

The Steeple Newsletter – April 2026



SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

In-person and online

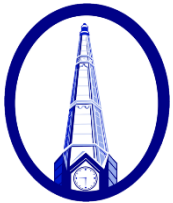
9:30 AM

ALL ARE WELCOME

The Williston Federated Church offers hybrid worship—both in person and online—each Sunday morning at 9:30 a.m. You can view our weekly Sunday bulletin and other church activities/communications on our webpage at:

<http://www.steeple.org/>

We continue to livestream our service on Facebook at: [Facebook.com/WillistonFederatedChurch](https://www.facebook.com/WillistonFederatedChurch)



Williston Federated Church



United Church of Christ and United Methodist Church
Federated in 1899



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.)



**Easter and Holy Week events:
see page 7 of this newsletter**



- Alison Barges – April 2nd
- Sebby Wayman – April 4th
- Sarah Leister – April 5th
- Ursula White & Julia Wick – April 6th
- Betty Lewis – April 12th
- Lynn Bujnak – April 16th
- Ezra Dickin – April 19th
- Carlos Mejia – April 20th
- Adam Hall – April 21st
- Kirsten Santor – April 29th
- Shelley Marshall – April 30th

AWARENESS
of special needs

APRIL IS NATIONAL
AUTISM
AWARENESS
MONTH

APRIL
National
CHILD ABUSE
PREVENTION MONTH

April is
Parkinson's
Awareness
Month



Joe & Sylvia Maloney – April 4th

We rejoice with and give thanks for these members of our church family who are celebrating birthdays in April. We would love to celebrate your birthday/anniversary in the monthly newsletter. If you would like to be included, please send names & dates to Carol Bouchard, Membership Committee Chair, at carolbouchard@gmail.com

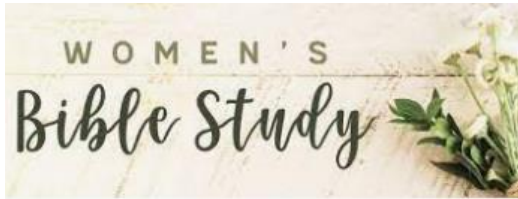
What's Happening



Thursday afternoon Centering Prayer Group

The Centering Prayer Group moved back to Thursdays with a start time of 2:00pm. 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



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 both in person in the Sitting Room (near Church office) and on ZOOM on Mondays from 1:30-2:30pm. If you

are interested, please contact Sally at ssmetro9@gmail.com



Church Book Club

Our Book Club has chosen the following interesting books for our winter-spring meetings. Please try to join us.

On April 16 the book is 'The Women' by Kristin Hannah.

The book club meets on the third Wednesday of the month in the Church fellowship hall at 2 p.m. Lois Mason 879-7263



Acolyte Training

Our worship is enhanced by the role of children and youth who light the candles that grace the altar at the beginning of each Sunday morning worship service. The official liturgical name for these candle-lighting youth is "acolyte." If you are in the third grade or higher and are interested in training to become an acolyte, let Pastor Paul know.



Food Drive May 9th 9-11

We'll be in the parking lot and, if raining, we will use Fellowship Hall.



Rummage Results

Many thanks to all who donated items, sorted clothes, worked at the sale and helped with cleanup. We raised about \$2800. These funds, along with the money we raised at the Christmas Bazaar, will be donated to local charities.



Smile!

Once again we are bringing back our photobooth on Easter Sunday! Stop by the hallway by the Fellowship Hall and have your picture taken in your Easter best!



Women's Potluck Breakfast April 11th with Guest Speaker Ric Cengeri, Outreach & Communications Specialist for HomeShare Vermont

Calling all women. Please save the date for the Annual Women's Breakfast: April 11th 8:30 -10:30 AM in Fellowship Hall. Our guest

speakers will include Ric Cengeri, Outreach & Communications Specialist for [HomeShare Vermont](#) who will explain how the program works. Nancy Stone will share her experiences as host with four matches and her current match will discuss his experience as a guest. There will also be a brief business meeting to decide how we might allocate the money we have raised through our two major fundraisers. A sign-up sheet for planning purposes will be posted on the bulletin board. For more information speak to [Carol Burbank](#) or [Carol Bouchard](#).



New Members

With joy and thanksgiving we welcomed the following folks into church membership on March 8th. Pictured left to right are:

Karen Ferrari, Phil Carleton, Vicki Carleton, Ivan Wemple, Julia Wick, Jill Irvine, Lesley Murray & Kai Sedic-Lawton.



Sunday April 12th is Earth Day Sunday at Williston Federated Church!

Wear green! And we will hold a seed swap!_Bring seeds you no longer need and we will invite people to take home those they can use! If your seeds are still in the packet bring them that way. If not please identify what they are. We will have instructions on how you figure out if the seeds are still good in the bulleting as the Green tip that day!

Check out our Greenworks Ministry Displays at Coffee Hour. There will be free items to take and information on a variety of topics that help us care for the earth, there will also be activities for young people.

Earth Day is April 22nd but that falls during school break so we are moving things up so most can participate on Sunday April 12th. All this is brought to you by your Greenworks Ministry Team.



