

At our October board meeting, we talked about the coming Christmas season and the traditions we have here at Ansgar Church. We decided to hold a family service on December 14, and we hope some of our children and youth will join in by singing in the Lucia procession or helping with the nativity play. We will continue the lovely tradition of going around singing Christmas carols for those who find it hard to make it to church. That will take place on December 6. It is such a lovely tradition - one I have only ever seen in movies, where it always looks cozy (and a little cold!).

The tradition of singing Christmas carols actually began in Italy. St. Francis of Assisi, who founded the Franciscan order, started the first nativity scenes back in 1223. He built small models of the stable in Bethlehem and arranged plays there to bring the Christmas story to life. Along with the nativity scenes came songs - simple Christmas carols that ordinary people could sing along with, not just the monks.

One of these songs, originally written in Latin, was "Adeste Fideles." It was later translated into "O Come, All Ye Faithful." Before long, many of these songs were translated into everyday languages so everyone could understand and sing them. In England, small groups began going around towns in the evenings during Christmas time, singing carols to welcome the season.

The word "carol" originally meant a circular dance, and many carols still carry that cheerful, dance-like feeling. The lyrics tell the story of the Nativity - though over time, some songs wandered a bit from the biblical account!

When Christmas Carols Were Banned

In 1647, Oliver Cromwell came to power in England. As a Puritan, he wanted to strip the church of anything that might distract from true worship. Under his rule, Christmas celebrations were toned down, and singing carols was actually



banned. But people kept the songs alive in secret. Then, in the mid-1800s, during the Victorian era, two men, William Sandys and Davis Gilbert, collected and published the old carols from villages across England, and the tradition came alive again. From there, it spread across the world - even to us here in Edmonton.

The Nine Lessons

Today, Christmas carols are still sung in the streets and in churches at special candlelit services. One of the most famous is the Christmas Eve service at King's College, Cambridge, where nine Bible readings lead listeners through the

story of salvation - from Creation, through the Fall, the prophecies of a coming Savior, the birth of Jesus, and finally, a hymn of praise to Christ. Between each of the nine readings, the congregation sings carols together. The first service of this kind was held in 1918, to mark the end of World War I, and it has since become a beloved tradition around the world.

This year, we will hold a similar service on December 21, the winter solstice, where we listen to the nine readings and sing carols together. With so much unrest and conflict still in our world, we need, more than ever, to gather around and share the message of peace. There are so many good reasons to come together in church in the coming months - to listen to God's Word, to sing in His honour, and to meet one another in fellowship and joy.

***Sing, choirs of angels!
Sing in exultation,
Sing all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God in the highest:
O, come let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord!***

Glædelig Jul
Jane Marie Sognstrup

Ansgar Church NEWSLETTER

Six issues per year.
Advertising rates per year:

Business card - \$65
1/4 page - \$100
1/2 page - \$135
3/4 page - \$175
1 page - \$215

If you would like to receive this newsletter in pdf format instead of a printed hardcopy, please forward your email address to: ansgarnews@gmail.com and we will add it to our electronic mailing list.

Don't forget to check out the books available in the **Lending Library**. There is everything from Danish history to current popular novels in English. Something for everyone!

Bring in a book to share and borrow a book you haven't yet read - Danish or English.

The subject matter can be anything you think someone else will enjoy. All items can be borrowed and returned or simply kept and passed on for others to enjoy.



NOTICE OF Annual Congregational Meeting February 22, 2026

Remember you must register to vote every year.

Voter registration cards will be available at the church.

4 ways to access this newsletter:

1. Download it from our website www.ansgar.ca
2. Provide us with your email address
3. Provide your mailing address and it will be mailed to your home.
4. Pick up a copy at the church

Contact Alice Nickel at ansgarnews@gmail.com or 780-405-0966 for more information.

Deadline for submissions for the

January/February 2026 Newsletter is **December 10, 2025**

Email submissions to ansgarnews@gmail.com

Printed copies of the City of Edmonton Temporary Parking Permits

to be displayed
on the dash of your vehicle
during Stadium Events only
are available to all
in the church basement.

Would you like to see
this newsletter in

COLOUR?

Go to our website www.ansgar.ca and click on the "NEWSLETTER" tab to view the colour version.

