

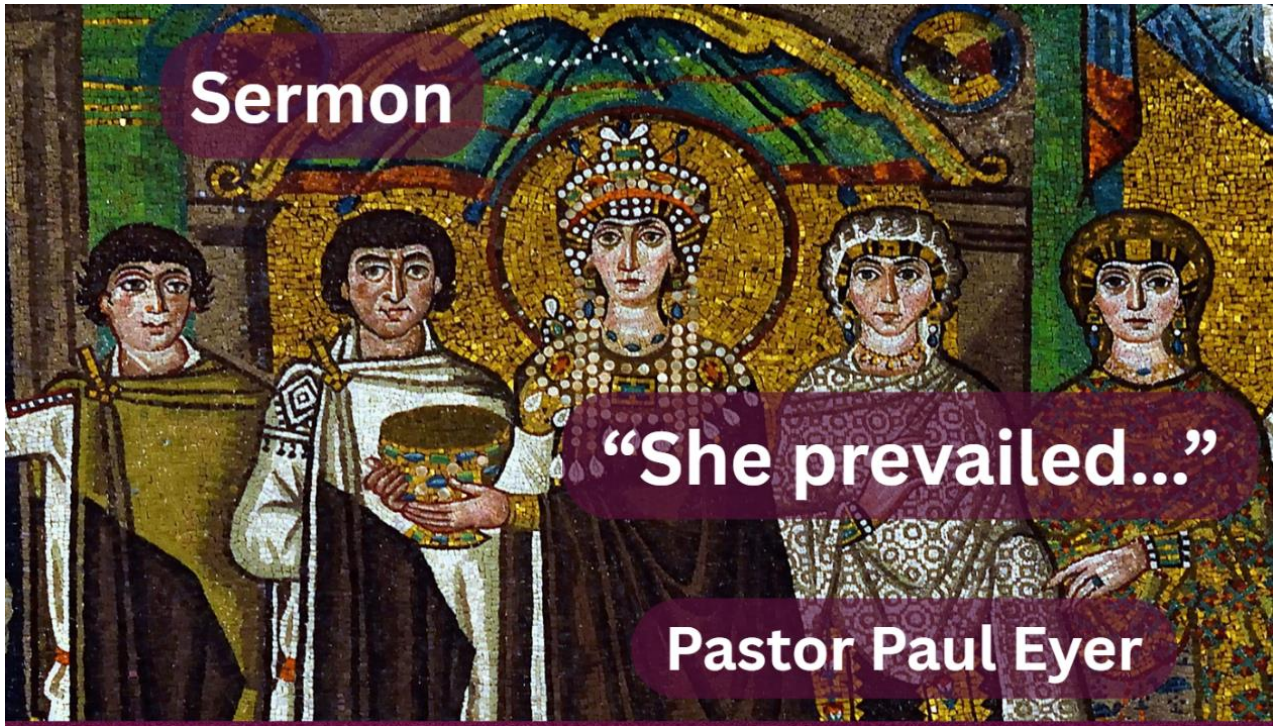


# Williston Federated Church

May 25, 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 – 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!

May 25, 2025, at 9:30 a.m.

## Sixth Sunday in Easter

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: God calls us to this moment.<br><b>All: We come, bearing both burdens and blessings. We come to hear God's Word of hope.</b><br>One: Together, we will sing songs of promise.<br><b>All: We join our voices in prayer and praise; we sing of our longing for peace.</b><br>One: In these moments of worship, our shadowed corners are filled with Light. In this time, we remember that God dwells in us.<br><b>All: We recall that God calls all to love. God's Spirit would lead all people in peace.</b> | Ashley Dubois,<br>Lay Leader, and<br>congregation |
| Prelude               | "Air" (J.S.Bach)   | Carolyn<br>Pillsbury                              |
| Welcome/<br>Greetings |  | Pastor Paul<br>Eyer                               |
| Words of<br>Peace     |  | Pastor Paul<br>Eyer                               |

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| Lighting the Peace Candle/<br>Sharing the Peace/Passing of the Peace | One: The peace of Christ be with you.<br><b>All: And also with you.</b>  | Rev. Paul Eyer and congregation                                  |
| Opening Hymn   | “Come to the Waters” Songbook #201<br>(sing verses 1-4)<br>(Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-740093. All rights reserved)                                      | Suiong Wong, piano, and congregation                             |
| Prayer for the Day   | <b>All: O God, give us wisdom to allow the powerful stories of scripture to guide us to embody love, peace, and gratitude on this day and all the hard days ahead. Amen.</b> | Pastor Paul Eyer and congregation                                |
| Anthem   | “For the Healing of the Nations/Peace Be Yours”<br><br>by John D. Becker and Susan Briehl  | Senior Choir<br>Adam Hall, conductor<br>Suiong Wong, accompanist |
| Time with Children of all Ages                                       |  | Pastor Paul Eyer   |
| Scripture  | Acts 16:9-15   | Chris Stewart  |
| Prayer of Illumination<br>(from Psalm 19:14)                         | <b>May the words of my mouth and the meditation of our hearts be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, our strength and our redeemer.</b>   | Adam Hall and congregation                                       |

