



The Discipler

April 2023



Ladies Luncheon

We invite all Ladies and friends to join us at our annual **Ladies Spring Celebration!** It will be held on Sunday, April 23, at 12:30 pm in the fellowship hall. There will be finger sandwiches, meat, cheese, fruit, veggie and dessert trays.

Special invitations and free tickets will be sent out to our **80 and over honorees** in early April, but **if you have not received yours by April 15, please let us know.**

Tickets will be a \$7 donation for everyone else and will be available at the guest center starting Sunday, April 2, and will be available in the church office during the week.



Easter Flower Orders Due April 3rd

Flowers available from Merlin's are Lilies, Tulips, Hyacinths, Geraniums, Begonias, Kalanchoes and Mums, and the cost is \$17.50 each. There are order sheets on the long table in the hallway, or give the office a call to place an order.

HOLY WEEK



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday, April 2

Maunder Thursday, April 6
6 pm Soup Supper with Communion
Fellowship Hall

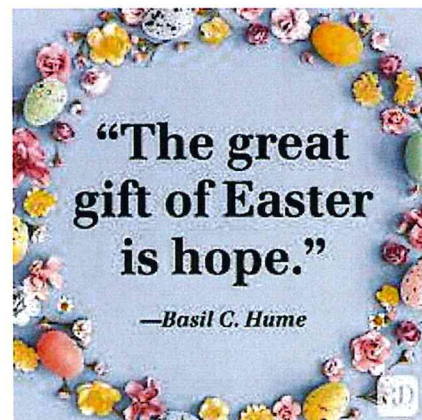
Sign up on the sheet on the long table in the hallway if you plan to attend. It helps in planning the supper.

Good Friday, April 7

There will be no joint community service this year.

Easter Service, Sunday, April 9

8:15 Lectio Divina
9:15 am Easter Breakfast (No Sunday School)
10 am Easter Egg Hunt
10:30 Worship





Financial Report as of February 28, 2023

	<u>Feb</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>YTD /Feb 2022</u>
Operating Income	\$29,717	\$40,415	\$44,649
Operating Expense	\$15,615	\$37,381	\$44,892
Net Inc. or (loss)	\$14,102	\$3,034	(\$243)
153869			
Cash for Operations (General Fund, Capital)		\$158,869	\$158,952
Other Funds (Fellowships, restricted)		\$28,515	\$29,023

Legacy/Endowment Committee

Endowment fund values as of February 28 , 2023:

Norris Fund	\$39,738.66
Strub Fund	\$7,952.16
Jarret Fund	\$8,022.54



There is grant money available from each of the funds, and for those who would like to apply, please contact the church office for application forms. The Endowment Committee would like to mention that for those interested in a way to give to our church funds, one way would be to use an IRA required minimum distribution as a tax free charitable gift. Ask a committee member or your tax advisor for details. Committee members are: Cliff Freeman, Mike Gyorkos, Ron Beem, Lori Smith and Greg Wills.

Please consider joining this committee as we welcome new ideas and perspectives in the management of these funds. This committee meets every other month or so and meetings usually last only 30-45 minutes in length. Next committee TBA.

The **Basics of Medicare Program** returns on Wednesday, **April 19th, from 6-7:30 pm** in the Fellowship Hall at the church. This program is an educational and informational meeting only. No sales or marketing will be done. This is a great opportunity to ask questions about how this program works. All are welcome to attend. Presenter will be Greg Wills. *Disclaimer: All plans available in your area will not be discussed. Please contact Medicare.gov or 1-800-Medicare to get information on all plans.*



Do you have any upcoming travel plans or indoor projects planned? There are gift cards for that! Raise Right (fka SCRIP) orders continue all year and are due each Monday. Orders are placed on Tuesdays and the cards



RaiseRight.

Formerly ShopWithScrip

usually arrive within a day or two. Order sheets and the participating merchants list are on the table in front of the church office window. The church receives a donation from the purchase of these cards, and the donation goes to our Love Meal Ministry program. Use them for yourself or give them as a gift! If you have questions about RaiseRight©, please talk to Marsha Gyorkos or Carla Trommer.





We so often associate the holy with church, that we sometimes forget that one of the holiest moments in the Bible was a simple dinner.

The supper in the upper room on Passover was a celebration feast, but the parts that we have recorded are so ordinary, one would be excused for mistaking it as another meal.

We do not get a scene of Jesus and his disciples talking about the Passover story during that supper, recounting how God saved the Jews from Egypt. Instead, we are only shown a simple meal of bread and wine. In it, Jesus takes these very simple elements, and proclaims them holy. "This [bread] is my body which is broken for you." "This [wine] is my blood poured out for you in forgiveness of sins. Do this as often as you do in remembrance of me."

