



A lasting memorial has been given to Spirit of Hope Church in memory of Arnold and Emily Anderson “Dedicated pioneers of our church community”

Arnold J. Anderson March 19, 1902 - August 7, 1992

Emily E. Anderson December 8, 1901 - May 17, 1992



Arnold and Emily moved to Golden Valley in 1944. They immediately joined the little white church on Golden Valley Road, where Emily became the pianist and organist, and Arnold soon took the job as treasurer. Both of these positions took on the appearance of lifetime appointments; however, Emily did relinquish her post to her daughter Charlotte in 1954. Arnold sang tenor in the choir for many years.

In the early years, rather than heat up the church midweek, and because there was a new Anderson baby, choir practice was held at the Anderson house. Electric power to the home was provided by a wind charger, so in periods when the wind wasn't blowing enough to charge the batteries, choir practice had to be cancelled.

When Golden Valley United Methodist Church was assigned a fulltime pastor, the church was separated from their sister church, Parker's Lake (now Messiah), and a parsonage was needed. Arnold and Emily responded by donating a lot, and they helped, along with many other members, to build a fine home that was first occupied by the J. Marshall Newton family.

The Anderson children, Jay, Charlotte, John, and Warren, were all confirmed in the church. Other family events in Golden Valley United Methodist Church included Charlotte's wedding, a granddaughter's wedding, and the baptism of several grandchildren and one great grand-child. One particularly proud moment was when granddaughter Jill and great-grandchild Christopher played the parts of Mary and the baby Jesus in a Christmas pageant. There was heartbreak also, when grandson Alan was buried from the church.

The church was a very important part of Arnold and Emily's life. Anything they were able to give to the church, they felt, was minor in comparison to the blessings they received.

