

I am still occasionally asked why I chose to come here to Edmonton. I came because of the church and the congregation. But there are always many factors involved in a decision, often including some completely irrational ones.

When I was hired for my very first pastoral position, one of the board members later told me, "I voted for you because you looked like my husband's niece, and she is so sweet." I often share that story with people who have been passed over or rejected in some context, because there can be so many reasons behind such decisions - reasons over which we have absolutely no control.

One of the more irrational reasons why I chose to come to Edmonton had to do with a man named Knud F.W. Jørgensen, who belonged to the second parish I served. Knud had lived and worked in Edmonton as a young man in the 1950s. He was simply one of the loveliest people you could ever meet. Perhaps a little unconsciously, I concluded that if Knud was such a wonderful person, then the people of Edmonton must generally be wonderful too. As it turns out, that assumption was absolutely correct!

Knud once told me a story about a church in Alberta that was stolen. The church stood between Highway 12 and Highway 815 near Lacombe. According to Knud, it was supposed to be moved to Lacombe to be used as a community hall. The two-story church had already been loaded onto

a flatbed wagon and was ready to be transported. But the people of Clive had other ideas. During the night, a number of local farmers arrived with their horses and pulled the wagon carrying the church all the way to Clive, where it still stands today. This happened in 1905. Today, it is a United Church.

Knud had heard the story from his Uncle Ib Wagner and Aunt Kathleen in Clive when he visited them. He also told me that immigrants

Continued on page 5

The Church that was STOLEN



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.

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

September/October
2026 Newsletter is
August 10, 2026

Email submissions to
ansgarnews@gmail.com

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!

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.

NB: At this time our library is full and we are no longer able to accept any more books. Please help yourself to what ever interests you on the shelf.



Memorial Donations

have been received in memory of:

Anders Jensen



From the Church Records:

BAPTISM

Dalton Edward Anderson

CONFIRMATION

Maya Nicole Korsgaard Sørensen

Mia Grace Moroz

Hugo Tessier

Henrik Peter Cote

EASIEST WAY TO DONATE

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

We 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 the treasurer at
ansgartreasurer@gmail.com**

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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OUR WEB PAGE:

www.ansgar.ca

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



Find us on
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if you want to stay in touch!

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A Message from the Board

Happy Summer!

Our beautiful Church is looking nice and bright with the completion of the stucco repairs and new paint. We plan to replace some of the shrubs and add some colourful annual plants close to the door. The sidewalk has also been repaired around the parsonage.

On June 28, we joined our friends at St John's Lutheran for service and a barbecue. It was a good time for all. We continue to welcome St John's members for service whenever they want to join us.

We are looking forward to Camp Kuriakos on August 7th through 9th. There are still rooms available in the lodge. Please contact Pastor Jane for more info or see the notice on page 12 of this newsletter. A few days away from the city enjoying nature is a welcome break.

Now is the time to enjoy the outdoors with friends and family.

Dorrit Morrow

MENIGHEDSRAADET

The Church Board 2026

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president@ansgar.ca

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Pastor
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www.ansgar.ca

Ansgar Group Activities

DANISH WOMEN'S GROUP

Thanks to everyone who made the annual Frikadeller Supper and Contest at the end of April an outstanding success. It takes many hands to make such a satisfying and successful evening, as this one was, and it is great to hear so many helped out! I am sorry to have missed out on the fun this year, although I was enjoying many good eats in Denmark at the time. A belated "congratulations" to Pastor Jane for winning the coveted "Golden Pan" for the best Frikadeller, as I hear the competition was particularly stiff.



We women are taking a break now for the summer, as gardens, graduations, weddings and summer travels will be taking our attention. But we enjoyed a special event to finish the season off on June 4th, by travelling down to the Danish Canadian Museum in Dickson with a number of new and old friends. Because we were able to rent a bus this time, a group of 24 folk registered for the day. We enjoyed a fine Smørrebrød lunch, walks around the exhibits there and the peace and serenity of the outdoors, without getting wet, in spite of a rainy forecast. It was a good day.

