

KYLÄLÄINEN THE VILLAGER

HOLIDAY
EDITION
2025



Dear Residents of Finlandia Village,

As we gather to celebrate this joyful Christmas season, I want to extend my heartfelt appreciation to each of you for the warmth, kindness, and community spirit that make our village such a special place to call “Home”.

This year has been filled with many bright moments—from the laughter at the annual Presidents Dinner to honour Brian Koivu, the Sling Choker SISU Walk with Lasalle High School, to the small acts of care neighbors show one another every day. Our village continues to thrive because of you.

We also look forward with great excitement to the year ahead. Our new construction project, now well underway, will be completed in the Fall of 2026, bringing fresh spaces and new opportunities for comfort, connection, and enjoyment. Thank you for your patience and encouragement as this important addition takes shape.

As we enjoy the holiday lights, good company, and the hope that Christmas brings, may the peace of the season fill your hearts and homes. Here’s to a wonderful Christmas and a 2026 New Year filled with health, happiness, and continued community togetherness.

On behalf of all the Finlandia Residents, families, staff and volunteers have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Kiitos / Thank you
David Munch, CEO

*Hyvää Joulua ja
Onnellista Uutta Vuotta!*

Oh What fun it is to ride in the Sudbury Santa Claus Parade!



Finlandia Residents and Volunteers were thrilled to take part in this year's Santa Claus Parade! With Christmas Movies as the theme, we proudly showcased a beloved Finnish holiday film: "Niko: Beyond the Northern Lights," also known in North America as "The Magic Reindeer: Saving Santa's Sleigh."

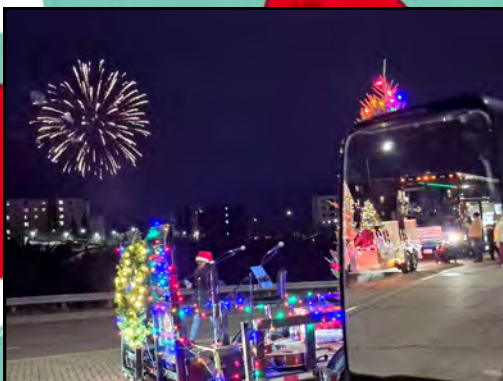
Our Residents and Volunteers had a wonderful time waving at the crowd and the little children along the parade route; it truly put the spirit of Christmas in all our hearts.

Everyone's dedication from planning to decorating helped make the evening magical.

Hyvää joulua—Happy Holidays!



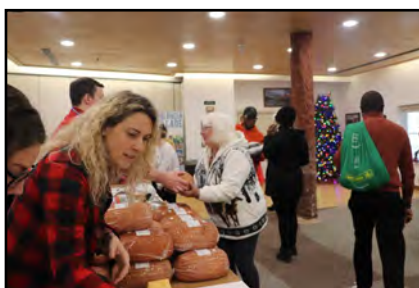
SISU, Volunteer & Cultural Services



DECK THE HALLS



2025 Staff Appreciation Holiday Ham and Turkey Giveaway





MERRY CHRISTMAS



★ YOU'RE A ★ Star ★

We had a stellar time celebrating our amazing Volunteers at this year's themed "You're a Star" Appreciation Event! From Starz Bingo fun to honoring over 40 Years of Service, our volunteers truly shine bright.

Thank you for lighting the way with your brilliant dedication and heart! Kiitos!

Volunteer Services



5 Years

Helen Vaillancourt
Phil Rowe
Lucie Holms
Alice Fortier

10 Years

Maurice Obonsawin
Linda Obonsawin
Lisa Scott
Anja Ojala
Maureen McNamara
Inkeri Kohtakangas
Maggie Julien
Melinda Deschamps
Kathie Davidson
Angele Bisier

15 Years

Riita-Liisa White

20, 25, 30, 35 Years: No Recipients



Raili Koski

Erkki Kinos

Helena Heikkila



Congratulations



Eric Pukara in Concert

Life Enrichment



PRESIDENTS DINNER

*An evening of
celebration, sharing
and SISU*



On Thursday, November 13th, we were proud to host our annual President's Dinner, where we honoured Brian Koivu, former President of both the SISU Foundation and the Sudbury Finnish Rest Home Society.

