

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

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Welcome visitors – please take this opportunity to register your attendance
in the red attendance pads located in the pews.*

*CALL to WORSHIP (Ruth Duck):

Leader: Come to Christ, that living stone, rejected by the world, but in God's sight
chosen and precious.

**All: We have responded to Christ's call, and seek to be built into a spiritual
house, a living reminder of God's presence on earth.**

Leader: Once we were no people, but now we are God's people, called out of the
darkness into God's marvelous light. Therefore, we sing with the Church in all
ages:

**All: Blessed be your name, O God, our Redeemer. By your mercy we have
been born anew to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ
from the dead.**

*OPENING HYMN **UMH 400** **"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"**

OPENING PRAYER (David Tripp):

**O God, Searcher of all our hearts,
you have formed us as a people and claimed us for your own.**

**As we come to acknowledge your sovereignty and grace,
and to enter anew into covenant with you,
reveal any reluctance or falsehood within us.**

**Let your Spirit impress your truth on our inmost being,
and receive us in mercy, for the sake of our Mediator, Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

GOSPEL READING

Luke 10:25-29

An expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit
eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" He
answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and
with all your strength and with all your mind and your neighbor as yourself." And he said to
him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live." But wanting to vindicate
himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"

**Indicates stand as you are able.*

This is the word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

SERMON

"To Follow"

Rev. Michelle Hargrave

Good News: Responding to God's grace, we can grow in love in our everyday lives.

*Discipleship: What acts of compassion, justice, worship and devotion is the Spirit
leading you to?*

My Response:

*HYMN of INVITATION

UMH 384

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

JOHN WESLEY'S COVENANT SERVICE and COVENANT GROUP DEDICATION

GRACE NOTES CHOIR

"Covenant Prayer"

INVITATION to ACCOUNTABLE DISCIPLESHIP

OFFERING

*DOXOLOGY

UMH 95

"Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"

*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 this grace with us, whether you are a
member of this church, another church, or no church at all.*

*CLOSING HYMN

TFWS 2219

"Goodness Is Stronger than Evil"

BENEDICTION and POSTLUDE

Pianist: Joe Kelley

Byron United Methodist Church

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://byronmn.umcchurches.org/giving>, or scan the QR code with your smartphone to be directed to the giving page.



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## COUNTERS SCHEDULE:

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

## COMMUNION STEWARDS:

Oct. 5 – Chris Miller  
Oct. 12 – Chris Miller  
Oct. 19 – Aubree / Gauge Hart  
Oct. 26 – Cathy Huntoon

### Byron UM Church contact info:

503 1st Ave. NW  
P.O. Box 146, Byron, MN 55920  
Phone: 507-775-6610  
Email: [byronumchurch@gmail.com](mailto:byronumchurch@gmail.com)

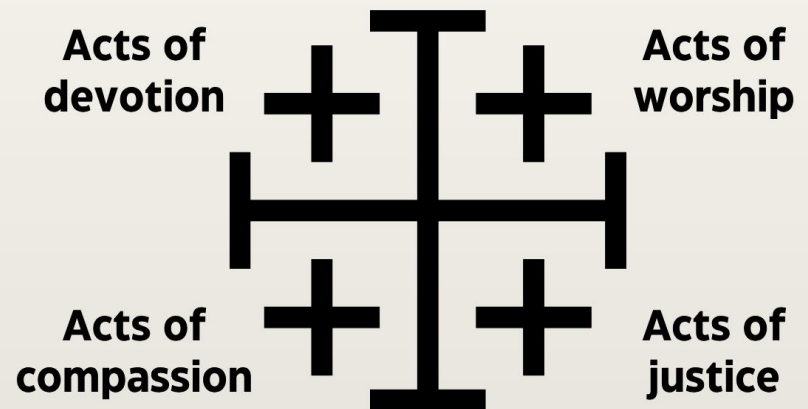
### Pastor Andy Petter contact info:

708 4<sup>th</sup> Ave. NW; Byron, MN 55920  
Parsonage: 507-775-2522  
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Byron UMC Website: <https://byronmn.umcchurches.org>

## Covenant Sunday

*"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind..."*



*and your neighbor as yourself."  
"Do this and you shall live."*

*Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost*

*October 5, 2025 -- 9:30 a.m.*

## 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: Ruth Wescott (cousin of Janet Sinning); Julie McCoy; Sandy Fitzpatrick (niece of Karin Byers); Suzy Anderson; Karin Byers; Loren Walters; 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), Wayne Petersen (friend of Julene Bleichner), Debbie Webb, so that they may receive healing and help in You.

