

ANNUAL
CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING
for the year 2020

February 28, 2021



Ansgar Danish Lutheran Church

Table of Contents

Agenda.....	Page 5 - 6
Minutes of Meeting March 1, 2020	Page 7 - 10
Reports	
Danish Women's Club.....	Page 11
Men's Breakfast.....	Page 12
Camp Kuriakos	Page 13-14
Hyggeklubben	Page 15
Coffee Fund	Page 16
Pastor's Report.....	Page 17
President's Report.....	Page 18
Treasurer's Report –	
Balance Sheet	Page 19
Income and Disbursements	Page 20
Cash Flow Statement	Page 21
Proposed Budget for 2021	Page 22
Statistical Report – Church activities 2020	Page 23
Elections	
President, Directors and Auditors.....	Page 24
New Business	
.....	Page 25

ANSGAR DANISH LUTHERAN CHURCH
ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING – FEBRUARY 28, 2021, 12:30 pm
AGENDA

- 1 Opening Prayer: Pastor Lasse Hultberg
- 2 Election of Chairperson: Nominations from the floor
- 3 Approval of Agenda
- 4 Minutes of Annual Congregational Meeting of March 1st, 2020. Already approved. Included with the Annual Report
- 5 Business arising from the minutes of meeting March 1st, 2020
- 6 Reports:
 - a. Birthday Dollars
 - b. Men's Breakfast
 - c. Danish Women's Club
 - d. Camp Kuriakos
 - e. Coffee Fund
 - f. Hyggeklubben
- 7 Pastor's Report
- 8 President's Report
- 9 Treasurer's Report
- 10 Income and Expenses January 01, 2020 to December 31, 2020
 - a. Statistical Reports – Church activities 2020 and yearly comparisons
 - b. Proposed Budget for January 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021
- 11 Election of the Church Board Members

Outgoing		
President	Valerie Sørensen	Term ending February 2021
Board Member	Gunner K Jensen	Term ending February 2021
Board Member	Niels Hansen	Term ending February 2021
Board Member	Brian Mogensen	Term ending February 2021
Returning		
Board Member	Jette Badre	Term ending February 2022
Board Member	Kirsten Olsen	Term ending February 2022
Board Member	Christopher Sørensen	Term ending February 2022
Board Member	John Sørensen	Term ending February 2023
Board Member	Bent Skousbøl	Term ending February 2023
Board Member	Mette Rasmussen	Term ending February 2023
- 12 Election of Auditors

Outgoing	Margith Hansen	Term ending February 2021
Returning	Dorrit Morrow	Term ending February 2022
- 13 Election of Pastoral Selection Committee

Outgoing	Birgit Wildenhoff	Term ending February 2021
----------	-------------------	---------------------------

Returning

Jeanna Baty

Term ending February 2022

Maria Hjort Guiney

Term ending February 2023

14 New Business

15 Break

16 Reading and Approval of the Minutes of the Annual Congregational Meeting of February 28th, 2021

17 Adjournment

The Ansgar Danish Lutheran Church
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
March 1, 2020 at 12:30 p.m.

24 registered voting members were present. A total of 55 individuals had registered as voting members.

The meeting was called to order at 12:30 p.m. by President Valerie Sørensen who recognized a quorum of voting members.

1. **Opening hymn** no. 259 “Day by Day” and opening prayer by Pastor Lasse Hultberg.
2. **Election of chairperson.** Nominations from the floor. The Board nominated Jeanna Baty. Johanne Nicolajsen seconded. Jeanna Baty accepted and was elected by acclamation.
3. **Approval of agenda.** No questions or objections arose. The agenda was adopted as printed.
4. **The minutes of the Annual Congregational Meeting on February 24, 2019.** There were no questions or corrections. The minutes were for information only and accepted as presented.
5. **Business arising from the Annual Congregational Meeting on February 24, 2019.**
 - a. **Presentation of Revised Constitution & By-laws.** Approved on February 24, 2019. Chairperson Jeanna Baty noted that the Revised Constitution & By-laws were now available to members.
6. **Reports presented in the printed ACM handout.**

Danish Women’s Club. The report was prepared by Jeanna Baty, and the financial statement was prepared by Bent Skousbøl.

Men’s Breakfast. The report was prepared by Kaj Nicolajsen.

Camp Kuriakos. The printed report from Camp Kuriakos to Congregational Annual Meetings in 2018 had been prepared by Rev. Art Weiss, Executive Director of Sylvan Lake Lutheran Bible Camp Association. **Hyggeklubben.** The report was prepared by Randi Mark. **Coffee Fund.** The report was prepared by Birgit Wildenhoff.