It was a full house with many friends, supporters, and community members in attendance. The evening was filled with warm conversation, laughter, and fellowship as we celebrated Brian's years of dedicated leadership and his tremendous contributions to Finlandia Village.

Thank you to everyone who joined us and helped make the night so special!



**FINLANDIA
SISU
FOUNDATION
BOARD OF
DIRECTORS**

**Gerry Loughheed Jr.
David Munch
CO-CHAIRS**

**Reijo Viitala
PRESIDENT**

**Ed Reilly
TREASURER**

**Kathie Davidson
Kristina Rivard Gobbo
Jimmy Krats
Diane Laamanen
Maureen McNamara
Hannu Piironen
Shawn Poland
Brian Ramakko
Paul Villgren
DIRECTORS**

**Kirsti Johnstone
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Dear Friends of Finlandia,

The poet Joyce Kilmer wrote... "I think that I shall never see, A poem lovely as a tree. Poems are made by fools like me, But only God can make a tree."

I agree with Joyce Kilmer's observations. Poems are nice but trees are magnificent, especially Christmas trees. It was the tree tradition each year that declared Christmas in our house. My father and I would make the annual tree trek to Mr. Kirk's evergreen emporium on the corner of Regent and Struthers streets. We would return home welcomed by my mother and a cornucopia of ornaments and lights. These decorating moments became family memories of poorly sung carols, tossing of tinsel and hot chocolate with marshmallows. Our cats would play with the flashing lights while the dogs would wrongly consider the tree the installation of indoor plumbing. I still have very "lovely" memories of those trees.

I know this Christmas season family will decorate trees. I know that only God can make a tree. However, Finlandia SISU Foundation is giving us the opportunity to plant a tree with its "Trees of Caring Growing the Future Together Campaign." The tree will bring beauty to the new capital construction of the Tammi Home grounds. All the money raised will be used to provide more senior housing and care.

It's a thousand-dollar commitment. That's significant! The tree will commemorate a significant memory of a loved one or the celebration of an anniversary, a birthday or just a generous gesture inspired by this season of giving. Our poetry is inspired by God's son in the Stable who said, "Love your Neighbour" and we say, "Your sharing helps our caring."

Please use the attached form to plant a tree – remember, when we "pulla" together we make good things happen at Finlandia.



**Gerry Loughheed
Co-Chair**

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A village to call home.

SISU

Finlandia Christian
Foundation

Finlandia
Kirkkotoimikunta

Hyvät Finlandian ystävät,

Runoilija Joyce Kilmer kirjoitti... *"I think that I shall never see, A poem lovely as a tree. Poems are made by fools like me, But only God can make a tree."*

Olen yhtä mieltä Joyce Kilmerin havaintojen kanssa. Runot ovat kauniita, mutta puut ovat suurenmoisia – erityisesti joulukuuset. Joulukuusi oli se vuosittainen perinne, joka toi joulun kotiimme. Isäni ja minä teimme jokavuotisen kuusenhakumatkamme Mr. Kirkin kuusikauppaan Regentin ja Struthersin kulmaan. Palasimme kotiin, missä äitini otti meidät vastaan koristeiden ja valojen runsaudensarven kanssa. Näistä koristeluhetkistä tuli perhemuistoja: nuotin vierestä lauletuista joululauluista, hopeanauhan heittelystä ja kaakaosta vaahtokarkkien kera. Kissamme leikkivät vilkkuvilla valoilla, kun taas koirat pitivät kuusta – aivan väärin – uutena sisävevessä. Minulla on yhä hyvin "ihana" muistot noista kuusista.

Tiedän, että tänä jouluna perheet koristelevat kuusia. Tiedän, että vain Jumala voi luoda puun. Kuitenkin Finlandia SISU -säätiö antaa meille mahdollisuuden istuttaa puun kampanjallaan *"Trees of Caring – Growing the Future Together"*. Puu tuo kauneutta Tammi-kodin uuden rakennushankkeen ympäristöön. Kaikki kerätyt varat käytetään lisäämään senioriasuntoja ja hoivatukena.

