

TÕE TERA / THE SOWER - DECEMBER

ST. PETER'S ESTONIAN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF TORONTO

EELK Toronto Peetri Kogudus



Hea kogudus!

Advendiaja saabudes süütame küünla, mis toob valgust pimedusse ja soojust südamesse. Detsembris vaikusel avaneb võimalus süveneda Jumala sõnasse ja lasta oma hinges kõlada tänulikkusel. Oodates Päästja sündi, jagagem rõõmu ja headust oma lähedastega.

Soovin teile kõigile õnnistatud ja mõtestatud advendiaega. Las Jumala arm ja tarkus valgustavad meie teed ning toovad rahu meie südamesse ja kodudesse.

Lugupidamisega, Karl Paju

Dear congregation!

As the Advent season arrives, we light a candle that brings light into the darkness and warmth into our hearts. In the silence of December, we have the opportunity to delve into God's Word and let gratitude resonate within our souls. As we await the Savior's birth, let us share joy and goodness with our loved ones.

I wish you all a blessed and meaningful Advent season. May God's grace and wisdom illuminate our paths and bring peace into our hearts and homes.

Sincerely, Karl Paju



817 Mount Pleasant Road
Toronto, Ontario M4P 2L1



416-483-5847



stpeterstoronto@rogers.com



[www.youtube.com/
@eelktorontopeetri
kogudus8966](http://www.youtube.com/@eelktorontopeetri_kogudus8966)



[www.stpeterstoronto
estonianchurch.ca](http://www.stpeterstoronto.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

Juhatuse Liikmed / Executive

Väino Einola, Chairman
416-391-4398
vainoeinola@sympatico.ca

Toomas Arget, Vice-Chairman
416-802-8551
argett@interlog.com

Toomas Trei, Treasurer
416-698-8555
ttrei@sympatico.ca

Markus Alliksaar, Board Secretary
416-287-5761
malliksaar@sympatico.com

Anne Liis Keelmann, Events Planning
akeelmann@rogers.com

Mary Donaldson, Member
416-268-0668
maryots156@gmail.com

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

The Man and the Birds

You know, THE Christmas story, "God born as a man, lying in a manger", and all that, escapes some moderns. Mostly I think because they seek complex answers to their questions, and this one is so utterly simple. So for the cynics and the skeptics and the unconvinced, I submit a modern parable:

Now the man to whom I'm going to introduce you was not a scrooge, he was a kind, decent, mostly good man. Generous to his family, upright in his dealings with other men. But he just didn't believe all that incarnation stuff which the churches proclaim at Christmas Time. It just didn't make sense and he was too honest to pretend otherwise. He just couldn't swallow the Jesus Story, about God coming to Earth as a man. "I'm truly sorry to distress you," he told his wife, "but I'm not going with you to church this Christmas Eve." He said he'd feel like a hypocrite. That he'd much rather just stay at home, but that he would wait up for them. And so he stayed and they went to the midnight service.

Shortly after the family drove away in the car, snow began to fall. He went to the window to watch the flurries getting heavier and heavier and then went back to his fireside chair and began to read his newspaper. Minutes later he was startled by a thudding sound. Then another, and then another. Sort of a thump or a thud. At first he thought someone must be throwing snowballs against his living room window. But when he went to the front door to investigate he found a flock of birds huddled miserably in the snow. They'd been caught in the storm and, in a desperate search for shelter, had tried to fly through his large landscape window.

Well, he couldn't let the poor creatures lie there and freeze, so he remembered the barn where his children stabled their pony. That would provide a warm shelter,



if he could direct the birds to it.

Quickly he put on a coat, galoshes, tramped through the deepening snow to the barn. He opened the doors wide and turned on a light, but the birds did not come in. He

figured food would entice them in, so he hurried back to the house, fetched bread crumbs, sprinkled them on the snow, making a trail to the yellow-lighted wide open doorway of the stable. But to his dismay, the birds ignored the bread crumbs, and continued to flap around helplessly in the snow. He tried catching them. He tried shooing them into the barn by walking around them waving his arms. Instead, they scattered in every direction, except into the warm, lighted barn.



