Kirkkopulletiini

OF FINNISH LUTHERAN CHURCH

May - June 2026

Näin keväällä elämme toiveikasta vuodenaikaa. Luonto kertoo meille uusien alkujen mahdollisuudesta. Monet lapset ja nuoret odottavat koulujen päättymistä, kesän ajan tapahtumia ja iloja, valmistumista opiskeluista tai tietoa opiskelupaikasta. Sekunnit ja tunnit -blogin kirjoittajan, opettaja ja kirjailija Hanna Kivisalon runo kuvaa toiveita, jotka saavat siivet lentää, kun elämässä on myös vahvat juuret. Luottamus siihen, etta elämä kantaa minua, koska kaiken takana ovat Jumalan vahvat kädet, jotka kantavat minua.

"Ristin kantaminen kaulalla
on toista
kuin ristin kantaminen harteilla.

Kaulalla risti muistuttaa, etta armo on valmista
ja elämästä kuuluu nauttia.

Että askeleen kuuluukin olla kevyt,
kun on repussa siivet ja toivoa.

Ja kaulalla lupaus siitä,
että silloin, kun siivet ei kanna,
joku vielä kantaa minua.
-Hanna Kivisalo

Valoisaa kesää sinulle ja läheisillesi! - pastori Marita –

In spring we are living in a hopeful season. Nature tells us about the possibility of new beginnings. Many children and young people are waiting for the end of school year, the events and joys of summer, graduation or information about their place of study. The poem by Hanna Kivisalo, the author of the blog Seconds and Hours, a teacher and author, describes hopes that make wings fly when there are strong roots. Trusting that life will carry me, because behind everything are the hands of God that are carrying me.

"Carrying a cross around your neck
is different
than carrying a cross on your shoulders.

A cross around your neck reminds you that grace is ready
and that life should be enjoyed.

That steps should be light
when you have wings and hope in your backpack.

And a promise around your neck
that when the wings don't carry,
someone will still carry me.
-Hanna Kivisalo
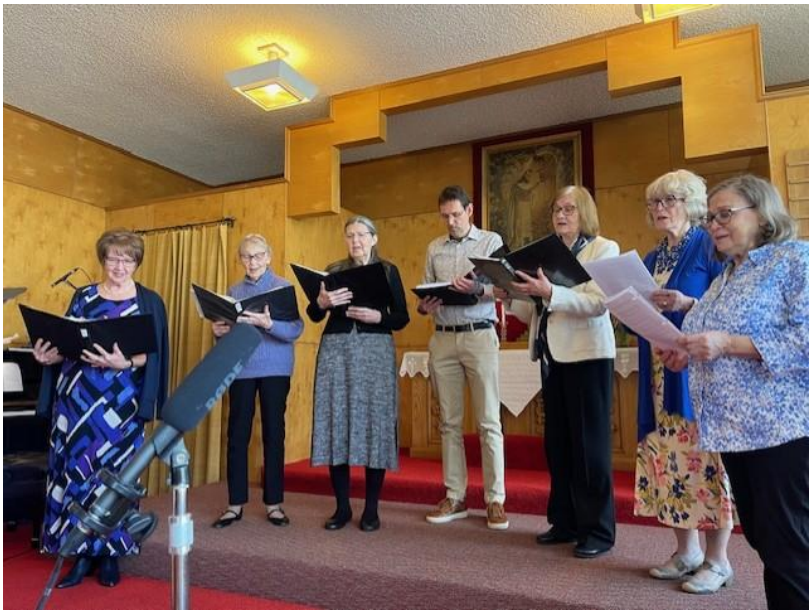
A bright summer to you and your loved ones! - Pastor Marita –

Your Council in Action

The March and April months have been going well without problems with regard to the church building.
Some items noted in the council meetings are:

1 Our Treasurer will in 2026 be doing also the Financial Secretary's tasks.
2 The Financial Committee consists of John Borland and Ilkka Lähdesmäki.
3 The website events page is being updated by Maria Männistö
4 The council approved the reservation for the Retreat in September 2026

The council has been working on a survey to be sent to the congregation/Finnish community. The target is to get basic information for how to fulfill the pastoral services after Pastor Marita returns to Finland in December 2026. The plan is to send out the questionnaire in May.



Easter Sunday service was well attended and lovely with joyful music from the Church Choir and Finlandia Duo.

