



Danish Lutheran Church Toronto

a church of
The Danish Church Abroad / Danish Seamen's Church
Danske Sømands- og Udlandskirker (DSUK)

Kom, Jesus, vær vor hyttegæst,
hold selv i os din julefest!
Da skal med Davids-harpens klang
dig takke højt vor nytårssang.


















KIRKEHILSEN



DECEMBER 2009 - JANUARY 2010

GUDSTJENESTER

SERVICES BEGIN AT 10:30^{AM} UNLESS INDICATED

29. NOVEMBER	1. søndag i advent Lukas 4, 16-30 Children's Hour Lucia Rehearsal	
DECEMBER 6 TH 4:30PM SERVICE	2 nd Sunday of Advent Lucia Pageant	
DECEMBER 13 TH	3 rd Sunday in Advent The Nine Readings Children's Hour Nativity Play Rehearsal	
DECEMBER 20 TH	4. søndag i advent Joh. 3, 25-36 Children's Hour Nativity Play Rehearsal	
24. DECEMBER 2:30 DANSK 4:00 ENGLISH	Dansk Juleaftensgudstjeneste English Christmas Eve Service	 
25. DECEMBER 11:00AM	1. Juledag Joh. 1, 1-14	
DECEMBER 27 TH	Nativity Play Followed by Christmas Party for young and old in the Royal Hall	
JANUARY 3 RD	Epiphany and New Year Service Matt. 2: 1-12 Followed by Danish New Year's Celebration	
JANUARY 7 TH 12:00 NOON	Epiphany Service In conjunction with Golden Age Club Meeting	
10. JANUAR	1. søndag efter Helligtrekonger Mark. 10, 13-16	
JANUARY 17 TH	2nd Sunday after Epiphany John 4: 5-26 Children's Hour	
24. JANUAR	3. søndag efter Helligtrekonger Joh. 12, 23-33 Jørgen Flensted Jensen	
JANUARY 31 ST	Septuagesima Matt. 25: 14-30 Children's Hour	
7. FEBRUAR	Seksagesima Matt. 25: 14-30	

ALMANAK

CHOIR PRACTICE EACH TUESDAY AT 7:00PM

Saturday Nov 28 TH	2:00pm	Christmas Workshop - Juleværksted
Tuesday Dec 1 ST	Noon	Church Cafe
Friday Dec 4 TH	7:30pm	Folkdancing in Royal Hall
Sunday Dec 6 TH	4:30pm	Lucia Pagaent
Tuesday Dec 8 TH	Noon	Church Cafe
Thursday Dec 10 TH	Noon	Golden Age Club Christmas Party with Pot-luck Lunch
Friday Dec 11 TH	7:30pm	Choir Christmas Concert
Tuesday Dec 15 TH	Noon	Church Cafe
Thursday Dec 24 TH	2:30pm 4:00pm	Dansk Juleaftensgudstjeneste English Christmas Eve Service
Friday Dec 25 TH	11:00am	Juledag-gudstjeneste
Sunday Dec 27 TH	10:30am	Nativity Play followed by Christmas Party
Tuesday Jan 5 TH	Noon	Church Cafe
Thursday Jan 7 TH	Noon	Golden Age Club - Epiphany Service (Hellig Tre Konger) followed by lunch. Everyone is welcome
Friday Jan 8 TH	7:30pm	Folkdancing in the Royal Hall
Tuesday Jan 12 TH	Noon	Church Cafe
Thursday Jan 14 TH	7:30pm	Bible Study Group
Friday Jan 15 TH	8:00pm	At the Movies - "Dommeren" with English Subtitles
Tuesday Jan 19 TH	Noon	Church Cafe
Thursday Jan 21 ST	Noon	Golden Age Club - AGM & Lunch
Friday Jan 22 ND	7:30pm	Folkdancing in Royal Hall
Tuesday Jan 26 TH	Noon	Church Cafe

SPECIAL SERVICES

LUCIA PAGEANT DECEMBER 6TH, 4:30^{PM}

The season of Advent begins the church year with a mixture of hope and joy. Come and be part of our church as it celebrates the Advent season.