Regular meetings will resume September 24, 2026. Please join us then if you are interested.

Our regular meetings are always held on the fourth Tuesday of the month, from 10:00 am to 12:30 pm. If you're interested in joining us, come along to a meeting and remember to bring your lunch. For further information, contact Jeanna Baty at 780-474-4254

THE ANSGAR SINGERS

The choir will take a break for the summer and a new schedule will be ready for September.

For more information or if you are interested in becoming a choir member, please contact Eija Aalto at eijaalto@gmail.com

SINGING CIRCLE

Our hyggelig Singing Circle will resume in September. Enjoy the warm summer months!

HYGGEKLUBBEN

Hi Friends! Summer is here and it is time to spend time and hygge with friends and family. Our next hyggeklub will be on September 16th at noon. Still looking for someone to take over for Randi by November.

Enjoy your summer. *Randi Mark*

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.



CHAT'N'CRAFT

chat'n'craft We have summer holidays in July and August. See you again in the parsonage on September 2nd.

MEN'S BREAKFAST CLUB



Thank you for your support in bringing this group back. We will meet again on September 12th at 10 am after the summer break.

We meet once a month to discuss the state of the world, share some bread and act constructively for the church.

Call Werner at 780-655-3227 for more information.

Pastor's holiday:

I will be on holidays from July 6th to July 27th.

Contact the Board President if you are in need of pastoral services.

Continued from pg 1

generally have a particularly close relationship with God and the church. I think he was right. Just imagine going so far as to steal a church so that you could continue gathering for worship and hearing God's Word! That certainly can be called commitment.

Fortunately, our beloved Ansgar Church here in Edmonton still stands firmly and securely in place. It continues to be a wonderful gathering place for Danish immigrants, their descendants, and anyone else who wishes to be part of our congregation. At this time of year, it looks especially beautiful - freshly painted and surrounded by flowers and trees in their summer splendour.

The building stands firm, and so does the Gospel. But the church, understood as God's Church and God's people, should always be moving. Filled with God's Spirit, we are continually called to take what we hear in church out into the world and into our daily lives among other people.

Wishing you all a wonderful summer.

Pastor Jane Marie Sognstrup



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ANSGAR DANISH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Congratulations to this years confirmands



Hugo Tessier Henrik Peter Cote
Mia Grace Moroz
Maya Nicole Korsgaard Sørensen



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JULY 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
SPECIAL THIS MONTH: <i>July 9</i> Operation Friendship Pastor Jane on vacation <i>July 6 - 27th</i>			1	2	3	4
5 <i>10:30 am DANISH</i> 5.søndag efter trinitatis <i>Matteus 16, 13-26</i> <i>Peters bekendelse</i>	6	7	8	9 <i>11:00 am</i> <i>Operation Friendship</i> <i>(see pg 11)</i>	10	11
12 <i>10:30 am ENGLISH</i> 6th Sunday after Trinity <i>Matthew 19, 16-26</i> <i>The Rich and the Kingdom of God</i> <i>with Reverend Laird Borst</i>	13	14	15	16	17	18
19 <i>10:30 am ENGLISH</i> 7th Sunday after Trinity <i>Matthew 10, 24-31</i> <i>"Do not be afraid"</i> <i>with Reverend Laird Borst</i> <i>With our friends from St.John's</i>	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 <i>10:30 am ENGLISH</i> 8th Sunday after Trinity <i>Matthew 7, 22-29</i> <i>True and False Disciples</i> <i>with Reverend Laird Borst</i>	27	28	29	30	31	

