



TÕE TERA / THE SOWER - OCTOBER

ST. PETER'S ESTONIAN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF TORONTO

EELK Toronto Peetri Kogudus



BLESSINGS FOR THANKSGIVING

Lõikustänupüha - Igapäevane leib - Kõikide silmad ootavad Sind ja Sina annad neile nende roa omal ajal.
Ps 145:15

Jumal, meie Looja, Sina ei väsi meile andmast oma haid ande, Sinult saame, mida me vajame ja kasutame. Me täname Sind selle aasta lõikuse eest. Lase ka oma armu viljadel – õiglusel ja armastusel – küpseda meie sees. Anna meile tänulik süda ja õpeta meid Sinu ande kasutamata kõigi inimeste heaks. Seda palume Jeesuse Kristuse, meie Issanda läbi. <https://eelk.ee/kirikukalender>

Jeesus ütles: „Vaadake ette ja hoiduge igasuguse ahnuse eest, sest külluseski ei olene kellegi elu sellest, mis tal on!” Lk 12:15

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Loving Creator, we asked for strength,
and you gave us difficulties to make us strong.
We asked for wisdom,
and you gave us problems to solve.
We asked for prosperity,
and you gave us purpose and brains to use.
We asked for courage,
and you gave us fears to overcome.
We asked for patience,
and you gave us situations
where we were forced to wait.
We asked for love,
and you gave us troubled people to help.
We asked for justice,
and you called us to be just and to lead with integrity.
Lord, we have received nothing
that we asked for or wanted.
And yet, we received everything that we needed.
For this, we give thanks.

- Written and offered by
Dr. Colleen Hanycz on 1/25/21
at the "Introduction to the Xavier
Community" event upon her
selection as the 35th president
of Xavier University.
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817 Mount Pleasant Road
Toronto, Ontario M4P 2L1



416-483-5847



stpeterstoronto@rogers.com



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



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

Deacon Karl Paju

karl.paju@mail.utoronto.ca
Neljapäeval/Thurs. 12:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Music Director & Organist

Erik Kreem erikkreem@hotmail.com

Church Administrator

Tiina Jenkins 416-483-5847

Juhatus Liikmed / Executive

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

Tiiu Roiser, Vice-Chair
416-402-1132
tiiu-roiser@rogers.com

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

Mary Donaldson, Secretary
marvots156@gmail.com

Anne Liis Keelmann, Program Director
akeelmann@rogers.com

Ilo Maimets, Archive Director
ilo@yorku.ca

Please donate to secure the future of St. Peter's with cash or cheques. E-mail transfers accepted at stpeterstoronto@rogers.com

UUDISED / NEWS

Come join St. Peter's new choir !

St. Peter's first choir rehearsal took place in the sanctuary on September 10th. Here are some of our new choir members. Missing from the photo are Tiiu Jalakas, Ilo Maimets, Toomas Trei, and Kay Tull. Calling all sopranos, altos, tenors, and bass singers - come join the choir!



Rehearsals take place every Wednesday in the sanctuary from 7:00 till 9:00 p.m. conducted by Erik Kreem. Register with Anne Liis Keelmann at akeelmann@rogers.com or speak with Erik Kreem at erikkreem@hotmail.com

September 14

Our congregation was invited to join the Salvation Army service on Sunday—what an uplifting and inspiring musical experience it was! A fellowship meal was held in the church basement following the service.



Combined Service with St. Andrews

On a beautiful sunny day on September 21, 2025 – members of both St. Peter's and St. Andrew's congregations gathered at the Finnish Agricola Church for a service to commemorate leaving the homeland. Officiating were Pastor Kalle Kadakas and Deacon Karl Paju.



The congregational mixed choir sang under the direction of Liina Purje Lepik.





Soloist: Heli Tenno presented *Mu kodu* and *Tee-
lised*. On organ and piano, Juha Tikkanen. Very
appropriate songs for the occasion included *Laul
kodumaast*, *Ei saa mitte vaiki olla*, and *Jalajäljed
liival*. Bringing tears to everyone's eyes was *Ta len-
dab mesipuu poole* and the final hymn *Hoia,
Jumal, Eestit*. Scripture readers: Heli Kopti and
Anne Liis Keelmann.

Fellowship and coffee was enjoyed following the
service.



