

Dec-Jan
2025/2026

O Canada! Our home
land! True patriot
sons command
hearts we see
True North star
From far and
We stand on
God keep our
free! O Canada
guard for the
stand on guard

EMMAUS LUTHERAN CHURCH, 6344 SPERLING AVE., BURNABY, B.C.

Emmaus Newsletter



Christmas Bazaar 2025: Over
140 Pullas and 2200 Karelian
Pastries were baked and sold!

Thanking all the gifted
volunteers! Thanks for all the
donors and FinnGoods!



HuYää Joulua-Merry Christmas!

Dec-Jan
2025/2026



EMMAUS LUTHERAN CHURCH, 6344 Sperling Ave., Burnaby, B.C. V5E 2V4

Suomalaiskirkon Ystävälehti

Kerta kiellon päälle - To allow good things to happen



Suomessa on sanonta kerta kiellon päälle. Se voi tarkoittaa esimerkiksi sitä, että juhlassa on tarjolla niin hyvää kakkua, että sitä ei voi olla ottamatta lisää. Kerta kiellon päälle, sanotaan siihen. Kieltäminen ei toimi muutenkaan kovin hyvin kaikissa tilanteissa. Tällainen "muka kieltäytyminen" kuuluu myös joulun. Moni aikuinen ilmoittaa, että hänelle ei pidä hankkia joululahjoja, ja perheissä sovitaan etukäteen lahjojen hankkimisesta vain lapsille. Taitaa olla kuitenkin niin, että aikuinenkin pettyy, jos jouluna ei saa yhtään lahjaa. Kun Jeesus ratsasti aasilla Jerusalemiin, ja kansa riemuitsi suureen ääneen, muutamat fariseukset käskivät Jeesusta kieltämään opetuslapsia. Mutta Jeesus vastasi: *"Minä sanon teille: jos he olisivat vaiti, niin kivet huutaisivat."* (Luuk. 19:40). Jeesusta ja hänen seuraajiaan on vaikea kieltää toimimasta. Ei siihen auttanut edes ristiinnaulitseminen ja kuolema. Jeesus nousi kuolleista. Opetuslapset saivat sitten vielä helluntaina Pyhän Hengen, eikä sen jälkeen mikään pidätelty heitä kertomasta Jeesuksesta, vaikka se saattoi merkitä toisinaan vankeutta tai kuolemaa. Miten ihminen ylipäänsä voi estää tai kieltää Jumalaa vaikuttamasta hänen luomassaan maailmassa? Sitä on toki usein yritetty, mutta huonolla menestyksellä. Kieltämisen vastakohtana on salliminen, luvan tai jonkin hyvän antaminen. Jumala on olemukseltaan hyvä ja rakastava. Jumala myös kunnioittaa luomansa ihmisen vapautta valita. Hän ei pakota, vaan kysyy lupaa. Jeesus sanoo: *"Minä seison ovella ja kolkutan. Jos joku kuulee minun ääneni ja avaa oven, minä tulen hänen luokseen, ja me aterioimme yhdessä, minä ja hän."* (Ilm. 3:20). Jeesus on lempeä kuningas ja hallitsija. Hän syntyi ja tuli tähän maailmaan rakkaudesta ihmistä kohtaan. Hän tuli pelastamaan ja parantamaan. Hän tuli kulkemaan ihmisen vierellä, kantamaan elämän kipuja ja taakkoja, ja antamaan yltäkylläisen elämän. *Siunattua joulun aikaa! Timo-pastori*

In Finland, there is a saying literally "once more after being refused", that is freely translated "one more on the road/to be on the safe side". It can mean, for example, that the cake served at a party is so good that you can't help but have more. Refusing or denial overall doesn't work very well in all situations.

This kind of "supposed refusal" is also part of Christmas. Many adults declare that they shouldn't get Christmas presents, and some families agree in advance to buy presents only for children. However, even adults might be at least secretly disappointed if they don't get any presents at all in Christmas.

When Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey, and the people rejoiced loudly, some of the Pharisees told Jesus to deny the disciples. But Jesus replied: "I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would cry out." (Luke 19:40).

It is difficult to deny Jesus and his followers influence. Even the crucifixion and death didn't help. Jesus rose from the dead. The disciples then received the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, and after that nothing stopped them from telling about Jesus, even though it could sometimes mean imprisonment or death. How can a person prevent or forbid God from working in the world he created? Of course, this has often been tried, but with little success. The opposite of forbidding is allowing, giving permission for something good.

God is good and loving by nature. God also respects the freedom of choice. He does not force, but asks permission. Jesus says: *"I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him, and we will eat with him."* (Rev. 3:20). Jesus is a gentle king and ruler. He was born and came into this world out of love for people. He came to save and heal. He came to walk alongside man, to bear the pains and burdens of life, and to give abundant life. *Merry Christmas! Pastor Timo*

On Our Way -
Kastehetkestä iankaikkisuuteen

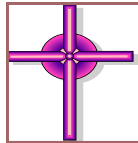


Baptized: Nov 9, 2025
Kevin Sauli Aaron Teräviäinen

“So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.” Gal 3:26-27

IN MEMORIAM

RISTO TAMMINEN 80 YRS



Jesus says: “I am the resurrection and the life. He, who believes in me will live even though he dies.” John 11: 25

Church Council President’s Greetings!

