

# TÕETERA / THE SOWER

SEPTEMBER

ST. PETER'S ESTONIAN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF TORONTO

EELK Toronto Peetri Kogudus



## KOGUDUSTE ÜHENDKOOR

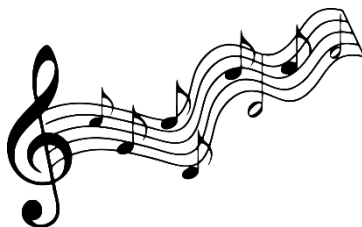
Katrin Veski juhatusel

The importance of song and choral music to the cultural life of Estonia has led to an abundance of choral music and choirs with varied voicings and purpose. From casual singing at the beginning of a town meeting to the use of song as a means for revolt against the former Soviet regime, choral singing has long been a part of Baltic culture. It has been used to maintain cultural identity throughout times when other elements of life were restricted.

A new "Koguduste Ühendkoor" has been formed, under the direction of Katrin Veski. Their first performance

was at the August 20<sup>th</sup> special service commemorating the Estonian Republic's Restoration of Independence Day.

Would you like to join the choir? Contact the choir's co-ordinator Ilo Maimets at 647-787-8534 or by email at [ilo@yorku.ca](mailto:ilo@yorku.ca) for more information.



## UUDISED/NEWS

### St. Peter's Guild Peetri Kiriku Ring

The St. Peter's Ladies Guild officially began on October 16<sup>th</sup>, 1951 at St. John's Church. Unofficially, the ladies of the congregation were already serving coffee and sandwiches as early as Christmas 1949. **We thank the many women and Chairwomen who have diligently worked to serve our congregation.**

Historically the Ladies Guild was exclusively a women's organization, although many men have helped with events. In order to invite and

encourage both women and men to commit to help with church events, it was decided on August 9<sup>th</sup>, to change the group's official name to Peetri Kiriku Ring (St. Peter's Guild). Gentlemen – there is now no excuse, please come join the Guild.

### The Guild in action

We are also delighted to announce that we have several new members, both men and women, and that the Guild's new Chairwoman is long-time congregation member Aida Shelton. Aida is keen on contributing to the success of upcoming church events. She may

817 Mount Pleasant Road  
Toronto, Ontario M4P 2L1



416-483-5847



[stpeterstontoronto@rogers.com](mailto:stpeterstontoronto@rogers.com)



[www.youtube.com/  
@eelktorontopeetrikogudus8966](http://www.youtube.com/@eelktorontopeetrikogudus8966)



[www.stpeterstontoronto.  
estonianchurch.ca](http://www.stpeterstontoronto.estonianchurch.ca)



[www.facebook.com/  
Toronto.St.Peters](http://www.facebook.com/Toronto.St.Peters)

### Kantselei Tunnid/Office Hours

Teisipäeval/Tues. 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
Kolmapäeval/Wed. 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
Neljapäeval/Thurs. 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

### Church Administrator

Tiina Jenkins 416-483-5847

### Juhatuseliikmed / Executive

Väino Einola, Chairman  
416-391-4398  
[vainoeinola@sympatico.ca](mailto:vainoeinola@sympatico.ca)

Tiiu Roiser, Vice-Chairman  
905-479-1565  
[tiiu-roiser@rogers.com](mailto:tiiu-roiser@rogers.com)

Toomas Trei, Treasurer  
416-698-8555  
[ttrei@sympatico.ca](mailto:ttrei@sympatico.ca)

Linda Laikve, Board Secretary  
416-444-6405 [linlaikve@gmail.com](mailto:linlaikve@gmail.com)

Erik Kalm, Facilities Manager  
[erikkalm@icloud.com](mailto:erikkalm@icloud.com)

Anne Liis Keelmann, Community Outreach  
& Events Planning  
[akeelmann@rogers.com](mailto:akeelmann@rogers.com)

*Please donate to secure the future of St.  
Peter's – cash, cheques, and e-mail  
transfers accepted.*



*Aida Shelton – New Chairwoman*

be reached at 416-483-3761 (home)  
437-432-1512 (cell) or by email at:  
[aida.shelton@sympatico.ca](mailto:aida.shelton@sympatico.ca)

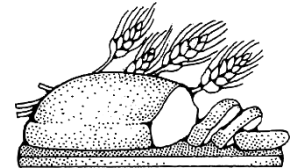
### Welcome Erik Veski!

