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Burials in the St. Ansgarius Church (Minneapolis) 1892–1900

Arthur Louis Finnell, CGRS

The St. Ansgarius Swedish Episcopal Church in Minneapolis was located at the corner of 5th Avenue and 19th Street South from 1892 to 1936. The first service was held on Oct. 23, 1892 by the Rev. Olof A. Toffteen¹ in Tollefson's Hall and the mission was organized a couple of months later, on Dec. 26, 1892 by Bishop Mahlon Norris Gilbert, Assistant Bishop of Minnesota. In May of 1893 the membership had reached 100 and the mission was organized as the Parish of St. Ansgarius Swedish Episcopal Church of Minneapolis. Permission was given to use the rites of the Church of Sweden, so long as the parish continued to use the Swedish language. On Sept. 13, 1893 a church building was completed at the cost of \$7,000.00.

The membership of the Swedish parish was made up largely of the laboring class among the Swedish immigrants, who, according to Bishop H. B. Whipple, "had given gladly to sustain and support their pastor."²

The following abstract of burials from the St. Ansgarius Church constitutes a unique record for the study of genealogy and family history in Minnesota. These records mirror an effort by the Episcopal Diocese of Minnesota to work with one of the largest ethnic communities within the diocese. Because of the interest and activities of Bishop Gilbert, several other Swedish Episcopal churches were organized within the Diocese. In addition to St. Ansgarius Church, there was the Messiah Episcopal Church, founded in 1893, the same year that St. Johannes' Church was founded, both in Minneapolis. In St. Paul, the St. Sigfrid's Church was organized in 1898 and in Litchfield the Emmanuel Church was founded in 1891. The St. Sigfrid's Church in Cokato was founded in 1892 and about the same time small Swedish missions were organized in Eagle Bend, Aitken and Lake Park.

Only the church records of the three churches in the metropolitan area are known to be extant today. The records have been transferred to the Archives of

the Episcopal Diocese of Minnesota and are housed at Lane Hall in Minneapolis. The records have also been microfilmed by the Minnesota Historical Society. The church records of the Emmanuel Church in Litchfield are believed to be incorporated within the parish records of the Trinity Episcopal Church of Litchfield.

These records should contribute another genealogical segment to the ever-increasing store of knowledge concerning our Swedish immigrant forefathers. We are indeed grateful to the Episcopal Diocese of Minnesota for making this material available to the general public.

A word about the records themselves. The burials from the St. Ansgarius Church are recorded in a volume labelled Vol. II. This book includes among other things all of the burials which took place in the church from the organizing of the mission up to the year 1900. As will be seen, the notations are quite sparse, giving the name of the deceased, the date of death, the date of burial and the age of the deceased, expressed in years, months and days. Occasionally, but very rarely, is the name of the cemetery mentioned. Lakewood Cemetery exists today and is located at 3600 Hennepin Avenue South. Layman Cemetery was a private cemetery named for a person named Layman. Though it is still located on Lake Street and Cedar Avenue in Minneapolis, it is no longer an active cemetery and is now cared for by the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board.

All names are listed as recorded in the material. Where there is a question concerning the spelling, the corrected name has been placed within brackets. Since there does not seem to be a membership book for the church, nothing further can be added to the names listed here.

