



# Williston Federated Church

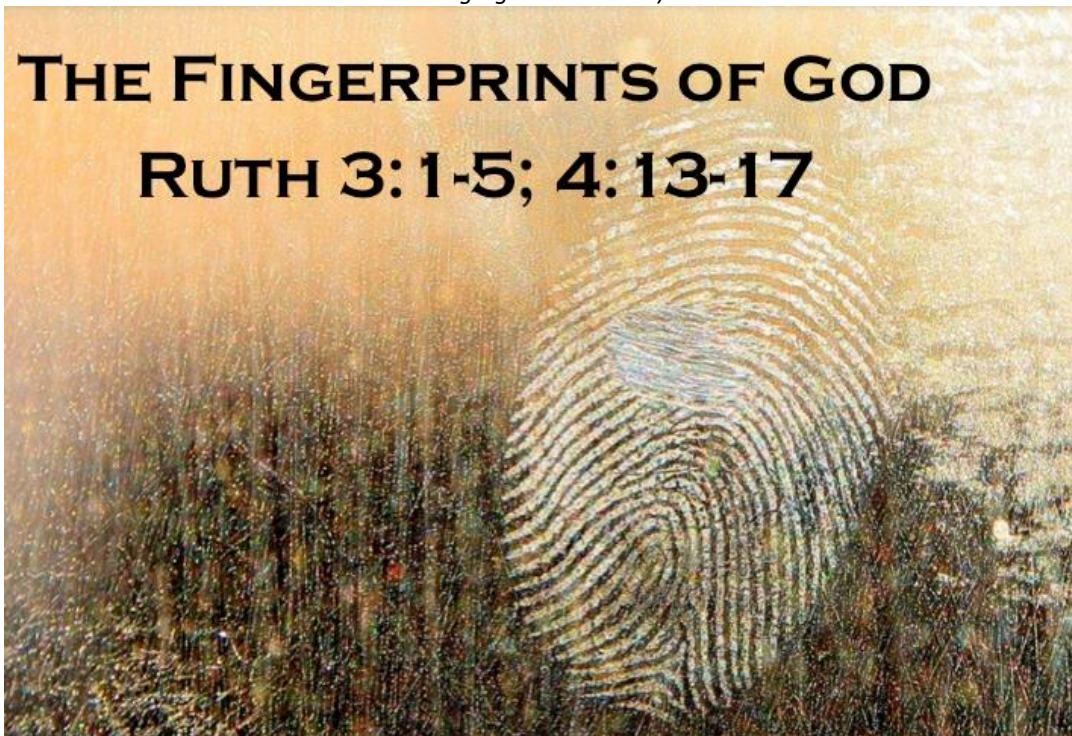
*October 13, 2024 9:30am*

Open and Affirming, Reconciling Pledge

*We, the Williston Federated Church, declare ourselves to be an Open and Affirming, Reconciling congregation.*

*With God's grace, we seek to be a congregation that includes all persons, embracing differences of sexual orientation, gender, marital status, age, mental and physical ability as well as racial, ethnic, or social-economic background. We welcome all to share in the life and leadership, ministry and fellowship, worship sacraments, responsibilities, and blessings of participation in our congregation. (Adopted by the Williston Federated Church congregation in 2006.)*

## THE FINGERPRINTS OF GOD RUTH 3:1-5; 4:13-17



Pastor – Reverend Paul Eyer phone: 802-878-5792 email: [pastoreyer@gmail.com](mailto:pastoreyer@gmail.com)

Emeritus Associate Pastor – Charlie Magill

Lay Leader – Ashley Dubois

Church Office Administrator – Pamela Osborne

Music Director – Adam Hall

Organist – Carolyn Pillsbury

Choir Accompanist – Suiong Wong

44 North Williston Road, Williston, Vermont 05495

Church Office: (802) 878-5792

E-mail address: [WillistonFederatedChurch@gmail.com](mailto:WillistonFederatedChurch@gmail.com) Website: [www.steeple.org](http://www.steeple.org)



United Church of Christ and United Methodist Church  
Federated in 1899



## Welcome To All Who Worship Here!

October 13, 2024 at 9:30 a.m.

Childcare is available downstairs in the nursery for children up to age three.

Hearing assistance devices are available—please ask an usher for assistance.

A Fellowship time follows worship—please join us downstairs in Fellowship Hall.

