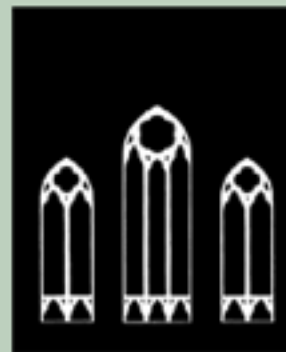


*St. Andrew's Ev. Luth. Latvian*  
*Sv. Andreja ev. lut. latviešu*

Church  
*newsletter*  
Draudzes  
*ziņas*



#187



*VASARA IR KLĀT!*

*SUMMER IS HERE!*

**2017. g. JŪNIJĀ / JUNE 2017**

**SV. ANDREJA ev. lut. latviešu draudze**  
200 Balmoral Ave., Toronto, ON, M4V 1J6  
416-924-1563 / [www.standrewslatvian.org](http://www.standrewslatvian.org)

Parastā mācītājas raksta vietā pārsūtu jums  
šo skaisto, seno ķeltu lūgšanu, ko centos  
pārtulkot pēc savām vislabākajām spējām.

Novēlu katram izjust un piedzīvot saikni ar  
radību, ar neierobežoto Dieva darbības  
izpaušmi, ko dabas brīnumi mums atklāj.

### Mācītāja Ilze

#### SENA ĶELTU LŪGŠANA

Teve piensu  
Katru vilni, kas jebkad pret krastu atsities,  
Katru sirdi, kas jebkad mīlestībā pukstējusi.  
Teve, mana Tēva Mīļotajam,  
Mīļajam Kungam.

Katras upes traukušanos,  
Katra zibens plaiksnīšanos,  
Kā eņģeļa zobenam trinot debesjumu.  
Svētījam Tevi!

Teve piensu  
Katru mākonī, kas jebkad zēģelējis pāri debesīm,  
Tad izšķīdis un raudājis,  
Lielām lietuvām lāsēm atraisoties uz sīkas ziedlapiņas.  
Mans Kungs.

Katru lūdzēju, ceļos nometušos,  
Katru eņģeli, noliekušos Tava troņa priekšā,  
gavilējot.  
Pielūdzam Tevi!

Teve piensu  
Katru balto, tīro sniega pārslu,  
Katru avotu no zemes dziļēm,  
Katru cilvēka prieku un sāpi.  
Mans Mīļotais!

Mans Kungs!  
Un par visu visbrīnumainākais,  
Pār nāvi uzvarējušais,  
Debess tronī sēdošais.  
Godinām Tevi!

*Creation Praise - An early Celtic prayer  
From Calvin Miller, The Path of Celtic Prayer (Downers Grove:  
IVP, 2007), p. 96 [https://www.journeywithjesus.net/  
poemsandprayers/641-calvin-miller-creation-praise](https://www.journeywithjesus.net/poemsandprayers/641-calvin-miller-creation-praise)*

#### PIEDOD, KUNGS KRISTU, JO MĒS BIJĀM SAVIENOTI UN TAGAD SAVIENOJUMS IR PĀRTRŪCIS

*(“Zināmu un nezināmu cilvēku Lūgšanas izlase”.  
Klints, Rīga, 2001)*

#### TELEFONS - Miķelis Kvoists (Michael Quoist)

Es tikko noliku telefona klausuli;  
bet kapēc viņš piezvanīja?  
Es tiešām nezinu...Bet nu es saprotu –  
Es runāju vienā laidā un ļoti maz klausījos.  
Piedod man, Kungs Kristu, ka tas bija  
monologs un nevis dialogs.  
Es izteicu savas domas, bet nedzirdēju viņa  
domas.  
Tāpēc, ka es neklausījos, es neko neieguvu;  
tāpēc, ka es neklausījos, es nevarēju  
palīdzēt;  
tāpēc, ka es neklausījos, mēs nevarējām  
dalīties.  
Piedod, Kungs Kristu, jo mēs bijām  
savienoti  
un tagad savienojums ir pārtrūcis.

.....  
Es paceļu telefona klausuli.

“Kuŗš tur zvana?”

“Ak Tu!”

Es sasveicinos; es klausos. Klusi, rāmi.

Nepretojos.

Lūkojos neiestarpināt savus “bet” un  
“kapēc”.

Lielajā klusumā viņš man tik daudz stāsta.

Stāsta, cik viņš man tuvu.

Stāsta par savu mīlestību – klātesošu,

Par savu pieskārienu katrā vietā, katrā lietā.

Es turpinu klausīties –

varbūt tikai īsu brītiņu,

varbūt šķiet, - laiks apstāties.

Es sajūtu viņa sveicienu, viņa siltumu un saprotu –

mēs esam viens.

Es un viņš.

Es un pasaule.

Pasaule un viņš.

Paldies, Kungs Kristu, ka tu noliecies pie manis

un atveļ manas sirds durvis, ka varu saklausīt.

*Mācītāja Ilze – pēc Miķeļa Kvoista lūgšanas  
"TELEFONS"*

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**PALĪDZĪBA LATVIJAI komitejas  
Ģimenes dienas  
"BURVĪGĀS BROKASTIS"  
2017. g. 14. maijā**

Ļoti veiksmīgi izdevās brokastis, kur no četrām piedāvātām izvēlēm tika izgatavots vairāk nekā 80 porciju, un ieņemts pāri par \$1,000! Pateicamies **Anetei Ivsiņai** un viņas organizētai komandai, kas kopā ar **Sv. Andrejas draudzes Dāmu komiteju** veica lielo darbu, un sveicam **Jāni Tanni** ar Palīdzība Latvijai komitejas priekšnieka lomas uzņemšanos!



