



Williston Federated Church

August 10, 2025

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.)

BY FAITH

A SERMON FROM HEBREWS 11

Pastor – Reverend Paul Eyer phone: 802-878-5792 email: 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 Website: www.steeple.org



United Church of Christ and United Methodist Church
Federated in 1899



Welcome To All Who Worship Here!

August 10, 2025, at 9:30 a.m.

Childcare is available downstairs for our youngest children.

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.)

Call to Worship	One: We trust in God, All: and so we hope in God. One: We hope in God, All: and so we offer our hearts, so God may fill them with grace. One: Every time, we trust, we hope, we come to God, All: God is waiting for us . . . every time.	Pastor Paul Eyer with congregation
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Prelude	Carol Schein, piano
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Welcome/ Greetings	Pastor Paul Eyer
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Words of Peace	Pastor Paul Eyer
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Lighting the Peace Candle/ Sharing the Peace/Passing of the Peace	One: The peace of Christ be with you. All: And also with you.	Pastor Paul Eyer and congregation
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Opening Hymn	“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah” UMC (red) Hymnal #127 (sing all verses) (Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-740093. All rights reserved)	Carol Schein, piano, and congregation
Prayer for Today	All: It was faith which made them listen to your words, trust in your promises, dare to imagine a different country, risk undertaking new adventures, setting aside their fears and doubts. Give us such faith, God of our ancestors, give us such faith.	Pastor Paul Eyer and congregation
Time with Children of all ages		Pastor Paul Eyer
Scripture	Hebrews 11:1, 8-12	Cathi Brody
Prayer of Illumination (adapted from Psalm 19:14)	All: May the words of my mouth and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, our strength and our redeemer.	Pastor Paul Eyer and congregation
Sermon	“By Faith”	Pastor Paul Eyer
Celebrations/ Prayer Requests/ Prayers of the People	Prayer requests may be sent to: WFCPrayer44@gmail.com Private prayer requests may be sent to: pastoreyer@gmail.com	Pastor Paul Eyer

Silent
Reflection

Lord’s Prayer	Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom 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.	Pastor Paul Eyer and congregation
A View from the Wider Church		Cathi Brody
Offering Offertory		Karen Allen, harp
Doxology	UMC Hymnal #94 (Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-740093. All rights reserved)	Carol Schein, piano and congregation
Prayer of Dedication (unison)	All: All it takes is one person, then another, then more, who hear God's hopes, trust God's promises, and have the faith to merge our gifts together, so they can be used to bring hope, healing, grace, and peace to our communities and to all the world. This we pray. Amen.	Pastor Paul Eyer and congregation

Life/Mission of
the Church

Pastor Paul
Eyer

Closing Hymn “Faith, While Trees Are Still in Blossom”
UMC (red) Hymnal #508 (sing all verses)
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Carol Schein,
piano and
congregation

Benediction/
Blessing

Pastor Paul
Eyer

Postlude

Carol Schein,
piano

Liturgical
Resources

The **Call to Worship**, **Prayer for Today**, and **Prayer of Dedication**
are adapted from “Alternate texts liturgy with communion for
August 11, 2019 (Proper 14C) from Lectionary Liturgies by Rev.
Thom Shuman found at
<https://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/2019/08/alternate-texts-liturgy-with-communion.html>

Ushers: Jane Stickney and Shelley Marshall

Greeter(s): Barb Bristol

Coffee Hour:

Online Greeter: Jackie Lingelbach

Online Prayer Coordinator: Ashley Dubois



To give online, use the QR code above.

This Week and Beyond at Williston Federated Church

The Green Alter 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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#### **Ice Cream on the Town Green this Summer -**

Join us Aug. 13th from 6:30-8:00 pm at the Town Band Concert. We will be on hand to greet

concert goes and hand out ice cream. In case of rain, the concert will be in the WCS auditorium, and we will be outside under the portico. It's a great community outreach. Sign up on the bulletin board at church. Contact [Carol Bouchard](#) for more information. Sponsored by the Vitality Team.

### Church Book Club

The book club meets on the third Wednesday of the month at 2pm in Fellowship Hall. The upcoming book choices are:

August 20: 'James' by Everett Ruess

September 17: 'Three Days in June' by Anne Tyler

October 15: 'Gather' by Kenneth Cadow

Lois Mason [loismason418@gmail.com](mailto:loismason418@gmail.com).