<i>Name of Deceased</i>	<i>Date of Death</i>	<i>Date of Burial</i>	<i>Age at Time of Death</i>
Johnson, Petter Gustaf	Dec. 18 1892	Dec. 20 1892	41 Years 6 Months 18 Days
Johannsen, Johan August	Jan. 24 1893	Jan. 26 1893	27 " 1 Month 24 "
Edmark, Carl Johan	" 29 "	" 30 "	52 " 8 Months 26 "
Georg, Betsie Violet	Feb. 11 "	Feb. 12 "	— 5 " 5 "
Kalin, Johan Karl	May 19 "	May 21 "	27 " — —
Anderson, Hanna Sofia	" 26 "	" 27 "	2 " 10 " 8 " 3
Nordling, Karia [Karin]	July 7 "	July 9 "	75 " — —
Anderson, Nels	Aug. 2 "	Aug. 3 "	29 " 1 Month 5 "
Anderson, Mrs. Mathilda	Sept. 13 "	Sept. 16 "	23 " 11 Months 15 "
Carlson, Carl Anton Girdie	" 16 "	" 19 "	6 " — 17 "
Olson, Mrs. Maria	" 28 "	" 30 "	21 " 5 " 7 "
Reed, Grant Melvil	Oct. 4 "	Oct. 6 "	2 " 6 " 19 "
Bloom, Olga Regina	" 21 "	" 22 "	1 Year 1 Month 18 "
Olson, Andrew	Nov. 3 "	Nov. 5 "	38 Years — —
Holmberg, —	— " "	— " "	— " — —
Anderson, Anna Carolina Wilhelmina	Nov. 13 "	" 15 "	2 " 1 Month 11 "
Anderson, Anders Bernhard	" 15 "	" 17 "	1 Year 1 " 24 "
Nelson, Lydia Maria	" 16 "	" 18 "	3 Years — 8 "
Johnson, Karl	" 19 "	" 21 "	— 4 Months 12 " 3
Johnson, Anna Maria	Dec. 20 "	Dec. 21 "	— — 6 "
Fjellman, Theresa	" 30 "	" 31 "	1 Year 3 " —
Hanson, Agnes Hilma	" 31 "	Jan. 2 1894	— — 24 "
Goody, Walter	Jan. 1 1894	" 3 "	— — 24 "