*Vidū un pa labi: rīkotājas Anete Ivsiņa, un Dāmu komitejas priekšniece Inta Briede*



*Imants Ķivlis nodod pasūtījumus, gaida rīkojumu -  
Līga Miklašēvica, vafeļu meistere*

*Māc. Ilze sveic rīta īpašos viesus - Rīgas archibīskapu metropolītu, Zbigņevu Stankēviču (stāv pa kreisi) un Latvijas vēstnieku Kanadā, Kārli Eihenbaumu (sēž vidū)*

*(visi foto: Jānis Tannis)*

## BĒRNU NOMETNE 2017. GADA VASARĀ

Nu! Ir jau jūnijs un nometnes atklāšana ir tikai pēc dažām nedēļām.

Darbinieki sarunāti, plānošana tiek apstiprināta un nometnes talka nostrādāta 3.jūnijā. Paldies tiem čaklajiem vecākiem, kuŗi tik ļoti daudz paveica. Saprotams, daudz vēl jāpadara lai nometni sagatavotu.

Priecājamies, ka vadītājām 'Cāļu Kalnā' piederosies Līva Korf (nesen iebraukusi Kanādā no Amsterdamas, dzimusi LV). Viņa mīl bērnus un basketbolu!

Esam sajūsmināti par īpašām nodarbībām, kas vēl plānotas ārpus parastajām, kā pastaigām dabā, spēlēm, ballēm, kino vakariem, ekskursijām – un neaizmirstiet garšīgo ēdienu! Negribam izpaust visu iepriekš! Lai uzzinātu, kas vēl plānots, jābrauc uz nometni!

Lūdzu sūtiet savus bērnus un mazbērnus uz SIDRABENES BĒRNU NOMETNI!

### 'SID SVĒTKI', SVĒTDIEN, 23. JŪLIJĀ

#### DIENAS PROGRAMMA:

11:00 Dievkalpojums brīvdabas baznīcā.

Sekos nometnes bērnu uzvedums uz basketlaukuma un turpat arī būs BBQ pusdienas un loterija nometnei par labu.

Pēc tam dosimies uz sporta laukumu vieglatlētikas sacensībām LSAK vadībā. Tur varēsiet arī apbrīnot Sidrabenes pārvaldnieka, Andreja, dzīvniekus un iepazīties ar biškopību un bišu stropiem.

#### NOMETNES INFORMĀCIJA:

**1. NEDĒĻA: no 9. - 16. jūlijam**

**2. NEDĒĻA: no 16. - 23. jūlijam**

**SVĒTDIEN, 23. JŪLIJĀ 'SID SVĒTKI'**

**– VISI AICINĀTI! –**

**3. NEDĒĻA: no 23. - 30. jūlijam**

**4. NEDĒĻA: no 30. jūlija - \*PIEKTDIENAI\*, 4. augustam**

Vecumi: 5-7 Cāļu Kalnā / 8-14 Teltīs / CIT

Programma 14-16 g.v.

Jautājumi? Linda Lakats [lakats@interlog.com](mailto:lakats@interlog.com)

pieteikšanas lapas + veselības formas:

[www.sidrabene.org](http://www.sidrabene.org)

**BŪS JAUKI! UZ REDZĒŠANOS SIDRABENĒ!**



*SIDRABENES NOMETNES TALKA - palīgi Ivars Jēgeris, Rob Van Den Enden un Barry Carlyle*

**JĀŅU SVINĒŠANA SIDRABENĒ  
2017. gada 24. jūnijā**

*Sit, Jānīti, vara bungas,  
Sakur Jāņu uguntiņu,  
Lai sanāca Jāņu bērni  
No maliņu maliņām.*

*Lai liec dziesma mežu galus,  
Jāņu dienu daudzinot,  
Lai nes vēji Jāņu dziesmas  
Pār deviņi novadiņi!*

7:00 vakarā - Jāņu programma:  
uzstāsies "Dzirksts" un "Dižais Dancis"  
Jāņu siers un alus, kopīga līgošana pie ugunskura

9:00 vakarā - Jāņu balle uz dejas grīdas: spēlēs  
"Penzionāri"

leeja: pieaugušajiem \$30, studentiem \$15,  
bērniem līdz 12 gadiem bez maksas

Sidrabenies kafejnīca atvērta no 6:00 piektdienas  
vakarā, visu dienu sestdien  
un līdz 3:00 pēcpusdienā svētdien

Visu nogali: peldbaseins, sportošana, atpūta -  
teltošana par brīvu!

Pārgulēšana pieejama "Ķemeros", sazinoties  
iepriekš ar Sidrabenes pārvaldnieku,  
Andreju Grīnbergu 905 - 335 3849 /  
[camp\\_sidrabene@yahoo.ca](mailto:camp_sidrabene@yahoo.ca)

VISUS LAIPNI AICINA UN GAIDA SIDRABENES  
PĀRVALDE!

**SVĒTDIEN, 25. JŪNIJĀ, 11:00**

DIEVKALPOJUMS ABĀS VALODĀS AR DIEVGALDU  
KOPĪGS AR HAMILTONAS LATVIEŠU KRISTUS  
DRAUDZI. SPREDIĶOS *prāv. emer. DĀVIS KAŅEPS*



Rita Āpše un Anda Libere gatavojas pārdot biļetes

**BUONGIONRO! CIAO!**

**BENVENUTO UZ SIDRABENES SEZONAS  
ATKLĀŠANU ITAĻU STILĀ**

Saulīte spīdēja, putniņi čaloja, krūmi un  
augi ziedēja un Sidrabenieši gatavojās „O  
SOLE MIO” vakaram 3. jūnijā 1.