AUGUST 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2 10:30 am DANISH 9.søndag efter trinitatis Lukas 12, 32-48 Skatten in himlen	3	4	5	6	7	1 8
9 10th Sunday after Trinity Matthew 11, 16-24 The Unfaithful Generation FAMILY SERVICE HELD AT CAMP KURIAKOS	10	11 7:00 pm Board Meeting	12	13 11 am Operation Friendship (see pg 11)	14	15
16 10:30 am ENGLISH 11th Sunday after Trinity Luke 7, 36-50 Jesus Anointed by a Sinful Woman With our friends from St.John's	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 10:30 am ENGLISH 12th Sunday after Trinity Matthew 12, 31-42 Blasphemy against the Spirit	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 10:30 am ENGLISH 13th Sunday after Trinity Matthew 20, 20-28 The Sons of Zebedee	31				SPECIAL THIS MONTH: August 7-8 Family Camp at Kuriakos August 9 Sunday Service held at Camp Kuriakos August 11 Board Meeting	

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



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

Danish Canadian Heritage Book

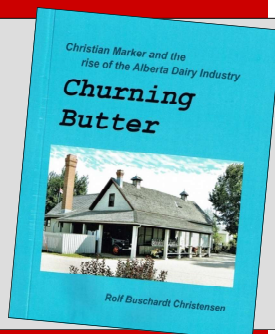
The 2026 edition is now available for purchase \$20 each.

Free copies of previous issues are also available in the Church basement.

Churning Butter

Christian Marker and the Rise of the Alberta Dairy Industry

Available for purchase



Susanne Balslöv Kulak
was the guest speaker at a recent meeting of Hyggeklubben. Susanne shared about her life as a potter and her familys' history with the Royal Copenhagen Porcelain Factory.



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Senior Travel Consultant

Bus Trip to Dickson and the Danish Canadian Heritage Museum



A fun afternoon for all!

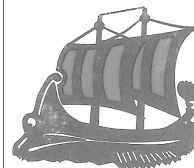
CHURCH SERVICES at McCauley Lodge

The church board has been discussing how we can give something back to the community here. One way is by holding services at our local care home, McCauley Lodge, where we already visit once a month to serve a meal.

After speaking with the management, I have agreed to hold two memorial services during the year for those who have passed away at McCauley Lodge, as well as one service before Christmas and one before Easter.

In this connection, I am looking for volunteers to help with the music. If you play a portable instrument and can accompany hymn singing and if you are able to set aside about an hour from time to time for a service for the residents at McCauley Lodge, I would be very happy to hear from you.

Pastor Jane Marie Sognstrup
780-422-8777



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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
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A classic Dry Gin. Made with carefully selected botanicals, including wild juniper berries and elderflower.

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Something to look forward to...

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

The Danish Women's Group
will be holding a

Danish Baking WORKSHOP

Saturday, September 26th
10 am - 3 pm

Are you interested in learning how to
Bake like a Dane and make those delicious
traditional cookies? This is the opportunity
to see how it's done!
No charge for this event - just bring your
apron. Open to all ages and nationalities.

Serenity Funeral Service

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Ansgar is solely reliant on the generosity of donors to continue to operate and serve its congregation. We do not receive any operational grants from government or other non-profit organizations. If we are to have a future, we rely on your continued support.

LEAVE A *Legacy* FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

Why Consider a Legacy Gift to Ansgar?

A legacy gift in your will impacts the future. It ensures continuity for the next generation of something of value to you and your family. It also reflects your hopes for the future. Leaving a charitable gift in your will can benefit you and your family and support a cause of importance to you. Above all, it allows you to make a bigger impact, without sacrificing what you or your loved ones need.

What are the types of Legacy Gifts?

Residual Bequest:

After all gifts have been distributed to your loved ones, and other payments made, you can choose to gift the remainder of your estate to the Ansgar Danish Lutheran Church of Edmonton.

Percentage of Estate:

This option allows you to designate a specific percentage of your overall estate to loved ones and organizations you care about.

Specific Bequest:

You can choose to leave a specific amount to the Church.

Life Insurance Gift:

Often overlooked, but life insurance is an asset. It can be a simple and effective way to make a lasting donation to Ansgar.

