Kirkkopulletiini

OF FINNISH LUTHERAN CHURCH

November - December 2025

”Lahjaksi olette saaneet, lahjaksi antakaa”

Joulu on monenlaisten lahjojen aikaa, lahjojen antamisen ja saamisen aikaa. Me hankimme lahjoja perheenjäsenillemme, lapsille, lastenlapsille, kummilapsille ja lemmikeille. Lahjan antaminen ilahduttaa sekä saajaansa että antajaansa. Toiselle syntyneen ilon näkemisestä nousee omakin ilo ja juhlamieli.

Jouluna me kohtaamme lahjoista suurimman, Jumalan rakkauden meitä kohtaan. Jumalan armo kurkottuu luoksemme siinä, että Jumala itse, Jeesus, syntyy ihmiseksi, veljeksemme, auttaakseen meitä. Hän tuo meille armon lahjaksi, ilman omia ansioitamme.

Koska joulun lahjakausi on taas käsillä, haluamme mekin seurakuntana ja yhteisonä antaa lahjamme toisten ihmisten hyväksi. Niin kuin Jeesus sanoo Matteuksen evankeliumissa: Lahjaksi olette saaneet, lahjaksi antakaa. Siksi tänä vuonna marras-joulukuun ajan keräämme sekä ruokalahjoituksia ja hygieniatarvikkeita Ballard Food Bankille että uusia miesten urheilusukkia Operation Nigthwatchille. Voit lukea lisätietoja tämän uutiskirjeen viimeiseltä sivulta ja tuoda oman lahjasi kirkolle jumalanpalvelusten ja tilaisuuksien aikana.

Siunattua loppusyksyä ja joulun odotusta!

- pastori Marita –

“You received without paying, give without pay”

Christmas is a time for gifts, a time for giving and receiving presents. We buy and make gifts for our family members, children, grandchildren, godchildren, and pets. Giving a gift brings joy to both the recipient and the giver. Seeing another person's happiness brings joy and a festive spirit to oneself as well.

At Christmas, we encounter the greatest of gifts, God's love towards us. God's grace reaches out to us in that God Himself, Jesus, is born as a human, our brother, to help us. He brings us grace as a gift, without our own merit or effort.

Since the Christmas gift season is coming again, we too, as a congregation and community, want to give our gifts for the benefit of others. As Jesus says in the Gospel of Matthew: 'You received withour paying; so give without pay.' Therefore, this year, during November and December, we are collecting food donations and toiletries for Ballard Food Bank as well as new men's sports socks for Operation Nightwatch. You can read more information on the last page of this newsletter and bring your gift to the church during services and events.

Wishing you a blessed late autumn and waiting for Christmas!

-Pastor Marita-

Visiting the Juntilas

On September 8 Pastor Marita and I visited Kerttu and Pentti Juntila at their retirement home in Tacoma. We had a great couple of hours with them. Kerttu is as lively as she used to be and Pentti seemed to be doing quite well too. Pentti is in a memory care unit only one floor below Kerttu's one bedroom apartment. Their granddaughter Vanessa lives close by and looks after them almost daily.







They still both enjoy Bingo and they greatly enjoy talking about their youth years in Finland, about raising their family and about travelling the world together. A happy couple at advanced age: Kerttu had her 95th birthday on May 21 this year and Pentti turns 99 on Christmas Day! Let's send our congratulations.

Kerttu sent her best regards to all in the FLC community!

Eva Männistö

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Your Council in Action

In the months of September and October 2025, the FLC Council has been engaged with the following activities.

- Completing the roof replacement project. The new roof was finished just in time for the rainy season and should protect our building for the next several decades.
- Searching for contractors to replace some of the locks that are in poor condition. Included in the inquiries is also the sanctuary back door that is deteriorating.
- Advancing the memorial display for Laila Ottelin.
- Furthering the project to get FLC's history documented.
- Working on a budget proposal for 2026.

November and December 2025 at FLC

NOVEMBER

1st Saturday 3 pm **afternoon with Majority Finn, a family band from Hancock, MI**. Come and spend the afternoon of music, dancing, wine & snacks in Maki Hall. Suggested donation $10.

