

JEN-977  
Box 6-B  
PACKET 1

OLSEN, CARL METTUS  
1872-1934

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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: CARL METTUS OLSEN

Born when: JAN. 3, 1872 where: VALBY, DENMARK EUROPE

Baptized when and where: FREDERICKSBURG CHURCH, DENMARK

Confirmed when and where: 11<sup>th</sup> APRIL 1886 - SAME AS ABOVE by whom: .....

If immigrant, date of arrival in America: MAY 1892 located where: RACINE WIS.

Date of ordination: JUNE 5, 1898 where: GREENVILLE MICH. by whom: Rev. B. CHRISTIANSEN

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

Retired from active ministry when: 1933 why: ILL HEALTH

Located where: ELKHORN IA occupation: .....

If dead, what date: AUG. 19, 1934 where: ELKHORN IA cause: CEREBRAL HEMORRHAGE

Buried where: ELKHORN IA date: AUG. 23, 1934

**Marriage:** (1) to whom: THEODORA MORGENSEN date and place: DENMARK KANSAS

Wife's birthdate and place: DEC. 9, 1876 - DENMARK KANSAS JULY 27, 1898

Her parents: MR. & MRS. JAMES MORGENSEN location: DENMARK KANSAS

If wife is dead, give date: Aug 29, 1956 at Elk Horn, Ia.

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

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E. M. Olson

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

SAMUEL R. OLSEN - 60 Ralph St. White Plains N.Y.  
EDMOND J. OLSEN - 4350 Wasadeena Flint Mich  
VIDA A. LEYDA - Merritt Dr. Coega Fla Box 304  
ANSELA O. OLSEN - 17 So. Butler Fonda Lee Wis  
HILMA E. S. ALLEN - 3106 Roosevelt Rd Kenosha Wis  
CARL T. OLSEN - Little River Sta. Miami Fla.  
JAMES D. OLSEN - 9490 Ansdell Ave Whiteer Calif

Other information on family of historical interest  
ical profession

Parents: Father (give name, birthplace, occupation, residence, etc.)

SOREN OLSEN CARPENTER -  
VALBY - COPENHAGEN - DENMARK

Mother (give her maiden name, birthplace, home before marriage, etc.)

SOPHIA OLSEN - not known

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

High Schools:

Denmark, Europe.  
Took four years training as cabinet-maker  
in Copenhagen, Denmark, Europe.

Colleges (Give also degrees attained):

Elkhorn College Elkhorn Ia.

Theological Schools:

Theological Seminary at  
Blair Nebraska.

MEMBER OF THE CHURCH  
MINISTERS & MEMBERS  
1952

NOTE: Our Brethren's professional records were lost in the fire of the building of the General  
Conference of the Methodist Church in 1952. We regret that we are unable to furnish you with  
the names of those who served in the past. We are, however, glad to furnish you with the  
names of those who are now serving in the Church. Please fill in your name and the churches  
to which you have belonged. Please also fill in the dates of your service. We are glad to  
hear from you and to hear of your service in the Church.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

each  
For Sister Mrs - 1898 - 1907  
Mr. & Mrs. J. H. Smith + Maple Valley, Pa. 1907-09  
Hartland Mrs - 1909-1917  
Denmark Mrs. 1917-1929  
Leont City Pa. 1929 - 1932

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

Additional comment on above:

Other specific training:

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

Offices held in Synod and Districts, and when:

Secretary Wis. district 10 years  
President Wis. district 10 years  
Secretary of United Evangelical Lutheran  
Church of America in 1926-1933

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 6/28/54 Signed X Mrs Theodora M. Olsen

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

June 30 1954

Rev. P. E. Jensen  
Blair,  
Nebr.

Dear Rev. Jensen:

I had my son Edmund, who lives here in Blair help me fill in the paper you sent me. I hope it is done satisfactory; maybe more could be added, but thought that would be necessary.

I am also enclosing a picture of Rev. Olsen & me, a few years ago, when we lived in Hartland, Wis., & served the congregation. Looking forward to the time our Pension will be raised. am following the news in our church paper each week.