Included in the church service, the second Sunday of Advent, will be the Lucia Pageant with all the children singing well loved songs by candlelight.

After the service we will continue to celebrate downstairs with our Advent wreaths, Christmas songs and special presentations. For the first time we will enjoy a Frikadelle Dinner followed by the traditional Danish cakes.

Don't miss celebrating the beginning of our Christmas season with all our children!

THE NINE READINGS DECEMBER 13TH, 10:30^{AM}

Do you need a quiet time in an often very busy season then come to The Nine Readings at our church! We will be singing many of the loved and well known Advent hymns, hear readings from the Bible that relate to this special season and afterwards as always gather in the Royal Hall for fellowship.

The readings will be read by members of the congregation. If you would like to do one of the readings, please let Pastor Elisabeth know.

NATIVITY PLAY - JULETRÆFEST DECEMBER 27TH, 10:30^{AM}

Again this year you can meet the cute sheep, the beautiful angels, the three Wise Men, and all the other persons who were in the stable with Mary and Joseph the night baby Jesus was born. As always we will sing some of the most popular Christmas carols and songs.

After the play you are all invited to the traditional "Juletræsfest". In the Royal Hall we will dance around the Christmas tree, hopefully get a visit from Santa, and play new and old Danish "sanglege".

Remember to bring some of your leftover cakes, cookies or other goodies from Christmas.

Rehearsal on December 13th and 20th: Young and old and those in between are very welcome to come and participate in the play.

SPECIAL SERVICES

EPIPHANY SERVICE - DANISH NEW YEAR JANUARY 3RD

Epiphany day is the last day of Christmas. It falls on January 6th, right after New Year. On January 3rd we will celebrate both Epiphany and the New Year. In the church we will for the last time be singing some of the Christmas hymns. We will hear about the visit of the Wise Men to Bethlehem and reflect upon what a New Year can bring us. After the service we will celebrate the New Year in the Royal Hall, have a glass of champagne, eat "kransekage" and see HRH Queen Margrethe II's New Year speech to all Danish people living in Denmark as well as abroad.

EPIPHANY- HELLIG TRE KONGERS SERVICE THURSDAY JANUARY 7TH

The Golden Age Club is having this service as a program celebrating the Wise Men's coming to the Christ Child. It is the final part of the Christmas celebrations and also a good beginning of the New Year.

We invite everybody to take part and will serve a nice lunch for you after the service. Please phone Else 905 619 2456 if you plan to take part, so we will know how many we should count on for the lunch. Thanks.

DANISH BRASS BAND



On October 11th we celebrated thanksgiving in our church. This day we had special guests from Denmark visiting us: "Hvidovre Musikskoles Brass Band".

JULEVÆRKSTED

CHRISTMAS WORKSHOP

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 28TH, 2^{PM}

Christmas is the season of many traditions and again this year we will gather to share and enjoy some of the good, old Danish ones.

We will weave Danish Christmas hearts and make stars, cut “kravlenisser”, make “konfekt”, “vride klejner”, bake “pebernødder” and make “juledekorationer”. There will be helpers at all booths to show you or remind you how it is all done.

We will enjoy Lis and Ole’s delicious homemade æbleskiver with a cup of hot

gløgg. We will play Danish and English Christmas songs, and a short movie (the Danish Children’s Christmas Calendar) will be shown.

Bring along your family, friends and neighbours, or join us on your own to enjoy this afternoon full of traditional Danish Julehygge! The Christmas Workshop is held in conjunction with Danskskolen. Suggested donation at the door to cover costs is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children.

CHOIR CONCERT

FRIDAY DECEMBER 11TH, 7:30^{PM}

The church choir will present a Christmas concert of Danish and English music on Friday, December 11th at 7:30 pm in the church sanctuary. Come join us for a unique mix of classic carols along with new favourites. Rounding out the concert, a selection of fun sing-along carols is sure to put you in the Christmas spirit. We will continue the celebration with some treats in the Royal Hall afterward. A donation of \$10 is suggested at the door.

