



BÆRER  
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BYRDER



**CELEBRATING**

**100  
YEARS**

**OF  
ANSGAR  
CHURCH**



**NOVEMBER  
DECEMBER  
2023**



What a party we had September 16 and 17 this year celebrating the centennial of our congregation. Here, I would like to extend my thanks to the many who made these events possible.

The renovations in the sanctuary were completed just in time for the festivities with the help of several hard-working parishioners. Gunnar Jensen was here, there and everywhere in the Church, Vagn Boelsgaard renovated the entrance door and made and installed organising holders for our pews and much more. And at the last-minute, Jens Woller stepped in and did the final dry walling for the windows in the Chancel.

A great party needs organisers. The members of the Board of Directors with our Congregational President, Kirsten Olsen, in the front, together with helpers from the congregation worked tirelessly. You can see the names of the Board of Directors on page 3. Jeanna Baty, Eija Aalto, Birgit Wildenhoff and Alice Nickel should be added to the list of organisers.

What is party without food? The Danish Women's Club stepped in as they have done countless times before. I remember from this event: Else Woller, Susanne Reid, Lis Walker, Birgit Wildenhoff, Susanne

Balslöv Kulak, Margith Hansen, Darlene Atkinson, Mette Rasmussen, Randi Mark, Kirsten Thorup and more were running up and down the stairs to the basement with food and drink, They assembled

and served the food and drink, also for the people of the street.

No Church with out music:

Daniel Aalto, Tammy-Jo

Mortensen,

Warren Mack played the organ. Amelia

Kaminski directed the choir

and the Ansgar Singers sang like never before.

It was great that Karin Kossman read for the kids and gave away her books. I must also mention my fantastic wife, Frederikke Hultberg, who had numerous brilliant ideas and was full of commitment. So many people to thank! Even more than I have mentioned here! Sorry if I have missed any! Too many to count!

It was, of course, also great to have the official guests Bishop Mads Davidsen of Odense, Dean Selma Ravn and Chairperson Anne E. Jensen of DSUK, our former pastors, Lars and Liselotte Basbøll, as well as the Danish pastors in Canada and the chairpersons of the Danish Churches in Canada, including the last president of the recently closed closed "Granly" Danish Lutheran Church in Surrey, BC. Also, that



*continued on page 2*

## 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

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Contact Alice Nickel at  
[ansgarnews@gmail.com](mailto:ansgarnews@gmail.com)  
or 780-467-8900  
for more information.

#### Deadline for submissions for the

January/February 2024  
Newsletter is  
**December 10, 2023**

Email submissions to  
[ansgarnews@gmail.com](mailto:ansgarnews@gmail.com)

### continued from page 1

our neighbours and associates came by to enjoy the party and get to know our little Church. But most importantly, it was great to see YOU! For the parties, for the concerts, for the services, for the celebrations! The Church is here for YOU. Ansgar is YOUR place to find fellowship, to celebrate, and to find joy and comfort in good times as in times of trial.

So thank you for coming!

Now, the party may be over, but we will keep on celebrating at Ansgar every Sunday. As for special services and events, my personal favourites in the coming months are the All Saints Service, where we light candles and remember our late loved ones, and the Family Yule Service and "Jule Hygge" for the entire family. The celebration will continue!

I wish you all a meaningful Advent and a Merry Christmas.

Glædelig jul,  
Pastor Lasse

Would you like to see  
this newsletter in

# COLOUR?

Go to our website [www.ansgar.ca](http://www.ansgar.ca)  
and click on the "NEWSLETTER"  
tab to view the colour version.

Memorial Donations  
have been received in memory of

Edith Rasmussen



### From the Church Records:

#### FUNERALS/MEMORIALS:

September 22:  
Edith Rasmussen

November 10:  
Grethe Christensen

### Access many of our Sunday services from past years at your convenience:

#### FACEBOOK:

You do not have to be on Facebook  
to view this page

<https://www.facebook.com/AnsgarChurch>  
and follow the link.

#### OUR WEB PAGE:

[www.ansgar.ca](http://www.ansgar.ca)

Click on the "Videos" tab and view any of the  
videos from YouTube

#### OUR YouTube CHANNEL:

Ansgar Church on YouTube



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You can view this page without being on Facebook.