Thanks:

Sincerely,

E. W. Olsen;

2234 Detroit St.  
Blair, Nebr.

Mrs. Rev. Carl M. Olsen

In Memory of

MRS. MARIE THEODORA OLSEN

Born December 29, 1876  
at Denmark, Kansas

Entered into rest Saturday, August 25, 1956  
at Salem Invalid Home, Elk Horn, Iowa  
Age 79 years

FUNERAL SERVICES

Wednesday afternoon, August 29, 1956  
2:00 o'clock at the Salem Home Chapel  
Elk Horn, Iowa

FINAL RESTING PLACE

Elk Horn Lutheran Cemetery  
Elk Horn, Iowa

OFFICIATING PASTOR

Pastor Henry N. Hansen

ORGANIST

Mrs. Anders Hansen

SONGS:

"Den store hvide Flok vi se"-----Solo

Allen W. Hansen

"All the Way My Savior Leads Me"-----Solo

Mrs. Anders Hansen

BEARERS

Pastors:

C. E. Jensen <sup>ELK Horn</sup> Sedoris McCartney <sup>Brayton</sup>  
H. Irving <sup>Jacksonville</sup> Petersen Stanley Larsen <sup>Episa</sup>  
M. P. Bollesen V. R. Staby <sup>Kimballton</sup>  
<sup>Elk Horn</sup>

The deceased, Mrs Marie Theodora Olsen was born in Denmark, Kansas, on December 29, 1876. She was the daughter of James and Christine Mogens<sup>a</sup>en. She spent her childhood and early womanhood days <sup>here</sup> at home in Kansas. As a young woman she attended the Danish Folk Highschool here at Elk Horn. At this place she met a young man, Carl M. Olsen whom she later married. This took place on July 27th, 1898, in her home community at Denmark, Kansas. To this union seven children were born, <sup>5</sup> sons and two daughters.

After his ordination, Pastor and Mrs Olsen went to their new field of labor <sup>the congregations</sup> at Foy Sippi and Saxeville, Wisconsin. ~~Subsequent~~ <sup>Maple Valley and Gillett, Wisc</sup> ~~held pastorates~~ <sup>Went in</sup> in the following communities: Hartland, Wisconsin; Denmark, Wisconsin; and Sioux City, Iowa. They moved to Elk Horn because of Pastor Olsen's health in the fall of 1932. Being encouraged by Pastor Anders Hansen, who at that time was pastor at Elk Horn, Mrs Olsen <sup>was</sup> became the first matron of <sup>what is now Salem</sup> the old people's Home <sup>in a home</sup> that was begun <sup>2 blocks -</sup> in the East end of town.

<sup>a few years following</sup> After the death of her husband in 1934, Mrs Olsen moved to Flint, Michigan, where she lived for 15 years. She arrived at the Salem Old People's Home in June of 1955. A year later, because of ill health, she was transferred to the Invalid Home. Here she was tenderly cared for until her departure from this life. She passed away on Saturday evening, August the 25th, at the age of 79 years, 7 months and 26 days.

Mrs Olsen has been a lifelong member of the Lutheran Church. For 36 years she filled the important place of a minister's wife. Her humble walk by the side of her husband has been an inspiration to many. Those were difficult days in so many ways; but her faith and truth in God never faltered, she was in the true sense of the word, <sup>handmaid</sup> "the handmaid of the Lord."

Mrs. Olsen is survived by her seven children. Samuel of White Plains, N. Y; Edmund of Flint, Mich; Mrs Vida Lyda of Merrit Island, Florida; Ansel of Fondu Lac, Wisconsin; <sup>H. K. M.</sup> Mrs L. K. Allen of Kenosha, Wisconsin; Carl of Miami, Florida, and Daniel of Whittier, California. There are <sup>In addition</sup> ~~also~~ twelve grandchildren and <sup>5</sup> two great grandchildren; <sup>and</sup> One brother, Adolph <sup>who</sup> Mogensen, is also living in Kansas, <sup>Besides</sup> ~~there~~; <sup>there</sup> ~~are~~ many other relatives <sup>who</sup> mourn her departure. We honor her memory and may her memory be blessed among us.