We are also pleased to announce that St. Peter's has a new organist. Originally from New York, Erik was the director for the New York Estonian Men's Choir, and then the New York Estonian Segakoor.

Erik has a Piano Performance Major from Syracuse University and a Master of Music from the Manhattan School of Music. He has also been to law school and was admitted to the New York Bar Association.

He and wife Katrin love to play four-handed piano and we look forward to hearing and seeing them play!

Erik is also a master baker of Estonian rukkileib and makes wonderful verivorstid.



### Farewell to Raivo Pavar

As we return to church services after our summer break, one smiling face will be missing from the church pews. Raivo was a regular, long-time attendee. He almost never missed a church service. Well-dressed in a suit and tie, he participated fully at every event, singing hymns with gusto. It's not what he couldn't do, it's what he could. Raivo taught us patience, compassion, and understanding. He gave the best hugs. Let our grief be transformed into tenderness for those who are still with us.

Go Raivo, and run free with the angels, dance around the golden clouds, for the Lord has chosen you to be with him, and we should feel nothing but gladness.

*Raivo Jonas Pavar  
March 23, 1953 –  
August 21, 2022*

*Raivo's funeral service was held on August 16<sup>th</sup>.*



Jumalaga, maine kodu,  
abikaasa, omaksed!  
Lapsed, läbi õhtu udu,  
teile viimsed tervised!  
Maha jäi, mis oli armas,  
kõik, mis kallis, kustus surmas.  
otsa sai mu võitlus, töö,  
kadus päike, tuli öö...

Siiski tean, küll see oli,  
Taeva Isa tahtmine.  
Kaugelt kaldalt paistis tuli,  
veeres laine viimane.  
Nüüd ma enam ööd ei karda,  
sest ma tean, Kristusega  
Jõuan taeva rahusse,  
oma Isa majasse.

*Aleksander Abel, Eluallikal*

## Apartment for Rent

Are you looking for a spacious 3 bedroom + den apartment, steps from the Eglinton LRT, with parking included? The church apartment is available for rent for a single family, or as commercial space.



### Key features:

- Spacious 1500 sq. foot corner unit on the second floor.
- Flooded with natural light from windows on three sides.
- Refreshing cross ventilation.
- Three generously-sized bedrooms providing ample space for a family or commercial office(s).
- Additional den space becomes perfect for a home office or your creative space.
- Parking is conveniently located at your doorstep.
- A modern designer kitchen with granite countertops and stainless steel appliances to inspire your culinary creativity.

- In-suite washer and dryer makes laundry day a breeze.
- Modern bathroom with granite countertop, two sinks, and heated towel rack.
- Abundant closets and storage ensures that you have plenty of room for all your belongings and the ability to keep your living area clutter free.
- Prime location - steps from the major LRT station, proving you with quick and efficient access to the city. The best of urban living surrounded by a perfect balance of dining, shopping and entertainment options.
- \$4,500. monthly, with parking included.

The apartment has been newly-decorated, with fresh paint, contemporary finishes, and professionally cleaned carpeting. The apartment is a smoke-free environment. No pets are allowed.

More photos are available on our website under "[rentals](#)". For enquiries and to book a showing, please contact the church administrator Ms. Tiina Jenkins at 416- 483-5847.



**ST. PETER'S –  
WE ARE NOT DAIRY QUEEN,  
BUT WE DO HAVE GREAT  
SUNDAYS!**





### **A Celebration with a Community Benefit**

A giving party is a wonderful way to share a celebration with a cause or organization that you care about.

On August 1st, Anne Liis Keelmann “stepped into a new decade”, as she put it, and decided that in lieu of birthday gifts for her 70th special day, she asked her guests to contribute a monetary donation to support St. Peter's Estonian Church instead, because it is the right thing to do.