As we enter the season of hope and light, we give thanks for the faithfulness, generosity, and unity of our church family. In these uncertain times—both locally and across our world—we are reminded of the deep need to lean into the suffering we witness, praying for peace while holding on to love, strength, and hope. Christmas assures us that even in turmoil, God is with us, guiding and sustaining us.

With this in mind, we turn to a joyful highlight from our community life this month. We are delighted to share that this year’s Christmas Bazaar was a wonderful success. We are deeply grateful for the hard work and dedication of the ladies for their baking, organizing and overall efforts. Your dedication has a great impact in our community and helps make Emmaus the wonderful community it is.

We would also like to share an update regarding the sale of the church property. The sale has not yet completed, as the buyer has requested additional time. This extension was needed to allow for further environmental assessments, which are now underway. The subject-removal date has been extended to January 31, 2026, with completion now anticipated for March 31st. Should the sale proceed as expected, we would plan to vacate the property at the end of summer 2026.

We appreciate your continued prayers for wisdom, clarity, and peace throughout this process. As always,

we will keep the congregation informed as new information becomes available. May the Christmas season bring blessings to you and your loved ones in the year ahead.

Merry Christmas! Sofia Joensuu

Christmas at Emmaus—Welcome!

Joulunajan tapahtumia –Tervetuloa!

- Sun. 7.12 at 11 am Itsenäisyyden juhla jumalanpalvelus, Emmauskuoro, Ohjelmaa, Kahvitarjoilu FINLAND 108 yrs Celebration, Emmaus Choir, Program, Coffee service
- Sun. 14.12 at 11 am Emmauksen joulujuhla—Christmas party & Carols Sing-along—We also welcome performers of all ages! Santa & Refreshments
- Sat. 20.12 at 1 pm Christmas party in West Kelowna
- Sun. 21.12 at 11 am Kauneimmat joululaulut, Emmauskuoro, Most Beautiful Carols with Emmaus Choir, Coffee by Choir
- Wed. 24.12 at 5 pm Christmas Eve Bilingual Candlelight Service, Glögi!
- Thurs. 25.12 at 11 am Bilingual Christmas Day Service, Glögi!
- Fri. 26.12 Christmas Party in Victoria at 12pm (Sun 28.12 No service)
- Thurs. 1.1.2026 Uuden Vuoden juhla – New Year’s Day Service at 12 pm.

Tulevat jumalanpalvelukset Victoriassa sekä Länsi-Kelownassa:

Victoria: Grace Lutheran Church, 1273 Fort St. Friday. at 12 pm! Fri Dec 26th Christmas party Sat. at 2 pm Feb 28 & April 25

West Kelowna: Grace Lutheran Church, 1162 Hudson Rd. Sat. at 1 pm Dec 20 Christmas party Sat. at 1 pm Jan 24, Feb 21, March 21, April 18 & May 23

Memorial Gifts



Muistolahjoituksia

Donors not published on the website....



May God Bless You!

Memorial donations after Nov 30 in the next Newsletter.

**Tax receipts 2025 will be mailed in the next Newsletter at the end of January/early February.

Kiitos tuestanne.
Thank You for your support.



Coming up ! Majatalo-ilta
Guesthouse Evening at Emmaus
Sat. Jan 17 at 4 pm
with Pekka Simojoki, Ilkka Puhakka and Jukka Jämsen, Terhi & Choir, Refreshments
Sun. Jan 18 at 11 am
Musical Worship!

Pastoral care at Emmaus:
Baptisms, Weddings, Memorial Services, Confirmations, Prayer requests, Hospital visit requests.
Please contact Pastor Timo:
604-488-9434
or email: timo.emmaus@gmail.com

**Emmauksen jumalanpalvelukset sunnuntaisin ja joulunaikaan myös Zoomin kautta –Tervetuloa kirkkoon tai voit osallistua virtuaalisesti Zoomin kautta jumalanpalveluksiimme!

We offer both in-person and online services! Huomaa eri Zoom-linkit jouluna ja uutena vuotena – Please see Zoom links for each meeting!

*If you would like to receive an email invitation to services via Zoom, please let me know!
Email: timo.emmaus@gmail.com

zoom Timo Saarinen is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting. Topic: Emmaus Lutheran Church Sunday Service (including Carols on Sundays) at 11 am Join Zoom Meeting Meeting ID: 858 3251 8901 Passcode: 3zqXaT	zoom Timo Saarinen is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting. Topic: Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at Emmaus Time: Dec 24, 2025 5:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada) Join Zoom Meeting Meeting ID: 829 8067 7082 Passcode: 983260	zoom Timo Saarinen is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting. Topic: Christmas Day Service at Emmaus Time: Dec 25, 2025 11:00 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada) Join Zoom Meeting Meeting ID: 843 8895 6946 Passcode: 294751	zoom Timo Saarinen is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting. Topic: New Year’s Day at Emmaus – Uuden vuoden juhla Emmauksessa Time: Jan 1, 2026 12:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada) Join Zoom Meeting Meeting ID: 863 8957 5025 Passcode: 504524
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EMMAUS LUTHERAN CHURCH
SUOMIKIRKKO

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