

JEN-977
BOX 6-B
PACKET 31

PETERSEN, SIGURD D.
Danskov
1904-1981

229 Sigurd Petersen

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: **Sigurd D. Petersen**

Born when: **1/29/1904** where: **Kenmare, N.D.**

Baptized when and where: **Same year, Trinity, Kenmare**

Confirmed when and where: **Trinity, Kenmare 1918** by whom: **J.A. Larsen**

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

Date of ordination: **6/2/29** where: **Elkhorn, Iowa** by whom: **N.C. Carlsen**

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

Retired from active ministry when: why:

Located where: occupation:

If dead, what date: where: cause:

Buried where date

Marriage: (1) to whom **Marie M. Jacobsen** date and place: **1928 Neenah Wisconsin**

Wife's birthdate and place: **Neenah**

Her parents: **Jacob Jacobsen** location: **Neenah**

If wife is dead, give date **July, 1929**

(2) Second wife (if any; give same information about her) **Dorothy M. Hofstrom**

Marriage: June 29, 1933 at Clinton Wis.

Born ~~1914~~ July "9, 1914 Clinton. Wis.

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

All three in the second marriage and are still at home

Delores

Verla

David

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

Three brothers in the ministry.

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

High Schools: Dana and Hutchinson H.S. at Hutchinson Minn. 1924

St. Olaf College, Dana College, Chicago Lutheran

Seminary, Maywood, Ill, and Trinity Seminary.

Colleges (Give also degrees attained):

Theological Schools:

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

Other specific training:

Chaplain Training at Kansas State Industrial School, and Topeka
State Hospital, Topeka, Kan.

Additional comment on above:

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

Pella , Clinton, Wis. 1929 1933

Our Savior, Owatona, Minn. ~~Trinity~~ Trinity, Blooming Prairie, Minn.

1933- 38

Nazareth, Kenmare, N.D. 1938- 43

Bethlehem, Royal, Iowa 1943 - 49

Emmaus, Racine, 1949-1954 (Sept)

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

Return this report as soon as possible to

NOTE: Our previous biographical reports were lost in the tragic fire that destroyed the office building of the Lutheran Historical Society in 1954. The synodical historian also had his office. This accounts for the missing information in the reports. Be assured all congregations in the synod are highly interested in the members of their family for correct data. Please fill in what you can. We will be highly appreciated. If you can refer us to any person, book or paper that will help us, we will be very much obliged to you. If you may either have it or borrow it, please send it to the address above. We will be very much obliged to you.

Offices held in Synod and Districts, and when:

Parents: Father (give name, birthplace, occupation, residence, etc.)
P.C.K. Petersen Denmark Farmer (last Re) Hutchinson, Minn.

Mother (give her maiden name, birthplace, home before marriage, etc.)
Petrea Danskov Denmark Hutchinson, Minn.

Additional information of interest:

Date 8/2/54 Signed

Sigurd D. Petersen

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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Wisconsin Clergyman Pairs Psychiatry With Ministry

PARSONS, Kan. (AP) —A tall, gentle-voiced clergyman from North Dakota is spending his first Lent in an unusual new offshoot of the ministry—as a psychiatric chaplain.

The Rev. Mr. Sigurd Peterson, a native of Kenmare, N.D., in the Middle West for some 20 years, the most recent in Racine, Wis., said today he found his present job "the most satisfying of my life."

He serves as full-time chaplain at the Parsons State Training School for Mentally Retarded Children. He is a Lutheran.

In preparation for the task, he took a rigorous nine-month course in psychiatry at a Topeka, Kan., hospital. He is convinced religion has much common ground with that branch of medicine.

At the Parsons hospital, which does some pioneer work in the field of mental retardation, the chaplaincy is on an equal basis with other clinical services.

Nearly 500 mentally handicapped children and young people between 6 and 21 are at Parsons.

The minister's religious message is painstakingly adapted to the children's limited understand-

ing, as well as to their individual needs.

Consequently, it is short on theology and abstract theory, long on emotion and simple faith.

"I stress God's love," he said. "The youngsters have very great emotional needs, and I find them profoundly responsive to this aspect of religion."

"One of the things religion has to say to these children is that they are significant in spite of their handicap—that they count equally in God's sight."

The chaplain conducts two services each Sunday morning, one for teen-agers and one for younger children. A priest says Mass for the Catholic youngsters.

Wednesday night there is a service in the form of hymn singing and Bible stories illustrated with slides.

The hospital's psychiatrists are pleased with the way the chaplain's religious work — which also includes a huge schedule of personal counseling — dovetails with their own therapy. This aims at resolving a child's emotional conflicts, developing his mentality as far as possible, and creating a personality adjusted to its handicap.

March 1956

FAM- 975-Box 6

Petersen Family Items given by Edel and Rev. Alvin Petersen
Photographs:

4 Petersen brothers (1936) at Alvin's ordination
Brorson High School Class of 1909-10
Dana College UELC gathering
Hutchinson residents at convention-Kenmare ND 1918
Congregation at Buffalo WY 1921
Reproduced photo of Brorson HS
Unidentified photo-looks like a church gathering

Church booklets:

Immanuel, Minneapolis MN
Main Street, Hutchinson MN-Financial statement 1944
Faith, Hutchinson, MN (ALC)
St. John's, Oregon, WI-75th anniversary booklet &
worship bulletin

Newspapers:

Luthersk Ugeblad, 4/18/1934, 3/27/1935

Books:

Engskow, Ninna (ed.). The Word Goes Forth
Petersen, Edel. Our Missionaries' Birthday Book (3
Petersen, Edel. Tales of an Old Steamer Trunk
(family history)

Books which were placed in the book collection
U.E.L.C. Minnesota District. History of the
Minnesota District of the UELC 1896-1946
Beck, Wilhelm. En lille skatkiste
Krag, P. Daglig Andagt

Book added 10/5/91

Petersen, Alvin. From a North Dakota Homestead
to Homestead Court

Letter added (donated Nov. 1990)

"Til bedstefar fra din sønnesøn Gudmund"

Letter added (donated March 1995)

The Year I Saved Dana (1943)

Packet 2 - (Added April 26, 1995) 87 Round Robin letters
written by Alvin Petersen (1938-1994)
2 Pictures of the participants and their spouses
Talks with God about Heart Surgery by Edel Petersen

Hutchinson, Duane. Pastor Pete

7 letters (1940, 1943, 1944, 1995(4))

3 scanned photos of the ancestors of Alvin Petersen
parents: Petra Damskov and P.C.K. (Peter Christian Karl) Petersen
grandparents: Esther Nielsen and Soren Peter Damskov
Mary and Lars Petersen