

Nordic Conference on  
Open and Roadside Churches  
18–19 August 2010 in Helsinki

## Bassi boaššu Pyhä – Helig – Holy

A Nordic conference for those organising Open and Roadside Church (Vägkyrkor, Veikirker, Wayfarers' Churches) activities locally and in their dioceses in the Nordic countries.

The purpose of the conference is to give an opportunity for the participants to share common experiences of the roadside church activities and to strengthen Nordic cooperation.

The conference is organised by:

- The Lutheran Diocese of Oulu, Finland
- Veikirker på Nordkalotten ([www.nordkirker.net](http://www.nordkirker.net))
- The Church Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland
- The Finnish Church Resources Agency

The venue: Church House, The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland,  
Satamakatu (Hamngatan) 11, Helsinki, 7th floor, conference room

### Programme

**Tuesday, 17 August** arrival at Hotel Scandic Grand Marina, Katajanokanlaituri (Skatuddskajen) 7, Helsinki.

### Wednesday, 18 August

- From the Open and roadside churches' point of view, what do we mean by:
  - preserving cultural heritage
  - missionary work, pilgrimages
  - meeting the visitors and welcoming them in various ways

Breakfast at the hotel

08.40 Departure to the Church House from the lobby of the Hotel

09.00 Welcome – and who are we?

Opening words: Holy Church, Dr **Matti Pikkarainen** and the Rev. **Erva Niittyvuopio**

09.30 A church pedagogical introduction to the conference work, Ms **Tiina Haapsalo-Hyvönen**

10.00 Open and roadside churches and pilgrimages

- Genius loci – a research project on local pilgrimage routes in Central Ostrobothnia, Finland,

Dr **Ilkka Luoto**

- St Jacob's pilgrimage, the Rev. **Soili Juntumaa** and a pilgrimage in Espoo, the Rev. **Terhi**

**Muilu-Teinonen**

- Dag Hammarskjöld pilgrimage route in Luleå Diocese, Sweden, the Rev. **Lennart Lindquist**

12.00 Lunch

13.00 Holy encounters on the road, Bishop **Björn Vikström**

14.30 Departure to Sipoo

15.00 A guided tour to Sipoo Old Church, the Rev. **Helene Liljeström** and Dr. **Markus Hiekkänen**

- 16.30 Excursion continues to St. Anna Children's Church in Vantaa, the Rev. **Tiina Palmu** and then back to Hotel in Helsinki
- 19.15 Departure (walking) to the Lutheran Cathedral from the Hotel
- 19.30 Visit to Helsinki Lutheran Cathedral, at the city centre of Helsinki; presentation (in Swedish) by the Rev. Dr. **Suvi-Päivi Koski**
- 20.30 Dinner in the Crypt of Helsinki Cathedral

## Thursday, 19 August

Sharing of experiences.

- How do we meet people in our church buildings?
- Information about the Open and roadside churches: maps, websites etc.
- Does a church building and its interior speak about the Gospel? What are the theological implications of church architecture?

- Breakfast at the hotel
- 08.40 Departure to the Orthodox Cathedral from the lobby of the Hotel
- 09.00 A tour at the Orthodox Uspenski Cathedral  
Fr **Raimo Huttu** will introduce the Cathedral and its liturgical life
- 10.00 Presentations of Open and roadside churches, Part I
- 12.00 Lunch
- 13.00 Presentations of Open and roadside churches, Part II
- 14.30 Holy Architecture - and the meaning of Silence, the Rev. **Pekka Huokuna**,  
Concluding remarks, Dr **Jaakko Rusama**
- 15.00 Coffee

- Host: Dr. **Jaakko Rusama**, University of Helsinki and chairman of the Finnish Society of Hymnology and Liturgy
- Hostess: The Rev. **Erva Niittyvuopio**, Secretary for Sami church work, the Diocese of Oulu

The Registration form to be returned by e-mail to [terttu.etelamaki@kolumbus.fi](mailto:terttu.etelamaki@kolumbus.fi) as soon as possible. She will also be happy to give further information of the conference if needed.

The conference fee is 420 € which includes the meals (two lunches and dinner) and the hotel accommodation for two nights OR 220 € without accommodation.