Magnuson, Helle [Helen]	" 3 "	" 7 "	12 Years 9 " 20 "
Toften, Baby	" 12 "	" 13 "	— — ½ Day
Olson, Edna Maria	Feb. 26 "	March 1 "	— 2 " —
Saudell [Sandell], Mrs. Alma Mathalia	April 7 "	April 10 "	38 " 7 " 7 Days
Lundberg, Hulda Maria	April 29 1894	April 30 1894	— 7 Months 22 Days
Landin, Franc Oscar	Aug. 8 1895	Aug. 9 1895	1 Year 7 " 7 "
Swanson, Signe Maria	" 16 "	" 18 "	1 " 3 " 16 "
Anderson, Olof Henrik	" " "	" " "	37 Years 8 " —
Sandberg, Anna Maria	" 27 "	" 28 "	1 Year 6 " 18 "
Thor, Baby	Sept. 1 "	Sept. 2 "	— 1 Month 15 " ³
Erickson, Nels Roy	" 4 "	" 4 "	2 Years 5 Months 10 Days ⁴
Nylander, Mrs. Maria	" 2 "	" 5 "	31 " 10 " 29 " ⁴
Falk, Lilly Louise	" 5 "	" " "	7 " 5 " — ³
Lund, Arthur	" 9 "	" 10 "	3 " 2 " — ³
Johnson, Axel	" 19 "	" 20 "	— — 4 " ³
Swanson, August Holger	" 24 "	" 25 "	— 1 Month 24 " ³
Johnson, Peter Oscar	Oct. 26 "	Oct. 26 "	1 Year 8 Months 20 " ³
Nelson, Ruth Hilda	" 27 "	" 28 "	1 " 4 " 20 "
Werner, Ruth Hilda Dagmar	" 31 "	Nov. 3 "	8 Years 10 " 5 " ³
Kellgren, Ruth Elin Charlotte	Nov. 4 "	" 4 "	— — 16 "
Petterson, Olof	Nov. 13 "	" 15 "	80 " 10 " 7 " ³
Fritzen, Richard Albin	" 22 "	" 23 "	1 Year 8 " 20 "
Olin, Myrtle Alfrida	Dec. 2 "	Dec. 3 "	2 Years 11 " 11 "
Nelson, Anna Maria	" 3 "	" 5 "	— 8 " 16 "
Blomkvist, Frank	" 6 "	" 8 "	31 " 3 " 6 "
Erickson, Carl William	" 7 "	" 9 "	— — 2 "
Bohlin, Ellen Linia [Linnea] Sofia	" 9 "	" 10 "	3 " 2 " 4 "
Bohlin, Edgar Forithriof [Frithiof]	" 11 "	" 11 "	1 Year 10 " 10 "
Dahlstrom, Lilly	Jan. 17 1896	Jan. 18 1896	2 Years 3 " 7 " ³
Erkerstrom [Eckerstrom], Roy August	" 19 "	" 20 "	1 Year 3 " 14 "
Lindeblad, Johan Oscar Theodor	Jan. 24 1896	Jan. 25 1896	— — 10 Days
Gustafson, Erland Theodor	" 31 "	Feb. 2 "	5 Years 1 Month 14 "
Cederstrom, Mrs. Carie	Feb. 3 "	" 6 "	36 " 4 Months 27 "
Tomkvist [Tornkvist], Emelie Kristina	" 8 "	" 11 "	25 " 6 " 15 "
Swenson, John Gustaf	" 26 "	March 1 "	40 " 8 " 6 "
Westerberg, Sofia Margareta	March 1 "	" 4 "	60 " 10 " 18 "
Lindstrom, Lars Peter	April 3 "	April 5 "	48 " 1 Month 28 "
Dahlberg, Adolf Fredrik	" 12 "	" 15 "	53 " 3 Months 29 "
Eckerehn, Walter Clifford	" 18 "	" 18 "	3 " 2 " 27 " ³
Larson, Sofia Clara	" 29 "	May 1 "	5 " — 14 " ³
Halvorsen, Emma Kristina	May 12 "	" 14 "	2 " 8 " 12 "
Rosander, Mrs. Hannah Charlotte	" 15 "	" 16 "	39 " — 19 " ⁴
Aman, Gustaf Walentin	" 21 "	" 24 "	34 " 3 " 7 "
Peterson, Ruben Thorwald	June 26 "	June 28 "	— 11 " 5 "
Pearson, Mrs. N. N.	July 1 "	July 3 "	37 " — 22 "
Lund, Louis	" 13 "	" 15 "	— 7 " 9 "
Syberg, Hulda	" " "	" " "	1 Year 11 " 4 " ³
Wallin, Mabel Victoria	" 20 "	" 21 "	— 3 " 20 " ³
Petterson, Fred E.	" 21 "	" 24 "	50 Years 5 " 7 " ⁴
Swenson, Mrs. Frank	" 28 "	" 29 "	40 " 7 " 28 "
Bergquist, Floyd Harry Robin	Aug. 4 "	Aug. 6 "	1 Year ² 11 " 20 "
Westling, August	" 7 "	" 9 "	52 Years 2 " 13 "
Nelson, John	" " "	" " "	40 " — — ³
Landin, Arvid Tobias	" 11 "	" 13 "	29 " — — ⁵
Bjorkman, Helene	" 31 "	Sept. 1 "	— 1 Month 6 "
Johnson, Carl August	" 30 "	" " "	23 " 7 Months 25 " ⁴
Anderson, Martin	Sept. 4 "	" 7 "	— 6 " 3 "
Finsson, Nils	" 9 "	" 10 "	32 " 4 " 22 " ³

