



Williston Federated Church

May 17, 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

Co-Lay Leaders – Ashley Dubois and 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!

May 17, 2026, at 9:30 a.m.

Seventh Sunday of Easter / Consecration 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 (inspired by Psalm 24:1)	Leader: All that we are is a gift from God. All: The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it. Leader: All that we have is a gift from God. All: The world, and those who live in it... Leader: There are no words to describe the wonders of God's creation. All: Let us rejoice as we join together in praise for God's great gifts.	Donna-Sue Hain, Co-Lay Leader, and congregation
Prelude		Suiong Wong, piano
Welcome/ Greetings		Pastor Paul Eyer
Words of Peace Lighting the Peace Candle		Pastor Paul Eyer
Sharing the Peace/	One: The peace of Christ be with you All: And also with you.	Pastor Paul Eyer and congregation

Passing of the
Peace

Opening Hymn	“What Gift Can We Bring” UMC (red) Hymnal #87 (sing all verses) (Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-740093. All rights reserved)	Suiong Wong, piano and congregation
Prayer for Today	All: Eternal God, we bow before you today in thanksgiving for the many blessings you have given us. Help us to remember your generosity, and to thank you for every good gift and every perfect gift that we enjoy and for your faithfulness in times of adversity. Help us to remember your sustaining presence at every moment of discouragement. Just as you are always faithful to us, help us to remember our responsibility to be faithful to you. Amen.	Pastor Paul Eyer and congregation
Anthem	“All Good Gifts” words and music by Stephen Schwartz (arranged by Richard Walters)	Senior Choir Adam Hall, conducting Suiong Wong, piano
Time with Children of All Ages		Pastor Paul Eyer
Scripture	Psalm 126:1-6	Joe Maloney

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.	Pastor Paul Eyer and congregation
Sermon	"Restoration"	Pastor Paul Eyer
Celebrations/ Prayer Requests	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	
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
Stewardship Moment	"A Visit from a Neighbor"	Adam Hall, solo Mark Demers, piano
Call to Offering		Pastor Paul Eyer

Offering
Offertory
Hymn

“Bringing in the Sheaves”

V. 1 Sowing in the morning, sowing seeds of kindness,

Sowing in the noontide and the dewy eve;

Waiting for the harvest, and the time of reaping,

We shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves.

Refrain: Bringing in the sheaves, bringing in the sheaves,

We shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves,

Bringing in the sheaves, bringing in the sheaves,

We shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves.

V. 2 Sowing in the sunshine, sowing in the shadows,

Fearing neither clouds nor winter's chilling breeze;

By and by the harvest, and the labor ended,

We shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves.

Refrain: Bringing in the sheaves, bringing in the sheaves,

We shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves,

Bringing in the sheaves, bringing in the sheaves,

Suiong Wong,
piano/organ and
congregation

We shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves.

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: Loving God, you have given us life and freedom. Everything we have and everything that we are is a gift from you. You call us to be stewards of this gift. As caretakers of all that you have provided, we give back now. We dedicate these pledges and tithes and offerings to you. Help us to always use your gifts wisely and lead us as we share them generously with others. May our faithful stewardship show the love of Christ to the world. Amen.	Pastor Paul Eyer and congregation
Life/Mission of the Church		Pastor Paul Eyer
Closing Hymn	“The Trees of the Field” Songbook #27 (sing all verses) (Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-740093. All rights reserved)	Suiong Wong, piano and congregation
Benediction/ Blessing		Pastor Paul Eyer
Postlude		Suiong Wong, piano

Liturgical Resources

The **Call to Worship** (inspired by Psalm 24:1) and the **Prayer of Dedication** were adapted from a liturgy by Christian Smith found at <https://www.cpcmc.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/A-Liturgy-for-Stewardship-Sunday.pdf>
The **Prayer of Dedication** is adapted from "A Stewardship Sunday Prayer" from the American Baptist Churches, USA, found at <https://www.abc-usa.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/07/faithful.pdf>

Ushers: Donna Goodheart and Sylvia Maloney

Greeter(s): Cindy 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

2026 Stewardship Campaign

The very wise and kind Rev. Fred Rogers said "It's not what you have in this life that matters, it's what you do with it. Each one of us has something valuable to bring to this world. That's one of the things that connects us as neighbors. In our own way, each of us is a giver and a receiver." Many thanks for your past giving to Williston Federated Church and please consider Mr. Rogers' most famous quote - "Won't you be my neighbor" - as you plan your future giving commitment. Our upcoming annual Stewardship Campaign will be taking place in May culminating on Consecration Sunday, May 17 and while you can pledge at any time, we would like to include your pledge in our prayer of dedication that day. Have you received your mailing yet from the Finance Committee? The May 17 service will include meaningful testimonials.