Motion: Kirsten Thorup moved to accept the reports as printed. Randi Mark seconded. Motion was carried.
7. **Pastor’s Report.** The report for the year 2019 was accepted as prepared and read by Pastor Lasse Hultberg. Question from the floor: Jeanna Baty asked how many people had attended the Kuriakos Camp in 2019. Pastor Lasse Hultberg replied that 40-45 individuals had attended.
8. **President’s Report.** The report for the year 2019 was accepted as prepared and read by Valerie Sorensen. No questions arose.
9. **Treasurer’s Report.** The following 4 statements as printed in the ACM handout were presented as prepared by Treasurer Bent Skousbøl:
 - Balance Sheet
 - Statement and Income and Disbursements January 01, 2019 to December 31, 2019
 - Cash Flow Statement
 - Statistical Reports – Church activities 2019. For information only.

The treasurer explained the details of the balance sheet and the current assets. He also pointed out that fixed assets – such as land, buildings and shares – cannot be released until sold. Concerning the shares, their market value is less than the book value at this point, but the Church receives \$600 in dividends quarterly regardless of the market value.

Questions from the floor:

- Jeanna Baty asked if she was correct in her understanding that incoming donations are not sufficient to cover expenses, although the Board strives to reduce costs and expenses. The Treasurer confirmed that Jeanna Baty was correct in her understanding.
- Jeanna Baty also inquired about the deficit for 2018 and 2019. The Treasurer explained that the deficit is a cumulative loss.

Motion: Alice Nickel moved to accept the Treasurer's Report 2019. Elinor Gleerup seconded. The motion was carried.

Proposed Budget for January 1, 2020 – December 31

The Treasurer presented the 2020 budget and the yearly comparisons. He explained how the Congregation's acceptance of the proposed budget is connected to the Church's income/donations, i.e., once the budget has been accepted, the membership has at the same time committed itself to raising the funds.

Acceptance of the proposed budget becomes a congregational commitment, and to this effect the Board has initiated a phone campaign in order to encourage members to donate regularly. Without regular support, the Church cannot continue. Moreover, we cannot continue to rely on a handful of generous donors to carry the financial burden. The Treasurer added that if 300 members were to donate \$50 monthly, the Church's operational costs would be covered.

Finally, the Treasurer reminded the members that Ansgar Church is committed to not only providing spiritual guidance and a place for worship but also to upholding cultural traditions of Danish/Scandinavian origin.

Comment from the floor:

Valerie Sørensen pointed out that the item in the budget "Provision for Congregation Assistance Fund" of \$2,000 is not a new item per se. A discretionary fund has always been available to the Pastors at Ansgar Church; only now the fund has been budgeted for and given a special name.

Motion: Jens Woller moved to accept the Proposed Budget 2020. Kirsten Olsen seconded. The motion was carried.

11. Election of Church Board Members.

Chairperson Jeanna Baty thanked outgoing and returning members for their service on the Church Board.

Outgoing members:

President Valerie Sorensen	Term ending February 2020
Board Member Marina Allemano	Term ending February 2020
Board Member Brian Mogensen	Term ending February 2020
Board Member Bent Skousbol	Term ending February 2020
Board Member Mette Rasmussen	Term ending February 2020

Returning members:

Board Member Gunnar K. Jensen	Term ending February 2021
Board Member Niels Hansen	Term ending February 2021
Board Member Christopher Sørensen	Term ending February 2022
Board Member Jette Badre	Term ending February 2022
Board Member Kirsten Olsen	Term ending February 2022

Election of President.

Else Woller nominated Valerie Sørensen. Alice Nickel seconded. Valerie Sørensen accepted the nomination and was elected as President by acclamation.

Election of Church Board Members

- Kirsten Olsen nominated John Sørensen. Mette Rasmussen seconded. John Sørensen accepted the nomination.
- Marina Allemano nominated Brian Mogensen. Edith Rasmussen seconded. Brian Mogensen, who was absent, had accepted the nomination in advance of the meeting.
- Kirsten Olsen nominated Bent Skousbøl. Johanne Nicolajsen seconded. Bent Skousbøl accepted the nomination.
- Else Woller nominated Mette Rasmussen. Bent Skousbøl seconded. Mette Rasmussen accepted the nomination.
- Kaj Nicolajsen nominated Else Woller who declined the nomination.
- Johanne Nicolajsen nominated Marina Allemano who declined the nomination.

Nominations were closed.

Motion: Mette Rasmussen moved to assign Brian Mogensen a one-year term as a member of the Board. Valerie Sørensen seconded. All were in favour. The motion was carried.

The following nominees were elected:

- Bent Skousbol for a 3-year term
- Mette Rasmussen for a 3-year term
- John Sørensen for a 3-year term
- Brian Mogensen for a 1-year term

New Church Board of Directors as of March 1st, 2020:

Valerie Sørensen, President	Term ending February 2021
Brian Mogensen	Term ending February 2021
Gunnar Kjær Jensen	Term ending February 2021
Niels Hansen	Term ending February 2021
Jette Badre	Term ending February 2022
Christopher Sørensen	Term ending February 2022
Kirsten Olsen	Term ending February 2022
Bent Skousbøl	Term ending February 2023
Mette Rasmussen	Term ending February 2023
John Sørensen	Term ending February 2023

12. Election of Auditors:

Outgoing:

Dorrit Morrow (2-year term) Term ending February 2020

Returning:

Margith Hansen (2-year term) Term ending February 2021

Kirsten Olsen nominated Dorrit Morrow. Christopher Sørensen seconded. Dorrit Morrow, who was absent, had accepted the nomination in advance of the meeting.

