



Williston Federated Church

November 16, 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.)

The wolf and the lamb will feed together,
and the lion will eat straw like the ox.

Isa 65:25



Pastor – Reverend Paul Eyer phone: 802-878-5792 email: pastoreyer@gmail.com

Pastoral (seminarian) Intern – Jill Irvine

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!

November 16, 2025, at 9:30 a.m.

Baptism of Amelia Lodge

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: This day we will give thanks to God, who cradles us in the waters of baptism. All: This day we will trust in the One who strengthens us. One: This day we dance to the fountain of life, drinking deeply of salvation's goodness. All: This day we praise God for every blessing and share God's grace in the world. One: This day we sing God's praises. All: This day our songs are filled with joy, for God is with us, this day and in all the days to come!	Ashley Dubois, Lay Leader, and congregation
Introit/ Processional	"Song of Acceptance" ("Christ Accepted You")	Senior Choir Adam Hall, conducting, and Suiong Wong, piano
Welcome/ Greetings		Pastor Paul Eyer

Words of Peace		Pastor Paul Eyer
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
Opening Hymn	“O Day of Peace that Dimly Shines” UMC (red) Hymnal #729 (sing both verses) (Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-740093. All rights reserved)	Congregation and Suiong Wong, piano
Prayer for Today	One: Creator God: you grasp chaos and shake it into new heavens brimming with light, new earth teeming with life. Like the sunlight, All: your presence illuminates the world around us. One: Like the air, All: your being invigorates us. One: Even when the world seems to be on fire, All: your quenching rain soothes our souls. One: Through your wisdom, All: we find our hope and strength. One: Fill our minds with your peace and our hearts with fortitude, All: knowing you will never depart from us. Amen.	Dr. Jill Irvine and congregation

Anthem	“Let All Creation Glorify the Lord!” words and music by Julie M. Wright, arranged by Brad Nix	Senior Choir, conducted by Adam Hall, Suiong Wong, piano
Time with Children of all ages		Pastor Paul
Baptism	Amelia Lodge daughter of Xander and Natalie Lodge sister of Jack and Finn Lodge granddaughter of Lori Chiarappa Watson, Viki and Bill Watson, Melissa and Jeffrey Elmer, David and Susanne Lodge	Pastor Paul Eyer, assisted by Dr. Jill Irvine
Baptismal Hymn	“I Was There To Hear Your Borning Cry” Songbook #127 (sing all verses)	Suiong Wong, piano, and congregation
Scripture	Isaiah 65:17-25	Ted Marcy
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	“A Promise of Peace”	Pastor Paul Eyer
Celebrations/ Prayer	Prayer requests may be sent to: WFCPrayer44@gmail.com	Pastor Paul Eyer

Requests/ Prayers of the People	Private prayer requests may be sent to: pastoreyer@gmail.com	
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
Offering Offertory		Suiong Wong, piano
Doxology	UMC Hymnal #94 (Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-740093. All rights reserved)	Congregation and Suiong Wong, piano
Prayer of Dedication (unison)	All: Creator God, we see how your gifts transform the hearts, minds, and souls of this world. May your wisdom continue to strengthen our spirits. Through our gifts of treasure, talent, and time, we seek to ensure that no one goes hungry—physically, spiritually, or otherwise. Through our	Dr. Jill Irvine and congregation

**endurance and compassion, may we help
build God's Realm here on earth. Amen.**

Life/Mission of
the Church

Pastor Paul
Eyer

Closing Hymn “The Trees of the Field”
Songbook #27 (sing twice)
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Congregation
and Suiong
Wong, piano

Benediction/
Blessing

Pastor Paul
Eyer

Postlude

Suiong Wong,
piano

Liturgical
Resources

The **Call to Worship** was adapted from “Liturgy w/communion for November 19, 2016 (Proper 28 - C) from Lectionary Liturgies by Rev. Thom Shuman found at

<https://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/2016/11/liturgy-wcommunion-for-november-13-2016.html>

The opening sentence of the **Prayer for Today** was adapted from “Liturgy w/communion for November 19, 2016 (Proper 28 - C) from Lectionary Liturgies by Rev. Thom Shuman found at

<https://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/2016/11/liturgy-wcommunion-for-november-13-2016.html> . The remainder of

the **Prayer for Today**, as well s the **Prayer of Dedication**, was adapted from “Gain Your Souls: Service Prayers for the Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost” by Rev. Michelle L. Torigian found at <https://www.ucc.org/worship-way/after-pentecost-23c-november-16/>

Ushers: Lois Mason and Dan Clark

Greeter(s): Sylvia and John Maloney

Coffee Hour: Carol Bouchard

Online Greeter: Jackie Lingelbach

Online Prayer Coordinator: Ashley Dubois

To give online, use this QR code



This Week and Beyond at Williston Federated Church

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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### Save the Date for the **ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BAZAAR**

Here is a preview for the Christmas Bazaar on **November 22nd**, sponsored by the Women of the Church. [Please sign up here](#) or on the bulletin board at church.

