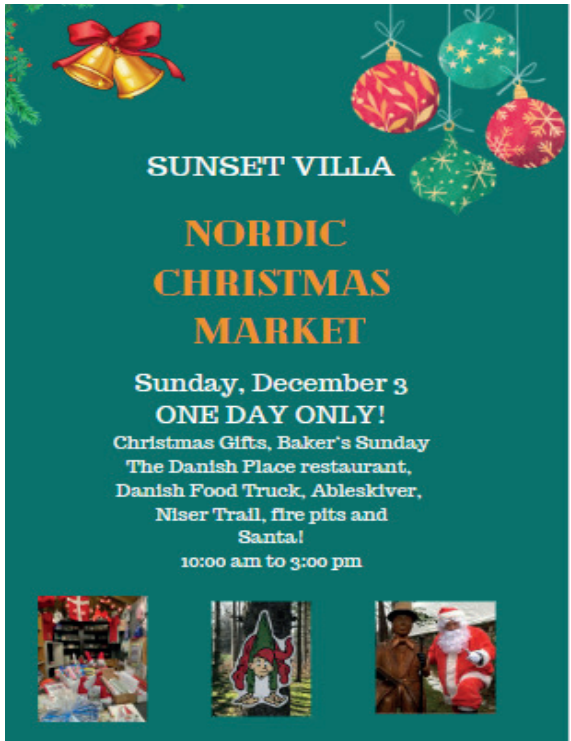
The European Union Film Festival will take place in November. The Danish Consulate General is proud to be sponsoring the Danish contribution to the film festival

**“Miss Viborg”,**

which will be showcased on **Tuesday,**

**November 28 at 6pm**

at the Spadina Theatre at Alliance Française, 24 Spadina Road in Toronto.




**SUNSET VILLA**

**NORDIC CHRISTMAS MARKET**

**Sunday, December 3**  
**ONE DAY ONLY!**

Christmas Gifts, Baker's Sunday  
The Danish Place restaurant,  
Danish Food Truck, Ablesktver,  
Niser Trail, fire pits and  
Santa!

10:00 am to 3:00 pm





# The Danish Christmas Bazaar is back in Toronto

Once again, we can meet for hygge, Danish Imports, and Smørrebrød, and many booths with a variety of goods for sale.

Welcome to this year's Christmas Bazaar!

**- SATURDAY NOVEMBER 18 FROM 10 AM TO 3 PM. -**

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.

**FIND THE WEB SHOP HERE:  
[WWW.DANCHURCH.CA/BAZAAR](http://WWW.DANCHURCH.CA/BAZAAR)**

Other activities will include a silent auction, a Christmas decoration 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.

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 18, or you can order online to have your order shipped after Nov 18. There will also be tables outside where we will sell glögg, hot chocolate, and æbleskiver.



Cash is best, but cheques and credit cards can also be used.

We look forward to seeing you at the Christmas Bazaar !!!!

# 2024 MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION

It is once again time for our annual membership drive. The 2024 membership registration form is included with this newsletter. Please note that the levy is \$20 per person.

As we are incorporated and a registered charity, memberships have to be renewed annually to be able to vote at our next AGM. Anyone 18 and over can be a member of our church. We much prefer you to register as a member, but if for some reason you choose not to, you are of course still welcome to participate in any and all of our events throughout the year. Please take this opportunity to update your address and indicate any e-mail changes or corrections.

This is also an opportunity to make an extra donation to the church as we are fully self-funded (we do not receive any funding from Denmark) and rely on our gracious donors and other fundraising events. Levies and donations are tax deductible. Remember to register before the next AGM.



## SUNSET MINDEPARK

- THE DANISH URN CEMETERY IN ONTARIO  
(Lic # 4138897 - adjacent to Sunset Villa)

Mail: 13 - 7150 R.R.2, Concession 1, Puslinch, ON,  
NOB 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)

## Volunteers needed - **you** can help

As most of you are aware, the church is run mostly by volunteers. Many of our current volunteers have been at it for many 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. And a big extra thank you to those who will sign up to help us.





## DANISH LUTHERAN CHURCH OF TORONTO

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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)



Danske  
Sømands- og  
Udlandskirker

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Bazaars	Kirstine Rasmussen Hanne Simmelsgaard Lisa McConnell	437-772-7247 <a href="mailto:bazaar@danchurch.ca">bazaar@danchurch.ca</a> 416-652-5287 905-459-3850
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	

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# 10 CHURCH SNAPSHOTS



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**September and October in the church:** 1-2: Welcome (back) fest  
3-4: Visit from Sønderborg Gymnasium  
5-6: Thanksgiving service by Pastor Pamela  
7-9: Thanksgiving Dinner  
10: Installation Service



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