Join our Sunday Services! Now live-streamed on our YouTube channel:

OUR YouTube CHANNEL:
Ansgar Church on YouTube

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You do not have to be on Facebook to view this page
Facebook.com/AnsgarChurch/

OUR WEB PAGE:
www.ansgar.ca
Click on the "Videos" tab and view any of the videos on YouTube

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if you want to stay in touch!
You can view this page without being on Facebook.



Follow us on Instagram
[ansgar_church](https://www.instagram.com/ansgar_church)



A Message from the Board

Hello Ansgar members and friends!

Thank you to the Pastoral Selection Committee for all their hard work in preparing a comprehensive orientation manual for our Pastor. The manual provides answers to questions that newcomers to Ansgar Church and the City of Edmonton might have.

Thank you to the Ansgar Danish Women's Group for putting on a delicious fall meal for us. It was well attended, and much appreciation goes to the organizers and volunteers who made it happen.

The Church exterior repairs were completed with final paint to follow in the spring. Also, the large stained-glass window in the Church was re-sealed and a new protective glass installed.

If you haven't volunteered for a shift at the Casino yet, please contact Angela Moroz to sign up for a shift. The dates are January 19 & 20. This is our biggest fundraiser. Please see more details in this newsletter and volunteer for a shift.

Deacon's helpers are needed on Sundays. Any help with deacon duties would be appreciated. Here are a few of them: raising/lowering the flags, washing the communion cups, making coffee/tea, serving cake or cookies, washing towels/tablecloths

Lending library: We have received more books and need help going through them.

Operation Friendship Partnership, in addition to their lunch volunteer program, they are collecting socks, clothing, empties, etc. We will have marked container set up to drop your donations in.

Board member needed! Our meetings are held once per month either on a Tuesday evening or Sunday afternoon during the winter. You are welcome to join us at a meeting to see what it's all about.

We hope that the New Year brings you peace, love, joy and good health.

Merry Christmas / Glædelig Jul!
Happy New Year / Godt Nyt Aar!

Dorrit Morrow
Board President

MENIGHEDSRAADET

The Church Board
2025

Dorrit Morrow
President
780-722-9372

Mette Rasmussen
Vice-President
780-434-5071

Maria Hjort Guiney
Secretary
780-717-7910

Bent Skousbøl
Treasurer
780-458-7695

Inge Fenger-Andersen
Deacon
780-454-1679

Angela Moroz
Deacon
780-909-9115

Kirsten Olsen
Deacon
780-474-4254

Daniel Aalto
Trustee
780-729-8634

Lis Walker
Trustee
780-691-8130

VACANT
Trustee

Pastor
Jane Marie Sognstrup

Ansgar Danish Lutheran Church
9554-108A Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta, T5H 1C1

780-422-8777

www.ansgar.ca

Ansgar Group Activities

DANISH WOMEN'S GROUP

What a lovely Fall we have had!

We began the Fall season with a generous, extended lunch out in the sunshine at Birthe Nielsen's home in Stony Plain. We capped the month off hosting a hearty, traditional turkey and duck dinner in the Church. The Ansgar Fall Harvest Dinner was held on October 3rd, with over 50 people attending the evening and enjoying lively conversations among family and friends, familiar Autumn songs and delicious food! This was also the first time some of the members met our new Pastor, Jane Sognstrup.

We were successful on this evening at raising just under \$2,000.00 to support our church. Thanks to the industrious volunteers who decorated, peeled, baked, roasted, cooked and served, as well as cleaned up afterwards...and to their helpers who procured supplies and sold tickets. Most of all, thanks to the people who support the Church by attending and enjoying these functions. We couldn't do it without your support!

Now, we are moving on to plan for the next function, which so many of us enjoy: the **Annual Christmas Bazaar**, featuring Danish baking, Christmas crafts, and the best Danish open-faced sandwiches (smørrebrød) you can find anywhere! It will be held again at the **German Canadian Cultural Centre** on **Saturday, November 29th**. Entrance is still free. Doors will open at 12:00 pm and close at 2:30 pm. It is a warm and festive gathering of family and friends. We look forward to seeing you there!

If you can't make the Bazaar, or you need "extras" for Christmas, don't forget to check the Ansgar website <https://www.ansgar.ca> for news about the Christmas On-Line Bake Sale. We sell Danish Christmas specialties there too. Look for the ad in this Newsletter.

