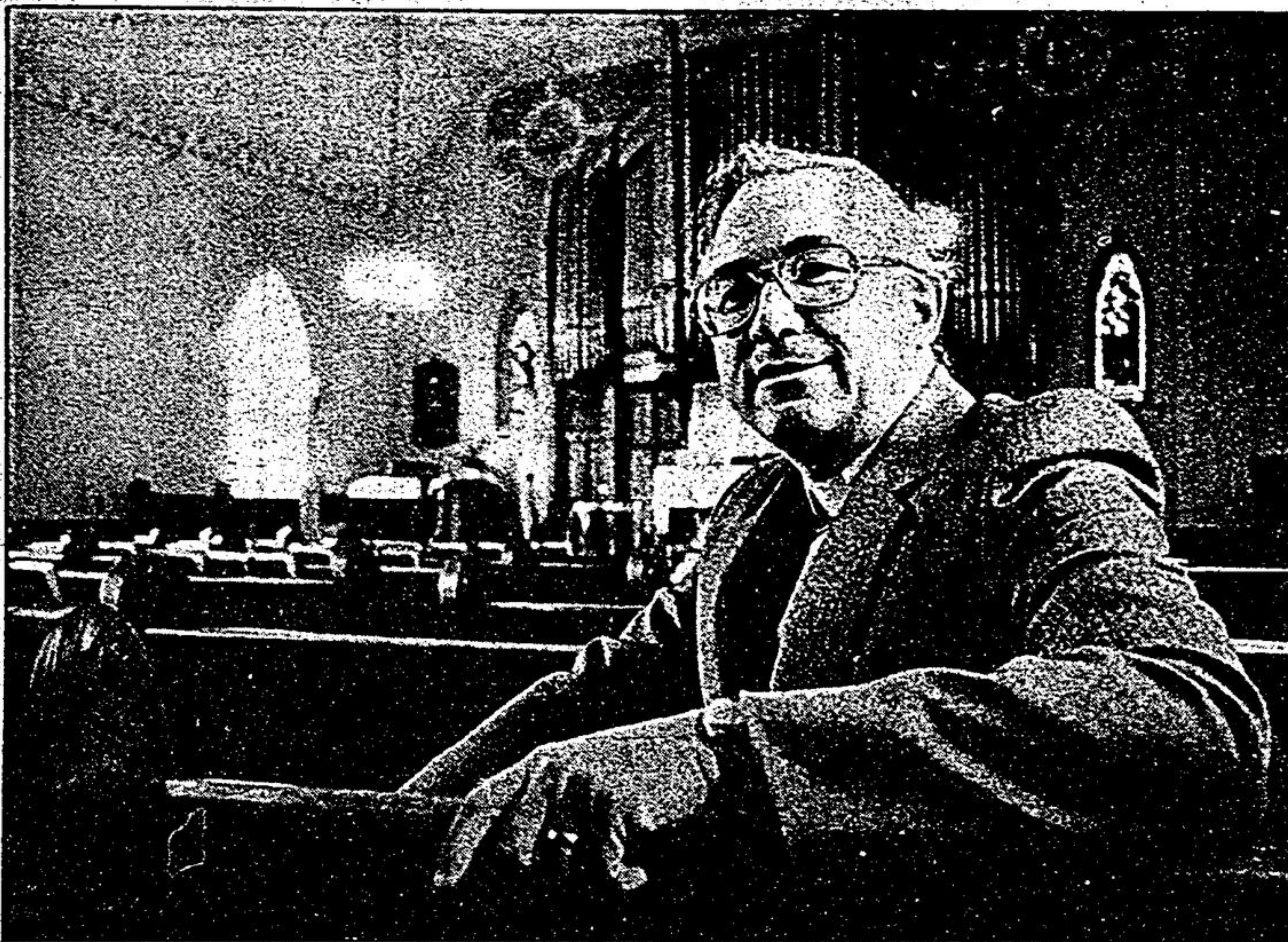


# Minister was mathematician



Rev. Peeter Vankers begins his new duties in Unionville at Bethesda Lutheran church Sunday. The church is said to be the oldest Protestant church in York county, dating to 1794. — Sjoerd witteveen

By DEB BODINE CHAMPION

The Rev. Peeter Vanker is to be formally installed as pastor of Bethesda Lutheran Church in Unionville Sun. Nov. 15, at the 11 a.m. worship service.

Rev. Vanker hails from Dollard Des Ormeaux, Quebec, a suburb on the West Island of Montreal, after a 10-year ministry there.

It was "a turbulent but also exciting and challenging decade in Quebec and Canada politics and history," he says.

Born in Estonia, a country invaded and occupied by Russia during the Second World War, Vanker fled with his family to Sweden. As a teenager, he emigrated to Canada, choosing Kitchener as his home.