Šefpavārs Ēriks Maldonis un palīdzēja Mārīte  
Tētiņa gatavoja itaļu mielastu kafejnīcas  
virtuvē, Lauma Stikuta lika rozēs un PASTA  
dekorējumus vāzēs, Maureen un Imants  
Ķivļi sagatavoja loteriju un kafijas galdu,  
Linda Lazda, Andris Paukšēns un Valdis  
Korbs salika atspirdzinājumus vēsumā un  
Ilze Kuplēna-Ewart rotāja galdus un stabus  
ar itaļu dekorācijām. Dzintra Jansone  
izdalīja pa galdiem itaļu "WORD SEARCH"  
un Rita Āpše un Anda Libere gatavojās  
pārdot biļetes.

Sidrabeniesi sanāca ar draugiem un  
ģimenēm un drīz vien visi galdi bija pilni un  
gaisotne sāka kļūt omulīga. Ivars Jansons  
atklāja vakaru un pateicās visiem par  
ierašanos un palīdzību organizēt sezonas  
atklāšanas sarīkojumu. Mācītāja Ilze  
Kuplēna-Ewart noskaitīja lūgšanu un visi  
izsalkušie bija gatavi MUNGA. Uz galda zem  
vāzēm bija numuri, kas norādīja secību  
galdiem, kuŗi varēja iet un mieloties pie  
bagātīgā ANTIPASTO galda. Kas par izvēli!  
FAVOLOSO FIEST! Pēc tam varēja stāvēt

rindā pēc SPAGHETTI CARBANARA un salātiem. GRAZIE, Ērik un Mārīte!

Kad vēderi bija pilni, varēja atpūsties un baudīt mūzikālo priekšnesumu, ko sniedza AMUZ – Anna Broka, Maria Thorburn, Pēteris Zariņš, Alberts Vītols, un Alastair Thorburn-Vītols. Viņi mūs visus ļoti iepriecināja ar skaistām dziesmām sakarā ar Itāliju, gan kopīgi, gan solo, gan duetā vai trijatā. Pēteris Zariņš nospēlēja dažus atsevišķus mūzikālos gabalus uz elektriskām klavierēm, par katru mazliet paskaidrojot. AMUZ jau bija mūs agrāk iepriecinājuši ar spāņu un franču mūzikāliem vakariem. Tik jauki, tik skanīgi, tik lustīgi! MAGNIFICO! BELLISSIMO! GRANDE ESIBIZIONE, AMUZ!

Sekoja GELATO saldējums ar biskvītu un varēja nopirkt ESPRESSO vai CAPPUCINO no Maureen Ķivles. Varēja nopirkt arī itaļu alu un Limoncello.

Valdis Kauliņš, Sidrabenes priekšnieks, pārdeva aploksnes ar itaļu TRIVIA jautājumiem tiem galdiem, kuŗi gribēja piedalīties. Mudītes Schuler galds uzvarēja un saņēma pudeli Limoncello kā vinnestu! Starplaikā Gail Ozoliņa un Anda Libere tirgoja loterijas biļetes. Imants Ķivlis un Ivars Jansons novadīja izlozi ar daudz dažādiem saziēdotiem laimestiem un pēc tam bija daudz pateicīgas un smaidīgas sejas.

Paldies (GRAZIE!) visiem darba rūķiem un atbalstītājiem šim jaukam vakaram.

**ARRIVEDERCI!**

*Dzintra Jansone*



Valdis Kauliņš, Sidrabenes pārvaldes priekšnieks sveic apmeklētājus



Māc. Ilze uzrunā Sidrabenes atklāšanas vakara viesus



Ivars Jansons ar šefpavāru Ēriku Maldoni un palīdzī Mārīti Tetiņu



Maureen Ķivlis gatavo itāļu kafijas



Ar mūzikāliem priekšnesumiem iepriecina Alberts Vītols un Maria Thorburn

### **BOCCE SPĒLE SIDRABENĒ POPULĀRA JAU 15 GADUS**

Siltā un saulainā 27. maija dienā Toronto Sv. Andreja draudzes lauku īpašumā Sidrabene notika ikgadējais bocce spēles turnīrs. Turnīrā piedalījās 7 komandas, kas cerēja iegūt šīgada čempiona titulu.

Rīta cēliens pagāja spraigā sacensībā, katrai komandai cenšoties iekļūt divu labāko komandu vietā, kas vēlāk spēlētu finālspēlē. Pēc aizraujošām un rezultātu ziņā ļoti tuvām rīta spēlēm komandas devās uz Sidrabenes kafejnīcu pusdienas pārtraukumā. Šefpavārs Ēriks pusdienās bija sarūpējis salātus un sulīgus hamburgerus. Pēcpusdienā finālspēlē tikās komanda "Platie ozoli", kurā spēlēja Valdis Korbs un Michael Schuler, un Ērikas un Māra Treigutu komanda 7-11. Spēle, aizrautīga skatītāju pulka pavadīta, noritēja ļoti līdzvērtīgi,

tomēr 2017. gada bocce čempionu titulu ieguva Ērika un Māris Treiguti.

Turnīra rīkotājs Valdis Kauliņš pasniedza balvas abām komandām un sveica uzvarētājus. Pēcpusdiena turpinājās, spēlētājiem izbaudot skaisto laiku un pārrunājot labākos spēles brīžus. Paldies visiem, kas piedalījās bocce turnīrā!

