

 **Who Are We?**

 **Our Core Values**

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

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

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*CALL to WORSHIP:

Leader: When we pass through the cleansing waters of baptism and the troubled waters of our lives, God declares:

**All: I will be with you.**

Leader: When we go through the fires that refine us and the fires that threaten our livelihoods, God declares:

**All: I will be with you.**

Leader: Even when we travel to the far corners of the earth or down into the depths of our souls, God declares:

**All: I will be with you.**

Leader: So come, let us worship God whose love never fails, whose presence never leaves, whose mercies never end.

**All: Praise be to God who, in the form of Jesus, waded into the waters of baptism to prove God's solidarity with us! AMEN.**

\*OPENING HYMN

**UMH 347**

***"Spirit Song"***

\*OPENING PRAYER:

**Eternal Father, at the baptism of Jesus you revealed him to be your Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Keep all who are born of water and the Spirit faithful to their calling as your people; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING *(see insert)*

Isaiah 43:1-7

GOSPEL READING *(see insert)*

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

*\*Indicates stand as you are able.*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Pastor Andy

SERMON

***"I Will Be with You"***

Pastor Andy

\*HYMN of INVITATION

**W&S 3164**

***"Down to the River to Pray"***

PASTORAL PRAYER / LORD'S PRAYER *(UMH 895)*

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

\*CLOSING HYMN

**TFWS 2060**

***"God the Sculptor of the Mountains"***

BENEDICTION and POSTLUDE

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Pianist: Joe Kelley

*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

# Byron United Methodist Church

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:

Jan. 12 – Roger Vick, Nancy White  
Jan. 19 – Al Miller, Marty Nelson  
Jan. 26 – Al Miller, Marty Nelson

#### COMMUNION STEWARDS:

Jan. 12 – Pastor Andy, Aubree Hart  
Jan. 19 – Chris Miller (RSW)  
Jan. 26 – Nancy White

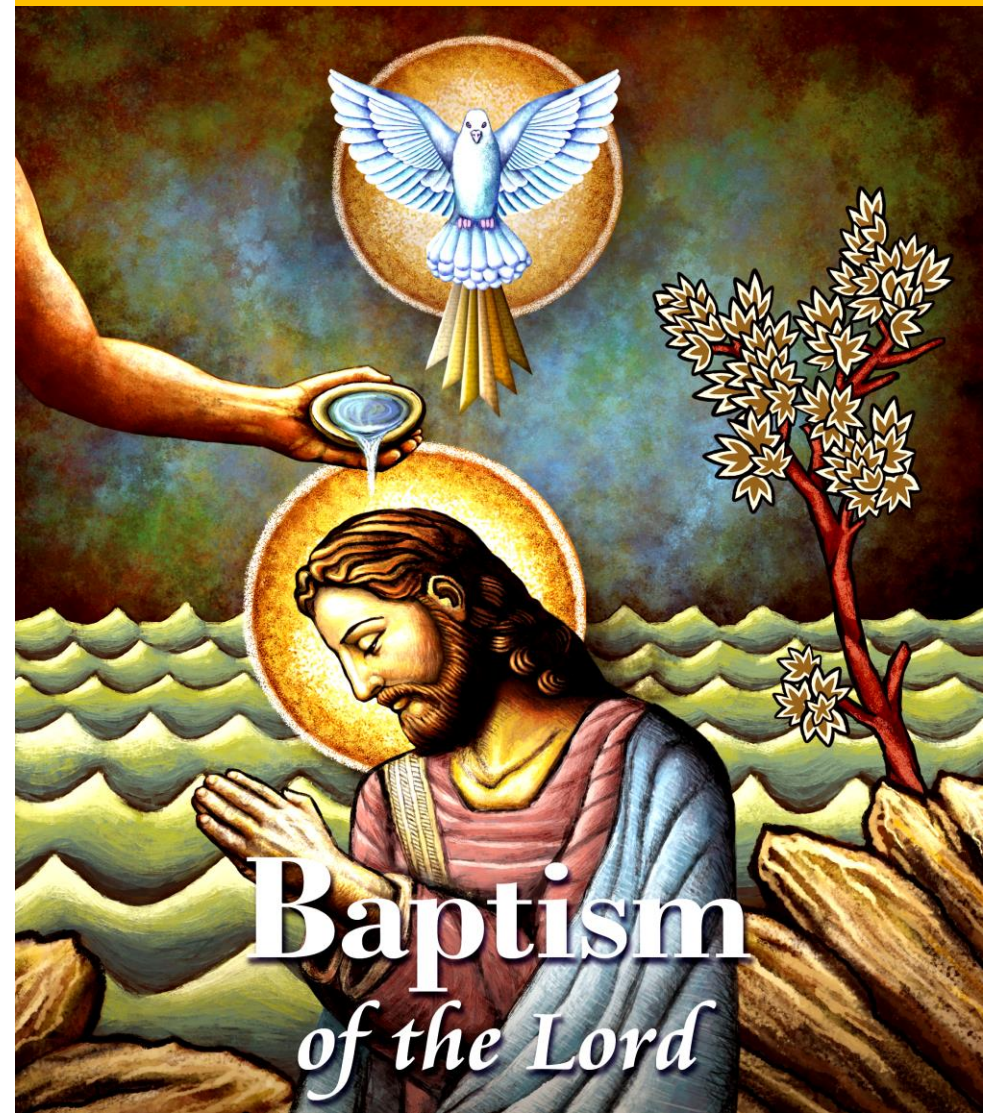
#### Byron UM Church contact info:

