

ARONSEN, VIGGO OSCAR
1923

JEN-977
Box 1
PACKET 28

358

Individual Questionnaire for

Biographical Record of Ministers

of the United Evangelical Lutheran Church (in America) and its parent synods:
The United Danish Ev. Luth. Church, The Danish Ev. Luth. Church Association
in America and The Danish Ev. Luth. Church in North America.

(Compiled for the Synodical Historical Archives)

Personal Data: (Please give all information you can)

Full name: ... ARONSEN, Viggo Oscar

Born when: 4 May 1923 where: Horten, Norway

Baptized when and where: June 1923 in Horten, Norway
Bethany Luth. Ch.

Confirmed when and where: May 1937 Brooklyn, NY by whom: The Rev. H. A. Okdale

If immigrant, date of arrival in America: April 1929 located where: Port. of New York
Univ. Luth. Ch. of Hope ThD

Date of ordination: 30 May 1951 where: Minneapolis, Minn. by whom: The Rev. J. A. Aasgaard,

If not in above synods, when and where accepted as member pastor of our synod: June 23, 1955

Rejoined Ev. Luth. Church and ceased serving ours Aug. 1956

Retired from active ministry when: why:

Located where: occupation:

If dead, what date: where: cause:

Buried where date

Marriage: (1) to whom Betty L. Halverson date and place: 14 Jun 50 at Jasper, Minn.

Wife's birthdate and place: 28 Jul 24 Jasper, Minn.

Her parents: Earl and Anna Halverson location: Jasper, Minn.

If wife is dead, give date

(2) Second wife (if any; give same information about her)

358
Helen C. ...

Children (give names and other information of interest, as occupation, spouse, and present address):

Son Rolf V Aronsen born 30 Sep 51 Summit NJ

Son Jarl O Aronsen born 6 Feb 53 Summit NJ

Daughter Elizabeth L Aronsen born 10 Nov 54 Summit NJ

Other information on family of historical interest, i.e., members in the ministry, missionary work, teaching and medical professions, etc.:

Educational Training: Give name of institution, location, and when attended.

High Schools: Manaul High School Brooklyn NY 1936 - 1940

Colleges (Give also degrees attained): St. Olaf, Northfield, Minn. 1940-41; 46-48.... B.A.

Theological Schools: Luther Tehological Seminary, St. Paul, Minn., 1948-51. CT. BTh.

Honorary Degrees received (give name of institution and date):

Other specific training: Marine engineer; enlisted service US Army; Chaplain

US Army 1951-54

Additional comment on above:

Ministerial Service. Please give in chronological order the names of congregations or charges served, and period of each.

As Seminary student: { 1949-50 Victory Luth, Minneapolis, Minn.
1950-51 St Luke's Luth., Franklin, Minn.

1951-54 Chaplain, US Army

Pastor Salems Lutheran Church, Ovington Ave., Brooklyn, N.Y.
Sept. 1954 - Aug. 1956

(Re-joined Ev. Luth. Church)

REV. P. C. JENSEN
STATISTICIAN & HISTORIAN
UNITED EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH
BLAIR, NEBRASKA

Return this report as soon as possible to

NOTE: Our previous biographical records were lost in the tragic fire that destroyed the office building of the Lutheran Publication House, Blair, Neb., Feb. 15, 1953. Where the synodical historian has had his office, this account for members of their family for correct data. Be assured all cooperation in gathering this historically important data will be highly appreciated. Please fill in what you can, perhaps with the assistance of others acquainted with subject and we may either have it or borrow it, please send it along. All our collection of data was also ruined in the fire. If you can refer us to any person, book or paper that can inform us further, we shall be very much obliged to you.

Offices held in Synod and Districts, and when:

Other activities and official services-at-large (teaching, chaplaincy, editorial, etc., and period of each):

Literary production (books and pamphlets): Give titles and when published.

