Kirkkopulletiini

OF FINNISH LUTHERAN CHURCH

July - August 2025

Osa suurempaa joukkoa

Useilla meillä on kokemuksia ulkopuolisuudesta. Moni on muuttanut esimerkiksi paikkakuntaa tai maata ja sitä myoten tutustunut esimerkiksi uuteen naapurustoon, uusiin tyotovereihin tai uuteen kouluun ja koulukavereihin. Monella on kokemuksia siitä epävarmuudesta, miten tulee otetuksi vastaan ja miten voi loytää oman paikkansa uudessa yhteisossä. Kuuluminen johonkin, perheeseen, sukuun, yhteisoon, harrastusporukkaan tai seurakuntaan on ihmiselle tärkeää. Yksin ja ulkopuolelle jääminen haavoittavat varsinkin elämän vaikeina aikoina, kun toisten tukea erityisesti kaipaisi.

Jeesus vertasi itseään usein hyvään paimeneen. Puhe Jeesuksesta hyvänä paimenena, joka pitää huolta omasta laumastaan ja etsii eksyneet takaisin luokseen, voi tuntua nykyihmisesta hieman pehmeältä ja lapsenomaiselta ajatukselta. Kuitenkin Jeesus puhui niillä kielikuvilla, jotka hänen aikansa ihmisille olivat päivänselviä. Paimenen tärkein tehtävä oli huolehtia kaikilla tavoin omistaan, etsiä heille ravintoa ja pitää heidät yhdessä, turvassa vaaroilta. Yhdessäolo toi turvaa ja rauhaa. Paimen ja lampaat tunsivat toisensa hyvin ja lampaat saattoivat luottaa paimeneensa ja hänen hyväntahtoisuuteensa. Ketään ei jätetä yksin.

Jos Jeesus on paimen, niin lauma olemme me ihmisten joukko, seurakunta. Lampaiden aitauksen sisäpuolelle, muiden lähelle, kannattaa myos uskaltaa mennä. On annettava itselleen lupa kokea läheisyyttä, arvostusta, ystävyyttä ja lohdutusta. On uskallettava mennä toisten lampaiden viereen ja annettava itselle mahdollisuus ottaa vastaan hyvää, myos Hyvän Paimenen huolenpitoa. Jeesus haluaa meille hyvää, pitää meistä huolta, rakkaus kannattaa ottaa vastaan. Jeesuksen esimerkkiä huolenpidosta ja joukkoon kuulumisesta me kristityt harjoittelemme päivästä toiseen. Joka puolella maailmaa on seurakuntia, joissa on saman lauman jäseniä, saman Jeesuksen seuraajia, saman Taivaallisen Isän lapsia. Sina myos saat olla osa suurempaa joukkoa, yhtä suurta perhettä.

- pastori Marita –

Many of us have experiences of being an outsider. Many have moved, for example, to a new town or country, and thereby gotten to know a new neighborhood, new colleagues, or a new school and classmates. Many have experiences of the uncertainty of how they will be received and how they can find their place in a new community. Belonging to something— family, relatives, a community, a hobby group, or a congregation— is important to a person. Being alone and left on the outside can be especially painful during difficult times in life, when one especially longs for the support of others.

Jesus often compared himself to a good shepherd. The idea of Jesus as a good shepherd who cares for his flock and seeks out the lost may seem a little soft and childish to modern people. However, Jesus spoke in metaphors that were clear to the people of his time. The shepherd's main task was to care for his own in every way, to seek food for them, and to keep them together, safe from dangers. Togetherness brought security and peace. The shepherd and the sheep knew each other well, and the sheep could trust their shepherd and his goodwill. No one is left alone.

If Jesus is the shepherd, then the flock is us, the community of people. It is also worth daring to go inside the sheepfold, closer to others. One must give oneself permission to experience closeness, appreciation, friendship, and comfort. One must dare to go next to other sheep and allow oneself the opportunity to receive good, including the Good Shepherd's care. Jesus wants what is good for us, takes care of us, and such love should be received. We Christians practice Jesus' example of care and belonging day by day. All over the world, there are congregations with members of the same flock, followers of the same Saviour Jesus, children of the same Heavenly Father.

- Pastor Marita –

Your Council in Action:

In the months of May, June and July 2025, the FLC Council has been engaged with the following activities.