**Valdis Kauliņš, Sidrabenes pārvalde**

## LATVIJAS LIELĀ TALKA IEDVESMO SIDRABENIEŠUS

Saulainā un siltā 22. aprīļa sestdienā notika gan Latvijas Lielā talka, gan Toronto Sv. Andreja draudzes lauku īpašuma Sidrabene talka. Šķita, ka tie 42 talcinieki, kas ieradās, lai uzpostu Sidrabeni gaidāmajai sezonai, juta: ja mūsu tautieši var sakopt Latviju, tad mēs noteikti varam sakopt Sidrabeni.

Sidrabenes saimnieks Andrejs Grinbergs bija sagatavojis gaŗu sarakstu ar veicamajiem darbiem, ieskaitot šķūņa krāsošanu, lapu grābšanu, puķu doŗu ravēšanu, "Sidrabkalnu" lielās zāles labošanu un logu tīrīšanu.

Saimnieces Krissy Pavelsons, Māra Ozola, Gail Ozoliņa un Patricia Ozollapa vēlās brokastis bija sagatavojušas ceptas olas un kartupeļus un katlus ar kūpošu kafiju.

Pēc sātīgo brokastu pārtraukuma talcinieki bija enerģijas un apņēmības pilni pabeigt visu darāmo darbu gaŗo sarakstu. Vilis Kleperis rādīja piemēru, veicot vairākus braucienus ar traktoru, lai aizvāktu zarus un lapas.

Dienas beigās talcinieki tika apbalvoti ar lieliskām pusdienām, kas ieskaitīja gardas desiņas, ceptus kartupeļus, salātus un plaŗu saldo ēdienu izvēli. Nu viņiem bija iespēja atpūsties un parunāties ar saviem draugiem un kaimiņiem un domās plānot jau tuvojoŗos jauno Sidrabenes sezonu.

Sidrabenes pārvalde vēlas pateikties visiem, kas atnāca, padarot ņo dienu tik sekmīgu, un pateikties Andrejam Grinbergam par ņīs talkas rīkošanu.

**Valdis Kauliņš, Sidrabenes pārvalde**

## SIDRABENES GRĀMATU PLAUKTS

ņovasar Sidrabenes kafejnīcā būs pieejams grāmatu plaukts ar grāmatām latvieŗu (un arī angļu) valodā. Katrs, kam interesē, var aizņemties kādu grāmatu, ko palasīt, vienatnē sēŗot ēnā zem koka, vai ko lasīt kādam citam priekŗā. Ja patīk, var arī atstāt mazu ziedojumu un ņemt grāmatu sev līdz.

## SIDRABENES APTAUJA

Sv. Andreja draudzes padomes un Sidrabenes pārvaldes locekļi satikās Sidrabenē 4. jūnijā, lai pārrunātu, kā labāk sadarboties, kā uzlabot Sidrabeni un kā to labāk izmantot draudzes vajadzībām nākotnē. Pārrunāja 2016. gada Sidrabenes aptaujas rezultātus un analīzi, ko ir izstrādāŗusi Silvija Shedden. (*To var izlasīt draudzes tīmekļa lapā Draudzes ziņu archīva nodaļā.*)

ņīs sēdes pārrunām Sidrabenes pārvaldes locekle, Gail Ozoliņa, bija sagatavojusi un nolasīja savu analīzi un ieskatus par aptaujas rezultātiem. Gail Ozoliņas raksts angļu valodā ievietots ņajās Draudzes ziņās, lai turpinātu rosināt pārdomas par Sidrabenes aptaujā apskatītajiem jautājumiem.

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## SIDRABENES LIELĀ LOTERIJA 2017. g.

**Ar ņīm Draudzes ziņām izsūtām visiem draudzes locekļiem Sidrabenes lielās loterijas biļetes ar aicinājumu tās iegādāties un pievienoto aploksni ar samaksu un biļeŗu pasakņiem nosūtīt Sidrabenes kasierei, Ritai Āpŗei. Sidrabenes pārvalde izsaka pateicību visiem draudzes locekļiem, kuŗi atbalsta lielo loteriju un tādā veidā ziedo Sidrabenes vajadzībām.**

**PALDIES PAR ATSAUCĪBU!**

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## **ESIET MODRI!**

Šajās Draudzes ziņās (*beigās*) ievietojam avīzes rakstu angļu valodā “*STAY ON TOP OF SCAMS...*”, lai vērstu jūsu uzmanību uz to, kā blēži maldīgos veidos apkrāpj un ar viltu izmāna personīgu informāciju un naudu no nevainīgiem, vecākās paaudzes cilvēkiem. Rakstā arī norādīts, kā rīkoties, lai izvairītos un aizsargātos no šādiem viltniekiem. Lūdzu izlasiet šo svarīgo informāciju un dalieties ar to savas ģimenes un draugu lokā.

## **ALL ARE WELCOME!**

This is the resounding theme with which St. Andrew's Latvian Lutheran Church is moving forward. Our Church community is so diverse and geographically spread out that new means of spreading the Message constantly bubble up and need to be tried. The traditional means of worship remain as tried and true, yet, in a changing world, one faces the challenge to change with the times and consider a means for those who do not regularly attend worship and their reasons for why this is so. How do we draw members back and reenergize our Congregation? How do we manage to check off the long list of items on our 'to do' list without the volunteers needed to get the 'job' done?