Nominations were closed. Dorrit Morrow was elected by acclamation.

Auditors as of March 1, 2020:

Margith Hansen	Term ending February 2021
Dorrit Morrow	Term ending February 2022

13. Election of Pastoral Selection Committee.

Outgoing:

Maria Hjort Guiney Term ending February 2020

Returning:

Birgit Wildenhoff Term ending February 2021

Jeanna Baty Term ending February 2022

Valerie Sørensen nominated Maria Hjort Guiney. Ellinor Gleerup seconded. Maria Hjort Guiney, who was absent, had accepted the nomination in advance of the meeting.

Nominations were closed. Maria Hjort Guiney was elected by acclamation.

Pastor Selection Committee as of March 1, 2020:

Birgit Wildenhoff	Term ending February 2021
Jeanna Baty	Term ending February 2022
Maria Hjort Guiney	Term ending February 2023

14. New Business.

a. Financial planning for the required cash flow needed for the operation of the Church on a monthly basis.

Treasurer Bent Skousbøl spoke to the issue of the required cash flow needed for the operation of the Church. First, he mentioned that the online donation feature on the Church's website is now up and running and added that so far only one individual has made a donation through the website.

The Board is trying to make the payment options as user-friendly as possible. For example, reoccurring donations can be made on Visa and Mastercard; the payment date has been set for the 28th of each month. As far as security is concerned, all personal information needed for the set-up will be destroyed after the Treasurer has entered it on Moneris (the payment processor). At this point, only 13 individuals have opted to donate regularly by credit card.

Collections at Sunday services, he explained, are not meant to pay for monthly expenses. Instead, utilities, insurance and other regular expenses needed to run the Church should be covered by regular monthly donations. To this effect he encouraged members to help spreading the message about donating on a regular basis.

The Treasurer reminded the members once again that Ansgar Church is first and foremost committed to its spiritual mission but also to upholding cultural traditions of Danish / Scandinavian origin.

Questions and comments from the floor:

- Valerie Sørensen asked if it is possible to make regular donations with a credit card on two different dates each month. Bent Skousbøl confirmed that it is possible to choose payment dates other than the 28th of the month, but that the process is easier for him if all donations are processed on the same day.
- Jeanna Baty commented that she is using the credit card option and finds it very convenient.
- Kaj Nicolajsen asked whether the Board has names, addresses and phone numbers for 300 members available and has organized an appeal for donations. Kaj Nicolajsen referred to the Treasurer's earlier comment in connection with the proposed budget for 2020 – "that if 300 members were to donate \$50 monthly, the Church's operational costs would be covered". Bent Skousbøl replied that a phone committee has been set up. Mette Rasmussen added that lists along with a script have been created.
- Johanne Nicolajsen wanted to know if callers would appeal to both spouses in cases where spouses donate as a family unit. Bent Skousbøl replied that both spouses would be consulted.
- Jens Woller enquired about the Church's insurance and whether it would be possible to get a better rate. Bent Skousbøl explained that the board has investigated another company that specializes in church insurance, and while their rate is better, their coverage is not. We need to cover two buildings and all the improvements.
- Mette Rasmussen commented on the importance of maintaining the Danish rituals, such as baptisms, weddings, confirmations and funerals. She also pointed out that the monthly donations of \$50 as suggested by the Treasurer would be equivalent to what taxpayers in Denmark pay in church taxes.
- Jeanna Baty commented on the fact that some people have become members of other churches; however, they may still want to donate and should be encouraged to do so.
- Mette Rasmussen suggested that we should invite members from the congregation to sit on a fundraising committee.

16. Coffee Break.

Prior to the coffee break, Jeanna Baty reminded the members that volunteers are still needed for the Sunday School, Church Owls, Church lunch, Kuriakos as well as the Ansgar Singers choir.

17. Reading and Approval of the Minutes of the Annual Congregational Meeting of March 1, 2020.

The minutes were taken and read by Marina Allemano.

Motion: Christopher Sørensen moved to accept the minutes as read. John Sørensen seconded. All were in favour. The motion was carried.

Closing Hymn "Altid frejdig" and adjournment at 2:43 p.m.

Valerie Sørensen, Incoming President _____ Date _____
_____, Secretary _____ Date _____

Danish Women's Club Report to the Annual Meeting 2020

The Danish Women's Group is primarily a group which raises funds to support the Church. The women who participate in it, also enjoy the social benefits of working together in this worthy enterprise! There is little to report for the year 2020, however, due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. At our January meeting, we primarily reviewed the success of the Christmas Bazaar the previous December, where we had raised \$8,578.20 for the Church. The February 22nd meeting focused completely on updating our plans for the Spring Dinner (and non-profit Fun Bingo) event planned for late April 2020. Little did we know at that time, that would be our last meeting for a year!

