

WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT
PORT BYRON FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



United Methodist Church Mission: *The mission of the church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.*

United Methodist Church Vision: *The United Methodist Church forms disciples of Jesus Christ who, empowered by the Holy Spirit, love boldly, serve joyfully, and lead courageously in local communities and worldwide connections.*

Port Byron 1st UMC Mission: *The mission of the Port Byron First United Methodist Church is to center the congregation with God and Jesus Christ, to develop authentic relationships in a faithful community and communion of grace, and to honor God and all of Their creation.*

Stay Connected!

Facebook: Port Byron First United Methodist

Website: www.firstumcpb.org

Rev. Krey Leesman & Rev. Becky Butterfield

Sunday, December 14, 2025

Third Sunday of Advent

PRELUDE

LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CALL TO WORSHIP-congregational responses in bold**

We gather together in this place:

Prophets and dreamers, singers and

poets,

We who dare to imagine a world renewed;

We who dare to dream God's dream.

We sing with Elizabeth and

Mary.

Our spirits rejoice in God, our savior!

We bless the God of justice and joy,

Who lifts up the lowly and

vulnerable.

God's mercy is upon us all,

From generation to generation.

Come and worship, all you who

dream and wait.

We have come to wonder and praise.

***OPENING PRAYER** God of surprises, you interrupt our world with joy and hope beyond our wildest dreams. When we feel forgotten or despair, bless us with your holy joy. When our world feels barren, bless us with the gift of possibility. We pray as people of deep faith, entrusting ourselves and our world to the holy unknown, brought to birth in Jesus, our light and life. Amen

***OPENING HYMN:**

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel UMH#211

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

HYMN Light The Advent Candle (verses 1-3)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE As the children come forward, please sing "Jesus Loves Me" First Verse only UMH#191

JOYS & CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/LORD'S PRAYER

PREPARATORY HYMN: Emmanuel, Emmanuel UMH#204

SCRIPTURE READINGS: Isaiah 61:1–4,8–11 & Luke 1:39–55

SERMON: Unexpected Joy

OFFERING/*DOXOLOGY/OFFERING PRAYER

*CLOSING HYMN Let There be Peace on Earth UMH#431

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Please remain seated until after the Postlude. Let this time center you to **Love Boldly, Serve Joyfully, and Lead Courageously** this week*

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor Krey Lessman, Lead Pastor 309-226-3327, revkrey@gmail.com

Pastor Becky Butterfield, Associate Pastor & Director of Youth and Family Ministries

309-292-2287; beckybutterfield@hotmail.com

Steph Johnson, Administrative Assistant

Church Office: 309-848-4050 portbyronfirstumc@gmail.com

Office Hours: Wednesday 8:00am - Noon

Thursday 8:00-10:00am

Musicians: Melissa Battern & Glenda Belouski

IT Team: Chad Butterfield, Colin Larson, Sam Butterfield, Colton Heim, Kam Mahraun, & Nolan Peirce

***Please direct all pastoral questions and concerns to Pastor Becky until further notice. You may also contact Kathy Mahraun or Nikki Stuart**

Attendance at Worship

December 7, 2025

Worship Attendance - 58

Wired Word – 7

Loose Plate - \$42.00

Tithes & Offerings - \$5684.00
Total Offering: \$5726.00

ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you would like to schedule an event at the church, contact Steph at 309-848-4050 or portbyronfirstumc@gmail.com. She will provide you with the building agreement, policies, and forms to book the date on the church calendar.

Steph's Office Hours: Wednesday 8am-12pm, Thursdays 8-10am

MONTHLY DONATIONS BLESSED ON THE FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH: *Immediate Food Pantry Needs* - The Upper Rock Island County Food Pantry at Messiah Lutheran Church has immediate needs for Cereal, Pancake Mix, Syrup, Ketchup, and Ranch Dressing. Long-Term/Ongoing: Side dishes like Rice-a-Roni, Noodle Roni, or Microwavable Rice Packets, Small bottles of cooking oil (Dollar General does sell). ***Be sure that your donations are within the "best by/best use" expiration date and that the item has not been opened. The food pantry cannot accept items that are expired.*** Thank you for your continuing support of this ministry!

MONTHLY DONATIONS BLESSED ON THE THIRD SUNDAY OF THE MONTH: *Wish List for the Mission Welcome Kits*: The Mission Committee is preparing ongoing Welcome Kits for new residents at Whispering Hills. The following items are needed: shampoo, body soap, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, dish soap, small laundry detergent, cleaning wipes, small all-purpose cleaner, single-roll paper towels, and a 4-pack of toilet paper. Thank you for your donations and support of this local mission!

Every Wednesday- GROW: a faith community for youth in grades 6-12. Doors open at 6:30 pm, Dinner is at 7:00 pm, and Discipleship Activities 7:30-8:30 pm.

Every Sunday-Discipleship Groups for PreK-12th Grade 9:30 am-10:15 am

We're excited to announce our **2026 Summer Youth Service Trip to Detroit, Michigan**, to partner with **Motown Mission** as we serve and learn more about the city and our neighbors who live there. We have 20 youth spots reserved for students in grades 8-12 for the week of July 19-25, 2026. See Pastor Becky for more information! Deposits and paperwork are due by February 1st. Incentives for those who register early!

Upcoming Events:

*If you/your family/your friend would like to be an Advent reader, please let Pastor Becky know!

Sunday, December 14th-Children collect Noisy Offering for Missions after Children's Moment

Monday, December 15th-1st Day of Hanukkah

Wednesday, December 17th- Early Bird Deadline 1 for Youth Service trip to Detroit!

Sunday, December 21st, Choir Practice 9:30am

Sunday, December 21st-Kids Korner after the Children's Message

Sunday, December 21st, Choir Sings during worship

Wednesday, December 24th-Christmas Eve Celebration Service 7 pm. We will have a time of fellowship following the service.

If the 7 pm time does not work for you, or you prefer a quieter, more reflective Christmas Eve, the Sanctuary will be open and available until 10 pm for anyone to come and sit in the presence of God in that place, surrounded by the lights all aglow.

Thursday, December 25th-Saturday, January 3, 2026-Pastor Becky on vacation. Please contact Kathy Mahraun or Nikki Stuart with any emergencies.