

On September 19 at 6 pm, the commemorative service “Don’t want to leave, but cannot stay – the 1944 Great Exodus from Estonia” will take place at Jaani (St. John’s) Church in Tallinn at the request of the Estonian World Council (ÜEKN).

The Day of Remembrance:

Next year will mark the passing of 75 years since the tragic period, when tens of thousands of people were forced to flee their home country. During the journey an unknown number of people perished on land and at the sea. At this spring’s plenary session of the Estonian World Council, the council accepted the resolution to apply for adding the 19th of September to Estonia’s national calendar as a day dedicated to commemorating the great exodus. To the suffering experienced by the fleeing people, but also to acknowledge the remarkable contribution by Estonian refugees in maintaining the legal continuity of the Estonian state and in achieving re-independence, the ÜEKN appealed to the Riigikogu (Parliament of Estonia), as well as to the Archbishop of the Estonian Evangelical Lutheran Church, to organize a commemorative service at Tallinn’s St. John’s (Jaani) Church within the framework of this year’s Estonia 100 events.