We look forward to seeing you there!



COMING EVENTS 2010

Fastelavn and Children's Service	Sunday February 14
Annual General Meeting	Sunday March 7
Spring Bazaar & Silent Auction	Saturday March 27
Royal Dinner (and Federation meeting)	Saturday April 17
Confirmation	Sunday April 25
Confirmation Lunch	Sunday May 2
Skt. Hans and Summer Lottery	Sunday June 20
Danish Summer Day Camp	Mon. July 5- Fri. July 9
Thanksgiving Dinner	Saturday October 16
Fall and Christmas Bazaar	Saturday November 20
Lucia Pageant	Sunday December 5
Nativity Play - Juletræsfest	Sunday December 26

DANISH FOLKDANCERS



Our Danish Folkdancers combined with the Swedish and Finnish dancers and performed at the CIBC Run for the Cure on Oct 4th. From left to right: Audrey Urszulan, Claes Holmquist and Dorothy Sloan.

PASTOR'S CORNER

IN JESUS CHRIST, GOD IS NEAR US

Lovet være du, Jesus Krist!
at du menneske vorden est,
født af en jomfru ren og skær,
gladelig hilst af himlens hær.
O, Gud ske lov!

(Den Danske Salmebog vers 108 v. 1)

When Jesus was born, God came near us. This is what this loved Danish Christmas hymn tells us. It praises Jesus, because he became a human being just like you and me. It praises Jesus in the same way as the heavenly host did the night he was born. Jesus actually makes the difference between Christianity and all the other religions in the world. Being Christians we believe in many of the same things as Muslims, Jews, Buddhists, Hindus and other believers. But our faith is that in Jesus Christ, God came near us and that makes Christianity different from other religions.

Jesus means something special to us, and therefore the confession to him in our creed consists of many more words than the confessions to God the almighty and the Holy Spirit.

When we confess our faith in Jesus Christ we begin with:

We believe in Jesus Christ, God's only son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary.

Jesus was conceived by God's Holy Spirit, we confess, this means that already at the conception of Jesus, God was somehow present. We continue the confession with saying: "born of the Virgin Mary". If Mary really was a virgin or not, when Jesus was born, I am not going to discuss here, I think it is too sensitive a question,

and in my opinion also less important, but you are anytime welcome to come and talk with me about it. What I think is essential about this part of the confession is that we express that Jesus is not born of God, but of a real human being. His birth was not anything mysterious, but a birth like ours, a human birth in flesh and blood.

In the confession we do not say anything about the life Jesus lived, but only about the two main occurrences in his life: His birth and his death. We continue the confession saying:

Jesus suffered under Pontius Pilate, he was crucified, dead and buried.

Jesus died a death full of suffering. Through Jesus God experienced an almost unbearable pain. It was so painful that Jesus, when it was worst, thought God had left him all alone on the cross. But God was also with him here. At the crucifixion God was as near Jesus as ever. For us people this means that even when we are suffering the most, we are never left alone, God is with us. Our Christian God is the God of comfort and compassion.

The confession to Jesus ends with a description of his resurrection:

He descended into Hell, the third day he rose again from the dead, ascended into heaven, where he is sitting at the right hand of God the father the almighty,

from thence he shall come to judge the living and the dead.

We confess that Jesus rose from the death. But how this happened, what he looked like or what we shall do to obtain the same, the creed says nothing about. We can speculate upon these things from today until our death, but we can also decide to live our life, and then just have faith in that God is near us, even when we die.

Himlens lys kom I dig til jord,
skinner til ny oplysning stor,
godt kan vi nu ved nattetid
kende som børn vor Fader blid.
O, Gud ske lov!

