Williston Federated Church

November 1, 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!
November 1, 2026, at 9:30 a.m.
All Saint's Sunday/Communion Sunday

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 (adapted from Psalms)	Leader: Let us bless the Lord at all times; **All: God's praise will always be on our lips.** Leader: Magnify the Lord in all ways; **All: We will lift up God's name together in worship and in service.** Leader: God, send your light and your truth as we gather to worship. **All: May they lead us into your holy presence.**	Donna-Sue Hain, Lay Leader and congregation
Prelude		Suiong Wong, piano/organ
Welcome		Pastor Paul Eyer
Words of Peace Lighting the Peace Candle		Dr. Jill Irvine
Opening Hymn	"Make Me a Channel of Your Peace" Songbook #115 (sing all verses) (Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-740093. All rights reserved)	Suiong Wong, piano/organ and congregation

Prayer for Transformation	**All: Forgive us, O God, for those times that we follow the wrong examples. It is the peacemakers who live into your hope; it is those whose hearts are shaped by yours, who are able to see you in the poor and broken; it is those who give themselves to serve others who are your saints, following the example of Christ our Savior, guiding us to the wellsprings of life.**	Pastor Paul Eyer and congregation
Silent Confession		
Words of Grace	One: When we seek God, we are found; when we cry out, we are heard; when we confess, we are forgiven and made new. **All: Thanks be to God.**	Pastor Paul Eyer and congregation
Anthem	"Followers of the Lamb" arranged by Philip Dieterrich	Senior Choir Adam Hall, conducting Suiong Wong, piano
Passing of the Peace	Pastor (and children): The peace of Christ be with you. **All: And also with you.**	Pastor Paul Eyer and congregation
Time with Children		Pastor Paul Eyer

Sermonic Hymn	"Open the Eyes of My Heart, Lord" Songbook #136 (sing as written) (Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-740093. All rights reserved)	Suiong Wong, piano/organ and congregation
Scripture	Matthew 5: 1-12	Dan Clark
Prayer of Illumination	**All: Come Holy, Spirit, come. Take our lips and speak through them. Take our minds and think through them. Take our hearts and set them on fire. Amen.**	Dr. Jill Irvine and congregation
Sermon	"The Courage of an Open Heart"	Dr. Jill Irvine
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 The congregation is invited to participate in the call and response: Pastor Paul: Lord of Life and Love, **All: Hear our prayer…**	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**	Pastor Paul Eyer and congregation

	but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.	
Call to Offering		Pastor Paul Eyer
Offering Offertory		Suiong Wong, piano/organ
Doxology	UMC Hymnal #94 (Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-740093. All rights reserved)	Suiong Wong, piano/organ, and congregation
Prayer of Dedication (unison)	**All: We seek to be your people. We have been blessed beyond imagination and so pray, as we offer these gifts, that they would be used to touch the lives of the broken, the lonely, the seeking, the hungry, the hopeless - all those who are our siblings all across the world. Amen.**	Dr. Jill Irvine and congregation
Service of Holy Communion/ the Eucharist/ the Lord's Supper	(see bulletin insert) <u>Post-communion prayer</u> **All: Gracious God, we give you thanks for refreshing and renewing us in this meal. We give you thanks for all those who have gone before us. Strengthened by your Spirit, may we go forth to bear your light into the world**	Rev Paul Eyer, Pastor; Dr. Jill Irvine, seminarian intern; communion stewards

and to be followers of your Way. Amen.

Communion Hymn (sung during the distribution of the elements)	"For All the Saints" UMC (red) Hymnal #711 (sing verses 1 through 4)	Suiong Wong, piano/organ
Life/Mission of the Church		Pastor Paul Eyer
Closing Hymn	"I Sing a Song of the Saints of God" UMC (red) Hymnal #712 (sing all verses) (Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-740093. All rights reserved)	Suiong Wong, piano/organ, and congregation
Benediction/ Blessing		Dr. Jill Irvine
Postlude		Suiong Wong, piano/organ

Liturgical Resources

The **Call to Worship** was adapted from "Worship Planner, 23rd Sunday after Pentecost, All Saints Sunday, November 1, 2026, Year A" the Presbyterian Church in Canada found at https://presbyterian.ca/worship/#

The **Prayer for Transformation,** the **Words of Grace**, and the **Prayer of Dedication** were adapted from "All Saints Sunday, Year A" 26 Oct 2014, from Lectionary Liturgies by Thom Shuman, found athttps://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/2014/10/all-saints-day-year-a.html

Communion liturgy resources:

The **Invitation to Communion** is adapted from Seekers Church, a Christian community in the tradition of the Church of the Savior, in Washington, D.C.
http://www.seekerschurch.org/liturgies/communion2005.htm
The Service of Holy Communion was adapted from "Liturgies Online" by Rev. Moira Laidlaw, the Uniting Church of Australia http://www.liturgiesonline.com.au/liturgies/main/index.php?ch_table=link7&PID=71&SID=&year=A .