Additional information of interest:

Date 19 Jan 55

Signed

Yiggo Oscar Aronsen
YIGGO OSCAR ARONSEN

Address: -

229 - 78 Street Brooklyn 9 NY

NOTE: Our previous biographical records were lost in the tragic fire that destroyed the office building of the Lutheran Publishing House, Blair, Nebr., Febr. 15, 1953, where the synodical historian also had his office. This accounts for the detailed questionnaire now. In the case of deceased members of our clergy we are largely dependent upon living members of their family for correct data. Be assured all cooperation in gathering this historically important data will be highly appreciated. Please fill in what you can, perhaps with the assistance of others acquainted with subject. Furthermore, if you have clippings or other material about the person concerned, especially a photo or picture of him, and we may either have it or borrow it, please send it along. All our collection of cuts was also ruined in the fire. If you can refer us to any person, book or paper that can inform us further, we shall be very much obliged to you.

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Parents: Father (give name, birthplace, occupation, residence, etc.) Oscar L. Aronsen b./1/19/.....
Tonsberg, Norway
Born 17 Oct 1895 in Herten, Consulting Engineer
.....res: 21 Homestead Terr., Scotch Plains NJ.....

Mother (give her maiden name, birthplace, home before marriage, etc.) Edith Helen Dibbern.....
Born 6 Mar 1896, Copenhagen, Denmark.....

*New Pastor Aronsen
Family & Address*

The Salem Messenger

SALEMS BUDBRINGER

Salem Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church, 345 Ovington Ave.,
Bay Ridge, Brooklyn 9, New York

Vol. XXVII

DECEMBER, 1954

Number 12



CHRISTMAS IN SALEM

A HAPPY AND BLESSED CHRISTMAS TO ALL!

December 19th, Sunday afternoon at 4 o'clock

Christmas Candlelight Carol Service

Choirs and Soloists

Christmas Eve, December 24th, at 5 o'clock

Danish Liturgical Service—Rev. Hans Brink Jensen

Christmas Day, December 25th

Christmas Service—English—11 o'clock

Rev. Viggo Aronsen

The Choir will participate

Sunday, December 26th

Second Christmas Day Service—English—11 o'clock

Wednesday, December 29th at 7 P.M.

The Children's Christmas Tree

New Year's Morning—Service at 11 o'clock



"PREPARATION FOR JOY"

by Rev. Viggo Aronsen

Two Scripture texts, both quotes from Isaiah, forcefully remind us of the meaning of the Advent-Christmas season:

"Mine eyes have seen thy salvation which thou hast prepared in the presence of all peoples" LK 2:30,31.

"Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight" MT 3:2.

And, preparation is the key to anything which is to bear the word "Well done!" If Advent, and thereby Christmas is to be the high point of 1954 then we must in the literal understanding of the word Advent, "come to", "arrive at" the celebration of the Birth of our Lord fully prepared.

Some Christmas preparation is obvious. Our Church worship and program planning is taking final form even now in many ways. Personal planning for family reunions, time-away-from-work activities, meals and gifts are surely thought out in part.

Even so, the greatest and most necessary preparation which we must make is for our Lord, that we may indeed partake of the fullness of His salvation. Nothing in the world is more dramatic than to personally hear the message of God through His angel that "To you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord." Unbelievers, who in courtesy may be able to indifferently disregard all other portions of Scripture and Christian belief, recoil and are unable to stomach this message. By God's Grace, it is at this time when we Christians present to the world the heart of God revealing His salvation, the way of eternal life for us. The Birth of Christ is the event that guarantees the method whereby God has come to us. It is the way which we place a wedge into the chaos surrounding mankind and say to all "No matter who you are, where you are or what you are, here is the final Word which gives you The Answer: here is Jesus Christ who saves you from your sin and transfers you to His Kingdom."

Our Advent responsibility 1954 is two-fold; as joint heirs with Christ, to work and pray that we may have the most grown-up eyes and ears of faith ever, that we may fully grasp the Joy of Christ's coming to us. And secondly, To present our Lord and to share this Joy with all people. It is our Christian duty to reflect God's love for us and our love for Him.

