The future of Danish rural churches

Ulla Kjær, Danmarks Nationalmuseum
Denmark has preserved 1683 medieval churches which are almost all of them in use inside the Danish Lutheran Church. They are in general very well-kept. But more than 200 of these churches are serving parishes with under 200 members of the congregation.
The former Randrup Church, presumably demolished around 1600. Skive Old Church (Church of Our Lady) Skive.
Buderup Church

Buderup Church near Aalborg
Avnsø Old Church was abandoned in 1933
Højerup Church
Reerslev Church
With a café in a former chapel
Kallerup Church

155 people, of which 139 are members of the Danish Lutheran Church. In 2013 there was one wedding and one baptism.

(Fra Aalborg stifts hjemmeside)
Hammer Church – an "evening-church"
Since 2005: 5 medieval churches and a number of churches from the 20th. century are made ”occasional churches”

Jersie Church in the same parish is serving 6200 residents

Kirke Skensved Church is serving 270 residents
Lydum Church, occasional church 1.1. 2012
Now – in 2014 - major problems with moisture
A medieval church in use is protected by the Danish Lutheran Church itself.

A medieval church not in use had to be protected by the Building preservation Act. It must not be changed – and remains a symbol.
Thank you for your attention