



# Williston Federated Church

March 26, 2023

## 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).*

**This is what the Sovereign LORD says: Come, O breath, from the four winds! Breathe into these dead bodies so they may live again  
- Ezekiel 37:9**



Pastor – Reverend Paul Eyer phone: 802-878-5792 email: [pastoreyer@gmail.com](mailto:pastoreyer@gmail.com)

Emeritus Associate Pastor – Charlie Magill

Lay Leader – Ashley Dubois

Church Office Administrator – Pamela Osborne

Music Director – Adam Hall

Organist – Carolyn Pillsbury

Choir Accompanist – Carol Schein

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Church Office: (802) 878-5792

E-mail address: [WillistonFederatedChurch@gmail.com](mailto:WillistonFederatedChurch@gmail.com) Website: [www.steeple.org](http://www.steeple.org)



United Church of Christ and United Methodist Church  
Federated in 1899



# Welcome To All Who Worship Here!

March 26, 2023 at 9:30 a.m.

## Fifth Sunday of Lent

Childcare is available downstairs for our youngest children.

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 a community which seeks, welcomes and gathers people to share the Gospel of God's love, enables people to find fullness of life through Jesus Christ, goes into the world to live lovingly and justly as servants of Christ, and responds actively to human need.*

Call to  
Worship

One: We choose not to give in to fear:  
**All: Even when things look bleak, we choose  
to believe in the power of love.**

Ashley Dubois,  
Lay Leader and  
Congregation

One: We choose not to be led by despair:  
**All: Even when dreams fail and the world  
seems to grow colder and more broken, we  
choose to believe in the power of hope.**

One: We choose not to be blinded by cynicism:  
**All: Even when joy and celebration feel naïve  
and frivolous, we choose to believe in the  
power of faith.**

One: We choose not to be over-awed by death:  
**All: Even when grief shuts out all other voices,  
we choose to believe in the power of life.**

One: In every time, in each place,  
**All: with all people, may resurrection rise up  
within us.**

Prelude

“In the Cross of Christ I Glory” (L. Sonkey)

Carolyn  
Pillsbury

Welcome/  
Greetings

Sharing the Peace of Christ:  
One: The peace of Christ be with you

Pastor Paul Eyer

**All: And also with you.**

Opening Hymn	<b>"Let it Breathe on Me"</b> UMC (red) hymnal #503 (sing twice) (Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-740093. All rights reserved)	Carol Schein, piano
Prayer for Forgiveness	<b>All: O God, Mender of Hearts, we confess that sometimes in our brokenness, we cause brokenness in others. Sometimes in our woundedness, we wound others. In these despairing moments, we need healing and restoration. Breathe your life-giving spirit upon us yet again, O God, and make us whole.</b>	Pastor Paul Eyer
Silent Confession Assurance of Pardon	One: God's mercy makes wholeness possible and our wholeness is rooted in becoming who we are meant to be. We give thanks that we are never beyond your reach or grace. Amen.	Pastor Paul Eyer
Anthem	<b>"My Lord, Why Does He Have to Die"</b> by Patrick M. Liebergen	Senior Choir Adam Hall, Music Director Carol Schein, piano
Time with Children		Pastor Paul Eyer
Scripture	Ezekiel 37:1-14	Carol Bouchard
Sermonic Hymn	<b>"Spirit of the Living God, Fall Afresh on Me"</b> UMC Hymnal #393 (sung twice)	

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Prayer of Illumination (from Psalm 19:14)	<b>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.</b>	Pastor Paul Eyer and Congregation
Sermon	“Divine Wind”	Pastor Paul Eyer
Celebrations/ Prayer Requests	Prayer requests may be sent to: <a href="mailto:WFCPrayer44@gmail.com">WFCPrayer44@gmail.com</a> Private prayer requests may be sent to: <a href="mailto:pastoreyer@gmail.com">pastoreyer@gmail.com</a>	
Silent Reflection		
Lord’s Prayer	<b>All: 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.</b>	Pastor Paul Eyer and Congregation
Call to Offering		Pastor Paul Eyer
Offertory	“When Jesus Wept”	Senior Choir

