

The Steeple Newsletter – October, 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 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.)



Ivan Wemple – October 1st Sarah Lowell – October 14th
 Cathy Connelly – October 16th
 Phil Carleton – October 19th
 Joseph Dubois, Thomas Beach and Ruth Magill – October 20th
 Michael Wayman – October 21st
 Chloe Barges – October 22nd
 Devica Davis-Kilpatrick – October 24th
 Judy Pillsbury – October 26th
 Logan Vaughan – October 28th

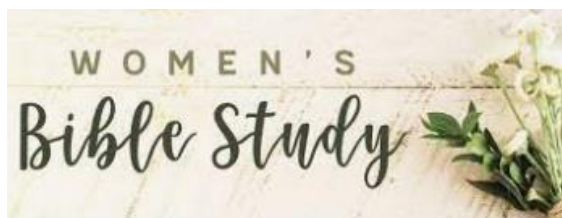


Dan & Judy Pillsbury – October 19th

We rejoice with and give thanks for these members of our church family who are celebrating birthdays in September. We would love to celebrate your birthday/anniversary in the monthly newsletter.

If you would like to be included, please send names & dates to Cindy Thurston, Membership Committee Chair, at cindythurston57@gmail.com

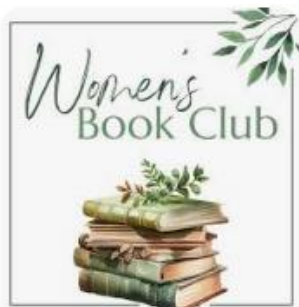
What's Happening?



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.



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:

October 21: 'The Berry Pickers' by Amanda Peters

November 18: 'Last Bus to Wisdom' by Ivan Doig

December 16: 'Theo of Golden' by Allen Levi

January 20: 'Calamity Club' by Kathryn Stockett

Lois Mason loismason418@gmail.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.



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



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



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!



World Communion Sunday - Oct. 4

Sunday, Oct. 4, is World Communion Sunday. Traditionally we decorate the altar with a variety of breads. This year the members of Music and Worship invite the members of the congregation to contribute breads we can donate to the Williston Food Shelf. Bread can come in all sizes, shapes and types. Bring it Oct. 4 before the service, and we will place it

on the altar. Thank you! (A ceremony of baptism for some of our Congolese friends will be part of this special World Communion Sunday.)



World Communion Sunday, October 4

Better Together

World Communion Sunday, October 4, will give all of us an opportunity to not only receive the gift of communion but to extend the gift of love to the world through our World Communion Sunday/Neighbors In Need offering. Through our two denominational connections our offering, which will be split evenly

between them, will help fund educational opportunities focusing on equity and inclusion nationally and world-wide, as well as providing support for Native Americans and providing grants to local churches offering programs focusing on justice and witness ministries. One offering from one congregation, joining others to make a difference around the world. Checks can be **made out to the church with a memo "WCS-NIN"**. For your convenience, you can use this QR code to access a "donation" form. Thank you ALL!

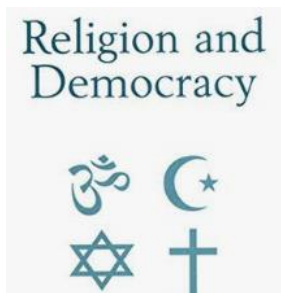




Blessing of the Animals - October 4

Calling all pets! Bring your favorite animals (furry, fishy, or otherwise) to our annual observance of the Blessing of the Animals Sunday, Oct. 4 at 3 p.m. We will plan to meet on the recreational path near the volleyball courts at Village Community Park (formerly Williston Community Park). Is your

four-legged friend not a fan of the great outdoors? Feel free to bring a photo or other representation for Pastor Paul to bless. Please see Cathi Brody for more information. We hope to see you - and your pets.



The most compelling conversation in town: Religion and Democracy beginning October 8

The intersection of faith and politics is a topic that is profoundly relevant and potentially explosive. Our seminarian intern, Dr. Jill Irvine, will guide us through this potential minefield over the course of a seven-session midweek study series for adults on the timely topic "Religion and Democracy." **The first session, beginning at 5:15 pm in Fellowship Hall on Thursday, October 8,** will feature the

acclaimed documentary film "Join or Die" focused on the impact--and decline--of community in America.

