MAPS: On inside front cover by Emil O. Deere of the Smoky Hill River Valley; on inside back cover of **Lindsborg** by Unknown

Preface by Emory Lindquist …………………………………………………………………………………………….………………….…..3

Acknowledgements by Ruth Bergin (Engberg) Billdt, Lindsborg, Kansas, November 1964…………………..…..5

Foreword by Alfred Bergin, Lindsborg, Kansas, New Year’s Day,1909……………………………………….…………....7

**IMMIGRATION**

Kansas .……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………9

The First Swedes in Kansas…………………………………………………….………………………………………………………………10

Smoky Hill River Valley’s First Setters………………………………………………………………………………………………...….13

Smoky Hill River Valley First Swedes………………………………………………………………………………………………………13

Lindsborg’s First Swedes…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….... 15

Smoky Hill River Valley’s Nature-History, Geography…………………………………………………………………………....19

Georgraphy…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………...19

Geology………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….………20

*After page 20, 4 pages of photographs PLATE 1, PLATE 2, PLATE 3, PLATE 4*

*After page 20, 4 pages of photographs PLATE 1, PLATE 2, PLATE 3, PLATE 4*

Flora……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………...………22

Fauna…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….23

First Swedish Land Company……………………………………………………………………………………………………………….…24

*After page 24, 4 pages of photographs: PLATE 5, PLATE 6, PLATE 7, PLATE 8*

Instructions to the Officers…………………………………………………………………………………………………………….….….26

Charter: First, Second, Third………………………………………………………………………………………………………..….….…26

Fourth, Fifth, Sixth……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….….......27

*After page 28, 4 pages of photographs: PLATE 9, PLATE 10, PLATE 11, PLATE 12*

*After page 32, 4 pages of photographs: PLATE 13, PLATE 14, PLATE 14, PLATE 16*

The Galesburg Company…………………………………………………………………………………...…………………………….……35

Other Settlements in Central and Western Kansas………………………………………………………………………….…….36

Assaria…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….…....36

Falun………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….….36

*After page 36, 4 pages of photographs: PLATE 17, PLATE 18, PLATE 19, PLATE 20*

Marquette…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….……....37

New Gottland………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….……..……..37

New Andover…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….……….….38

Salina………………………………………………………………………….……………………………………………..……………….……......39

Enterprise………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………40

Marion Hill…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….………40

Garfield………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………..………………..40

Hutchinson…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………..………………..40

McPherson……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………..……………..40

*After page 40, 4 pages of photographs: PLATE 21, PLATE 22, PLATE 23, PLATE 24*

Hebron………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………..…………….....41

Kristvalla……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………..…………………41

Western Kansas…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………..…………………41

Page………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….……………..……41

Sharon Springs……………………….………………………………………………………………………………………………………………42

Stockholm………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………42

**OLSSON PERIOD (1869-1879)**

The Arrival of the People from Värmland to Lindsborg

 and the Organization of the Bethany Congregation…………………………………………………………………….………..43

Dr. Olof Olsson’s Childhood, Youth, Student Days, and Pastoral Work in Sweden............................…….. 44

*After page 44, 4 pages of photographs: PLATE 25, PLATE 26, PLATE 27, PLATE 28*

*After page 48, 4 pages of photographs: PLATE 29, PLATE 30, PLATE 31, PLATE 32*

The Arrival of Dr.Olsson ..…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………..….50

P.M. Elmquist’s Story……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………..……..52

*After page 52, 4 pages of photographs: PLATE 33, PLATE 34, PLATE 35, PLATE 36*

C. J. Stromquist Story……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….…...53

Some of the First Members of Bethany Church and the Community’s First Citizens………………………………54

*After page 56, 4 pages of photographs: PLATE 37, PLATE 38, PLATE 39, PLATE 40*

*After page 64, 4 pages of photographs: PLATE 41, PLATE 42, PLATE 43, PLATE 44*

History of the Congregation and Community ………………………………………………………………………………………..72

Sunday School……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………....76

Parochial School…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….77

Confirmation…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….…..77

Women’s Missionary Society…………………………………………………………………………………………………………….…..77

Organist and Choir…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………77

Church Dues…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………..78

Higher Education……………………………………………………………………………………………………………….………………….78

Midwife…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….……………..…...78

The Press…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….…………………78

Politics………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….…………….…78

Lindsborg 1879…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….……….……...79

Dr. Olsson’s Leave of Absence ……………………………………………………………………………………………….………..……83

Dr. Olsson at Augustan College……………………………………………………………………………………………………………..84

Communications from Pastors, Who Served the Congregation in the Early Days…………………………………..86

Pastor Lagerman……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………86

Dr. M. Wahlstrom, Memories and Impressions from Lindsborg, 1878……………………………………………….....88

Pastor Haterius………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….…………..90

J.P. Leaf, My First Visit to Lindsborg……………………………………………………………………………………………………….90

**SWENSSON PERIOD, 1879-1904**

Carl Aaron Swensson……………………………………….…………………………………………………………………………………….92

Biographical Notes…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….…..92

*After page 92, 4 pages of photographs: PLATE 45, PLATE 46, PLATE 47, PLATE 48*

Honorary and Academic Degrees……………………………………………………………………………………………………….....93

C. A. Swensson as Pastor………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….……93

Dr. Swensson as A Pedagogue…………………………………………………………………………………………………………..…..93

Dr. Swensson as an Otrator……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………94

Dr. Swensson as a Family Man………………………………………………………………………………………………………….…...95

XXXX-- History of Congregation /Community “annual meeting minute excerpts by year……………………...95

By year:.

