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Newsletter Deadline: August 2, 2015

HAPPY
SUMMER
HOLIDAYS



DANISH LUTHERAN CHURCH

210 – 10th Avenue N.E.
Calgary, T2E 0W9
June - August, 2015

In the very beginning of The Lutheran Book of Worship there is a list of which texts to use on Sundays and on the principal and lesser festivals. Under the lesser festivals we find on June 24, the peak of summer, the nativity of St. John the Baptist.

In the gospel of John, John the Baptist says about himself “ I must become less and he (Jesus) must become greater and, very conveniently the daylight of the church year matches the Bible texts, because from June 24 the days actually are becoming shorter whereas from the birth of Jesus the days become longer. In the Canadian Lutheran churches the birth of St. John may be celebrated by a service, whereas in Denmark we don't celebrate the day with a service on June 24, but we still remember his birthday.

In Denmark St. Hans, which is the Danish name of St. John, is celebrated the night before, on June 23 by lighting big fires everywhere. We find it very romantic standing in the warm summer night, singing about Denmark while we are watching the fire burning against the velvety dark blue backdrop of the sky. But the background of the bonfires isn't at all romantic, on the contrary!

Two days earlier on June 21, we pass the longest day of the year. In the days of old all of nature was believed to be impregnated by forces which it absorbed from the sun. Those forces were good as well as evil. The evil ones were particularly active around midsummer.

Therefore, people possessed by evil forces (witches and sorcerers) were very dangerous at this time of year. If only they flew over the parish once, they could ruin all the crops of the parish which then would have to face famine the following winter.



They were believed to fly either northwards to the volcano Hekla in Iceland also called Hekkenfeldt (which was the most outstanding castle of the devil with its own direct access to Hell) or southwards to Bloksbjerg in the Harz, (Germany). In order to keep those evil forces away one lit big fires - bonfires which were supposed to prevent the joy from being ruined.

From the very early days symbols of witchcraft were placed on top of those bonfires in order to literally put Evil out of the way. But the tradition of putting a doll on top of the bonfire with a lot of firecrackers hidden in its skirt is quite new. It comes from Germany and it only dates back to the 1920-30's.

However, today it reminds us of the very dark period of our Danish history, from about the years 1500-1700, where about a thousand men and women were tortured and burnt as witches or sorcerers.

Address change & Donation form.

Cheques, Money order, Visa or Master Card . Please do not mail Cash.

Name: _____

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I hereby authorize the Danish Lutheran Church to charge my: Visa Master Card

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Every: _____ Month Every Year One time

Signed: _____ Date: _____ Income Tax receipt is issued

after year end. Please use enclosed envelope.

Also the wort plant is connected to St. John. Its name is St. John's wort, (in Danish prikbladet perikum eller Johannesurt), in Latin Hypericum perforatum, which blooms the most around St. John's Day.



The legend behind St. John's wort is a little unclear as some writings claim that when the blood of Jesus fell on the soil beneath the cross beautiful worts sprouted which could cure almost any disease and prevent all evil. Other writings claim it is the blood from the decapitated head of John the Baptist. Anyway, though its petals are bright yellow, when the flower buds are crushed, one's fingers are tinted red signifying "the blood of Jesus/John."

Of course the devil couldn't allow humans to have such a healing wort so at nighttime he ordered all his imps out to bite into this wort with their sharp teeth. Yet, the wort survived; but to this day the bite marks can be seen when leaves are held up against the light.

The wort has been known, and of good repute, as a healing wort from the days of the ancient world where it was used in ointment for neuralgias and to exorcise demons. (In former days insanity and depressions were considered as demonic possession.) The wort was so full of sacred powers that the Devil had to flee, therefore its nickname is Fuga Daemonum!



Today we know that the active drug is hypericin and it is used in herbal medicinal products for mild depressions. One can also, within 3 days, make a very good tasting and beautiful looking red akvavit out of it!

