

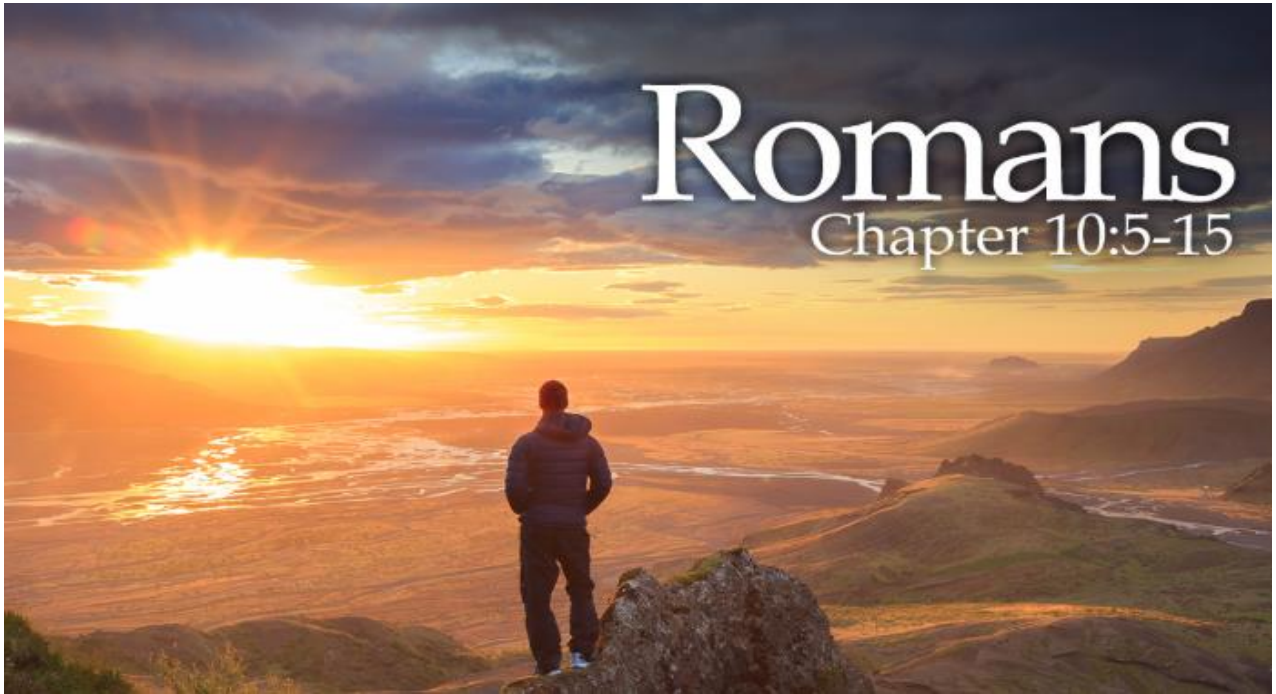


Williston Federated Church

August 9, 2026

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 – Dr. Jill Irvine

Emeritus Associate Pastor – Charlie Magill

Lay Leader – Donna-Sue Hain

Church Office Administrator – Pamela Osborne

Music Director – Adam Hall

Pianist/Organist – 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!

August 9, 2026, at 9:30 a.m.

Childcare is available downstairs in the nursery for children up to age three.

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	Leader: Here, in this place, God welcomes all. All: The dreamers and the doubters are welcome here. The worriers and the wanderers are welcome here.	Donna-Sue Hain, Lay Leader and congregation
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Leader: Here, in this place, we call on God by name.

All: We remember the ways that God has graced us. We are reminded that God is with us, always!

Leader: Here, in these moments, we gather to worship.

All: We dare enough to step out of comfort into the unknown, trusting God will be with us, supplying the strength we need.

Leader: We are here, in this place, and God is with us.

All: We worship God, here in this place, and everywhere we go. Amen.

