



July 2025

Thoughts From the Desk of Shirley...

Points of Contact

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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!!!**

This past week the Anthon-Oto Alumni held their 44th annual banquet. Although the temperature in Anthon that evening was 98 degrees, there were still a lot of people who braved the hot temperatures and attended. As a general rule I like thoughts to come from me, but thanks to Tom and Kris Noreen, they posted an article on Facebook this week that I found very interesting and very fitting for all of us.

The article was contributed by Joe Becigneul.

At a college reunion, a group of successful alumni—now doctors, lawyers, business owners—decided to visit their old professor. They chatted about their careers and families, but soon the conversation shifted to life's pressures, stress, and constant chasing after more.

After listening for a while, the professor smiled and said, "Hold on a minute. I'll go make us some coffee."

He came back with a large pot and a tray full of cups—none of them matching. Some were fine porcelain, others were plain ceramic, a few were chipped glass mugs, and one even looked like it came from a diner. As everyone reached for a cup, the professor watched in silence. Once they all had coffee in hand, he said:

"Notice what just happened. Most of you instinctively reached for the nicest cups—leaving behind the simpler ones. It's normal to want the best for ourselves, but that's often where the stress begins." He gestured toward the cups.

"The cup doesn't make the coffee taste any better. What you really wanted was the coffee. But you still focused on the cup." Then he paused. "Life is the coffee. Your job, your house, your income, your status—those are just cups. They help contain life, but they don't define it. And the trouble is, the more we focus on the cup, the more we miss out on the coffee."

He smiled. "Remember, happy people don't always have the best of everything. But they know how to make the best of what they have."

This reminded me of the coffee cups I have in my cupboard which are used every day for that wonderful morning cup of coffee. No matching cups in this house. I have a couple of Christmas mugs, an Iowa mug, a couple of Gateway mugs, one or two plain white mugs, just a variety of mugs and even a few matching cups to my dinnerware.

We would all be happier if we would make the best of what we have and not try to have the best of everything.

Remember, happiness comes from within, not from what you own

Blessings, Shirley

UPCOMING EVENTS

Summer camp will be available at Blue Lake in Onawa for any young people who are interested in attending a 3-4 day camp. We will be providing the fees for anybody who is interested. Please contact Jolynne or Shirley if you are interested in sending your child (children) to camp as soon as possible for the July Camp.



July 4

Independence Day



July 14

Ad Board and Finance meeting at 4:30pm



July 17

Senior Party – 1:00 p.m.

The Women of Faith will be sponsoring a senior party again this summer. All seniors are invited to attend with a guest. Alan Anderson of LeMars will be providing the musical entertainment as well as providing music for a sing a long. A short program will be provided which will include honoring all guests over 90 years old. A light Lunch will be served and and afternoon of visiting will be enjoyed by all who attend. Special Invitations are being sent to all those who are over 90 years old, so if you talk to someone who has not received an invitation, leave a message on the church phone at 373-5288.

Come and enjoy an afternoon of entertainment, lunch and fellowship.



Special Prayer Needs

IN THE CIRCLE OF OUR CONCERN: OUR COUNTRY, OUR SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN, our church, our community leaders, our president, our farmers, Bobby Lewis, Tom & Cindy Herrick, Fran & Keith Determann, Ed and Carol Davis, Brad Harbaugh, Alta Patterson, Trisha Theisen, Keith Allman, Eleanore Lewis, Rick Gubbels, Lana Kropf, Tracy Lewis, Peggy Hansen, Bettina Perkins, Barb Madsen, Elwanda Sheriff, Joyce Gothier, Jeanette Kummer, Roger Hladik, Stephanie Johnson, Brittany Miller, Norma Bunnell, Roger Nelson, Jen Kerns, Mark Nelson, Sally Schram, Sheryl K Ashley, Dale Hunwardsen, and
Sympathy to the Sargent and Noreen families on the death of Emma Noreen, killed in an ATV accident last week. Services will be held on July 3 for 16 year old Emma. She is the granddaughter of Tom and Kris Sargent Noreen.

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.



Tithes and Offerings

June 1 \$ 1,236.96 June 8 \$ 1,201.00
June 15 \$ 6,305.00 June 22 \$ 690.00

GIVE THANKS
to the LORD,
FOR HE IS GOOD

PSALM 107:1

Our Life Together

Father's Day on June 15th,

was celebrated with the congregation enjoying food and fellowship with each other following the service.

