

# THE STEEPLE

## Williston Federated Church



**June  
2005  
Vol. 24 No. 6**

### Minister's Musings

In early September 2001 the Official Board sent out an invitation to the people of the church. The front of the card contained the following:

*All are welcome,  
Let us build a house where hands will reach  
beyond the wood and stone,  
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,  
and live the Word they have known.  
Built of tears and cries and laughter,  
prayers of faith and songs of grace.  
Let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:  
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome here.*

Those words come to my mind every once in awhile. I wonder how we are doing in building such a house in this place? Is it a place where everyone feels welcomed and encouraged to "reach beyond the wood and stone?" Are there opportunities "to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word (we) have known?" Do we share and experience "tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace?"

How are we doing? Recently, someone at a committee meeting wondered out loud how welcoming we might seem to someone who simply wasn't able to contribute when the offering plate was passed. Afterward, while continuing to think about that question many other images popped into my head. How welcome would someone with severe visual or cognitive impairment feel? Are there limits beyond which welcome is withdrawn in regard to appearance, behavior, singing or reading ability, employment status, position on the issues of the day, or past history?

Would we tolerate someone who wore a tuxedo to worship every Sunday? Are we willing to honestly converse and listen to others who may feel differently about war and peace than we do? Do newcomers feel welcomed? How about native Williston residents who were here long before most of the rest of us? Is there a warm reunion with those who for whatever reason may return after being apart for some time?

Probably you are getting the idea. The questions could go on and on and on. I imagine Jesus might say that the only thing anyone should need to do to receive a welcome is to enter the place where it ought to be waiting. Perhaps he would say the greatest risk or trust is invested by the one who seeks a welcome rather than the one who extends or withholds it. For the record, I think our welcome here is genuine and, occasionally, in our own small way, is a reflection of the kingdom of God.

But surely we are not done yet. God will certainly bless each and every way a loving, welcoming spirit grows in this place. After all, the invitation shared above is really to experience God's welcome and not our own. We are meant to be the vessel through which it is shared. I once heard about a church that believed if you didn't have anything to put in the plate you should take out what you need. That's sure something to think about.

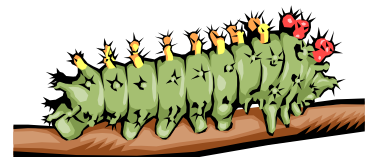
With thanks to God that there are many ways to give and reasons to welcome,

Address:  
44 No. Williston  
Road  
Williston VT 05495

Church Office (802)  
878-5792  
Pastor's Study: 879-  
3332  
Parsonage: 879-1842  
E-mail: of-  
fice@steeple.org  
Website:  
www.steeple.org

Office Hours: Monday-  
Friday 8:30-12:30  
Sunday Worship  
Service:  
9:30 AM  
**Pastor:**

Richard B. Crocker  
**Director of Children's  
and Youth Ministries**  
Laurie Chipman  
**Church Secretary:**  
Brenda Racht  
**Organist and Junior  
Choir Accompanist:**  
Carolyn Pillsbury  
**Music Director:**



Richard

## Church Family News

We hope that this part of the **Steeple** will provide a helpful way for the church community to be informed about joys and concerns. We would like to include you and ask for prayers when there are health concerns, times of loss or other difficult circumstances. We also would like to share the joy of new births, special achievements, and happy occasions.

Your help is needed! If you have **Church Family News** that you would like to have included in the **Steeple**, please call the office 878-5792 by the newsletter due-date June 15.

### Our Sympathy and Prayers are Extended to

- The family of Jean B. Ankeney upon her death May 14, 2005

### Happy 100th Birthday

To Doris Hill, (mother of Jan Lawson) who will celebrate her 100th birthday on June 19! Her address is Woodridge Nursing Home, PO Box 550 Barre, Vermont 05641. Though she will not remember any names, she might enjoy opening cards.



If you want to send greetings to Deb Beckett, who is a Vt. National Guard member now serving in Kuwait, her E-mail address is: Debs1vt@aol.com and her mailing address:

## Thank You

I would like to thank everyone for the support and care that I received during my recovery with my broken leg. So many cards with good wishes, telephone calls, and delicious, wonderful meals, delivered with friendly visits. I very much appreciate it and feel blessed and loved by this great congregation.