Anne Liis has worked in various capacities, passionately being involved in almost all aspects of Estonian society. She is the president of Eesti Selts, an active member of her Sorority Filiae Patriae, a member of the Estonian Central Council, a member of the Estonian Businessmen's club, and now a member of the St. Peter's executive council.

Tiina Jenkins welcomed everyone and said grace to start the evening, saying in part: “On this special, special day, your 70th birthday, we rejoice and give thanks to God for placing Anne Liis in our community, for her warmth, joyfulness, generosity and tireless energy and efforts. We pray that her day be filled with joy, reflection, and hope for the year ahead. Anne Liis, may God continue to bless you and watch over you all the days of your life.”

The evening's guests enjoyed a bountiful dinner, followed by coffee, kringel, and cake. Anne Liis was serenaded by Andres Raudsepp with Estonian words to the tune of “The Rose”. Väino Einola brought greetings from St. Peter's and expressed how grateful he was for Anne's new role on the Executive, as the lead person responsible for community outreach and event planning. It was obvious to all the guests that this is the perfect role for her. Anne's enthusiasm about the future of St. Peter's is contagious.

She has crafted an interesting calendar for the church's fall program which you can find on our website at [stpeterstorontoestonianchurch.ca](http://stpeterstorontoestonianchurch.ca). Anne is hopeful that all her guests can make it to the upcoming August 20th combined service with Vana Andres congregation in celebration of the rebirth of Estonian independence.

The church is grateful to Anne Liis and her family for this generous and memorable fund-raising effort. Väino thanked the guests for their encouraging words, well wishes, and most of all, their generous support toward the church. St. Peter's has a donor wall where donors are recognized. A \$500 donation will receive half a leaf and those that have contributed \$1,000 receive a full leaf with their name on our donor tree.

The generosity shared by Anne's guests is sure to make her birthday special and memorable. It was a meaningful way for them to celebrate Anne Liis birthday and feeling good about giving back to the community. Our community would be well-served if Anne's gesture of support for the community finds resonance in many of our upcoming celebrations.

### **Linda Leppik – St. Peter's Newest Centenarian.**

In the world of flowers, roses are bold. They immediately grab your attention and say “Here I am, look at me”. Then there are those flowers that bloom unobtrusively in the background - tiny wild violets that grow amongst the fall grasses. Beautiful in their own right, but unassuming. They are modest, not wanting to be the center of attention.

Such was the work of Linda Leppik, a long-time congregation member. It was Linda who came to



church early in the mornings to set up coffee for all kinds of meetings. She walked to church, carrying heavy bags filled with baking she'd done, sandwich fixings, and cartons of cream and sugar, in the rain or shine. Whenever she was asked, she always said yes. She was reliable, and consistent.

Born Linda Sepp, her story is much the same as that of other Estonians, fleeing by boat from Estonia, living in Sweden for a time, then coming to Canada. She became a widow at the age of 48, in her prime, and was the sole provider for her two children. Life for a single woman is not easy. All of us need to feel that our life has meaning and that we contribute to our community in some way. Contributing to St. Peter's was important for Linda. I shall forever remember her happy smiling face as we met at church each Sunday. I never heard her say an unkind word to anyone. She was there to help the church – a true, loving volunteer.

On August 3rd, I was happy to meet up with Linda and her daughter, son, daughter-in-law, and Lehta Greenbaum on behalf of the St. Peter's Ladies Guild, to celebrate her 100th birthday in the courtyard of her temporary Long-term care home. Greetings also came from Alar Karis, Estonia's President.

*Austatud Linda Leppik,*

*Palun võtke vastu minu südamest tulevad õnnitlused Teie sajanda sünnipäeva puhul. Olete oma elus palju näinud*

*ja kogenud, olete saanud kaasa elada terve sajandi rõõmudele ja muredele ning alati hoidnud alal lootust. Mul on hea meel, et Teil on jätkunud elurõõmu jagada seda kõike ka noorematega. Soovin Teile tervist ja palju õnne.*

How can one say thank you for all you've done for St. Peter's - words are not enough. Thank you, thank you Linda! Happy 100th birthday from the Ladies Guild, Executive, and St. Peter's congregation members!