Puun istuttaminen on tuhannen dollarin sitoumus. Se on merkittävä! Puu voi olla kunnianosoitus rakkaalle läheiselle tai tapa juhlistaa merkkipäivää, syntymäpäivää tai yksinkertaisesti antelias ele tämän antamisen juhla-aikana. Meidän "runouttamme" inspiroi Jumalan Poika tallissa, joka sanoi: *"Rakasta lähimmäistäsi"*, ja me sanomme: *"Sinun jakamisesi mahdollistaa meidän välittämisen."*

Käytähän liitettyä lomaketta puun istuttamiseen – muista, että kun pulla yhdistää meidät, saamme aikaan hyviä asioita Finlandiassa.



Gerry Loughheed
Co-Chair

Finnish-Canadian Historical Society of Sudbury

Thank you to F.C.H.S. members who helped host 'Doors Open' and display Knights & Ladies of Kaleva archives. Special thanks to Samantha Morel, CGS Museums, for her continued support and advice in our archival storage. It was satisfying for guests to enjoy reading about the past of both organizations. Interest continues in the Finnish roots, culture and heritage.



Finnish Canadian Historical Society
of Sudbury Invites You to

“DOORS OPEN”

Falconbridge Room, Palvelukoti
Finlandia Village

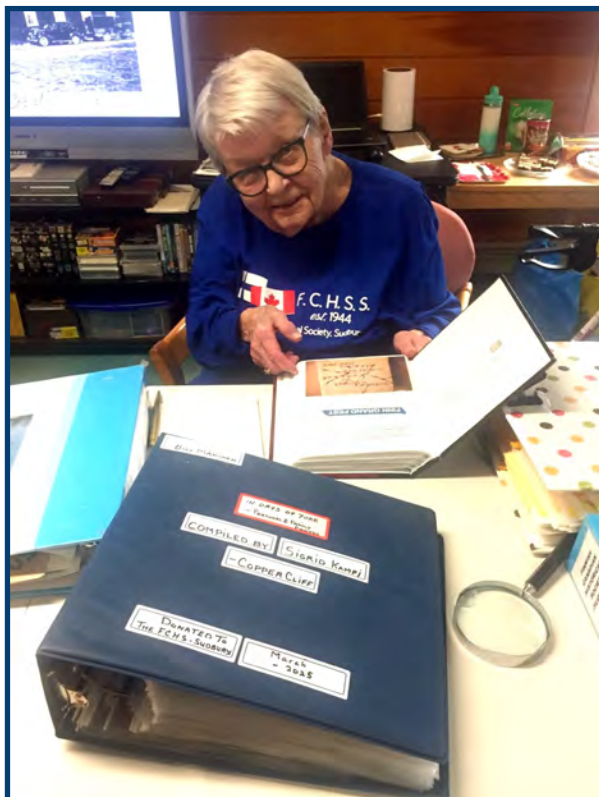
Sunday, November 16 from 1–4 p.m.

ALL WELCOME

View Photo Albums of our Finnish Heritage, families, athletics, business, people, theatre, concerts, musicians, stories/poetry, and Knights & Ladies of Kaleva, Sudbury events, conventions, scholarships, history, and much more.

Check our website www.fchssudbury.com and Burial Database (by Genealogist Martin Neva, 705-692-9106) of over 9,300 individuals of Finnish heritage!

For more information, contact FCHS member
Hilka Helen Mäkelä at 705-561-2134



Kaleva Scholars display over the years.



Monnet kiitokset
kaikille!

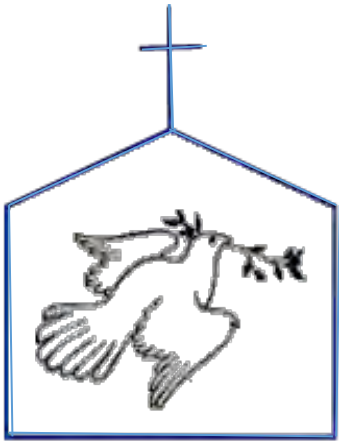


Holly Jolly Christmas

On November 18th, the Rivitalo Tenants hosted their annual **Holly Jolly Christmas Potluck Luncheon**, a Holiday tradition that brings neighbors together to celebrate the start of the festive season. The Finlandiakoti Sali was transformed with holiday décor, and the warm aroma of home-cooked dishes prepared by the residents for everyone to enjoy.

