



# ***North Sidney Messenger***

**MAY 2015 NORTH SIDNEY MESSENGER  
No. 37**

This is Newsletter No. 37. North Sidney Messenger is sent to you once a year to bring you news since last Memorial Day to present time. If you are a first-time reader of the letter, we say “**WELCOME**”. Thank you to long-time readers for your continued support and interest.

North Sidney Church and Cemetery Historical Association is registered with the State of Michigan as a non-profit organization. Our purpose is to take care of the church and cemetery and to preserve it for future generations. Membership can be either by paying dues yearly of \$2.00 per year after the first fee of \$10.00 is paid or life membership of \$50 per person and is a one-time fee which is much easier. Dues are used for newsletter, postage and other general up-keep expenses. Cemetery up-keep is partially paid from the Perpetual Care Fund. If a lot has no perpetual care fund, a special fee is paid. If your lot is not under perpetual care you might want to consider it, one payment and you are done.

Please check out the North Sidney Church and Cemetery Historical Association website [www.northsidney.com](http://www.northsidney.com). There are links to other sites as well as information on how to purchase books and become a member. The newsletter will also be posted so if you have an email address and would like the information from the website instead of mailing the letter please let us know. If you have ideas on how to improve it or information that could be added, just send Krista a note. Also, if you have any news or information that you would like to share for next year's newsletter just send us a note or email.

If you know of someone that would enjoy the newsletter and currently doesn't receive it, let one of the officers know and we will make it happen. Also, if your address has changed, make sure we get updated information so our postage expenses aren't wasted with returns.

I want to thank everyone who made donations for the repair of the church after the lightning strike; Richard & Marilyn Hansen, Ruth Reed, Krista Jensen, Marion E. Andersen, Paul Vezina, Jeanne Corey, Kathryn Hansen, Tom Sprowls, Diane Miller, Blain & Sharon Wittkopp and James & Corinda Stover. We were able to get the repairs done shortly after the Memorial Day Service last summer. Thank you to Wilson Electric and Dale Main and Jim Stover for the excellent repair work. Unfortunately the lightning did so much damage to the well pump that it was not feasible to replace it. As a result there will be no water at the cemetery. **Anyone needing water will need to bring their own.**

Thank you also to the following for donations for up-keep and expenses: Jeri J. Gardner, Jack & Donna Jorgensen, Lee & NataLou Hansen, Kim Pull, Luke & Melissa Dudenhofer, Thomas & Kathleen Tiesner, Anna Hart, Gordon & Linda Andersen, Jill Leach, Gay L. Erskin, Susan Hansen, Larry Ek, Blain Wittkopp, Rose Ellen Thomsen, Jack Jensen, Everett & Ruth Burkey, Kenneth & Myrtle Christensen, Barbara Hansen, Larry & Laura Engel, Shelley Belt and Patricia Madsen.

Over the last year we lost Evelyn Pritchard who was buried at the cemetery. Thank you to everyone who sent donations to North Sidney in memory of your friends and loved ones. Donations were received in memory of:

*Lavern & Jacquelyn Corfixsen in memory of Oscar & Emma Corfixsen*

*Gerald & Esther Petersen in memory of Irving & Myrtie Petersen*

*Carl & Grace Smith in memory of Dear Friends & Loved Ones*

*\Carol Maxfield in memory of Ferris Christensen*

*Paul Vezina & Jeanne Corey in memory of Marcia Corey*

*Ruth Reed in memory of Jane Christensen*

*John & Lillian Christophersen in memory of Kurt Christophersen, Chris & Alma Corfixsen*

*Diane Miller in memory of William Mathisen & Grant Tiesner*

#### COOKIN' CORNER

**ASIER Pickles (Danish ripe cucumbers)** recipe from Martha Bekke (Cooking Favorites of North Sidney)

Ripe cucumbers      1 c. water  
1 large c. sugar      Mixed spices to taste  
1 c. vinegar

Peel and scrape seeds from ripe cucumber. Cut in strips or chunks and soak in salt water overnight. Rinse with cold water. Add large Tbsp. alum. Cover with boiling water. Let stand overnight or until cold. Drain and cover with boiling water to rise off alum. Cook until tender, put in jars. Boil sugar, vinegar and water until syrupy. Add spices. Pour hot syrup into jars. Syrup ingredients above are for each quart of pickles.

Please plan on attending the Memorial Day Service on Monday, May 25th. Final plans will be made at the Annual Meeting on May 13<sup>th</sup>. The meeting is scheduled for 6:00 p.m. at the Church. The Memorial Day Service will begin at 2:00 p.m. on May 25th.

