

JEN-977
Box 4
PACKET 35

KIRKEGAARD, LEIF ANCKER

323 Leif Anker Kirkegaard

4

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: Leif Anker Kirkegaard

Born when: Jan. 4, 1913 where: Minneapolis, Minn.

Parents: John Kirkegaard & wife Martha, nee Olsen (only son)

Baptized when and where: St. Peter's Danish Luth. Church, Mpls.; A. J. Tappgaard

Confirmed when and where: ? by whom:

was with his mother in Denmark 1920-23

If immigrant, date of arrival in America: located where:

June 22, 1947, at Danish Ev. Luth. Church Conv., Racine, Wis

Date of ordination: where: by whom: Rev. S. D. Rodholm

If not in above synods, when and where accepted as member pastor of our synod: June 16, 1950 at Conv. in Hutchinson, Minn.

Retired from active ministry when: why:

Located where: occupation:

If dead, what date: where: cause:

Buried where: date

Marriage: (1) to whom Ellen Miller date and place: 1936, Askov, Minn.

Wife's birthdate and place: 19

Her parents: location:

If wife is dead, give date Oct or Nov 1968

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

age 52
DOB 11/7/1968

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

B.A. from U. of Minn. 1936

Other specific training: For High School teaching and administrator.....

Additional comment on above:

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

St. John's Danish Luth. Church, Ringsted, Iowa. 1946- 1950;

Nazareth Dan. Luth. Church, Standard, June 1950 - 1956

St. Ansgar Dan. Luth. Church, Winnipeg, Man. 1956 - Febr. 1958

Bethany Luth. Church, West Branch, Iowa, 1958- 1962

Firth Luth. Church, Gilmore, City, Iowa 1962 - 68

NOTE: Our previous biographical records were lost in the tragic fire that destroyed the office building of the Lutheran Publishing House, Blair, Neb., Feb. 12, 1953, where the synodical historian also had his office. This accounts for the missing data in what you can perhaps with the assistance of others acquainted with subject 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. All our collection of this was also ruined in the fire and we may either have it or borrow it please send it along. If you can refer us to any person, book or paper that can inform us further, we shall be very much obliged to you. Return this report as soon as possible to

REV. F. C. JENSEN
STATISTICAL HISTORIAN
UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH
BLAIR, NEBRASKA

Offices held in Synod and Districts, and when: President Iowa District, DELC, 1949-50
President West Canada District, UELC, 1954-56.

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

Principal of Junior Highschool, New Rockford, N.D. 1939-43
Highschool...Instructor at Lewistown, Montana 1943-44
Principal of Highschool at Rushford, Minn. 1944-46

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

Additional information of interest:

Date 5/14/1966 Signed P.C.Jensen

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.

Return this report as soon as possible to

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

Rev. L. A. Kirkegaard
159 Oakview Ave. E.K.
Winnipeg 5, Man.
Canada

Rev. P. C. Jensen
Elair, Nebr.
USA

Dear Pastor Jensen:

From Pastor Ole Larsen I have received some correspondence that you have had with him regarding the reason's ~~for~~ my resigning from the Winnipeg charge. ^I Let me say that ^I appreciate the consideration that has made you attempt to discover the facts before publishing anything. From your letter ^I gather that others have not been so scrupulous. Again, thank you.

My own inclination is to let the whole matter drop. ^I have accepted a letter of call from West Branch, Iowa; and we will go there early next month. That bit of news should put an end to those reports that I have left the ministry.

As for the matter of Church and Home ^I will just say that perhaps this drastic action will help the District make up its mind to both have a paper and to supportit wholeheartedly.

With the best regards,

L. A. Kirkegaard

*used in L.A.
for Feb. 76*

Winnipeg, Man., Canada. Pastor
Leif Kirkegaard of Standard, Alber-
ta, has accepted the call from Winni-
peg and Ostenfeld. He expects to take
charge August 1. 1956

spoke of New Visions and New Ideas. He performs. Rev. Marius Krog. He mentioned the many good spiritual things we receive at our Conventions that leave a glow in our hearts which we should keep.

Before the meeting closed Rev. Edwin E. Hansen, Pastor, and Mr. Aage Englbrcht, acting chairman, of th Racine congregation thanked both hosts and guests for their work and participation in the Convention.

Many of the guests also expressed thanks for the hospitality shown us. Rev. Alfred Jensen then closed the Convention with a prayer after which a hymn was sung. Thus another Convention has become history, with its many pleasant memories of good things heard and friendships renewed.

Ernest D. Nielsen, Secretary
Ellen H. Andersen, Asst. Sec.