Laughter and conversation filled the room as long-time residents caught up and newcomers were welcomed into the fold. It was a wonderful time to share good food, connect with neighbors, and kick off the Christmas season in a spirit of community and joy.





NEW HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

233 Fourth Avenue
Sudbury, Ontario
P3B 4C3

web: nhlc.ca
phone: 705-673-2933
email: office@nhlc.ca

Joulurauhaa / Christmas Peace ***Seurakuntaneuvosto / Congregational Council***

Tervetuloa joulunajan tilaisuuksiin - Welcome to our Christmas events

7.12	11.00	English Worship Service †(Voima Hall)
11.12	10.00	Christmas Carols / Joululauluja (Finlandia Sali)
14.12	9.30	Kauneimmat joululaulut jumalanpalvelus (Voima Hall:ssa)
24.12	18.00	Christmas Eve Candle Light Service (Voima Hall)
25.12	10.00	Joulukirkko (Voima Hall:ssa)
28.12	9.30	Suom. Messu † (Voima Hall:ssa)

***"Tänään on teille Daavidin kaupungissa syntynyt Vapahtaja.
Hän on Kristus Herra."*** (Luuk 2:11)

***"Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you;
He is Christ the Lord."*** (Luke 2:11)





Winter Wellness

The season brings unique challenges to both physical and mental health, such as increased risk of illness and sedentary behavior. Prioritizing wellness during winter helps to strengthen the immune system, boost mental well-being and maintain physical health.

Stay active: incorporate regular exercise through indoor activities such as yoga, walking or home workouts.

Eat a balanced diet: maintain a healthy diet of fruits and vegetables, whole grains, proteins and healthy fats.

Stay hydrated: water is the best choice!

Stay connected: set a weekly call schedule with friends or family. Embrace technology and keep in touch virtually. Attend Finlandia Village (in-house) activities, music and games.

Establish a routine: consider planning your meals and setting a regular bedtime (this improves sleep quality)! Set aside time for reading, journaling or listening to music.

Be careful outdoors: dress warmly and in layers. Watch for slippery surfaces and limit time outdoors when temperatures or windchill are extreme.



a cozy Christmas music playlist

Brought to you by:

Assisted Living Residents and Team Members

Music has a special way of bringing people together; it lifts our spirits, sparks memories, and makes the season feel extra bright.

This winter, we asked our Residents and Team to share their favorite holiday songs. Here's a seasonal playlist, filled with warmth, laughter, and cheer!

White Christmas – Bing Crosby

Silent Night – Nat King Cole

Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas – Judy Garland

The Christmas Song (Chestnuts Roasting on an Open Fire) – Nat King Cole

O Holy Night – Celine Dion

Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree – Brenda Lee

Blue Christmas – Elvis Presley

All I Want for Christmas Is You – Mariah Carey

Let It Snow! Let It Snow! Let It Snow! – Dean Martin

Feliz Navidad – José Feliciano

Assisted Living

Piparkakut (Finnish Gingerbread Cookies)