Kaere Pastor Jensen: Hermed sender jeg et Billede af Mrs Olsen- kan du bruge det in L. U.? Jeg tror ikke Familien synes at de skulde betale for "cut" Hendes Obituary er ligeledes tilsendt did hermed. Jeg vil ikke send det til A. L. Redaktør. Han kan faa det fra dig, om han ønsker det.

Fem af de syv Børn var tilstede ved Begravelsen. Hun sove still he some Sol i Vest gaar ned. Det var Kraeft. Hun har lidt meget siden hun kom her til Hjemmet.

Kindly return picture to me- if you use it Fine-but return it anyway.

Med kaerlig Hilsen

Din hengivne

Henry N. Hansen.

*HNH*



Præster. Vi er for Tiden kort paa Præster, og det var derfor opmuntrende at der foreligger Ansøgninger fra to Præster i Danmark om mulig Ansættelse i vort Samfund. Begge har været herovre før, den ene er født her som Søn af en af vore tidligere Præster, som rejste til Danmark, og den anden har studeret herovre, saa begge er det engelske Sprog mægtig, og de har gode Anbefalinger. Vi forstaa, at Pastor emer. N. Chr. Petersen, der med sin Hustru er herovre paa Besøg, nok kunde have Lyst til at give sine sidste Aar i sit gamle Samfunds Tjeneste, dersom der var en Gerning som Hjælpepræst for ham at faa. Han er ganske frisk for sin Alder og med sin Hustru og Datter besøgte os i Blair for en Tid siden.

Harlan, Iowa. Immanuel's Mgh. fik sin nye Præstebolig, der ligger paa Grand Avenue, højtidelig indviet for en Tid siden af Kredsformand C. M. Videbeck fra Atlantic, der selv i sin Tid var Præst i Harlan. Samtidig afholdtes aabent Hus i den gamle Bolig ved Siden af Kirken paa 7de Street, som er forvandlet til Menighedshus og Søndagsskolelokale.

Illinois Kreds Kvindeforbund (W.M.S.) afholder sit aarlige Møde Fredag d. 14. Sept. Kl. 2 under Kredsmødet i Clifton, Ill., og samme Aften Kl. 8 holdes Missionsmøde med Pastor N. B. Hansen, Poy Sippi, Wis., som Hovedtaler. Pastor Hansen er Formand for vort Ydremissionsraad.



Mrs. Marie Olsen

Elk Horn, Iowa. Pastor Carl M. Olsens Enke, Marie Theodora Olsen, afgik stille ved Døden Lørdag Aften d. 25. August 1956 paa Invalidehjemmet her, meddeler Anstaltens Præst, Pastor Henry N. Hansen. I de sidste Maaneder havde hun været saa syg af Kræft, at hun maatte overføres til denne Afdeling efter at have haft sit Ophold paa Salems Alderdomshjem siden Juni 1955, hvor hun for godt

en Snes Aar siden sammen med sin syge Mand var den første Bestyrer. Pastor Olsen døde der d. 19. Aug. 1934 og blev begravet paa Kirkegaarden. Og nu d. 29. August blev hans trofaste Hustru stedt til Hvile ved hans Side efter en Sørgedienstjeneste i Salems Kapel. Pastor Hansen varetog denne og som Ligbærere tjente seks Nabopræster, Clarence Jensen (Elk Horn), M. P. Bollesen (Audubon), Irving Petersen (Jacksonville), Sedoris McCartney (Brayton), Stanley Larsen (Exira) og Victor Staby (Kimballton). Fem af Afdødes syv Børn var tilstede ved Begravelsen og tog Afsked med en trofast og elskelig Moder, hvis Liv og Færd som Præstefrue og Husmoder havde været en Inspiration for mange og hvis Tro paa Guds kærlige Førelse og Sandhedsord aldrig svigtede.