In Canada St. John's wort is not looked upon nearly as positively as in Denmark. Here the invasive species council in Alberta recommends not to grow the wort for any reason because it is toxic and can cause death in sufficient quantities (whatever that is) and because it easily gets out of control and turns into an infestation.

Somewhat differently, our two countries celebrate the birth of John the Baptist and look upon the wort that is connected to St. John.

Have a nice summer! C.B.

Joint service in Dickson June 28th at 11 am
Sunday, June 28th our service will be moved to Dickson for our 3rd annual joint service

This year, *if the weather permits*, the service will be held on the museum's ground and NOT in the church. Should the weather turn out to be cold and windy, like last year, we will have the service and maybe the lunch in the church. But let us pray for warm and sunny weather for the service as well as for the picnic to follow..

Like the last 2 years a list for car pooling will be put on the board at the entrance to the hall downstairs.

Revival of the Stampede Breakfast

Due to the amalgamation and then the renovations, the old tradition of our church hosting a Stampede breakfast had been put aside but now it is time to revive it.

Therefore, **July 5th, after the service** the Merry Kitchen Boys will cook a Stampede breakfast to be served outside the church (if weather permits) so that people in the neighbourhood passing by might be tempted to participate.

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Danish Canadian National Museum
Step into the Saga
Open May-September. Call 403.728.0019, email manager@danishcanadians.com,
or visit www.danishcanadians.com for more information

What is going on here?

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
12	23	21	17	16	3	10	26	15	1	8	24	25	13	5	6	9	7	22	11	20	4	2	19	14	18

13	5	2				11	28	16				24	5	7	17			26	12	17		6	7	16	6	12	7	16	17
12			10	7	16	12	11				3	15	22	28		11	5		22	2	12	24	24	5	2			20	6
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			11	28	16						23	16	24	24	14		5	3		11	28	16		3	15	22	28		
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											13	16	10	26	11	22													

Jonah 1:17



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ALPINE SAUSAGE HOURS:
Tuesday- Friday 9-6
Saturday 9-5
Closed Sunday, Monday

Sunday School Notes

Our last Sunday for the Sunday School to meet will be Sunday, June 7. This year we have been learning stories from the Bible about what it means to follow Jesus. We also completed collecting \$1900 to pay for a village well in a developing country. Canadian Lutheran World Relief has written back to us to tells us that this well is going into a drought-prone part of the NE African country of Ethiopia. Now we have been collecting money for a mini-barnyard of animals (2 chickens, 2 rabbits, 2 pigs, and a sheep) to go to a poor family in Asia. The cost is \$152 and so far we have collected close to \$70. We will continue with this project in the fall.

Over the summer there are plans to have a Summer Bible Day Camp at the Church again. Read the information in this newsletter. If you have children, grandchildren, or know other children who may be interested in coming, please pass on the information to them. Have wonderful summer!
Karen

Kid's Movie Night:

There are plans to wind down the school year for the kids of the congregation (and friends and family) by having a kid's movie night in the church basement on Friday evening, **June 12**. A simple supper will be provided followed by a movie or two. Time will be from 5:00 pm to 10:00 pm. Parents/grandparents may drop their children off or come along with the kids for the evening. In order to know how much food we need to have on hand please RSVP to Karen at falken@agt.net, or Laurelie at laureliemartinson@gmail.com. Should be fun!

Missions Corner:

At the AGM in April a decision was made to form a missions committee to look into mission projects that our congregation could support. These projects could be local, national, and international. If you are interested in serving on this committee, or have suggestions for projects to support, please contact Karen Falkenberg-Andersen or email her at falken@agt.net. We hope to have a planning meeting or two over the summer months.

Sing along seasonal ending.

Margit and Richard Damgaard have again invited us to end the season of our Sing-alongs in their garden on **June 18th at 6 pm**. They will heat up their barbecue, so bring your own chair, maybe a light-weight table if you have one, the meat you want to eat, a salad or dessert. We will sing and enjoy the company of one another and the light summer evening. If you need to get driving directions then give Margit and Richard a call 403 286-2528. Please call or email Charlotte to sign-up.

Picnic service!