(Den Danske Salmebog nr. 108 v. 4)

Through Jesus, God is near us also at nighttime, when everything around us seems dark and dismal. And he is not only near us Christians, but all people on earth: the Muslims, the Jews, the Buddhists, the Hindus and every one else. Our God is the God of all people, as he created us all in his own image.

May God be near you this Christmas season and bring the blessings of his Son's birth to all of you.

Glædelig jul

Pastor Elisabeth og præstefamilien

BIBLE STUDY GROUP

IS IT THE SAME GOD WE BELIEVE IN?

The Christian God is the God of all people, but is it the same God we believe in? This will be the theme for the study group during this winter and spring. We will together be reading Niels Henrik Arendt's book "Er det den samme Gud? Gud i kristendommen og andre religioner". This book is discussing, from a Christian point of view, the different religions' understanding of God and how it is related to our Christian faith. For people who cannot read Danish, I will try to find some English articles that reflect upon the same theme.

We will meet the first time on January 14th at 7.30 pm in the church, and every second Thursday of the month until May. For further information contact Pastor Elisabeth.

CONFIRMANTS

A new group of confirmants - Dana MacDonald, Julia Nelson and Benjamin Kidston have started classes this fall, a small but very enthusiastic group. We are just getting to know each other, but as always I enjoy the special moments with the youth. New confirmants also mean new parents to help out with the coffee duties. Thank you for the great help you are and for the special treats you serve for the congregation on Sundays.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

My, how time flies when you're having fun. It seems like it was just yesterday that we enjoyed a story-teller at the Welcome Back From Summer Fest, a unique Thanksgiving Service (including a Brass Band from DK), a wonderful Thanksgiving Dinner complete with delicious food, friendly service, and exciting entertainment (violinist, accordionist, folk dancers, and dancing ladies no less, all "home grown" at that!!!), and even a scary Halloween Family Service. And if that wasn't enough, we threw in a Fall Clean-Up, a Garage Sale, added a couple of birthday celebrations (Grethe and the church), a Remembrance Day Service complete with multiple choirs, not to mention our regular mid-week activities of Church Café, Choir Practice, GAC, Folk Dancing, and Movie Nights. Did you miss out on any of these? We can also look forward to the coming festive events including our annual Fall/Christmas Bazaar and Lottery, Christmas Workshop, Lucia Pageant, Choir's Christmas Concert, the Christmas Play and "Juletraesfest", and a new way to start the year with a special service complete with a "royal" flavour. Most of these events are geared towards children and families, so please bring them whether they are your kids, your grandkids, or even your friend's or neighbour's kids. Please check the calendar and almanac (pages 2 and 3), or the website, for specific dates and times.

Before you know it, 2009 will have passed. We may be a bit tired after all these events, but certainly not bored. It is important to remember that the quantity, variety, and success of these events could not happen without the hard work of the many volunteers who put them on,

or without the financial support of the participants. Thank you to all these people whose benefits are there for the rest of us to share and enjoy. As with all charitable organizations, we are totally dependent on volunteers and donations. Let's all continue to work towards keeping both of these important partners alive and well.

This is always a very busy time of year whether you are at home, or work, or even at our church. Although we are not running around looking for nuts and berries to store for the long cold winter ahead like some of our furry friends, we still are very busy making preparations for the coming holiday and winter season. This is a festive time worthy of many special celebrations, not the least of which, for us of course, is Christmas. Our customs for this time of year usually include some sort of gift giving as a way to express our joy and appreciation for each other. In these challenging times, we could all do well by remembering that it is not the size of the gift that counts, but the thought and care behind it, along with the need of the intended beneficiary. After all, he was called GOOD King Wenceslas for a reason.

We are here each and every Sunday. Bring your families and friends. All are welcome to participate and share the benefits of our wonderful church. Best wishes to all for a joyful and safe Christmas Season, and happiness and health for the New Year.

Sune Overgaard



THANKSGIVING DINNER



Our own Jazz Divas entertained us at the 2009 Thanksgiving Dinner. From left to right: Anita Hansen, Lis Beyer, Hanne Simmelsgaard, Lisbet MacKenzie, Helle Teton & Audrey Urszulan. Thanks to everyone for a wonderful night.

