



## Thoughts From the Desk of Shirley...

### Points of Contact

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the time

**Anthon Ad Board Chair:**  
Deanna Adler

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

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

**Church e-mail:**  
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**Church website:**  
www.arbumc.com

**FaceBook Page:**  
Anthon 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!!!**

## *Merry Christmas and Happy New Year*

Greetings to our friends and church family of the Anthon Community Methodist Church!

As we celebrate the month of Advent, we light a candle each Sunday representing Hope, Peace, Joy and Love. The four messages of Advent aren't just church tradition. They're rooted in Scripture and designed to prepare our hearts for celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ. Today Jesus comes into our individual lives renewing us, loving and befriending us.

So many small churches have had to close or combine and thanks to the financial support we have received, we are blessed to be a stand alone church.

Due to the generosity of our members, we have continued to support the Heifer Project. We provided school kits to surrounding schools and to the Crittenton Home in Sioux City.

Our fall project was a huge success providing clothing and financial support to the Gospel Mission and blankets and coats to the Warming Shelter. Our yearly gift of \$500 and food was given to prepare food boxes and support the Angel Tree which provides gifts to families and children who otherwise would not receive Christmas gifts.

We honored our Veterans and celebrated the lives of our members and friends on All-Saints day who passed away this year.

Our newest project organized, by the Women of Faith of our church, is to fix and deliver a meal to our Anthon shut-ins and elderly once a month. Our list has continued to grow and our hope is for this project to grow as more people are added to our list.

As we celebrate the holidays, we are reminded of how much the Lord has blessed us. We thank you for your financial support and gifts. We welcome your prayers and invite you to attend our worship service on Sunday morning at 10:00 a.m.

We wish you a very blessed Christmas and Happy New Year and the hope that 2026 will bring you health and happiness and especially Hope, Peace, Joy and Love.

Blessings to All, Shirley

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## December 15

Ad Board and Finance meeting. 4:30 p.m.



## December 17

W.O.F. meal deliveries @ 10:30



## December 17

A WALK THROUGH BETHLEHEM

Faith Bible Church, 305 Sioux St., Mapleton, IA, 6:00pm-8:00pm

FREE ADMISSION



*Christmas Eve*



## December 24

Christmas Eve Service @ 6pm



## December 25

Merry Christmas



Poinsettias would be welcome to help decorate the sanctuary.  
Please feel free to drop them off in the hallway by the office.



## Church News

### Special Prayer Needs

OUR COUNTRY, OUR SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN, our church, our community leaders, our president, our farmers, Bobby Lewis, Tom & Cindy Herrick, Ed and Carol Davis, Alta Patterson, Trisha Theisen, Eleanore Lewis, Rick Gubbels, Lana Kropf, Tracy Lewis, Bettina Perkins, Elwanda Sheriff, Sally & Lyle Schram, Evelyn Dicks (Becky Marshall's mother), Jerry & Eileen Klindt, Roger Nelson, and Sympathy to the Family of Keith Allman.

### **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

All Saints Remembrance Day was held on November 2.

Those who passed away this year and were honored were Dorothy Jean Peteren, Roberta Houlsworth, Dorothy Parker, Donna Puttmann and Dale Hunwardsen.

Following the lighting of tapered candles, communion was held and votive candles were lit in remembrance of other loved ones



The Veterans of the church were honored on Veterans Sunday on November 9th. Those taking part were David Bradshaw, Mark Meister, Tom Herrick, Roger Hladik and Dan Brant.

**THANK YOU ALL FOR  
YOUR SERVICE!**



Old Man Winter came a little early this year interrupting the first Sunday of Advent and preventing the congregation from hanging the greens on November 30. We completed the decorations on December 7th with Greenery, the Christmas Tree, red tablecloths on the fellowship tables and multiple other decorations. Following the decorations, lunch was served to those who helped.