This year on the **16th of August** we will have a picnic service. Again it will be held on the new green area just beside the church where the grass now is thick and soft. This service also kick starts VBS so we hope to see many of the children (and their parents) who will be attending VBS. This informal service will be followed by hotdogs, desserts and all kinds of games for the young at heart. We hope the weather will be warm enough to put up our waterslide for the children - so remember to bring your swimwear.

Summer Bible Day Camp

Who: For children ages 4 to 14

When: August 17 – 21, 2015

Time: 8:30 am – 4:30 pm

Where: Danish Lutheran Church

Why: Because God loves us and wants us to know him better and because parents need help with day care in the summer.

Also to consider: Drop In Camp - Each day will be a self-contained unit, so it is possible to register for just a single day or a couple of days. And, if there is room, we welcome drop-in kids as well.



Theme: Jungle Jaunt.

5-10 Bible stories about how God’s cares for us and His creation

Come and share fun, food, and fellowship with us and be challenged by God’s word.

Registration Fees:

For the whole week:

\$ 25 per child, \$ 15 for each following child in the same family.

For single days or drop-in: \$ 10 per day for each child, \$ 5 for each following child in the same family.

Bring your own lunch. Morning and afternoon snacks provided.

(If your child has dietary restrictions please pack them 2 snacks as well as a lunch.)

Please register as soon as possible.

Registration deadline will be **August 10, 2015.**

For more information or to register call the Church office, (403) 277-5804, or email the office at danishchurchcalgary@gmail.com or call pastor Charlotte Berg, (403)-719-3832 or email at charlotteberg1@gmail.com.



AUGUST 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 10:00 am Eng. Prov 3,27-35 1 Joh 1,5-2,2 Luke 16,1-9	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 10:00 am Eng. 11:15 am Danish Deut 6,4-9 1 Cor 12,1-7[8-11]; Luke 19,41-48	10	11	12	13	14	15
16 10:00 am Eng. Picnic Service Job 5,8-16 1 Cor 15,1-10a Luke 18,9-14	17 8:30 am - 4:30 pm Jungle Jaunt	18 8:30 am Jungle Jaunt	19 8:30 am Jungle Jaunt	20 8:30 am Jungle Jaunt	21 8:30 am Jungle Jaunt	22 Jungle Jaunt
23 10:00 am Eng. 11:15 am Danish Ps. 115,1-9 2. Cor. 3,4-9 Mark. 7,31-37	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 10:00 am Eng Family Service Lev. 19,1-2.9-18 Gal. 2,16-21 Luke 10,23-37	31					

JULY 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5 10:00 am Eng. Is 6,1-8 1 Pet 3,8-9[10-15a]; Luke 5,1-11 Stampede Breakfast	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 10:00 am Eng. 11:15 am Danish Deut 30,11-14 Rom 6,3-11 Matt 5,20-26	13	14	15	16	17	18
19 10:00 am Eng. Psalm 126 Rom 6,19-23 Luke 19,1-10	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 10:00 am Eng. 11:15 am Danish Jer 23,16-24 Rom 8,14-17 Matt 7,15-21	27	28	29	30	31	

Confirmation 2016

Knowing that I'm quick off the mark, I am already drawing your attention to confirmation in 2016. I want you to start discussing whether or not you wish to have your child confirmed.

After the service October 4, we will have enrollment for young people age 13+ who want to be confirmed in the Spring of 2016.

Please put this date into your calendar if you have children in this age group; or if you know of someone with children who may be interested, then please draw their attention to this date.

If you can't make it to church that Sunday, then please call the pastor ahead of time to enroll your child/children.

The class is planned to start the following week at a day and time where it is possible for all to meet.

Contact Pastor Charlotte at 403.719.3832 or email her at charlotteberg1@gmail.com **before August 15 or after September 21.**

New Board Members Hanna Christensen

My husband, Paul, and I immigrated from Denmark to Regina in 1952. We moved to Edmonton in 1954 and met 2 Danish ladies who encouraged us to go to the Danish Church.



