

The Steeple Newsletter – November 2025

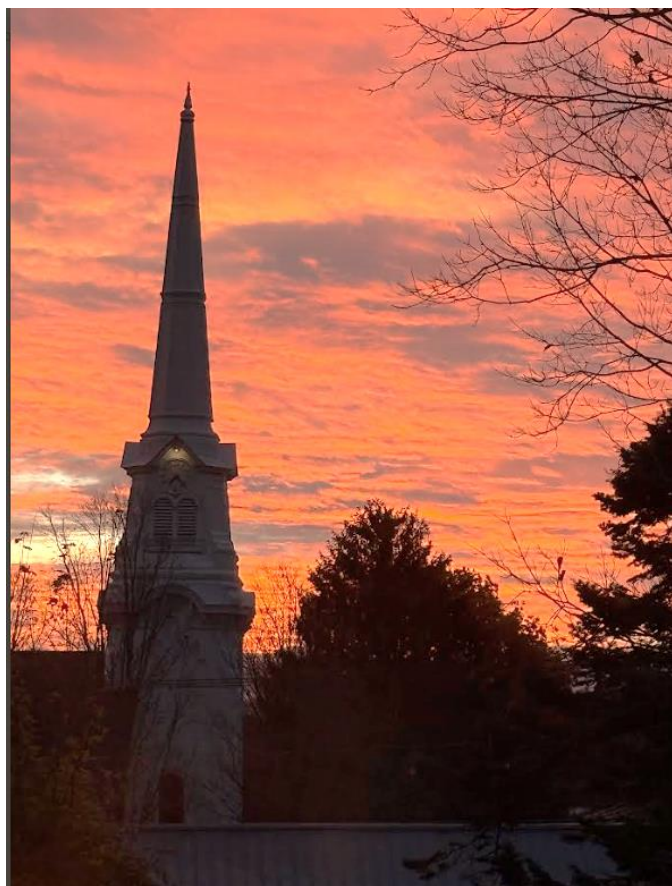


Photo by Ezra Dickin



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 live stream 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.)



Ryan Allen & Julia Nesbitt – November 1st
 Ethan Hain – November 2nd
 Kristin Clark & Elizabeth Cortez – November 3rd
 Amy Vaughan – November 4th
 Paula LeBlanc - November 17th



Joanna Cole & Sarah Flynn - November 1st
 Reg Melrose & Vicki Walker – November 6st



We rejoice with and give thanks for these members of our church family who are celebrating birthdays in November. 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 carolcbouchard@gmail.com

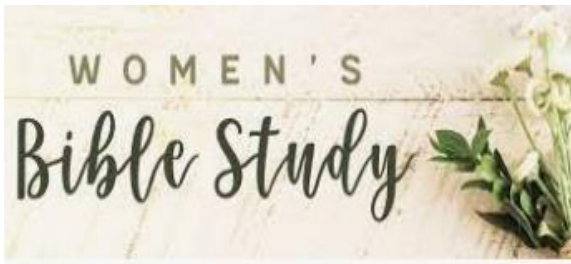


What's Happening?



Friday Morning Centering Prayer Group

This prayer group now meets on Fridays on Zoom, opening at 9:45. The meeting begins at 10am and includes 20 minutes of silent prayer, reading of the Gospel Bible passage of the day and centering on a particular part of the passage and sharing personal impressions about the passage. For zoom link or questions contact Donna Fellingner at 802-355-1700 or donnafellnergvt@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 on ZOOM only Mondays from 1:30-2:30pm. If you are interested, please contact Sally at ssmetro9@gmail.com.



Women's Book Club

The book club meets on the third Wednesday of the month at 2pm in Fellowship Hall.

The book choice for November 19 is 'The Mountains Sing' by Nugyen Phan Mai. December 17 is 'Queens of Crime' by Marie Benedict. Lois Mason loismason418@gmail.com.



Men's Social Breakfast

All the men of the church are invited to breakfast and chat the last Wednesday of every month. Breakfast starts at 8:00 am; cooking at 7:30 am. Come for one or both. Charlie Magill, 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 Fellowship Hall every Friday morning at 7:00 am. The sessions are also on Zoom.



Choir for All Ages!

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!



New Ministry for Widows or Widowers

The Williston Federated Church Caring Circle is pleased to announce a new ministry for those among us who are widows or widowers. This special WFC support group will be focused on providing empathy and understanding from others who have lost a spouse. Meetings will be held monthly on the second Sunday of each month from 11-1:00 PM in the Choir Room.

Kathy Quesnel is the group leader with team support from Carol Burbank and Ursula White from the WFC Caring Circle. We invite people who are interested in "Sharing the Journey" to come and join us.



Do you have 2-4 hours to transform a low-income neighbor's life?

Three non-profits are cooperating to help low-income Vermonters get the free weatherization they qualify for. United Methodist Volunteers in Mission, the Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity (CVOEO), and 350Vt are in partnership to provide volunteers to help cut the two year wait time.