This year the Memorial Day Service will be led by Pastor Betsy Kamphuis from St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Greenville. Pastor Betsy is married to Robert Kamphuis who is director of community health for Mercy Health, St. Mary's in Grand Rapids. They have two children, Charlotte who lives in Chicago and David who lives in Youngstown, Ohio. Pastor Betsy has been at St. Paul's for six years and previously served at Zion Lutheran in Saginaw for 8 ½ years.

When you visit the Church please check out the "Heritage Wall". There are many pictures of previous year's services as well as from the past. See how many faces you recognize!

The *Dannebrog Lutheran Church*, South Sidney on Muskrat Road had its beginnings under Pastor Ole Amble. About 1879 the Little Denmark Evangelical Lutheran Church of Montcalm County, MI was divided into three districts or parishes. They were St. Petri's or Little Settlement, Little Denmark or Big Settlement and Dannebrog. Later Dannebrog divided and the northern part of the parish became St. John's parish or North Sidney. St. John's church was built in 1884.

Services at Dannebrog continued to be held in Fuller School until 1888 when a church was built. Chris Rydahl was the carpenter that did much of the work on the Church building as well as many volunteers. Pastor Amble served Dannebrog from 1888 until 1927 when Rev. A.C. Kildegaard succeeded him. Pastor Kildegaard served for fifteen years and then Pastor C.A. Stub was called.

Pastor Peter

Thomsen came in 1951 and continued to serve the

Congregation of South Sidney until 1958. Pastor Ivan Westagaard was called when Pastor Thomsen left.

In 1965 Dannebrog voted not to merge with North Sidney and Immanuel of Sidney. They however ceased having services except for Memorial services. The Church is also known as Amble Memorial Church and is still used for weddings and special events. South Sidney also has a cemetery around the church building. Many of our Danish families are buried there.

### ***Focus on the Family***

LEO CHRISTENSEN

Leo Christensen was born July 23 1902. He was the son of Alfred and Maren Sophia (Hansen) Christensen. Maren Sophia was better known by the name Fannie to her family. Leo married Alice Christensen, daughter of Lewis and Hannah Christensen. Alice was born July 7, 1908. Leo and Alice lived on the home place on Hillman Road, west of Sidney. They were members of North Sidney church and the Danish Sisterhood and Brotherhood. Alice was a member of North Sidney Ladies Aid. Leo was an upholster and did work at the North Sidney Church the last time the kneeling bench and pulpit were upholstered. They were the parents of Virginia Hannah and Aaron Christensen. Virginia married Robert Billings and their family consists of Harold, Bret and Brenda. Aaron Christensen married Jane Carol Frederick and they have three children, Dixie Lee, Aaron C., Jr. and Debra. The family were members of St. John's Church at North Sidney. This information and more can be found in the North Sidney Area book.

We still have copies of the North Sidney Area 1884-1984 book. There is much information on the Sidney area and families in the area. Contact Jennifer Thomsen or pick one up at the Church on Memorial Day. You can also print order forms from the website.

If anyone else has memories that you would like to share in the Newsletter please let me know.

The officers and their addresses are listed on the last page of this letter. Please send dues or donations to Jennifer Thomsen, Treasurer. Due to the increase in the cost of stamps, receipts will no longer be sent if you pay dues by check. Donations will be recognized.

Please remember and pray for all of our men and women serving in the military. May they all return soon. Flags are placed on the grave of Veterans each year. A special thanks to Sidney Township for furnishing the flags and John and Lillian Christophersen for placing them on the grave sites.

**The week prior to Memorial Day we are looking for volunteers to spend a few hours to keep the church open and greet visitors. Please let Jennifer Thomsen or myself know if you are willing to do this, so we can make sure the church will be unlocked.** Thank you to the members that volunteered last spring.

As I close for another year, I want to thank everyone who assists with keeping the Association running smoothly whether it is with donations, volunteering to help during Memorial Day week, bringing cookies to share or helping with clean up. Thanks to all who attend the Memorial Day Service and hope to see you Memorial Day.

*Marilyn Thomsen*  
*Secretary*



**Memorial Day 2014**

**DIRECTORY**  
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**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

Spring Meeting, May 13, 2015

Memorial Day Service, May 25, 2015, 2:00 p.m.

Fall Meeting, September 9, 2015, 6:00 p.m.

**North Sidney Church & Historical Association**  
**P.O. Box 202**  
**Sidney, MI 48885**