- Getting the narthex and sanctuary heaters repaired. We should now be set for next winter.
- Discussing new music initiatives with our Music Director, Maria Mannisto, as well as Pastor Marita. Stay tuned for some changes and new musical event in the future.

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Håkan Rudbäck in memoriam

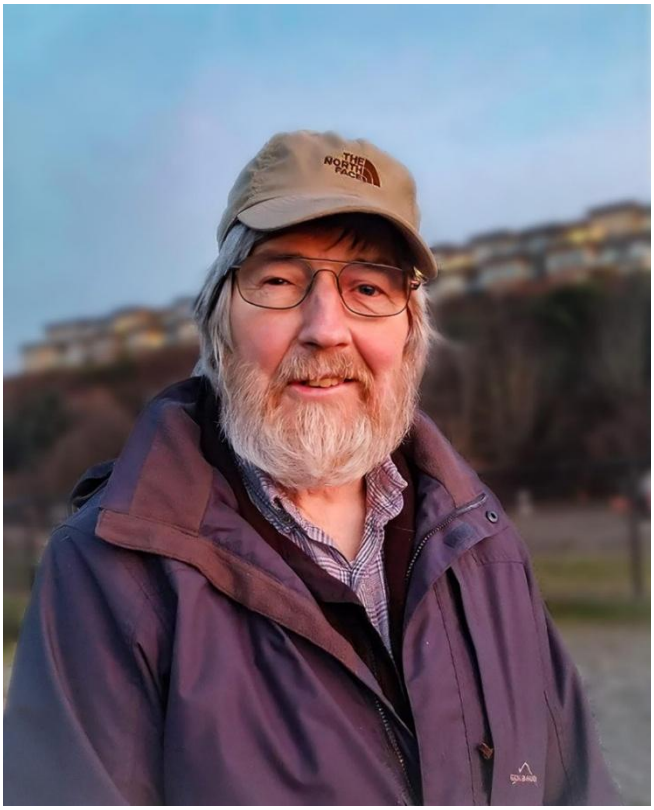
Håkan Bertel Alexander Rudbäck was born August 23rd, 1942 in Karleby/Kokkola, Finland to Myrtley Viola Dahlquist Rudbäck and Tor Bertel Gustav Rudbäck. He died February 28th, 2025 in Edmonds, Washington, surrounded by his family.



His family was a part of the Swede-Finn community in Finland, and the family spoke both Swedish and Finnish. He loved sailing, and from the age of ten spent as much time as he could at the local yacht club. Starting at about 13 years old, in exchange for hauling wood and supplies for the club, he got to use one of the club's sailing dinghies. Håkan delighted in the peace and freedom of gliding through the waves, carried by the wind, under the watchful eye of his seagull friends.

At age 20, he completed his compulsory Finnish military service, working in communications. Following a series of engineering related work experiences, Håkan went to college in Helsinki and became a mechanical engineer. After college, he worked for Wärtsilä shipyards, designing ships. In 1969, he travelled on a commercial vessel to the United States via the North Atlantic in December. After docking in Boston, he flew to Seattle, where his sister Eivor and her family lived.

In 1972, Håkan went on blind date with an American girl who spoke some Finnish, Deborah Sparkman. The two hit it off, spending many Saturday nights dancing at the International Schooner (now the Tractor Tavern). They married in Seattle in December of 1974 (they celebrated their 50th anniversary last year!). Before having kids, they had many adventures, including driving the Alcan highway, cross country skiing all over the North Cascades and buying a VW bus in Europe and traveling around for six months.





Håkan's industriousness and mechanical aptitude found productive outlets throughout the Pacific Northwest. He spent some of his first years in the US at Western Gear in Everett, where he made a group of close, lifelong friends. Håkan spent much of his career as a machinist in salmon canneries across Alaska, from the Panhandle to the Peninsula, from Prince William Sound to Bristol Bay. In Cordova he and Deb made their home in a retired BC ferry boat, and the whole family joined him five summers in a row in King Cove.

