

# TÕE TERA - THE SOWER

ST. PETER'S ESTONIAN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF TORONTO  
EELK Toronto Peetri Kogudus



## TÕE TERA / THE SOWER

### Church Bulletin Name

Welcome to the new Tõe Tera / Sower format. Please let us know how you like it.

What does the name "Tõe Tera" mean? In English, it means "Grain of Truth". The name of our monthly bulletin is based on the Parable of the Sower (sometimes called the Parable of the Soils) found in Matthew 13:3-9, Mark 4:1-20, Luke 8:4-15, and the extra-canonical Gospel of Thomas.

"AGA MUIST KUKKUS HEA  
MAA PEALE JA KANDIS  
VILJA, MÕNI IVA SADA  
SEEMET, MÕNI  
KUUSKÜMMEND JA MÕNI  
KOLMKÜMMEND. KELLEL  
KÕRVAD ON, SEE  
KUULGU!"

Jesus tells of a farmer who sows seed indiscriminately. Some seed falls on the path (wayside) with no soil, some

on rocky ground with little soil, some on soil which contains thorns, and some on good soil. In the first case, the seed is taken away; in the second and third soils, the seed fails to produce a crop; but when it falls on good soil, it grows and yields thirty-, sixty-, or a hundred-fold.

Jesus later explains to his disciples that the seed represents the Gospel, the sower represents anyone who proclaims it, and the various soils represent people's responses to it.

## UUDISED/NEWS

### Farewells

On June 25th, St. Peter's congregation members bade farewell to Pastor Mart Salumäe, who after 12 years of service, returned to his homeland of Estonia. At that same service, we also said goodbye to Marta Kivik, who has for many years enhanced our services with her organ music.

### Welcome

We are pleased to announce that St. Peter's has a new office administrator, Tiina Jenkins. The office will be open on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. if you wish to drop by. As always you may contact the church by calling 416-483-5847 or emailing us at [stpeterstoronto@rogers.com](mailto:stpeterstoronto@rogers.com)

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### 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

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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.*

### Summer Services

As planned by the previous Board, there have been no summer services during the month of July. At this time, we have been focusing on carrying out various repairs around the church and columbarium. We had a very successful "volunteer week" (talgud), with well over 200 hours of community support. We thank everyone who came out to beautify our church.



### Communication Plans

Please visit our new church website at: [www.stpeterstorontoestonianchurch.ca](http://www.stpeterstorontoestonianchurch.ca) and our official Facebook page "St. Peter's Estonian Evangelical Lutheran Church of Toronto" <https://www.facebook.com/Toronto.St.Peters> Both are works in progress and we invite you to participate and watch as we develop our new online presence.

### Volunteer Opportunities

Do you like making sandwiches? Greeting people? Organizing archive materials? There are many ways for you to volunteer your time and talents. Check out our website under volunteer opportunities. Have a good idea you'd like to share or a committee or event you'd like to start? We'd love to hear about it.

### Heritage Register

The property known as 817 Mount Pleasant Road is now officially

included on the Heritage Register! Inclusion on the Register involved a three-step process. The first step involved the Toronto Preservation Board, on April 24th, recommending to the North York Community Council that the City Council include the property located at 817 Mount Pleasant Road on the City of Toronto's Heritage Register based on a presentation by a Senior Manager, Heritage Planning, Urban Design, City Planning. From there, the North York Community Council considered the recommendation, and on May 16th, adopted it without amendment. On June 14th, the City of Toronto adopted this recommendation without amendments and without debate.

### Columbarium Closure Application

Since the congregation voted not to sell the church, there are no funds available to close the columbarium and relocate those interred in the niches, and The Funeral, Burial and Cremation Act Registrar was notified thereof. The withdrawal of the Application was confirmed by the Registrar on June 30th.

### Repairs and Maintenance

A thorough assessment of the church property is currently being undertaken. Erik Kalm, our facility manager, is hard at work evaluating the repairs that are urgently required. Our priority is our precious copper roof which needs some tender loving care. We are getting estimates from qualified roofing companies. We are also happy to report that the pastor's apartment is



in great shape. It is architecturally outstanding thanks to the renovation undertaken for Archbishop emeritus Andres Taul by his wife Eneri. We are in the process of refreshing it in preparation for rental. **If you, or anyone you know is looking to rent a three bedroom apartment, of 1200 sq. feet, with updated appliances and free parking. please call the church office for an appointment.**

### Future Events

Anne Liis Keelmann is busy planning our events schedule, and we will continue to announcement them as soon as arrangements are finalized.