On two Sundays, May 28 and June 4, it was so refreshing to see families baptize their young children (4 of them) and to share with the Congregation the reasons why they chose to do so. The laughter of young kids is so uplifting, as is watching the parents be truly present with their children — a Dad assisting his daughter as she is persistently determined to make more and more of her unaided 'first steps', oblivious to what is happening inside the sanctuary. The Dad is patient in his support of her and giving the rest of us the opportunity to enjoy the magic of baptism without the distraction of a squirmy toddler unhappy to be forced to stay still. In short, the essence of community is each of us fulfilling our part in the whole.

A number of years ago, I had one of those epiphanies while sitting at Church during my

family's time in Michigan. You look all around and see that there are people of all ages and backgrounds. (In St. Andrew's case, they have some attachment to the Latvian community.) The big reality is that these members are here for you no matter what. You are never really alone, unless you make that choice for yourself. What a blessing to have a support group, which goes beyond close friends and family!!!

As our Church membership has gotten smaller, the ministries of the Church are relying on a smaller pool of volunteers. There are changes in what can be accomplished and along the way it seems that tensions crop up between ministries, which have always relied on one another's support. At a recent planning session, the Church council earmarked four areas on which to focus. While discussing each topic 'communication' came up as an area on which to improve in each and every case.

Communication also came up as the largest reason for misunderstanding between the Church council and the Sidrabene management committee at our combined meeting in Sidrabene on Sunday, June 4. While all of us recognize the need to bridge this gap, let us keep in mind that communication (or lack thereof) may spread its reach into each ministry as we keep hold of our little part of the whole and put our best foot forward to accomplish our individual ministry's mandate. Congratulations to all of you! Each ministry is an essential part of our combined whole and is to be thanked for all of the efforts you put in to make our Church community a better place. Let's cheer each other on and when one of those minor irritants rears its ugly head, let's choose to consider why, ask questions and keep lines of communication open (in whatever form they may take!!!) Let us maintain our traditions while embracing possibilities of change to make all of us welcome in the fold of our cherished Christian Latvian community.

Enjoy the blessings of the summer. “Līgo”!

***Indra Mertens, Council Chair***

Dear Friends,

In place of my customary prose reflection, I am sending you this glorious ancient Celtic poem. May it help you open the way to experiencing the endlessness of God's grace and lovingkindness as you embrace the wonders of creation over these summer weeks.

***Mācītāja Ilze***

I offer Thee  
Every wave that ever moved,  
Every heart that ever loved,  
Thee, my Father's Well-Beloved,  
Dear Lord.  
Every River Dashing,  
Every lightning flashing,  
Like the angel's sword.  
Benedicimus Te!  
I offer Thee Every Cloud that ever swept  
O'er the skies and broke and wept  
In rain, and with the flowerlets slept.  
My king.  
Each communicant praying,  
Every angel staying  
Before Thy throne to sing.  
Adoramus Te!  
I offer Thee  
Every flake of virgin snow,  
Every spring of earth below,  
Every human joy and woe,  
My love!  
O Lord! And all the glorious  
Self o'er death victorious,  
Throned in heaven above.  
Glorificamus Te!

*Creation Praise / An early Celtic prayer  
From Calvin Miller, The Path of Celtic Prayer (Downers Grove:  
IVP, 2007), p. 96 [https://www.journeywithjesus.net/  
poemsandprayers/641-calvin-miller-creation-praise](https://www.journeywithjesus.net/poemsandprayers/641-calvin-miller-creation-praise)*

**THE TELEPHONE**

I have just hung up;  
why did he telephone?  
I don't know...  
O! I get it...  
I talked a lot and listened little.

Forgive me, Lord, it was a monologue and  
not a dialogue.  
I explained my idea and did not get his;  
Since I didn't listen, I learned nothing,  
Since I didn't listen, I didn't help,  
Since I didn't listen, we didn't  
communicate.

Forgive me, Lord, for we were connected,  
and now we are cut off.

*Michel Quoist (1921 - 1997) France*

\* \* \* \* \*

*Māc. Ilze's adaptation of "THE TELEPHONE"  
by Michel Quoist*

I pick up the phone.  
"Who's calling?"  
"Oh, it's you!"  
"Hi!" I say;  
I listen. In stillness, or as much stillness as I  
can manage.  
I let what comes through the receiver to  
me, come.  
I try not to let "but" or "why?" get in the  
way.  
In that deep silence he tells me so much:  
how close he is to me. That he is right here.  
Right now.  
He talks to me about his love, how  
unbreakable, how constant it is,  
and then, how his touch rests on  
everything and every place.  
And I keep on listening –

maybe for just the briefest of moments,  
or perhaps seemingly endlessly, as if time  
itself has stopped.

I feel him welcoming me, affirming me;  
I feel his warmth, and then I understand –  
he and I, we are one.

I and he.

I and the world.

The world and he.

Oned\*.

O, Lord Christ, thank you for bending down  
to me;

for opening that hidden place within so I  
can listen.

*(\*“Oned” is a verb used by Julian of Norwich to  
describe her experience of the relationship  
between God as Father and Son, and her  
experience of God’s relationship to her.)*

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## CAMP SIDRABENE SUMMER 2017

Wow! It's June already + camp opening is just a  
few weeks away.

Staffing is in place, planning is being fine-tuned  
and the work bee was June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Thanks to those  
parents that did turn out and worked very hard.  
Inevitably, there is still lots to be done.

We have an addition to the ‘Calu Kalns’ leadership  
team - Liva Korf – new to Canada from LV by way  
of Amsterdam. She loves kids + basketball!

We are so excited about what is in store aside of  
the expected hikes, games, dances, movie nights,  
outings, themed activities and don't forget great  
food! We just don't want to give anything away. If  
you want to find out – you need to come to camp!  
We are looking forward to seeing you or your  
children or grandchildren at summer camp!