We didn't have any Danish gatherings for 2 years so we were delighted to have a bit of Denmark back into our lives.

Pastor Poul Overgaard Thomsen was also a social worker who helped many Danish people who were new to Canada. We were grateful for his help and for friendships that were made to last a lifetime.

At DLC at lot of people contribute to the life of

the church in many ways to make it a happy and enjoyable place to meet. I also want to be one of these helpful members.

Ketty Hoyem

My name is Ketty Hoyem. I'm married to Trent Hoyem. We have four kids, Thomas (12), Adam (10), Anna (8) and Isaac (6). I grew up on a dairy cattle farm in West Jutland in the small community of No (close to Ringkøbing). In June, 1997 I moved to Calgary.

I'm currently a full-time mom, but am planning to once again join the paid workforce in the fall.



Viking Girls

Our 3rd Annual Dessert Night Fundraiser was held on April 3 in the Church basement and to our delight we were filled to the rafters. We raised \$1700. 00 for the Comfort Kits, that will be donated to the Foothills Country Hospice. At our May meeting we went on a tour of SAIT. We will now rest for the summer and our next meeting will be Wednesday, Sept. 2. We welcome new members and at our first meeting we will be looking forward to new ideas to keep our meetings fun.

Auction and Dinner

On behalf of the church, I would like to thank the Club, the volunteers and the guest for another great Auction Night on May 1st. The net amount from the evening was \$9,500; a great result, that will benefit the church in it's work ahead.

I think, I can say, that we all had a good time. See you next year, Ulla

Thank you
Thank you for your kind thoughts and prayers during the time of my illness.
Your friendship has been very encouraging to me. Inger Olsen

Confirmation 2015

May 3rd Nicoline Rosenkilde Husted Kjær was confirmed in our church at a well attended service. Afterwards everybody stayed for the coffee and enjoyed the confirmation cake.
A very nice day, indeed!

Mission Moments

You may be surprised, and hopefully delighted, to learn how our congregation is already quietly involved in mission work. One of these little-known projects is the knitting of pneumonia vests. Mona Foged, who owns a knitting shop (The Knitting Room) in NW Calgary cheerfully accepts donations of clean yarn. The donated yarn is knitted by her, and others, into booties, hats and blankets to be donated to the newborn nursery and other local charities. Also, in the past couple of years, pneumonia vests have been knitted to go overseas to poor children in colder climates (eg places like Mongolia and Nepal). These vests, when worn by the needy children, can help prevent pneumonia during cold winter months spent in unheated homes.

At least 100 of these vests have been sent to Canadian Lutheran World Relief in the past 2 years. Mona, Sheila Johnston (our Church secretary), and another woman have made about another 70 vests, which are now ready to be shipped to the CLWR offices in Winnipeg. The vests are warm, but also beautiful, colourful, and so lovingly made. Mona says that even small scraps of yarn get incorporated into these vests, and though the scraps may not seem like much, she reminds herself that the vest she is working on may well save a child's life.

In the same way Jesus can take the small scraps from our lives, which we offer to Him, and turn them into something of eternal beauty that He can use.
It is wonderful how a skill, talent, passion, interest or hobby can be used by Him to help others who may be half a world away.
If you get a chance, stop my Mona's shop and take a peek at some of the gorgeous vests!



JUNE 2015						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 1:00 pm Ladies' Bible Study	3	4	5	6
7 Eng. 10:00 am Sunday School Is 58,5-12 1 John 4,16b-21 Luke 16,19-31	8	9 7:00 pm Board meeting	10	11	12 5-10 pm Kids' Movie Night	13
14 Eng. 10:00 am Danish 11:15 am Is 25,6-9 1 Joh 3,13-18 Luke 14,16-24	15	16	17 7:30 pm Literate Vikings	18 Sing-a-long Seasonal ending	19	20
21 Eng. 10:00 am Is 57,15-19 1 Pet 5,6-11 Luke 15,1-10	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 Service & Picnic At The Danish National Museum, Dickson	29	30				