September 27th Special Meeting

St. Peter's held a Special Meeting of the congre-
gation on September 27th, 2025. The purpose was
to bring the church into compliance with recent
changes to the Ontario Not-for-Profit Corporations
Act 2010 (ONCA). We needed to approve Articles
of Amendment to the Articles of Incorporation,
amend the Church's Constitution and Bylaws, and
authorize the Congregational Council to purchase
Director's Liability insurance.

We are pleased to share that the meeting went
very smoothly and was a great success! Thanks to
strong in-person attendance and proxy voting,
members approved all resolutions presented by
the Board. The meeting wrapped up quickly, giv-
ing us plenty of time to enjoy some coffee and
good conversation in the Guild Room. A big
shoutout to all our amazing volunteers—none of
this could happen without you!

Linda Laikve and Kay Tüll at the meeting registra-
tion table.



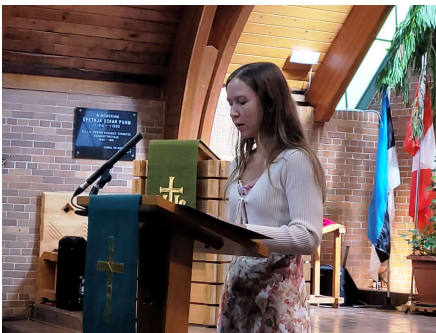
September 28 - English-language Family Service

Our fall programs began with a special family service led by Deacon Karl Paju, accompanied by organist Chung Lee.

The service was well-attended, with many young families present to witness a joyful occasion—the christening of Hailey Sri Keelmann.



Scripture readings by Lehti Keelmann Wiebe and Kevin Chorowiec.



Deacon Paju spoke about new beginnings and shared his intention to guide the congregation

through the foundational principles of understanding the Bible.

Deacon Paju often leaves us with thoughtful insights to reflect on, and this week he shared a powerful quote from A.W. Tozer: "What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us." (Images: Tiitu Roiser)

Baptism Prayer for Parents

Take this little one dear Father into your loving arms, cover and protect them, guide them from all harm.

Fill their days with love and joy, nurture all they are, help them as they learn and grow, to feel loved and set apart.

Speak to them of truth and light, so that their souls can sing,

a cry of praise, a song of joy, and a love for peaceful things.

Take their little hands dear God and bless them as they pray. Let a beautiful story of love and joy, begin on this baptism day.

- Author Unknown

ANNOUNCEMENTS/MEMORIALS

Congratulations to family Keelmann!

Daughter Hailey Sri, born October 16, 2024, was christened on September 28th, 2025, by Deacon Karl Paju. Mother-Srishtie Srivastava and father-Vello Keelmann.



If you are celebrating a joyful event such as a christening or wedding, or wish to commemorate the passing of a loved one, please notify the office so we can include it in our newsletter. These events are not listed automatically and will only be shared at your request.



St. Peter's Sunday School

St. Peter's Estonian Evangelical Lutheran Church of Toronto

Invites you to... **Sunday School**

**Growing Faith, Building Friendships,
and Learning God's Word Together.**

We believe that nurturing faith from a young age lays the foundation for a lifetime of spiritual growth. We'd love to partner with you in guiding your child on this wonderful journey.

If you have any questions or need more information, feel free to contact us at the church office: 416-483-5847
stpeterstoronto@rogers.com



Meet our Sunday School Teacher - Leena Gates-Kass is an OCT-certified teacher with a Bachelor of Education from York University's Faculty of Education, specializing in the Primary, Junior, and Intermediate divisions, as well as Visual Arts. She brings valuable experience working with young children and offers creative, engaging approaches to presenting Sunday School lessons once a month.

The Next Sunday School & Moms, Pops & Tots gathering will be on October 5th.
Register with the church office at 416-483-5847 stpeterstoronto@rogers.com

Moms, Pops & Tots

Come join this lightly-structured group that gives moms, dads, grandparents and caregivers from our membership an opportunity to chat, make connections and introduce each other as their toddlers play, socialize, and make new friends. The group meets once each month. Note that parents must remain in attendance with their child.

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Toronto

Moms, Pops & Tots

This group meets in the downstairs hall of the church during church services. It is a drop-in play group so you can come and go as you please.



