



Williston Federated Church

October 19, 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

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 19, 2025, at 9:30 a.m.

Laity 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 have gathered once again, All: Lord of all and Lord of us. One: We come to lift our prayers, All: and to sing your praises once again. One: We come to ask and hope All: and long to see your justice in the land. One: We worship in that hope All: and will work in that Spirit.	Simone O'Flaherty, and congregation
Introit/ Processional	"Song of Acceptance" ("Christ Accepted You")	Senior Choir Adam Hall, conducting, and Suiong Wong, piano
Welcome/ Greetings		Jan Demers
Words of Peace		Jan Demers

Lighting the Peace Candle/ Sharing the Peace/Passing of the Peace	One: The peace of Christ be with you. All: And also with you.	Jan Demers and congregation
Opening Hymn	“Seek Ye First” UMC (red) Hymnal #405 (sing both verses) (Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-740093. All rights reserved)	Congregation and Suiong Wong, organ
Prayer for Today (unison)	ALL: God of the open door, we thank you that you receive us as we are and call us to welcome one another. Through your Spirit of holiness, open wide our hearts and break open your word, that you may inspire and guide this time together. Through image and movement, sound and story, may we honor your presence in our lives and in one another. Amen.	Donna Goodheart and congregation
Anthem	“Golden Rule” Music by Ejae & Mark Sonnenblick Lyrics by Adam Hall	Children’s Choir Adam Hall, conducting Suiong Wong, piano
Time with Children of all ages		Thomas Beach

Scripture	Luke 18:1-8 and Matthew 7:12	Kai Sedic Lawton
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.	Sally Stockwell Metro and congregation
Sermon	“Do To Others”	Sally Stockwell Metro
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	Ashley Dubois
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.	Ashley Dubois and congregation
Offering Offertory		Suiong Wong, piano

Doxology	UMC Hymnal #94 (Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-740093. All rights reserved)	Carolyn Pillsbury and congregation
Prayer of Dedication (unison)	ALL: Persistent and just God, you do not turn away when your people cry out. Receive these gifts as acts of our faith—faith that keeps moving, faith that keeps hoping, faith that keeps working for justice, even when the world says it’s too late or too little. Make us a people who do not lose heart. Shape our prayers into action and our generosity into grace, until your kin-dom comes—on earth, as it is in heaven. In the name of Christ, who still stands and knocks. Amen.	Dan DiBiasio and congregation
Life/Mission of the Church		Ted Marcy
Closing Hymn	“Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying” Songbook #154 (sing all verses) Sung acapella 1. Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord, send your Spirit in this place, Lord, listen to your children praying, send us love, send us power, send us grace. 2. Lord, listen to your children caring, Lord, send your Spirit in this place, Lord, listen to your children caring,	Congregation and Suiong Wong, piano

send us love, send us power, send us grace.

3. Lord, listen to your children singing,
Lord, send your Spirit in this place,
Lord, listen to your children singing,
send us love, send us power, send us grace.
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Benediction/
Blessing

Sally Stockwell
Metro

Postlude

Suoing Wong

Worship
Resources

The Call to Worship and Prayer of Dedication are from
Discipleship Ministries of the United Methodist Church
<https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/worship-planning/choosing-faith/nineteenth-sunday-after-pentecost-year-c-lectionary-planning-notes>. The Prayer for Today is by Ruth C. Duck from
[Touch Holiness, Resources for Worship, Updated](#) RC Duck and MC
Tirabassi editors ©2012 The Pilgrim Press

Ushers: Heather Lewis and Donna Goodheart

Greeter(s): Shelley Marshall and Don Thurston

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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### **New Ministry for Widows or Widowers**

The Williston Federated Church (WFC) Caring Circle is pleased to announce a new Ministry for those among us who are Widows or Widowers. This special WFC Support Group will be focused on providing empathy and understanding from others who have lost a spouse. Meetings will be held monthly. The first meeting will be held this Sunday, October 19, 2025 from 11-1:00 PM in the Choir Room. Kathy Quesnel is the group leader with team support from Carol Burbank and Ursula White from the WFC Caring Circle. We invite people who are interested in "Sharing the Journey" to come and join us.

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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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### **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) will resume rehearsals at 9am each Sunday in Fellowship Hall, beginning TODAY, Sunday, September 14. 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 November 19 is 'The Mountains Sing' by Nguyen Phan Mai, December 17 is 'Queens of Crime' by Marie Benedict. Lois Mason loismason418@gmail.com.

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### **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

Contact Brian Goodwin for more information

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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

Know what is not being cut: Thermal Energy Networks which combine ground source heat pumps with waste heat and waste water heat sharing were not cut from the rebates. They still qualify for 30% rebates or more depending on location. Towns can put these in and they often end up making money once the cost of installation is paid for. Check out this non-profit website to learn more about their many advantages:

<https://www.vctn.org/>

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**Join us Next Sunday!**

We will welcome a “time traveler” to worship next Sunday—though he may look a little familiar! You don’t want to miss what Adam Hall has up his sleeve to help celebrate Reformation Sunday on October 26.

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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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**Christmas Store Window 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.