Such a simple meal that has such divine implications. That Jesus is present whenever his followers gather with bread and wine. While wine doesn't remain the staple of every meal after two-thousand years, the bread still remains the same, and the message still carries on. From the richest of homes, to the poorest of families, God is continually present with his people. No one needs grand steeples or a minister to lead to make this gathering holy.

In the same way, I wonder how many holy moments we pass by and consider mundane because it doesn't happen in a church. How often do we sit with someone, and listen to them, and in doing so, we bring the presence of God to someone in need? How often do we gaze into the eyes of a stranger, and in that connection, we see an image of God that was fearfully and wonderfully made.



As an example: have you ever been unexpectedly visited by someone when you are sick, or injured? Or has someone ever done something for you, just because they were thinking about you? They may not realize it, but the love you feel in that moment feels holy.

We do a disservice to God when we confine God's holiness to the church building, because God is still speaking—in the world and through us. The church remains important because of the comfort and knowledge it can provide us. But it isn't the receptacle of holiness alone. Through the Holy Spirit, we are all temples through which God shines into the world. We make holy moments every day, out in the "profane world" when we act as Jesus acted. Amen.



We live in a world alive with holy moments. We need only take the time to bring these moments into the light.

Kate Nelson
PICTURE QUOTES.COM



PICTURACQUOTES

Join Us!

This is a good way to enjoy fellowship with your church family.



Game Night is April 29th at 5 pm in the Fellowship Hall and open to all ages! Bring your own snacks, drinks and games that you would like to play. The church already has several games to play including Mexican Dominos.

Community Outreach

In March members and friends of UCB served at the Northern Illinois Food Bank and packed **lots of food that was used to provide meals for our hungry neighbors.**



If you would like to volunteer for this very worthwhile outreach which occurs about

once a month, you can contact Stan Sutton at ssutton56@yahoo.com or call him at 815-971-5855. We thank these many volunteers for providing this service to our community!

Community Garden Sign-Up

Garden plot applications are available to all members and to our neighborhood community on a first-come, first-serve basis. The rules and a map showing which plots are still available are on the table outside the church office. Plots are \$10 each. The ones on the map that are highlighted in yellow are already reserved. If you have any questions, please call the office.



Community Garden Clean-Up Day April 29th

We will begin at **9 am** and hope to be finished about 11 am. Come on out and help get the garden beds ready.

Any and all help will be appreciated!



Fundraiser for Northern Illinois Food Bank

On Saturday, April 22nd, at 10 am, I will be virtually participating in the Fight Hunger walk with the Northern Illinois Food Bank. They have been a great partner over the last year in being able to provide Love Meals to our community. Funds raised for this walk will continue to benefit those in our community.



Donations can be made at:

<https://runsignup.com/ucb2023>

or you can use one of the envelopes in the pews to put your donation, and we will forward it to the walk.

I would love others to participate with us, and there is no need to sign up to participate, just show up. The walk is a 5K (3.1 miles), we will take the bike path loop around the church/school twice. If you want to participate feel free to walk as much as you are able.

I will be sharing this on Facebook, please feel free to share and encourage others to donate.

Thanks, Ali

Veteran's Drop-In Center

We have mentioned before the Veteran's Drop-in Center, and we have found out through Meredith Townsend that the center has now set up space for women's clothing. So, if you have clothing to donate for men and/or women, you can drop them off at the Veteran's Drop-In Center at the corner of 4th Street and 15th Avenue. Their *"mission is to provide a safe, supportive, and positive social environment where all veterans and their families, with local veterans service organizations, can give and receive help transitioning into and continuing to adapt to post-service life...is not a membership organization. Everything we provide is free. We only require verification of your veteran status."*



There are copies of the Veteran's Drop-In Center pamphlet with info on times they are open on the table by the coat rack. Please help yourself.



Invite your friends and family members to United Church of Byron's age-specific programs.



Sunday School: Children's Sunday School for pre-K through 5th grade takes place from 9:30-10:15 am every Sunday. They meet downstairs and we play games, complete crafts enjoy a snack and study the Bible



Fuel: our middle school program is for 6th-8th graders meets Sunday afternoons 4:30-5:30pm. We explore the bible in an age appropriate fashion with a focus on real world issues and how we can implement the teachings of the bible in our daily lives.

Fuel & Spark meet together for dinner at 5:00 pm.



Spark: for 9th-12th graders and meets 5-7 pm. Much like fuel, we explore the ways we can apply biblical teachings to our daily lives through age appropriate discussion and study.

