



April 2026

Thoughts From the Desk of Shirley...

Points of Contact

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Available for contact all
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Antho Ad Board Chair:
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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!!!**

Where does the time go? Only three more weeks until Easter.

We are continuing the walk of the Lord as He prepares us for the crucifixion and resurrection.

The story is the same every year. From Ash Wednesday, where ashes made of last year's Palms are placed on the forehead, to the crucifixion and the joy of the resurrection on Easter morning. We hear the same stories, stories such as. Jesus spitting in the dirt, making mud and putting it on the blind man's eyes so that he can see. One of his many miracles.

We hear the story of Jesus visiting the temple during Passover. The one time when the Lord, in his anger, chased the money changers, the people selling sheep, oxen, and doves out of the temple telling them they have made His house of worship into a den of thieves.

We hear the story of the Samaritan woman at the well giving Jesus a drink of water. There is a great importance of all of these stories to our children and we should make every effort to teach them the importance of the 40 days of Lent.

Especially during this time of war in the world, we need to realize the importance of prayer, prayers for our soldiers, prayers for our world leaders, prayers for each other. I read about a five-minute rule that a mother had for her children. They had to be ready for school and gather together five minutes before it was time to leave each day.

They would gather around Mom, and she would pray for each one of the children by name, asking for the Lord's blessing on their day. Then she'd give each one of them a kiss and off they would go to school. Even neighbor kids who happened to stop by in the morning would be included in the prayer circle. One of the children said many years later that she learned from this experience how crucial prayer was to start her day and continued the prayer circle with her own children.

God is our go-to person who is listening to our prayers and expects to hear from us every day even if it's a simple thank you for all of the blessings He has given us. It's important to talk to the Lord every day. It's important to teach your children and those near and dear to you what a big impact prayer can be on their lives.

This is the time for all of us to pray for our world, for world peace and the safety of all of our military service people throughout the world. Turn your cares into prayers because prayers are an acknowledgment of our need for God.

Blessings, Shirley



UPCOMING EVENTS



Easter Flowers

It's that time of year again to start decorating the church with your favorite Easter Lillies or your favorite flowers



March 18

Delivery of Meals to Anthon Elderly and Shut ins by the WOF

March 29

Palm Sunday



April 2

Maundy Thursday, Sedar Supper at 7 pm in Fellowship Hall

April 3

Good Friday Service at 7 pm



April 5

Easter Sunday with breakfast served at 8:30 am



April 13

Ad Board and Finance meeting at 4:30 pm



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 & Larry Dicks (Becky Marshall's parents), Jerry & Eileen Klindt, Roger Nelson, Kathy Hodgdon, Will Hoy, Betty Nelson, and Connie Ashley.

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

One of the days we look forward to in the church is Super Bowl Sunday, which was held in February. For almost 20 years, we have changed Super Bowl to Souper Bowl and have enjoyed a lunch of many kinds of soups and desserts. Soup is served in two ounce cups and every person gets to vote on their favorite soup. The winner is awarded the traveling trophy and gets to keep it for a year until the next Souper Bowl!

This year we were blessed with twelve different kinds of soup and for the first time a man won the traveling trophy.

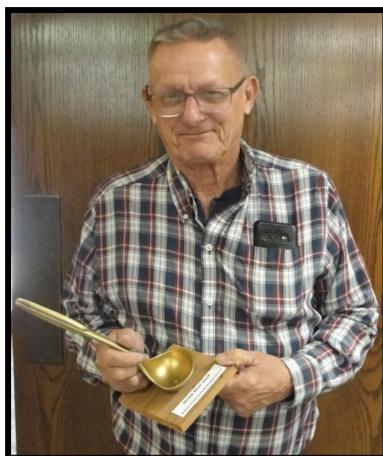
Duane Brandt fixed an awesome ham and bean soup and is pictured with the gold soup ladle traveling trophy.



Pictured who made soup are: Shirley Nelson, Deanna Adler, Deb Grozkrueger, Erin Baird, Barb Wood, Deane Brandt, Jeanette Kummer, Brenda Wolfe, Betty Nelson, Stacey Bahrke and Lisa Kerns. Not pictured, JoLynne Reimert.

Sorry we did not get a picture of those who provided desserts.

The dessert people will be vying for a traveling trophy next year.



Church News

May baskets being delivered



A tisket, a-tasket A green and yellow basket. I wrote a letter to my love And on the way I dropped it. I dropped it, I dropped it. Yes, on the way I dropped it, A little boy he picked it up and put it in his pocket.