Adam Hall,  
Music Director  
Carol Schein,  
piano

Doxology	UMC Hymnal #94 (copyright reprinted with permission under CCLI #176957 and #20480319)	Carolyn Pillsbury
Prayer of Dedication (unison)	<b>For all left by the side of society, for all whose strength has vanished, for all whose bones are brittle with despair, may our gifts bring hope and healing, peace and plenty, in your name and in your love. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.</b>	Pastor Paul Eyer and Congregation
Life/Mission of the Church		Pastor Paul Eyer
Closing Hymn	“Breathe on Me, Breath of God” UMC Hymnal #420 (sing all verses ) (Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-740093. All rights reserved)	Carolyn Pillsbury
Benediction/ Blessing		Pastor Paul Eyer
Postlude	Voluntary IV (William Boyce)	Carolyn Pillsbury

Liturgical  
Resources:

*The **Call to Worship** is adapted from “Sacredise” found at <https://sacredise.com/we-choose-not/>. The **Prayer for Forgiveness and Assurance of Pardon** are adapted from “Prophesy to the Bones: Service Prayers for the Fifth Sunday of Lent” by Tena T. Nock, Associate Pastor of Digital Ministry, First United Church of*

*Tampa, UCC, in Tampa, FL, posted on "Worship Ways" on the United church of Christ website at <https://www.ucc.org/worship-way/lent-5a-march-26/>. The **Prayer of Dedication** is adapted from "Liturgy w/communion for March 26, 2013 (Lent 5 - A)" from Lectionary Liturgies by Thom Shuman found at <http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/>.*

*Ushers: Jane Stickney and Donna Goodheart*

*Greeters: Ruth Magill*

*Coffee Hour: Ruth Magill*

*Online Greeter: Jackie Lingelbach*

*Online Prayer Coordinator: Ashley Dubois*

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## **This Week and Beyond at Williston Federated Church**

### **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 of 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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### **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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### **Thursday morning Centering Prayer Group**

Thursday mornings at 8:30am, the Centering Prayer group gathers via Zoom ONLY for silent prayer and Bible discussion. This gathering lasts about one hour. For Zoom code or questions call/text Donna Fellingner 802-355-1700 or email at [donnafellnergervt@gmail.com](mailto:donnafellnergervt@gmail.com)

### **Dismiss House**

Thank you for the support and enthusiasm with what our community of faith embraces the Dismas House Meals mission.

For more information about the mission, or to offer to volunteer, please contact Lizzy Pope at [lizzypope@gmail.com](mailto:lizzypope@gmail.com) or Peet Grobler at [peetgrobler@aol.com](mailto:peetgrobler@aol.com) or (802) 881-9007. We continue to welcome offers. One volunteer does not have to be responsible for the entire meal. Team work is always a possibility.

The team of volunteers who took responsibility for the March 21st meal are: Joanna Cole & Sarah Flynn (main course); Carol & Bruce Wyatt (side) and Carol Pierce (dessert). Carol and Bruce Wyatt sat down with the staff and residents, broke bread with them. Thank you!

The remaining dates of 2023 to offer meals to Dismas House in Burlington, are listed in the Dismas House announcement on the virtual bulletin board that can be viewed at Steeple.org. Thank you for considering to participate.

The coordinating team, Lizzy Pope and Peet Grobler

### **Photographer Needed**

Seeking an amateur photographer to assist with the production of a new WFC church directory later this spring. We are looking for someone to take photos of church families. Simple digital photography, via camera or cell phone, is all we need. Small stipend included. For more information contact [Carol Bouchard](#).

### **Rummage Sale Friday March 31st 9am - 6pm & Saturday April 1st 9am - 12pm**

We are seeking donations of clothing for all ages, clean and in good condition, as well as linens, shoes, jewelry, purses. Think textiles. **Please no household items.**

Donations may be brought to Fellowship Hall Monday, March 27th through Thursday the 30th from 8:00 am - 5:00 pm. Tables will be set up and labeled. If you have time, please take a moment to place your items on the appropriate tables.

Volunteers will be needed to: set up tables on Sunday the 26th after worship; sort clothes during the week; work at the sale Friday & Saturday; help with clean up and take the left over items to Restore, Resource, Goodwill and Replays on Saturday.

If you can help, please sign up on the bulletin board near the kitchen. This event is sponsored by the Women of the Church and all proceeds go towards local charities: ANEW Place, COTS, Habitat for Humanity, STEPS, and more. If you have questions, contact [Carol Bouchard](#)..