A Child's Prayer

For flowers that bloom about our feet,
For tender grass so fresh and sweet,
For the song of birds
and the hum of bees,
For all things fair we hear or see,

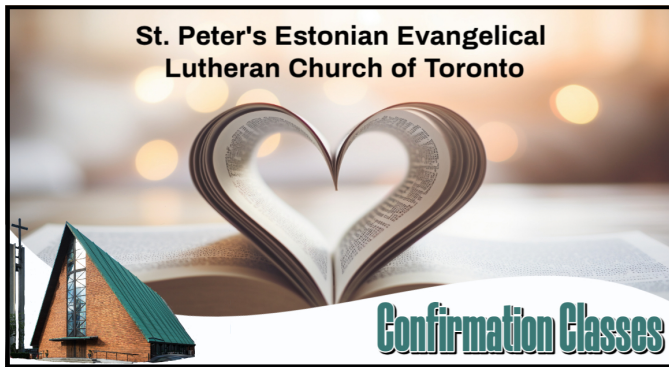
For the blue of streams,
and the blue of skies,
For pleasant shade of branches high,
For fragrant air and cooling breeze,
For beauty of the blooming trees.

For each new morning with its light,
For rest and shelter of the night,
For health and food,
For love and friends,
For everything thy goodness sends.

Father in heaven, we thank Thee.

- Adapted from a poem by Ralph Waldo Emerson





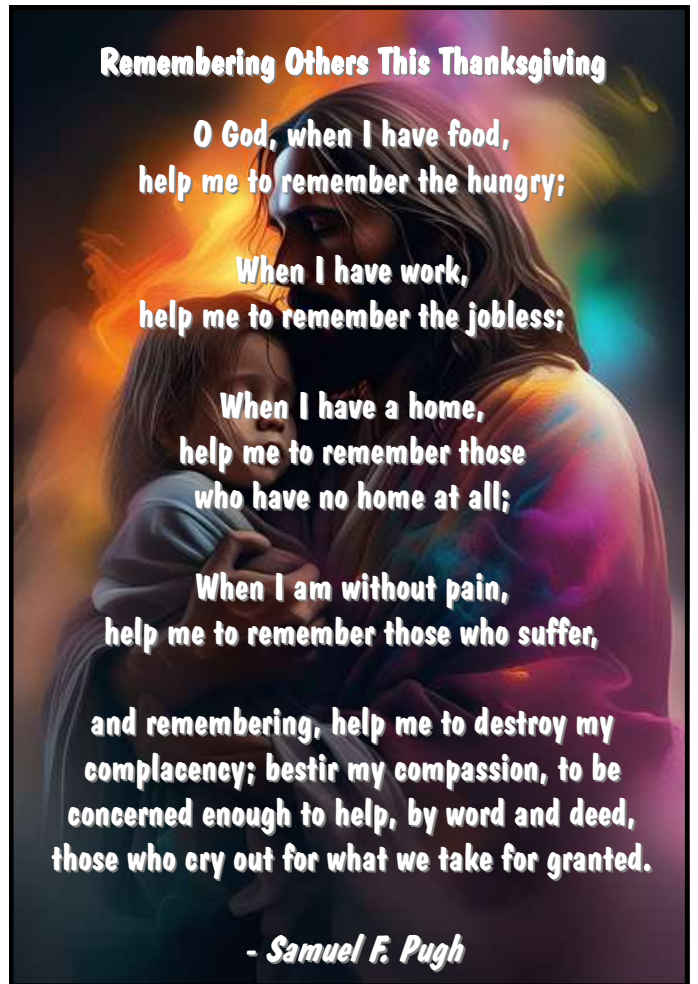
Confirmation Class Registration

If you wish to be confirmed this year, please register through the church office.

Ushering and Welcoming Committee (*Teenistuste toimkond*)

Thank you to everyone who has already volunteered! We've had a wonderful response, but we're still looking for more helping hands to share the responsibilities. Volunteers assist with greeting visitors, distributing song sheets, preparing the altar, reading scripture, and managing offerings.

If you're interested in joining or would like more information, please contact Anne Liis Keelmann at



Save the Date: Annual Christmas Craft Sale and Café – November 15th!

Mark your calendars! This year's Craft Sale will take place on Saturday, November 15th from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

We're currently collecting prize donations for the event lottery. If you'd like to contribute gently used items, gift certificates, wine, homemade cookies, or other suitable items, please drop them off at the church by November 5th.

