

PROVIDENCE CHURCH Prayer for the Nations

Finland

General Information

- Population: 5.5 million.
- Capital: Helsinki.
- Situated in the region of Northern Europe. It is bordered by Sweden to the west, Norway to the north, Russia to the east, and Estonia to the south across the Gulf of Finland.
- In terms of area, it is the eighth largest country in Europe and the most sparsely populated country in the European Union.
- In 2013, the Evangelical-Lutheran Church of Finland had about 4.1 million members, which is 75.2% of the population.

Challenges

- The number of church members leaving the Church saw a rapidly increase in 2010, partly due to some conservative politicians' controversial views that homosexuality is a sin.
- The majority of Lutherans attend church only for special occasions like Christmas, Easter, weddings and funerals. The Lutheran Church estimates that approximately 2 percent of its members attend church services weekly. The average number of church visits per year by church members is approximately two.

Prayer

- Evangelical church movement to increase.
- Christ Church of Oulu. According to their website (below), the first and only Reformed church in Finland.

Reference

- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Religion_in_Finland
- <http://www.operationworld.org/fin/>
- <http://ouluchurch.com/>