Gustafson, Fred	Sept. 21 1896	Sept. 22 1896	31 Years —	17 Days
Peterson, Gles [Claes?]	Oct. 4 "	Oct. 6 "	23 " —	—
Thorell, Ellen Kristina	" 12 "	" 14 "	4 " —	—
Swenson, Olna [Elna] Olivia Johanna	" 23 "	" 25 "	2 " —	21 "
Olson, Gust	" 31 "	Nov. 4 "	30 " 7 Months	—
Johnson, Mrs. Augusta	Nov. 17 "	" 22 "	39 " 1 Month 11 "	"
Johnson, Baby	" 27 "	" 29 "	—	14 "
Strand, John Magnus	Dec. 4 "	Dec. 6 "	44 " 9 Months	—
Lifstrom, Claus Nilson	" 12 "	" 13 "	27 " 6 "	—
Johnson, Jenny	" 15 "	" 16 "	23 " 6 "	—
Johnson, Baby	" 20 "	" 21 "	—	2 " 15 "
Lundberg, Gustaf Adolf Gabriel	" 28 "	" 31 "	63 " 3 "	5 "
Turnblad, Baby	Jan. 2 1897	Jan. 4 1897	—	1 Day
Swenson, Mrs. Ida	" 15 "	" 18 "	40 " —	9 Days
Foss, Julia Therese	Feb. 2 "	Feb. 3 "	—	11 " 18 "
Peterson, (John)	" 3 "	" 5 "	—	2 " 11 "
Pettersen, Mrs. Wilhelmina	" 28 "	March 3 "	29 " 7 "	1 Day
Johnson, Ruth	March 6 "	" 7 "	—	1 Month 4 Days
(Carlson,) Estrid Wilhelmina	" 18 "	" 21 "	—	9 Months 4 "
Carlson, Gustaf	" 26 "	" 28 "	31 " —	—
Swenson, Manne Daniel	April 2 "	April 6 "	34 " 10 "	18 " 5
Buer, John William	" 7 "	" 8 "	—	10 "
Nelson, Ellen Maria	" 23 "	" 25 "	2 " 6 "	7 "
Lilyendahl, John	May 10 "	May 12 "	65 " 3 "	19 "
Johnson, Ole Sumerias	" 15 "	" 17 "	39 " 11 "	20 "
Anderson, Adolf	" 24 "	" 26 "	22 " —	9 "
Lawson, Lorentz Emory	" 28 "	" 30 "	4 " 3 "	10 "
Kellerman, Olof Hjalmar	" 31 "	June 1 "	25 " —	—
Edman, Peter	May 31 1897	June 2 1897	39 Years 8 Months	—
Wistrom, Baby	June 27 "	" 28 "	—	6 Days
Hasselberg, Elmer	" 30 "	July 2 "	28 " —	—
Nordlander, Edward Johan Fredrik	July 8 "	July 10 "	8 " 10 "	27 "
(Munson), William Herbert	" 21 "	" 23 "	—	4 " 6 "
Gustafson, Edith Ingeborg	" 31 "	Aug. 2 "	—	11 " 20 "
Anderson, George William	Aug. 8 "	" 10 "	12 " 11 "	15 "
Olson, Baby (Axel)	" 9 "	" 11 "	1 Year —	8 "
Anderson, August	Oct. 3 "	Oct. 5 "	31 Years 8 "	22 "
Eklund, Frances Irene	" 15 "	" 16 "	—	23 "
Johnson, Baby	" 18 "	" 20 "	—	2 " 21 "
Gilbert, Amanda Gustafva	" 19 "	" 21 "	33 " 8 "	7 "
Erickson, Charles John	" 26 "	" 31 "	32 " 5 "	26 "
Gustafson, Adolf Werner	Nov. 6 "	Nov. 9 "	1 Year 9 "	26 "
Larson, Joe Elmer	" 12 "	" 14 "	3 Years —	—
Johnson, Charles Amandus	Dec. 19 "	Dec. 22 "	26 " 6 "	1 Day
Kinkel, Baby	" 23 "	" 24 "	—	1 "
Huson, Maria	" 30 "	Jan. 1 1898	55 " 9 "	13 Days
Castman, Carl	Jan. 19, 1898	" 23 "	52 " 11 "	21 "
Taberman, Maria	Feb. 5 "	Feb. 7 "	39 " 3 "	6 "
Selander, William Clarence	" 7 "	" 10 "	1 Year 2 "	9 "
Sandin, Lina	" 9 "	" 11 "	29 Years 7 "	26 "
Gustafson, Agnes Mathilda	" 9 "	" 12 "	—	5 " 25 "
Ferguson, Edwin	" 9 "	" 13 "	28 " 11 "	—
Tornkvist, Arthur William	" 8 "	" 13 "	1 Year 4 "	29 "
Gustafson, Gustaf Walter	" 16 "	" 19 "	—	6 " 2 "
Carlom, Mirea Francis	May 3 "	May 4 "	3 Years 8 "	28 "
Mohn, Effie Della	" 8 "	" 10 "	1 Year 6 "	9 "
Hover, John Edward	" 14 "	" 16 "	—	—
Cederstrom, Frank August	Oct. 1 1898	Oct. 3 1898	39 Years 9 Months 3 Days	