And then, he realized, that they were afraid of him. To them, he reasoned, I am a strange and terrifying creature. If only I could think of some way to let them know that they can trust me. That I'm not trying to hurt them, but to help them. They just would not follow. They would not be led or shooed because they feared him. "If only I could be a bird," he thought to himself, "and mingle with them and speak their language. Then I could tell them not be afraid. Then I could show them the way to safety, and the warm barn. But I would have to be one of them so they could see, and hear and understand."

At that moment the church bells began to ring. The sound reached his ears above the sounds of the wind. And he stood there listening to the bells - *Adeste Fidelis* - listening to the bells pealing the glad tidings of Christmas. And he sank to his knees in the snow.

*Paul Harvey's Christmas Story:
The Man and the Birds, by Paul Harvey,
ABC Radio Dec. 24, 2004.*



UUDISED / NEWS

All Souls' Day Service

Hingedepäev, or the All Soul's Day Estonian service was held on November 3rd. Presiding was Intern Karl Paju, organist Erik Kreem.



The church bell tolled as we remembered recently and not-so-recently passed loved ones.



Jõululaat

Peetri kogudusel oli suur rõõm, et saime tiivustada meie ühiskonda ilusa jõululaadaga.



Erik Veski vervivorstid müüdi välja, pagari tooted läksid väga hästi ja kõik jäid rahule.



Oli tore näha uusi külastajaid peredega ja mitmed müüjad kiitsid kui hästi kõik oli korraldatud ja soovisid, et neid uuesti tagasi kutsutakse.



Meil oli hea meel, et saime tutvustada ühiskonnale päästearmee bändi ja korealaste lauluansambli. Loterii ja vaikne oksjon õnnestusid suurepäraselt - täname kõiki lahkeid annetajaid, müüjaid ja ostjaid!

Soovime kõigile head jõulupühade algust!

Christmas Craft Show & Café

This year's November 16th craft show was a resounding success with many shoppers visiting our vendors, enjoying a light lunch or snack at our Café, and listening to the Christmas sounds of the Salvation Army Band and Korean Praise Ensemble.



Karl Paju's mentor pastor, Ando Kass, was also a vendor. His daughter Leena is participating in confirmation classes.



A great big thank you to all the organizers, volunteers, Guild members, vendors and shoppers!



Nov. 17th English Service

Confirmation students met for a confirmation class with Intern Karl Paju prior to the November 17th English-language service during which Karl Paju delivered a heart-felt sermon about getting through the difficult times and remembering that things will get better. He ended his sermon saying, "Live life like it matters, because it does!"

Palve

Kõigeväeline Jumal, halastaja Isa, me täname Sind, et Sa oled meile andnud oma Poja. Valgusta meie südameid, et me ühes inglitega Sind kiidaksime, Kristuse sündimise rõõmus elaksime ja südamerahu leiaksime Jeesuse Kristuse, Sinu armsa Poja, meie Issanda läbi.

A Blessing for A Hopeful Beginning

When the song of the angels is stilled, when the stars in the sky is gone, when the kings and princes are home, when the shepherds are back with their flocks, then the work of Christmas begins: to find the lost, to heal those broken in spirit, to feed the hungry, to release the oppressed, to rebuild the nations, to bring peace among all peoples, to make a little music with the heart. And to radiate the light of Christ, every day, in every way, in all that we do and in all that we say. Then the work of Christmas really begins.