### **Kuidas meeldib Peetri Kiriku Ringi tuba?**

*Vaata järgi! Kuidas meeldib meie värskelt värvitud Ringii tuba? Check it out! How do you like our freshly-painted Guild room?*



*Värvimeistrid Väino Einola ja Nick Chorowiec*



## Events & Services / Üritused & Teenused

### Church Services and Activities / Jumalateenistused ja üritused

**September 8, 2023 – Friday/Reede** – Kell 12:00 St. Peter's Guild / Peetri Kiriku Ringi koosolek ja väljasõit. Meeting and Barbeque for Guild members.

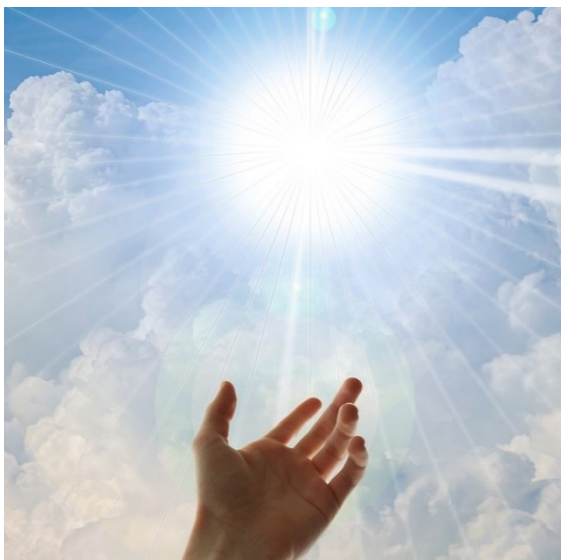
✝ **September 17, 2023 – Sunday/Pühapäeval** – Kell 11:30 e.l. / 11:30 a.m.

Joint English-speaking service with the Salvation Army at St. Peter's. The Salvation Army congregation that rents our church, has invited us to their NTCC Rally Day Sunday & BBQ. A barbeque will follow the service with tables and chairs set up in the north and south parking lots. Come meet new people, listen to their band, enjoy some fellowship.



✝ **September 24, – Sunday/Pühapäeval** – Kell 11:30 e.l. / 11:30 a.m.

Kodumaalt lahkumise aastapäev ja koguduse 75 a. juubel. Teenib õpetaja Peeter Vanker. Esineb Laikve pere. Armulaud. Jumalateenistusele järgneb lõuna. Palun registreerida kontoris. Estonian language service commemorating the anniversary of fleeing the homeland and the congregation's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Luncheon will be served after the service. Please register your attendance with the church office at: 416-483-5847.



*“Sest otsegu meil ühe ihus on palju liikmeid, aga kõigil liikmeil ei ole sama töö, nõnda oleme meiegi paljud üks ihu Kristuses, aga üksikult igauks üksteise liikmed. Aga meil on armu mööda, mis meil antud, mõnesuguseid armuandeid: olgu prohvetliku kuulutamise anne, mis toimugu usu mõõtu mööda; olgu hoolekanne, mis toimugu hoolekandeametis; olgu keegi õpetaja, siis toimigu ta õpetamisametis; manitseb keegi, siis ta olgu manitsemisametis; kes teistele annetab, andku siira südamega; kes teisi juhatab, olgu hoolas; kes vaeseid hooldab, tehku seda rõõmuga.”*

*Roomlastele 12:4-8*



Donations to the church can now be made by cash, cheque, or direct transfer from your bank account to our e-mail: [stpeterstoronto@rogers.com](mailto:stpeterstoronto@rogers.com)

For those with an account at Northern Birch Credit Union, a direct transfer can be made to our account No. 2400. It is imperative that you please include your name with your donation so that your church membership account may be credited for tax purposes.