

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 (Based on Psalm 119:105-112):

ONE: Children of God, come and worship the Lord, whose Word is a light to our path.

ALL: As we gather in His holy presence, let us open our hearts to God's truth and offer ourselves to Christ's gracious leading.

ONE: Even though we may face trials and encounter the uncertainties of life, the Lord remains faithful, and His promises never fail.

ALL: God calls us to walk in His ways, to delight in His word, and to trust in His unfailing love.

ONE: Let us come with humble hearts, putting aside every burden and every distraction that keeps us from God's presence.

ALL: May God's living Word renew our minds, strengthen our faith, and direct our lives

ONE: The testimonies of the Lord are our treasured inheritance and the joy of our hearts forever.

ALL: Let us renew our commitment to obey Him, not merely with our lips but with our whole lives.

ONE: In the presence of our covenant God, we find mercy, guidance, and steadfast hope.

ALL: Therefore, let us lift our voices with thanksgiving, our hearts with devotion, and our lives as a living sacrifice of praise. Come, let us worship the Lord, who leads us by the light of the gospel and sustains us by His everlasting faithfulness. To God be all glory, honor, and praise, forever. Amen.

↑ OPENING HYMN

UMH 402

"Lord, I Want to Be a Christian"

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 or 507-775-6610.

ANNOUNCEMENTS and INFORMATION

MEXICAN FIESTA DINNER: As part of Byron Good Neighbor Days, all are invited to a FREE Taco Dinner this coming **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!**

THANK YOU FROM PASTOR ANDY: Dear friends, thank you for a wonderful send-off and for the gifts that you gave to me. I have been blessed over the past four years with you, and I am grateful for everything we have shared together. It has been sacred, fun, and good. My new home address is 718 Stearns Ave, Paynesville, MN 56362. Feel free to visit if you are in the area! Grace and Peace, Andy

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. The group meets from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Speak with Kelly VanDeWalker for details.

VBS 2026: Save the dates! Vacation Bible School is scheduled for Aug. 9-13 from 6-8 p.m. All children pre-K through 6th grade are invited for a free Vacation Bible School! Our theme this year is **"Everywhere Fun Fair!"**.

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 Posted Livestreams tab for viewing at your convenience. The giving page is fully functional for registering and giving online.

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@outlook.com. Thank you for your donations.

OPENING PRAYER:

Dear God we come before you today with our heart filled with thanksgiving. We are thankful for Your love, mercy, and faithfulness. As we worship together, prepare our hearts to receive Your presence. And to receive your extravagant grace. Remove every distraction and help us focus completely on You and to set our minds in Christ. I pray that our songs, prayers, and praise will continue to bring honor and glory to Your Holy name. Speak to us through Your Word, Your gentle voice to strengthen our faith, and unite us in Your love. Fill this Sanctuary with Your Holy Spirit, and let every soul leave encouraged, renewed, and transformed by Your grace. Lead us in all that we do individually and together to further your ministry. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 8:1-11

Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed, it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, then the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Pastor Bea

SONG (as children gather)

UMH 585 (vs. 1-2)

"This Little Light of Mine"

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 13:1-9

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on a path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched, and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. If you have ears, hear!"

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

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 13:18-23

“Hear, then, the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, yet such a person has no root but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of this age and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

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

SONG

TFWS 2164

“Sanctuary”

SERMON

“Extravagant Grace”

Rev. Bea Mungania, PhD.

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD’S PRAYER *(in unison):*

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. AMEN.

INVITATION to GENEROSITY

OFFERTORY

DOXOLOGY

UMH 95

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

PRAYER of THANKSGIVING *(Based on Romans 8:1-11):*

Living God, you meet us this day with grace that frees and a Spirit that gives life. As we bring these gifts from your people God, we set our minds on your Son Jesus Christ—not on fear or self-serving, but on the life and peace you promise. Grow us and shape us by your Spirit to live generously, to seek the good of our neighbors, and to share in your work of love, mercy, healing, and forgiveness. God, we pray that you receive these offerings as signs of our attention being focused on Christ and our lives being opened to your renewing power. We give thanks; we give our offerings, we give ourselves, and we trust your Spirit to lead us into abundant life. Amen.

BENEDICTION:

May you go in faith that there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. May the Holy Spirit fill your heart with peace, strengthen you to walk in God's ways, and remind you each day that the same Spirit who raised Christ from the dead lives in you. Go in extravagant grace of God's Word. Go in the freedom, hope, love, and life of our Lord Jesus Christ, and be a witness to God's grace wherever you go. Amen.

POSTLUDE

Pianist: Chris Miller

Reader: Ann Riggs

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

COMMUNION STEWARD:

August 2 – *need volunteer*

Byron UM Church contact info:

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Byron United Methodist Church



Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

July 12, 2026

9:30 a.m.