



Finland & Methodism

- The country
- Religions = state & free churches
- Methodism in Finland
 - Bishop & conferences
 - Congregations & work
 - Ecumenism
 - International cooperation

Northernmost country

- Between Swed, Norw, Russia, Estonia
- 1000s of lakes
- 5 Million people
- 4 Million cellphones = Nokia-country
- Two official languages – Finnish & Swedish
- 6% Swedish about 300.000 living on the coastlines
- 1% immigrants
- Among highest living standards in the world

Finland: Religions

<p>State churches = get 1-1.5% of income</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lutheran 85% • Orthodox 	<p>Free churches</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pentecostal • Baptist • Mission church • Methodist
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Methodist church, Finland

- Bishop of Northern Europe + Baltic
- Finland 2 conferences: Finnish/Swedish
- About 1000 members each
- Swedish methodist church 13 congregations
- Started about 1860 by seamen fr NYC

Swedish methodists in Finland

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All have own churches • Some congreg. poor • Childrens home • 2 homes for elderly • Camp grounds 	<p>Meet at conferences +</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • District meetings • Boards+lay workers meet once a year • We know one another
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Methodists & ecumenism

- Good cooperation last 10 years
- Swed. hymnbook for 5 churches (luth, cath)
- Common conferences every 5 years (4 ch)
- Some towns common swed services during summer and Christmas-time
- Suggestions: = Join the free churches!



International cooperation

- Easier for Swed speaking (lang similarities)
- USA caravans during 45 years
- Sister congregations (Estonia)
- International summer camps (Ireland)
- Missionaries Africa
- Projects children/youth in Kenya, Zimbabwe
- Drug prevention in Russia