Donuts and other treats were provided by the nurturing committee.

Thanks to them and to Tim Hoy for leading the service.



HAPPY
Father's
DAY



The righteous
man walks in
his integrity;
**His children
are blessed
after him.**

PROVERBS 20:7

Our Life Together

More crosses for the office walls.

John and Shirley Sterrett Beach were visitors for a couple of weeks in Anthon during their yearly trek back to Shirley's hometown and church. They stayed in the parsonage and brought 3 very unusual crosses as gifts for the church. The walls in the pastor's office are being decorated with crosses, some of them new and some of them treasures found in flea markets. John and Shirley's gift included a cross made from lawnmower blades, something very unusual and yes...very heavy.

Thanks to Rhonda Beeson and JoLynne Reimert for spending a morning decorating a wall with newly gifted crosses.



Missions

We will again be collecting clothes and coats for the Gospel Mission this fall.

Plan now to donate your fall closet-cleaning clothes to the church and they will be donated to those places in the city and surrounding area.

We will be donating any coats, gloves, scarves again to the Warming Shelter, so now is the time to be thinking about paring down your wardrobe that you are not wearing anymore.



Church News

Anthon Community Methodist Church Minutes
Monday, 9 June 2025

The Administrative Board met in the church library at 4:30 p.m. with seven members present: Pastor Shirley, Deanna, JoLynne, Roger, Marilyn, Mark and Joan.

Deanna gave devotions on "To Know God's Love".

Deanna called the meeting to order. The minutes of the last meeting were read. Marilyn moved we accept the minutes, 2nd by JoLynne; all in favor, motion was approved.

Pastor's Report: Sent cards and made calls. Preached 3 services, did bulletins and children's stories. Made follow-up calls to several members. Did graveside service at St. Paul's Lutheran Cemetery. Contacted Marcus Lumber about the carpet and repair of Fellowship Hall base border.

Worship: Nothing special planned for next month; trying to get singers to sing.

Finance: Have \$49,056.59 in bank; everything looks good.

Trustees: Nothing to report.

Teaching: Done for the summer.

Outreach: Have several good coats/clothing to go to the Gospel Mission and Warming Shelter.

Nurturing: Nothing to report

SPRC: Nothing to report

Women of Faith: Had Muffins for Moms on Mother's Day and will have Donuts for Dads on Father's Day. Started planning the senior party in July at the Women of Faith meeting.

Old Business: Valerie is our new contact with Marcus Lumber. She will come and measure office rooms, and look at Fellowship Hall next week.

New Business: Front lawn of church needs work. Buschman Lawn & Landscape quoted \$484.11 to add organic fertilizer, fescue grass seed, till the bare spots and fuel charges, and recommended doing this work in the fall. Their bid is only good for 30 days. JoLynne moved we approve the Buschman bid; 2nd by Mark; all in favor, motion carried.

Received letter from NCLL lawyers who helped us during disaffiliation, who want to keep a contract with us. JoLynne moved we reject NCLL's request for further coverage; 2nd by Roger; all in favor, motion carried.

Request was received from member tasking to help a child go to Nebowa Christian Camp at Onawa this summer. Mark moved we accept the request from this member, put information in FOCUS and if others sign up, we will pay for them to go as well; 2nd by Marilyn. All in favor, motion carried.

Next meeting: 14 July 2025, 4:30 p.m.
Mark will do devotions.

JoLynne moved we adjourn the meeting, 2nd by Marilyn; all in favor, motion passed. Shirley ended the meeting with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Joan Meister, Board Secretary

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Anthon, IA 51004-0602

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July Liturgist Responsibilities

July 6 –Tim Hoy

July 13-Erin Baird

July 20-Marilyn Hladik

July 27-Sue Wilson

July Children's Story Responsibilities

N/A

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

July Birthdays & Anniversaries

Taylor Hansen	13
Everts Miller	16
Beau Wolfe	16
Marilyn Hladik	17
Jeanette Kumnar	18
Tryton Hoy	20
Paul & Andrea Mitchell	21
Morgan Hoy	23
Joyce Gothier	23
Janice Brown	25
William Hoy	25
Shelley Boggs	31
Lisa Kerns	31