Have you received your mailing yet from the Finance Committee? The annual Stewardship May services will include meaningful testimonials. We encourage everyone to consider making a pledge or increasing your current pledge to help reach our goal for the next fiscal year starting July 1 in order to fund the missions of WFC. We have been blessed with a challenge, from an anonymous donor, of a matching gift of \$5,000 again this year if we can increase our commitment to giving by \$5,000! Please return your pledge by mail or in person. Together we can do this! If you have any questions, don't hesitate to ask any of the Finance Committee members. With our sincere thanks from your Finance Committee:

Pastor Paul Eyer, Jan Demers, Barb Bristol, Susan Lamb, Simone O'Flaherty, Amy Vaughan, Joan Ebbeson, Shelley Marshall, Sandy Twombly, Dan DiBiasio, Jason Shi, and Ivan Wemple.

~~~~~  
**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, May 26 at 7 p.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).

~~~~~  
Take me out to the ballgame!

On Sunday, May 31st, join us at the field as we cheer on the Lake Monsters! Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$6 for kids. We will have a section of tickets saved for our group. You can pay and pick them up at Will Call. Game starts at 5:05pm. Kids can run the bases and play catch on the field after the game! Sign up on the bulletin board or at <https://forms.gle/v1BMNcbuQdBjX3W96> so that we know how many tickets to reserve. Let's go Monsters!

~~~~~  
**Annual Congregational Meeting scheduled for Sunday, June 14**

The Official Board has scheduled the annual congregational meeting of Williston Federated Church to take place on Sunday, June 14 immediately following the worship service. The annual meeting will be hybrid. in-person in Fellowship Hall and online via Zoom. (See the Zoom access information below.)

Among the many great things about Williston Federated Church is that the congregation members have such a significant voice in important decisions. This is your chance to be part of those conversations!

We hope that you will be part of this meaningful meeting on June 14. **Committee chairs are reminded that their reports were due to the office by May 15.**

Zoom access information:

Williston Federated Church is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: annual congregational meeting

Time: Jun 14, 2026 10:45 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87850084599?pwd=Bza1yMCJsBbdaQUhLAhsaCokVvl8Wv.1>

Meeting ID: 878 5008 4599

Passcode: 458003

---

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,87850084599#,,,,\*458003# US (Chicago)

+16469313860,,87850084599#,,,,\*458003# US

---

Join by SIP

- [87850084599@zoomcrc.com](mailto:87850084599@zoomcrc.com)

Join instructions

<https://us06web.zoom.us/join/87850084599?signature=KExzCPaEkt97xtWz6pFSjppDJu2rXTyHsCKnk1AQlvc>

~~~~~

Faith Fellowship Fun!

Join us this summer at Illumination Station where we shine a light on who Jesus really is!

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

“I am the light of the world...” - John 8:12 Be on the lookout for more information coming soon!

~~~~~

### **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

~~~~~

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 8th grade) rehearses at 9am each Sunday in Fellowship Hall. Let us make a joyful noise to the Lord!

~~~~~

### **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:

May 20: 'The Marriage Portrait' by Maggie O'Farrell

June 17: 'Snow Flower and the Secret Fan' by Lisa See

July 15: 'The Listeners' by Maggie Stiefvater

All women are welcome. For more information, contact Lois Mason [loismason418@gmail.com](mailto: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.

~~~~~

Sunday School Helpers Needed

We are looking for adults who would be willing to spend 30 fun minutes with our youth as a Sunday School Helper. Our teachers prepare the lesson plans—you simply assist in the classroom and help create a welcoming, supportive environment for the children. This is a flexible opportunity and helpers are only scheduled occasionally to fit your availability.

If you are interested in helping or would like to learn more, please contact Brian Goodwin at 802-238-4180 or by email at Goodwinjsd@gmail.com

~~~~~

## **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.

~~~~~

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.

~~~~~

### **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](mailto:donnafellingervt@gmail.com)

~~~~~

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 by ZOOM ONLY every Monday afternoon from 1:30-2:30. If you'd like to join us, have questions, or wish you knew more about the Bible, please contact Sally Metro at ssmetro9@gmail.com. All are welcome!

~~~~~

### **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).

~~~~~

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.

~~~~~

### **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.)

~~~~~

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 with questions.

~~~~~

## **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!

~~~~~

How Might You Share Your Gifts & Talents?

The Nominating Committee has begun the process of inviting folks to serve on a church committee for the 2026-2027 fiscal year which begins July 1st. WFC plays a vital role in our lives and our response to the needs of our community and the wider world. We are asking that you prayerfully consider where God might be calling you to share your gifts and talents. Most committees meet monthly, and many take a break in the summer. Terms can be from 1-3 years. Committees include: Official Board, Trustees, Pastor Staff Relations, Finance, Education, Membership, Music & Worship, Missions & Social Concerns & Youth Ministry. There is a handout on the table in the gallery that gives a description of each committee. If you would like to volunteer or have questions about any of these committees, please speak to a member of the Nominating Committee: Rebecca Dubois, Donna Goodheart, Carol Bouchard or Pastor Paul.