1879…….………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………..95

1880, 1881, 1882, 1883…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….……96

1884,1885, 1886, 1887,1888…………………………………………………………………………………………………………..…….97

1889, 1890, 1891……..……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………..…… 98

1892,1893………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………...…..99

1894, 1895…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………..100

*After page 100, 4 pages of photographs: PLATE 49, PLATE 50, PLATE 51, PLATE 52*

1896, 1897…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….….…101

Constitution……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………..….101

Article I, The Name of the Congregation ……………………………………………………………………………………………..102

Article II, Concerning the Doctrine……………………………………………………………………………………………………....102

Article III, About the Pastor………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….102

Article IV, Concerning the Church Board………………………………………………………………………………………..….…102

Article V, The Church Council………………………………………………………………………………………………………..……. 103

Article VI, Concerning Church Membership……………………………………………………………………………………..... 104

Article VII, Concerning Parish Meetings…………………………………………………………………….………………….……..105

Article VIII, Concerning Elections………………………………………………………………………………………………………….105

Article IX, Concerning Appeals………………………………………………………………………………………………………….….106

Article X, Regarding Property…………………………………………………………………………………………………..…………..106

Article XI, Concluding Articles……………………………………………………………………………………………………………...106

Important Resolutions and Decisions……………………………………………………………………………………………….….106

Concerning Church Dues………………………….………………………………………………………………………………………….106

Concerning The Preparatory Meeting………………………………………………………………………………………………….107

Concerning the Church…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….....107

1898, 1899, 1900…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………....…..107

1901…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….108

*After page 108, 4 pages of photographs: PLATE 53, PLATE 54, PLATE 55, PLATE 56*

1902, 1903…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………..109

1904…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….110

Higher Education in Lindsborg………………………………………………………………………………………………………..……110

Bethany College by Ernst F. Pihlblad…………………………………………………………………………………………………….111

*After page 116, 4 pages of photographs: PLATE 57, PLATE 58, PLATE 59, PLATE 60, PLATE 61, PLATE 62*

Thoughts Expressed by Visitors and Assistants During the Swensson Period……………………………………....122

Dr. E. Norelius, My First Visit in Lindsborg………………………………………………………………………………………......122

Pastor G. Forsberg, Memories from My Diary………………………………………………………………………………………123

Pastor Lincoln, To Bethany Church………………………………………………………………………………………………...……125

Dr. Pihlblad………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….129

**PRESENT DAY (1909**), Dr. Alfred Bergin

…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….131

*After page 132, 2 pages of photographs: PLATE 63, PLATE 64*

One Thing and Another Within the Congregation…………………………………………………………………….....………135

Salaries and Contributions……………………………………………………………………………………………………………….....135

Elmsborg……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………..135

The English Language within Bethany Church and The Beginning of the Messiah Church…………………...136

*After page 132, 4 pages of photographs: PLATE 65, PLATE 66, PLATE 67, PLATE 68*

Sunday School……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………..138

Parochial Schools…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………138

Education in General……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………139

Confirmation Instruction……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………..139

Young Peoples’ Societies……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………..139

Missions………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………140

Song and Music……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………141

Church Membership Dues……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………142

Other Organizations…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….142

Soldiers: Civil War, Spanish American War………………………………………………………………………………………….142

Historical Committees………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….142

Congregational Statistics……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………..143

Morality, Temperance, Civic Life………………………………………………………………………………………………………….143

MISCELLANEOUS………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….………144

Other Churches……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………144

Mission Covenant Church…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….144

The Swedish M. E. Church……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………144

*After page 144, 4 pages of photographs: PLATE 69, PLATE 70, PLATE 71, PLATE 72*

English M.E. Congregation……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………145

The Swedish Baptist Church………………………………………………………………………………………………………….……..145

The Free Church…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………..………………145

POLITICS (Written by C.J. Stromquist and A.V. Anderson)…………………………………………………………………...145

The Newspaper Industry in Lindsborg………………………………………………………………………………………………….146

Lindsborg’s Business Life (Parenthetical Notes by the translator)………………………………………………….…….148

KANSAS CONFERENCE……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………......155

History written by Dr. J. E. FLoreen………………………………………………………………………………………………………155

*After page 146, 8 pages of photographs: PLATE 73, PLATE 74, PLATE 75, PLATE 76, PLATE 77, PLATE 78, PLATE 79, PLATE 80*

(The art work,“Smoky Valley Homestead,” by Birger Sandzén)……………….………………………………….………160

ADDENDA, A Note From the Translator, Ruth Billdt……………………………………………………………………………..161

Pre-Publication Subscribers………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….162

BETHANY EVANGELICA LUTHERAN CHURCH IN ITS NINETY-FIFTH YEAR

 By Anton A. Nelson, Pastor, October 22, 1964………………………………………………………………………………..…163

Drawing: Lindsborg: “Where Culture and Agriculture Meet.” Howard Lincoln in “The Spur”……………..164

*After page 164, 12 pages of photographs:*

*PLATE 81, PLATE 82, PLATE 83, PLATE 84, PLATE 85, PLATE 86, PLATE 87, PLATE 88, PLATE 89, PLATE 90, PLATE 91, PLATE 92*