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Email: [byronumchurch@gmail.com](mailto:byronumchurch@gmail.com)

#### Pastor Andy Petter contact info:

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Byron UMC Website: <https://byronmn.umcchurches.org>



January 12, 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: Suze Anderson; Karin Byers; Loren Walters; Donna Walters; Jim Miller (brother of Suze Anderson); 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: 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, George Beech; 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 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 George Beech; 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: 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.Petter@gmail.com](mailto:Andrew.L.Petter@gmail.com).*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS and INFORMATION

**APPORTIONMENTS UPDATE:** Apportionments for 2024 have been paid in full making it 16 consecutive years paying the full amount. Not only did we pay in full, but the extra collected from designated and/or Christmas offerings was sent to UMCOR to assist in US disaster relief. Thank you to all who responded with extra giving to apportionments to help us meet the goal.

**SAVING GRACE PROGRAM:** Starting in January, we will offer *Saving Grace*, a United Methodist program designed to help people achieve financial well-being. Would you like to be less stressed about money? Do you want to be more generous, but struggle to make it happen? Do you have a family member, friend, or neighbor who needs to work on these things? *Saving Grace* can help. Speak with Pastor Andy or Al Miller to register. Registration: \$30. ***Saving Grace will start on Monday, January 13th, at 6:30 pm*** with an introductory session, and it will run for six weeks.

**NEW WAYS to PARTICIPATE in 2025:** *Covenant Small Groups* - A Covenant Accountability small group is an hour-long, weekly gathering of five to eight people who develop a covenant together and meet with the expressed purpose of holding one another accountable – WITH MUTUAL LOVE AND SUPPORT – to a commitment to discipleship.

*New Ministry Teams* - Would you be willing to serve with the Worship Team or the Foster Belonging Team? By joining a ministry team, you are not obligated to serve for a certain term – you can come and go as you see fit.

Please connect with Pastor Andy with questions, comments, or an intention to participate.

**LIGHT FOR UKRAINE FUNDRAISER:** The youth Sunday school class are raising money to send solar light kits to those who have lost connection to power due to the war in Ukraine. Their goal is to purchase and assemble at least 10 kits. ***Please join them for a crepes and sausage brunch fundraiser on Sunday, January 19th.***

**READY, SET, WORSHIP!** On the third Sunday of each month, our regular worship service is replaced by an engaging, kid-centered worship service for God's children of all ages called Ready, Set, Worship! Our next Ready, Set, Worship! is Jan. 19. ***We are looking for adult greeters for our Ready, Set, Worship! services. Contact Pastor Andy to be added to the list.***



**DINNER AND THE CHOSEN:** Dinner and the viewing of *The Chosen* - Season 3, Episode 4 (*Clean – Part 1*) is **Jan. 19, 2025, at 5:30 p.m.** All are welcome! To watch previous episodes search *The Chosen* on your smartphone, smart TV or computer.