The Women's Group meetings are held the fourth Tuesday of the month, in the Church basement, at 10:00 am. We are both a social group, enjoying the company of many Church friends and a working group, raising funds to support our Church's operation. If that sounds like you, you are welcome. Remember to bring your own lunch. Any changes in meeting or event dates are posted in the Newsletter Calendar. For further information, contact Jeanna Baty at 780-474-4254

CHAT'N'CRAFT



We will get-together in the parsonage at 1:30 on November 5th and December 3rd. Bring your knitting or whatever craft you have on the go.

THE ANSGAR SINGERS

It's time to warm up the vocal cords! The next rehearsal for the Ansgar Singers will take place at the church on Sunday, October 26th from 12:30 to 1:30 followed by a meeting (approximately 1 hour). We will be discussing several things at the meeting including how to move forward with the choir in the new year! Other dates include November 2, All Saints Day rehearsal at 3:00 followed by the service at 4:30 pm; Saturday, December 6th Caroling; Sunday, December 7th rehearsal at 12:30 and Sunday, December 14th 9:00 am rehearsal followed by the service.

If you are interested in becoming a choir member, please contact Amelia at ameliakaminski@gmail.com or 780-428-6187.

HYGGEKLUBBEN

We're enjoying the lovely fall weather and getting ready for our next Hyggeklub. Our date for November is the 19th, when Inge and John Andersen are coming to share their hiking holiday in Spain and Portugal this year. In December we meet on the 17th.

We meet at the church on the third Wednesday of each month at noon. Everyone brings something light to share for lunch. We sing from Højskole Sangbogen, a lot of sharing happens and the main thing on the menu is Hygge. Hope to see you there. Randi Mark.

MORGENKAFFE PÅ DANSK



We will meet again at 9 am on November 16th and in December on the 7th.

EASIEST WAY TO DONATE

You can donate to our church on a regular monthly basis by simply contacting the treasurer.

Bent will set you up to have a charge put on your credit card. Remember that we get no financial support from any government. We rely completely upon our members. We appreciate your support.

Contact our treasurer Bent Skousbøl at 780-458-7695 or Email: ansgartreasurer@gmail.com



All Saints Service

**November 2nd
4:30 pm**

Perhaps the most beautiful service in the Church Year with candlelight, music, and lots of memories as we remember the loved ones we miss.

We will mention the names of those we have lost in our little congregation and light a candle in their memory.

You will also have the opportunity to light a candle in memory of someone you personally miss at the service.

All are welcome!



Donate a Car Canada accepts old vehicles for Ansgar. Free towing is provided in most areas across Canada or you can drop off your car to maximize your donation. When you donate your car, truck, RV, boat or motorcycles, it will either be recycled or re-sold (depending on it's condition, age and location). Donate a Car Canada will look after the details to make it easy for Ansgar Church to benefit. You will receive a tax receipt after your donation has been processed!

Go to www.ansgar.ca and click on the DONATE tab to learn more



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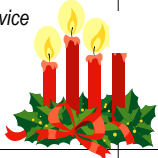
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780-249-6302 • info@threevikings.ca



NOVEMBER 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2 4:30 pm ENGLISH ALL SAINTS DAY SERVICE Matthew 5, 1-13  3:00 pm Choir practice	3	4	5 1:30 pm Chat'n'Craft (see pg 4) 	6	7	1 8
9 10:30 am DANISH 21st Sunday after Trinity John 4, 46-53 12:30 pm Board Meeting	10 ONLINE BAKESALE BEGINS! 	11	12	13 11:00 am Operation Friendship (see pg 11)	14	15
16 10:30 am ENGLISH 22nd Sunday after Trinity Matthew 18, 21-35 9 am Morgenkaffe på Dansk 	17	18	19 12 noon Hyggeklubben	20 ONLINE BAKESALE ENDS! 	21	22
23 10:30 am ENGLISH Last Sunday of the Church Year Matthew 25, 31-46 Pastor Tim Posyluzny officiating With our friends from St. John's	24	25 10:00 am Danish Women's Group (see pg 4)	26	27	28	 Noon - 2:30 pm ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BAZAAR (see pg 12)
30 10:30 am ENGLISH 1st Sunday in Advent Luke 4, 16-30 					SPECIAL THIS MONTH: November 2 All Saints Service November 5 Craft'n'Chat November 10-20 Online Bakesale November 29 Annual Christmas Bazaar November 30 First Sunday in Advent	