I am making good progress and graduated from a walker to crutches which is a huge improvement. Thank you so much. Love, Ursula



### Women of the Church Picnic Sunday, June 5 at 5:00 pm

All women of the church are invited to a creative salad potluck June 5 at 5:00 pm in the gardens of Tom and Susan Vieth. Drinks and dessert will be provided. Just bring any sort of salad (green, fruit, cous-cous, bean.....) and maybe a lawn chair. It's also a lot of fun if you would like to wear a garden hat (wild and crazy, shy, elegant, sporty....). Talk to Maude Cameron if you need hat ideas! There will be no rain date so bring an umbrella if you would like to walk about the gardens if it rains. If you have any questions or would like help coordinating a ride please call. All are welcome so I hope to see a lot of old and new faces here. Susan Vieth, 878-7314, 3838 South Road Williston.




## Thank You

Thank You to everyone who supplied refreshments for the Junior Choir Festival. The cookies dis-

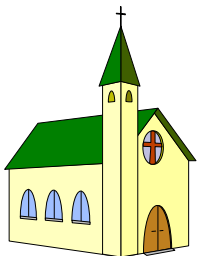
## LECTIONARY

Each Sunday we join Christians from many faith communities in hearing God's Word as selected from the *Revised Common Lectionary* ~ readings that over a period of 3 years take us through much of the Bible. Following are the Lectionary readings for this month ~ one or more are read aloud during the service.

June 5, 2005	June 12, 2005	June 19, 2005	June 26, 2005	
Genesis 12:1-9 Psalm 33:1-12 or Hosea 5:15-6:6 Psalm 50:7-15 Romans 4:13-25 Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26	Genesis 18:1-15, (21:1-7) Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19 or Exodus 19:2-8a Psalm 100 Romans 5:1-8 Matthew 9:35-10:8, (9-23)	Genesis 21:8-21 Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17 or Jeremiah 20:7-13 Psalm 69:7-10, (11-15), 16-18 Romans 6:1b-11 Matthew 10:24-39	Genesis 22:1-14 Psalm 13 or Jeremiah 28:5-9 Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18 Romans 6:12-23 Matthew 10:40-42	

## Church Property Update

During a review of the church property, it came to our attention that the windows in the sanctuary are in dire need of repair. We are very fortunate in that Jeff Fellingner (Bill and Donna Fellingner's son), who has his Masters in historic preservation, has agreed to work with us on repairing the windows. Our hope is to bring the windows back as close as possible to their original condition. We will begin by removing and repairing one window, which will give Jeff and the Trustees a better idea of what time and cost will be involved in repairing the windows. While the window is removed, it will be replaced with a temporary security panel of painted plywood and plexiglass.



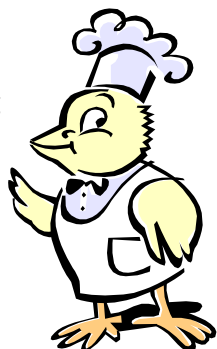
Jeff has generously offered to run a workshop for church members who might be interested in helping with the window restoration process, which could help keep the cost down. Anyone interested in participating in the workshop should contact Trudy Anderson at 899-3487 or by e-mail at [Trudith@aol.com](mailto:Trudith@aol.com).

## Women of the church

Start your summer reading now! Book discussions with potluck suppers begin again in September. Our first one will be at Ruth Magill's house (879-6238) and the book is "First They Killed My Father" by Loung Ung. Contact Judy Crocker for a copy of the book. She is borrowing multiple copies from the So.Burlington Library. The October book will be "Life of Pi" by Yan Martel, date and place to be decided. We are advised that it is important to complete this book before coming to the discussion. All women are welcome!

## The WFC Fourth of July Chicken BBQ is Coming!

Sign-up posters will appear soon for helpers for the barbeque. We especially need helpers in the pit crew, to set up the barbecues and cook chicken. We need at least two pit crew members who are not involved in the parade. New volunteers are welcome! Our experienced "chefs"



## Our Williston Church Missions and Social Concerns Committee supports "advocacy" programs as well as direct relief programs.