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## *A Message from the Board*

What an amazing Fall we've had in Edmonton this year! Brilliant Fall colours and warm days right into mid-October. And, the weather was excellent for our big 100 Year celebration in mid-September, especially the sunshine for the Street Party on September 16<sup>th</sup>.

The festive days marking 100 years of the Ansgar congregation were a memorable celebration beginning with a street party on Saturday for local residents of the area and Danes alike: delicious Danish food, a couple of mini concerts and talks introducing the new pipe organ, Jazz music on the street, an evening vesper service and more. The following day we were thrilled to be part of an overly filled Church, raising all our voices in song, and welcoming back many associated with our Church over the years, such as former pastors Lars and Liselotte Basbøll (now in Calgary) and including special guests: our Danish Bishop, Mads Davidsen; representatives from DSUK in Denmark, and DSUK Pastors and Presidents from Toronto, Vancouver and Calgary. In the evening, everyone gathered at Chateau Louis for a festive banquet to round off the weekend. The whole event was highly successful and a memorable time for all. Thanks to everyone who took part in making this an amazing celebration of our little Danish church!

This celebration gave us an opportunity to reflect on the past, but also to think about our future. The reconstruction period demonstrated the strength of our congregation with so many people coming together as needed, with their time and many talents, to get the job done! It was a really heartening experience! With this strength and commitment to our Church, I hope we can experience many years together as a vibrant Church serving the needs of our Congregation and community. I want to thank you all, for the tireless work that was done by the Board of Directors and many volunteers, to the benefit of all of us now and in the many years to come.

Opening the Church up after 1 month of renovations and closure and welcoming back friends and neighbours to enjoy the changes to the Sanctuary was an important time. The beautiful artwork of famous Danish artist Peter Brandes, who has used coloured glass to draw the eye up to the cross showing Christ, both the crucified and the sower. The side panels represent the sacraments: blue for the baptismal water and red for the communion wine. The altar invites us to reflect on life as the gift of God. Music is a big part of our worship services and we now have a beautiful pipe organ to lift us up, a generous gift from Edmonton's DeJong family. Organist Warren Mack, also from Edmonton, has done a marvelous job of rebuilding the organ and nuancing its sound for our small sanctuary.

Reconnecting with the relocated Operation Friendship service to seniors and trying to see in which way we can support our closest neighbours, will be work in the next few months. The Women's group is already preparing for the Christmas Bazaar at the Dutch Canadian Club on Saturday, November 25<sup>th</sup>. This is always a fun event and a good opportunity to catch up with friends. I look forward to seeing you there. Once again, there will be an on-line Bake Sale of Danish baked goods preceding the Bazaar, so watch your inbox and Ansgars' Website for details on how to order. Look on our website also for online sales of special Danish goods, which we hope will arrive before Christmas!

For me, a highlight of the Christmas season is familiar Christmas music. This year, we are featuring a "Cool Yule" concert with Mads Tolling, visiting from Denmark. The date and time is posted elsewhere in this Newsletter.

Lots to look forward to!

*Kirsten Olsen*  
*President of the Board*

MENIGHEDSRAADET

## The Church Board 2023

*Kirsten Olsen*  
**President**  
780-474-4254

*Dorrit Morrow*  
**Vice-President**  
780-722-9372

*Mette Rasmussen*  
**Secretary**  
780-434-5071

*Bent Skousbøl*  
**Treasurer**  
780-458-7695

*Inge Fenger-Andersen*  
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*Angela Moroz*  
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*Niels Hansen*  
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780-203-1957

*Christopher J. Sørensen*  
**Trustee**  
780-909-5380

*Daniel Aalto*  
**Trustee**  
780-729-8634

## Pastor Lasse Hultberg

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

780-422-8777

ansgarlc@shaw.ca  
www.ansgar.ca

## Ansgar Group Activities

### DANISH WOMEN'S GROUP

The Women's Group met in mid-August to firm up plans for their part in the Anniversary celebrations coming up in mid-Sept. 2023, with all members and friends called in to help at the Street Party on Saturday, Sept. 16<sup>th</sup>. We were very pleased with turnout and how the celebrations went overall. The hungry people in the neighbourhood certainly appreciated the free popcorn, hot dogs and beverages! We were amazed at the long line-ups for the first hour or so. The Pork Roast sandwiches were a big hit with the many Danes who turned up later on and the coffee and Kransekage were popular as always. Thanks to everyone who pitched in to make this special time a grand memory. It was good also to see almost everyone turn up for the church service the next day and the banquet that evening at the Chateau Louis.