Vitae

I, Harold Nielsen Riber, was born in Dwight, Illinois, Feb. 27, 1923, third of four children born to Kressten Riber and Kristine Riber, nee Larsen. I was baptized by the Rev. J. C. Aaberg, and was confirmed by the Rev. S. Kjaer at St. Peter's Evan. Luth. Church in Dwight, Ill.

I have no doubt that the early training that I received as a boy in my home, under the guidance of my parents, is the most important single factor in my being led into the Christian faith. To express gratitude in words for this guidance would be impossible; my hope is that I shall be able to continue to foster within my own life and in the life of others that same spirit of love. Remembrances of the active interest that my parents have taken in the teachings of Christ and the principles of His Church, have been, and will always be a source of spiritual strength for me.

In the spring of 1940, I was graduated from the Dwight Twp. High School, and the following autumn I entered the Junior College at Grand View in Des Moines, with the intention of taking one year of pre-medical training at that school. Here, for the first time, I encountered many young men who were interested in, and others who were preparing themselves for work in a field that I had many times previously thought about, but had never seriously considered as my own life's work. Before the end of the first semester I had become intensely interested in the frequent theological discussions that were

held in the dormitory, and was greatly impressed by several of the seminary students. Though the desire to pursue this field of thought continued to grow, the desire to study medicine did not subside. The logical step, I thought, was to combine the two, and enter foreign mission work. After attending the annual convention of the American branch of the Santal Misison at Racine, Wis., in the spring of 1941, where I discussed the matter with missionary Rev. B. A. Helland, I decided to prepare for that work.

Since that time many factors have come to play upon my earlier decision, and the medical aspect has been discarded. I entered the seminary in September, 1942 (at Grand View), and graduated in January, 1945. During that time I was granted a leave of absence and attended the Divinity School of the University of Chicago for a period of six months (Winter and Spring Quarters of 1944). On November 23, 1944, I was united in marriage to Miss Mary Louise Olsen of Des Moines, Iowa. After graduation from the seminary, I took a semester's work at Augsburg College in Minneapolis, Minn., and then matriculated at the University of Minnesota, where I received my B. A. degree on August 30, 1946.

Being reared in a Christian home and gaining further religious training through Sunday School, Young Peoples Society, and Church membership, I have often felt, especially in the past few years, that my outlook on life has been quite nar-

From Danish Ev. Luth. Church
Yearbook 1944

row and restricted, rather than comprehensive and broad. Although many earlier religious beliefs have been altered and new ones have been adopted, at no time during my educational training has my faith in God ceased to grow, and today that faith is the dynamic force which compels me to seek a position in the ministry of the Christian Church.

The desire to enter foreign mission work has increased, and in January, 1945, my wife and I were accepted by the Executive Board of the Santal Mission of India, as candidates to work in that mission. Having received a call from the General Board of the Santal Mission, American Branch, to serve as a missionary of the Gospel in India, it is my sincere desire that the Board of Ordination of the Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church in America will accept my application for ordination.

—HAROLD NIELSEN RIBER

V I, Leif Ancker Kirkegaard, was born in Minneapolis, Minnesota, on January 4th, 1913, the only son of John Kirkegaard and Martha Kirkegaard, nee Olsen. I was baptized in the Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church by Rev. A. J. Tarpgaard.

My parents were active in the life and organizations of the Danes in the Twin Cities. At the age of seven I went with my mother to Denmark where we stayed for three years. From the period I was a pupil in the Copenhagen Public Schools I particularly remember one of my teachers, a Mr. Olsen of Frederikundsvej School who taught religion and history. He has always been my ideal as a teacher.

Some years after our return to this country I became a student of the academy at Grand View. I completed my high school in 1931 and attended the college during the following year.

At this time I was uncertain as to my future work. I considered the ministry and one of my teachers, Johannes Knudsen, encouraged me, but I decided otherwise.

I enrolled as a student at the University of Minnesota, first as a pre-

law student, later changing to teaching, majoring in sociology and history. In the skeptical and mechanistic atmosphere that prevailed at the university my religious convictions were put to the test. I realized the need for a Christian faith but I did not have one strong enough to withstand the doubts that arose.

In 1936 I married Ellen Miller of Askov, Minnesota. As I continued my search for religious certainty my mother suggested that I hear Dr. Mecklenburg of Wesley Methodist Church in Minneapolis. His dynamic and positive approach to Christianity impressed me. My wife and I joined his church. I taught a Sunday School class of boys from the surrounding downtown neighborhood of the church.

In 1939 we moved to New Rockford, North Dakota, where I became junior high school principal. We became members of the local Methodist church. The more I saw of church work the more I realized that it was fully as necessary as the school. We attended a summer camp of Glenn Clark's at Paynesville, Minnesota, and were deeply impressed by the richness of the Christian fellowship that we found there.