Interested in selling your crafts? Table reservations are now open! Cost: \$25 per table.

Christmas Craft Sale
ST. PETER'S CHURCH
Vendors - Time to Book your Tables!
 817 Mt. Pleasant Road
 Toronto
EVENT COORDINATOR
 Anne Liis Keelmann
 akeelmann@rogers.com
SMALL RECTANGULAR TABLE + CHAIR \$25
SAT NOV 15, 2025

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Join St. Peter's Choir !

Practices are held every Wednesday in the Nave from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. - we welcome all singers.

Register your interest with Anne Keelmann at akeelmann@rogers.com or Erik Kreem: at erikkreem@hotmail.com

When making donations

We've received a request from our bank asking that all cheques made out to St. Peter's include our full legal name. The legal name, in English, is: **St. Peter's Estonian Evangelical Lutheran Church of Toronto**

We understand this is quite long to write on a cheque, and we are exploring ways to simplify this for our donors. In the meantime, you may use the following shortened version:

St. Peter's Est. Ev. Luth. Church of Toronto

All donations — of any amount — are sincerely appreciated and help support the ongoing work of our congregation.

Donations may also be made by cash or by e-transfer to: **stpeterstontoronto@rogers.com** Thank you for your continued support!

Tänapäeva päeva mõtisklus -

"Ja sel päeval te ütlete: 'Tänage issandat, kuulutage tema nime, tehke teatavaks rahvaste seas tema teod, tunnistage, et tema nimi on kõrge! Ülistage Issandat, sest tema on teinud suuri asju, saagu see teatavaks kogu maal!'"

Isaiah 12:4-5



Little Johnny and his mother return home from shopping for Thanksgiving dinner. While his mother is putting away the groceries, she sees that little Johnny has taken a box of animal biscuits and has spread them all over the kitchen table.

Johnny's mother asks "What on earth are you doing Johnny?"



Johnny replies "The box says that you shouldn't eat the biscuits if the seal is broken, I am looking for the broken seal."

CHURCH SERVICES & EVENTS / JUMALA- TEENISTUSED & ÜRITUSED*

***New events may be added to the calendar—please check our church website for any additions.**

www.stpeterstorontoestonianchurch.ca/event-calendar

- Oct. 1 - Wednesday - 12:00 noon - Guild meeting in the Guild Room. New members welcome !
- Oct. 5 - Sunday - 11:30 a.m. - Thanksgiving Estonian service with visiting Bishop Ove Sander, reverend Ando Kass, and deacon Karl Paju, organist Erik Kreem - with communion. Our new choir will perform, conducted by our Musical Director Erik Kreem. Sunday School + Moms, Pops & Tots.

A hot luncheon (\$25) for registered guests only will follow the service - please **register by October 2nd**. Contact Tiina at the church office 416-483-5847 ,or email: stpeterstoronto@rogers.com

- Oct. 19 - Sunday - 11:30 - Congregation's 77th anniversary bilingual service. Soloist Henrik Henrikus.
- Oct. 26 - Sunday - 3:00 p.m. - Service with Deacon Karl Paju at Ehatare.

Choir rehearsals in October are on Wednesdays: 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29 from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. with Erik Kreem. All singers welcome.

Advance Notice / Eelteated

- Nov. 2 - Sunday - 11:30 - All Souls' Day service where we remember those who passed away last year.
- Nov. 5 - Raffle & silent auction items due at the church for upcoming Christmas Craft Sale and Café - Jõululaat.
- Nov. 15 - Saturday - 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. - Christmas Craft Sale and Café - Jõululaat. Entry \$2.
(More information to come.)

"As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them." - John F Kennedy

"We tend to forget that happiness doesn't come as a result of getting something we don't have, but rather of recognizing and appreciating what we do have." - Frederick Keonig

Church Office Hours:

Tues. 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Wed. 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Thurs. 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Dean Karl Paju's Office Hours:

Thursdays from
12:00 noon to 3:00 p.m.



To request prayers, please contact St. Peter's office.

Eestpalved võib igal ajal kirjalikult esitada kiriku kontorisse:
stpeterstoronto@rogers.com

If you have not already done so, please ensure that the church has your up-to-date contact information.

Kui teie ei ole juba teinud, palun saatke oma kehtivad andmed (postiaadress, epost, ja telefoninumber) kiriku kantseleisse:
416-483-5847.