### Mission Statement

*Our church is an inclusive community which enthusiastically welcomes and gathers all people to share the wonder of God's love. Together we seek to find fullness of life through Jesus' teachings, to reach out into the world to live lovingly and justly as followers of Christ, and to respond actively to human needs. (Adopted by the Williston Federated Church congregation in 2024.)*

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|--|--|---|
| Call to Worship                                      | One: We come in humility, opening ourselves to God's wisdom and strength.<br><b>All: We come with expectation, realizing that in God's presence we may truly know ourselves and one another.</b> | Ashley Dubois, Lay Leader, and congregation |
| Prelude  | "Andantino" (Orlando Gibbons)  | Carolyn Pillsbury                           |
| Welcome/<br>Greeting<br>Lighting the<br>Peace Candle | Sharing the peace of Christ.<br>One: The peace of Christ be with you.<br><b>All: And also with you.</b>  | Adam Hall and congregation                  |
| Opening Hymn   | "By Gracious Powers"<br>UMC (red) Hymnal #517 (sing verses 1-4)<br>(Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-740093. All rights reserved)  | Carolyn Pillsbury and congregation          |
| Prayer for the<br>Day                                | <b>All: Move among us yet again, O God. Refresh our spirits. Embolden us</b>   | Adam Hall and congregation                  |

**to pray and to seek to follow  
you. Amen.**

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| Anthem   | “A New Psalm”<br>Music and Words by Adam Hall  | Senior Choir<br>Adam Hall, Music<br>Director<br>Suiong Wong,<br>accompanist |
| Time with<br>Children of all<br>Ages                             |  | Adam Hall   |
| Scripture  | Ruth 3:1-5, 4:13-17  | Don Thurston  |
| Prayer of<br>Illumination<br>(from Psalm<br>19:19)               | <b>All: May the words of my mouth and<br/>the meditation of our hearts be<br/>acceptable unto you, O LORD, our<br/>strength and our redeemer.</b>  | Adam Hall<br>and congregation   |
| Sermon   | “The Middle”   | Adam Hall   |
| Celebrations/<br>Prayer<br>Requests/<br>Prayers of the<br>People | Prayer requests may be sent to:<br><a href="mailto:WFCPrayer44@gmail.com">WFCPrayer44@gmail.com</a><br>Private prayer requests may be sent to:<br><a href="mailto:pastoreyer@gmail.com">pastoreyer@gmail.com</a> | Adam Hall   |
| Silent Reflection  |  |   |
| The Lord’s<br>Prayer   | <b>Our Father, who art in heaven,<br/>hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom</b>  | Adam Hall<br>and congregation   |

**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, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Offering

Offertory Hymn

**“As the Dew, from Heaven Above  
Distilling”  
(J.J. Daynes)**

Carolyn Pillsbury

Doxology

**UMC Hymnal #94**

Carolyn Pillsbury  
and congregation

Prayer of  
Dedication  
(unison)

**All: May we imitate your generosity,  
Gracious God, as we offer these gifts to  
you. May we model your justice as we  
seek to bring hope to the broken  
around us. May we share the gift of  
your love with all who are alone and  
hurting and simply looking for grace in  
their lives. Amen.**

Adam Hall and  
congregation

Life/Mission of  
the Church

Adam Hall

|                          |  |  |
|--------------------------|--|--|
| Closing Hymn             | “Guide My Feet (Songbook #194)<br>Sing verses 1,2,3, and 6<br>(Reprinted with permission under<br>ONE LICENSE #A-740093. All rights<br>reserved) | Suiong Wong,<br>piano, and<br>congregation |
| Benediction/<br>Blessing |  | Adam Hall                                  |
| Postlude                 | “March” (Henry Smart)  | Carolyn Pillsbury                          |

*Ushers: Jane Stickney and Don Thurston*

*Greeters: Cindy Thurston*

*Coffee Hour: Cindy Thurston*

*Online Greeter: Jackie Lingelbach*

*Online Prayer Coordinator: Ashley Dubois*

### **This Week and Beyond at Williston Federated Church**

#### **Emergency Pastoral Care**

As Pastor Paul recovers from treatments for lymphoma, emergency pastoral care will be provided by Gary Lewis and Charlie Magill—both members of our congregation.

Here is Gary's contact information: phone: 802-871-5881 email: [bgl@gmavt.net](mailto:bgl@gmavt.net)

Here is Charlie's contact information: home phone: 802-879-6238. You can also send text messages to his cell phone at: 802-881-9337.

We are grateful for Gary and Charlie's leadership in this way.

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#### **The Green Altar Cloth**

The lovely green altar cloth was given to the church by member Louise Whitcher, now deceased, who was known for her outreach to people in need and for her kindness and caring.

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#### **Meet the new Methodist bishop – TODAY!**

This afternoon, October 13, at Shelburne United Methodist Church on Rt. 7 in Shelburne, VT, you are invited to meet the new Bishop of the New England United Methodist Conference, Thomas Bickerton.