The focus of the women is the upcoming **Christmas Bazaar on Saturday, Nov. 25<sup>th</sup> between 12:00 and 2:30 pm**. We are relieved that the sale of the **Dutch Canadian Club** has been a bit delayed, giving us the opportunity to use it for our Bazaar once more. We are lining up bakers and sandwich makers, Danish crafts and Christmas items. (If you'd like to contribute some baking, please call me at 780-474-4254.) We'll offering several baked goods on-line again this year, as well as on the Bake Table at the Bazaar, so watch the Ansgar Website and your inbox for further news.

In the New Year, we'll be looking at a few other events: possibly a Frikadeller Supper, a Spring workshop, a Duck & Turkey Fowl Dinner, a Soup for the Winter Soul evening.... That's work for next year.

New members are welcome on the fourth Thursday of the month in the Church Basement, 9:45 am. – 1:00 pm. Bring your own lunch.... we provide the coffee and cake.

**Please note: the meetings for the rest of 2023 have been moved to Oct. 24 and Nov. 21.**

Jeanna Baty

*Our regular monthly meetings are open to any woman in the congregation. Check the church calendar for meeting dates. Contact Jeanna at 780-474-4254 for more info.*

### 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 during these trying times.*

**Contact our treasurer  
Bent Skousbol  
at 780-458-7695  
ansgartreasurer@gmail.com**

### THE ANSGAR SINGERS

The Ansgar Singers will be singing on Sunday, November 5th in celebration of All Saints Day! Rehearsals will take place on Sunday, October 22nd and 29th at 9 am and November 5th at 3:00 pm at the church. The choir will also be singing during the Christmas services with rehearsal times TBA.

*If you are interested in joining the choir or have any questions, please contact Amelia Kaminski at ameliakaminski@gmail.com or Pastor Lasse at ansгарlc@shaw.ca*

### HYGGEKLUBBEN

Lovely fall colours all around us but it won't be long before the colours change to white, so I hope you are all enjoying it. Looking forward to our meeting on November 15th when Lasse has agreed to come and share some of their busy summer events with us. There will not be a Hyggeklub meeting in December as we are all busy with the special Christmas happenings. Join us on November 15th at 12:00 and please bring something light to share for lunch.

*We meet at the church on the third Wednesday of every month at 12 noon. Everyone brings something light to share for lunch. We sing from Højskole Sangbogen. Visiting and hygge are the main menu. Hope to see you there! Randi Mark*

### STUDY GROUP

Our bible studies will resume in the fall. Our first sessions are on November 2, 16 and 30th. No study group in December.

*Please contact Pastor Lasse for more information: ansгарlc@shaw.ca*





## Cool Yule

A Nordic Christmas

**Mads Tolling & Colin Hogan**  
**Friday, December 8, 7:00 pm**  
**Tickets \$35 each**

The wonderful Christmas traditions of the Nordic countries - Sweden, Norway, Denmark and Iceland - are steeped in mysticism with many of these traditions at home here in Canada. Celebrating the spirit of Christmas or *Jul*, two-time Grammy Award-Winning Violinist Mads Tolling and world class pianist Colin Hogan blend the authentic customs and sounds of the Nordic countries with the joy and spirit of jazz.

They also give a special nod to Denmark's beloved fairy-tale writer Hans Christian Andersen, a reimagination of "Let it Go" from *Frozen*, based on *The Snow Queen*, a salute to Julemanden (Santa Claus), Nordic Yuletide traditional classics and jazz renditions of your favorite American holiday songs, including *Santa Baby*, *My Favourite Things*, *The Christmas Song* and more. Pagan mischief can be enjoyed on the Danish "På Loftet Sidder Nissen" (The Gnome's Attic) and the Icelandic "Jólaökötturinn" (The Christmas Cat).

We invite you to experience the warmth and specialness of *hygge* – the Danish word of coziness - that sets the tone for ushering in the holiday season.

### For tickets contact:

**Inge Fenger Andersen at 780-454-1679 or**  
**email [jifand@shaw.ca](mailto:jifand@shaw.ca)**

ANSGAR DANISH LUTHERAN CHURCH

## CHURCH SUNDAYS for FAMILIES

Sunday School  
November 26th

We will prepare for the Pageant  
that will be performed at the  
Family Christmas Service  
on December 17th.