## ‘SID SVĒTKI’ WILL BE ON SUNDAY, JULY 23<sup>RD</sup>

### EVENT SCHEDULE:

**11:00 CHURCH SERVICE** in the open-air chapel  
followed by a short program by the campers on  
the basketball court. Afterwards, a BBQ lunch will  
take place beside the court, as well as the camp  
support lottery draw.  
Everyone will then head straight across the river to  
the track + field events organized by LSAK.  
There will be Andy’s own petting zoo +  
a bee-keeping demo.

**See you in SID! We always have fun!!**

### CAMP INFORMATION:

**WEEK 1: Sunday July 9 - July 16**

**WEEK 2: Sunday July 16 - July 23**

**Sunday July 23<sup>rd</sup> ‘SID SVĒTKI’ – all are welcome!**

**WEEK 3: Sunday July 23 - July 30**

**WEEK 4: Sunday July 30 - \*FRIDAY, AUGUST 4\***

Ages: 5-7 Children’s Lodge / Ages: 8-14 Tents / CIT  
Program ages 14-16 / Questions? Linda Lakats  
[lakats@interlog.com](mailto:lakats@interlog.com) / registration + health forms  
[www.sidrabene.org](http://www.sidrabene.org)

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## SIDRABENE’S ANNUAL LOTTERY 2017

**With this Church newsletter congregation  
members are also receiving Sidrabene’s  
lottery tickets. You are invited to purchase  
these tickets and return the ticket stubs with  
the payment in the envelope provided to  
Sidrabene’s treasurer Rita Āpše.**

**The Sidrabene Management Committee  
thanks all the supporters of Sidrabene’s  
lottery for contributing to raise funds for the  
upgrading of Sidrabene.**

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## SIDRABENE SURVEY RESULTS

### An Analysis of the Sidrabene Survey Results by Gail Ozoliņš

*On Sunday, June 4 the Church Council and Sidrabene Management Committee met in Sidrabene to discuss the Sidrabene 2016 Survey results and plans for the future. Gail Ozoliņš from the Sidrabene Management Committee presented her analysis of the key findings and trends of the results from the Sidrabene Survey done by Sylvia Shedden. (Niks and Gail Ozoliņš from Hamilton are Sidrabene's cottage owners since 2013.)*

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Sylvia Shedden needs to be thanked for the time and effort that she put into this project. Her purpose was to help us better understand the future needs of Sidrabene's key stakeholders in order to guide the planning of future programs and initiatives.

The survey had 211 respondents.  
The percentage of responses from cottagers was almost 150%.  
The percentage of responses from non-cottagers was less than 10%.

Interest in filling out the survey was in the 41 to 80-age group or 66% of the respondents. Only 21% of the respondents were in the 17 to 40-age range, and to me, these are the people who represent the future of Sidrabene.

Over 85% of the respondents say that they speak and understand Latvian. Breaking it down further, 93% of those 41 and over speak and understand Latvian; however, only 61% of those aged 17 to 40 speak and understand Latvian. This is a drop of over 30%.

Question #20 asks: How many times did you visit Sidrabene during 2015?  
10% of the respondents did not visit at all.  
30% visited 1 to 3 times.  
That is 40% of the people answering the questionnaire visited Sidrabene 3 times or not at

all. That leaves us with 126 respondents who visited 4 or more times. The answers ended at 10 or more times. No answer was provided for those who live here all summer or only every weekend because of work commitments. Cottagers who live here for the summer or every weekend are not visitors. This is their summer home. I am not sure how many of us there are.

Because of the relatively few respondents in general and the fact that only 126 visited more than 3 times in 2015, it is hard to base future decisions on this survey; however, the survey does bring up some very important points.

I think Sylvia's concluding comments, page 23, are instructive and I want to expand on them but in a different order:

Sidrabene is a place that is deeply loved by the great majority of the responders. Comments contain words like: quiet, relaxing, secluded, the camp, memories, fellowship, the pool, space, safety, Jāņi, cafe, Latvian heritage, peaceful, welcoming, old friends, Latvian focused, Latvian culture, well-maintained, It's my home away from home, a little Latvian village, I cannot imagine Sidrabene not existing, To many Sidrabene is "a little piece of heaven on earth."

More than half of the respondents were interested in more cultural and educational events and more than half of the respondents were interested in courses where they could learn about Latvian cooking, arts and crafts.

By age group, those who gave this category the highest rating were the respondents aged 26 to 40. Most of these people would have had their schooling exclusively in Canada, and their Latvian language skills are not as good as the more senior Latvians; however, these people want to learn more about their Latvian roots, and this has to be a big plus for those wishing to maintain the Latvian culture. Many people who had Latvian parents did not have the opportunity to attend Latvian school and learn the history, geography and traditions that those attending Latvian school would have learned.

Sidrabene's facilities require significant improvements.

Comments were made on page 21. While the Sidrabene Management Committee is aware of all the deficiencies to the property, we are presently try to prioritize the renovations needed and do them in order and as they can be afforded. Many cottagers are putting thousands of dollars into renovating their cottages and many work on beautifying the common grounds, not only during the Talkas, but at other times because they feel like Sidrabene is their home and like good homeowners they want the place to look nice. We are so blessed to have Andy. I don't know how he puts up with us sometimes. He works so hard to keep on top of everything that needs to be done.

While a great majority of respondents understand the need to rent out Sidrabene's facilities to external users, there is a significant concern that strangers on the property may impact its future safety and the current sense of family.