CHRISTMAS SEALS

By this time you would have received your Christmas seals, along with your membership notification letter. We hope you enjoy them. If you want to “pay for the seals” we appreciate your donation. At Christmas time we traditionally receive quite a few donations in the mail, outside of the church service. For these donations, as well as any donation received during the year, tax receipts will be mailed in early 2010.



GOLDEN AGE CLUB

JULEHILSEN

Christmas is approaching and I wish all the members of the Golden Age Club a very happy Christmas and a good New Year. We have had a good year with many interesting programs in our club, but we have also had to say goodbye to some of our most faithful members, which was very sad. I want to bid a special hearty welcome to 12 members of the Scandinavian Club who have joined our club and who took part in our bus trip. I think it is great if the two clubs can work together, and we really had a good time together on the trip. I hope we will have a wonderful Christmas party and for January we are looking forward to the Epiphany service as a good beginning to the New Year. Then later on in January we have the annual meeting. Please show up on that day, it is important to get feedback on what we did in 2009 and also get new ideas for the benefit of our club in 2010.

CHURCH CAFÉ

It has been quite awhile since you have heard about the Church Café. About 25-30 enthusiastic people meet every Tuesday for lunch, laughter and Danish and English songs. Following a cup of coffee, an hour is devoted to cards or dice. Special events include celebration of birthdays, a visit to Sunset Villa and our famous Christmas party. You are most welcome to drop by any Tuesday afternoon for a “hyggelig” time.

All friends in the Church Café are wished Glædelig Jul.

CHILDREN'S HOUR

November and December are the months where we enjoy seeing the most children in our church. They attend Children's Hour, rehearse for Lucia and The Christmas Play, make new friends and hear about God's love. How wonderful it is to once again share the story of the birth of God's Son. With enthusiasm the children sing, Et barn er født i Betlehem and Dejlig er den himmel blå. By bringing your children to church, dear parents and grandparents, you are enabling the next generation to be part of this special fellowship and gain a better understanding of Danish culture, traditions and our Christian heritage.

Children's Hour is held during services and is for children 3 to 13 years of age. We hear Bible stories, sing and do crafts connected to that Sunday's story. Whether children come for one Sunday or many, they are very welcome. Please send 50 cents with your child to help cover materials and treats.

Merry Christmas to everyone!
See you at church, Liselotte

NEWS FROM GRIMSBY

We wish all our friends in the Danish Lutheran Church in Toronto a happy Christmas and God's blessing for the church in the year to come. As for most other churches December is a very busy and joyful time for the congregation. The Lucia Pageant on Dec. 13th at 2 pm is always one of our highlights with the white dressed kids coming into the sanctuary. The Nine Readings take place as an evening candlelight service on Sunday 20th at 7 pm, where the second-generation immigrants are our readers. And don't forget the real Danish "Juleaften gudstjeneste" on Dec. 24th at 2 pm. Also the Danish congregation in Waterloo celebrates a Danish julegudstjeneste on Sunday Dec. 20th at 3 pm at St. John's Lutheran Church, followed by a joyful fellowship with coffee, sing-along and a Danish Christmas story. – In January we are back to normal again, where everyone is welcome to our Sunday services at 10.30 am.

Jorgen Flensted-Jensen

SUNSET VILLA REPORT

Greetings from Sunset Villa Association in Puslinch,

Our campgrounds are now closed for the 2009 season and the grounds have been cleaned up ready for winter.

We have many activities for the fall such as - Annual Bazaar on November 28 & 29 and the Children's Christmas Party on December 13, 2009.

Our restaurant is continuing to provide authentic Danish cuisine for your enjoyment although it will be closed end of December until early February.

Our Villa Cafe Club continues every 2nd Thursday of the month with lunch, sing along and games.

Please check the web site at www.sunsetvilla.on.ca for full details. All are welcome to enjoy the good times with us.