The only event that we were able to participate in this year was thanks in large part to Alice Nickel. She had the idea for an **on-line Christmas Bake Sale**, and with the help of members of the Women's Group and many other fine bakers, she co-ordinated the first Danish Bake Sale, entirely on-line. We knew how popular the Danish treats usually are, with an eager line of shoppers waiting for the Bake Table to open every Christmas Bazaar, but we did not anticipate the overwhelming response we had this year! With a simple order-in-advance and easy pay-on-line system, set up by Alice in co-operation with Ansgar Treasurer Bent Skousbøl, we filled all the initial orders...but they just kept coming. We had many more orders for the six or seven items offered this year than ever before. Thanks to all the bakers and "leverpostej" makers...and to those other half dozen or so bakers, who just kept at it until all orders were filled!!

So, this year, for the only event we could sponsor, we raised **\$3,971.00 for our Church.... more than a thousand dollars over the previous year**. We are an impressive volunteer crowd when called on! A big "thanks" to so many who made this a success and for making available to us all, the rare Danish Christmas treats we all enjoy so much at Christmas!

Over the remainder of the year, we have tried to keep in touch through distanced visits and phone calls whenever we could. So far, we are all well and managing, but we are certainly looking forward to returning to our regular monthly meetings, as soon as we are able.

*Jeanna Baty, Secretary
January 28, 2021*

Ansgar Men's Breakfast Report to the Annual Meeting 2020

We had only one meeting in 2020, on February 2nd, before the pandemic restrictions were enforced. With no end in sight for the restrictions the meetings were put on hold indefinitely.

The meeting was attended by 15 people. Pastor Lasse Hultberg presented a talk on Danish traditions past and present.

Financial Statement

January 1, 2020 - December 31, 2020

INCOME

1 meeting only \$ 148.00

EXPENSES

Cost of food \$ (107.48)

\$ 40.52

Cash on hand January 1, 2020 \$ 98.52

Profit 2020 \$ 40.52

Donation to Ansgar Church April 20, 2020 \$ (120.98)

Cash on hand December 31, 2020 **\$ 18.06**

*Submitted by
Kaj Nicolajsen*

Camp Kuriakos Report to the Annual Meeting 2020



Kuriakos exists to proclaim the Gospel of Christ, encourage and disciple. Kuriakos is a place set apart for all people to grow together in Christ.

KURIAKOS

90 YEARS of SYLVAN LAKE LUTHERAN BIBLE CAMP ASSOCIATION Report to Congregational Annual Meetings - January 2021

Kuriakos seeks to be accountable to the people, congregations and church bodies the Association serves. This report is for publication in congregational annual reports or distribution in newsletters. Electronic copies are available online at www.kuriakos.ab.ca/about/congregations

Kuriakos looks different this year... but great things are still happening Throughout our history, we have experienced ups and downs. But, we continue to believe in the life-changing power of camp and feel that camp is more needed now than ever. Programs will only proceed when we are confident that we can do so safely, but we are planning for a great summer!

Get involved! visit kuriakos.ab.ca

- Let neighbours and friends know about the great community at Kuriakos
- Join the SHOUT OUT Team
- Volunteer for a Service Project or Committee
- Donate items for auction at Kuriakos Gathers Together
- Attend our Anniversary Celebrations at KGT and Thanksgiving

2020 in REVIEW:

Despite unusual circumstances, we have continued to connect with our community. Looking back, this has been a successful year full of new programs.

- On ZOOM, we hosted the Women's Retreat, two Prime Time Retreats, Leaders In Training and our Staff Leadership Development Program, QUACK (Quest Using a Computer at Kuriakos, an interactive Bible Study for kids), Summer's Acts Bible Study, October's Joy Bible Study, and November's Creation Care Bible Study
- Recorded videos throughout the summer. Monday Bible Study, Tuesday Coordinator's Choice, Wilderness Wednesday, Fun Craft Friday.
- Regular Campfire gatherings on Zoom and recorded on YouTube.
- Undertook many facility rejuvenation projects (interior painting through most of our lodges, waterfront repairs, staining of outdoor railings and equipment).
- **View our Courier (1st in 10 years!) for more updates and messages from staff** www.kuriakos.ab.ca/about/contact-us, scroll to Kuriakos Courier

We have experienced numerous changes to our staff team, in particular the passing of Rudy Lange, our Property Manager. Madi, our Hospitality Manager, and Gail, our Bookkeeper and Housekeeper, were also laid off due to the closure of our facilities.

Kelly Craig and his wife Anissa have joined our team as Property Manager. Our Association continues to be served by Kendra as Program Director, Paul as Assistant Director, and Rev. Art as Executive Director.

2020 Membership Partners - 21 (up from 12 last year!) Members - 8

Many congregations provide financial support as part of their annual budgets or through special gifts. Program revenue covers roughly 40% of the cost of hosting campers. This is a wonderful opportunity to bless kids and families in need, giving them the best week of their year. If your congregation is able to make a donation or finance a local Campership Fund (\$23k in 2019), please contact the office.