#### Tithes and Offerings

Nov. 2\$ 1,368.00	Nov. 9 \$ 1,702.00
Nov. 16 \$ 2,515.00	Nov. 23 \$ 1,102.00
Dec. 7 \$ 1,483.70	

GIVE THANKS  
to the LORD,  
FOR HE IS GOOD

PSALM 107:1

## Missions

We will still be collecting clothes, blankets, towels, coats, and mittens for the Gospel Mission and the Warming Shelter.

**Please leave all donations in foyer of church**

As Christmas approaches we are reminded of the need in our community. Our church is participating in the Angel Tree at the bank and food boxes for the needy in the local community.

If you wish to donate, there are several ways to do so.

- 1) Bring non perishable food items to the church before December 19th and place in the grocery cart in the foyer
- 2) The Angel Tree at the bank contains hearts with children names which can be picked up and gift purchased for local children. The gifts need to be wrapped & returned to the bank.
- 3) Donate money at the bank or to the church designating it for the food boxes
- 4) On December 22nd volunteer will meet at the Oto Church to fill boxes & get items ready for pick up that afternoon.

# Church News

Anthron Community Methodist Church Minutes  
Monday, 8 December 2025

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

Mark gave devotions from John 1:14, "The word became flesh and dwelt among us".

Deanna brought the meeting to order. The minutes of the last meeting were read. Mark moved to accept the minutes with one correction; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Roger; all in favor, motion passed.

**Pastor's Report:** Sent cards and made calls. Kathy and I covered church services and bulletins. Had one funeral with prayer service the night before, committal service, and visits with family. Discussed serving soup every other month to our 22 shut-ins. Had only three services this month as church was cancelled due to weather.

**Worship:** Had our hanging of the greens a week later with lunch after.

**Finance:** Finances are stable with a balance of \$53,155.62.

**Trustees:** Parsonage garage door seal has been purchased and will be installed this week. Started insulated stripping on front door cover. Snow was pushed around the church. Church exit lights need light bulbs so will purchase the correct ones. Fire extinguishers were inspected over a year ago so will check them too. Sign board key has broken inside the lock and will need to be replaced; will have it checked out.

**Teaching:** Nothing to report.

**Missions:** Several loads of donated items including gloves and hats were taken to the Warming Shelter but still have more to take. Will purchase more gloves as needed.

**SPRC:** Nothing to report.

**Women of Faith:** Will meet Thursday to firm up menu for shut-ins. Will send calendar with dates the food will be delivered so we don't need to call everyone. Have 22 to feed now but looking for more. Will be an ongoing project.

**Old Business:** Need to get carpet in offices and library installed.

**New Business:** Kathy's Sunday school room needs new carpet. We need to get audit done next month. Church cancellation due to weather will now be put on TV. Marilyn moved we purchase Visa gift cards for Christmas this year; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Roger; all in favor, motion passed. Our current coffeemaker does not keep coffee hot. Roger moved we have Lay Pastor Shirley purchase a Bunn Coffee maker using memorial money, if approved by the Memorial Committee; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Marilyn; all in favor, motion passed.

Marilyn moved we adjourn our meeting; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mark; all in favor, motion passed.

Lay Pastor Shirley ended our meeting with a prayer.

Next meeting will be 12 Jan 2026 at 4:30 p.m.



Everyone has been very generous in donating their change to the heifer project this year. This month, Lisa and Mike Kerns dumped the quarter tubes which each hold \$125 in a pot that was sent to Heifer Project. Thanks for all those who bring their loose change for our basket every week. .

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

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### **Dec. Liturgist Responsibilities**

Dec. 14 - Sue Wilson

Dec. 21 - JoLynne Reimert

Dec. 28 - Kathy Hodgdon

Jan. 4 - Erin Baird

### **Dec. Children's Story Responsibilities**

N/A

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

### **Dec. Birthdays & Anniversaries**

Gary & Janice Brown	1
Teresa Johnson	3
Andrea Mitchell	12
Gary Beeson	18
Jacque Gothier	22
Adam Mitchell	26
Phil & Deanna Adler	30