Advocacy: The act or process of pleading the cause of another.

National Alliance for the Mentally ILL, VT chapter.

NAMI-VT is a grassroots organization of spouses, siblings, adult children, parents, consumers, mental health professionals and friends who have joined together for mutual support while working collectively to improve services for persons who are mentally ill. NAMI also supports public education, research, and other efforts to reduce stigma and discrimination against consumers of mental health services and their families, which will finally lead to better understanding and eventual cures for neurobiological diseases of the brain.

Our own Sara Moran is an active participant in this organization. In the past year, Sara has taught two 12 week sessions of education for families with mentally ill members. Our church Fellowship Room has been used for these sessions and we promoted NAMI at our Christmas Alternative Gift Shop and also contributed funds to NAMI-VT from our committee's budgeted income.

Sara has written to tell us that "the grassroots concerns are swelling and the public is becoming more informed about mental illness. Think of the lives 'saved' when effective treatments are found. Consider that almost 90% of people with severe mental illness are totally dependent on government funds for food, clothing, shelter, medications, counseling, case management. Many more, whose illness may be less inhibiting, depend on some kind of subsidy. Up to 20% of the population suffers from a mental illness or substance abuse problem. That's epidemic but we really never hear about it. Think of the homeless who could be treated and the jails that house the mentally ill. Did you know that the LA County Jail is the largest mental health institution in the USA? Think of the tax dollars! I feel the Williston Federated Church really represents my faith in caring and reaching out to our 'brothers and sisters' both spiritually and practically. Thank you so much for being a big part of that."

On the state level, what can we do? One issue of prime concern to NAMI-VT members is the proposed repeal of the exemption from the Medicaid drug formulary for those pharmaceuticals used by persons with serious and persistent mental illness. We can contact our state legislators regarding this issue.

Williston Federated  
Church Calendar

# JUNE 2005

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<p>1</p> <p>7:00 pm Music &amp; Worship 7:30 pm Trustees 7:30 pm AA</p>	<p>2</p> <p>7:30 am Rotary</p> <p>10-12 Senior Drop In</p> <p>7 pm Sr. Choir 8:15 pm CMT</p>	<p>3</p> <p>6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study</p>	<p>4</p>
<p>5</p> <p>9:30 am Worship &amp; Communion</p> <p>11-1 Youth Groups</p> <p>5:00 pm <b>Women of the Church Picnic</b></p>	<p>6</p> <p>2:30 pm 4 -H Club</p> <p>4:30 pm Reparation Board</p>	<p>7</p> <p>10-12 Senior Drop In</p> <p>7:00 pm Membership</p>	<p>8</p> <p>7:00 pm Educa-tion 7:00 pm Finance</p> <p>7:30 pm AA</p>	<p>9</p> <p>7:30 am Rotary</p> <p>10-12 Senior Drop In 6 pm Jr. Choir 7 pm Sr. Choir 8:15 pm CMT</p>	<p>10</p> <p>6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study</p>	<p>11</p>
<p>12</p> <p>9:30 am Worship</p> <p><b>Youth Sunday &amp; Strawberry Social</b></p> 	<p>13</p> <p>2:30 pm 4 -H Club</p>	<p>14</p> <p>10-12 Senior Drop In</p> <p>Dismas Meal 7:00 pm Official Board</p>	<p>15</p> <p>7:30 pm AA</p>	<p>16</p> <p>7:30 am Rotary</p> <p>10-12 Senior Drop In 6 pm ADA 7 pm Sr. Choir 8:15 pm CMT</p>	<p>17</p> <p>6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19</p> <p>9:30 am Worship</p> <p><b>WFC Annual Meeting</b></p>	<p>20</p> <p><b>9:00-11:30 am Vacation Church School</b></p> <p>4:30 pm Reparation Board</p>	<p>21</p> <p><b>9:00-11:30 am Vacation Church School</b></p> <p>10-12 Senior Drop In</p> <p>7 pm Pastor/Staff Relations</p>	<p>22</p> <p><b>9:00-11:30 am Vacation Church School</b></p> <p>7:30 pm AA</p>	<p>23</p> <p>7:30 am Rotary</p> <p><b>9:00-11:30 am Vacation Church School</b></p> <p>10-12 Senior Drop In</p> <p>7 pm Sr. Choir 8:15 pm CMT</p>	<p>24</p> <p>6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study</p> <p><b>9:00-11:30 am Vacation Church School</b></p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26</p> <p>9:30 am Worship</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>6:30 am Men's Fellowship Breakfast at the Lincoln Inn</p> <p>10-12 Senior Drop In 7 pm Missions &amp; Social Concerns</p>	<p>29</p> <p>7:30 pm AA</p>	<p>30</p> <p>7:30 am Rotary</p> <p>10-12 Senior Drop In</p> <p>7 pm Sr. Choir 8:15 pm CMT</p>		

