

Deacon Anthrom Levy Green was born to the late Anthrom Green and Lela Gillis Green on October 27, 1918, in Soperton, Treutlen County, Georgia on the Gillis Plantation. Woodrow Wilson was the President of the United States at that time. He is the second eldest of nine children however only two children remain, Anthrom age 100 and his sister Selma age 98. His sister Selma Green Dixon still lives in the Soperton/Vidalia, Georgia area and still refuses to get a telephone although everyone in that area knows who Selma Dixon is.

Anthrom accepted Christ at an early age and was baptized at St. Mary's Baptist Church, Soperton, Georgia. Not in the baptismal pool in the church mind you but in the creek next to the church.

When Mr. Green started school his very first teacher was his mother's sister, his Aunt Maggie. His aunt being his teacher offered no special treatment for him as she was tough on him just like everyone else. Sometimes he thought she was even tougher on him.

As a young boy in Georgia, he was introduced to the business of turpentine and worked along with his father cutting pines trees and collecting the gum from the trees to make turpentine. He recalls various bosses and woods riders and the process of turpentine from start to finish. The work of gathering and processing the raw gum was done chiefly by African American men. The end of domestic turpentine workers in the United States inspired the South Georgia Folklife Project at Valdosta State University to interview former turpentine workers about their lives and traditions. Turpentine work was a defining occupation of not only South Georgia but also of much of the American South. Anthrom Green was one of the person interviewed.

At an early age, Anthrom relocated to Jacksonville, Florida and graduated from Stanton High School in Jacksonville. For nearly a century, from Reconstruction until school desegregation orders came in the 1950s, Stanton High School operated one of the well-regarded secondary schools for African-American students in Florida. Named after Abraham Lincoln's Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton, Stanton Institute, which later became known as Stanton High School, opened in 1868 as the first and only public secondary school for African-Americans in Reconstruction Florida. After completing high school, he continued working in the making of turpentine.

Mr. Green was in World War II from 1943-1945. Anthrom was assigned to the transportation unit as a driver and was responsible for delivering supplies to the front line as well as retrieving wounded American soldiers and German prisoners. After WWII he reenlisted in the Army and was stationed at Fort Monmouth in Eatontown, New Jersey. He reenlisted because at that time much violence was taking place in Florida as well as good jobs were not available to Negroes. Upon departure from the Army in 1947 he began working at a vocational school in Jacksonville. While working there, he decided to attend the vocational school to learn the trade of carpentry. After successful completion of his training he sought employment in the carpentry field in the Florida area however still black men were not hired in that type of position regardless of their training. Being previously stationed at Fort Monmouth, New Jersey he realized he would have to relocate again to the north to obtain employment in the field he had trained.

Anthrom worked as a federal civilian employee at Fort Monmouth, New Jersey as a carpenter for many years. In 1974 he relocated once again to Jacksonville, Florida and resumed employment with the federal government at the Naval Air Station located in Jacksonville. He retired from the federal government in 1978 as a carpenter. After retiring from the Naval Air Station, he began working at Sears

and Roebuck as the lead tire mechanic. While employed there he received many recognition awards as one of their most outstanding employees.

Anthrom has been very involved in the church for many, many years and was ordained a deacon in 1954 at the Second Baptist Church in Freehold, New Jersey (Rev. T. M. Jones, Pastor). He served as a deacon at the Tabernacle Baptist Institutional Church, Jacksonville Florida, Rev. Michael Edwards, Pastor. In 2015 he relocated to Las Vegas, Nevada with his daughter and is currently a deacon at the Victory Missionary Baptist Church, Dr. Robert E. Fowler, Sr., Pastor. Since 2015 he has been a member of the Doolittle Senior Center and attended approximately four days per week.