

Christian Christiansen and Anna Jensen Family (charter members)
(Four-page sketch excerpted from *St. Paul's Boomer-Neola Early Families* by Robert A. Christiansen. Reviewed by _____. Revised by RAC Mar 2011.)

Anna (Jensen) Christiansen was the sister of St. Paul's charter members **Jacob Jensen** and **Ole Jensen**.

For more information about the Christian Christiansen extended family, as well as the older relatives of Christian Christiansen and Anna Jensen, see the Christiansen chapter of my family history *Ancestors and Older Relatives of Robert Christiansen – Christiansen, Rasmussen, Larsen/Larson, and Hansen*.

Christiansen, Christian & Anna Jensen (charter members)

James P. "Jim" Christiansen & Rasmine "Minnie" Rasmussen

Nels Christiansen & Mette Marie "Mary" Rasmussen

Christian Christiansen (28 Feb 1832 – 9 Feb 1913) was born in Store Linde village, Karise Sogn, Praestø Amt, Denmark, the only child of Christian Olsen and Ane Katrine Mogensdatter. Christian Christiansen's father, a weaver, died before Christian was born, and Christian's mother soon remarried.

Ane Kirstine "Anna" Jensen (29 Jul 1839 – 23 Jan 1922) was born in Tokkerup village, Fakse Sogn, Praestø Amt to Jens Nielsen and Karen Jacobsdatter.

Christian Christiansen and Anna Jensen married in Smerup Sogn, Praestø Amt on April 17, 1867.

Karise and Fakse Sogns are on the Stevns peninsula on the island of Sjaelland about 40 miles south of Copenhagen.

Christian and Anna Christiansen immigrated from Smerup in the spring of 1869 on the paddle-wheel steamer *Northern Light* with their oldest child, Jens, and Christian's son from an earlier marriage, Christen Ole Christiansen, who later lived in Council Bluffs.

Christian and Anna Christiansen lived in Boomer Township, Section 22 from 1871 until their death.

The two children of Christian and Anna Christiansen are listed below. These sons, Jim and Nels Christiansen married sisters, Minnie and Mary Rasmussen, the daughters of St. Paul's early members **Lars Christian Rasmussen** and **Karen Marie Andersen** who lived in Boomer Township, Section 35.

- **James P. "Jim" Christiansen** (28 Mar 1868 – 11 Nov 1941, conf. 18??) was named "Jens" at his birth in Denmark and immigrated in 1869 with his parents.

James Christiansen married **Rasmine "Minnie" Rasmussen** (28 Apr 1873 – 20 Oct 1950) in Pottawattamie County by the St. Paul's pastor on April 26, 1893.

The two children of Jim and Minnie Christiansen are listed below.

- **Vesta Christiansen** (15 Jan 1899 – 14 May 1980, conf. 1913) married **Tolford Gerhard Thompson** (30 Jan 1901 – 9 Apr 1976) at St. Paul's on September 1, 1926.

Tolford Thompson was the son of Cievert Johann Thompson and Udna "Ella" Toresdatter Wicks of Wright County, Iowa.

After marrying, Tolford and Vesta Thompson lived in Eagle Grove, Iowa, where Tolford was a bank employee.

The three children of Tolford and Vesta Thompson are listed below.

▲ living Thompson (-)

▲ living Thompson (-)

▲ living Thompson (-)

- **Alvin McKinley Christiansen** (14 Oct 1901 – 18 Sep 1973, conf. 1917) married **Leona Margaret Larson** (28 Jan 1909 – 15 Apr 1969) in Walnut, Iowa on August 30, 1933.

Leona Larson was the daughter of Andrew Larson and Karen Margrethe "Maggie" Hansen of Hazel Dell Township, Section 15.

Alvin Christiansen farmed the Jim Christiansen home place in Boomer Township, Section 21 until 1948 and then farmed two miles west and one mile north of Avoca.

After Leona's (Larson) Christiansen's death, Alvin married **Lila Ferne "Ferne" (Spencer) Bertelsen** (10 Jul 1916 – 14 Aug 1974) at the Little Brown Church in Nashua, Iowa on Jun 1, 1970. Ferne (Spencer) Bertelsen was the widow of Vern Bertelsen and the daughter of Ralph Spencer and Hannah Madison who lived in Boomer Township east of St. Paul's.

Ferne (Spencer) Bertelsen had two children and was a special education teacher at Iowa School for the Deaf near Council Bluffs.

The three children of Alvin and Leona Christiansen are listed below.

▲ **Robert Alvin Christiansen** (16 Dec 1935 -) is the author of this document.

▲ living Christiansen (-)

▲ living Christiansen (-)

Jens Christiansen and Rasmine Rasmussen head family #5 in the St. Paul's family roster begun in 1900.

Jim and Minnie Christiansen are interred in the St. Paul's cemetery. Vesta (Christiansen) Thompson and her husband, Tolford, are interred in Rose Hill Cemetery in Eagle Grove, Iowa, and Alvin Christiansen and his wife, Leona, are interred in Graceland Cemetery in Avoca. Alvin Christiansen's second wife, Ferne (Spencer) Bertelsen, is interred in Ridgewood Cemetery in Council Bluffs with her first husband.