Williston Federated Church is affiliated both with the United Methodist Church and the United Church of Christ (the successor denomination to the Congregationalists).  
The schedule for Bishop Bickerton's "Day on the District" in the Green Mountain District (Vermont) on October 13 is as follows:

- 2:00 p.m. meeting with clergy
- 4:00 p.m. dinner with laity and clergy
- 6:00 p.m. meeting with everyone

Here is a link to the online registration form for this event: <https://neumc-reg.brtaapp.com/BishopBickertonsDaysontheDistricts> (NOTE: In the registration process, you will be asked to identify your district, which is the Green Mountain District.) This will be a great opportunity to meet the new Bishop. Here is a link to his biography: <https://www.nyac.com/bishopthomasjbickerton>  
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**Champlain (UCC) Association Fall Meeting – TODAY!**

The fall meeting of the Champlain Association of the United Church of Christ (UCC) will take place today, Sunday, October 13, at 1:00 p.m. at the Second Congregational (UCC) Church in Jeffersonville, located at 16 Church Street in Jeffersonville, VT. The fall meeting will be followed at 2:00 p.m. by the installation service for Rev. Sally May as pastor of the Second Congregational Church in Jeffersonville. A light reception will follow the installation service. All are invited.  
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**Sunday School Volunteers**

You're invited! Ever wonder what the children get up to during Sunday School? Do you see the crafts, games or videos that are being finished during Coffee Hour and think that would be fun to do? Here's your chance to experience firsthand what God is doing in the lives of the children at WFC! Sign up to be a Sunday School Volunteer! No prep or prior work experience is needed. Everyone is welcome! Pick a Sunday to try it out! Sign up on the bulletin board or at [https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B044BA5AA29A5F58-50996369-sunday#/.](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B044BA5AA29A5F58-50996369-sunday#/)   
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**Children's Choir - Calling all young singers!**

Children from Kindergarten through the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade are invited to join our newly established Children's Choir. Williston Federated Church offers a vibrant, open, and inclusive environment where children will experience the fun and joy of singing a wide variety of songs. Our

Children’s Choir members will be led by church Music Director Adam Hall and our Church Pianist, Suiong Wong. They will share their expertise—and their ability to connect with children—in leading this exciting new venture.

The voices of children singing in worship will be a blessing to us all. We invite all children from kindergarten through eighth grade to participate.

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**Driving Assistance**

There is a caregiver at Allen Brook School who has the goal of getting her driver’s license and needs some driving practice. Is there is anyone in the Federated Church congregation who would be interested in doing some driving practice with this caregiver? She is originally from Senegal, but is fluent in English. She has taken some previous drivers education and had previous driving practice.

Please contact Carol Wyatt at [brucecarol@gmail.com](mailto:brucecarol@gmail.com) if there may be interest in this volunteer opportunity!

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**Vitality Team Invites You to our next meeting**

We meet five times a year to plan community outreach activities. Our next meeting is October 15th at 7 pm in the Sitting Room. We welcome your participation and your ideas. For more information, speak to [Carol Bouchard](#).

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**Women’s Book Club**

The WFC Women’s Book Club meets on the third Wednesday of the month in the fellowship hall at 2 p.m. The books for the fall are for October 16, ‘How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accent’ by Julia Alvarez. November 20 will be ‘Good Night Irene’ by Luis A Urrea and ‘The Canary Girls’ by Jennifer Chiaverini for December 18. All women are welcome. Lois Mason. 879-7263.

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**Watch Party at the Residence at Shelburne Bay**

Watch Party at the Residence at Shelburne Bay Tuesdays 3-4pm. The goal is to send one or two ‘ambassadors’ each week to bring greetings from the church family and share in worship & fellowship. Would you be interested in being part of a rotation of ambassadors? [Follow this link to an online sign up](#) where more details can be found. A paper sign up is on the bulletin.

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**Fellowship Time After Worship**

Each Sunday after the worship service, all are invited to the Fellowship Hall (downstairs) for coffee and light refreshments. This is a wonderful opportunity for informal conversation and building community.

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**A Note about the Time with Children**

We are delighted to welcome children into our worship service! And we have a special time during the service aimed especially at the youngest among us—and the young at heart! We welcome children to participate in the “Time with Children ” in any of the following ways: remain seated in the pew with their family; gather on the first pew; or sit on the chancel steps. Remember that the worship service is being live streamed to social media. So if you would prefer that your child not appear in this video on our church’s Facebook page, you can keep the children with you in the pew or have them sit on the first pew with their back to the camera. If you have no objection to your child appearing in this live streamed video feed, then all of the options are open to you.

And then following the Time with Children, the younger set can head off to join members of the Education Committee who will engage with the children for a time of crafts and learning. It is a joy to welcome children in our midst!

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**Longevity Gathering**

For those who want to live a long, healthy, and happy life, you are invited to be part of the conversation! Helena Katz is leading a "Longevity Gathering" that meets in the choir room on Sundays following worship. The gathering gets started at 11:00 am so that people have a chance to enjoy fellowship and refreshments in Fellowship Hall.