## CHURCH CALENDAR FOR JULY, AUGUST & SEPTEMBER

Please take note that this calendar reflects church related events only. There may be other events that have been scheduled with the church office that do not appear on the calendar. This calendar in addition to the calendar on the other side provides a four month advance notice of the church schedule. It is possible thanks to cooperative planning by church committees and groups.



### July

**Fri., July 1** ~ 6:30 am Men's Bible Study  
**Sun., July 3** ~ 9:30 am Worship at the **Old Brick Church**  
**Mon., July 4** ~ **Fourth of July WFC Chicken BBQ**  
**Tues., July 5** ~ 10:15 am Senior Drop In ~ 7 pm Membership  
**Weds., July 6** ~ 7 pm Music & Worship ~ 7:30 pm Trustees  
**Thurs., July 7** ~ 10:15 am Senior Drop In  
**Fri., July 8** ~ 6:30 am Men's Bible Study  
**Sun., July 10** ~ 9:30 am Worship  
**Tues., July 12** ~ 10:15 am Senior Drop In ~ 7 pm Official Board  
**Weds., July 13** ~ 7 pm Education & Finance  
**Thurs., July 14** ~ 10:15 am Senior Drop In  
**Fri., July 15** ~ 6:30 am Men's Bible Study  
**Sun., July 17** ~ 9:30 am Worship  
**Tues., July 19** ~ 10:15 am Senior Drop In ~ 7 pm Pastor/Staff Relations  
**Thurs., July 21** ~ 10:15 am Senior Drop In  
**Fri., July 22** ~ 6:30 am Men's Bible Study  
**Sun., July 24** ~ 9:30 am Worship  
**Tues., July 26** ~ 10:15 am Senior Drop In ~ 7 pm Missions & Social Concerns  
**Thurs., July 28** ~ 10:15 am Senior Drop In  
**Fri., July 29** ~ 6:30 am Men's Bible Study  
**Sun., July 31** ~ 9:30 am Worship

### August

**Tues., Aug 2** ~ 10:15 am Senior Drop In ~ 7 pm Membership & Youth Ministry  
**Weds., Aug 3** ~ 7 pm Music & Worship ~ 7:30 pm Trustees  
**Thurs., Aug 4** ~ 10:15 am Senior Drop In  
**Fri., Aug 5** ~ 6:30 am Men's Bible Study  
**Sun., Aug 7** ~ 9:30 am Worship  
**Tues., Aug 9** ~ 10:15 am Senior Drop In ~ 7 pm Official Board  
**Weds., Aug 10** ~ 7 pm Education & Finance  
**Thurs., Aug 11** ~ 10:15 am Senior Drop In  
**Fri., Aug 12** ~ 6:30 am Men's Bible Study  
**Sun., Aug 14** ~ 9:30 am Worship  
**Tues., Aug 16** ~ 10:15 am Senior Drop In ~ 7:00 pm Pastor/Staff Relations ~ Dismas Meal  
**Thurs., Aug 18** ~ 10:15 am Senior Drop In  
**Fri., Aug 19** ~ 6:30 am Men's Bible Study  
**Sun., Aug 21** ~ 9:30 am Worship  
**Tues., Aug 23** ~ 10:15 am Senior Drop In ~ 7 pm Missions & Social Concerns  
**Thurs., Aug 25** ~ 10:15 am Senior Drop In  
**Fri., Aug 26** ~ 6:30 am Men's Bible Study

