

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

↑ CALL TO WORSHIP (Based on Psalm 119:105-112):

ONE: Lord, you have examined me. You know me.

**ALL: You know when I sit down and when I stand up. Even from far away,
you comprehend my plans.**

ONE: There isn't a word on my tongue, Lord, that you don't already know
completely.

**ALL: You surround me—front and back. You put your hand on me.
Where could I go to get away from your spirit? Where could I go to
escape your presence?**

ONE: If I went up to heaven, you would be there.

**ALL: Even in there your hand would guide me; even there your strong hand
would hold me tight! Amen.**

↑ OPENING HYMN **UMH 139** *"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"*

OPENING PRAYER:

**God of grace and love, we rely on Your love extended to us in all ways and
at all times, extravagantly and with generosity. We live day by day knowing
that Your care and concern is poured out for us in Your provision for our
needs and beyond our imagining. You entrust us with the gift of the good
news of the Gospel and invite us to be partners in the sharing of the message
of grace. Day by day, we realize the many gifts lavished upon us. We come
to You to acknowledge and praise You for all Your goodness to us. Amen.**

(Ref-Discipleship Ministries: Liturgical Resources)

SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 8:12-25

So then, brothers and sisters, we are obligated, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—for if you live according to the flesh, you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs: heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if we in fact suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God, for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its enslavement to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning together as it suffers together the pains of labor, and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what one already sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Rev. Dr. Bea Mungania

(As Children Gather **UMH 585** (vs. 1) *"This Little Light of Mine"*)

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 13:24-30

He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field, but while everybody was asleep an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' But he replied, 'No, for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'

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

↑ SONG

TFWS 2236

“Gather Us In”

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 13:36-43

Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!

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

SONG

TFWS 2164

“Sanctuary”

SERMON

“Sowing with the Good Sower”

Rev. Dr. Bea Mungania

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 8:12-25)*:

Gracious God, you created us from the dust of the earth. You breathed into us life and purpose. In these gifts, we offer more than possessions; we offer ourselves and our hope. Let these gifts be signs of our participation in the renewal of all creation. Stir in us a holy longing, for justice, generosity, community, healing, and renewed life. May our worship be a partnership in your redemption, freedom, and glory as your children. In Jesus name, we pray, Amen.

↑ CLOSING HYMN

UMH 368

“My Hope Is Built”

BENEDICTION:

May God, the Good Sower bear His fruit for the church through you. May the Holy Spirit make you shine with the light of God's love. May the Lord keep you faithful among the wheat of the world, May you stand firm in God's grace, trusting the Lord of the harvest. Therefore, go in peace, love, and serve God. Amen.

POSTLUDE

Worship Service Leaders:

Music - Joe Kelley

Scripture Reader - Ann Riggs

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: Claire Field; 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

VBS 2026: Vacation Bible School is coming up - 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!**". You can learn more about this year's VBS program and register your child / children at <https://www.myvbs.org/byronumc> or scan this QR code which takes you to the information and registration page.



THANK YOU: Thank you to everyone who made the Mexican Fiesta Meal a success – the kitchen crew, the volunteers who donated their time, their resources, and their talents. Thank you everyone!

THANK YOU: Thank you for those that helped deep clean, do yard work, paint, and repair items at the parsonage, in preparation for Pastor Bea's move in. Paul and Ann Riggs, Joe and Julie Caulfield, Al Miller, Cathy Huntoon, Kelly VanDeWalker, and Marty Nelson. It was a great help to get things ready for her move. And, thanks to Marty Nelson, for all of his lawn care / mowing at the church for the hottest months of summer, June and July. And to Marty, Mary Nelson, and Al Miller for helping trim up all the shrubs at church. Just like our homes, all these jobs need to be done, and volunteers help keep costs down for the church.

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.

GRIEF GROUP: The Grief Group is on break until 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.

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.



Byron United Methodist Church

"The One who sows the good seed is the Son of Man...the good seed are the children of the kingdom." (Matt. 13)



COUNTERS SCHEDULE:

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

COMMUNION STEWARDS:

August 2 – *need volunteer*
September 6 - *need volunteer*
October 4 - *need volunteer*

Byron UM Church contact info:

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

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

July 19, 2026

9:30 a.m.