Talk to your financial planner about the options. Also, please feel free to contact us with any specific questions. You can reach us at:

Phone: **Pastor Jane Sognstrup 780-422-8777**

E-mail: **pastor@ansgar.ca OR
ansgartreasurer@gmail.com**

Address: **Ansgar Danish Lutheran Church,
9554-108A Ave., Edmonton, AB. T5H 1C1**

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Edmonton's Food Bank

Ansgar Church is located in an area of Edmonton where Food Bank donations are vital for the community. We therefore would encourage our members and congregation to donate to this worthy cause.

Scan this QR code to make a monetary donation today.

There is also a donation box in the church for food items.



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 motorcycle, 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

OPERATION *friendship*

Ansgar Church has been a longtime supporter of Operation Friendship – a program to assist low-income seniors with meals, toiletries and clothing. Operation Friendship concentrates its efforts on its 5 Seniors' Lodges.

Ansgar Church is continuing our support in a different setting. We are still providing a lunch of stew and dessert, but are now assigned to McCauley Lodge, located very near Ansgar Church. We serve around 40 lodge residents and are 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.**

The Ansgar Church Family Camp at



Friday August 7 to Sunday August 9, 2026

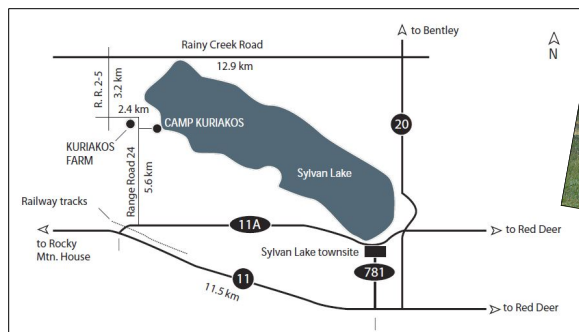
Join us this year for a
fun and festive camp!

The camp will begin at the campfire at about 7 pm.
We will share some bonfire snacks.

On the Saturday, there will be a special program with
many fun activities for the kids. The adults will gather in
the morning for discussion and fellowship. In the
afternoon, there will be time for lakefront activities and
sauna as well as games and social time.

On the Sunday, we will celebrate a casual Ansgar
Sunday Service!

Camp Kuriakos is beautifully located at Sylvan Lake
near Red Deer.



PRICING:

Families with children under 18: \$180.00/family
Couple with 1 child under 18: \$150.00/family
Couple with no children: \$120.00/couple
Single: \$60.00
Subsidy available

Deadline for sign-up: July 20th
Call Pastor Jane at 780-422-8777

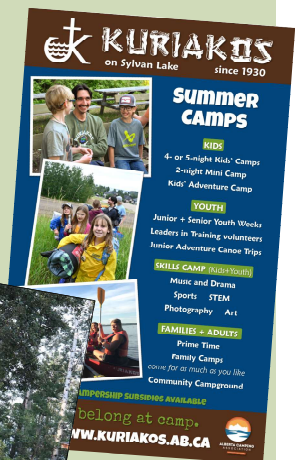
The Ansgar Danish Lutheran Church invites everyone to a
special community weekend at Camp Kuriakos on Sylvan Lake.
Families can stay in the lodge - each room with a queen bed and
single bunk beds - or choose to tent or bring an RV. There are also
single rooms available. All meals and accommodation are included
in one registration price. Camp Kuriakos offers something for
everyone: canoeing, kayaking, swimming, archery, hiking, crafts,
campfires, soccer fields, horseshoes, and indoor fun like ping-pong
and foosball. There is also a beautiful chapel on site for a Special
Service on Sunday.

This weekend is more than a getaway. It's a chance for our
children to meet other Danish kids, build friendships, and
experience the traditions that connect us across generations.

When we come together, we strengthen the ties that bind us.
When our children engage with one another,
they carry our traditions forward.

We warmly encourage families,
couples and singles alike to attend
and take part in this meaningful
experience. Your presence ensures
that our Danish culture remains
vibrant, shared, and alive for the
next generation.

Jasha Skousbøl



GAMES FOR EVERYONE!



CAMPFIRE IN THE EVENINGS