Each subsequent session (beginning October 15) will begin at 5:00 pm with a tasty light meal of soup and bread (provided by the Education Committee) and will conclude in time for choir rehearsal. Dr. Jill will facilitate these conversations that will touch on important topics like race, anti-semitism, Christian Nationalism, and the breakdown of community. Jill's leadership will draw upon her professional academic expertise in the field of political science, combined with her faith-focused theological study in seminary. The discussions will be riveting!

Engaging conversations on this topic will continue each Thursday evening at 5:00 pm through November 19. You don't want to miss them!



Laity Sunday, October 18

On October 18, lay people will lead the worship service at Williston Federated Church, with our own Tony Lamb preaching. You don't want to miss this special service on Sunday, October 18. Our children's choir will be singing in worship that Sunday as well!



Guess Who's Coming to Dinner and Kid's Movie Night October 24th 5:30 PM

Guess Who's Coming to Dinner and Children's Movie Night October 24th 5:30 PM Join in this fun event where no one knows where they will dine until that night and where the hosts won't know who is coming to dinner until the guests arrive at their door. Hosts will provide the main course. Guests will bring an appetizer, or a dessert. Hosts will be notified by 10/19 of the number of guests to expect and any dietary restrictions. Guests will be notified of what they

should bring. Fill out this confidential form and drop it in the offering or in the envelope on the bulletin board. No peeking! Please indicate if you want to host or be a guest or are flexible. If you are willing to host, how many guests can you accommodate? Also, please note any dietary restrictions. Guests will stop by the church at 5:30pm on the 24th and be given an envelope with the name and address of their host. Children will stay at church for dinner and a movie, hosted by Dean & Heather Lewis. Pick up time for children is no later than 8:00pm Deadline to sign up is October 18th. Speak to Gary Lewis or Carol Bouchard with any questions.



Volunteers needed for Window Dressers

Both the Trustees and Greenworks Ministry have arranged for eight Window Dresser inserts for the Church Basement windows. This will make that area much warmer in winter and save on fuel costs. Volunteers make the inserts. Sign up and get information after worship, Sunday Sept. 27, Oct 4 and Oct 11. Kim Hornung-Marcy and other Greenworks ministry folks will be in the hallway across from the

church kitchen with a computer to sign you up for a morning or afternoon shift Sat. Nov. 14, or Mon Nov. 16 or another time good for you to help build these inserts. This is a fun, once a year, easy project where you are not only helping the church but other people keeping their homes warmer this winter. Fight climate change, reduce fuel costs, increase comfort, have fun. Talk to the Greenworks ministry team for more information (Dan Clark, Sara Moran, Chris Stewart, Jen Zubarik and Kim Hornung-Marcy). Sign up can be accessed

at: <https://signup.com/client/invitation2/secure/121449680059/false#/invitation>

Come, Meet Christ, Go Serve with Us



Trunk or Treat Volunteers Needed for October 25th

The Williston Federated Church and the Williston-Richmond Rotary Club are once again teaming up to host a Halloween Trunk or Treat event on October 25th from 2:00-3:30 PM at the Community Park behind Williston Central School. We are seeking volunteers to participate by attending and handing out treats from your vehicle. This is a free event open to children of the area. Come and enjoy the excitement of our children in a safe and friendly environment.

Decorated trunks and costumes are optional but encouraged. Pre-registration is required. [Please sign up here](#) or on the bulletin board at church. Questions speak to [Carol Bouchard](#).



Church Website Redesign

I have a dream.

I have a dream that WFC could have a location that was available 24/7 where one could access information that would help us live our motto of "Come, Meet Christ and Go Serve With Us". An information site that would communicate:

1. Who we are
2. When and where events are happening (committees, small groups, special events)
3. How to support us
4. Administrative information

An updated, redesigned, modern, user-friendly website for our WFC congregation looking for details about the life of the church and for our friends and neighbors who are looking for a spiritual home.

We already have a small core group that will be working on updating/redesigning our website. We would welcome anyone else who feels their skills or desires could help with this important function. The expectation is that, for the most part, this would be a targeted project with a finite end point, not a committee that would continue to meet.

If this is just the sort of opportunity you've been waiting for, please contact Donna-Sue Hain, 802-598-6612, dschainvt@gmail.com, who will be facilitating this group.



Pastor – Reverend Paul Eyer
 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
 Nursery Caregiver – Michelle Davis

Come, Meet Christ, Go Serve with Us