Program Participation

- 83 on-site campers (Jan to March)
- 279 online participants, plus 3415 views on YouTube and 92 videos published
- Summer programs, most on-site retreats, and school programs were cancelled
- \$79k raised during our first-ever Online Kuriakos Gathers Together. Thanks for your support. We're excited for new plans this spring.
- Rentals have been closed, with most groups rebooking for 2021

AGM: The 2020 financial review will be completed and ready for the Annual General Meeting scheduled for 2:30 pm, March 27, 2021 @ Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd (40 Holmes Street, Red Deer). Virtual attendance is encouraged (and may be the only option!).

2021 Program Dates

Winter (at-home/online)

Faith, Grief, and COVID	Jan 20-Feb 10
Men's Discussion Seminar	a Sat. in Feb.
Family Day Weekend ideas	Feb 12-15
Youth Retreat	March 12-14
Bible Study (Campus Ministries)	Lent Thursday
Renew Women's Retreat	April 9-11

Spring

Kuriakos Gathers Together	April 24
Family May Days (volunteer)	May 14-16
Kuriakos Open House	June 27

Summer

Week 1

Prime Time	July 4-7
Senior Youth	July 4-9
Jr Adventure Canoe Trip I	July 4-9

Week 2

Junior Youth	July 11-16
Leaders in Training	July 11-16
Kids' Adventure I	July 11-16

Week 3

Family Camp I	July 18-23
Jr Adventure Canoe Trip	July 18-23
Day Camp I*	July 19-23

Week 4

Kids' Adventure II	July 25-30
SERVICE WEEK I*	July 25-30
Day Camp II*	July 26-30

Week 5

Skills Camp (MAD + Sports)	August 2-6
Kids' Camp (4 nights)	August 2-6
Family Getaways I+ II	Aug 2-4, 4-6

Week 6

Kids' Camp (5 nights)	August 8-13
Family Getaway I	August 8-10
Mini Camp	August 11-13

Week 7

Family Camp II	August 15-20
Day Camp III*	August 16-20

Week 8

Family Camp III	August 22-27
SERVICE WEEK II*	August 22-27
Day Camp IV*	August 23-27

Fall

Retreat of Our Own	Sep 10-12
Thanksgiving at the Lake	Oct 8-10
90 th Anniversary Celebration	Oct 10
Women's Retreat	Nov 5-7
Fall Confirmation Retreat	Nov 26-28
SHIFT Adult Retreat	Dec 3-5

*partnership opportunities

FINANCES: The tentative budget for 2021 proposes an annual operational revenue of \$523,165.

As with other organizations, COVID-19 has had severe impacts on our budget (as reflected in the revenue below). Fortunately, a combination of government loans and grants, plus careful management, staffing changes, and the generosity of our community, has stabilized our operations. However, 2021 will continue to be challenging as we work toward re-opening our programs and facilities.

Percentage of Operating Revenue (as reflected in the 2020 preliminary statements)

Donations + Fundraising	42%	Programs	3%
Rental Groups	6%	Property Income	6%
Operational Grants	43%		

Kuriakos Debt Load	Dec 31/2020	Dec 31/2019	Dec 31/2018	Dec 31/2017
Total Debt Load:	\$540,323.23	\$516,103.38	\$397,073.14	\$309,718.00

CURRENT KURIAKOS BOARD (Term: March 2020 – March 2021)

Chairperson: Dave Christiansen (Rocky Mountain House) **Vice-Chair:** Al Molzan (Drumheller)

Treasurer: Debbie Kemp (Airdrie) **Secretary:** Heather Paul (Calgary)

Vision Committee: Michael Gillingham (Sherwood Park), VACANT

Risk Management Committee: Jim Allen (Rocky Mountain House), Marty Winchell (Rocky Mountain House)

Sustainability Committee: Ron Bjorge (Red Deer), VACANT

Board-level volunteer opportunities include the Kuriakos Board, the Vision, Sustainability, or Risk Management Committees. Additional working groups are established to assist staff with duties, including Program, Property, and Fundraising Work Groups. These committees are generally short-term and focused on a specific task or event. We'd love to add you to our teams!

Help Kuriakos SHOUT IT OUT!

As part of our plan for congregational involvement, we are seeking *SHOUT OUT ambassadors* who will help us spread the love of camp.

Each congregation is asked to name an ambassador, who will be the Kuriakos contact person for their congregation.

This person will receive regular emails from Kuriakos with information to share within their congregation, through bulletin inserts, posters and making announcements. They will also be a channel for the congregation to share ideas and needs with Kuriakos.

Kuriakos Service Teams

Partner Congregations are invited to request teams of 2 Kuriakos Summer Staff to come to their congregation for a week, to join in their ministry. As Jesus sent out his Disciples in Luke Chapter 10, staff will be sent out in pairs to serve in your congregation. Teams may serve in many ways, from leading a VBS group to serving meals, leading worship, or participating in community projects.

