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**Swedish-American Archives of Greater Chicago
Manuscript Collection #45
St. Ansgarius Church Records, 1849-1971**

ACCESS RESTRICTIONS: The materials in this collection are currently (May 2009) restricted from access due to preservation concerns. The materials have become too fragile to handle and must undergo conservation treatment. The records that have been microfilmed can be viewed at the Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center at <http://www.augustana.edu/swenson>

SIZE: 3 archives boxes

ABSTRACT: These records consist largely of parish registers dating from 1849 through 1896, listing communicants and pastoral acts such as baptisms, burials, and marriages. Also included is a pastor's diary, circa 1882, and the church meeting minutes for 1858-1875. Photos of the church interior and of St. Ansgarius' founder, Gustav Unonius, complement the church records. The records are largely in the Swedish language.

HISTORY: Founded in 1849, St. Ansgarius Church was first located at Illinois and Franklin Streets, Chicago, IL. It was founded by Gustav Unonius, a convert to the Episcopal Church who previously led a group of Swedish immigrants to settle at Pine Lake, Wisconsin. At the end of the century, St. Ansgarius was located on Sedgwick Avenue, one block north of Chicago Avenue, in Chicago. The church remained at this location until 1920, at which time the church effectively closed due to the departure of the rector, Carl August Nybladh and the majority of the congregation. However, in 1924, the bishop of Chicago re-opened St. Ansgarius at a temporary location on Lincoln Avenue, and later built the Jenny Lind Memorial Chapel at 2514 West Thorndale Avenue, Chicago. In 1940 the church was re-dedicated as St. Francis Church, and this congregation survived into the 1990's. (Information courtesy of Richard R. Seidel, Historiographer, The Diocese of Chicago, 1999).

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PROCESSOR: This collection was initially processed by unidentified staff; reprocessed and described by Ellen Engseth in April of 1999.

ARRANGEMENT: The files are organized alphabetically by type of record or subject, then chronologically.

ELECTRONIC COPY: This finding aid is available to researchers on computer disk or through electronic attachment. A copy on disk can be provided to researchers who provide an IBM formatted disk to the Archives.

CONTAINER LIST:

BOX	FOLDER	FOLDER TITLE	SPAN DATES
1	1	Articles and Clippings	1899-1971
1	2	Bulletin, Marriage Certificate, Children's Program, Job Recommendation, Parochial Report	1891-1900
1	3	Communicants List	c. 1875-1876
1	4	Correspondence, (Photocopies)	1884-1930
1	5	Correspondence, (Photocopies and Translations), Jenny Lind and Unonius	1852, 1964
1	6	Day Book and Register, and Communicants List	September 1879-1880
1	7	Diary, Pastor's, with baptisms, marriages, deaths, and confirmations	1882-1883
1	8	Kalender, used in St. Ansgarius	1891
1	9	Minutes	November 1858-January 1875
1	10	Photo of Church Interior	1920
1	11	Photos of Unonius and his home	n.d.
3	1	Poster, showing church, rectory and Rev. Herman Lindskog	n.d.
1	13	Register, Parish	May 1849-January 1865
1	14	Register, Parish	August 1867-December 1871
2	1	Register, Baptism	January 1872-June 1877
2	2	Register, Baptism	September 1887-December 1896
2	3	Register, Burials	January 1872-April 1877
2	4	Register, Marriages	January 1872-August 1879