

## Mrs. Margit Ellingboe, Charter Member of the West Norway Lake Lutheran Church

A good source of information about Margit is found in a church history book<sup>1</sup>, beginning as follows:

Mrs. Margit Ellingboe (nee Quamme) came with her three young boys, Ole, Anders and George from Valdres, Norway, to Goodhue County, Minnesota in 1862. They came to Swift County, Minnesota in 1868.

The remainder of the article<sup>2</sup> tells of the children's marriages and the grandchildren. Note that there is no mention of Margit's husband, or the father of the children. Also, in the records mentioned below the name is spelled Marit.

There is a farm named Ellingbø in Valdres, Norway, so this is probably Margit's point of origin. Ellingbø is some 60 miles west of Lillehammer. There is also an area called Kvamme about 25 miles west of Ellingbø so this may be the source of Margit's maiden name.

Indeed, records from Vang Parish<sup>3</sup> in Valdres show a Marith Olsd. Ellingbøe a 27 year old widow, leaving the parish for America on March 22, 1862. With her are Ole Olsen (6) and Jørgen Olsen (4).

In the 1880 US census<sup>4</sup> Marit Ellingbo is listed as a 46 year old widow living in Kerkhoven, Swift County, Minnesota. George Ellingbo (age 21, a teacher) is listed before her, indicating that he is the head of the household. Others listed are Ole and Andrew Ellingbo, ages 23 and 18 respectively. All are listed as born in Norway. (Interestingly, the final "e" is omitted from the name.)

Also shown on a neighboring line in the 1880 census is Tosten Qvamme, age 46. This could be a relative of Marit's. Tosten has several children.

A snip<sup>5</sup> from the 1885 Minnesota census is shown below. At this point the middle son George has moved on. Marit's age is not consistent with the age listed in the 1880 census. Also, it is stated that the youngest son was born in Ontario, suggesting that Marit and the children lived there for a time.

|    |                     |     |   |   |         |   |   |
|----|---------------------|-----|---|---|---------|---|---|
| 24 | Gulbert Olson       | 410 | M | - | Minn    | ✓ | 1 |
| 25 | Agnes Hagland       | 424 | M | - | Sweden  | ✓ | 1 |
| 26 | Marita Ericksdatter | 428 | F | - | Norway  | ✓ | 1 |
| 27 | 50. Marit Ellingboe | 49  | F | - | "       | ✓ | 1 |
| 28 | Ole                 | 428 | M | - | "       | ✓ | 1 |
| 29 | Anders              | 422 | M | - | Ontario | ✓ | 1 |
| 30 | Erland Johnson      | 421 | M | - | Norway  | ✓ | 1 |

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Marit's life was also traced in a family tree<sup>6</sup>, which states that she died on December 27, 1885 in Kerkhoven, Swift County, Minnesota.

- 1 Monson Lake Lutheran Church, Sunburg, Minnesota. 1886-1886. Edited by Leonora Lindquist, Nora Gjerde, Cora Lesteburg, Rev. Jerry Lamb.
- 2 Ole married Maria Gandrud (They had three children: Herbert, Cornell and Magdalena, all buried in the Monson Lake Cemetery); Herbert married Inga Syse (They had three children: Elmer, Ida and Alma. After Inga's death, he married Sarah Hande. They had six children, one of which still lives in Sask., Canada. Elmer's surviving family includes Inez, Russel and Edmund Ellingboe of Belgrade, MN; Mr. & Mrs. Clarence Baalson of Brooten, and Orville Ellingboe of California.); Andrew left the area and moved to Milwaukee, Wisconsin to work for the Great Northern Railroad. Andrew was married and had one daughter.
- 3 <http://gda.arkivverket.no/cgi-win/webcens.exe?slag=visbase&sidenr=1&filnamn=valdutf1&gardpostnr=5071#nedre>
- 4 <http://gda.arkivverket.no/cgi-win/webcens.exe?slag=visbase&sidenr=1&filnamn=MINN1880&gardpostnr=38317#nedre>
- 5 Copied from microfilm at Kandiyohi County Historical Society. Sheet is dated 8 Jun 1885.
- 6 <https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/59735288/person/46051267725/story>