Burials in the St. Ansgarius Church (Minneapolis) 1892–1900

Malm, Johan Victor	" 9 "	" 11 "	34 " 6 " 25 "
Nelson, Georg Otto	" 10 "	" 12 "	15 " 4 " 26 "
Russell, Nel[s?] Henrik	" 31 "	Nov. 3 "	80 " 8 " 12 "
Anderson, Carl Hrilyr [Hilmer?]	Dec. 2 "	Dec. 4 "	1 Year 1 Month 20 "
Anderson, H.	" 12 "	" 15 "	70 Years — —
Freeman, Gust	Jan. 7 1899	Jan. 11 1899	37 " — —
Hanson, Andrew	" 13 "	" 15 "	29 " — —
Norquist, Roy Leonard	" 31 "	Feb. 1 "	— 7 Months 24 "
Tyren, Mrs. Christina	Feb. 2 "	" 5 "	52 " 6 " 1 Day
Swenson, Baby	" 15 "	" 19 "	— 8 " —
(Anderson), Harry Willard	" 23 "	" 26 "	3 " 3 " 21 Days
Johnson, Knut Elmer	March 6 "	March 8 "	— 8 " 2 "
Mattson, Alga [Olga] Maria	" 9 "	" 11 "	1 Year 2 " 15 "
Rustad, Arthur	" 16 "	" 19 "	— 8 " 2 "
Aman, Alfred Edgar	" 19 "	" 21 "	1 " 2 " —
Bendez [sic!], Peter Nelson	" 23 "	" 26 "	37 Years 10 " 14 "
Knutson, Harry Marius	" 30 "	April 2 "	1 Year 7 " 20 "
Tornkvist, Anna Caterines [sic!]	April 8 "	" 10 "	73 Years 3 " 5 "
Gunnarson, Karl William	" 20 "	" 22 "	27 " 9 " 28 "
Peterson, Sarah Elizabeth	" 28 "	" 30 "	1 Year 2 " 13 "
Runqvist, Fredrik	May 2 "	May 5 "	— — 6 "
Anderson, Charles	June 29 "	July 2 "	46 Years 2 " 19 "
Benson, Girtie	" 30 "	" 6 "	38 " 7 " 10 " ⁴
(Johnson), Axel Lawrence	Aug. 15 "	Aug. 19 "	4 " 1 Month 16 "
Franzen, Alma	Sept. 15 "	Sept. 19 "	27 " — —
Slolyse [sic!], Carie	" 25 "	" 27 "	29 " — 13 "
Swenson, Ethel Wilhelmina	Nov. 24 "	Nov. 25 "	— — 31 "
Gmrek [sic!], Baby	Dec. 4 1899	Dec. 6 1899	— — 23 Days
(Pettersson, Gust), Baby	" 6 "	" 7 "	— — 8 "
Lundel, Mrs. Ingeborg	" 11 "	" 13 "	44 Years — —
Landberg, Swan	" 13 "	" 17 "	37 " 3 Months 10 "
Engstrand, Magnus	" 18 "	" 21 "	65 " 3 " 8 "
Pettersson, Esther Maria	" 24 "	" 25 "	4 " 11 " 19 "
Hendrikson, Mina	" 22 "	" 26 "	22 " 5 " 4 "
Wahlstrom, Andrew	Jan. 8 1900	Jan. 11 1900	41 " 3 " 16 "

¹ Olof A. Toffteen was born in Hexarve, Sprog Parish (Got.), Sweden June 26, 1863. After studies at the University of Uppsala, he emigrated to the U.S. in 1888, where he joined the Episcopal Church in 1892. On Jan. 1, 1893 he was ordained a deacon. He was ordained pastor in the Minnesota Diocese June 21, 1893 and served the St. Ansgarius Church in Minneapolis until 1901. — Alfred Söderström, *Minneapolis Minnen* (Minneapolis, 1899), pp. 238–241.

² For background material on the formation of the Swedish Episcopal churches in the Minnesota Diocese see George Clinton Tanner, *Fifty Years of Church Work in the Diocese of Minnesota 1857–1907* (St. Paul, 1909).

³ Interment was in the Layman Cemetery in Minneapolis.

⁴ Interment was in the Lakewood Cemetery in Minneapolis.

⁵ Interment was in the Crystal Lake Cemetery.