Kirkkopulletiini
OF FINNISH LUTHERAN CHURCH
September – October 2026

In Memory of Kerttu and Pentti Juntila



Sadly, our very dear friends of the Finnish Lutheran Church are gone – they are now together in heaven!

Pentti and Kerttu had a long, happy life together. Pentti was born in Kokkola, Finland in 1927, Kerttu in Tampere, Finland in 1930. Pentti passed away on November 15, 2025, at the age of 98 and Kerttu passed on May 26, 2026, as 96 years old. A Celebration of Life event was held at the church on August 1, 2026.
Kerttu moved to the USA to Seattle in 1950 as married to Finnish American man, had a son, Kari and soon got divorced. Pentti moved here in 1951. They met in Seattle at a Finns' get together, where Pentti asked, "do you speak Finnish" to which she replied" that's about all I do" [X)] and the rest is history; they married in 1957 and spent 68 years together. Together they had 3 children, Erkki, Liisa and Lea. Liisa, to their sorrow, passed away in 1993 in lung cancer. The family grew, and at the time when Kerttu passed they have 7 grandchildren, 8 great grandchildren and 2 great-great grandchildren! Son Kari passed away in lung cancer in 2023.
Kerttu was an energetic housewife, and she also worked outside her home doing housekeeping for others. Pentti received a degree in aviation in Finland and in Seattle he became employed by PanAm where he worked for 32 years, retiring in the mid 1980's as a supervisor for the catering department [X)]. PanAm relocated them to Hawaii for one year and to San Francisco for five years. But since retirement they lived in the Seattle area all time. In retirement they travelled a lot, filling the world map with dots all over the world and they loved talking about their travel adventures.
The Juntilas were very active at the Finnish Lutheran Church, and we have many, many reasons to be grateful for their work and dedication to the church. They rarely missed a church Sunday as long as they could drive the car. And after that, their granddaughter Vanessa would quite often bring them.

Pentti always tidied up the hymnbooks and kept the pencils sharpened in the pews. Kerttu assisted the pastor at the communion, helped keeping the sanctuary tidy and neat and was a frequent coffee server in the kitchen. Both Pentti and Kerttu served on the church council, Kerttu maybe about 20 years. At the church auctions Kerttu was invaluable in getting donations and displaying the auction items. And who can forget the tastiest ever rice pudding and raisin soup (riisipuuro ja rusinasoppa) at the 'Most Beautiful Christmas Songs' sing-along evenings!
Kerttu and Pentti loved their family, church community and friends very much and they are deeply missed by all. They truly have left an irreplaceable empty spot in our church.

-Eva Männistö

[X)]Source: The National Nordic Museum Oral History Documents

The church was full of people in Kerttu Juntila's Celebration of Life on August 1st, 2026.



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Your Council in Action

- The council in its meeting on August 24 reviewed the results of the Survey. 44 responses were received. Next the council will summarize the results to be shared with the community towards the end of September.
- The council noted the resignation of council member Eija Tammi in June. The council accepted Marja Hall as a council member until the Annual Meeting in 2027.
- A video inspection and hydro-jetting of critical storm drains was undertaken by the Bodine Construction Company. Recommendations to be considered are: 1) Roof drain system – repair a broken pipe under the asphalt and 2) Floor drains east of building -install catch basins.
- The idea to install a shower in the ladies' bathroom was abandoned due to high cost.
- The council recognizes Mark Powers for the planning, doing and installation of a new awning above the entrance door. Mark did a fantastic work and made a great contribution to the esthetics of the church. Thank you very, very much!!
- The music program in the fall includes choir singing (7 services), Kantele messu on October 25, Kauneimmat Joululaulut on December 13 as well as guest musicians. The church choir is also planning visiting some retirement homes.
- Pastor Marita sends the warmest regards from the Iivonen's whom she visited recently.
- Minutes of the Council Meetings will be posted on the bulletin board at the FLC.

September and October 2026 at FLC

SEPTEMBER

6th Sunday 10 am **Service**: 15th Sunday after Pentecost with Marita Toivonen and Maria Männistö

13th Sunday 10 am **Service**: Holy Cross Day with Church Choir, Maria Männistö and Marita Toivonen

13th Sunday 12-1 pm Hiljaisuuden joogan harjoitus – Practice of Yoga on Stillness at Maki Hall

18th Friday to 20th Sunday **FLC Retreat** in Gwinwood Retreat Center in Lacey with Marita Toivonen and Maria Männistö

20th Sunday 10 am **Music Service**: 17th Sunday after Pentecost with Maria Männistö and Marita Toivonen

27th Sunday 10 am **Service and Holy Communion**:18th Sunday after Pentecost with Marita Toivonen and Maria Männistö