### Blessing of Backpacks Sunday and More

We will be celebrating the beginning of the school year with **Blessing of Backpacks Sunday on August 24<sup>th</sup>**. All students are invited to bring their backpacks to church on that day (a great opportunity to invite friends and families to join in). **The Mission and Social Concerns Committee**, again this year, is coordinating an opportunity for our congregation to give new backpacks to kids and families who may find it difficult this year to have new things. These will be distributed to the area schools. All backpacks given will be added to the blessings (we can always use more blessings) that morning. If you will not be coming to church on the 24<sup>th</sup> – and you want to help out – you can drop the backpack(s) off in the sanctuary anytime before then.

**We are blessed to be blessings. Thank you.**

### Summer Sunday School!

There are still a few opportunities to step in.

- Video lessons are provided to make teaching easy and enjoyable.
- It's a fun and rewarding experience where you can connect with kids and share in their growth.
- Your support helps give our regular teachers a much-needed break.

Sign up on the bulletin board downstairs or online

at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B044BA5AA29A5F58-50996369-sunday#/>

### 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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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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**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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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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**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 Fellingner at 802-355-1700 or email at [donnafellnergvt@gmail.com](mailto:donnafellnergvt@gmail.com)

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Monday Women's Bible Study

The Women's Bible Study chooses 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. All are welcome!

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## **Men's Social Breakfast**

All the men of the church are invited to breakfast and chat the last Wednesday of every month. Breakfast starts at 8:00 am; cooking at 7:30 am. Come for one or both. Charlie Magill, [cmagillvt@aol.com](mailto:cmagillvt@aol.com).

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Friday Men's Bible Study

Men gather weekly to discuss and try to understand God's Word and how it effects our lives. Join the group in the Fellowship Hall every Friday morning at 7:00 am. The sessions are also on Zoom.

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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 the first Sunday of the month following worship. The gathering gets started at 11:00am so that people have a chance to enjoy fellowship and refreshments in Fellowship Hall. Please also see the Longevity Gatherings page on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@LongevityGatherings> Please subscribe to our channel. (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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Dismas House

Every third Tuesday of the month volunteers from Williston Federated Church provide a meal to the residents and staff at Dismas House in Burlington. We'd like to thank July's volunteers, Dan and Kris Clark for sharing dinner with Dismas, and we continue to welcome offers for future months. You can find the sign-up sheet posted on the bulletin board. One volunteer does not need to be responsible for the entire meal; teamwork is always possible! Volunteers can join those at Dismas for the meal, or they can drop the meal off, whatever works best. Thank you to everyone for supporting this very meaningful outreach! Please reach out to Lizzy Pope at lizzypope@gmail.com with questions. Your coordinating team, Lizzy Pope and Sue Hook.

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## **Opportunities For Service**

Are you feeling energetic? Need to get some more steps in? Do you feel the desire to serve this church, but can't make another long-term commitment? Are you new to the church or just returning from being away? Or are you only going to be in the area for a short time? Whatever your motivation, we'll take it!!! We are working on a new way to communicate opportunities for folks to serve this church and our community. They are "Opportunities to Serve". Not on a committee or a board but as a person who appreciates this church and wants to give back, by doing some small bit of work, sharing a talent or ability, or simply lending a hand when another member has a bit of labor that needs doing. There will be a bulletin board at the bottom of the stairs as you exit after worship towards coffee hour or out the door by Fellowship Hall. On it will be written opportunities to serve the church. If you find one there that fits your abilities and your calendar, take it with you. Make contact with the person whose name is on the card and make a plan for how you will fulfill this opportunity. How good it feels to help out!

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Greenworks Ministry – Green Tip for the Week

Before buying anything check out re-sale stores save money and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by not making something new.

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## **Pride Parade in Burlington on September 7**

Mark your calendar! Once again, Williston Federated Church plans to participate in the annual Pride Parade in downtown Burlington on Sunday, September 7. Let Pastor Paul know if you would like to be part of this public witness of our inclusive understanding of faith. Contact Pastor Paul at [pastoreyer@gmail.com](mailto:pastoreyer@gmail.com)