**Sun., Aug 28** ~ 9:30 am Worship  
**Tues., Aug 30** ~ 10:15 am Senior Drop In

### September

**Thurs., Sept. 1** ~ 10:15 am Senior Drop In  
**Fri., Sept 2** ~ 6:30 am Men's Bible Study  
**Sun., Sept 4** ~ 9:30 am Worship  
**Mon., Sept 5** ~ **Labor Day**  
**Tues., Sept 6** ~ 10:15 am Senior Drop In ~ 7 pm Membership & Youth Ministry  
**Weds., Sept 7** ~ 7 pm Music & Worship ~ 7:30 pm Trustees  
**Thurs., Sept 8** ~ 10:15 am Senior Drop In  
**Fri., Sept 9** ~ 6:30 am Men's Bible Study  
**Sun., Sept 11** ~ 9:30 am Worship  
**Tues., Sept 13** ~ 10:15 am Senior Drop In ~ 7 pm Official Board  
**Weds., Sept 14** ~ 7 pm Education & Finance  
**Thurs., Sept 15** ~ 10:15 am Senior Drop In  
**Fri., Sept 16** ~ 6:30 am Men's Bible Study  
**Sun., Sept 18** ~ 9:30 am Worship  
**Tues., Sept 20** ~ 10:15 am Senior Drop In ~ 7 pm Pastor/Staff Relations  
**Thurs., Sept 22** ~ 10:15 am Senior Drop In  
**Fri., Sept 23** ~ 6:30 am Men's Bible Study  
**Sun., Sept 25** ~ 9:30 am Worship  
**Tues., Sept 27** ~ 10:15 am Senior Drop In 7 pm Missions & Social Concerns  
**Thurs., Sept 29** ~ 10:15 am Senior Drop In  
**Fri., Sept 30** ~ 6:30 am Men's Bible Study

### Sunday School Teachers for Fall 2005

This is a very rewarding ministry in the life of the church for the teachers, the children, the youth and parents alike! If you have taught in the past, you know that as teachers you learn right along with the kids each week. Children and youth are wonderful at helping us connect and learn in a fresh new way - Christ invites all children to come to him to listen and learn. We would like to encourage all Sunday School teachers to share their teaching experience with others and to reach out and help others get introduced to this great ministry. Maybe you are wondering, "Is this what God is calling me to do?" If so, please feel free to walk into a classroom and experience and feel the Holy Spirit moving among the children and youth! Questions can be directed to Carolyn Carlson (Education Chair) or Laurie (Director of Children's & Youth Ministries). Sign up sheet is on the Education bulletin board.

**The Steeple  
Williston Federated Church**

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
PERMIT #4  
WILLISTON VT 05495

44 North Williston Road  
Williston VT 05495

Phone: 802-878-5792  
E-mail: office@steeple.org.  
RETURN SERVICE RE-  
QUESTED



**Come, Meet Christ, Go Serve**

Label goes up to the line  
covering these words.  
Thanks

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**June Highlights**



**Youth Sunday**

On June 12 we will be celebrating the end of the Sunday School year and our graduating Seniors. Our youth will be giving the message and the Junior Choir and Youth Choir will be singing on this special Sunday. We know you will want to make sure you stay for the Strawberry Social provided by the Education Committee, following the worship service. Just a note that there will be no Sunday school classes on this Sunday - all will be staying together upstairs for worship.




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**WFC Annual Meeting**





## CHURCH YOUTH GROUPS

Junior High (6th grade - 8th grade)

Senior High (9th-12th grade)

WE WOULD LOVE TO INVITE NEW YOUTH PERSONALLY TO YOUTH GATHERINGS AND INFORM THEM OF OUR ACTIVITIES. THE FOLLOWING DATES AND ACTIVITIES ARE TENTATIVE. FINAL INFORMATION WILL BE SENT BY PHONE, E-MAIL OR POST CARD. Questions?? Donna Fellingner, 878-8278, Paul Bouchard 862-7400, or Laurie at church 878-5792 or home 899-4276. Watch for your mail, email and keep checking the YOUTH BULLETIN BOARD on the hall wall by the kitchen for news and updates!