- Howard Thurman

St. Peter's Estonian Evangelical Lutheran Church of Toronto



Estonian Church Service

**1st Advent
Dec. 1st
11:30 a.m.**

Intern Karl Paju
Organist Erik Kreem

Following the service, please join us for the congregation's Christmas Party (Jõulupuu). Please register for the luncheon by Nov. 26th
Church office 416-483-5847
stpeterstoronto@rogers.com

St. Peter's Estonian Evan. Lutheran Church of Toronto

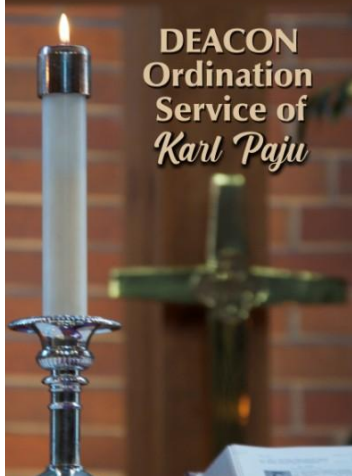


Dec. 24th Christmas Eve Church Services

12:00 noon English-language
Deacon Karl Paju - Organist Erik Kreem

2:00 p.m. Estonian-language
Õpetaja Ando Kass & Diakon Karl Paju
Organist Erik Kreem

DEACON Ordination Service of Karl Paju



St. Peter's Estonian Evangelical Lutheran Church of Toronto
EELK Toronto Peetri Kogudus

**Dec. 22nd
4th Advent**



11:30 a.m. Service with Bishop Ove Sander, Pastor Ando Kass, & Intern Karl Paju.
Organist Chung Lee

Fellowship & coffee to follow.

Two young boys were spending the night at their grandparents. At bedtime, the two boys knelt beside their beds to say their prayers when the youngest one began praying at the top of his lungs:

"I PRAY FOR A NEW BICYCLE...I PRAY FOR A CELL PHONE...I PRAY FOR A PUPPY."

His older brother leaned over and nudged the younger brother and said, "Why are you shouting your prayers? God isn't deaf." To which the little brother replied, "No, but Gramma is!"

St. Peters & Your Continued Support

"Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." Corinthians 9:7

Dear Member of St Peter's Evan. Luth. Church of Toronto,

We express heartfelt thanks to all congregation members who worship at St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Toronto, attend its Estonian and English language services, and participate in the many events and activities that define the life of the church.

We are grateful for the generosity of our members and others whose support has been forthcoming in the past year. If you have not already done so, we respectfully ask that you consider donating to St. Peter's again in 2024 and 2025.

To support your church, following the example of previous years, we ask that you consider a tax-deductible contribution of \$350.00 per adult member to help us sustain an active and vibrant calendar of worship and related events. **For students we suggest a \$50.00 annual contribution.** As always, any amount you choose to donate is up to you. You will receive a charitable donation tax receipt if your total annual contribution is \$20.00 or more.

Donations can be made as follows:

At church

Please use a donation envelope to identify yourself and your donation amount. Please make note of your name and who in your household is included in the donation.

By cheque to:

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Toronto
817 Mount Pleasant Road, Toronto, Ontario M4P 2L1

Direct deposit:

From your Northern Birch Credit Union account to the church account at #2400.

E-transfer:

From your account at any major bank via e-mail to the church account at stpeterstoronto@rogers.com

We hope to see you and your family members in church or attending other events during the coming holiday season and throughout the new year. It is your participation that motivates our Congregational Council to do its very best and gives us optimism about the future for our church.

Once again, with sincere thanks,
On behalf of St. Peter's Congregational Council
Väino Einola

Toronto Peetri kirik ja teie jätkuv toetus

"Igatäks peab andma nii, nagu ta on oma südames otsustanud, mitte vastumeelselt ega sunniviisiliselt, sest Jumal armastab rõõmsameelset andjat." – 2 Korintlastele 9:7

Lugupeetud EELK Toronto Peetri koguduse liige!

Täname südamest kõiki koguduse liikmeid, kes aitavad korraldada jumalateenistusi Toronto Peetri kirikus, osalevad sealsetel eesti- ja ingliskeelsetel jumalateenistustel ning võtavad osa paljudest koguduse elu määravatest üritustest ja ettevõtmistest.

Oleme tänulikud suuremeelse lahkuse eest oma liikmetele ja paljudele teistele, kes on möödunud aastal kirikut toetanud. Kui te pole seda veel teinud, palume lugupidavalt kaaluda 2024. ja 2025. aastal uuesti Toronto Peetri kirikule ja kogudusele annetamist.

