



Williston Federated Church

October 12, 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.)

Exile Out of Place

Psalm 137

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!

October 12, 2025, at 9:30 a.m.

Bible Presentation Sunday

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 gather, as God's people, bringing our fears and pain, knowing that when our spirits have grown cold,	Ashley Dubois, Lay Leader, and congregation
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All: God rekindles the gift of faith in us.

One: We gather, as God's people, hanging our broken hearts

on the branches of the tree of life,
knowing that while friends may turn against us,

All: God transforms enemies into sisters and brothers.

One: We gather, as God's people,

All: hungry for healing and hope.

Introit/ Processional	"Song of Acceptance" ("Christ Accepted You")	Senior Choir Adam Hall, conducting, and Suiong Wong, piano
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Welcome/ Greetings	Pastor Paul Eyer
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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	“Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley” Songbook #182 (sing verses 1 and 2)	Congregation and Suiong Wong, piano
Prayer for Today	One: O God, when we have lost the melody of your hope, All: you reshape the notes of our hearts. One: When we can find no resting place, All: you cradle us with your peace. One: When we are held captive—by our complaints, by unfair constraints, or by our fears, All: you free our hearts. Amen.	Dr. Jill Irvine and congregation
Anthem	“By the Waters of Babylon” Words and Music by Brent Dowe, James McNaughton, George Reyam and Frank Farian; arranged by Peter Amidon	Senior Choir Adam Hall, conducting Suiong Wong, piano

Time with Children of all ages	It is our custom to present Bibles to third graders in our congregation. This year Bibles will be presented to: Gabriella Areson Mika Flamini Pippa Escorpizo	Pastor Paul Eyer and members of the Education Committee
Scripture	Psalm 137:1-4 Habakkuk 1:1-4	Adam Hall
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	“Exile”	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	Pastor Paul Eyer and congregation

but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Offering
Offertory

Suiong Wong,
piano

Doxology

UMC Hymnal #94
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Suiong Wong,
piano, and
congregation

Prayer of
Dedication
(unison)

All: O God, we see your glory. Through our work together, may we reflect your glory to a world of pain. May we deliver your dreams and build your Realm here on earth. Amen.

Dr. Jill Irvine
and
congregation

Life/Mission of
the Church

Pastor Paul
Eyer

Closing Hymn

“By Gracious Powers”
UMC (red) Hymnal #517 (sing all verses)
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Congregation
and Suiong
Wong, piano

Benediction/
Blessing

Pastor Paul
Eyer

Postlude

Suiong Wong,
piano

Liturgical
Resources

The **Call to Worship** and **Prayer for Today** are adapted from a liturgy for Proper 22C by Rev. Thom Shuman from [Lectionary Liturgies](#) found at

<https://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/2013/09/proper-22ordinary-27pentecost-20trinity.html>

The **Prayer of Dedication** was adapted from "Return to Glory: Service Prayers for the Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost" by Rev. Michelle Torigian, posted on Worship Ways on the United Church of Christ website at <https://www.ucc.org/worship-way/after-pentecost-18c-october-12/>

Ushers: Heather & Dean Lewis

Greeter(s): Barb Bristol

Coffee Hour: Cindy Thurston

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 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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### **Trunk or Treat Volunteers Needed for October 26th**

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 26th from 2:00-3:30 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. Pre-registration is required. [Please sign up here](#) or on the bulletin board at church.

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Choir for All Ages!

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 8th grade) rehearses at 9am each Sunday in Fellowship Hall. Let us make a joyful noise to the Lord!

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### **Women's Book Club**

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

The book choice for October 15 is ‘Gather’ by Kenneth Cadow, November 19 is ‘The Mountains Sing’ by Nguyen Phan Mai, December 17 is ‘Queens of Crime’ by Marie Benedict.

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

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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.

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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 August's volunteer, Natalie Lodge and her family 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.

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Greenworks Ministry – Green Tip for the Week

Cold weather lowers a car's tire pressure - and why we should care!

Temperature changes directly affect tire pressure, causing it to drop in colder weather. For every 10°F drop in temperature, you can expect a 1 psi drop in tire pressure. Checking your tire pressure regularly and adding air to reach the recommended PSI found on your vehicle's driver's side door is essential for safety, fuel efficiency, and extending tire life.

When the temperature drops, the air molecules inside your tires slow down and move closer together, reducing the volume of the air, resulting in lower tire pressure. Molecules like to snuggle together in cold weather :)

Underinflated tires can decrease your vehicle's gas mileage, costing you money. Underinflated tires also increase stopping distance and increase the risk of skidding. And improper pressure can cause your tires to wear out unevenly, shortening their lifespan.

So be sure to check your tire pressure regularly as it gets cold this winter. And don't forget that the Korner Kwik Stop has a free air hose on the east side of the building, facing the church.

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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!