

Who Are We?

We are a welcoming church that
wants everyone to know God's love.

Our Core Values

Love First Foster Belonging
Grace-Powered Hope, Help, and Healing

**Indicates stand as you are able.*

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: Now is the time to awaken to the presence of God the Eternal Spirit.

All: **Now is the time to come alive with our songs of praise.**

One: Today we open ourselves to the power of the Spirit in our lives.

All: **Today we extend our hands in caring toward humanity. We do all this because we have responded to the ministry and message of Jesus Christ, whose people we are.**

(Bread for the Journey, edited Ruth C. Duck)

*OPENING HYMN

UMH 437

"This Is My Song"

*OPENING PRAYER:

Almighty God, you rule all the peoples of the earth. Inspire the minds of all women and men to whom you have committed the responsibility of government and leadership in the nations of the world. Give to them the vision of truth and justice, that by their counsel of all nations and peoples may work together. Give to the people of our country zeal for justice and strength of forbearance that we may use our liberty in accordance with your gracious will. Forgive our shortcomings as a nation; purify our hearts to see And love the truth. We pray all these things through Jesus the Christ. Amen.

(UM Book of Worship 442)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Dee Dee Hart

*HYMN

UMH 696

"America the Beautiful"

GOSPEL READING

John 17:20-26

*This is the word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God. AMEN.*

SERMON

"United with Love"

Rev. Nancy Wheeler Handlon

*HYMN of INVITATION

UMH 557

"Blest Be the Tie That Binds"

PASTORAL PRAYER and THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING / *DOXOLOGY **UMH 95**

*PRAYER of THANKSGIVING:

**All things come from you, O God,
and with praise and thanksgiving we return to you what is yours.
You created all that is, and with love formed us in your image.
When our love failed, your love remained steadfast.
You gave your only Son Jesus Christ to be our Savior,
that we might have abundant and eternal life.
All that we are, and all that we have, is a trust from you.
And so, in gratitude for all that you have done,
we offer ourselves, and all that we have,
in union with Christ's offering for us.
By your Holy Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other,
and one in ministry to all the world;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

HOLY COMMUNION:

All who seek Jesus are welcome to share in the sacrament, whether you are a member of this church, another church or no church at all.

*CLOSING HYMN

UMH 672

"God Be with You till We Meet Again"

BENEDICTION and POSTLUDE

Pianist: Chris Miller

Do good, be rich in the good things you do, be generous, and share with others. When you do these things, you will save a treasure for yourselves that is a good foundation for the future. That way you can take hold of what is truly life. 1 Timothy 6:18-19

Offerings may be placed in plates or given online through our website. Offerings can be made using electronic fund transfers from your bank account or by credit/debit card, with the option to be set as a recurring gift. Please go to <https://www.byronunitedmethodist.org>, or scan the QR code to be directed to the giving page.



COUNTERS SCHEDULE:

July 5 – Al Miller, Nancy White
July 12 – Paul Riggs, Roger Vick
July 19 – Al Miller, Terri Nelson
July 26 – Marty Nelson, Roger Vick

COMMUNION STEWARDS:

July 5 – Cathy Huntoon
July 12 – **need volunteer**
July 19 – **need volunteer**
July 26 – **need volunteer**

Byron UM Church contact info:

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Byron UMC Website: <https://www.byronunitedmethodist.org>

Byron United Methodist Church



Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

July 5, 2026 -- 9:30 a.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS and INFORMATION

NEW PASTOR PAMPHLET: We welcome Pastor Bea Mungania to Byron UMC. She will be here beginning next Sunday, July 12. You can pick up an informational pamphlet in the Narthex to learn more about Pastor Bea.

MEXICAN FIESTA DINNER: As part of Byron Good Neighbor Days, all are invited to a FREE Taco Dinner on **Thurs., July 16 from 4:30-6:30 p.m.** Menu features beef & chicken tacos, refried beans, Mexican rice, chips & salsa, dessert, and beverage. Dine-in is free. Carryout available for \$15. Proceeds from carryout will go to support a new monthly free community meal beginning in Sept. 2026. **Please check the sign-up board in the dining room to help with this annual event!**

COMMUNION STEWARDS – we need volunteers for the remainder of July. If able to volunteer for any Sunday, please let Karen in the office know. Thank you.

COVENANT GROUP: The Thursday evening Covenant Group invites you to consider trying out discipleship in the Methodist way by joining them for a trial session. Participate in a couple of meetings to see what it's like and then decide if you are ready to make this covenant commitment. Speak with Kelly VanDeWalker for details.

GRIEF GROUP: The Grief Group will not be meeting for July and August. Watch for an announcement as we plan to resume meetings in September.

NEW CHURCH WEBSITE: Go to <https://www.byronunitedmethodist.org> and check it out. We have events and news items posted, so check those out as they continue to update. Bulletins and newsletters are located within the Worship page. Livestream service videos are located under the sermons tab. The giving page is fully functional for registering and giving online.

VBS 2026: Save the dates! Vacation Bible School is scheduled for Aug. 9-13 from 6-8 p.m.

WOMENS SHELTER AND SUPPORT CENTER: Please support the **Women's Shelter and Support Center** in its mission of assisting victims of domestic abuse by donating household and personal items for their use. **NEW** items only please. Check out the list on the box in the narthex of needed items. You can contact Janet Sinning with questions at jsinning@charter.net. Thank you for your donations.

TO PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER

For those who need healing:

God of compassion, source of life and health, strengthen, restore, and relieve those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, especially now: Jaxson Clark; Rev. Beth Perez; Jeff Schmidt (son-in-law of Anita Carlson); Ruth Wescott (cousin of Janet Sinning); Suze Anderson; Karin Byers; Donna Walters; Claire Field; Nancy Kelly; Doris Frey; Treaver Bleichner (grandson of Julene Bleichner); Dick Hart (brother of Judy Luttmers); David Larsen, Calvin Bell, Vicki McIntosh, Paige Reder, Sara (granddaughter of Anita Carlson), Max Smith (family of Barb Smith), Debbie Webb, so that they may receive healing and help in You.

For those who have died and for those who mourn:

Eternal God, by your steadfast love, open your arms of mercy to those who have died, that they may find their place with you, and look with compassion on those who grieve, that they may be comforted by your sure presence and filled with hope in your goodness, especially now: Marlene Sovereign (mother of Sue Vick); Julie McCoy; Sandy Fitzpatrick (niece of Karin Byers); Wayne Petersen (friend of Julene Bleichner); Loren Walters; Jared White; Jim Miller (brother of Suze Anderson); Kirsten Hart (mother of Aubree, Gauge and Hunter); Patricia Klingsporn; Debbie Schwartz (sister of Kathy Nerlien).

For the homebound, those in care facilities, and their caregivers:

God of all seasons of life, bring comfort to those who are vulnerable, tired, or weak, especially now: Suze Anderson, David Larsen, Nancy Kelly, Bette Josephson, Calvin Bell, Donna Walters, Alan Bourquin, Debbie Byers, John Lloyd, Carol Ramthun, Barb Smith; so that they may be blessed and at peace each day. Inspire and encourage those who care for them, so that their work may be filled with grace and their love may be multiplied.

For those who celebrate:

God of blessing, we praise You for the joy we have received and the gift we have in one another. We lift up special thanks for those who celebrate milestones in life – birthdays, anniversaries, weddings, the birth of a child, graduations, promotions, and new jobs – and we ask Your continued blessing upon them, now and always.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

If you or someone you know would like to be included in these prayers, please contact the church office at byronumchurch@gmail.com.