Do you remember this nursery rhyme from your youth? May baskets have been given out for years and this year, we are filling baskets to be delivered to our nursing home and shut in people. What's more fun than receiving a basket with notepads, word search books, candy, popcorn and other useful items.

If you would like to help with this project, contact Shirley or Kathy or any of our Women of Faith.

Missions

Rummage Sale Coming up in May

The town of Anthon is getting ready for their spring cleanup in May.

Last year, the church had a \$1 rummage. Everything on sale was \$1.00 so there was no marking prices on anything.

We sold everything from dishes, flowers, Christmas items, pots, pans, books and anything we were no longer using or needed.

We made several hundred dollars for our mission fund and enjoyed the day visiting with people who stopped by. Anything left at the end of the day was donated to the Gospel Mission.

Now is the time to be cleaning out those closets, and storage areas for the rummage.

We have a room to store your rummage items in, so bring them to church anytime. The date of the town clean up is May 1st & 2nd



Tithes and Offerings

Feb. 1 & 14 \$ 2,298.00 Feb. 15 \$ 723.00

Feb. 22 \$ 390.00 Mar. 1 \$ 1,476.00

Mar. 8 \$ 2,443.00

GIVE THANKS
to the LORD,
FOR HE IS GOOD

PSALM 107:1



The Women of Faith have been meeting monthly working on projects that they felt would benefit the community. The decision was made to provide lunch once a month to seniors and shut ins in Anthon.

For February, 30 lunches consisting of vegetable beef soup, dinner roll, fruit cup and dessert were delivered.

A lunch will be delivered once a month. If you know of someone who would like a lunch delivered to them, please leave a message on the church phone, 373-5288; Shirley Nelson, 281-0432 or

Kathy Hodgdon, 251-0164.

Church News

Anthon Community Methodist Church Minutes
Monday, 9 March 2026

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

Mark gave devotions from 1 John, 1-5, "God is the Light"

Marilyn reported the Parsonage is booked for the spring/summer. Our audit will be done soon.

Deanna brought the Ad Board meeting to order. The minutes of the last meeting were read. Roger moved we accept the minutes as presented, 2nd by Marilyn; all in favor, motion passed.

- Pastor's Report: Attended Ad Board meeting on February 9. Sent cards and made telephone calls. Visited two members in the hospital. Had Women of Faith meeting on February 12th and helped in the preparation of food and helped deliver lunches on the 18th. Prepared several bulletins for the church including the finished copies for the church when the computer was down. Have made preparations for Holy Week, to include Seder Supper on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services.
- Worship: Will hold Seder Supper on Maundy Thursday and have Good Friday services.
- Finance: Budget was revised due to increase in utility costs.
- Trustees: Had problem with ceiling fluorescent lights in the west hall. Will need help with them. There is more new carpet on the way; will have to find out when they can come install. Prefer it's done Monday thru Thursday, but not on Friday. Received a bill from Gary Lutgen. We're still having a problem with the ceiling. Will pay the bill but prefer having someone else work for us next time. Need to check inside door locks to ensure they are working correctly.
- Teaching: JoLynne has things ordered for Sunday School including soft cover books.
- Mission: Working on winter items. We will continue taking clothes, mittens, hats, etc. to Good Will and Gospel Mission so donations can still be brought to the church.
- SPRC Will meet in April or May
- Women of Faith: Our members are really enjoying delivering meals. We usually have 6-8-10 people to help but one member needs to get off. Would like more people to help.
- Old Business: Our new carpet is in, so need to have it installed. Becky's office is basically done. Would like an inexpensive utility cabinet with drawers. Roger moved we let Shirley purchase the utility cabinet for Becky's office; 2nd by JoLynne; all in favor, motion passed.
- New Business: Anthon will hold its Citywide Rummage on May 1-2. On May 2 the Good Will truck will be parked across from the Anthon Post Office. JoLynne moved we have a rummage sale for the church, 2nd by Mark; all in favor, motion passed. We have a problem on the sanctuary ceiling which will need to be dealt with. Need a new video screen back in the library- looking to replace.

Next Meeting April 13; JoLynne will do devotions.

JoLynne moved we adjourn; 2nd by Roger; all in favor, motion passed.

Lay Pastor Shirley closed the meeting with a heartfelt prayer.

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

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April Liturgist Responsibilities

April 5 -Kathy Hodgdon

April 12– Duane Brandt

April 19- Marilyn Hladik

April 26- Tim Hoy

Children's Story Responsibilities

N/A

***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
Tom Herrick	13
Ivy Petersen	15
Kathy Hodgdon	16
Bettina Perkins	21
Jerry Klindt	28