At the University of Toronto, he studied mathematics and physics and obtained his graduate degree in mathematics at the University of Waterloo.

"I was rather saturated in math so I decided to take a year off to do some theological study before returning for my doctorate. I never went back."

Rev. Vanker attended Waterloo Lutheran Seminary to obtain his theological education and served a North York congregation for 10 years before moving to Dollard des Ormeaux.

In coming to Unionville at this time, Rev. Vanker wishes to lend his gifts to the congregation in helping to make the transfer from a small fairly rural community to a more urban situation.

"I thought it would be a challenge. Basically, I felt I had served a good block of time in Quebec and I was looking forward to getting back to this area."

Rev. Vanker is interested in creating strong adult Christian education, as well as youth ministries. He intends to examine ways in which adults can get a handle on their faith, particularly in relation to their work.

As well, Rev. Vanker has been actively involved for 20 years in family camping programs for the Lutheran Church.

"I have a very strong commitment to ecumenical involvements," he says.

In Quebec, Rev. Vanker participated in pulpit exchanges with local Roman Catholic and Protestant clergy. Various congregations joined forces for special study sessions and events and for the Good Friday procession through the community.

Exchanges were not limited to Christian faiths. In Dollard des Ormeaux there is a large Jewish community and several years ago a special exchange was arranged between the Lutheran congregation and the Reformed Jewish Synagogue.

"Our congregational members were invited to their Friday evening Sabbath service where I preached the homily, and their rabbi and congregation reciprocated at our Sunday morning worship service."

Says Rev. Vanker: "It created some tension on both sides, but it was a very meaningful event to me."

In Unionville one month, Rev. Vanker has some concerns, both for his congregation and the community at large. He faces the challenge of integrating the many new families moving into the area with the long-standing families. He also sees a need for improved facilities at the church, particularly for Christian education and fellowship functions.

The present church office at Bethesda Lutheran Church was formerly a temporary sales office for new homes. It was purchased and moved to the church site, but was supposed to have been torn down 20 years ago, says Rev. Vanker.

Among the ecumenical concerns of the new pastor, is the shortage of affordable housing.

"There are people from Markham who can no longer afford to live here."

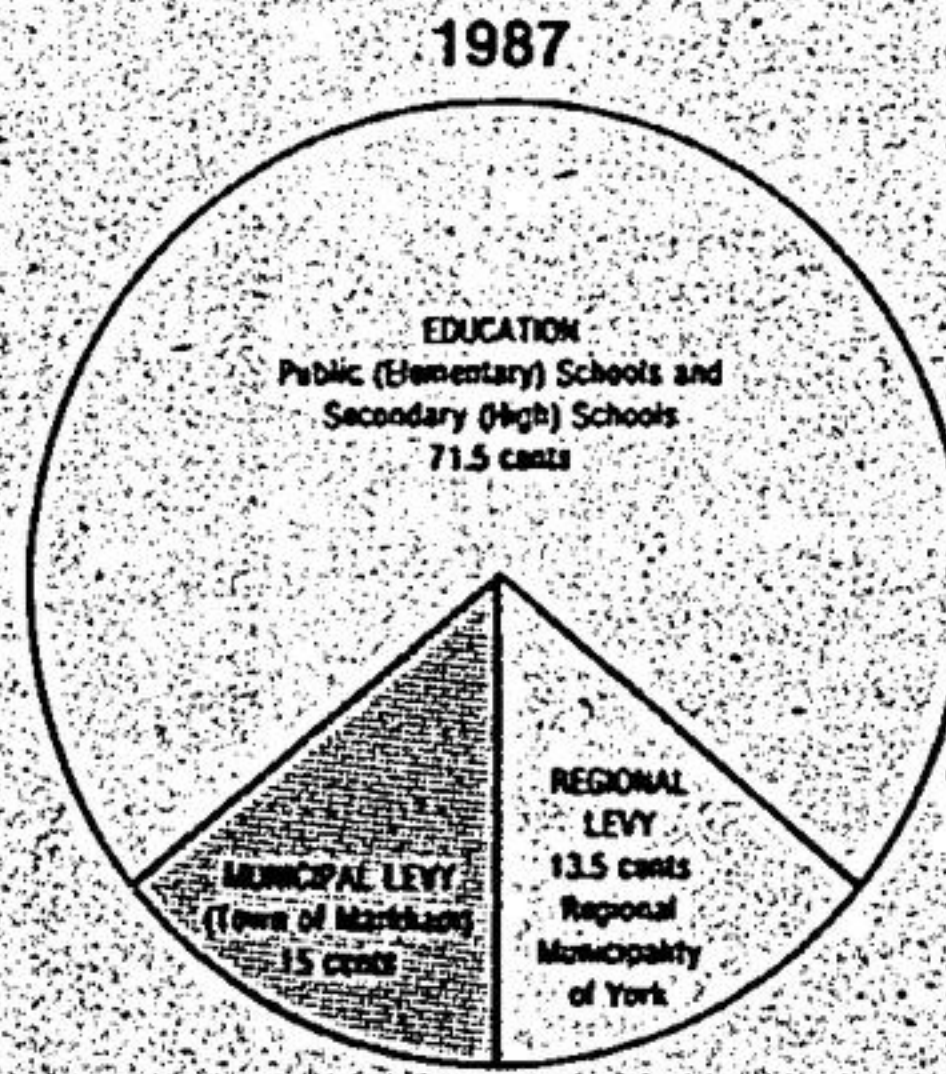
He is also concerned about the seniors and hopes to become involved at Union Villa.