2nd 10 am **service**, All Saints Sunday with Marita Toivonen and Maria Männistö. We are inviting people to send photos of loved ones (including animals) who have passed away any time, not just during the last year. Please, send a photo and the name of the person/animal for the slide show: pastor@finnishlutheranchurch.org

9th 10 am **service**, 22nd Sunday after Pentecost with Marita Toivonen and Maria Männistö

9th 12 pm a **practice of Yoga of Stillness** after service and coffee in Maki Hall. Practice will take about an hour. Pastor Marita will conduct it only in Finnish language, but the physical practice is light, streching and easy to follow also without knowing Finnish. Please, bring your own training platform or yoga matt with you and clothes that you will feel comfortable to wear and move.

15th Saturday 10am-3pm **Finnish Holiday Market** in Leif Erikson Hall. Come and meet the people from FLC and support our work with buying homemade baked goods and raffle tickets. You have a chance to win two special raffle baskets filled with Finnish treats, goodies and even beloved Moomin items.

16th 10 am **service**, 23rd Sunday after Pentecost with Marita Toivonen and Maria Männistö

22nd Saturday **1 pm Kantelemessu in Portland** at Finnish Messiah Lutheran Church with Marita Toivonen, Satu Mikkola and Livakat Evergreen NW Kantele Players. Portland Finnish Church, 8800 SW Oleson Rd, Portland OR

23th **1 pm service with Swedish language and hymns** Christ the King
St. Andrew's Lutheran Church, 2650 148th Ave SE, Bellevue with Marita Toivonen and Maria Männistö

23rd 7 pm **Taize evening prayer** on Zoom with Marita Toivonen and Maria Männistö

30th 10 am **Holy Communion**, First Sunday of Advent with Maria Männistö, Church Choir and Marita Toivonen. Come and sing Hoosianna to start the advent season!

DECEMBER

7th 10 am **service**, Second Sunday of Advent with Marita Toivonen, Church Choir and Maria Männistö. Thanksgiving of Finland's 108 years of independence.

14th 10 am **service**, Third Sunday of Advent with Kristy Daniels and Maria Männistö.
We will sing **Kauneimmat joululaulut** during Coffee Time for 30 minutes.

21th **1 pm Kauneimmat joululaulut**
St. Andrew's Lutheran Church, 2650 148th Ave SE, Bellevue WA 98007
with Maria Männistö, Akseli Leppänen, Jani Kuivalainen, Sini-Tuulia Simmons, Church Choir, Marita Toivonen

25 th 10 am **Joulukirkko - Christmas Day** with Church Choir, Maria Männistö and Marita Toivonen.
Special Christmas music and potluck coffee table after service.

Kantelemessu – The Kantele Mass



FLC was worshipping with The Kantele Mass - Kantelemessu on Sunday 12 October. Livakat Evergreen NW Kantele Players with Satu Mikkola were accompanying the singing and liturgy.

Kantelemessu is a musical work composed by Jarkko Yli-Annala. The poet Anna-Mari Kaskinen wrote the lyrics for the hymns. The Kantele Mass has been made as a commissioned work for Livakat Evergreen NW Kantele Players. If you missed Kantele Mass, you can find it also on FLC YouTube channel FLC Kantelemessu, Oct 12, 2025.



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Volunteering in Bible reading and Coffee Time

We are looking for more people to volunteer on Sunday services. If you would like to read the Bible texts in services, please, sign up for readers' list or send an e-mail or message to pastor Marita. You can read the texts either in English or in Finnish, on Zoom or being present at the church. Pastor Marita will send you the right texts beforehands in your language.

Google Docs sign-up sheet for Coffee Time and Bible readers:
FLC Coffee Time and Bible Readers Sign-up Sheet - Google Sheets

Socks donation for Seattle Nightwatch

Socks are the one item that unhoused people request most often in shelters. New socks remind people that a loving community wants to help. Socks won't change the world, but they sill bring real, immediate relief for our neighbors facing homelessness.

Please, bring some pairs of new men's socks to the church during November and early December. Pastor Marita will take them to Operation Nightwatch Shelter Dispatch Center on Sunday, December 7, after church and coffee hour. More information: www.seattlenightwatch.org/sock-it

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Food donation for Ballard Food Bank

During Advent season FLC is partnering with the Ballard Food Bank to help those in need during the holiday season. We invite you to bring **non-perishable food items, toiletries, and other donation to the church during December** services and events. Thank you for your kindness and support!

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Offeice hours during November and Advent

Pastor Marita will be at FLC for office hours twice a week, every Tuesday from 4 to 6 pm and every Thursday from 10 am to noon until week 49.

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