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| Sermon   | “She Prevailed...”   | Pastor Paul Eyer  |
| 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>   | Pastor Paul Eyer  |
| Silent<br>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> | Pastor Paul Eyer and congregation   |
| Offering<br>Offertory  | “Minuet” (J.B. de Boismortier)   | Joan Ebbeson and Nancy Aiken on recorders, accompanied by Carolyn Pillsbury |

|                                     |   |  |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| Doxology                            | UMC Hymnal #94<br>(Reprinted with permission under<br>ONE LICENSE #A-740093. All rights reserved)   | Carolyn<br>Pillsbury and<br>congregation |
| Prayer of<br>Dedication<br>(unison) | <b>All: We offer our gifts to you, O God, and we<br/>offer our community to all who are lonely,<br/>our hearts to all who are grieving, our hope to<br/>all who have lost their way, our lives to all<br/>who are tossed aside by the world. This we<br/>pray, in Jesus' name. Amen.</b>  | Pastor Paul<br>Eyer and<br>congregation  |
| Life/Mission of<br>the Church       |   | Pastor Paul<br>Eyer                      |
| Closing Hymn                        | “For the Healing of the Nations”<br>UMC (red) Hymnal #428 (sing verses 1-4)<br>(Reprinted with permission under ONE<br>LICENSE #A-740093. All rights reserved)  | Carolyn<br>Pillsbury and<br>congregation |
| Benediction/<br>Blessing            |   | Pastor Paul<br>Eyer                      |
| Postlude                            | “Voluntary IX” (William Boyce)  | Carolyn<br>Pillsbury                     |
| Liturgical<br>Resources             | The <b>Call to Worship</b> and <b>Prayer of Dedication</b> is adapted from<br>“Liturgy w/communion for May 26, 2019 (Easter 6-C)”<br>from <u>Lectionary Liturgies</u> by Thom Shuman, found at<br><a href="https://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/2019/05/liturgy-with-communion-for-may-26-2019.html">https://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/2019/05/liturgy-with-communion-for-may-26-2019.html</a> . The <b>Prayer for the Day</b> is<br>adapted from “A Sabbath: Service Prayers for the Sixth Sunday of<br>Easter” by Ellie Hutchinson found at <u>Worship Ways</u> , United<br>Church of Christ website, at <a href="https://www.ucc.org/worship-way/easter-6c-may-25/">https://www.ucc.org/worship-way/easter-6c-may-25/</a> |  |

Ushers: Louise Kyle and Donna Goodheart  
Greeter(s): Thomas Beach  
Coffee Hour: Cindy Thurston  
Online Greeter: Jackie Lingelbach  
Online Prayer Coordinator: Ashley Dubois



To give online, use the QR code above.

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

**Stewardship Campaign**

The Finance Committee has prepared an aspirational budget for the upcoming fiscal year to be presented at the WFC annual meeting on June 8th. It's never too late, you can pledge to the Church at any time. If you did not receive the mailing with details on how you can participate in this year's campaign, we can provide those materials for you. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact any member of the Finance Committee. With sincere thanks, Pastor Paul Eyer, Barb Bristol, Jan Demers, Dan DiBiasio, Joan Ebbeson, Susan Lamb, Shelly Marshall, Simone O'Flaherty, Sandy Twombly, Amy Vaughan

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**Annual Congregational Meeting**

The Annual Congregation Meeting of Williston Federated Church will take place immediately following worship on Sunday, June 8. Mark your calendars for this important meeting to which all are invited.

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**Smile for the Camera**

The Membership Committee is putting together an updated pictorial directory, and we need your help. Please email a family photo to [Carol Bouchard](#) by July 15th.

- If you prefer, Heather Lewis will be on hand June 15th & 22nd before & after church to take your family photo. She will have her Easter photo booth set up (minus the Easter eggs).
- For any who are happy with the photo from the 2023 directory, let [Carol](#) know and we will use that one.
- If you prefer not to be included, please let [Carol](#) know.

Copies of the new directory will be available in September.

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**Ice Cream on the Town Green this Summer -**

Join us June 18th, July 16th & 30th and Aug. 13th from 6:30-8:00 pm at the Town Band Concert.

We will be on hand to greet concert goers 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.

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### **Church Book Club**

Our book club meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 2pm in the Fellowship Hall. We will continue through the summer. On June 18, we'll discuss 'American Street' by Ibi Zoboi. This is a young adult book about a young girl from Haiti. Her mother is detained by immigration, leaving her to navigate the rest of her trip to her relatives. I hope that you will join us for these meetings. Lois Mason. 879-7263.