Come and meet  
Hosannah in the  
Highest on  
Ansgar Family  
Sundays.

From left: Hosannah, Thaddæus and Pastor Lasse

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The bottom of the poster features several circular decorative elements. On the left, a wheel with a Viking longship in the center. In the middle, a red and white striped wheel. On the right, a circular emblem with a knotwork design, and a red cross on a white background.

# NOVEMBER 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>SPECIAL THIS MONTH:</b> November 5 <b>All Saints Service at 4:30 pm</b> November 19 <b>Morgenkaffe på Dansk</b> November 25 <b>Christmas Bazaar</b>			<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> <i>9:30 am</i> Study Group	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> <i>4:30 pm</i> <b>ALL SAINTS SUNDAY</b> Matthew 5, 1-12  <i>3:00 pm</i> Ansgar Singers Rehearsal	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> <i>7:00 pm</i> Board Meeting	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> <i>10:30 am</i> <b>ENGLISH</b> 23rd Sunday after Trinity Matthew 22, 15-22	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> <i>12 noon</i> Hyggeklubben	<b>16</b> <i>9:30 am</i> Study Group	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> <i>10:30 am</i> <b>DANSK</b> with English Sermon 24th Sunday after Trinity Matthew 9, 18-26  <i>9 am</i> Morgenkaffe på Dansk	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> <i>9:45 am - Noon</i> Danish Women's Club	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>  <i>Noon - 2:30 pm</i> <b>CHRISTMAS BAZAAR</b> (see pg 12)
<b>26</b> <i>10:30 am</i> <b>ENGLISH</b> Last Sunday of the Church Year Matthew 25, 31-46	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> <i>9:30 am</i> Study Group		

# DECEMBER 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>SPECIAL THIS MONTH:</b> December 8 <b>Cool Yule Concert</b> December 17 <b>Family Yule Service</b> at 3:30 pm and Jule Hygge December 24 <b>Juleaften</b> Danish service at 1:00 pm English service at 2:30 pm					1	2 
<b>3</b> 10:30 am ENGLISH 1st Sunday in Advent Luke 4, 16-40	4	<b>5</b> 7:00 pm Board Meeting	6	7	<b>8</b> 7:00 pm <b>COOL YULE CONCERT</b> (see pg 5)	<b>9</b> 
<b>10</b> 10:30 am DANSK 2. søndag in Advent Mattæus 25, 1-13	11	12	13	14	15	16 
<b>17</b> 3:30 pm ENGLISH 3rd Sunday in Advent Luke 1, 67-80  <b>FAMILY YULE SERVICE</b> <b>with Nativity Pageant</b> Followed by Jule Hygge in the Church Basement (see pg 9)	18	19	20	21	22 	23
<b>24 JULEAFTEN</b> 1:00 pm Danish 2:30 pm English Luke 2, 1-14	<b>25</b> 2:00 pm ENGLISH <b>CHRISTMAS DAY</b> John 1, 1-14	26	27	28 	29	30
<b>31 NEW YEARS' EVE</b> NO SERVICE AT ANSGAR						

## DANISH COMMUNITY NEWS

★★★

### Scandinavian Folk Dance

Thursdays, 7 – 9 pm

King Edward Academy, 8625-101 Street

Why not have fun, learn about Scandinavian culture and get some exercise?

Join the Edmonton Scandinavian folk dancers and get it all!

For more information contact Tim Lambert at [hobbest@telusplanet.net](mailto:hobbest@telusplanet.net)



### The Ansgar DVD collection

Ansgar is in possession of a collection of DVDs of Danish movies and TV-series. The collection covers all kinds of genres and there are old as well as newer movies and TV-series.

If you are interested in Danish movies and culture, don't hesitate to have a look in the catalogue, which you can find in the Church basement together with the collection.

Please register the DVDs you loan and bring them back in undamaged shape for others to enjoy.

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](mailto:daniaedmonton@gmail.com) or  
[daniapresident@gmail.com](mailto:daniapresident@gmail.com)



### Confirmation Class 2023 - 2024

Confirmation classes have begun for confirmation in spring 2024. Last chance to join the classes.

