

# Pioneer Pastors of Jackson

## Anders Olson Hagen

Norwegian Synod Lutheran

Anders Olson Hagen was a missionary and minister for the Norwegian Lutheran church, and was responsible for the establishment of several congregations in Jackson County among others.

Reverend Hagen studied at the Klaebu Seminary. Following his ordination, he taught for 13 years before coming to the United States; bringing his family which included his wife, Anna and 6 of his eventual 8 children.

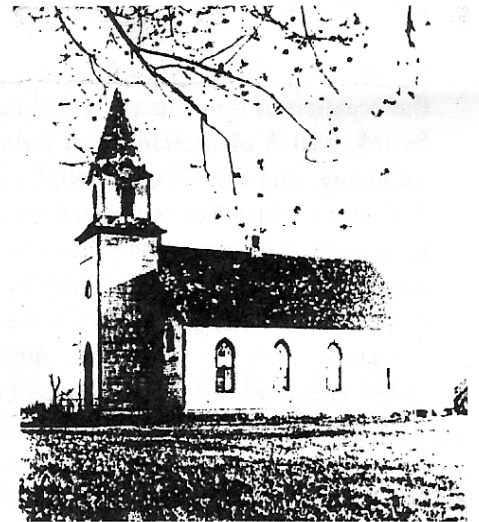
They initially settled in St. James where Anders served several congregations as a missionary. His missionary work brought him to Jackson County where he served the newly formed Bethany Lutheran Church in Christiania Township. The Bethany Church placed a call for a permanent pastor, requesting that Anders would answer this call. Anders answered in 1879, and came to Christiania Township, buying a farm of 200 acres in section 22 on the Southwest shore of Lower Lake. He and his family called this home up to the time of his death.

Although Bethany was his main congregation he also served churches in Delafield, Lakefield, Heron Lake, and Windom (1888-1902). In 1888 Reverend Hagen took the stand with the Anti-Missourian Brotherhood, but 1890 he joined with the United Synod. Bethany and the other congregations that he served followed the same course of action.

Reverend Hagen served his congregations faithfully from the time of the Bethany call in 1879, until his retirement November 1, 1900. Reverend Hagen retired to his farm; but occasionally still held services when called upon.

Anders was born November 7, 1826 to Ole Anderson Hagen and Marit Trondsdatter, and was baptized January 7, 1827 at Orkdal. He married Anna Petra Asse at the Hemme Church of Sor-Trondelag Norway on October 27, 1861. To this union was born 8 children: Elisa, Soren, Olaf, Cato, Emmanuelle, Hilda, Petra, and Paulina.

Anders died November 23, 1902 in Christiania Township, Jackson County, Minnesota. His wife Anna died in 1901. Both Anders & Anna are buried in the Bethany cemetery in a plot given to them by the congregation.



Christiania Lutheran Church  
1885-1927

