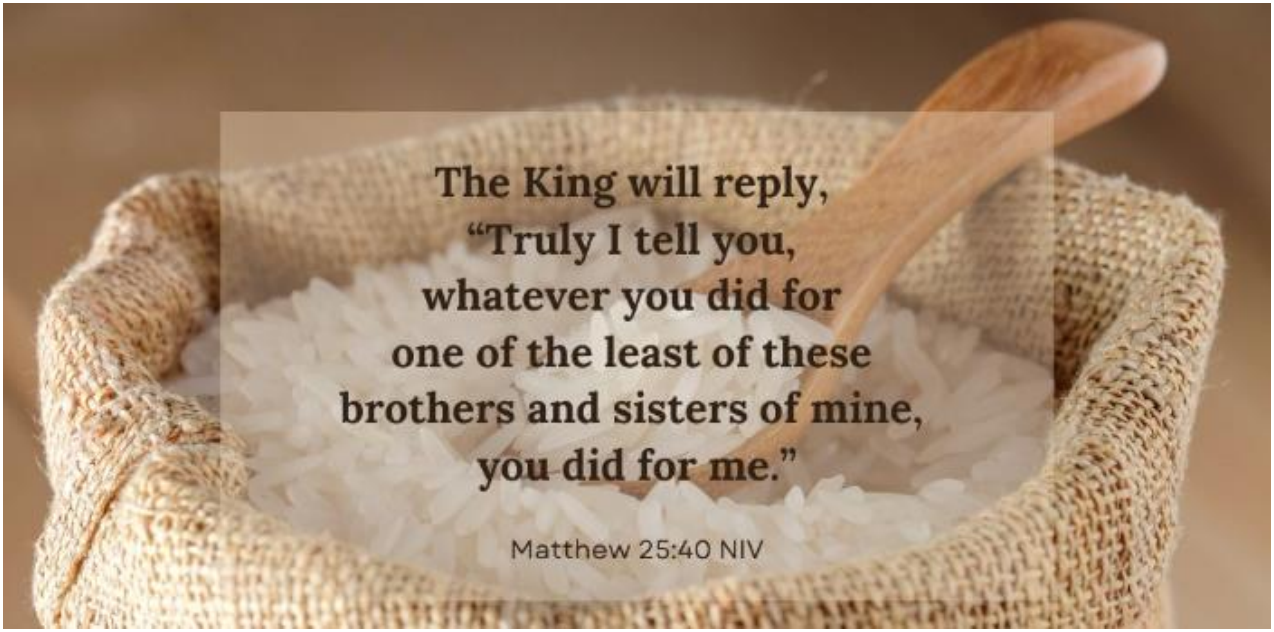
Williston Federated Church

November 22, 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 – Mark Demers

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 22, 2026, at 9:30 a.m.
New Member/Baptism 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	Leader: We come, for God gathers us here, with that community called faith: **All: where the hungry are served first, where the thirsty drink life's water.** Leader: We come, for God welcomes us here into that home called grace: **All: grace that welcomes the unclothed in robes of hope; grace that embraces the stranger as the long-lost prodigal who has returned home.** Leader: We come, for God reunites us here, sisters and brothers, siblings in that family called love: **All: where those who have been imprisoned model justice, where those who are sick are cradled in God's peace.**	Donna-Sue Hain, Lay Leader, and congregation
Prelude		Mark Demers, piano/organ
Welcome		Pastor Paul Eyer

Words of Peace Lighting the Peace Candle		Pastor Paul Eyer
Opening Hymn	"Gather Us In" Songbook #110 (sing verses 1,2, and 4) (Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-740093. All rights reserved)	Mark Demers, piano/organ and congregation
Prayer for Today	One: O God, when we would push the outsiders further away, you pull them closer to your heart. When we would shove those with little-to-nothing aside to get to the front of the line, you pick them up to keep them next to you. **All: When we scatter our gifts, throwing them away on foolishness, you gather them up and give them back to us saying, 'here, try again.'** One: As soon as we wander into the shadows of selfishness, you open the eyes of our hearts so we can see that place called home. **All: As soon as we think we can find you only in the rich and powerful, you humble us with the grace of Jesus. Amen.**	Dr. Jill Irvine and congregation
Anthem	"For the Autumn Sky" by Ruth Elaine Schram	Senior Choir Adam Hall, conducting Mark Demers, piano