Come to Church and learn more about our faith and discuss in an accepting and caring environment the big questions of life and death. My hope is also to involve the young people in the Church activities and services if possible and to include them in the fellowship of Ansgar. And maybe we will go to camp during a weekend in the spring.

For any questions or to register, contact Pastor Lasse at 780 422 8777 or [ansgarlc@shaw.ca](mailto:ansgarlc@shaw.ca)

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## Family Yule Service with Nativity Pageant & "Yule"stue

**Sunday, December 17, 3:30 pm**

Family Yule Service with Christmas carols and nativity pageant; followed by "yule-hygge" in the Church Basement.

We will also enjoy Christmas snacks and rice pudding (risengrød).

Contact Pastor Lasse at 780 422 8777 or [ansgarlc@shaw.ca](mailto:ansgarlc@shaw.ca) for more information.



## All Saints Service November 5, 4:30 pm

The most beautiful Service in the Church Year with candlelight and music, remembering the loved ones we miss. We will mention the names of those we have lost in our little congregation and light candles in their memory. Please let Pastor Lasse know if you have someone in mind that you feel should be mentioned at the service.

Write [ansgarlc@shaw.ca](mailto:ansgarlc@shaw.ca) or call 780 422 8777.

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

All are welcome.



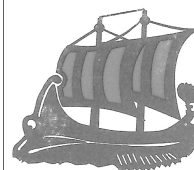
Meet  
the  
man

## STUDY GROUP

We meet every second Thursday at 9:30 am

**November 2, 16 & 30**

Again, this season we will continue reading short selections from the Gospels with a meditative approach. Pastor Lasse will guide us to find peace and awareness on our way through the Gospel. We will also talk about how we experience our encounter with the Gospel. All thoughts and feelings are acceptable. We share and listen in respect to each person's unique experiences.



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### The Ansgar Online Market is open!

Go to [ansgar-online-market.square.site](https://ansgar-online-market.square.site) and browse our selection of Danish products. We have a very limited supply of our most popular items coming in on time for Christmas.

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Waiting for the service to begin!  
New organ in the background



Ansgar Singers

The Congregation after the Festive Sunday Service



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Lined up  
for hotdogs  
at the  
Street Party



The busy  
kitchen  
volunteers



From left, our MLA  
Janis Irwin, organists  
Daniel Alto,  
Tammy-Jo Mortensen,  
Warren Mack  
and assistant  
Romeo Madanas



The clergy  
in front of  
the new  
glass mosaics



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9 - 10 am  
November 19

## MORGENKAFFE

på Dansk

*Are you interested in helping build and maintain Danish language and culture in Edmonton?*

*Are you fluent, learning or new to Danish?*

*Join us as we engage with cultural and art-based practices to discover personal connection to the Danish language.*

*This is not a formal language class, but an opportunity for sharing and growing in a cultural community.*

## SILENT AUCTION DONATIONS

Do you have a cherished item  
that you would like to donate to the  
Silent Auction at the Christmas Bazaar?

Call Jasha Skousbøl at 780-458-7695

## "To mask or not to mask,"

is the question we continue  
to ask ourselves and others.

We are continuing to recommend that masks  
be worn, but it is optional and  
a matter of personal choice.

Be respectful of everyone whether they choose to wear  
a mask or not. It is important to be kind and  
respectful of other people's choices.

The Church Board



## ANSGAR DANISH WOMEN'S CLUB



We are very happy to be hosting our annual traditional Christmas Bazaar once again!

**SATURDAY, November 25,  
Noon-2:30 pm**

at the Dutch Canadian Centre  
13312-142 Street

### 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 1-16th. Go to [www.ansgar.ca](http://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.

### 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.

### SILENT AUCTION!

With several special surprise items.



#### **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.*

*Please deliver any donations of home-made Danish Christmas cookies (12 to a package), other Danish specialties, Danish rye bread and leverpostej to the Dutch Hall **by 9:30 am** on the day of the sale. Call Jeanna at 780-474-4254 with your donation.*

**Please mark your calendar  
for November 25th.  
We look forward to  
seeing you  
at the Christmas Bazaar!**

**CASH  
SALES  
ONLY**

*Credit or  
debit cards  
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**Merry Christmas**  
*to you and  
your families!*

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** - We need people to help with setting up tables & chairs 10-11 am