### Ladies Guild

The Ladies Guild meets on the 1st Wednesday of every month at 11:00 a.m. in the Ladies Guild room (with the exception of the August 9th meeting). We are looking for new members and new ideas for our future events.

*“Ja Jeesus tuli nende juure ja rääkis nendega ning ütles: ‘Minule on antud kõik meelevald taevas ja maa peal. Minge siis ja tehke jüngriteks kõik rahvad, neid ristides Isa ja Poja ja Püha Vaimu nimesse ja neid õpetades pidama kõike, mida mina teid olen käskinud. Ja vaata, mina olen iga päev teie juures maailma-ajastu otsani!’ ”*

*Matteuse 28 :18-20*





Vasakult: Rita Ziedina, Tiiu Roiser, David Sooru, Toomas Trei, Tiina Jenkins, Anne Liis Keelmann, Ilmar Leppik, Vivi Kivi, Lehta Greenbaum, Anne Mai Pedel, Erika Jõgi, Alice Jupe, Väino Einola

### Talgud at St. Peter's - July 17 – 21

The Estonian word "talgud" means to gather to carry out a major task, or cooperate in voluntary work, and this is exactly what occurred last week at Toronto Peetri Kirik. Crews of volunteers moved about the church clearing out cupboards, taking inventory of books, moving furniture, assessing archival materials, wiping down shelving, packing dusty curtains, and painting. The Ladies Guild supplied the hungry crew with plenty of hot coffee, cool drinks, sandwiches, and home baking.



The church apartment had an entire library of religious books that had been left behind by the various ministers that had lived there. All of the books were sorted, with some being donated, others given to the archives, and some moved downstairs so that in the future we may establish a reference library. Some very old and interesting Bibles were discovered which we hope to have on display at an upcoming service.

The archive room now has more shelving space. The back cupboards and hymnals in the sanctuary have been inventoried and reorganized.

The Ladies Guild room was given a make-over of sorts with furniture being moved and cupboards reorganized. Have a look in the office, there has been some furniture movement in there as well to make visitors feel cozy.

The total man-hours (and woman-hours) were well over 200! Many hours of prep-work, picking up materials, and baking, are not included in that



number. We are so gratified by the love people show for our church through their personal effort. When we next have our "talgud", please come join us, make new friends, and help to ensure our congregation's continued sustain-ability. There is much to be done! A church is an organization that runs on the help and dedication of volunteers. There are many roles to fill. We know everyone does not have the time or the physical ability to participate in our "talgud", but we welcome whatever encouragement you can give, be it verbal or financial.

A very sincere thank you to all who came out to support our church including the congregation members, church supporters, and relatives. Everyone left invigorated with a job well done.



## Events & Services / Üritused & Teenused\*

### Church Services and Activities / Jumalateenistused ja üritused

**August 9, 2023 – Kolmapäeval/Wednesday** - Kell 11:00 e.l. / 11:00 a.m.  
Naisringi Koosolek/Ladies Guild meeting in Ladies Guild Room.



**August 20, 2023 - Pühapäeval/Sunday** - Kell 11:30 e.l. / 11:30 a.m.

Eestikeelne teenistus - taasiseseisvuse aastapäeva tähistamise Jumalateenistus koos Vana-Andrese kogudusega Peetri kirikus. Teenib õp. Kalle Kadakas. Kohvilaud järgneb jumalateenistusele.

A special Estonian-language service will be held on August 20th, together with Vana-Andrese congregation, at St. Peter's. Officiating will be pastor Kalle Kadakas. There will be a light luncheon following the service in the downstairs hall. In order that we may know how many to expect, please register your attendance at the church office 416-483-5847 by August 17th.



**September 17, 2023 – Pühapäeval/Sunday** – 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.



**October 1, 2023 – Pühapäeval/ Sunday** (Time to be determined)

English-language service with Pastor Pamela Korman. A light luncheon reception will follow.

\* These are confirmed services at time of print. More may be added.

*Isa, Sinu palge ette, alanduses põlvitan.  
Leian uue elu mõtte, taeva poole palvetan :*

*Ole, Issand, minu tugi, raskes hingehetluses!  
Tõsta üles väsinugi, vaevalises võitlusest.*

*Pühi ära, armukäsi, palgelt valupisarad,  
et ei enne õhtut väsi, ega nõrke rändajad.*

*Sinu peale tahan loota, Taeva Isa, elu sees.  
Üksi Sa võid abi saata, kõiges, mis mind ootab ees.*

Isa Palge Ees – Aleksander Abel - Eluallikal



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.