



April 2024

## Thoughts From the Desk of Shirley...

When I learn something new, I wonder if I'm the only person in the world that doesn't know about what I've learned. Last week, I learned that on every donkey, there is a sign of a cross. This cross-like pattern is created by a darker strip of hair running down the donkey's spine, intersected by another strip of hair across its shoulders. This distinctive marking is often referred to as a "cruciform dorsal stripe".

The marking has sparked curiosity and led to many interpretations throughout history. I personally have not ridden on too many donkeys in my lifetime, so unless somebody pointed this marking out to me, I wouldn't have known about it.

In Christian tradition, donkeys are linked to the story of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. Jesus rode a borrowed donkey into the city. People waved palm branches and covered the ground with their cloaks and other wearing apparel for the donkey to walk on. This gentle animal who had never been ridden before carried Jesus in the parade in Jerusalem. Little did the people know that just a few days later, Jesus would be crucified



The donkey symbolizes peace and Jesus is a man of peace and that day was blessed to be peaceful, for all Christians to celebrate peacefully around the world. Surely this is why we view the donkey as very calm and loving.

The cross-shaped marking on donkeys' backs has been interpreted as a divine sign, a sacred imprint, signifying the donkey's participation in the triumphant walk into Jerusalem.

Some people also linked the concept of bearing the cross, as a visual reminder of the sacrificial journey undertaken by Jesus, carrying the weight of the cross before his crucifixion.

There are so many cultural and folk lore interpretations of why donkeys have a cross on their back. I would like to believe that it was divine intervention at one point in time that put the cross on the donkey and the fulfilled prophecy that put Jesus on the donkey to march into Jerusalem to his crucifixion and the cross and his resurrection. The next time you see a donkey, check out his back and look for the sign of the cross.

Blessings, Shirley

### Points of Contact

Lay Pastor - Shirley Nelson  
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#712-373-5368  
nelsoshi@gmail.com  
Available for contact all  
the time

**Antho Ad Board Chair:**  
Andrea Mitchell

**SPRC Chair:**  
Andrea Mitchell and  
Shirley Nelson

**Antho Community  
Methodist Church is**  
located at 401 East  
Bridge Street.

**Church e-mail:**  
AUMC5288@gmail.com

**Church website:**  
www.arbumc.com

**FaceBook Page:**  
Antho Community  
Methodist Church

**Office Hours:**  
Wed. & Fri.  
11am - 1pm  
#712-373-5288

### NOTE:

**We're trying to get  
all available e-mail  
addresses into our  
computer! Please  
send yours to the  
church so we can  
get you in our  
contact list!!!**

# UP COMING EVENTS

**April 8**

Finance/ Ad Board meeting in church at 7pm



**April 11**

The Women of Faith will be holding a meeting at 10:00 at the church. Plans will be started for a Senior Luncheon to be held in June. This is a luncheon which honors seniors in the area with special recognition for those over 90 years old. Everyone is invited to attend and help with the planning. We will be having lunch together at the Siouxloon after the meeting.

**April 20**

Funeral Services for Kenneth Hansen is at 11:00am

**April 27**

*Happy  
Birthday*

Marvin Hanson's 100th Birthday Party in fellowship hall from 1:00pm to 4:00pm.

## **Lenten Movies**

This year instead of a weekly Lenten Bible Study, we chose to start showing, "The Chosen". A movie based on the Gospel and gives the history into the life of Jesus choosing his disciples. The series draws you into the characters and has been well received by those attending. So far we have met on two Saturday afternoons, followed by a simple supper. We will continue watching this series and invite anyone who would like to come, enjoy a movie and good food and fellowship. More details and dates will follow.



## **Tithes and Offerings**

Mar. 3	\$ 1,563.00	Mar. 10	\$ 1,900.50
Mar. 19	\$ 6,601.00	Mar. 24	\$ 1,190.00
Mar. 31	\$ 1,145.00		

GIVE THANKS  
to the LORD,  
FOR HE IS GOOD

PSALM 107:1

## **Special Prayer Needs**

OUR COUNTRY, OUR SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN, our church, our community leaders, our president, our farmers, Bobby Lewis, Nina Osborne, Tom & Cindy Herrick, Fran & Keith Determann, David Beach, Ed Davis, Brad Harbaugh, Alta Patterson, Trisha Theisen, Keith Allman, Brady Gothier, Eleanore Lewis, Jean Petersen, Rick Gubbels, Lana Kropf, Tracy Lewis, Roger Nelson, Peggy Hansen and Brittany Miller.

**Remember our Nursing Home Residents!**

**Be A Part:** If you would like to be part of the prayer support for our church, just send us your name and email.

# Our Life Together

## Holy Week Service

A Tenebrae service was held on Good Friday as people remembered the crucifixion of the Lord. Roger and Marilyn Hladik, JoLynne Reimert and Shirley Nelson took part in the scripture readings. Roger also sang a very moving song, "Calvary" during the service. The Service of Shadows takes place in a dimly lit church, with nine candles being extinguished following the reading of each scripture starting with the Anointing, and followed by the Passover, the Prayer, the Arrest, the Denial, Jesus before Pilate, the crucifixion, Jesus' death and the Burial Mark. The Christ candle remains lit as the others are extinguished. The service is a reminder of what Jesus Christ experienced on his journey to the Cross.