DECEMBER 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
SPECIAL THIS MONTH: December 6 Caroling December 14 Family Christmas Service December 21 Winter Solstice Service December 24 1 pm Danish, 2:30 pm English	1	2	3 1:30 pm Chat'n'Craft (see pg 4) 	4	5	6 <i>Noon</i> CHRISTMAS CAROLING (see pg 10) 
7 2.søndag i advent Mattæus 25, 1-13 9 am Morgenkaffe på Dansk  12:30 pm Choir Practice 	10:30 am DANSK 8	9 7:00 pm Board Meeting	10	11 11 am Operation Friendship (see pg 11)	12	13
14 3rd Sunday in Advent Luke 1, 67-80 Family Christmas Service and Julehygge 9:00 am Choir practice 	10:30 am ENGLISH 15	16	17 12 noon Hyggeklubben	18	19	20
21 4th Sunday in Advent John 3, 25-36 Winter Solstice Service With our friends from St. John's 	10:30 am ENGLISH 22	23	24 CHRISTMAS EVE JULEAFTEN	24 JULEAFTEN 1:00 pm DANSK Lukas 2, 1-14 CHRISTMAS EVE 2:30 pm ENGLISH Luke 2, 1-14 25 CHRISTMAS DAY 11:00 am ENGLISH John 1, 1-14		27
28 Christmas Sunday Matthew 2, 13-23	10:30 am ENGLISH 29	30	31 NEW YEARS EVE No service at Ansgar	1 NEW YEARS DAY No service at Ansgar		

DANISH COMMUNITY NEWS

For Danes and Canadians in Edmonton
The Danish Canadian Society

DANIA

Dances - Camp outs - Children's Events - Newsletter



President Lis Walker
780.433.9932

daniaedmonton@gmail.com or
daniapresident@gmail.com

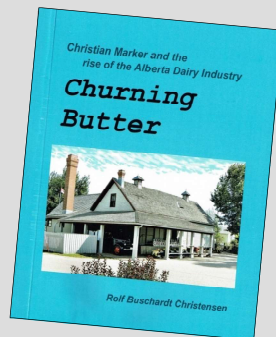


*The 2025 edition of the
Danish Canadian Heritage Book
is now available at Ansgar
for the purchase price of \$20.00*

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*Christian Marker
and the Rise of
the Alberta
Dairy Industry*

Available for purchase
at Ansgar



Danes Worldwide

Danes Worldwide is an organization that represents Danes who live abroad for personal or career reasons.

Its activities include educational programmes, local networking around the world, and participation in public debate in matters relevant to its members.

Check out their website www.danes.dk



Family Yule Service with the Ansgar Choir & "Julehygge"

**Sunday, December 14th
10:30 am**

Family Yule Service with
Christmas carols and entertainment
by the children, followed by
"julehygge" in the Church Basement.
Bring your favourite Christmas cookies
plus æbleskiver and glogg to share.

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This years' Fall Harvest Dinner
was a great success
and enjoyed by all!



Thank you to the Danish Women's
Group for a delicious dinner at this
popular annual fundraiser.



Winter Gospel Service

Sunday, December 21st

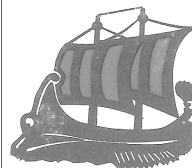
we will enjoy a special service
celebrating the Christmas season
with beautiful hymns and carols
and hear the readings of

**The Nine
Lessons**



SILENT AUCTION DONATIONS

*Do you have a cherished item
that you would like to donate to the
Silent Auction at the Christmas Bazaar?
Call Jeanna Baty at 780-474-4254*



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The Ansgar Online Market is open for orders
Go to ansgar-online-market.square.site

Lots of Danish goodies still available!

Send us an email if you would like to be added to our email list and receive notices when a new shipment has arrived:

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bornholmerakvavit@shaw.ca

Christmas Caroling

December 6th



We are reviving our old tradition! Join us as we visit those who would enjoy a visit filled with Christmas cheer!

We will meet in the church basement at 12 noon.

- Danish mother/daughter team
- Decluttering, organization and storage solutions
- Small or large spaces welcome
- Eco Station or Goodwill drops included
- Free consultations

We look forward to creating your Hygge Space!