In 1943 Rev. Bauman, our minister at New Rockford, had me elected lay preacher by the congregation and with the approval of the district superintendent. Beyond conducting a few services at the New Rockford Church I did not act on this kind invitation to join the ministry.

We moved to Lewistown, Montana, during the same year and after teaching there until the following spring I accepted the position of high school principal at Rushford, Minnesota.

Here I for the first time thought seriously of becoming a minister. The town was mainly Norwegian and the Lutheran Church was an active force in maintaining the high standards of the community. I became increasingly certain that small as one's part might be, there could be no more important work than serving God and the Church.

It seemed only natural and right that I should ask to serve the

church of my fathers so I wrote to ask Dr. Johannes Knudsen if this was possible. With his guidance and that of Rev. Alfred Jensen it was arranged that I should prepare for the ministry during the winter and spring of 1946 and 1947. Rev. S. D. Rodholm and Rev. V. S. Jensen helped me with my studies which were carried on while I continued my work in Rushford.

In the spring of this year I received and accepted a call to serve as pastor of the congregation of St. John's Church at Ringsted, Iowa. I have applied to the Board of Ordination of the Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church for ordination in order that I might serve this congregation.

May God be with us in the work that lies ahead.

—LEIF A. KIRKEGAARD

I, Warren Clayton Nielsen, was born at Lake Benton, Minnesota, on May 14, 1923, the second of five children born to Harald J. P. Nielsen and Alma, nee Hanson. I was baptized in the Diamond Lake Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church by Rev. Henrik Plambeck.

My childhood and early youth were spent on our farm in Diamond Lake township where I grew unconsciously, and later consciously, in Christian faith and knowledge. Since my mother came from the United Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church, I have the influence and background of both our Danish churches as a heritage. During my childhood our own local church was without a pastor much of the time, so, together with my parents, I attended churches of different denominations, a fact which has made me more tolerant and understanding of other Christian groups.

Although my parents never mentioned it directly, I know and knew they cherished the idea that I would some day decide to enter the ministry. One of the vivid memories of my childhood is that of father and mother singing in various churches as well as at home where we all gathered around the piano to sing. I cannot say when I decided to enter the ministry; it seems that I grew up with the idea.

It was firmly in my mind when I entered confirmation class, and the conviction has never left me. No words can express the deep gratitude I feel towards my father and mother whose thoughts and prayers have been with me. My father was killed in an automobile accident in the fall of 1938, while I was a senior in high school. My mother continued to make our home for us and her faith and love have been a constant source of inspiration.

I was confirmed at the age of thirteen on May 2, 1937, in the first confirmation class of the Rev. Harald Ibsen. The instruction that he gave us added to my desire to enter the ministry, and his encouragement did not fall on unhearing ears. It was largely through his influence that I decided to enter Grand View College. Had it not been for that influence, I might have gone elsewhere, but I am happy for the choice he helped me to make, for I feel that I came to the right place. After two years at Grand View, I matriculated at St. Olaf College where I completed my general college training. The friends I made there and the influences I felt, as well as the courses which I took, have been of great assistance to me in my subsequent work in the seminary. I was graduated with the Bachelor of Arts degree on June 4, 1944. The following day I began my work in the theological seminary.

The years of preparation seemed to have been but a few short weeks. Now, I felt, I was really to begin my final and greatest preparation for the ministry. The years in the seminary have possibly not been my most inspiring years (I did not expect them to be), but they have been years of molding and clarification, as well as of fellowship with others of like mind. I am very grateful for them. My theological professors have all contributed to making my seminary days a time when I could grow and deepen my spiritual roots. I would thank each one for his contribution.

The summer months of both 1945 and 1946 were spent in serving the Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church at Denmark, Kansas, as student pastor. These two summers

have helped to deepen the desire to serve, as a pastor, our Lord and Savior. They have also been invaluable in helping me to apply and to see the importance of my seminary work. In some ways, these two summers have been the most inspiring of all the work of preparation for the ministry, probably because I have felt a partial fulfillment of my deepest ambitions.

I have received and accepted a call to serve the Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church at Denmark, Kansas. In accordance with the regulations governing such proce-

sure, I have applied to the Board of Ordination of the Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church of America for ordination as a pastor in order that I may serve that congregation and the Church of Jesus Christ on earth. It is my hope and prayer that I may serve with diligence and proper humility.

CLAYTON NIELSEN

November 18, 1946

*Clayton Nielsen was ordained in Luther Memorial Church, Des Moines, Iowa, February 9th. 1949

En Bekendgørelse af Redaktøren

Da jeg den 17 October indgav min Afsked som Præst i Winnipeg blev det ogsaa en Nødvendighed for mig at træde fra som Redaktør af KIRKEN OG HJEMMET, jeg uunerrettede derfor ogsaa derfor Bestyrelsen for Vest Canada Distriktet om det samme, med Forklaring paa at det var ikke at jeg ikke vilde men at jeg under fremtidige forhold ikke kunne fortsætte som Redaktør.