We would arrive at Christmas fully prepared. We would have the time as the high point of 1954. We would have God's approval "Well done, you good and faithful servant." We therefore pray that The Holy Spirit will be our constant Guide as we plan each day until we shout:

"Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace among men with whom He is pleased."

Korrespondancer

PASTOR JAMES C. PETERSONS RAPPORT
OM UTAHMISSIONEN
(Oversat af Redaktionen)

Naar der er kirkelig Fremgang glædes alle sande Troende hvor som helst. Paa mange Steder plantes Kirken i Dag i hurtigt voksende Residenskvarterer, og Familier flokkes omkring Kirken fordi det „er en god Ting, særlig for Børnene og de Unge.“ Maaske intet dybere Motiv spores til at begynde med, men en gylden Anledning gives Præsten og hans Medarbejdere til at danne Menighed med Mulighed for hurtig Vækst.

I andre Kommuniteter tager det længere Tid og særlige Betingelser før Forandringer sker „ved den samme Aand,“ saaledes som det beskrives i Acta 19, at da Paulus virkede i Ephesus var der „mange som troede Ordet og de kom og bekendte deres Gerninger; mange, som havde drevet Trolddom bare deres Bøger sammen og opbrændte dem offentlig. Saa kraftigt voksede Herrens Ord og fik Magt.“ Maaske vi i vor Tid burde raabe til Himlen om mere af den Slags Vækst i Kirken og Menighederne. Vore kirkelige Fædre lagde særlig Vægt paa den „indre“ Kirke i Forhold til den „ydre.“ Maaske mistede de en Del Territorium i Mangel paa et bredere Udsyn for det, vi i Dag kalder „expansion of missions“; dog, alligevel, lad os være enige om at de plantede i vor Kirke et Begreb om det „indre,“ som, afklædt dets Donatisme, bør altid næres iblandt os i allerbedste Forstand.

Vor Utahmissions Vækst har været lille gennem Aarene, og er fremdeles for langsom for den, der har set Menigheder vokse. Men en ærlig og oprigtig Vurdering af Tabor Mgh.s Liv og Fremsyn i Dag vil overbevise enhver om, at vort Samfund handlede viselig i *ikke at opgive sin Mission her*, ligesom den norske Kirke og Ohio Synoden gjorde for Aar tilbage. Det er ikke urigtigt at sige, saa vidt man kan bedømme det, at alle de 47, som sluttede sig til Menigheden i 1954, kom som Følge af en afgjort aandelig Trang. Dette gælder især to Familier, der var kommen fra Danmark for at blive Mormoner, men under Guds Ords Paavirkning blev de ført tilbage til deres Fædres Tro og Kirke; dette Princip gælder ligesaa vel hjemmefødte Utah Borgere, der omvendes, og Lutheranere, som bosætter sig her og finder det gavnligt nøjere at overveje deres personlige Gudsforhold og tage et eller andet Standpunkt.

Vor numeriske Fremgang i Medlemstal bliver holdt nede ca. 50% ved Overførelser til lutherske Kirker i andre Stater; af de 47 optagne sidste Aar blev de 24 saaledes overført ved Flyttebrev. Selvfølgelig er saa-

Ægtepar faar Ledelsen af Arbejdet i hver Zone. De enkelte Deltagere lover at anvende en Aften om Maanedens til at besøge kirkeløse Hjem og der vidne om deres Frelser. — En Komite er udnævnt af Diakonraadet til at varetage „Forward with Christ“ Indsamlingen. Man agter at faa hver fjerde voksen Medlem til at deltage i Husvisit og Indsamlingen. — Gennem Fastetiden blev der afholdt Frokostmøder for Mænd paa YMCA Kl. 6:30-7:30 hver Mandag, med tre korte Taler ved hver, to af Past. Olsen og Past. Alvin Petersen og een af en Lægmand.