Rev. Vanker is married and has two children. His wife, Carol, is a school teacher. Their son, Mark, is studying in Montreal and daughter, Lynn, is enrolled in the nursing program at Centennial College in Scarborough.

Bethesda Lutheran Church, located on Union St., is rich in tradition and history. According to Rev. Vanker, it is the oldest Protestant congregation in all of York County, dating back to 1794 when Lieutenant-Governor Simcoe of Upper Canada invited a colony of German settlers under William Berczy to come to the area.

At the formal installation of Rev. Vanker Nov. 17, the Rev. Gunter Dahle, Assistant to the Bishop of the Eastern Synod of the Lutheran Church in Canada, will perform the ceremony and preach the sermon. All are cordially invited.

## 1987 TAX BILL FINAL PAYMENT DUE NOVEMBER 20, 1987



### DISTRIBUTION OF 1987 TAXES — OUTLINING RESPONSIBILITY & JURISDICTIONAL CONTROL

based on an average residence assessed at \$30,000.00 (market value \$150,000.00 approximately)

TAXES (Residential)	CURRENT 1987	COMPARISONS			INCREASES			% DISTRIBUTION		
		1986	1985	1984	1987	1986	1985	1987	1986	1985
<b>PUBLIC SCHOOL</b>										
Education	\$ 1260.00	1155.00	1101.00	1026.00	105.00	54.00	75.00	71.5	71.5	71.5
Region	237.00	225.00	218.00	195.00	12.00	7.00	23.00	13.5	14.0	14.0
Municipal (Town)	270.00	239.00	223.00	223.00	31.00	16.00	NIL	15.0	14.5	14.5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1767.00</b>	<b>1619.00</b>	<b>1542.00</b>	<b>1444.00</b>	<b>148.00</b>	<b>77.00</b>	<b>98.00</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>SEPARATE SCHOOL</b>										
Education	\$ 1286.00	1182.00	1124.00	1052.00	104.00	58.00	72.00	72.0	72.0	72.0
Region	237.00	225.00	218.00	195.00	12.00	7.00	23.00	13.0	14.0	14.0
Municipal (Town)	270.00	239.00	223.00	223.00	31.00	16.00	NIL	15.0	14.0	14.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 1793.00</b>	<b>1646.00</b>	<b>1565.00</b>	<b>1470.00</b>	<b>147.00</b>	<b>81.00</b>	<b>95.00</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

### COMPARATIVE ASSESSMENT ANALYSIS

	1987	RATIO 1987	1986	RATIO 1986	1985	RATIO 1985	1984	RATIO 1984	1971	RATIO 1971
Residential & Farm	\$1,077,865,340.00	71	\$998,549,028.00	72	\$914,416,628.00	72	\$867,247,154.00	71	\$295,000,000.00	81
Commercial & Industrial	426,513,998.00	29	380,855,058.00	28	355,770,450.00	28	332,796,036.00	29	69,000,000.00	19
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,504,379,338.00</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$1,379,404,086.00</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$1,270,187,078.00</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$1,200,043,190.00</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$364,000,000.00</b>	<b>100%</b>

Please note:

If you have not received your tax bill please contact the Treasurer's office immediately. Non-receipt of your bill does not relieve you from the interest charged for late payment. If you have received your tax bill but your payments are made through your mortgage company, please forward this bill to them promptly for payment. If you have sold the property on which these taxes are levied, kindly forward this bill to the new owner or return to this office. We trust you will appreciate the courtesy of this reminder notice and would suggest that in the event of a postal strike that you pay this bill at your bank or at the municipal office.

PLEASE ACCEPT THIS NOTICE AS A FORMAL DEMAND FOR PAYMENT.  
CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF MARKHAM



E.A. Barton  
Treasurer, Tax Collector  
& Industrial Commissioner

#### COUNCIL

Mayor - Carole Bell  
Regional Councillors - Ron Moran, Frank Scarpitti,  
Bud Bonner

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Ward 5 - Gord Landon  
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