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September 7th, 2025
was an historic day for Ansgar Church.

Jane Marie Sognstrup

was officially installed as our new pastor.
Pastor Carsten from the Danish Church in
Vancouver officiated and
gave a wonderful speech sharing his
thoughts on being a Danish pastor in Canada.



Confirmation Class 2025 - 2026

Confirmation classes have just
begun for confirmation on
May 31st, 2026.

Classes will be held at the church
on November 6th and November
27th from 7 - 9 pm.



Dates for the new year to come.

*To sign up and/or any
questions contact
Pastor Jane at
780 422 8777 or
780 994 1938 or
ansgarlc@shaw.ca*

CASINO FUNDRAISER

Ansgar Church has our Casino volunteer commitment coming
up on January 19 and 20, 2026. The funds we receive from this
event go a long way in offsetting our operating costs.

Thank you to everyone who has already stepped forward to
volunteer for shifts. Out of the 34 shifts we are committed to,
we have a remaining 10 not yet spoken for:

January 19, 2026

Chip Runner - 6:30 PM - 3:30 AM
Count Room - 11:00 PM - 3:45 AM

January 20, 2026

Chip Runner - 9:30 AM - 6:00 PM
Cashier - 6:30 PM - 3:30 AM
Cashier - 6:30 PM - 3:30 AM
Chip Runner - 6:30 PM - 3:30 AM
Count Room - 11:00 PM - 3:45 AM
Count Room - 11:00 PM - 3:45 AM
Count Room - 11:00 PM - 3:45 AM
Count Room - 11:00 PM - 3:45 AM

If you, or someone you know, would be willing to fill one or
more of these positions, please reach out to
Angela Moroz at 780-909-9115.

OPERATION friendship

Ansgar Church has been a longtime
supporter of Operation Friendship – a program
to assist low-income seniors with meals, toiletries
and clothing. Our dedicated volunteers provided and
served, once each month at McCauley Seniors' Drop-
in Centre, a meal of stew with ice cream & fruit sauce
for dessert.

Operation Friendship has undergone a reorgani-
zation and no longer operates a Drop-in Program; it
now concentrates its efforts on its 5 Seniors' Lodges.

Ansgar Church has been invited to continue our
support in a different setting. We will still be providing
a lunch of stew and dessert, but we will now be
assigned to McCauley Lodge, located very near
Ansgar Church. We will serve around 40 lodge
residents and be able to visit and interact with them
on a more personal level.

We are looking for volunteers willing to spend
about 2 hours on the 2nd Thursday of each month to
help with this worthwhile cause.

**Please call Valerie Sorensen at 780-973-6526
for more information or to join our group.**

SATURDAY November 29th
Noon-2:30 pm
ANSGAR DANISH LUTHERAN CHURCH
Christmas Bazaar

at the German Cultural Centre 8310 Roper Road

CHRISTMAS BAKING!

Home baked Christmas treats, including Danish cookies, breads and liverpaste. Enjoy some now and then stock your freezer for the holidays!

ONLINE ORDERING:

Our online Bazaar was so successful the past few years, that we will be offering online ordering from November 10-20th. Go to www.ansgar.ca and click on the Bazaar tab to place your order. Online orders will be picked up at the Bazaar also.

ADVENT CANDLES/KALENDERLYS!

This year we have a large supply and variety of these traditional "count-down- to-Christmas" candles.

CHRISTMAS CRAFTS!

A craft table including knitted, embroidered and hand sewn goods, plus many unique Christmas ornaments, all suitable as gifts.

SILENT AUCTION!

With several special surprise items.

COME FOR LUNCH!

Everyone is welcome to join us for lunch. Delicious Smørrebrød - freshly prepared on the day - will be available for purchase as well as beer, snaps, coffee and cake.

How you can assist with donations:

In order for this church fund raising event to be successful, we rely once again on contributions of baked goods, liver paste and crafts from all who so generously contribute annually to this event.

**LOVE
to
BAKE?**

DONATE TO THE BAZAAR!

Please bring your homemade Danish cookies (12 per package) and other goodies to the German Cultural Centre by 10:30 am on the day of the sale. Call Jeanna at 780-474-4254 with your donation.

**CASH SALES
ONLY**

*Credit or debit cards
not accepted*



***Mark your calendar for
November 29th.***

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

***Merry Christmas
to you and your families!***