64% think it makes good use of the property because it generates income, but the comments on page 19 suggest otherwise. More than one response was allowed to this question. About 100 responders indicated that they either don't want non-Latvians on the property at all, or the non-Latvians should be limited to weekdays. We are doing renovations here and there to be able to raise the rent we charge; however, if given a choice, and if we didn't need the money, it seems that the most would be happier to not have non-Latvians on the grounds.

Information about events/rentals needs to be publicized more widely within the Latvian community and among cottagers.

Right now, Valdis Kauliņš, our Chairman notifies the church office to advertise an event in the newsletter, he advertises events in the LA newspaper and he notifies the cottagers by email. Volunteers make up flyers for various events. Cottages that are for sale are advertised on the Sidrabene website. There might be a better way.

The children's summer camp is viewed by all groups and ages as perhaps the most important

component of Sidrabene; respondents believe it should be more Latvian-centred and better promoted.

In order to give this presentation, I talked to Linda Lakats to try to get some information about the Children's Camp, the "Bērnu nometne". The camp is challenging for the teachers, since there are all levels of fluency in the Latvian language, starting at none. If instruction is given in Latvian, it is expected that the children who understand better will assist the children who are not as fluent. Latvian is used as much as possible, but the goal is to be inclusive and welcoming. All instructions on safety issues are delivered in English and all the Bible study lessons conducted by Pastor Ilze are in English. Singing and dancing are in Latvian. Latvian crafts, cultural components, some Latvian geography and history are taught.

Since most of our youth do not attend church regularly, it is interesting to note that almost 75% of the 16 and under age group rated Sid as being important as a religious/spiritual retreat, higher than any other age group.

At the core, Sidrabene already encompasses most of what everyone wants; respondents are not looking for great changes to what they currently experience.

Since 40% of the respondents either didn't visit in 2015, or visited 3 times or less, I don't know if they realize what the current experience is. I don't know how to interpret this sentence. Does this mean that the respondents are happy with the events, or does this mean that they are content that the Sidrabene Management Committee meetings as well as our Church AGM are conducted in English with the minutes in English? Are they content with the fact that the Cottager Handbook was distributed only in English? Are they aware? Does anybody care?

There is a significant difference between how cottagers rate the Sidrabene experience vs. how members of St. Andrew's Church who are not cottagers rate it. This is to be expected, as had the

latter group been more interested in Sidrabene, its members would have acquired cottages. On page 9, mention is made of the founding fathers' vision for a "Latvian-centred camp." I thought the founding fathers' vision would have been for a "Christ-centred camp" since the camp was purchased by a Christian church. I have questioned people who were around when Sidrabene was started and it has been described to me as a party place rather than a place of Latvian culture and Lutheran Christianity. If, right in the beginning, Sidrabene acquired the reputation of being a place for partying this might go a long way to explaining why some St. Andrew's people never visit Sidrabene, or don't want to support Sidrabene.

There is a great diversity of views in the opinions that were expressed. The differences in how Sidrabene is perceived between the two groups (cottagers and non-cottagers) may pose a challenge for St. Andrew's Church Council as it plans for the future.

Sylvia sums it up very well in an email she sent me:

*"We are no longer in the same world we were in when Sid was purchased in 1953. At that time, the purpose of Latvian schools & camps was to prepare the next generation so that children could return to Latvia, when it was free again, and fit right in with their language and cultural knowledge. That didn't happen, but having a Latvian community throughout the free world helped Latvia as it regained its independence. No amount of education here can prepare someone to fit right into the world of Latvia today. .... Culturally, in many ways, we are more Latvian here than they are in Latvia. My relatives there think it is crazy that I have a 'tautas tērs', as they don't, and I know a lot more Latvian songs than they do. But the pressure is off -- we have a free Latvia that can maintain and evolve its culture and identity without our help.*

*That being said, we are now in a different phase of our Latvian-Canadian cultural development... we have inter-married, are strongly Canadian, our kids don't speak Latvian well, but we still like to*

*celebrate some of the elements of Latvian culture at Sid, like song festivals and other events. That is good enough and I think, an appropriate ongoing role for Sid. Most of the survey responders were very happy with Sid as it is today. On a broader basis, we are no longer preparing for a wholesale "return" to Latvia, but will continue to be mindful of our background, keep our eyes on the political situation in Latvia. And do the best we can for Latvia from here.*

*I will always be Latvian, but I am also very proud to be Canadian. I enjoy visiting Latvia, but I couldn't live there. I think Sid, the way it is now, is perfect for people like me, to enjoy a reasonable amount of Latvian language and culture, within a Canadian context.*

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### **STAY ON TOP OF SCAMS – FOR GRANDMA'S SAKE**

*The Globe and Mail Metro (Ontario Edition),  
Canada, May 23, 2017  
Renée Henriques*

Some of the tricks scammers use to target older Canadians include sending victims material that suggests they've won a lottery prize, posing as the victims' grandchildren or pretending to be a Canada Revenue Agency employee. Schemers are constantly adapting to new technologies and human vulnerabilities. And they're preying on older Canadians.

All Canadians are susceptible to scams, but fraud affects seniors in disproportionately high numbers. According to the government of Canada, fraud is the No. 1 crime against older Canadians.

I remember answering a call early in my homecare business from a woman I will call Doris. Doris was looking for foot care, which we do not offer. I know of a reputable mobile foot care company, so I said, "Doris, I can give you their number –

do you have a pen?" And Doris replied, "Why don't you just take down my address and Visa number and you can just send them over."