Meie koguduse toetamiseks eelmiste aastate eeskujul palume, et iga täiskasvanud kiriku liige võimaluse korral teeks 350.00 dollari suurust annetust, mis aitaks meil säilitada aktiivset ja elavat jumalateenistuste kalendrit ning sellega seotud üritusi. **Koolikäivatele õpilastele soovitame tasuda 50.00 dollarit aastas.** Lõplikult jääb annetatav summa teie enda otsustada. Kui teie aastane kogutoetus on 20.00 dollarit või rohkem, saate heategevusliku annetuse maksuviitungi.

Annetusi saab teha järgmiselt:

Kirikus

Kasutage oma annetuse summa tuvastamiseks oma numbriga annetusümbrikut. Palun märkige oma nimi ja see, kes teie leibkonnast annetusse kaasatakse.

Tšekiga aadressile

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Toronto
817 Mount Pleasant Road, Toronto, Ontario M4P 2L1

Otsene sissemakse

Oma Northern Birch Credit Union kontolt sama panga koguduse kontole nr 2400.

E-ülekanne

Teie kontolt mis tahes suuremas pangas e-posti teel kiriku kontole e-posti aadressil stpeterstoronto@rogers.com

Loodame teid ja teie pereliikmeid peagi saabuval pühadeajal ja kogu uue aasta jooksul kirikus või muudel üritustel näha. Just teie osalemine motiveerib meie koguduse juhatust andma endast parima ja annab meile optimismi meie kiriku tuleviku suhtes.

Siira tänuga,
Peetri koguduse juhtuse nimel
Väino Einola

CHURCH SERVICES & EVENTS / JUMALATEENISTUSED & ÜRITUSED*

*New events may be added to the calendar—please check our church website for any additions.
www.stpeterstorontoestonianchurch.ca/event-calendar

- Dec. 1** - Sunday - 10:00 - 11:00 Confirmation Class. 11:30 1st Advent Estonian-language service with Karl Paju. Organist Erik Kreem. The congregation's Christmas party (Koguduse jõulupuu) will follow the service. Please register for the luncheon with the church office at 416-483-5847 or stpeterstoronto@rogers.com. Cost \$20.
- Dec. 4** - Wednesday - 12:00 noon. Guild Christmas Party for all Guild members.
- Dec. 22** - 4th Advent Sunday - 11:30 Estonian-language service with Bishop Ove Sander, and Pastor Ando Kass. Intern Karl Paju will be ordained and will become a Deacon. Organist Chung Lee. Fellowship and coffee to follow in the Guild room.
- Dec. 24** - Tuesday - 12:00 noon. English-language Christmas Eve service. Deacon Karl Paju, organist Erik Kreem.
- Dec. 24** - Tuesday - 2:00 p.m. Estonian-language Christmas Eve service with Pastor Ando Kass and Deacon Karl Paju. Organist Erik Kreem.
- Dec. 29** - Sunday - 3:00 p.m. Estonian service at Ehatare with Deacon Karl Paju.

Happy New Year !

- Jan. 5** - Sunday - 11:30 a.m. Estonian-language Epiphany service (Kolmekuningapäev) with Deacon Karl Paju, organist Chung Lee. Fellowship and coffee will follow the service in the Guild room.



Rõõmsaid ja õnnistatud jõulupühi,

kaunist aastavahetust

ja head uut aastat !

**Soovivad EELK Toronto Peetri
Koguduse juhatus ja teenistujad.**

Blessings for Christmas

and a Happy New Year !

**from St. Peter's
Congregational Council & employees.**

*"After coming into the house they saw the Child with Mary His mother;
and they fell to the ground and worshiped Him..." Matthew 2:11*

*Ja majja sisse astudes nägid nad last koos Maarja, tema emaga, ja
kummardasid teda tema ette maha heites..." Matteuse 2:11*