**Note: Please, no donations before March 27th**

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**COVID-19 Guidance for Worship Services**

At worship services, masks are respected and optional in most areas but are required in the balcony and first few rows in front of the piano and pulpit. If you aren't feeling well, please stay home and worship with us online.

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**Opportunity to Fund a Medical Mission to Ecuador**

Members and friends at WFC generously give of their time, their talent & their treasure in so many ways. Alison Flamini (mom of Max, Leo & Mika) will travel with a group of nurses on a medical mission to Ecuador in April, where they will provide medical and dental care to people in the rural community there. If interested in supporting Alison in her fundraising, please see her [Go Fund Me page](#).

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**Support Heifer International from now to April 2nd**

The Education Committee is continuing the Williston Federated Church tradition of supporting Heifer International. Heifer donation banks are located in the gallery. People on line are encouraged to give through REALM <https://onrealm.org/WFC/give/heifer> or set up their own 'Heifer bank'. People are asked to bring their Heifer Banks and donations to the basket provided on or before April 2nd Heifer International is an 'on the ground' program in many countries. It helps feed the hungry through gifts of animals, bees, and trees. This organization also teaches sustainable farming processes and helps communities work together. Google Heifer International for more information. Links to Heifer videos:

<https://www.heifer.org/blog/celebrate-national-agriculture-day.html>  
<https://www.heifer.org/blog/how-heifer-promotes-climate-smart-agriculture.html>

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## **Mission Sunday April 16<sup>th</sup> 2023**

Join us April 16<sup>th</sup> for a return of Mission Sunday. After a brief worship that morning, led by Gary Lewis, we will divide into teams to participate in Mission & Ministry at church and beyond. There are projects for children of all ages. Sign up sheets are posted at church. If you have questions, or to sign up remotely, contact: [Carol Bouchard](#) Sponsored by the Membership Committee.

- Making cards for the guests at the POD Community - ***kid friendly***
- Volunteer at the Habitat Restore 10:30-1:30 - tasks TBD - for ages 16 and older
- Prepare sandwich platters for the Daystation in Burlington - middle school & up
- Assemble snack bags for the Burlington POD Community - all ages
- Kindness Rocks - Draw a 'rock' on a banner to be used on Green Up Day - ***kid friendly***
- Traveling Tea Parties - take all the fixings for afternoon tea to a friend's house in groups of two - can happen any day - all ages
- Knit or crochet a Prayer Shawl - basic skills encouraged; for materials needed, contact [Sally Metro](#) - middle school and up
- Prayer Walk in the neighborhood - all ages and weather dependent.
- Make Cookies for the Daystation & the POD Community - make at home & deliver to church by the 16<sup>th</sup> - ***kid friendly***
- Packaging the above cookies - ***kid friendly***

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## **Holy Week Services at Williston Federated Church--2023**

**Palm Sunday will be held on Sunday April 2, 2023 at 9:30 AM.** The choir will process in the beginning singing "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna." Special music will include Adam Hall and his wife Simone singing a duet accompanied by the Demers family playing "Hosanna Havana." The children will hand out palms during children's time.

**Maundy Thursday services will be held at the Richmond Congregational Church in Richmond at 7 PM.** There will be a combined choir from the Williston Federated Church and Richmond Congregational Church. The service will include hymns, scripture readings, and communion. This service will be livestreamed at the Facebook page for Richmond Congregational Church at [facebook.com/rccucc](https://facebook.com/rccucc).

**On Good Friday there will be a service of scripture readings, hymns, and remembrance at the Williston Federated Church at 7PM.** This Good Friday service will be live-streamed at [facebook.com/WillistonFederatedChurch](https://facebook.com/WillistonFederatedChurch).

You won't want to miss our **Easter morning services on Sunday April 9<sup>th</sup>.** There will be a **"Sonrise" service at 6:30AM at the home of Tony and Susan Lamb at 24 Beebe Lane by Lake Iroquois**, followed by a potluck breakfast. **At 9:30 AM at the Williston Federated Church**, there will be a fanfare by a brass quartet and organ accompanying the choir as they process and sing "Christ the Lord is Risen Today." Adam Hall will provide us with a solo ("I Know that My Redeemer Liveth") from Handel's Messiah. The brass quartet will be performing glorious music throughout the service. And the number that Adam Hall and our guest musicians have planned for the Postlude you do NOT want to miss! Come be part of the celebration!