(NOTE: The choir room is located past the gallery space just beyond the hallway that connects with the sanctuary here on the upper level of the church.)

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**Hear Ye! Hear Ye!**

For those who would like to hear the worship service better, we encourage you to sit in one of the first four pews. You are not alone!

There are also two hearing devices to use. Please ask an usher for assistance.

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## **Monday Women's Bible Study**

The Women's Bible Study has begun a new year of meeting. We choose books of the Bible to discuss and we have a great time listening to each other as we try to discern God's word.. We meet in person and by ZOOM every Monday afternoon from 1:30-2:30. If you'd like to join us, have questions, wish you knew more about the Bible, please contact Sally Metro at [ssmetro9@gmail.com](mailto:ssmetro9@gmail.com). All are welcome!

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## **Prayer cards**

Prayer Cards are available to write prayer requests. (You may find them in the pew rack in front of you.) You are invited to place your completed prayer cards in the Prayer Box (crafted by Chris Stewart) that is now positioned on a table in the Gallery area (the space between the stairs and the hallway to the sanctuary. Additional prayer cards can be found on that table as well.) Written prayers entered in the Prayer Box will be lifted to God in prayer by Pastor Paul throughout the week.

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## **Monday Morning Centering Prayer Group**

The Centering Prayer Group meets on Mondays with a start time of 10:45am. The Centering Prayer group gathers via Zoom ONLY for silent prayer and Bible discussion. This is a zoom only meeting. It will open at 10:45; 11-11:20 Silent Prayer; 11:20-12:00 discussion of the Bible Passage of the day along with lunch; 12-1pm continuation of lunch and visiting. For Zoom code or questions, call/text Donna Fellinger at 802-355-1700 or email at [donnafellinger@gmail.com](mailto:donnafellinger@gmail.com)

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## **Dismas House**

The next three "Third Tuesdays" of 2024, will be on: October, 15th, 2024; November 19th, 2024 and December 17th, 2024. "Third Tuesdays" calendar for 2025 will soon be available. There is a copy of "news" from, about Dismas House on the bulletin board.

Cindy Thurston and Sara Moran offered to plan and prepare the meal for October 15th, 2024. Thank you Cindy and Sara. We continue to welcome offers. One volunteer does not have to be responsible for the entire meal, teamwork is always a possibility.

The residents and staff at Dismas House appreciate and enjoy when volunteers join them at the table. Sharing the meal is deeply meaningful for all, although delivering the meal is always an option as well.

Thank you for all the support and enthusiasm for this very meaningful outreach.

Thank you for considering to participate. The coordinating team, Lizzy Pope and Peet Grobler. Your Missions and Social Concerns Committee.

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### **Trunk or Treat October 27th**

The Williston Federated Church and the Williston-Richmond Rotary Club are once again teaming up to host a Halloween Trunk or Treat event on October 27th from 2:30-4:00 PM at the Community Park behind Williston Central School. We are seeking volunteers to participate by attending and handing out treats from your vehicle.

This is a free event open to children of the area. Come and enjoy the excitement of our children in a safe and friendly environment. Decorated trunks and costumes are optional but encouraged. [Please sign up here](#) or on the bulletin board at church.

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### **Guess Who's Coming to Dinner October 26th**

Join in this fun adult event where no one knows where they will dine until that night and where the hosts won't know who is coming to dinner until the guests arrive at their door. Hosts will provide the main course. Guests will bring an appetizer, or a dessert. Fill out the confidential form available from the usher or on the bulletin board and drop it in the offering or in the envelope hanging on the bulletin board. No peeking!. Please indicate if you want to host or be a guest or are flexible. If you are willing to host, how many guests can you accommodate? Also, please note any dietary restrictions. If you prefer, you can [sign up online](#). Once your reservation appears online, the information will be transferred to a form and deleted from the site. This will aid us in keeping the participants a mystery to all. **Deadline to sign up is October 20th.** Speak to Gary Lewis with any questions. Sponsored by the Vitality Team. More details on the form.

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### **Greenworks Ministry - Green Tip**

You know what's coming, right? Cold temperatures! October is a great month to check the weather stripping on your exterior doors and windows - November is too cold and gray for that kind of thing!

If you can see light through the weather stripping or feel a draft, it's time to replace it. Don't forget about the rebates available through Efficiency Vermont, they can save you up to \$100 on DIY projects like this one.

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### **Greenworks Ministry - Survey**

So we can help you better, would someone from your household please fill out the online survey with this link <https://s.surveyplanet.com/4cmqh9ex>. The survey will help Greenworks ministry look at what people would like to know more about and who in our congregation has greener methods of heating/cooling homes, electric or hybrid vehicles, electric bikes, electric lawn equipment etc.