Volunteers work the days/times that work for their schedule. We move items out of attics and three feet from basement walls. Most items are less than 5 lbs. Our help frees up the skilled weatherization crews to do their magic and not waste time on moving stuff.

CVOEO data shows homeowners go on to save up to \$1,000 a year—that alone is life transforming. But there is more: the weatherized home is more comfortable year-round, safer, healthier, worth more, and we reduce air pollution, and greenhouse gasses.

To sign up go to:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScwIHLxii2G9Xd0aPB772igUe_ljjV6gbt7xKGOSK3_OHZoGg/viewform

If you have questions email Rev. Kim Hornung-Marcy at: khmarcy@comcast.net



Thanksgiving Food Drive

The Missions and Social Concerns Committee will once again sponsor a community-wide Food Drive on **Saturday, November 15**, in the **church parking lot from 9-11am** for families in the Williston Schools and the Williston Food Shelf areas.

We are blessed to have a very diverse community! As such, we have learned that providing food for Thanksgiving and the school break needs to be diverse as well. Donations of **gift cards** from Hannaford and Shaws so that families can purchase food items they may need and be more familiar with are very much appreciated. Gift cards may be placed in the offering plates through Sunday the 16th, mailed to the church or delivered to the drive on the 15th.

We encourage food donations for breakfast, lunch and snack foods, to supplement the families' dietary needs. These include the following items:

Canned fruit, vegetables, fish or chicken, soups/stews, cereal, peanut butter/jelly/jam, pasta/sauce, macaroni and cheese, granola bars, juice -- juice boxes or 2 liter bottles—condiments (ketchup, mayo, mustard), personal care items-including feminine hygiene products, pet food, laundry detergent.

We ask that you simply give what you can. Thank you for your generous spirit and support of this important community outreach project.

If you wish to contribute, but are unable to participate on Saturday, November 15, you may leave your food donation in the boxes on the table outside Fellowship Hall. If you purchase gift cards and are unable to deliver them to the church, please mail them to: **Williston Federated Church, 44 N. Williston Road, Williston, VT 05495.**

For more information, please contact Sue Hook, hooksuzanne4@gmail.com, 201-694-7890 or Lesley Murray, lesleymotr@gmail.com 802-373-1611

***"For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink."
Matthew 25:35***





Save the Date for the **ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BAZAAR**

Here is a preview for the Christmas Bazaar on **November 22nd**, 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 - 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

Tasha Pashby-Rockwood - will be selling her knit hats and more.

JJ Garcia - will be selling his crafty creations.

Partners in Adventure - will be selling granola.

Carter Smith - will be selling pickles & relish

Set Up – Thursday, November 20th 11-2 and Friday, November 21st 9-1 - Bring your donated items and come help us set up.



Christmas Store Window

Save the date! This year's **Christmas pageant**, "Christmas Store Window," will be presented during our 9:30am worship service on Sunday, December 21st. Rehearsal schedules and casting details will be shared soon. We look forward to celebrating the season together through this special story of light and hope.

Williston Community Tree Lighting

Sunday, Dec 7th - Village Green
4:30 - 5:30pm

Join us as we light the tree, sing Christmas carols and enjoy cookies & hot cocoa. Special music by the Children's Choir at Williston Federated Church. The SD Ireland holiday truck plans to bring some extra light and cheer.

Please bring a donation of new hats, mittens, gloves or socks for the Williston Food Shelf.

Sponsored by Williston Federated Church and Williston Richmond Rotary Club



Williston Community Tree Lighting

Would you like to be a part of the Williston 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:



Pastor – Reverend Paul Eyer
Pastoral (seminarian) Intern – Jill Irvine
Emeritus Associate Pastor – Charlie Magill
Lay Leader – Ashley Dubois
Church Office Administrator – Pamela Osborne
Music Director – Adam Hall
Organist – Carolyn Pillsbury
Choir Accompanist – Suiong Wong
Nursery Caregiver – Michelle Davis



The Giving Tree

Christmas is coming and many of us are already thinking about the gifts we will give to our loved ones. But many families in our community are struggling to make ends meet and will find it challenging to buy gifts for their children. Once

again, Williston Federated Church will be assisting families from Allen Brook and Williston Central Schools with their holiday shopping by sponsoring The Giving Tree. As we did last year, we will ask you to purchase gift card(s), rather than a physical gift, that the family may use at local stores to select the presents for their children. This change was very well received by the parents.

Please watch your email inbox and the weekly bulletin for more detailed information. Thank you!



Baptism November 16

The baptism of Amelia Lodge has been rescheduled for Sunday, November 16. (Amelia is the daughter Xander and Natalie Lodge and the sister of Jack and Finn Lodge.) Come celebrate this joyous occasion during our worship service that Sunday.



Photo by Ezra Dickin