Prelude	"Lamb of God" by Twila Paris arr. by Lloyd Larson	Carol Schein, piano
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Welcome		Rev. Jill Isola
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Words of
Peace
Lighting the
Peace Candle

Rev. Jill Isola

Opening
Hymn

“Gather Us In” Songbook #110
(sing all three verses)
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Carol Schein,
piano, and
congregation

Prayer for
Today

All: Holy God, we bring you our burdens and all that feels too heavy to carry. We pray for strength, for endurance, for hope. You invite us to proclaim your abundant love and radical hospitality to the world- with our words, our actions, our prayers, our relationships and our whole lives. We trust you to help us in this beautiful and hard work. We know that you are with us always, and we are thankful. Humbly we pray, Amen.

Rev. Jill Isola and
congregation

Special Music

Donna-Sue Hain,
soloist, Carol
Schein on piano

Time with
Children

Rev. Jill Isola

Passing of the
Peace

Rev. Isola (and children): The peace of Christ
be with you.
All: And also with you.

Rev. Jill Isola and
congregation

Sermonic Hymn	"God Is So God" Songbook # 177 (sing verses 1 & 2 only) (Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-740093. All rights reserved)	Carol Schein, piano, and congregation
Scripture	Romans 10:5-15	Bruce Wyatt
Prayer of Illumination (adapted from Psalm 19:14)	All: May the words of my mouth, and the meditation of our hearts, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, our strength and our redeemer.	Rev. Jill Isola and congregation
Sermon	"Y'all means all"	Rev. Jill Isola
Celebrations/ Prayer Requests/ Prayers of the People	Prayer requests may be sent to: WFCPrayer44@gmail.com or if you are online, place them in the chat 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 but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.	Rev. Jill Isola and congregation

Come, Meet Christ, Go Serve with Us

Call to Offering		Rev. Jill Isola
Offering		
Offertory	“Offertoire” by Theodore Dubois arr. by Dorothy Wells	Carol Schein, piano
Doxology	UMC Hymnal #94 (Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-740093. All rights reserved)	Carol Schein, piano, and congregation
Prayer of Dedication (unison)	All: We give, O God. We give of what we have and we give of who we are, Holy Lord. May the gifts we offer be a blessing to your Beloved Community, and may we be blessed in the serving and loving of your people and your world. Amen.	Rev. Jill Isola and congregation
Life/Mission of the Church		Rev. Jill Isola
Closing Hymn	“In Christ There is No East or West” UMC (red) Hymnal #548 (sing all four verses) (Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-740093. All rights reserved)	Carol Schein, piano, and congregation
Benediction/ Blessing		Rev. Jill Isola
Postlude	“All Creatures of Our God and King” from Geistliche Kirchengesänge Arr. by Larry Shackley	Carol Schein, piano

Liturgical Resources

Portions of the liturgy this morning are inspired by the work of
the Reverend Thom Shuman.

Ushers: Carol and Bruce Wyatt

Greeter(s): Judy and Barry Toth

Coffee Hour: Vickie and Phil Carleton

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

Expressions of Peace

Our community of faith at Williston Federated Church includes a wide range of perspectives and opinions about many topics, including worship. In response to input from some in the congregation, we have been experimenting with various practices of "passing the peace" during our worship services.

On June 28, we began passing the peace immediately following the "time with children". The children will assist in inviting people in the congregation to share in this custom.

NOTE: This is an experiment which we will continue over the next several weeks. Your feedback is welcome.

And, as always, the peace of Christ is with you... Prayerfully, Pastor Paul

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### Emergency Pastoral Coverage

Pastor Paul will be away from Wednesday, August 5 through Monday, August 10. In his absence, Rev. Gary Lewis from our congregation will provide emergency pastoral care. Rev. Lewis can be reached at [bgl@gmavt.net](mailto:bgl@gmavt.net) or by phone at 802-871-5881.