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### **Take Me Out to the Ball Game!**

On Sunday, June 22nd, join us at the field as we cheer on the Lake Monsters! Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$6 for kids. We have a section of tickets saved for our group. You can pay and pick them up at Will Call. Game starts at 5:05pm. Kids can run the bases and play catch on the field after the game! Sign up on the bulletin board or at <https://forms.gle/v1BMNcbuQdBjX3W96> so that we know how many tickets to reserve. Let's go Monsters!

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### **Join in the Fun on July 4th and Walk in the Parade**

Walking as a group in the July 4th parade has been a Williston Federated Church tradition for many years. Park your car at the church and walk to the Johnson Farm, 8627 Williston Rd. by 9:30 am. Seed packets with FFF information will be provided to pass out along the parade route. The parade is about 1.1 mile through the village, ending on Old Stage Rd. Contact [Cathi Brody](#), our group organizer, to let her know you plan to walk or if you have any questions.

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### **Faith Fellowship Fun!**

This summer, we invite you to join us on a Road Trip! Children ages 3-12 are invited to travel on an exciting journey with us! Through stories, games, crafts and science experiments, Travelers will discover new places, new friends, and see God's goodness and presence everywhere. Mark your calendars! Friday, July 18<sup>th</sup> through Sunday, July 20<sup>th</sup>.

Friday kickoff starting with FREE dinner 5:30pm – 7:30pm

Saturday 9:00am – 4:00pm snacks and lunch will be provided

Sunday 9:30am worship service followed by a cookout celebration

To register for Faith Fellowship Fun, please visit <https://forms.gle/wG9hBxhXySA6qhgw6>

**FFF Volunteers!**

We are looking for adult and youth Navigators to join our team for Faith Fellowship Fun! If you are interested in food, games, crafts, science or music, please check out the sign up on the bulletin board downstairs. Let's have some smooth sailing on our Road Trip!

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**Summer Sunday School!**

We need you to step in as Summer Sunday School teachers for our Elementary class!

- 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#/>

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**Children’s Choir – Calling all young singers!**

Yes, a regularly rehearsing children’s choir has returned to Williston Federated Church! These wonderful young singers gather for rehearsal in Fellowship Hall **each Sunday morning at 9:00 am**.

Leading the children’s choir is our Music Director Adam Hall and Choir Accompanist Suiong Wong. Both Adam and Suiong hold graduate degrees in music (Adam in vocal performance and Suiong in piano performance). They share their expertise—and their ability to connect with children—in leading this exciting new venture. The voices of children singing in worship is a blessing to us all. We invite all children from kindergarten through eighth grade to participate.

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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 [donnafellingervt@gmail.com](mailto:donnafellingervt@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

The next three "Third Tuesdays" will fall on: June 17th, 2025, July 15, 2025 and August 19th, 2025. Jane Stickney, Carol Burbank and Barb Bristol provided the meal for May 20th, 2025; they broke bread with the residents and staff and reported to have enjoyed a very meaningful evening. Poly Malik offered to provide the main course and Carol Pierce dessert for the meal on June 17th 2025. Kris and Dan Clark offered the main course for the meal on July 15, 2025. Thank you Jane, Carol, Barb; Polly and Carol; Dan & Kris.

"Third Tuesdays" calendar & sign-up sheet for 2025 is posted on the bulletin board.

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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### Greenworks Tip of the Week

Care for Coral. When sunny summer weather finally arrives make sure your sunscreen is coral reef-safe. Coral reefs around the world (which are vital parts of our marine ecosystem) are in grave danger due to the effects of climate change. Many sunscreens use harmful chemicals to

block ultraviolet light, and these chemicals have been linked to the deterioration of coral reefs. Look for sunscreen that uses minerals to block ultraviolet light, namely zinc oxide and titanium dioxide, which are safe, effective and won't hurt our reefs.

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**How Might You Share Your Gifts & Talents?**

The Nominating Committee has begun the process of inviting folks to serve on a church committee for the 2025-2026 fiscal year which begins July 1st. WFC plays a vital role in our lives and our response to the needs of our community and the wider world. We are asking that you prayerfully consider where God might be calling you to share your gifts and talents.

Most committees meet monthly, and many take a break in the summer. Terms can be from 1-3 years. Committees include: Official Board, Trustees, Pastor Staff Relations, Finance, Education, Membership, Music & Worship, Missions & Social Concerns, Youth Ministry and Nominating. The Vitality Team is an ad hoc group and welcomes participation by any who are interested. There is a handout on the table in the gallery that gives a description of each committee.

If you would like to volunteer or have questions about any of these committees, please speak to a member of the Nominating Committee: Rebecca Dubois, Donna Goodheart, Carol Bouchard or Pastor Paul.

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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!