Weeks for 2020 are July 25-30 and August 22-27. Proposals can be submitted online at kuriakos.ab.ca/programs/service-teams

Looking ahead to 2021

- **Online Bible Studies for adults** (Jan/Feb session and Lent session). **Also online Family and Youth programs.**
- **90th Anniversary Celebrations – Thanksgiving Weekend 2021**
- **Kuriakos Gathers Together Fundraiser.** Join us online and in small groups on April 24th for our annual celebration and auction.
- **Day Camp Programs.** We're looking for congregations to partner with us in this local initiative. Contact us if you'd like to talk about opportunities for Kuriakos programming in your community. We'll provide the staff and activities, you help with marketing and hosting staff.
- **Kuriakos Service Teams in July and August** (see paragraph above)
- **Family Getaways** (3 in July and August). This is a shorter version of our Family Camps, for folks who have limited time. Perfect for Grandparents or large/busy families.
- **Partner and Member Congregation** support. Visit kuriakos.ab.ca/welcome/congregations. Consider promoting a Kuriakos retreat as a congregational event.
- **Keep Our Programs Working:** We appreciate referrals of summer staff, SITS (age 14-16), STANDS (age 16-18), GAPS (age 18+), Internship Program, spring and fall programmers, nurses, and resource people. Applications are available online.

God's Blessings,

Rev. Art Weiss, Executive Director

5-39317 Range Road 24
Lacombe County AB T4E 2R7

403.746.2702

WWW.KURIAKOS.AB.CA



Hyggeklubben Report 2020

This is not the report I had hoped to enter for 2020 but as we all know, someone else has control.

We had nice get togethers in January and February and had made plans for someone to come and share his life story for us in March.

My hope is that it will happen at a later date. Wishing you all well and that we can be together soon.

På snarlig gensyn.

*Submitted by
Randi Mark*

Coffee Fund and Miscellaneous Report 2020

As there has been minimal activity in this fund over the year 2020, no report will be submitted at this time.

Pastor's Report to the Annual Meeting 2020

A year of opportunities despite the pandemic!

2020 was far from normal. As we all know everything changed in the middle of March when the pandemic struck our part of the world. We all know the story of the lock down and how we at the Church have not been able to meet for real in larger numbers for celebrations, gatherings, and commemorations. This is the hard facts of 2020 for the Church as for all of us. A year of restrictions and limitations which have taken a large toll on everybody.

However, instead of focusing on the limits and drawbacks, I would like to focus on all the successes and opportunities we have embraced in 2020: How we despite it all, fought back and helped strengthening faith and hope in each other. How we sought real relationships while staying safe. And how we persisted in keeping the spirit and faith open and active in our little community.

When I look in my calendar for 2020, there may be fewer meetings, appointments, services, and gatherings. According to my calendar, 2020 seems much less active than previous years. But the truth is that 2020 has been as busy as ever, at least for me and my family.

The preparation for the electronic services and other online broadcasts has taken up more time than normal in-person services (Maria Hjort Guiney has been a fantastic support in this!). A lot of thoughts and work have been put into new ways to commune and connect (My entire family has been involved in all this beyond all expectations). Not to mention that we have been on the phone more than ever and even visited quite a few people on doorsteps and in backyards.

More than anything else, I have invested my time and energy in keeping the spirit and faith open and active in our little congregation. It is, of course, not my job nor any of yours to send the spirit of God to any Church member. It is solely the work of God. But we all need to be nourished in spirit and soul. We all need to see the opportunities in this world. We all need faith and hope and love in a community that cares. And that is where our work, care, and love matter. Together we have opened the hearts of many by how we have related to each other in these difficult times.

In other words, I could have hailed how we have managed to celebrate and meet online and served many regular parishioners and connected with many who have not been regular attendees but have followed us online. I could also have acknowledged how we in the summer months were able to have in-person services as well as two out-door services, one at the Wildenhoff farm, one at the Kristensen farm, which were tremendous successes. I could have boasted about how we could invite those who have recently lost to our annual All Saints Service with a beautiful ceremony of candles inside and outside our Church. I could have tooted how we managed to share our Christmas Services and greeting video, the Lucia-pageant, and how our "Church-donkey", Hosannah in the highest have thrilled and enlightened the young at heart. Also, how we conducted together with the Danish Women Club a bake sale that supported the Church financially, but also gave us the sense of community that we miss so much. There are as a matter of fact so many good stories to tell from 2020 that I cannot mention them all.

But the bottom line is that if the spirit were not active in all this, we would have all worked in vain. If you were not involved in connecting beyond your own narrow circle. If you have not reached out to me and many others for help and support as well as to help and support. If we have not constantly kept the wellbeing of our entire community in mind in everything we have done. Well, then we would not have enjoyed the peace, comfort and reassurance of the spirit that comes with the fellowship and network we share at Church. The Church would not have been spiritually alive and could not have kept hope and faith open and active in our lives and in our community without this active work of all of us.