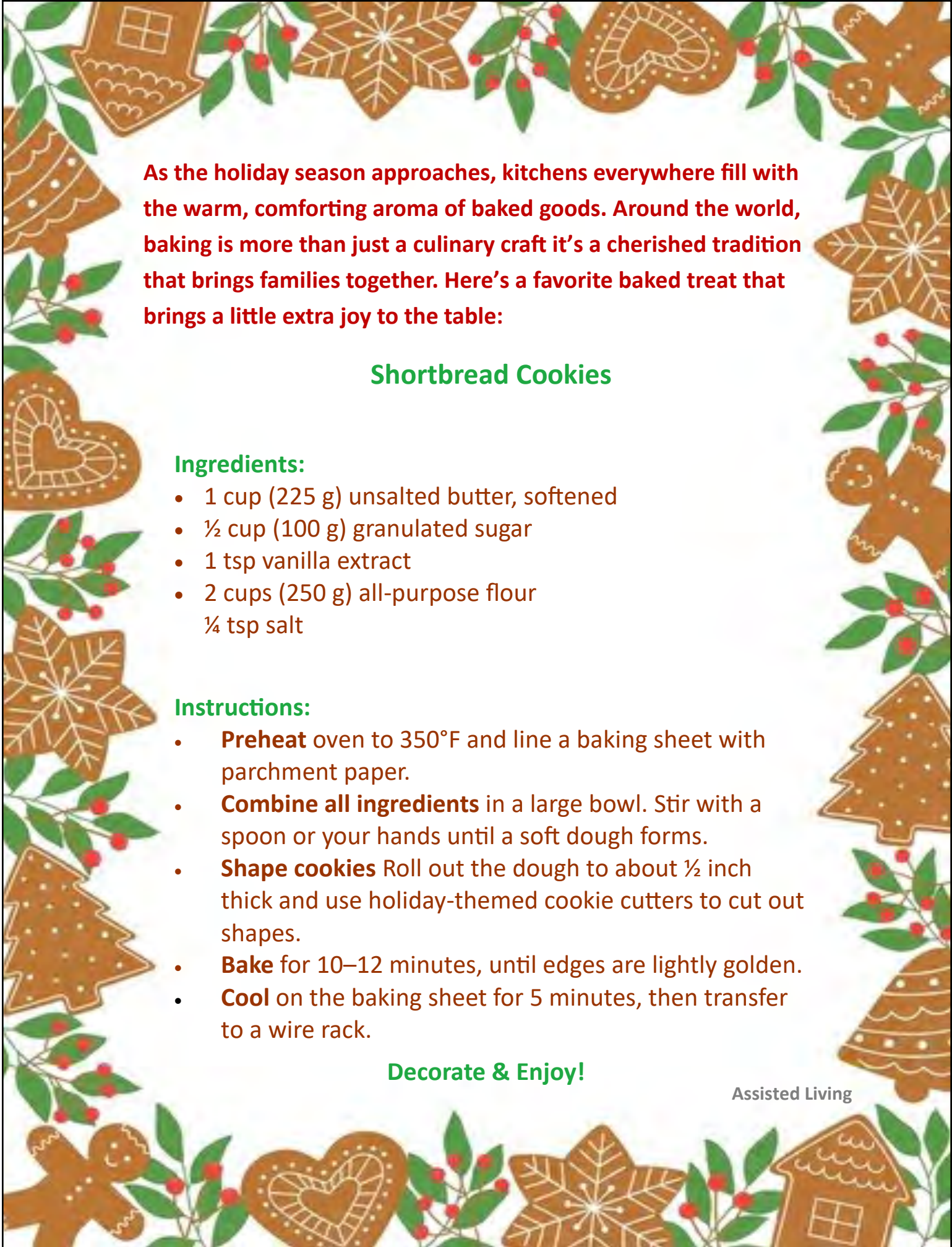
Gingerbread is a staple Finnish Christmas treat, enjoyed on its own or decorated with icing. Some variations involve dipping them into chocolate or serving them with orange-flavored cream cheese.

Ingredients

- 1/3 cup (80 milliliters) Tumma Siirappi dark syrup
- 1/2 cup (100 grams) granulated sugar
- 8 tablespoons (113 grams) unsalted butter
- Zest from 1 orange
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon ground cardamom
- 1 teaspoon ground ginger
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cloves
- 1/4 teaspoon ground allspice
- 1/4 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
- 1 large egg
- 2 1/2 cups (315 grams) all-purpose flour
- 1 1/2 teaspoons baking soda
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- Powdered sugar and/or icing

Instructions

In a small saucepan, combine the dark syrup, sugar, butter, orange zest, cinnamon, cardamom, ginger, cloves, allspice, and black pepper over medium heat. Remove from heat once it comes to a boil and the butter has completely melted. Allow to cool slightly before transferring to a stand mixer or large bowl. Once the mixture starts to simmer and the butter has completely melted, remove from heat. Allow to cool slightly before transferring to a stand mixer or large bowl. Beat the spice mixture until light and pale. Beat in the egg. In a medium bowl, whisk together the flour, baking soda, and salt. Add to the beaten spice mixture until a soft and smooth dough comes together. Divide the dough into two equal pieces, wrap in plastic, and refrigerate 8 hours to overnight. Preheat oven to 350°F (180°C). Line two baking sheets with parchment or lightly grease. Unwrap one piece of dough and place on a floured surface. Keep the remaining dough in refrigerator. Roll the dough into a thin sheet (between 1/8-1/4 inches, 3-5 millimeters thick), flouring as needed just enough to keep it from sticking. Use cookie cutters to cut out desired shapes and arrange at least 1 inch (2.5 centimeters) apart on prepared cookie sheets. Bake in preheated oven until slightly puffed and beginning to darken around the edges. Repeat with remaining dough. Store in airtight container for up to a week. If desired, dust with powdered sugar or decorate with icing before serving. Nauti!