### ***For those who have died:***

Eternal God, by Your steadfast love, open Your arms of mercy to those who have died, especially now: Jared White; Jim Miller (brother of Suzy Anderson); Kirsten Hart (mother of Aubree, Gauge and Hunter); Patricia Klingsporn; Debbie Schwartz (sister of Kathy Nerlien); Dan McCollough; Russ Wright; Anita Nelsen; Rev. Deanna Woodward (daughter of the late Kenneth and Lennis Sigrist); Greg Rud; Dawn Bidwell; Jean Franklin (mother of Rev. Sharon Nelson); Loyola Shappell, Dirk Dehn, Ron Fogelson (husband of Kay Fogelson); that they may find their place with You.

### ***For those who mourn:***

Gracious God, whose Son knew our sorrows, our tears, and our death, look with compassion on those who grieve, especially now: the family of Jared White; the family of Jim Miller; the family of Kirsten Hart; the family of Patricia Klingsporn; the family of Debbie Schwartz; the family of Dan McCollough; the family of Russ Wright; the family of Anita Nelsen; the family of Rev. Deanna Woodward; the family of Greg Rud; the family of Dawn Bidwell; the family of Jean Franklin; the family of Loyola Shappell; the family of Dirk Dehn; the family of Ron Fogelson; and all their friends who mourn with them, so that they may be comforted by Your sure presence and filled with hope in Your goodness.

### ***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: Suzy Anderson, David Larsen, Nancy Kelly, Bette Josephson, Calvin Bell, Loren Walters, 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 Pastor Andy directly at 210-288-9477 or [Andrew.L.Petters@gmail.com](mailto:Andrew.L.Petters@gmail.com).*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS and INFORMATION

**GRIEF GROUP:** Our next grief group meeting at Byron UMC is **Wed., Oct. 8th, from 10-11 a.m.** The group offers opportunities to talk about things that cannot be discussed in other settings and to find others who can relate to their situation. The scope of the group is helping others find comfort, healing and relationships through conversations and fellowship with others. For more information, contact Pastor Andy or Marlene Abel.

**READY, SET, WORSHIP! and LIFT:** Our next *Ready, Set, Worship!* and *LIFT* is **Sunday, October 12.** We have started a new program to follow *RSW!* called *LIFT (Living in Faith Together)* that replaces the regular Sunday school and coffee fellowship. As with *RSW!*, *LIFT* is for people of all ages. Lunch is included as part of *LIFT* as we play together, pray together, study God's word together, and eat together as a church family.



**ANNUAL CHARGE CONFERENCE:** Byron UMC will be joining with other area UMC churches in a Cluster Charge Conference to be held on Sunday, October 26, 2025 at 2:00 p.m. at Christ UMC in Rochester. All are invited to attend.

**CHOIR ANNOUNCEMENT:** The Grace Notes Choir have weekly rehearsals on Wednesdays at 6:30 pm. If you would like to sing with us, feel free to show up for rehearsal. Please contact Pastor Andy with any questions.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL 2025-2026:** We have classes for pre-K to 1st grade, 2<sup>nd</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> grade, and youth. All are welcome! If you have any questions or would be interested in helping with Sunday school, please speak with Kelly VanDeWalker.

**BEARPACK PROGRAM:** Byron UMC continues its pledge to give \$200 monthly (Sept. – May) toward the BearPack Program with Byron Schools. This program helps those families with children in need in our schools. *All donations at coffee fellowship time go toward this fund.* Please consider supporting this great need in our community by giving generously to the cookie jar each week!

**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 items for their use. Please check out the list of needed items located on the box in the narthex. If you have any questions, you can contact Janet Sinning at [jsinning@charter.net](mailto:jsinning@charter.net). Thank you for your donations.

**FELLOWSHIP TIME:** Please sign up in advance on the sign-up sheet on the counter in the dining room to volunteer to prep coffee, cookies, donuts, etc. for coffee time on Sundays. It's very helpful for us to know the upcoming Sundays are covered. Please contact the coordinator, Sue Vick, with any questions. Thank you to all who serve in Fellowship time.