



Williston Federated Church

June 21, 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!

June 21, 2026, at 9:30 a.m.

Father's Day/Juneteenth

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: Troubled prophets and struggling families, you listen to our voices, whoever we are,	Donna-Sue Hain, Lay Leader and congregation
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All: O God, who listens to our heart.

Leader: Those who live in fear, and those who look for signs, you fill us with hope and surprises,

All: O God, whose love is steadfast.

Leader: Seekers of power, as well as those who serve the vulnerable, you challenge us to use our gifts for others,

All: O God, whose love knows no bounds.

Prelude	Suiong Wong, piano
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Welcome/ Greetings	Pastor Paul Eyer
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Words of Peace	Pastor Paul Eyer
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Lighting the Peace Candle

Opening Hymn	“The God of Abraham Praise” UMC (red) Hymnal #116 (sing verses 1, 3, & 4) (Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-740093. All rights reserved)	Suiong Wong, piano and congregation
Father’s Day Litany	One: On this Father’s Day, Gracious God, we pray your blessing upon the fathers, step- fathers, adopted fathers, and grandfathers of our lives.	Pastor Paul Eyer and congregation

All: Bless our fathers, O God.

One: We pray for your blessing upon our
uncles, brothers, mentors, and friends who
have been our examples and role models.

All: Bless them, O Lord.

One: We pray for your strength for those who
are tired and weary each day, yet feel the
weight of responsibility upon them.

All: Strengthen them, O Lord.

One: We pray in gratitude for the fathers who
have cared for us, protected us, guided us, and
taught us.

All: We thank you, O Lord.

One: We lift up the imperfections of our
fathers, those who tried the best they could,
those who did not know how to try, and all
who made mistakes along the way.

All: Forgive them and uphold them, O Lord.

Come, Meet Christ, Go Serve with Us

One: We pray your blessing upon the men in our lives that they will live godly, creative, and loving lives.

All: We thank you, O God, and we bless you.

One: Thank you for your care that we have received, O God, and we ask that you will hold us in the totality and complexity of our experience. We have known joy and care, and we have known failure and pain. Turn our hearts to you, O God, from whom all life and blessings flow. Amen.

Anthem	“Majesty” Words and music by Jack W. Hayford Arranged by Jack Schrader	Adult Choir Adam Hall, conducting Suiong Wong, piano
Children's Time		Pastor Paul Eyer
Scripture	Genesis 21:8-21	Adam Hall
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.	Pastor Paul Eyer and congregation
Sermon	“Unexpected Blessing”	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	"Children of the Heavenly Father" UMC (red) Hymnal #141 (sing all four verses)	Suiong Wong, 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: We offer our gifts to you, as well as our lives, Loving God, so they might find their way to those who need your grace, your hope, your joy, and your peace in their lives. Amen.** Pastor Paul Eyer and congregation

Life/Mission of the Church Pastor Paul Eyer

Closing Hymn “Lift Every Voice and Sing”
UMC (red) Hymnal #519 (sing all verses)
(Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-740093. All rights reserved) Suiong Wong, piano and congregation

Benediction/Blessing Pastor Paul Eyer

Passing the Peace Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you.
All: And also with you Pastor Paul Eyer and congregation

Postlude Suiong Wong, piano

Liturgical Resources The **Call to Worship** and **Prayer of Dedication** were adapted from “Liturgy for June 22, 2014 (Proper 7-A)” from [Lectionary Liturgies](https://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/2014/06/liturgy-for-june-22-2014-pentecost.html) by Thom Shuman, found at <https://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/2014/06/liturgy-for-june-22-2014-pentecost.html>
The **Father’s Day Litany** was adapted from “A Father’s Day Litany” by Ali Van Kuiken from Young Clergy Women found at <https://youngclergywomen.org/a-fathers-day-litany/>

Ushers: Chris Stewart and Donna Goodheart

Greeter(s): Phil and Vicki Carleton

Coffee Hour: Louise Kyle

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 begun exploring a variety of approaches to Passing the Peace.

NOTE: This is an experiment which we will undertake during the coming 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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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 next on Tuesday evening, June 30 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.

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**Join in the Fun on July 4th and Walk in the Parade**

Walking as a group in the July 4th parade has been a Williston Federated Church tradition for many years. Park your car at the church and walk to the Johnson Farm, 8627 Williston Rd. by 9:30 am.

Seed packets with FFF information will be provided to pass out along the parade route. The parade is about 1.1 mile through the village, ending on Old Stage Rd.

Sign up on the bulletin board or contact Cathi Brody, our group organizer, to let her know you plan to walk or if you have any questions.

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Ice Cream Social July 3rd on the Town Green

WFC is once again hosting Williston's Independence Day Ice Cream Social, to be held July 3rd beginning at 5:30 PM on the town green. The event runs concurrently with the band concert, as well as the Friends of the Library Book Sale. It has been a popular Williston tradition for many years.

Volunteers are needed to prepare a hot chocolate topping, set up, serve ice cream & toppings, accept donations, and clean up. Proceeds will benefit CVU's New American Outreach Club.

Sign up on the bulletin board or [follow this link to an online sign up](#). Coordinators for this event are [Matt Bliss](#) & [Cathi Brody](#).

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**Ice Cream on the Village Green this Summer**

Join us June 24th, July 16th & 29th and Aug. 12th from 6:30-8:00 pm at the Town Band Concert. We will be on hand to greet concert goers and hand out ice cream. In case of rain, the concert will be in the WCS auditorium, and we will be outside under the portico. It's a great community outreach. Sign up on the bulletin board at church. Contact Carol Bouchard or Dan Clark for more information. (Of course, the annual ice cream social will take place on Friday, July 3. Matt Bliss will be spearheading our participation in the annual ice cream social.)

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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:

June 17: 'The Light Pirate' by Lily Brooks-Dalton

July 15: 'The Listeners' by Maggie Stiefvater

August 19: 'The Correspondent' by Virginia Evans

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.

Greenworks Ministry – Green Tip for the Week

As summer arrives. Plant some native pollinator friendly flowers in your garden. If possible move to mechanical or electric methods for mowing and trimming and lawn care. Better for your lungs and for the climate.

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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Morning Centering Prayer Group

The Centering Prayer Group is on Friday mornings opening at 9:30am and beginning at 9:45am. The Centering Prayer group gathers via ZOOM ONLY for silent prayer and Bible discussion. For Zoom code or questions call/text Donna Fellingner 802-355-1700 or email at

donnafellingervt@gmail.com

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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.

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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 April's volunteers Dan Clark, Kris Clark, and Sara Moran 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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### **Stewardship Campaign**

The Finance Committee is grateful for the wonderful response to the "Won't You Be My Neighbor" stewardship campaign for the 2026/2027 fiscal year. Your generosity is appreciated. If, however, you were going to make a pledge but haven't gotten to it yet, it's not too late! It's never too late to make your commitment. You can mail your pledge information to WFC at 44 No. Williston Road or you can e-mail either Barb Bristol at [fbbristol@gmail.com](mailto:fbbristol@gmail.com) or Shelley Marshall at [vtnative58@gmail.com](mailto:vtnative58@gmail.com). Thank you for your consideration.