Hun blev født d. 29. Dec. 1876 i et dansk Pionerhjem

i Danmark, Kansas, til Forældrene James og Christine Morgensen og der voksede hun op under meget primitive Forhold. Det Aar, hun blev født, tog Græshopperne Hvedeavlens og de kom igen det næste Aar. Alligevel begyndte de danske Nybyggere at bygge en lille Kalkstenskirke i de Aar, som blev færdig i 1880. Den lille Nybygd bestod kun af 6 Huse og der var Postkontor og en Skole; den nærmeste større By var Salina, ca. 50 Mil borte, hvortil deres Avlinger maatte bringes indtil en Jernbane endelig kom dertil. En dansk Menighed blev organiseret af Pastor O. L. Kirkeberg i 1877 og en Søndagsskole begyndt i 1880, hvor Marie har gaaet og maa ske ogsaa tjent som Lærerinde. De første Præster var A. Becker og F. M. Christensen (Fader til Pastor A. C. Kildegaard); senere kom Ole Gregersen, R. Ravn, J. L. J. Dixen, C. Hasle og Johs. Jensen. En af Lederne i Menigheden var J. L. Nygaard fra Aarhus Egnen, som havde gaaet paa Hindholm Højskole i Danmark og var vakt til Trosoliv gennem Indremissionærerne Jens Larsen og Jens Dyrholm. Jens Morgensens kom fra Sjælland til Kansas i 1870-71 og det er vist en af deres Sønner, Oluf Morgensen, der var den første der fra Kolonien, som tog Lærereksamen og holdt en Tid Menighedsskole i Perth Amboy, N. J. Ogsaa Marie kom paa den danske Højskole i Elk Horn, Ia., og det var her hun mødte sin tilkommende Ægtefælle, den københavnske Snedkersvend, Carl Mettus Olsen, fra Racine, Wis., som i 1892 var kommen til Amerika og var blevet vakt og omvendt ved Pastor H. J. Dahlstrøms Forkyndelse i Emmauskirken. To Aar efter tog han paa Elk Horn Højskole, som da blev købt af „Missionsforeningen“ i Den danske Kirke og blev saa ved „Nordkirken“'s Dan-nelse tillige dette Samfunds Præsteskole. Efter et Aar i Højskolen og to Aar i den teologiske Afdeling, som i Oktober 1896 blev overført med Kirkesamfundet i Den Forenede danske ev. luth. Kirke, var han et Aar paa Trinitatis Seminarium i Blair, Nebr. Den 5. Juni 1898 blev han ordineret under Aarsmødet i Greenville, Mich., og blev saa gift med Marie d. 27. Juli s.A. i hendes Hjem. Deres præstelige Virksomhed begyndte i Poy Sippi-Saxeville, Wis., derefter i Maple Valley-Gillett, Wis., Hartland, Wis., Denmark, Wis. og endte 1932 i Sioux City, Ia., da de paa Grund af Pastor Olsens Helbredstilstand opgav aktiv Præstegerning og flyttede til Elk Horn. I Aarene 1926-32 tjente han Samfundet som Sekretær. Efter sin Mands Død blev Mrs. Olsen nogle Aar i Elk Horn og flyttede saa til Flint, Mich., hvor Sønnen Edmund boede. Alle syv Børn overlever hende; de andre er Samuel i White Plains, N. Y., Ansel i Fond du Lac, Wis., Carl i Miami, Fla., Daniel i Whittier, Calif., Mrs. Vida Leyda i Mirrit Island, Fla., og Mrs. Hilma Allen Kenosha, Wis. Ogsaa tolv Børnebørn og fem i næste Slægtled, samt en Broder, Adolph Morgensen i Kansas, overlever hende. Hun var i Sandhed en Herrens Tjenerinde. Velsignet være hendes Minde!

(Omtalen af hendes Hjemstavn er taget fra andet Bind af Værket „Danske i Amerika,“ hvor Billeder af hendes Forældre findes paa Side 398. —Red.)