Salems Menighed, Brooklyn, N. Y., afholdt en Velkomstfest for deres nye Præstefolk, Pastor og Mrs. Viggo O. Aronsen, Søndag d. 13. Marts. Skønt de havde tiltraadt Kaldet sidste Efteraar blev den offentlige Modtagelsesfest udsat paa Grund af at man ventede paa hans Optagelse i vort Kirkesamfund og dermed hans officielle Indsættelse i Embedet. Da saadan Optagelse sker ved Samfundets Aarsmøder, maa man afvente Tiden til det næste holdes nu i Juni. Derfor besluttede Mgh. at have Velkomstfesten nu, da den er uafhængig af det andet. Thi Pastor Aronsen har vundet god Indgang blandt Menighedsfolkene, og det gav man ogsaa Udtryk for ved Festen, idet over 150 Gæster var tilstede i Kirkens Auditorium, hvor en fin Festmiddag var anrettet i den pyntede Spisesal. Ikke mindre end 12 Præster var til Stede og repræsenterede forskellige lutherske Kirker og Missioner i Omegnen, flere fra ELC Menigheder, da Pastor Aronsen jo saavidt tilhører dette Samfund. Ingen fra vort Samfund var tilstede, da Pastor Edward Hansen fra Teaneck, N. J., var forhindret i at komme; men den danske Sømandspræst, som under Vakancen havde varetaget de danske Gudstjenester, Hans Brink Jensen, var med Frue tilstede, ligesaa Dr. Geo. F. Hall fra Nat. Luth. Council. Mgh.s Formand, George Shoremount, dirigerede Programmet, assisteret af Pastor W. Asper fra Trinity (norske) Kirke, der introducerede de besøgende Præster, og alle ønskede de de nye Præstefolk velkommen samt Held og Lykke i Arbejdet i Salem. Pastor Aronsens Fader, Hr. Oscar Aronsen, fortalte Træk fra Sønnens tidligere Dage som Barn og Yngling. Flere af Mgh.s Folk talte paa de forskellige Underorganisationers Vegne og udtrykte deres Glæde ved atter at faa fast Præst. Tilsidst blev Ordet givet til Pastor Aronsen, der udtalte sin og Hustrus Tak for den opmuntrende Hyldest. Pastor L. P. Qualben fra Staten Island sluttede med Velsignelsen. — Der har været stadig Tilgang i Kirkebesøget og de besøgende Nabopræster fik Indtryk af den gode Aand, de sporede i Salems Menighed. — Pastor V. O. Aronsens Hjem er paa 229-78. St., Brooklyn, N. Y., og hans Kontor er i Kirken paa 345 Ovington Ave., Brooklyn. Telefon: SHore Road 8-4204; i Hjemmet TErrace 9-1049.

SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

345 OVINGTON AVENUE
BROOKLYN 9, NEW YORK



Pastor: VIGGO OSCAR ARONSEN

Parsonage
229 - 78TH STREET
BROOKLYN 9, N. Y.
TERRACE 9-1049

19 January 1955

The Rev P C Jensen
United Evangelical Lutheran Church
Blair, Nebraska

Dear Pastor Jensen:

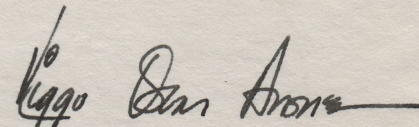
It will be a long time before I get "settled" in Brooklyn and this is especially true in reference to records and administrative work both for the congregation and for myself.

I trust that the enclosed biographical record is sufficient for your files. I realize that it might well be expanded but then that can be done when you and I can sit down together one day to discuss such details!

Thanks for the letter which you wrote and also for the personal greetings which you sent with Dr. O G Malmin. Dr Malmin has been a "spiritual father" and close friend for several years.

The work at Salem is a wonderful challenge and is filled with great possibilities. By the grace of God everything appears to be moving.

In Christ's service,



VIGGO OSCAR ARONSEN

VOA/s

Enc: Bio record.