The Finnish Choral Society of Seattle had the 50th Annual Kalevala Concert in the end of April at the National Nordic Museum. With soloists Tiina Ritalahti and Maria Männistö and musicians Yvonne and Peter Vollan the choir gave a concert dedicated to songs and stories. The program included also songs from the 1970s, covering the choir's 50-year journey through Kalevala and it's stories.



May and June 2026 at FLC

MAY

2nd Saturday 1 pm group visit to Amazon Spheres

3rd Sunday **10 am Service: Fifth Sunday of Easter** with Marita Toivonen and Maria Männistö

7th Thursday 5 pm group visit to Museum of Flight. Free for everyone, welcome to join the group!

10th Sunday **10 am Service: Sixth Sunday of Easter**, Mother's Day with Church Choir, Maria Männistö and Marita Toivonen

17th Sunday **10 am Service: Seventh Sunday of Easter** with Marita Toivonen and Maria Männistö

17th Sunday 3 pm Peace Concert: Songs for Peace at Seattle Latvian Center. The Finnish Choral Society of Seattle, The Seattle Estonian Choir, The Seattle Latvian Choir and Mägi Ensemble are giving a concert to support humanitarian relief in Ukraine.

20th Wednesday 1 pm Mariner's Game at T-Mobile Park. Mariners' Value Game tickets for that game are 14 USD each with service fees and taxes. Sign-up to Pastor Marita latest at Sunday 17th May and Marita will make a group reservation for the seats in the same row. You can pay your ticket with cash to Marita.

24th Sunday **10 am Service: Pentecost** with Marita Toivonen and Maria Männistö

31st Sunday **10 am Service and Holy Communion: Holy Trinity** with Church Choir, Marita Toivonen and Maria Männistö. We will sing hymns and songs from different African countries.

31st Sunday 12-1 pm Hiljaisuuden joogan harjoitus – Practice of Yoga on Stillness at Maki Hall

JUNE

7th Sunday **1 pm Service at St. Andrew's Lutheran Churh in Bellevue: Second Sunday after Pentecost** with Marita Toivonen and Maria Männistö

14th Sunday **10 am Service: Third Sunday after Pentecost** with Marita Toivonen and Maria Männistö

21st Sunday **10 am Service: Fourth Sunday after Pentecost** with Marita Toivonen and Maria Männistö

28th Sunday **10 am Service and Holy Communion: Fifth Sunday after Pentecost** with Marita Toivonen and Maria Männistö

Free Museum Visits continue in May and in the autumn

Free Museums Visits during the spring time 2025 have been a great way to spend afternoon, enjoy cultural experiences, and meet people. Visits have been well received and well attented. Thank you for people to show up and make nice memories together!

Pastor Marita will continue organizing group visits to Seattle's Top Museums on their Free First Thursday program. There is still one visit left in May: **Thursday 7th May at 5 pm Museum of Flight.** Send email to Marita latest on Wednesday 6th May, so we know who to expect, or just show up in the museum lobby. Museum of Flight is open until 9 pm. No reservation is needed beforehands. Museum is open from 10 am, but the free visit time starts at 5 pm. Free parking places are available near the museum.
Let's go together and have a fun afternoon exploring interesting places!



April 2nd a group of people were exploring Burke Museum and after the visit enjoying the cherry tree blossoms at the campus of University of Washington.

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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 bring your offering in music by playing or singing as prelude or postlude, please, let us know. Or if you would like read the Bible texts in services, 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



Finnish Choral Society is giving a concert

Songs for Peace

together with Seattle Estonian Choir, Seattle Latvian Choir and Mägi Ensemble.

Proceed support humanitarian relief in Ukraine and other regions affected by conflict.

The Peace Concert is on Sunday May 17th at 3 pm at Seattle Latvian Center, 11710 3rd Ave NE.

Welcome everyone!

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Let's go together to Mariners Value Game!

Seattle Mariners are playing at season 2026 a series of home games with low-priced game tickets at T-Mobile Park. Let's go together in May to watch and experience the game!

Game day is Wednesday May 20th at 1 pm, Seattle Mariners vs. Chicago White Sox

Value tickets are 14 USD with taxes and service fees.

Send email to Pastor Marita latest on Sunday 17th May and Marita will buy the tickets for us all at the same row. Be ready to pay your ticket in cash or via Zelle to Marita.
We'll meet outside T-Mobile Park and go inside together as a group.

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Office hours

Pastor Marita will be at FLC for office hours twice a week until the end of May, every Tuesday from 4 to 6 pm and every Thursday from 10 am to 12 noon.

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

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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!