"God Jul"

DANISH SUMMER DAY CAMP

MONDAY JULY 5TH TO FRIDAY JULY 9TH

We will repeat last year's success with the Summer Day Camp. It is a camp for children between the ages of 4 and 12. At the camp your child will learn about Danish culture, get a chance to practice their Danish language skills and make friends with other children of Danish heritage. More details to follow.

AT THE MOVIES

DOMMEREN - THE JUDGE - 2005

FRIDAY JAN. 15TH @ 8:00^{PM} (W/ ENGLISH SUB.)



Jens Christian is a highly competent judge and newly appointed chairman of the Danish Refugee Board. He rules to deport poet and political activist Sergo Bliadze, a potential political refugee. Hearing the verdict, Bliadze attempts suicide. Minister, media and colleagues come down hard on Jens Christian. In the midst of his biggest professional crisis, Anders of fifteen, a son he has never admitted to having, turns up. His personal life is now in a state of chaos and Jens Christian puts up a fight in both worlds to make it all fit together.

TILLYKKE GRETHE!



My thanks to all who helped make my 100th birthday such a memorable occasion. Thanks for the greetings, the cards and the flowers. I enjoyed the Surprise Party at the Golden Age Club, the Fashion Show Through the Ages at the Church Café and the beautiful roses and good wishes sent from the church.

Venlig hilsen fra Grethe Østergaard

SERVICES IN MEMORIAM



Thyra Skov Hansen
(1932-2009)

Born in Gislev, Danmark
Died in Mississauga, Ontario
Leaving husband Osvald, 3 children
and 7 grandchildren

MEMBERSHIP & DUES

Membership Deadline for voting at 2010 AGM is Sunday Dec 6th.

Membership application forms have been mailed out. If you did not get one or would like to become a member please contact Minister or any Board Member for more information (see back of “Kirke Hilsen” for contact information).

ATTENDANCE & COLLECTION

Date	Attendance	Amount
SEP 27 TH	43	\$405
OCT 1 ST	57	\$769
OCT 4 TH	34	\$222
OCT 11 TH	119	\$1141
OCT 18 TH	42	\$540
OCT 25 TH	63	\$477
NOV 1 ST	81	\$773
NOV 8 TH	120	\$795
NOV 15 TH	74	\$493

DANISH LUTHERAN CHURCH

72 Finch Avenue West, Toronto, Ontario, M2N 2H4

Phone in Church 416-222-0990, website: www.dlctoronto.on.ca

Pastor	Elisabeth Arendt 72 Finch Ave. West (rear) Toronto, ON, M2N 2H4	416-222-2494 dlctoronto@rogers.com (OFFICE CLOSED ON MONDAYS)
Chair	Sune Overgaard 4105 Treetop Crescent Mississauga, ON, L5L 2L6	905-820-1628 sune@rm.northsails.com
Vice-Chair	Lilly Nielsen 22 Carroll St. Whitby, ON, L1N 7Y4	905-665-3080
Treasurer	Paul Hillerup 122 Beech Avenue Toronto, ON, M4E 3H6	416-919-1078 paul.hillerup@gmail.com
Secretary	Jannie Decoste 629 Claymeadow Avenue Mississauga, ON, L5B 4H7	905-272-4631 jdecoste@rogers.com
Trustees	Lisa McConnell Hanne Simmelsgaard John Uffe Audrey Urszulan	905-459-3850 416-652-5287 416-424-1370 416-702-8651

Activity Contacts

Bazaars	Liselotte Østergaard Gurli Ahlgreen Lisbet MacKenzie	905-898-3779 416-653-8414 647-343-7687
Children's Hour	Liselotte Østergaard	905-898-3779
Golden Age Club	Else Staal Nielsen	905-619-2456
KirkeHilsen	Helle Teton Paul Hillerup	416-260-8413 416-919-1078
Choir Director	Kiera Galway	647-637-7560
Organist	Michael Sharkey	416-806-5454

Kirke Hilsen is published six times a year, 650 copies.