

## Who Are We?

## Our Core Values

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

Love First  
Grace-Powered

Foster Belonging  
Hope, Help, and Healing

↑ *Indicates stand as you are able.*

PRELUDE

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

↑ CALL TO WORSHIP: *(based on Psalm 67)*

ONE: May God be gracious to us and bless us and make His face to shine upon us.

**ALL: That God may be known upon earth, His saving power among all nations. Let the peoples praise God, O God; let all the peoples praise You.**

ONE: Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for God judges the peoples with equity and guides the nations upon earth.

**ALL: Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise You.**

ONE: The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, has blessed us.

**ALL: May God continue to bless us; let all the ends of the earth revere Him. AMEN.**

↑ OPENING HYMN

**UMH 395**

***"Take Time to Be Holy"***

OPENING PRAYER: *(in unison)*

**Dear God, we are grateful for the gift of this beautiful new day. Thank You for Your faithfulness throughout the past week and for various ways You have provided for us. We especially thank You for Vacation Bible School and for the children, youth, and adults who gathered to learn, grow in faith, build relationships, and experience Your lavish love. We are grateful for everyone who served and supported this ministry in different ways. May we, as a church, continue to pass on the faith to others. Today, we praise You in the unity of Your love. Open our hearts to receive Your Word and Your blessings.**

**May our worship glorify Your name. Fill this sanctuary with Your Holy Spirit. Renew our faith, restore our hope, and open our hearts to receive from You. May our church reflect Your unfailing love, abundant mercy, and everlasting faithfulness. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. Do you not know what the scripture says of Elijah, how he pleads with God against Israel?

For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, so also they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they also may now receive mercy. For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

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

SONG

**TFWS 2088**

***"Lord, I Lift Your Name on High"***

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 15:10-20

Then he called the crowd to him and said to them, "Listen and understand: it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles." Then the disciples approached and said to him, "Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?" He answered, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit." But Peter said to him, "Explain this parable to us." Then he said, "Are you also still without understanding? Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach and goes out into the sewer? But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander. These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile."

*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 15:21-28

Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed from that moment.

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

## ↑ HYMN

**UMH 402**

***"Lord, I Want to Be a Christian"***

## SERMON

***"Mercy for Everyone"***

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 Psalm 133: *(in unison)*

**Merciful God, You pour Your blessing upon Your people like dew upon the earth and oil upon the head, flowing beyond all boundaries we would draw. We thank You for the gift of unity—good and pleasant, beautiful and life-giving—meant not only for us, but for the healing of the world. We bring some**

**of the gifts You have given to us as an expression of our gratitude to You. Receive us and our offerings as signs of our desire to live together in Your love, to practice Your inclusive mercy, Your radical welcome, and to share Your abundance with all Your children. Bless what we give today to continue Your ministry and flow outward in love, compassion and service. May our giving and our life together reflect Your faith community of peace, mercy, justice, compassion and joy. Amen.**

## ↑ CLOSING HYMN

**TFWS 2130**

***"The Summons"***

## BENEDICTION:

Go now in the grace and peace of our Lord.

May the Lord bless you and keep you.

May the Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

May the Lord turn His face toward you and give you peace.

Go in peace, serve with love, and live as people who have been blessed by God.

## POSTLUDE

## Worship Service Leaders:

Pastor -- Rev. Dr. Bea Mungania

Music / Pianist – Joe Kelley

Scripture Reader – Kelly VanDeWalker

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS and INFORMATION**

**CAROL RAMTHUN FUNERAL SERVICE:** The funeral service for Carol Ramthun will be at Byron United Methodist on Thursday, August 20, at 11:00 a.m. with visitation 1 hour prior. A visitation will also be from 5-7 p.m. on Aug. 19 at the Byron Funeral Home.

**FINANCIAL UPDATE:** Dear Byron UM Church Family, We pray that you and your family's are well in God's caring love. We are reaching out to you to share that we are currently facing a financial shortage and humbly ask for your support. Your generous giving helps sustain our ministries, maintain our facilities, and continue serving our community. Every gift, no matter the size, makes a difference. Please prayerfully consider contributing as you are able. Thank you for your faithfulness and support.

**COMMUNITY MEAL – 'COME, BE FED':** A new BUMC free monthly meal ministry, "Come, Be Fed", will begin **Thursday, Sept. 17** and continuing on the third Thursday of each month. Through the Mexican Fiesta take-out and generous donations we have \$1,000+ to support our ongoing meal mission. We are so grateful for the support of our vision to build community, to show God's love around our tables as we offer a meal. Help us spread the word to the community as **Sept. 17** draws near. -- Chris Miller, "Come, Be Fed" Team Leader

**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.

**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](mailto:jsinning@outlook.com). Thank you for your donations.

**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.

## **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; 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: Carol Ramthun; 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, 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](mailto:byronumchurch@gmail.com) or 507-775-6610.*

*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.

Go to <https://www.byronunitedmethodist.org> or scan the QR code to be directed to the giving page.



**COUNTERS SCHEDULE:**

Aug. 16 – Al Miller, Terri Nelson  
Aug. 23 – Roger Vick, Nancy White  
Aug. 30 – Marty Nelson, Paul Riggs

**COMMUNION STEWARDS:**

October 4 -- *need volunteer*

**Byron UM Church contact info:**

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



# Byron United Methodist Church



*Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost*

*August 16, 2026 - 9:30 a.m.*