OCTOBER

4th Sunday 10 am **Service**: Michael and All Angels Day – Mikkelinpaiva with Marita Toivonen and Maria Männistö

11th Sunday 10 am **Service**: 20th Sunday after Pentecost with Marita Toivonen and Maria Männistö

11th Sunday 12-1 pm Hiljaisuuden joogan harjoitus – Practice of Yoga on Stillness at Maki Hall

18th Sunday **1 PM St. Andrew's Lutheran Church Service**: 21st Sunday after Pentecost with Marita Toivonen and Maria Männistö

25th Sunday 10 am **Kantelemessu and Holy Communion**: Reformation Sunday with Livakat Evergreen kantele group, Maria Männistö and Marita Toivonen

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 Lutheran Church building has a new inviting and sheltering awning.
A big thank you to Mark Powers for his wonderful work and effort!





Mark writes about the process: "After examining the awning at home and doing some research about how similar awnings are made in the Seattle area, I started taking the canvas off of the frame. I also had to remove hundreds of staples. I then washed and pressure washed the frame, sanded it, washed it again, and started painting. I applied several coats of Rust-Oleum self-etching automotive primer before applying Krylon Fusion Metallic Aluminum primer in several coats. I then cut new Sunbrella marine canvas to fit the front, back, and top panels of the awning. I used a new pneumatic staple gun designed for making awnings like ours. I could only find one model of staple gun anywhere in the world for doing the job, since the staples are installed in a T-shaped slot in the aluminum frame members. No other gun could reach down into the 1/4" slot in the tubing. After tensioning and stapling the fabric in place, I used a pneumatic palm nail gun to install vinyl "zip strip" over the slot to cover the staples and to further secure the canvas in place. I used the old front panel from the awning as a stencil to pencil the name of the church on the awning before hand-painting the lettering with numerous coats of white acrylic paint.
The front of the church around the awning needed to be painted before Peter and I could put the awning up. We ran into some rotten wood, so we bought some Bondo materials for repairing rotten wood and fixed the bad spots. I routed out the really bad rot with my Dremel tool. We sanded before coating the bad spots with Bondo and the Bondo primer. We sanded the Bondo and then applied several coats of Kilz primer and several coats of Glidden Premium acrylic paint over the door and window trim in the area of the awning. After allowing everything to dry thoroughly, we lifted and bolted the awning in place using mostly new fasteners."



Steve Solkela visited FCL again in the beginning of August and gave a concert with Maria Männistö. They sang some opera arias and duets. Steve also sang his songs with accordion and we all hade sing-along with folk songs. Steve is truly a fun entertainer!

Free Museum Visits continue in the autumn

Free Museums Visits during the spring time 2026 have been a great way to spend afternoon, enjoy cultural experiences, and meet people. Visits have been well received and well attented. Thank you to people to show up and make nice memories together!

Pastor Marita will continue organizing group visits to Seattle's Top Museums. Here is the program for the rest of 2026. Let's go together and have a fun afternoon exploring interesting places!

No need to sign up beforehands, just show up at the museum at the start time. See you there!

Thursday 3rd September: National Nordic Museum NNM at 1 PM
(last call to see exhibition Moomins' Sea Adventures and Tove and the Sea until 6th September)
Price: 5 USD for Moomin exhibition, general admission is free on 3rd September

Saturday 5th September: Klondike Gold Rush Visitor Center at 11 am, coffee break at 12 PM and Beautiful Things Exhibition at 1 PM
Address: Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park is located in the historic Cadillac Hotel Building on South Jackson Street in Pioneer Square. Beautiful Things Exhibition (Conru Art Foundation) is located in Occidental Fine Arts Center, 311½ Occidental Avenue S. in Pioneer Square.
Price: Free everyday for all

Thursday 1st October: Wing Luke Museum at 5 PM
Address: 719 S. King Street, Seattle, WA 98104
Price: Free on 1st October from 5 to 8 pm

Thursday 5th November: Northwest African American Museum NAAM at 1 PM
Address: 2300 South Massachusetts Street, Seattle, WA 98144
Price: 10 USD adults, 8 USD seniors (55+) and students

Thursday 3rd December: Museum of History and Industry MOHAI at 5 PM
Address: 860 Terry Ave N, Seattle, WA 98109
Price: Free on 3rd December from 5 to 8 pm

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 Thursday September 10th at 1 PM, Seattle Mariners vs. Texas Rangers
Value tickets are 14 USD with taxes and service fees.

Send email to Pastor Marita latest on Tuesday 8th September 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.

Finnish Lutheran Church

8504 13th Avenue NW
Seattle, WA 98117

Office hours

Office hours weekly on Tuesdays from 4 to 6 pm and Thursdays from 4 to 6 pm.
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!