Richard Simpson is our Youth Ministry Coordinator, and if you have any questions about our youth programs, please email him at:

ucbyouthandchildren@gmail.com



Newsletter

If you are receiving this newsletter through regular mail but would like to get it through email, please let us know by emailing us at:

ucb@comcast.net.

We also have an email list for "Prayer Requests" that you can be added to if you wish. It is sent out when we have requests for special prayers for healing or support through illness or surgery, and it is used to ask for prayers of sympathy and comfort when we have received announcements of members, friends and family who have passed away.

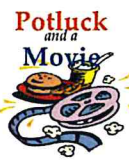


If you wish to be added/removed from any mailing list you are on, please let us know. Thank you!



**Men's Breakfast
Swedish Pancake House
Meet at 8:00 am
April 1st & 15th
Great Breakfast & Fellowship
All Men are Welcome!**

Save the Date for Potluck and Movie Night



On **Friday, April 28th at 6 pm**, we will meet at the Breck's home, 9002 Hedge Road, Byron. We always have tasty food,

fun conversation, and an interesting movie. If you've never attended, this is a great month to join us. We will gather at 6 pm for the potluck and the movie will follow. We will be watching **"The Woman King,"** a 2022 American historical action drama film about the Agojie, the all-female warrior unit that protected the West African kingdom of Dahomey during the 17th to 19th centuries. Set in the 1820s, the film stars Viola Davis as a general who trains the next generation of warriors to fight their enemies. Join us!!!



Adult Sunday CE

Through April, we will continue viewing *"Living the Question's," "First Light: Jesus and the Kingdom of God."* This is a study of *"The Historical Jesus and the Kingdom of God"* with two of the world's leading Jesus



scholars, John Dominic Crossan and Marcus Borg, on location throughout the Galilee and Jerusalem. Join us

Sundays at **9:15 am** in the Woodcock Room. For more information, please contact Norma Freeberg at 815-234-8511.

Denny Arjes
Kelly (Hildebrand) Beckett
Hannah Beintum
Greg Beitel
Mark Belito
Keith Benson
Carole Bolin
Cheryl Bonte
Steve Bonte
Jennifer Brandt
Mike Brown
Norma Browning
Susan Caruso
Lisa Stevens Colbert
Ginger Compton
Keith Erwin
Jill Faber
Joann Farris
Joe Farris
Cindi Frye
Jan Frye
Ron Glisan
Ali Groen
Dave Groharing
Betty Grubb
Gary Hahne
Nancy Hamer
Jennifer, Norma's niece
Jim Hilliger
Jon Huls
Pat Ingram
Wayne Jaquet
Adrian Johnson
Kathy Johnson
Janet Logan
Sue Lydic



Tony Maanavi
Bill Michaux
Betty Morris
Meghan Newbold
Pat Nicoloff
Clyde Patterson
Paul
Allan Petersen
Edie Pierce
Ellen Rippon
Jan Riley
Hal & Dixie Rowland
Wood & Jeanne Rudolph
Mary Sanders
Diana Snodgrass
Tori Spanbauer
Linda Stein
Barney & Sharon Sterbez
Holly Stukenberg
Stan Sutton
Linda Tarpley
Shelley Trussoni
Karis Turner
Josh VanBriesen
Diane Williamson
Jerre Woodworth

Our Homebound, our first responders and health care workers, those experiencing hard economic times and those around the world in need of special prayers.



For Our Troops, Their Families, and Our Country

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Jerrick & Tatiana Leon Orsted,
stationed in Italy



SERVING THE CHURCH

If you are unable to serve on your scheduled Sunday, please *switch with someone* and notify the church office of the change as soon as possible. Thank you!

April 2023

	4/02	4/09 (Easter)	4/16	4/23	4/30
Acolyte	K. Gyorkos	M. Gyorkos	C. King	Beitel	T. Jenkins
Scripture Rdr.	Smith	Huls	D. Eisfeller	T. Bohrer	K. Gyorkos
AV System	Jenkins	Gyorkos	Jenkins	Gyorkos	Jenkins
Front Door Greeter	---	King	Wheeler	Gyorkos	Capes
Guest Center	K. Gyorkos	Jenkins	M. Gyorkos	Capes	Townsend
Nursery	Ingram	Schertz	King	Tarpley	Wilson
Nursing Home	T. Bohrer	Schertz	Gyorkos	Townsend	M. Bohrer

Offering Counters for April: Tim Bohrer & Karyn Wilson
Communion Preparer for February: Karyn Wilson