Passing of the Peace	Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you. **All: And also with you.**	Pastor Paul Eyer and congregation
Time with Children		Pastor Paul Eyer
Baptism	Baptism of **William Favor Ford** Parents: Lizzie and Sumner Ford Maternal Grandparents: Martha and Bill Durkin Paternal Grandparents: Susan and Jim Ford Godmother: Celia Cadwell Godfather: Sam Hecklau *(See bulletin insert)*	Pastor Paul Eyer Dr. Jill Irvine
Baptismal Hymn	"I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry" Songbook #127 (sing all verses)	Mark Demers, piano/organ and congregation
Reception of New Members	Suzanne McKegney Karen Peplowski Barry Toth Judy Toth *(See bulletin insert)*	Pastor Paul Eyer Donna-Sue Hain, Lay Leader Cindy Thurston, Membership Committee Chair
Scripture	Matthew 25:31-46	Gary Lewis
Prayer of Illumination (adapted	**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

from Psalm 19:14)		
Sermon	"The Least of These"	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 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 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 Music		Mark Demers, piano/organ
Doxology	UMC Hymnal #94 (Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-740093. All rights reserved)	Mark Demers, piano/organ, and congregation
Prayer of Dedication (unison)	**All: Generous God, you envision a world where the hungry are fed and strangers are welcomed. We bring this offering to you to put your vision into action. Bless these gifts and the lives they will touch so that the love of Jesus Christ will be known. Amen.**	Dr. Jill Irvine and congregation
Life/Mission of the Church		Pastor Paul Eyer
Closing Hymn	"Share Your Bounty" Words by Vicki Watson Tune "Deck the Halls"	Mark Demers, piano/organ, and congregation
Benediction/ Blessing		Pastor Paul Eyer
Postlude		Mark Demers, piano/organ
Liturgical Resources	The **Call to Worship** and **Prayer for Today** were adapted from "Liturgy for Nov. 23, 2014 (Reign of Christ/Christ the King - A) from Lectionary Liturgies by Thom Shuman, found at https://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/2014/11/liturgy-for-november-23-2014-reign-of.html	

The **Prayer of Dedication** was adapted from "Worship PLanning, 26th Sunday after Pentecost, Reign of Christ, November 22, 2026, Year A" from the Presbyterian Church in Canada, found at https://presbyterian.ca/worship/#

Ushers: Ursula White and Donna Goodheart
Greeter(s): Louise Kyle
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

Williston Community Tree Lighting – December 6

The Williston Community Tree Lighting will be held Sunday, December 6th 4:30-5:30pm on the Williston Village Green. We will light the tree, sing Christmas carols and enjoy cookies and hot cocoa. Our very own Children's Choir will provide special music and the SD Ireland holiday truck will bring some extra cheer. Please bring a donation of new hats, mittens, gloves or socks for the Williston Community Food Shelf.

Would you like to be a part of the Community Tree Lighting? We are looking for help with decorating, baking cookies and setting up/cleaning up at the event. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board or you can sign up using this QR Code:

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Calling all Parents: A night out awaits!

Friday, December 11, 5:30-8:30pm here at Williston Federated Church

Don't let an overcrowded calendar turn you into a holiday Grinch. Let our Whos in Whoville watch your "Cindy Lou Whos or Bobby Woo Whos" (or more precisely, *your child's name*) for you. Food, games, crafts and a movie for the kids, (6 months – 13 years).

And for the parents, shop, go out to dinner, wrap presents, decorate, take a nap… the options are endless for parents in need of a break. This is our church's gift of gratitude to you, the parents, who do so much.

Sign-Up on the bulletin board or contact donna-sue hain, dshainvt@gmail.com or 802-598-6612
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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!
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 October's volunteers Dan and Kris Clark 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 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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