- **Nels Christiansen** (26 May 1871 – 20 Dec 1958, conf. 1889) married **Mette Marie "Mary" Rasmussen** (26 Feb 1876 – 26 Nov 1917) in Pottawattamie County by the St. Paul's pastor on October 26, 1898.

Nels Christiansen farmed the Christian Christiansen home place in Boomer Township, Section 22.

In 1947 or 1948, Nels Christiansen and his daughter, Agnes, moved to a house on Frost Avenue in Avoca.

The four children of Nels and Mary Christiansen are listed below.

- **Anneta Viola Christiansen** (19 Jul 1906 – 11 Jul 1942, conf. 1921) never married, was in poor health, and lived at home her entire life.
- **Agnes Clarette Christiansen** (24 Jul 1908 – 15 Mar 1973, conf. 1923) never married and lived with her father until his death.

Later Agnes lived in Council Bluffs.

- **Raymond Roosevelt Christiansen** (14 Nov 1910 – 17 Aug 1986, conf. 1926) married **Esther Elizabeth Ericksen** (28 Dec 1913 – 29 Jan 2000) at St. Paul's on February 20, 1934.

Esther Ericksen was the daughter of St. Paul's early members **Eli Ericksen and Johanna Thode** who lived east of St. Paul's in Neola Township, Section 31.

Raymond Christiansen first farmed in southern Boomer Township in Section 34. In 1940 the Raymond Christiansen family moved to a farm in Harrison County four miles west of Shelby, Iowa, and in 1970 Raymond and Esther moved to Council Bluffs.

The four children of Raymond and Esther Christiansen are listed below.

- ▲ **living Christiansen (-)**
- ▲ **living Christiansen (-)**
- ▲ **living Christiansen (-)**
- ▲ **living Christiansen (-)**

- **Clarence Rudolph Christiansen** (29 Aug 1914 – 28 Apr 1997, conf. 1928) married **Loretta Eleanor Olsen** (20 Jan 1917 – 8 Dec 2009) at St. Paul's on June 20, 1939.

Loretta Olsen was the daughter of John Olsen and Dagma Thomsen who lived in Boomer Township, Section 9.

Clarence Christiansen farmed the Christian Christiansen home place in Boomer Township, Section 22 until moving to Lake Township just north of Council Bluffs around 1983.

The two sons of Clarence and Loretta Christiansen are listed below.

- ▲ **living Christiansen (-)**
- ▲ **living Christiansen (-)**

Niels Christiansen and Mette Marie Rasmussen head family #6 in the St. Paul's family roster begun in 1900.

Nels and Mary Christiansen and three of their children, Anneta, Agnes, and Raymond and his wife, Esther, are interred in the St. Paul's Cemetery. Clarence and Loretta Christiansen are interred in the Grange Cemetery in Boomer Township.

Christian Christiansen and Ane Kirstine Jensen head family #4 in the St. Paul's family roster begun in 1900.

Christian and Anna Christiansen and their two sons are interred in the St. Paul's Cemetery.

Sources Specific to the Christian Christiansen and Anna Jensen Family:

- **References to other sketches in *St. Paul's Boomer-Neola Early Families*:**
 - For the brothers of Anna (Jensen) Christiansen, see the **Jacob Jensen and Anna Dorthea Madsen Family** and the **Ole Jensen and Karen Marie Olsen Family** sketches.
 - For the relatives of Rasmine Rasmussen and Mary Rasmussen, who were the respective wives of James P. Christiansen and Nels Christiansen, see the **Lars Christian Rasmussen and Karen Marie Olsen Family** sketch.
 - For the relatives of Esther Elizabeth Ericksen, Nels Christiansen's daughter-in-law, see the **Niels Eriksen and Maren Kirstine Henriksen Family** sketch.
- The Christiansen and Rasmussen chapters of my family history *Ancestors and Older Relatives of Robert Christiansen – Christiansen, Rasmussen, Larsen/Larson, and Hansen*.
- **Interviews with the following individuals:**
 - Alvin Christiansen, Vesta (Christiansen) Thompson and Agnes Christiansen in the 1970s.
 - Gerald Christiansen, grandson of Nels Christiansen.
 - Kathryn (Thompson) Hansen, granddaughter of Jim Christiansen.
 - Loretta (Olsen) Christiansen, daughter-in-law of Nels Christiansen.
- Danish Emigration Archives (ddd.dda.dk):
 - Christian Christensen (sic), Ane Christine, Christian Ole, and Jens registered 4/27/1869.
- "New York Passenger Lists, 1820-1957" database (ancestry.com Jun 2008): paddle wheel steamer *Northern Light* manifest arriving on May 19 1869 from Copenhagen includes the Christian Christiansen family.

End of the Christian Christiansen and Anna Jensen Family Sketch