**The next Youth Ministry Committee meeting will be on Tuesday, May 31 at 7 PM.**

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS WITH THESE ACTIVITIES

**SUNDAY, MAY 29 - Youth Choir** practice after church - organize The Upper Room and plan Skit for Youth Sunday.

### **SUNDAY, MAY 29 - MONDAY, MAY 30**

JUNIOR HIGH LOCK IN (Senior High invited) - 2:30 pm Petra Clifts (need \$5 and form), back at 6:30 pm for pizza, movie and games. Bring your family calendar - we'll be looking ahead to summer and fall.

### **SUNDAY, JUNE 5**

YOUTH CHOIR practice after church and practice skit for Youth Sunday.

### **SATURDAY, JUNE 11**

PEDALS FOR PROGRESS 9-1 ? Any interest? Let us know! You get to remove pedals, turn handle bars and remove any extra racks etc. at the Chittenden Solid Waste Drop Off Center, Patchen Road, South Burlington

### **SUNDAY, JUNE 12**

YOUTH SUNDAY - Youth participate in worship service - chorus - reading - etc. Let some one know if you are interested and can not make a Sunday practice. Strawberry/ice cream party after the service.

### **SUNDAY, JUNE 19**

FATHER'S DAY - No youth time.

## High School and College Graduates!

We would like to know who you are, where you are graduating from and your plans for the future. If you are a high school senior and will be attending worship on Youth Sunday, June 12, please let us know. We would like to recognize you.

### Summer Sunday School – June 19 – August 28

All children up through grade 6 are welcome to attend during Sunday School time. We will be using the "One Room Sunday School" curriculum again. Each Sunday will have its own folder ready for the teacher. Please check your calendars and then sign up to teach a Sunday on the Education bulletin board. Help us continue to keep this ministry available for our young children. God Bless!

### Conference Camping

The Camping Brochures are here! Stop by the table by the youth bulletin board and check out the wonderful camps available for young people. Similar camps are offered each year. If you can not attend this year, think ahead for next year. Volunteer Counselors are always needed. Parents - this earns you a scholarship for your child to go to camp (\$95 off the camp fee). Church camps are at Covenant Hills near Cabot, Vermont and Skye Farm near Bolton Landing, New York. Web site: [www.gbgm-umc.org/troycamping](http://www.gbgm-umc.org/troycamping) Laurie Chipman is a member of the Conference Camp Board and is directing a week for kids in grades 4-6 called Adventure Camp on July 3-9! Laurie is still in need of counselors - please see her if you are interested. She'll be happy to answer any questions you may have.

### Vacation Church School 2005

#### A Week With the Fruit of the Spirit

**love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity,  
faithfulness, gentleness and self-control**

(Galatians 5:22-23)

This year's Vacation Church School will be held at the church the week of June 20-24 from 9 am to 11:30 am each day. Children entering grades 1-5 are encouraged to attend. It's okay if participants can't be present every day. Adult and older youth



**ATTENTION to those planning for Summer Camps:**

Now is the time to begin thinking about summer camp for your children, youth and families. Camp Brochures are on the table by the youth bulletin board, by the kitchen. Slots tend to fill up fast, so if there is a camp that you are interested in, send in your registration soon. Covenant Hills in Vermont and Skye Farm in New York are always looking for adult volunteer counselors for camps. Volunteer counselors need to be 18 years old and all parents receive \$90 off the fee for a week of camp for their child. Laurie Chipman directs the Adventure Camp at Skye Farm the week of July 3-9th and is still in need of counselors. Youth, age 16 & 17 (by June 29th) can attend Counselor in Training week - July 3-9th and have fun with younger campers in the afternoon.

Those of you without Internet access or who would like more information can call Donna Fellingner 878-8278 or Laurie at the church office 878-5792 (a member of the Troy Conference Camp board). Web site: [www.gbgm-umc.org/troycamping](http://www.gbgm-umc.org/troycamping) also accessible through the church web site, [www.steeple.org](http://www.steeple.org)