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## Easter Morning Breakfast

Many people enjoyed Easter breakfast before services on Sunday morning. Muffins, rolls, doughnuts, pastries and many other goodies along with egg bakes and fruit were served by the women of the church. The kids also enjoyed little cups of jellybeans at the breakfast and they received a small box of jellybeans following the children's story.



# Missions

## **April Mission Project for Gospel Mission**

The Gospel Mission is in need of Men's, Women's, and children's clothing, coats, shoes, all wearable items. You name it....they need it.

Now is a good time to get a jump on cleaning your closets and donate any extra clothes you may have to those who are less fortunate than we are.

You can drop off clothes in the foyer of the church. .

## **Help Give the Gift of Mobility**

The mission committee has chosen as a project to raise money to purchase a three wheeled mobility cart to be given to a man, woman or child suffering from Polio or other paralyzing affliction. Although polio has been pretty much conquered in the US, there are still people in the world who have lost the use of their legs to polio. The carts are given to those in need who cannot walk or move around but can still provide a valuable service to their country. The total cost of one cart is \$425 and there will be a basket on the table for anyone who would like to contribute. More information will be provided over the next couple of months.

## **Women of Faith**

are supporting "The Place", a facility that supports abused women and men.

If you would like to contribute anything, there is an orange sheet of Needs on the table in the fellowship hall.

Anthon Community Methodist Church Finance & Board Minutes  
Monday, March 11, 2024

Andrea called the Board meeting to order and JoLynne gave devotions. Those in attendance were Andrea Mitchell, Lay Pastor Shirley Nelson, JoLynne Reimert, Deanna Adler, Marilyn and Roger Hladik, Mark and Joan Meister.

PASTOR'S REPORT: Lay Pastor Shirley reported two Sunday services, Ash Wednesday service, funeral and committal for Ralph Diamond and committal for Delores; two home visits for Ralph's service; a hospital visitation, several home visits; is working on upcoming funeral for Kenneth Hansen on April 20, plus has a Sub District meeting at Washta.

Plans are being made for Palm Sunday; an Easter breakfast 8:30 a.m. with Worship at 10 a.m.; also looking forward to Marvin's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday.

FINANCE: Budget was discussed.

TRUSTEES: Roger has been working on solutions to water fountain problem. The man who fixed the door is coming to look at our window problems on Thursday. He was recommended by our Insurance company and has treated us well. Several tiles in the entryway need replacement. Roger found a company that still makes them and has tiles that will work. Only one row of tiles need to be replaced.

Knova's Carpet will come and measure the fellowship hall, board room and hall for carpet replacement.

Motion by JoLynne to update our older computer version of Power Church Plus 11.5 to Power Church Plus 14/14.4; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Deanna; all in favor, motion carried.

TEACHING: Adult Bible Class is going very well. Last day for Sunday school is May 5<sup>th</sup>.

Outreach/Missions: Gospel Mission clothes drive – can be left at church this month

SPRC – By-Laws are being reviewed. Will discuss further next meeting.

Women of Faith: Since the closing of Shesler Hall, the Women of Faith have chosen to support "The Place", a facility that looks after abused women and men. They will be helping to fulfil their needs including personal products as well as sheets, blankets and those things needed to begin a new apartment. They will be filling a tote and delivering to the Place.  
Having a nursery was discussed.

OLD BUSINESS: Deed for Church is now documented in Woodbury County courthouse.

Mark will have devotional at next meeting – April 8, 2024, 7 p.m.

Shirley gave closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted  
Joan Meister

Anthon Community Methodist Church  
Box L  
Anthon, IA 51004-0602

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Address Service Requested

Address Label

### April Liturgist Responsibilities

April 7	Sue Wilson
April 14	Tricia Osborne
April 21	Eileen Klindt
April 28	Jake Mitchell
May 5	Autum Hansen

### April Children's Story Responsibilities

April 7	Kathy Hodgdon
April 14	Andrea Mitchell
April 21	Shirley Nelson
April 28	Roger Hladik
May 5	JoLynne Reimert

**\*If you are unable to attend, please find your replacement and let the church know by email.**

### April Birthdays & Anniversaries

Gaige Mae Miller	5
Rhonda Beeson	6
Tyler Hoy	12
Nicholas Boggs	13
Tom Herrick(V)	13
Kathy Hodgdon	16
Randy Wolfe	19
Bettina Perkins	21
Bill Speirs	23
Marvin Hanson(V)	25
Jerry Klindt	28
Dawn Zahnley	28
Aubriella Redenius	29
Ryan Baldwin	30