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Backpack Sunday - Making a Difference

On Sunday, August 23, we will have an opportunity to focus on the upcoming school year by extending our blessings and hope to students, parents, educators, staff and all who are involved with the upcoming school year. We will also include a **BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS**. All students are invited to bring their backpacks to the service to be blessed. They can invite friends to bring their backpacks as well. Actually, anyone who has a backpack and wants it included in the blessing – bring it in on the 23rd. Again, this year we are extending an invitation to the

congregation/community to donate **new backpacks** which will be distributed to area schools for children and families who may need a backpack. You may drop your donated backpacks at the church anytime leading up to the 23rd. Just bring them up to the sanctuary. Or – bring them on Sunday the 23rd. **Together – we can make a difference. THANK YOU.**

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### **Pride Parade on September 13**

The Pride Parade in downtown Burlington will take place this year on Sunday, September 13. We will assemble at King Street near the Hood plant by 11:30am that day. The parade kicks off at 12 noon. This represents a wonderful opportunity for our church to offer public witness to the inclusive message of the gospel. If you are interested in participating in the parade, please contact Cathi Brody at [cbrody1@comcast.net](mailto:cbrody1@comcast.net).

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Seeking New Office Administrator at Richmond Congregational Church

Richmond Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, is searching for a welcoming, organized, technically savvy person to be our next Office Administrator. This part-time position (20-25 hours week) offers the ability to set a weekday schedule, with flexibility as needed. A consistent presence in the church office is key to this role, though some duties may be able to be performed offsite.

Link to Job Posting & Application

Instructions: [https://docs.google.com/document/d/1E2lyicZFekgH2ZjLp0eRRvzFv2UXNJQA/edit?usp=sharing&ou\[...\]rue](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1E2lyicZFekgH2ZjLp0eRRvzFv2UXNJQA/edit?usp=sharing&ou[...]rue)

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### **A note from the Caring Circle Concerning a Transportation Need**

Presently, there is a need to provide transportation once a month to and from church for two of our members who live in Essex. Three Sundays are covered, but due to life changes, we need one other person to pick them up once a month and take them home after church. It is a short distance, and their homes are close to each other.

Two other members who live nearby would also be grateful for rider to and from church. If either opportunity might work for you, please contact Carol Burbank at [carolburbank@comcast.net](mailto:carolburbank@comcast.net) for more information and she can send the details.

On behalf of the Caring Circle, thank you for your consideration. Blessings, Carol Burbank

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Growing in Discipleship: An Exciting Opportunity

Under the expert coaching guidance of Paul Nickerson, Williston Federated Church is now exploring new ways to offer opportunities for each of us to deepen our faith journey. We will

meet again on Tuesday evening, August 4 at 6p.m. in the Sitting Room (across the hall from the Pastor’s Study as well as on Zoom). If you are interested in being part of this small group helping us move forward on the path of discipleship, please contact our pastoral (seminarian) intern Dr. Jill Irvine at jillirvine@gmail.com.

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**Ministry for Widows or Widowers**

The WFC Widow/Widower Support Group Monthly Meetings will be held the 2nd Sunday of each month at 11:00 AM in the WFC "Sitting Room" just past Pastor Paul's Office. This is a caring and empathetic group that supports each other through active listening, compassion, and understanding. Ministry Leaders: Kathy Quesnel, Carol Burbank and Ursula White

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Women’s Book Club

The Women’s Book Club meets each month in the fellowship hall at 2 pm. Please join us to read and discuss the following books:

- August 19: 'The Correspondent' by Virginia Evans
- September 16: ‘The Yellow House’ by Sarah Broom
- October 21: ‘The Berry Pickers’ by Amanda Peters
- November 18: ‘Last Bus to Wisdom’ by Ivan Doig

All women are welcome. For more information, contact Lois Mason 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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## **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 Women's Bible Study

The women's Bible study group has adjourned for the summer as of May 25. We will meet again after Labor Day, the exact date to be determined. If anyone is interested in joining the group, please look for the notice as we approach the fall.

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## **Women's Social Lunch**

The Williston Federated Church (WFC) is inviting all women (members/non-members/family/friends) to join us on the 1st Saturday of each month for a social activity. The brunch starts at 11:00 AM at Chef's Corner in Williston. This is an opportunity to gather, enjoy delightful conversations, and eat a delicious breakfast. We look forward to seeing you! Contact Kathy Quesnel at [kathyquesnel@gmail.com](mailto:kathyquesnel@gmail.com)

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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 in Fellowship Hall. 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 Sitting Room 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 for the residents and staff at Dismas House in Burlington. We'd like to thank June's volunteers Polly Malik and Janet Rutkowski 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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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 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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## **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!