- **Craft Table** - Chairperson, [Carol Bouchard](#) - We need hand crafted items such as mittens, scarves, ornaments, jewelry, wooden items, Christmas ornaments or other holiday decorations.
- **Bake Sale Table** - Chairperson, [Rebecca Dubois](#) - We need all sorts of baked goods including pies, cakes, cookies, candies, breads, jams, pickles, fudge etc. The bake sale table is one of the most popular. ***Please package cookies, bars, fudge etc. in small packages.***
- **Plant Table** – Chairperson [Sally Metro](#) - We are looking for houseplants, dried flowers, bulbs, wreaths, gourds, gifts for gardeners.
- **Attic Treasures** – Chairperson, [Sylvia Maloney](#) & [Shelley Marshall](#)– We are looking for *small* items: collectibles, old linens, jewelry, Christmas decorations, small treasures.
- **Soups To Go** - We are seeking soups pre-packaged in containers (to be provided) & delivered cold to church Friday or Saturday morning.
- **Nancy Stone** - will be selling her artwork
- **Tasha Pashby-Rockwood** - will be selling her knit hats and more.
- **JJ Garcia** - will be selling his crafty creations.
- **Partners in Adventure** - will be selling granola.

**Set Up** – Thursday, November 20th 11-2 and Friday, November 21st 9-1 - Bring your donated items and come help us set up.

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Greening of the Church November 23

Next Sunday (November 23) after worship we will be adorning the church sanctuary for the Advent/Christmas season. You are welcome to be part of this wonderful tradition (streamlined this year) as we prepare for this sacred season that is almost upon us.

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**Williston Community Tree Lighting – December 7**

The Williston Community Tree Lighting will be held Sunday, December 7th 4:30-5:30pm on the Williston Village Green. We will light the tree, sing Christmas carols and enjoy cookies and hot cocoa. Our very own Children's Choir will provide special music and the SD Ireland holiday truck will bring some extra cheer. Please bring a donation of new hats, mittens, gloves or socks for the Williston Community Food Shelf.

Would you like to be a part of the Community Tree Lighting? We are looking for help with decorating, baking cookies and setting up/cleaning up at the event. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board or you can sign up using this QR Code:



**New Ministry for Widows or Widowers**

We are hosting our 2nd Widow/Widowers Support Group Ministry Monthly Meeting monthly from 11-1 in the Choir Room. Please come and join us. The next date is December 14 so you can mark your calendar. We look forward to seeing you. Ministry Leaders: Kathy Quesnel, Carol Burbank and Ursula White

**Christmas Pageant – Save the date!**

This year’s Christmas pageant, “Christmas Store Window,” will be presented on December 21st. Rehearsal schedules and casting details will be shared soon. We look forward to celebrating the season together through this special story of light and hope.

**Is Choir Calling Your Name?**

Do you like to sing? Adult choir rehearsal takes place each Thursday at 6:45pm in the church sanctuary. The children’s choir (Kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade) rehearses at 9am each Sunday in Fellowship Hall. Let us make a joyful noise to the Lord!

**Women’s Book Club**

The book club meets on the third Wednesday of the month at 2pm in Fellowship Hall. The book choice for November 19 is ‘The Mountains Sing’ by Nugyen Phan Mai, December 17 is ‘Queens of Crime’ by Marie Benedict. Lois Mason [loismason418@gmail.com](mailto:loismason418@gmail.com).

## **Sunday School Coordinator Needed**

The church is looking for a Sunday School Coordinator who would plan and supervise Sunday School for children aged four years through eighth grade.

Principal duties would include:

- Recruit, train and support Sunday school teaching volunteers
- Provide outreach to children who have attended WFC in the past two years
- Assist with teaching Sunday school when needed
- Welcome new families and supervise Sunday school registration
- Assist the Education committee with special programs, such as fall kickoff, Christmas pageant, Mardi Gras brunch and various mission programs
- Attend monthly meetings of the Education committee
- May also include facilitating parent discussions group and coordinating summer vacation bible school

For more information, contact Brian Goodwin at 802-238-4180 or by email at

[Goodwinjsd@gmail.com](mailto:Goodwinjsd@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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Morning Centering Prayer Group – NEW DAY

The Centering Prayer Group meets on Fridays on Zoom, opening at 9:45. The meeting begins at 10am and includes 20 minutes of silent prayer, reading of the Gospel Bible passage of the day and centering on a particular part of the passage and sharing personal impressions about the passage. For zoom link or questions contact Donna Fellingier at 802-355-1700

or donnafellinger@vt@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, cmagill@vt.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 October's volunteers, Dan and Kris Clark as well as Cindy and Don Thurston for making meal components and sharing dinner with Dismas. 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.

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Greenworks Ministry – Green Tip for the Week

For a greener Christmas: Consider solar and LED lighting on timers or motion sensors. The increase in lights in the USA in December contributes to the release of an additional 2 million tons of Co2. Yikes.

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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!