

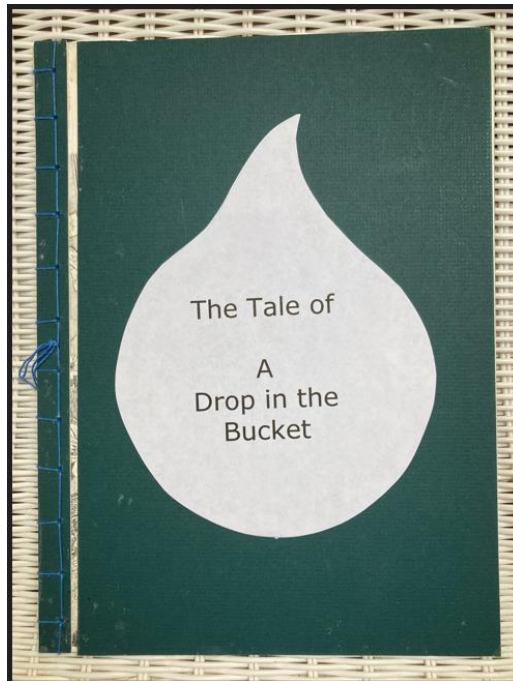


# Williston Federated Church

August 24, 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.)*



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 – Carol Schein, piano

Choir Accompanist – Suiong Wong

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United Church of Christ and United Methodist Church  
Federated in 1899



## Welcome To All Who Worship Here!

**August 24, 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 come to church for many reasons, each for our own reason. All: <b>We come to church for quiet, for peace.</b> One: We come together, in person or on line. All: <b>We come to church for fellowship, for companionship.</b> One: We come together to worship God. All: <b>We come together to be filled for the journey ahead.</b> One: Guide us God, to find what we search for this day. All: <b>Use this time to strengthen us for Your work. Amen</b>	Ashley Dubois, Lay Leader, with congregation
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Prelude	"Blessed Quietness" by W.S. Marshall, Arr. by David Paxton	Carol Schein, piano
Welcome/ Greetings		Charlie Magill
Words of Peace		Charlie Magill

Lighting the  
Peace Candle/  
Sharing the  
Peace/Passing  
of the Peace

One: The peace of Christ be with you.  
**All: And also with you.**

Charlie Magill  
and  
congregation

Opening Hymn

“You Are the Seed” UMC Hymnal #583,  
sing all three verses.  
Sing in either English or Spanish.  
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Carol Schein,  
piano and  
congregation

Prayer for  
Today

**All: O God, our Guide and Guardian, you have led us apart from the busy world into the quiet of your house. For this hour, calm us from our concerns for the world around us. Let us have an hour of your Peace in our hearts. Grant us grace to worship you in Spirit and in truth. Help us to be better and better at doing the work you have called to. Guide us in Your paths, the paths of righteousness. Show us the way to worship you in word and deed all the days of our lives, not just with our lips while we are together. Through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

Charlie Magill  
and  
congregation

Time with  
Children of all  
ages/Blessing

Charlie Magill

of the  
Backpacks

Scripture	Genesis 7: 7 & 24; Genesis 8: 1- 2 and 18-21	Nancy Stone
Sermon	“The Tale of a Drop in the Bucket”	Nancy Stone
Celebrations/ Prayer Requests/ Prayers of the People	Prayer requests may be sent to: <a href="mailto:WFCPrayer44@gmail.com">WFCPrayer44@gmail.com</a> Private prayer requests may be sent to: <a href="mailto:pastoreyer@gmail.com">pastoreyer@gmail.com</a>	Charlie Magill
Silent Reflection		
Lord’s Prayer	<b>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.</b>	Charlie Magill and congregation
Offering Offertory	"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" arranged by Mark Hayes	Gayle Goodwin, soloist; Carol Schein, piano

Doxology	UMC Hymnal #94 (Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-740093. All rights reserved)	Carol Schein, piano and congregation
Prayer of Dedication (unison)	<b>All: Unshakable and Holy God, we bring these gifts before you, not as mere offerings, but as acts of faith in your unshakable kingdom. Though the world around us trembles, we trust in your steadfast love, knowing that in Christ, we are welcomed, transformed, and sent forth to serve. Bless these gifts, that they may be used to build your justice and mercy, bringing hope to the broken and light to the weary. With grateful hearts, we offer ourselves alongside these gifts, that we may be signs of your grace in the world. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.</b>	Charlie Magill and congregation
Life/Mission of the Church		Charlie Magill
Closing Hymn	"Here I Am Lord" UMC Hymnal #593, sing all 3 verses (Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-740093. All rights reserved)	Carol Schein, piano and congregation
Benediction/ Blessing		Nancy Stone
Postlude	"The Solid Rock" by William B. Bradbury, Arr. by Larry Shackley	Carol Schein, piano

## Liturgical Resources

The **Call to Worship, Prayer for Today, and Prayer of Dedication** were adapted from “Liturgy with communion for August 18, 2019 (Proper 15 - C) from Lectionary Liturgies by Rev. Thom Shuman found at <https://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/2019/08/liturgy-with-communion-for-august-18.html>

*Ushers: Lizzy Pope and Kyle Saia*

*Greeter(s): Sara Moran*

*Coffee Hour: Ruth Magill*

*Online Greeter: Ashley Dubois*

*Online Prayer Coordinator: Heather Lewis*



*To give online, use the QR code above.*

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### **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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#### **Blessing of Backpacks Sunday and More – TODAY!**

Today we celebrate the beginning of the school year as we bless the backpacks and surround in prayer students, educators, parents and all involved with education with education at all levels. Our congregation has donated backpacks as well. These backpacks will be distributed this week through schools to children and families who need a bit of help. Thank you!

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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)

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#### **Corn Roast and Sundae Sunday September 14th**

Join us September 14th right after worship as we bid a fond farewell to summer, celebrate the beginning of a new program year and welcome the return of the Senior Choir.

We will gather on the church lawn, weather permitting, or in Fellowship Hall. Corn on the cob, burgers, hot dogs, salad, watermelon and ice cream Sundaes are on the menu. Help is needed with setup, grilling & cleanup. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board or [follow this link to an online signup](#). Co-sponsored by the Education and Membership Committees.

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### **Church Book Club**

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

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

October 15: 'Gather' by Kenneth Cadow

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

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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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### **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](mailto: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](mailto: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**

Don't Lose Your Cool - remember these tips during hot weather!

This past week has been really warm, so here are a few reminders on how to keep your home a bit cooler. They're pretty obvious, but sometimes we forget to do the obvious!

- Open your windows during the early morning and late evening
- Use fans to circulate air and make it feel cooler.
- Ensure your ceiling fans are rotating counter-clockwise to push air downwards.
- Use the microwave, slow cooker, or grill outdoors instead of the oven.
- Wash clothes and dishes during cooler times of the day.
- Unplug electronics and appliances when not in use, as they can still consume energy and generate heat.
- Close curtains and blinds during the hottest parts of the day to block out sunlight.
- Switch to LED light bulbs, which produce less heat and use less energy than traditional bulbs.

Maybe best of all, remember that the average date of first frost in the Champlain Valley is October 11, less than two months away!!!