People Helping People Collection Items: Peanut Butter, Jelly and Cereal

May 2023

	5/07	5/14	05/21	05/28
Acolyte	Smith	K. Gyorkos	Benson	M. Gyorkos
Scripture Rdr.	Schertz	M. Bohrer	Wilson	J. Eisfeller
AV System	Gyorkos	Freeman	Jenkins	Gyorkos
Front Door Greeter	Freeman	Wilson	Johnson	Tarpley
Guest Center	King	K. Gyorkos	T. Jenkins	M. Gyorkos
Nursery	Ingram	Schertz	Tarpley	King
Nursing Home	Spellious	Gyorkos	T. Bohrer	Schertz

Offering Counters for May: Butch Huls & Lova Sutton
Communion Preparer for May: Lova Sutton
People Helping People Collection Items: Pasta & Pasta Sauce

Streaming services are available on our church's Facebook page under the video link, or https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSyD13wl2YPZTA8_04V03ng;t



If you wish Pastor Tyler to visit you, and you would also like communion, please call him or call the church office. Pastor Tyler's phone number is 309-230-4951, and the church office is 815-234-8777.



COUNCIL

Ali Groen, Head Steward 815-871-2304
 Butch Huls, Steward 815-222-6252
 Tim Bohrer, Steward 773-965-2232
 Deb Eisfeller, Steward 815-985-2008
 Lova Sutton, Head Deacon 815-871-2354
 Karyn Wilson, Moderator, Deacon... 815-222-9954
 Norma Freeberg, Deacon 815-234-8511
 John Gibson, Deacon 815-985-6524
 Cliff Freeman, Financial Secretary 815-978-6367
 Kim Gyorkos, Clerk 815-234-8713
 Laura Hopkins Treasurer

COUNCIL MEETING

Third Monday of the Month
 Stewards and Deacons meet at 6 pm
 Full Council meets at 7 pm

Members of the congregation are welcome to attend council meetings.

CHAIRPERSONS

Adult Sunday School Norma Freeberg
 Building & Grounds Greg Beitel
 Community Connections Ann Schertz
 Endowment/Legacy Committee Cliff Freeman
 Fundraising Committee Ali Groen
 Memorial Committee Marsha Gyorkos
 Mission Committee Elaine Breck

UCB FELLOWSHIP

Lydia Circle Diane Wheeler
 Esther Circle Carole Bolin

The United Church of Byron

701 W. 2nd St. PO Box 927
 Byron, IL 61010-0927
 Phone: 815.234.8777
 Email: ucb@comcast.net

Church Facebook Page:

United Church of Byron, Illinois

Website: *unitedchurchofbyron.org*

Worship Times

8:15-8:45 am Meditation Service
 9:15-9:45 am Adult Sunday School
 9:30-10:15 am PreK-5th Grade Sunday School
 9:30-10:30 am Coffee Hour
 10:30 am Worship ~ Worship Service
 Communion served on 1st Sunday of the Month
 4:30-5:30 pm Fuel (6th-8th Grade)
 5:00-7:00 pm Spark (9th-12th Grade)

Pastor: Rev. Tyler Spellious

309-230-4951

tylerspellious@gmail.com

Pastor's Office Hours

Tuesday: 10 AM - 1 PM

Wednesday: 1 PM - 4 PM

Thursday: 10 AM - 1 PM

Youth Ministry Coordinator

Richard Simpson

Church Secretaries

Carla Trommer

Marsha Gyorkos

Secretaries Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday

9:30-5:00 pm (Lunch: 12:30-1:30)

Choir Director/Accompanist:

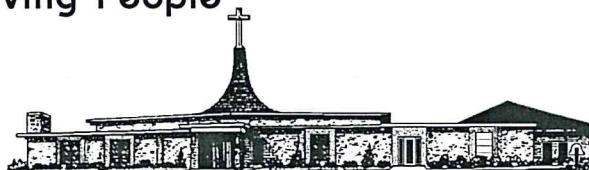
Jennie Saltzgiver

Media Specialist

Bill Groen

Our Mission Statement:

**Loving God and
Serving People**





April 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
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<p>2</p> <p>2 pm UCB Serv. at Neighbors</p> <p>Communion</p>	<p>3</p> <p>6:00 PM Missions Mtg.</p>	<p>4</p> <p>9:00AM Esther Circle Mtg</p> <p>3:30 PM Love Meals Prep</p> <p>6:00 PM Cub Scouts</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p> <p>12:00 PM Rotary Club Mtg</p> <p>6:00 PM Maundy Thursday Soup Supper</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p>																																																																																				
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