



# *Williston Federated Church*

September 7, 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!

September 7, 2025, at 9:30 a.m.

## Communion 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 in the presence of God.  
                          **All: We gather to be the people of God.**  
                          One: God appeals to us to follow...  
                          **All: To follow in love, in faith, and in service.**

Prelude	"Glorificamos" (John Redford)	Carolyn Pillsbury
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. <b>All: And also with you.</b>	Pastor Paul Eyer and congregation
Opening Hymn	"As a Fire is Meant for Burning" Songbook #151 (sing verses 1-3) (Reprinted with permission under	Congregation and Suiong Wong, piano

Prayer for  
Forgiveness

One: Lord, have mercy.

**All: Christ, have mercy.**

One: Lord, have mercy. We pray in the assurance that your mercy, O God, is available and near to us.

**All: We also pray in hope that your mercy will release us from inaction, apathy, and overwhelm so that we may be your instruments of redemption, reparation, and restoration in the world.**

One: Forgive us for simply seeking your mercy for the ills of the world rather than asking that your miraculous power rise in us to overcome them.

**All: Grant us grace to pray boldly with our words and our actions in your name.**

Pastor Paul  
Eyer and  
congregation

Silent  
Confession

Words of  
Grace

One: We have received an inheritance of riches in God. These are treasures of hope, strength, encouragement, peace, grace, joy, rest, and love. They are ours to claim. They are ours to live. May we receive them freely and abundantly. Thanks be to God.

Pastor Paul  
Eyer

Time with Children of all ages		Pastor Paul Eyer
Scripture	Jeremiah 18:1-4 Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18	Larry Pillsbury
Prayer of Illumination (adapted from Psalm 19:14)	<b>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.</b>	Pastor Paul Eyer and congregation
Sermon	“Wonderfully Made”	Pastor Paul Eyer
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>	Pastor Paul Eyer
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>	Pastor Paul Eyer and congregation

Offering Offertory	“Tordion” (from Arbeau's Otchesographic)	Joan Ebbeson and Nancy Aiken on recorders, Carolyn Pillsbury
Doxology	UMC Hymnal #94 (Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-740093. All rights reserved)	Carolyn Pillsbury and congregation
Prayer of Dedication (unison)	<b>All: Generous God, receive our offerings and magnify them to propel the ministry of this church. May the community and the world be blessed by these gifts and by the giving of our time and talent as well. In gratitude, we pray. Amen.</b>	Pastor Paul Eyer and congregation
Service of Holy Communion / the Eucharist / the Lord’s Supper	(see communion insert in your bulletin)	Rev. Paul Eyer, pastor Dr. Jill Irvine, pastoral intern Shelley Marshall, communion steward
Life/Mission of the Church		Pastor Paul Eyer

Closing Hymn	"Have Thine Own Way, Lord" UMC (red) Hymnal #382 (sing verses 1-3) (Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-740093. All rights reserved)	Carolyn Pillsbury and congregation
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Benediction/ Blessing		Pastor Paul Eyer
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Postlude	"God Of All Nations" (Esther S. Higgins)	Carolyn Pillsbury
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Liturgical  
Resources

The **Call to Worship** was adapted from "Liturgy w/communion for September 4, 2016 (...Proper 18...C)" by Rev. Thom Shuman, [Lectionary Liturgies](https://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/2016/08/liturgy-wcommunion-for-september-4-2016.html) found at <https://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/2016/08/liturgy-wcommunion-for-september-4-2016.html>

**Prayer for Forgiveness** and **Prayer of Dedication** were adapted from "Estimate theCost: Service Prayers for the Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost" by the Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay, Minister for Worship and Theology for the United Church of Christ, posted on "Worship Ways" at the United Church of Christ website, found at <https://www.ucc.org/worship-way/after-pentecost-13c-september-7/>

The **Words of Grace** were adapted from "Rich Toward God: Service Prayers for the Eighth Sunday after Pentecost" by the Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay, Minister for Worship and Theology for the United Church of Christ, posted on "Worship Ways" at the United Church of Christ website, found at <https://www.ucc.org/worship-way/after-pentecost-8c/> .

*Ushers: Kim Hornung-Marcy and Donna Goodheart*

*Greeter(s): Carol Pierce*

*Coffee Hour: Carol Pierce*

*Online Greeter: Jackie Lingelbach*

*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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### **Pride Parade in Burlington TODAY!, September 7**

Once again, Williston Federated Church plans to participate in the annual Pride Parade in downtown Burlington TODAY, Sunday, September 7. "Line Up Location" is St. Paul Street between Main and College Streets (across from City Hall Park). The parade begins at 12 Noon, and we need to be in place prior to that time.

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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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### **Choir Rehearsals Resume**

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 next Sunday, September 14. Let us make a joyful noise to the Lord!

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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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**Save the date: Guess Who's Coming to Dinner and Kid's Movie Night October 11th 5:30 PM**

More information coming soon.

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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 [donnafellinger@vt@gmail.com](mailto: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, [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 August's volunteers, Jane Stickney and Barb Bristol 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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**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**

Know your deadlines: September 30, 2025 you need to be in the process of leasing or purchasing a fully Electric Vehicle (EV) to get the Federal rebates (\$7,500!). Fun fact: Vermont is going to get the \$20 million for EV chargers along I89 and I91 that Trump tried to cancel. EV's save money over the lifetime of the car's ownership. They also produce much less toxic air pollution even including their manufacture over the lifetime of their use. They also reduce CO2 emissions significantly, reducing climate change impact.

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**Welcome Jill Irvine!**

We are delighted to welcome to Williston Federated Church Dr. Jill Irvine, who will be serving as a pastoral (seminarian) intern with our congregation this coming academic year. Jill is currently a Master of Divinity student at Moravian Theological Seminary. (Moravian Seminary is now formally connected with Lancaster Theological Seminary, whose alumni/ae include Pastor Paul, his wife Jackie Lingelbach, and Gary Lewis of our congregation.) Jill's remarkable background includes a Ph.D. from Harvard and career in academia at the University of Oklahoma. Enjoy getting to know Jill in the coming weeks and months!