Af praktiske Hensyn indgav Hr. Poulsen sin Afsked som Foretningsfører samtidig.

Jeg er under den Opfattelse at Bladet har sin særlige Mission som et tidstidigt skulde indstilles. Redaktør kommer og gaar, men det er jo meget lettere at standse et Blad end det er at faa det begyndt. Derfor haaber jeg i al Oprigtighed at en Beslutning som efterfølger, og som jeg lader gaa vider i den Form at den kom til mig, ikke realiseres.

I den korte Tid jeg har været Redaktør har jeg ikke givet mig af med Angreb eller Forsvar af en personlig Art fordi jeg mente, og mener endnu, at det ikke er en



Juleklokkerne Kimer

*Skumringen tætnes sig tyst og graa.
I nat falder mørket nænsomt paa.*

*Luften genlyder af klokkeklang.
Det var jo i nat Guds engle sang.*

*Mørkner det om dit hus og hjem,
i nat skinned' lyset ved Betlehem.*

*Har du ej hjem, gaar du vildsom om,
i nat barn Jesus til verden kom.*

*Ja, har du ej hjem i dit eget sind,
saa gaa dog og bed barn Jesus ind.*

*Tro ej han haaner et hjertes klad.
Han lod sig jo føde i Betlehems stald.*

*Han blev jo en vandrer paa smertens vej,
en frelser for barnet i dig og mig.*

— Juleklokkerne kimer

MADS NIELSEN.

Hjælp til Bladets særlige Mission men det modsatte. Nu maa det afgøres en Gang for alle hvad KIRKEN OG HJEMMETS Fremtid skal blive.

Paa Preben Poulsens og mine egne Vegne en Tak til Bladets Læsere og Venner med hjertelige Ønsker for en Glædelig Jul og et Velsignet Nytaar.

Dec. 10, 1957; Calgary, Alta.
Rev. L. A. Kirkegaard
159 Oakview Ave., Winnipeg.

Resolution of Church and Home Paper Committee. Due to resignation of the Editor and Business Manager of the Church and Home, the Committee finds it necessary to lapse publication indefinitely. Subscribers who desire subscription rebates may secure them by writing to the Business Manager within 30 days. The future of Church and Home will be reviewed at the next District Convention. The Commit-

tee is investigating the publication needs of our District and also the possibilities how they can be met. In the meantime the Committee urges our Canadian congregations and correspondents to contribute news items to the Ansgar Lutheran and Luthersk Ugeblad, which desires more news items from Canada.

Rev. O. Larsen,
Secretary

Alle Indsendelser angaaende dette indsendelser angaaende "K. og H."s Fremtid skulle sendes til denne Komitee.

Hvordan er det Muligt?

En dansk journalist beretter følgende oplevelse fra Polen under krigen. Det kunne lige saa godt have været fra Ungarn i dag:

— For halvandet aar siden var jeg med til en gudstjeneste i de egne, i en stor landsbykirke, hvor der lød en kraftig salmesang, bogstavelig taget fra sprukne læber. Bagefter kom jeg til at tale med en kone, som jeg anslog til ca. 60 aar, men hun var ikke mere end 34. Hunger og elendighed havde ældet hende før tiden. Hendes mand sad i en lejr hinsides Ural, tre børn var døde af sult, og to laa afmægtige hjemme paa halmen, for udmattede til at staa op.

Jeg spurgte hende, hvad

KIRKEN OG HJEMMET

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ITEM INVENTORY LIST

JEN-977-4 Jensen, P.C. (1977)

Item#: 3 Sub-item# : f
 Biographical Record of Ministers- Kirkegaard, Leif Ancker. Includes lists of churches served and dates of ordination for the pastors listed.

Letter ID#	To	From	Postdate	Origin	Destination	Language	C/L/I
	Jensen, P.C. (Peder Christian)	Kirkegaard, Leif A. (Ancker)		Winnipeg, Canada	Blair, Nebraska	eng	1

Author	Title	Publisher	Cutter Num.	Volume/Copy	Publication Date(s)
Kirkegaard, Leif A. (Ancker)	UELC Yearbook, 1947	Danish Lutheran Publishing House, Blair			01/01/1947
	CONTENTS: Vita for Kirkegaard, Leif A. (Ancker)				
Kirkegaard, Leif A. (Ancker)	Kirken og Hjemmet				12/12/1957
	CONTENTS: resignation o Kirkegaard, Leif- ed. of Kirken og Hjemmet				