



Williston Federated Church

July 5, 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!

July 5, 2026, at 9:30 a.m.

Communion Sunday

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: Come to our God, all who hunger for life: All: for it is God who nourishes us at the Table of Grace	Donna-Sue Hain, Lay Leader and congregation
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Leader: Come to our God, all who are worn out
by life:

**All: for it is God who provides the rest we
need.**

Leader: Come to our God, all who are weighed
down:

**All: for it is our God who carries our burdens
with us.**

Prelude	Menuet from <i>Royal Fireworks Music</i> by G.F. Handel	Joan Ebbeson and Nancy Aiken on recorders with Dana Mann on piano
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Welcome/ Greetings	Pastor Paul Eyer
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Words of
Peace
Lighting the
Peace Candle

Pastor Paul Eyer

Opening
Hymn

“Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing”
UMC (red) Hymnal #400 (sing verses 1 and 3)
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Dana Mann,
piano, and
congregation

Prayer for
Transform-
ation

One: O God, we often seem fretful and
agitated. We long for more and more of this
and that. We spend our lives in a never-
ending, sometimes never-fulfilled search for
that which satisfies.

Pastor Paul Eyer
and congregation

**All: But we hear your invitation, O God, to
that peaceful place that is your heart. May
we let go of our burdens of anger, hurt, and
sin so we can find our rest in you.**

Silent
Reflection

Words of
Grace

One: God invites us to receive the gifts which
make it possible to live lives of faithful
obedience. This is the good news:

Pastor Paul Eyer
and congregation

**All: God forgives us and takes our burdens
from us. In letting go of them, welcome
hope, joy, grace into our lives. Thanks be to
God. Amen.**

Special Music	Menuet from <i>Berenice</i> by G.F. Handel	Joan Ebbeson and Nancy Aiken on recorders with Dana Mann on piano
Children's Time		Pastor Paul Eyer
Passing of the Peace	Pastor (and children): The peace of Christ be with you. All: And also with you.	Pastor Paul Eyer and congregation
Sermonic Hymn	“How Firm a Foundation” UMC (red) Hymnal #529 (sing verse 4) (Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-740093. All rights reserved)	Dana Mann, piano, and congregation
Scripture	Romans 7:15-21	Shelley Marshall
Prayer of Illumination (adapted from Psalm 19:14)	All: May the words of my mouth, and meditation of our hearts, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, our strength and our redeemer.	Pastor Paul Eyer and congregation
Sermon	“Good and Evil”	Pastor Paul Eyer
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.	Pastor Paul Eyer and congregation
Call to Offering		Pastor Paul Eyer
Offering Offertory Hymn	Bourree from <i>Royal Fireworks Music</i> by G.F. Handel	Joan Ebbeson and Nancy Aiken on recorders with Dana Mann on piano
Doxology	UMC Hymnal #94 (Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-740093. All rights reserved)	Suiong Wong, piano and congregation
Prayer of Dedication (unison)	All: O God, as we receive gifts from you, may we be empowered to give in mutual measure so that needs are met. Bless these gifts and amplify their impact as a witness to your	Pastor Paul Eyer and congregation

goodness and so all may flourish in your creation. Amen.

Service of Holy Communion/ the Eucharist/ the Lord's Supper	(see bulletin insert)	Pastor Paul Eyer
		Shelley Marshall, communion steward
Communion Music	Sarabande by G.F. Handel	Dana Mann, piano
Life/Mission of the Church		Pastor Paul Eyer
Closing Hymn	"Just a Closer Walk with Thee" Songbook #184 (sing verses 1-3, then close with the Refrain) (Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-740093. All rights reserved)	Dana Mann, piano, and congregation
Benediction/ Blessing		Pastor Paul Eyer
Postlude	La Rejouissance from <i>Royal Fireworks Music</i> by G.F. Handel	Dana Mann, piano; Joan Ebbeson and Nancy Aiken on recorders
Liturgical Resources	The Call to Worship , Prayer for Transformation , and Words of Grace were adapted from "Liturgy w/communion for July 5, 2026"	

(Proper 9 - A) from [Lectionary Liturgies](https://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/) by Thom Shuman found at <https://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/>

The **Prayer of Dedication** was adapted from "Drink: Service Prayers for the Sixth Sunday after Pentecost (Year A)" written by the Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay, Minister for Worship and Theology for the United Church of Christ, from [Worship Ways](https://www.ucc.org/worship-way/after-pentecost-6a-july-5/) found at <https://www.ucc.org/worship-way/after-pentecost-6a-july-5/>

The service of **Holy Communion** was adapted by Rev. Eyer building on liturgies from Rev. Thom Shuman, a Presbyterian pastor in Cincinnati, Ohio, at [Lectionary Liturgies](http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/2014/05/liturgy-wcommunion-for-may-18-2014.html). One of these liturgies is found at <http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/2014/05/liturgy-wcommunion-for-may-18-2014.html> and the other liturgy is found at <http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/2010/04/easter-5-c.html>

Portions of this service of Holy Communion are adapted from Rev. Moira Laidlaw of the Uniting Church of Australia, "Liturgies Online" found at http://www.liturgiesonline.com.au/liturgies/main/index.php?ch_table=link3&PID=19&SID=&year=A. The Invitation component of this liturgy includes language from SeekersChurch, a Christian community in the tradition of the Church of the Savior, in Washington, D.C. <http://www.seekerschurch.org/liturgies/communion2005.html>.

Ushers: Chris Stewart and Jane Stickney

Greeter(s): 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

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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### **Faith Fellowship Fun!**

This summer, we invite you to join us at Illumination Station! Join us as we shine a light on who Jesus really is through music, games and crafts. We have something for all ages, adults too!

Nursery provided.

Mark your calendars! Friday July 10th through Sunday July 12th

Friday kickoff starting with FREE dinner 5:30pm – 7:30pm

Saturday 9:00am – 4:00pm snacks and lunch will be provided

Sunday 9:30am worship service followed by a cookout celebration



To register, please visit: [www.steeple.org](http://www.steeple.org) or scan the QR code.

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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 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, July 14 at 7p.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](mailto: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

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:

- July 15: 'The Listeners' by Maggie Stiefvater
- 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.

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!

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.

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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**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](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 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 to 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 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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