Those who knew Håkan appreciated his strong work ethic, dry sense of humor, and commitment to his family. He was ever at the ready with a "Håkanism" delivered in his trademark accent and a twinkle in his eye. Håkan always had a project going, whether it was remodeling the family house in Edmonds or fixing something with duct tape. He loved spending time with friends and family at their cabin on Center Island in the San Juans. Håkan found great contentment spending a day chipping away at the list of "Work Island" projects, punctuated by meals overlooking Lopez Sound and enjoying the sauna he built with friends and family from island lumber.

He is survived by his wife Deb Rudbäck, son Matias (Alex) Rudbäck and wife Sarah, daughter Annika Rudbäck and husband David Bratt, and grandchildren Owen and Hero. He is also survived by his sister Eivor Von Hagel, nephews Richard and Markus Von Hagel and family, as well as relatives in Finland.

The family is thankful to all the staff at Rosewood Courte in Edmonds who cared for Håkan for the past two years and to Continuum Hospice for all their visits in the last year.

July and August 2025 at FLC

JULY

6th 10 am **service**, 4th Sunday after Pentecost with Marita Toivonen and Finlandia Duo

13th 10 am **service**, 5th Sunday after Pentecost with Marita Toivonen and Maria Männistö

20th **1 pm service,** 6th Sunday after Pentecost
St. Andrew's Lutheran Church, 2650 148th Ave SE, Bellevue WA 98007
with Marita Toivonen and Maria Männistö

20th 7 pm **Taize evening prayer on Zoom** with Marita Toivonen and Maria Männistö

27th 10 am **Holy Communion service**, 7th Sunday after Pentecost with Marita Toivonen and Maria Männistö

AUGUST *(no service in St. Andrew's Lutheran Church this month)*

3rd 10 am **service**, 8th Sunday after Pentecost with Marita Toivonen and Finlandia Duo

10th 10 am **service**, 9th Sunday after Pentecost with Marita Toivonen and Maria Männistö

17th 10 am **service**, 10th Sunday after Pentecost with Maria Männistö

24th 10 am **service**, 11th Sunday after Pentecost with Marita Toivonen and Maria Männistö

24th 7 pm **Taize evening prayer on Zoom** with Marita Toivonen and Maria Männistö

31st 10 am **Holy Communion service**, 12th Sunday after Pentecost with Marita Toivonen and Maria Männistö

On aika ilmoittautua elokuun retriittiin – Now it's time to sign up to retreat in August 2025

FLC is organizing a retreat in August from Friday 15th to Sunday 17th. The weekend retreat will be in Gwinwood Retreat Center. Gwinwood is located about 60 miles south of Seattle, address 6015 30th Ave SE, Lacey, WA 98503. We'll have Westwood building to stay and enjoy for ourselves. More information and photos on website: www.gwinwood.org

Retreat starts on Friday at 5/5.30 with arrival and accommodation and 6 pm dinner. It ends on Sunday around 1 pm after lunch. We will have also buffet style breakfast, two hot meals and coffee table on Saturday and breakfast on Sunday. We are going to stay in 10 rooms with double and twin beds and shared bathrooms. If we have more than 10 people to participate, then we will share some rooms.

Bring your own bedding, toiletries, and towels. The price for the weekend with accommodation, meals and programm is 220 USD in a single room and 190 USD for a shared room. If you find that it's too much for you to participate, please, contact pastor Marita also in that case.

Now it's time to send an e-mail to pastor Marita and sign up to retreat. Please, tell also your allergies and food diet if you have any, when signing up, so we can inform the kitchen staff about them. Latest date to sign up is in the end of July.

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Offeice hours during summer

Pastor Marita will be at FLC for office hours every Thursday from 10 am to noon until August 28.

You can come to meet pastor at the church or if you would like to meet in some other place or pastor Marita to visit you, please let her know pastor@finnishlutheranchurch.org or call the church phone 206 789 0864.

Finnish Lutheran Church
8504 - 13th Ave NW
Seattle WA 98117
Office phone: 206-789 0864
web page
http://www.finnishlutheranchurch.org

Finnish Lutheran Church is located in Crown Hill, serving all the Finns in the Washington State area and people with any interest in Finnish language or culture. We have services both in **English** and in **Finnish** with Finnish Liturgy **every Sunday at 10 am,** everybody is welcome! Finnish music is presented with our numerous and gifted members and friends. You are welcome to stay for a coffee and refreshments after church and get to know new people!

Finnish Lutheran Church

8504 13th Avenue NW
Seattle, WA 98117