Trustee and Greenworks Ministry Update on grant applications: We have now received \$5,000 from Vt Interfaith Power and Light towards our new air source heat pumps in Fellowship Hall. This new grant, combined with the \$7,500 we received earlier from Efficiency Vermont, means we covered most of the cost of the new Heat pumps with grants. Trustees will thus have more funds for the many other projects they are working on. We have received all three grants we applied for, plus the free weatherization for the Mace House in 2025 and 2026.



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



- Pastor – Reverend Paul Eyer
- 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
- Nursery Caregiver – Michelle Davis



Name	Dedication
Carmyn Stanko	For peace and justice in this world.
The Andrews Family	To Grandma Nancy & Grandma Bonnie, who would love to be here to celebrate.
Kim Hornung-Marcy and Ted Marcy	In Celebration of Christ's resurrection
Jane Stickney	In memory of many very good friends
Nancy Jenkins and Bryan Jackson	Dedicated to Doris and Russell Jenkins
Michael and Sara Moran	In celebration of family and friends
Brian and Gayle Goodwin	In memory of Gayle's father Richard Wendeborn and Brian's mother Claudia Goodwin
Sally and Will Metro	In memory of Patrick Metro
Sally Wagner and LaVerne Potter	In memory of Peter Prior
WFC Congregants	In gratitude for Carolyn and Larry Pillsbury
Vicki and Phil Carleton	Dedicated to Carrie Baker Dedicated to Mickey Baker Dedicated to Kathryn Lerch Carleton Dedicated to Nat & Kay Carleton
Betsy Shuey	Dedicated to our parents Avery & Betty Shuey and Bob & Nellie Green
Matt Bliss	In memory of Dorothy and Lawrence Bliss
Joe and Sylvia Whitman Maloney	In memory of our parents
Sandy Twombly	Dedicated to my parents, Muriel and Frank Rees
Bill, Polly, and Becca	In loving memory of Romaine DeCamp
Shelley Marshall	In memory of my parents and brother
Jill Irvine	In loving memory of Sue Meigs
Carol and Bruce Wyatt	In memory of our parents, Georgine & Art Wyatt and Dot & Bill Cheney and our brothers Michael Wyatt and Hank Cheney.

Holy Week and Easter Services



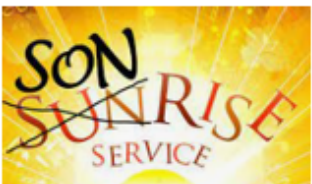
Come Worship With Us!



Maundy Thursday services will be held on April 2 at Williston Federated Church at 7:30 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.



On Good Friday, April 3, there will be a service of scripture readings, hymns, and remembrance at the Richmond Congregational UCC Church in Richmond, VT at 7:30PM.



You won't want to miss our **Easter morning services on Sunday, April 5. 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 Williston Federated Church, our Easter Sunday service will feature a myriad of musical offerings, including a brass quartet, a choral processional, joyous congregational singing, an Adam Hall solo, and more. Join us for what promises to be an uplifting celebration of this sacred day!

Message from the Music and Worship Committee

As we anticipate celebrating Easter Sunday, the Music and Worship Committee would like to make some suggestions that will hopefully make the service more welcoming and comfortable. Please consider arriving earlier than you usually do. If you are wearing overcoats, please hang them up downstairs or on the hooks in the upstairs Narthex hallway. We want to fill the Sanctuary before seating folks in the balcony. So come right in. The ushers will be encouraging folks to fill the Sanctuary forward pews first. With everyone's cooperation, we hope to seat everyone comfortably and start on time. Thank you for your help with this!

LENT

Resources for your Lenten journey

The season of Lent reaches its culmination during Holy Week the first week of April this year. Below again we offer the following resources for this season *suggested by the Education Committee.*

“OUTGROW” {The UCC (United Church of Christ) Lenten Booklet}

This booklet presents different ways to view ‘giving up something for Lent.’

The booklet is written by individuals who are part of the “God Is Still Speaking, Writers’ Group.” Each writing includes a title, a Bible verse and perspectives on ‘Out Growing.’

The season of Lent presents a special opportunity to intentionally invest time in considering spiritual growth. Below is a list of a few resources that some in our church have found meaningful in their spiritual journeys. You are invited to explore these or others to use in your daily time of meditation and/or prayer.

Devotional Possibilities from the Education Committee

1. UCC (United Church of Christ) daily devotions:

<https://www.ucc.org/daily-devotional/> (Free)

2. UCC Lenten Devotional Booklet:

“Outgrow” A few booklets are available on the prayer table in the 'gallery'.

LINK: thepilgrimpress.com

Or Google through Pilgrim Press

If hard copies are not available (\$5.00 + shipping) PDF copies are available on line for \$3,

3. Retired United Methodist Pastor Steve Garnaas-Holmes' meaningful devotionals found at unfoldinglight.net (free). Many in our congregation know Rev. Garnaas-Holmes.

4. <https://www.upperroom.org/devotionals> (free)

5. Richard Rohr daily meditations (free) <https://cac.org/daily-meditations/> or Google

6. “The Book of Awakening” - a book by Mark Nepo of daily readings inviting the life you want by being present to the life you have.

7. Rev. Cameron Trimble (PilotingFaith) <http://www.pilotingfaith.org> (free)

In his introduction to the Lenten Devotional ‘OUTGROW’ Kenneth L. Samuel, an African/American minister in Atlanta, presents an invitation to grow in the Spirit. He writes: “Trials this season will not relent. But neither will our growth in the Spirit”