I would like to thank all of you for participating in keeping the spirit vibrant in our congregation. And I exhort you to keep on connecting and communing also beyond these difficult times. After all the Church lives and grows by sharing the peace, comfort, and reassurance that comes in spirit from Jesus Christ.

From the bottom of my heart, I thank you all for sharing and for caring for each other!

*God bless you all,
Pastor Lasse*

President's Report to the Annual Meeting 2020

What a year 2020 was. It began normally enough but big changes came our way in the spring with the beginning of the Covid-19 global pandemic. Like the rest of the world, we were unprepared for the array of reconfigurations we would have to learn to make.

Ansgar Church held a beautiful Candlemas Service with musical and choral performances late on the afternoon of February 2. Fastelavn was well attended with 80 participants, many wearing fanciful costumes. Boller were consumed, the barrel was smashed and sweet treats were shared. The Board, together with the Women's group was in the midst of preparing for Spring Supper and Bingo when everything exploded into uncertainty. All the rest of our usual fellowship gatherings and events for 2020 were cancelled, with the exception of a "pandemic-safe" version of the Christmas bake sale. The event was a great success and I'm truly grateful to Alice & Harry Nickel, Kirsten Olsen & Jeanna Baty, and Bent Skousbøl and all their hardworking helpers and bakers. It's amazing what a determined group can accomplish. Together we raised over \$3000.00 thanks to your support.

We had a couple of maintenance/improvement projects on the go and the yard, deck, and fencing were completed. A problem with drainage was resolved by replacing some eavestroughs. No other projects were begun and only necessary maintenance is being done at the church.

Pastor Lasse has had quite an increase in the need for his time. Many more members than usual required his assistance with uncertainties, illness and death, and spiritual guidance in 2020. It was challenging for him to personally meet with people at times because of restrictions. Ansgar Church has a capacity of about 100 people during normal times and we were limited to only 15 several times this year. It's an impossibility for the Board to choose attendees and holding an attendance lottery was unsavoury to us and we opted to close entirely for those periods. It was not an easy decision to make. Pastor Lasse live-streams Services when we are allowed to be open and puts together a pre-recorded Service available through our website and Facebook when we are not so that everyone can still attend virtually. Those are new skills for Pastor Lasse and we're both impressed with his willingness to learn and grateful for his accomplishments. I thank him for his extra efforts this year and my gratitude extends to his family for their unwavering support.

It has been a challenging year financially. It isn't easy to be always asking for financial donations from the membership, but it is necessary. Our church requires a certain amount of money to continue and many of our people are under their own strain this year. Together we pitched in what we could and our church lives on to meet our needs. Please sign up for a monthly giving plan.

The Church Board has had to think on our feet this year. We've had to be open-minded about solutions and be accommodating in new ways. We are just ordinary people, people like you. None of us have special training in how-to-be-a-Board-member, we all learn as we go. Some of us have years of board experience, some of us are new to it. Some of us know a bit about this and others know a bit about that and together we can figure out many things. We are restricted in our ability to meet in-person and, when allowed, we've held meetings in the church by spreading out and giving ourselves the required distancing while wearing masks. We've had to learn through trial and error how to meet virtually. We are making it work to the best of our ability.

I must express my gratitude to my fellow board members for their willingness to do everything necessary to bring Ansgar Church into line with the restrictions imposed. Without their help, knowledge, and ingenuity, this job could have been so much more difficult. Most of the board members are repeat volunteers but even the newest of us jumped in feet-first and did what needed to be done. I am privileged to have worked with a group that has a wealth of experience and spirit of whole-hearted co-operation. I thank you all.

To the congregation, I appreciate your trust and support through this trying period and thank you for all you have done.

Respectfully submitted by

Valerie Sørensen

President, Ansgar Danish Lutheran Church

Treasurer's Report to the Annual Meeting 2020

BALANCE SHEET

For Period ended December 31,2020

Current Assets

Cash on hand		3,225.43
Bank Accounts		42,549.74
Accounts Receivable		0.00
Prepaid Expenses		1,950.00
Enbridge shares		41,351.35

Total Current Assets 89,076.52

Fixed Assets

Church Building	111,499.31	
Accumulated Depreciation	-105,647.47	5,851.84
Manse	227,062.40	
Accumulated Depreciation	-224,057.06	3,005.34
Elevator	127,305.00	
Accumulated Depreciation	-28,798.83	98,506.17
Equipment & fixtures	6,354.00	
Accumulated Depreciation	-2,614.35	3,739.65
Computer Equipment	1,292.84	
Accumulated Depreciation	-779.18	513.66

Land 173,500.00

Total Fixed Assets 285,116.66

Total Assets 374,193.18

Current Liabilities 0.00

Long Term Liabilities 0.00

Total Liabilities 0.00

Equity

Beginning Equity	415,074.65	
Net loss for the year	-40,881.47	
Ending Equity		374,193.18

Total Liabilities & Equity 374,193.18

Audited by:


Dorrit Morrow


Margith Hansen

Signed at Edmonton January 16,2021

Statement of Income & Disbursements

Receipts:	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>
Open Donations Non Tax Receiptable	4762.75	6202.78
Donations Tax Receiptable	76,813.00	91,671.12
Church Service Fees	450.00	50.00
Fund Raising Events	21,972.17	2,018.10
Interest and Investment	3,179.66	2,476.69
GST Recovered Rebates	744.15	475.33
United Way	630.00	577.51
Miscellaneous	0.00	0.00
TOTAL INCOME	108,551.73	103,471.53
 Disbursements:		
Activities Outside Canada DSUK	92,220.00	101,400.76
Charitable Activities Expense	7,137.38	2,430.15
GST Expense	1,108.01	815.58
Management & Administration Expense	9,356.92	6,613.09
Occupancy Costs	38,030.65	25,731.71
Depreciation expense	8,016.00	7,361.71
TOTAL EXPENSES	155,868.96	144,353.00
 Deficit for the Year 2020	 -47,317.23	 -40,881.47

Audited by:

Dorrit Morrow



Margith Hansen

Signed at Edmonton January 16,2021

Cash Flow Statement

For the period ended December 31,2020

Cash balance forward December 31,2019		78,663.90
Inflow		
Cash received from donations & fundraising	103,471.53	
Cash received from prepaid account	350.00	
Collecion of Account receivable	281.03	
Increase in Cash		104,102.56
Outflow		
Cash disbursements for operational expenses	144,353.00	
Less:Non cash depreciation expense	-7,361.71	
Decrease in cash		136,991.29
Net Decrease in cash		-32,888.73
Ending Cash Balance as at Dec 31,2020		<u>45,775.17</u>

Audited by:



Dorrit Morrow



Margith Hansen

Signed at Edmonton January 16,2021

Proposed Budget for 2021

	PROPOSED	ACTUAL	PROPOSED
	2020	2020	2021
Charitable Activities	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 4,000.00
Program Expenses	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 2,430.15	\$ 6,000.00
GST Expense	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 707.51	\$ 1,000.00
Management & Administration Expense	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 30,132.44	\$ 35,000.00
Professional Expense	\$ 96,000.00	\$ 101,400.76	\$ 110,000.00
Depreciation Expense (non cash)	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 7,361.71	\$ 7,000.00
Provision for Congregation Assistance Fund	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -	\$ 2,000.00
TOTAL	\$ 152,000.00	\$ 142,032.57	\$ 165,000.00

Approved by the Board January 5, 2021

Statistical Report 2020

2020 Attendance

		Service	attendance	holy communion
January	danish	2	34	27
	english	2	49	33
February	danish	1	20	18
	english	3	135	59
March	danish	0	0	0
	english	2	53	36
April	danish	0	0	0
	english	5	0	0
May	danish	1	0	0
	english	5	0	0
June	danish	1	0	0
	english	3	0	0
July	danish	0	0	0
	english	3	43	0
August	danish	0	0	0
	english	4	56	48
September	danish	1	10	10
	english	3	11	11
October	danish	1	12	12
	english	3	14	11
November	danish	1	14	11
	english	4	46	16
December	danish	2	0	0
	english	4	0	0
				0
Totals	Danish	10	90	78
	English	41	407	214
Totals	All services	51	497	292

*All church services broadcast on You-tube and Facebook due to Covid 19
Attendance only recorded when services were held in the church*

2.3 ELECTION TO THE CHURCH BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2.2 Qualifications

A member shall be qualified to be on the Church Board of Directors if:

- a) That person is an active Member who has been a Member of the Church for at least six months
- b) that person is over the age of 18 years
- c) that person does not have a status of a bankrupt; and
- d) that person is mentally competent

2.3.1. Nominations

Persons possessing the qualifications set out in Article 2.2 can be nominated for election to the Church Board of Directors.

2.3.3. Additional Nominations

Nominations for candidates for a position on the Church Board of Directors can also be made from the floor at the Annual General Meeting by any active Member, providing that any candidate, so nominated, agrees to let his or her name stand for a position on the Church Board of Directors. These nominations can be made in addition to a slate of candidates made to the Nominations Committee.

2.3.4 Nomination and Election of the President

The President is elected by a simple majority vote, using ballot procedure. If the President is elected from the existing Church Board of Directors, another Member is elected to the Board as a substitute in this position for the one year he/she is President. If a substitute for the President is required, he who received the 4th highest number of votes is elected to that position.

2.3.5 Nomination of Remaining Board Members

In electing the other three Members, three names can be written on the ballot. The three who receive the most votes are elected.

2.4 TERM OF OFFICE

The President is elected for a one-year term at each Annual Congregational Meeting; the remaining nine Board Members are elected for a three-year term in such a manner that three are elected each year. The Pastor is a permanent Member of the Board.

Vacant Positions

President – 1 year term
4 board members – each for a 3-year term
1 auditor – 2-year term
1 Pastoral Selection Committee member – 3-year term

Term Expires

February 2022
February 2024
February 2023
February 2024

New Business