Ushers: Dan Clark and Brian Goodwin
Greeter(s): Rick and Jen Zubarik
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

Vermont Voters

Please vote November 3rd and please use State of Vermont information on your voting registration and all candidates running in your area; it is reliable. You can find links to this information on the new Hearts for Social Justice website. Click on underline on church website version of our bulletin or go to: https://hsjvt.org/ For links to VT state voter information and lists of all candidates go to our "Free and Fair Elections" page: https://hsjvt.org/free-and-fair-elections/.

Hearts for Social Justice Vermont is a volunteer group of United Methodist clergy and laity in Vermont encouraging voting and once the legislative season starts in Jan 2027 we will focus on bills that fight hunger/homelessness, climate change, support good health and mental health in Vermonters and a few more issues. We value working with all other faith groups. For more information talk to Rev. Kim Hornung-Marcy

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Grocery Store Gift Cards

Though we will not be holding a food drive in November to support the food shelf we will still be supporting families in need through our continued connection with the Williston Schools. For the last few years we have done this by inviting people to purchase local grocery store gift cards. You are invited – isn't it great to be invited – to join together to provide support for Williston school families who need a bit of help providing a Thanksgiving meal and extra food during the
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week of vacation. We will be collecting local grocery store gift cards (**$25.00 denominations)** from Sunday November 1st to Sunday November 15th. You may drop them off either in the offering plate on Sundays or in the box in the narthex (opposite the lift/elevator on the 2nd floor) anytime through the two weeks. Thank you for being such a blessing. Your Mission and Social Concerns Committee

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Thank you!!

Thus is a note of thanksgiving to our church family for the support you have given to our denominational partners this year through the **Neighbors-In-Need/World Communion Sunday offering**. This year the total offering came to $2528.00 (this compares to $1389.00 in 2025 and $1656.00 in 2024). This offering will go to support scholarships for underserved people and justice and witness ministries as well as supporting Native American communities in the upper Midwest. Thank you for all you do to make the world better. What a blessing. Your Mission and Social Concerns Committee

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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 Wednesday evening, November 4 at 6pm 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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The most compelling conversation in town: Religion and Democracy

This conversation continues Thursday evening at 5pm in Fellowship Hall. A light supper is provided by the Education Committee.

The intersection of faith and politics is a topic that is profoundly relevant and potentially explosive. Our seminarian intern, Dr. Jill Irvine, is guiding us through this series of engaging discussions about profoundly relevant issues on Thursdays through November 12. Come join us.

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Save the Date for the ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Here is a preview for the Christmas Bazaar on **November 21st** sponsored by the Women of the Church. Please sign up here or on the bulletin board at church.

- **Craft Table** - Chairperson, Carol Bouchard - We need hand crafted items such as mittens, scarves, ornaments, jewelry, wooden items, Christmas ornaments or other holiday decorations.

- **Bake Sale Table** - Chairperson, Rebecca Dubois - We need all sorts of baked goods including pies, cakes, cookies, candies, breads, jams, pickles, fudge etc. The bake sale table is one of the most popular. ***Please package cookies, bars, fudge etc. in small packages.***
- **Plant Table** – Chairperson Sally Metro - We are looking for houseplants, dried flowers, bulbs, wreaths, gourds, gifts for gardeners.
- **Attic Treasures –** Chairperson, Sylvia Maloney & Shelley Marshall– We are looking for ***small*** items: collectibles, old linens, jewelry, Christmas decorations, small treasures.
- **Soups To Go -** Chairperson, Heather Lewis - We are seeking soups pre-packaged in containers (to be provided) & delivered cold to church Friday or Saturday morning.
- **Nancy Stone** - will be selling her artwork
- **JJ Garcia** - will be selling his crafty creations.
- **Partners in Adventure** - will be selling granola.

Set Up – Thursday, November 19th 9-12 and Friday, November 20th 9-1 - Bring your donated items and come help us set up.

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Women's Bible Study

Dr. Sally Stockwell Metro facilitates a group that has been meeting regularly since early 2022. This Women's Bible Study meets every Monday afternoon on ZOOM from 1:30-2:30pm. We read and discuss books of the Bible, our understanding of them and their relevance to us today. We're a happy and curious group and welcome anyone who wishes to join us. This will be a slight diversion from reading a book of the Bible so if you're interested in joining us please contact Sally Metro at ssmetro9@gmail.com

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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:

November 18: 'Last Bus to Wisdom' by Ivan Doig
December 16: 'Theo of Golden' by Allen Levi
January 20: 'Calamity Club' by Kathryn Stockett

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!
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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 meets every Monday afternoon on ZOOM from 1:30-2:30pm. We read and discuss books of the Bible, our understanding of them and their relevance to us today. We're a happy and curious group and welcome anyone who wishes to join us. This will be a slight diversion from reading a book of the BIble so if you're interested in joining us, please contact Sally Metro at ssmetro9@gmail.com.
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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
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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. Pastor Paul Eyer, 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 August's volunteers, Suiong Wong and her family as well as Natalie Lodge and her family 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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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
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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!
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