I paused, shocked. "Doris! Please don't ever give out your address and Visa number to someone you don't know," I said. Doris was insistent: "You seem like a trustworthy young lady; just let me give you the information." I convinced Doris to take the number and make the call herself. As I did, I thought about how much trust in authority Doris's generation has and how easy it would be to take advantage of that trust. Unfortunately, not everyone is trustworthy. The best way to prevent people from victimizing the seniors in your life is to educate yourself and your loved ones. To start, here are some common scams that target seniors that you can discuss as a family:

### **LOTTERY, SWEEPSTAKES AND CONTEST SCAMS**

Lottery scams work by sending victims personalized material that outlines the high-value prizes that they've won. The catch? "Winners" have to pay a small tax to claim their prize, or hand over their banking information so the prize can be deposited directly. There is no prize and the scammer now has hold of valuable personal information or the prize-claiming fee. Remember, if you didn't enter, you didn't win.

### **GRANDPARENT OR EMERGENCY SCAM**

This one is devious. Scammers pose as a grandchild and call or e-mail seniors to say they are in trouble with the law, have been in an accident, or that they are having trouble while travelling in a foreign country. Sometimes, a second scammer will call and pose as a lawyer, a doctor or an immigration agent to corroborate the story. Scammers then demand an emergency money transfer to resolve the situation. These scams prey on grandparents' love

and concern for their grandchildren. The heightened excitement of a time-sensitive emergency helps to override any valid doubts.

### **CRA SCAMS**

These are especially prevalent around tax time. Scammers pose as Canada Revenue Agency employees and inform the victim of an outstanding balance that must be paid immediately. Or, they demand social insurance numbers, credit card numbers or other personal information. The CRA will never ask for personal information by text or e-mail. Nor will they leave personal information on answering machines or send a link where personal information can be divulged. If someone you think is from the CRA contacts you or your elder loved one, visit My Service Canada before divulging any sensitive information, or call CRA directly. The above scams may not be the only ones you or your loved ones come across.

### **HERE ARE SOME GENERAL TIPS THAT WILL HELP SENIORS AVOID BEING VICTIMS OF FRAUD:**

- Protect personal documents. Keep them in a secure location and do not carry your birth certificate, passport or SIN card unless it is necessary.
- Never give anyone your banking PIN and protect your code when using ATMs and using debit or credit cards to make purchases.
- Buy a shredder and shred all old bills and anything that contains sensitive or identifying information.
- Do not click on e-mails or links from people you do not know.
- Never give out payment or banking information in a phone call or Internet communication that you did not initiate.

- Do not be bullied or rushed by "limited time offers." If someone makes you an offer, give yourself time to think about it or talk it over with someone whose judgment you trust. If you are being pressured to buy, sign or give over your information, it is best to walk away.

- If someone comes to your door and offers to provide a service or do work on your home, ask for identification and references.

Finally, if you or a loved one has been the victim or target of fraud, report it. The Canadian AntiFraud Centre estimates fewer than 5 per cent of frauds are ever reported. Scammers are inventive, ingenious and constantly adapting to new technologies and human vulnerabilities. Cut or print out this article and sit down with the seniors in your life and start a discussion about fraud. Ask, "Have you ever been contacted with an offer like this?" Fraud, like shame, thrives in darkness and silence. Open, honest communication and education are our best defence. Have the fraud conversation with your loved ones today.

*Renée Henriques is a registered nurse and the owner and managing director of ComForcare Home Care Toronto, providing personal support services to seniors.*

**"AR GRĀMATU PIE GALDA"  
"BRUNCH WITH A BOOK"**

**July 8 / 15 / 22 / 29 and August 5**

10:00 am - meet at SID Kafe with māc. Ilze for reading and conversation on the book: "Sacred Pathways: Discover Your Soul's Pathway to God."

*By Gary Thomas.*

In this fascinating book the author discusses nine ways that people can experience the presence of God, from being in nature, to the ritual of worship, through the senses, intellectually. Which is the one that gels for you? Is there another practice that speaks to you?

**DRAUDZES "PIKNIKS" SIDRABENĒ  
Sestdien, 22. jūlijā - - - SID SVĒTKU ietvaros**

**13:30 BBQ pusdienas  
(pret ziedojumiem, sākot ar \$10)  
sadraudzība, nodarbības maziem un lieliem  
Lindas Lakatas stāstījums par Indijas ceļojumu**

**Lūdzu sazinieties ar draudzes biroju  
(416-924-1563 / admin@standrewslatvian.org)  
ja vēlaties transportu uz Sidrabeni, vai ja varat  
piedāvāt transportu.**

*Visus laipni aicina draudzes dāmu komiteja un  
Sidrabenes pārvalde!*

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**ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH PICNIC IN SIDRABENE  
Saturday, JULY 22**

**Part of "SID SVĒTKI" Celebrations**

**1:30 BBQ lunch (by donation starting with \$10)  
Activities for all ages (BINGO, wine tasting,  
children's pool party)**

**Assistance with transportation to Sidrabene  
available through the Church office  
(416-924-1563 / admin@standrewslatvian.org)**

*Everyone is welcome!*

*St. Andrew's Ladies' Auxiliary and Sidrabene  
Management Committee*

Prāv. Ilze Kuplēna-Ewart būs atvaļinājumā  
no 7. augusta - 2. septembrim.

Vajadzības gadījumos lūdzu sazinieties ar:  
**māc. Ģirtu Grietiņu** (mob. 647-986-5604)  
**māc. Rasmu Cauni** (mob.: 647-382-5093)

*Draudzes birojs būs slēgts  
no 22. augusta līdz 12. septembrim*