As the holiday season approaches, kitchens everywhere fill with the warm, comforting aroma of baked goods. Around the world, baking is more than just a culinary craft it's a cherished tradition that brings families together. Here's a favorite baked treat that brings a little extra joy to the table:

Shortbread Cookies

Ingredients:

- 1 cup (225 g) unsalted butter, softened
- ½ cup (100 g) granulated sugar
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 2 cups (250 g) all-purpose flour
- ¼ tsp salt

Instructions:

- **Preheat** oven to 350°F and line a baking sheet with parchment paper.
- **Combine all ingredients** in a large bowl. Stir with a spoon or your hands until a soft dough forms.
- **Shape cookies** Roll out the dough to about ½ inch thick and use holiday-themed cookie cutters to cut out shapes.
- **Bake** for 10–12 minutes, until edges are lightly golden.
- **Cool** on the baking sheet for 5 minutes, then transfer to a wire rack.

Decorate & Enjoy!

Assisted Living



Christmas Word Search

S L E S N O W M A N S T A R S
T F N R Z Q G R E E T I N G S
O C R F R O S T Y Y J I N A G
C Z A U E O Q M T M Y I P Y B
K F A M I L Y I M Q D B L A H
I S R R F T V G W I A N G E L
N L C P E I C E T R N V V P D
G E Y H T I U A S Q E I F J S
F I F A R W N Z K M C A B B R
Z G N P I I E D F E A S T T Y
X H U R B J S G E Y O N U H L
Y Q S P I R I T G E Q E G Q H
S S C O L G P K M N R O A E Z
P Q B G I F T C Q A O O P C R
P R E S E N T S G J S G Y X S

Word list:

ANGEL
CHRISTMAS
EGGNOG
ELVES
FAMILY

FROSTY
FRUITCAKE
GIFT
GREETINGS
MANGER

NATIVITY
PRESENTS
REINDEER
SLEIGH
SNOWMAN

SPIRIT
STAR
STOCKING
TIDINGS
WREATH

Name: _____ Date: _____

4 Letter Words

BELL
SNOW

5 Letter Words

ANGEL
COCOA
ELVES
HOLLY

6 Letter Words

LIGHTS
SLEIGH
TINSEL
WINTER
WREATH

7 Letter Words

CHIMNEY
GARLAND
PAGEANT
RUDOLPH
SNOWMAN

8 Letter Words

CAROLING
DECEMBER
EXCHANGE
ORNAMENT
PRESENTS
REINDEER
WRAPPING

9 Letter Words

CHESTNUTS
CHRISTMAS
EVERGREEN
FRUITCAKE
MISTLETOE
NORTH POLE

10 Letter Words

POINSETTIA
SANTA CLAUS

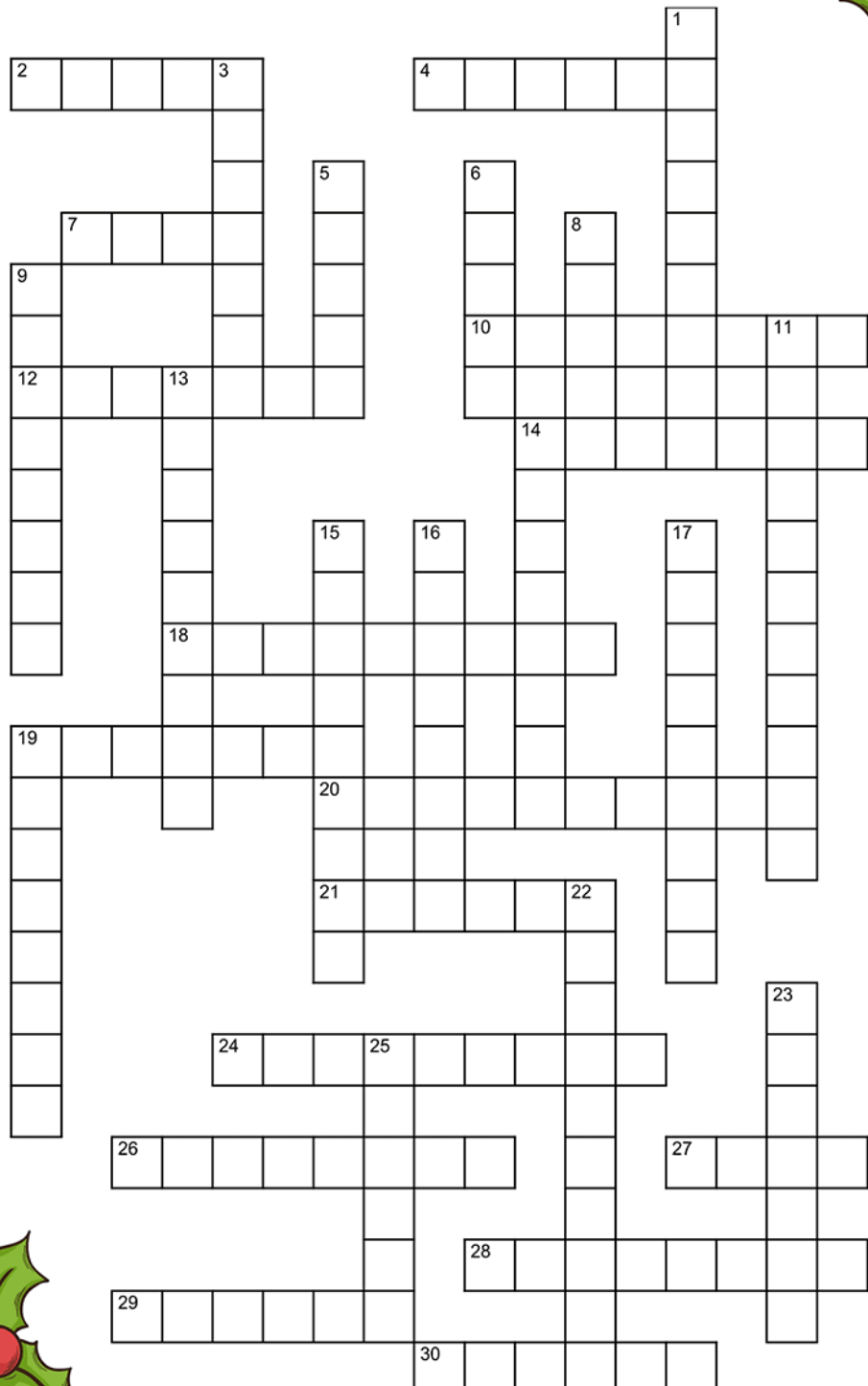
11 Letter Word

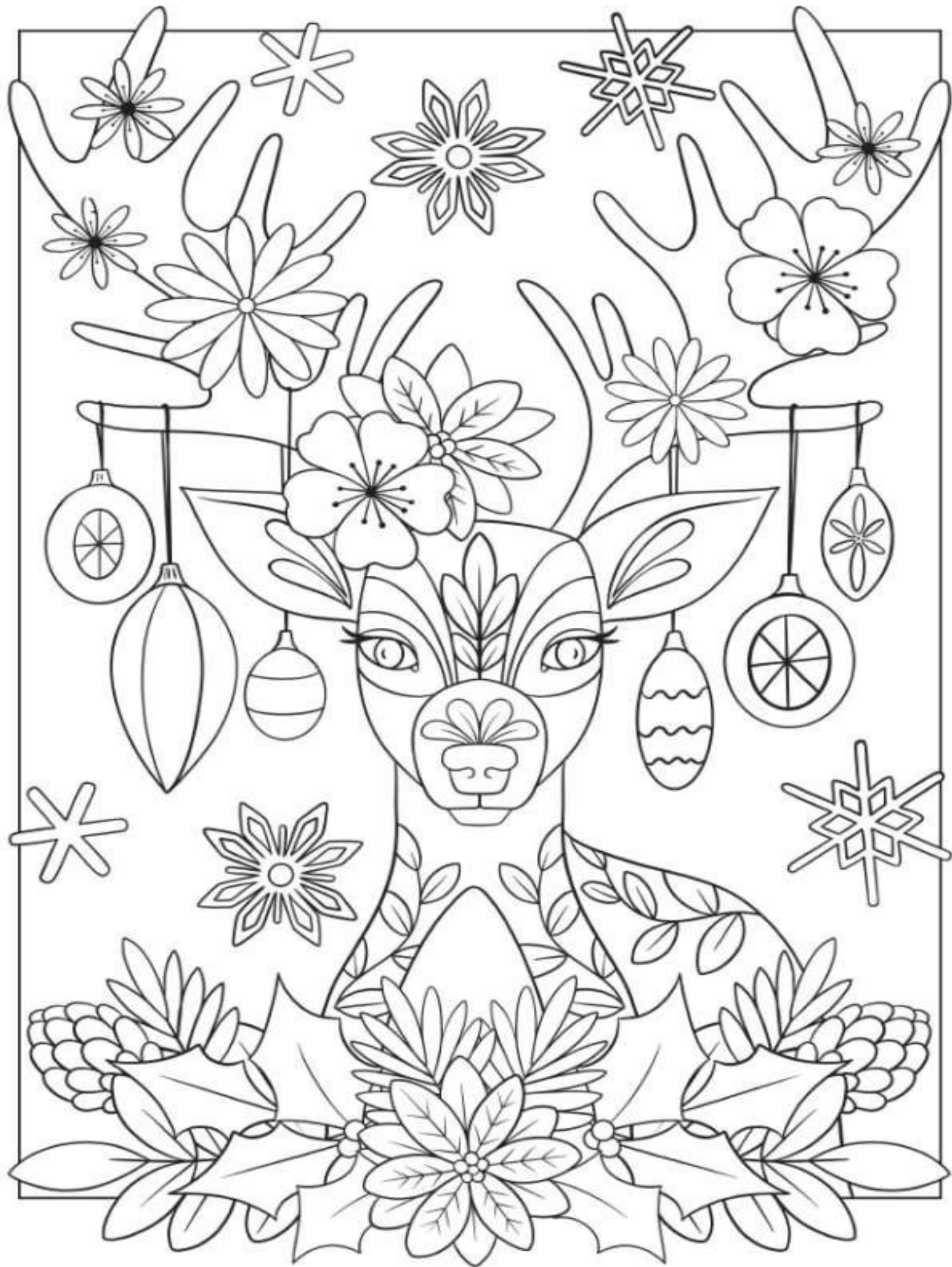
GINGERBREAD

Christmas Joy



DIRECTIONS: Fill in the crossword grid with the provided words.





Varpunen jouluaamuna

Lumi on jo peittänyt kukat laaksoissa,
järven aalto jäätynyt talvipakkasessa.
Varpunen pienoinen, syönyt kesäeinehen,
järven aalto jäätynyt talvipakkasessa.

Pienen pirtin portailla oli tyttökulta:
– Tule, varpu, riemulla, ota siemen multa!
Joulu on, koditon varpuseni onneton,
tule tänne riemulla, ota siemen multa!
Joululahjat

Tytön luo nyt riemuiten lensi varpukulta:
– Kiitollisna siemenen otan kyllä sulta.
Palkita Jumala tahtoo kerran sinua.
kiitollisna siemenen otan kyllä sulta!

– En mä ole, lapseni, lintu tästä maasta,
olen pieni veljesi, tulin taivahasta.
Siemenen pienoisen, jonka annoit köyhällen,
pieni sai sun veljesi enkeleitten maasta.

Holiday Special Events & Activities

DECEMBER 2025

**03: Bussi Trip to Science North
Festival of Lights, 6:30pm**

**10: Bussi Trip to Science North
Festival of Lights, 6:30pm**

**17: Bussi Trip to Science North
Festival of Lights, 6:30pm**

**18: Santa Social & Caroling,
Voima Hall, 2:00pm**

**22: Gail Hakala Finnish & English Caroling
Voima Hall, 2:00pm**

**Be sure to check the monthly calendar and bulletin boards for
newly added Holiday activities throughout December!**

Please call Main Reception to book your seat on the Bussi.