



A Message from Pastor Paul Eyer October 2018

ALL ARE WELCOME! (Open and Affirming, Reconciling Statement) :

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 and embraced by the WFC congregation in February, 2006.)

Sometimes I have heard it said that scripture is irrelevant, that the sacred stories of our faith have nothing to say in 21st Century North America.

And then we came around to the last Sunday of September this year. After a week in which a famous entertainer was sentenced for his crimes in the presence of some of his female accusers—a week in which the U.S. Senate heard testimony from a woman regarding the alleged actions of a Supreme Court nominee—the Old Testament passage for September 30, 2018 (from the Revised Common Lectionary) focused on a woman in the ancient world (Esther) who courageously confronted power.

Who says that the Bible (including the Old Testament) has nothing to say to us? This story—and many others in scripture—are especially relevant as we grapple with universally important principles and truths like justice, respect, care for neighbors and care for those from distant lands.

With an eye toward increasing our understanding about the Bible—about the way in which the scriptures were shaped and the way in which we are shaped by the scriptures—I will be leading an adult study series this fall.

I am calling this series **Bible 101: “So You Want to Know Your Bible!”** In response to popular demand, this five-week study will offer **an overview of the compelling—and sometimes confounding—stories of scripture.**

Weekly on Thursday evenings from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., beginning October 18 and concluding on November 15, we will enjoy a light meal and conversation about the stories of our faith (some uplifting, some upsetting) found in the Old Testament. A similar series focused on the New Testament is planned for the Fall of 2019.

I encourage you to join us for soup and scripture each Thursday evening starting on October 18. There will be food, fellowship, learning, and laughter. I hope that you will be there too!

Enthusiastically,
Rev. Paul Eyer, Pastor

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CORN ROAST SUNDAY



CORN ROAST SUNDAY

Our first annual Sunday School Kick off and Corn Roast on September 9th was a great success! Over 90 folks enjoyed fresh corn on the cob (courtesy of Ginger Isham) hot dogs, salad and s'mores. There was even an anniversary cake in celebration of three couples in our church all celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary.

Many thanks go to the Membership Committee for organizing the food; the Education Committee for the lawn games; Greta D'Agostino for face painting; Don Thurston for starting our camp fire and to Paul Bouchard & Don Thurston for their grilling expertise.



SAVE THE DATE!!!

Our annual Chicken Pie Supper will be held on October 13. There will be two sittings: one at 5 and one at 6:30 p.m. Prices are \$13.00 for adults and \$6.00 for children. Profits from this event support the missions of the Women of the Church.



This is always a wonderful event for the Church and our community and needs the contributions of time and talent from everyone for a successful dinner. We'll need lots of cooks to make all the chicken pies, pumpkins pies, and many pounds of potato and squash. We'll also need many workers from the parking lot to the dishpan. The sign up sheet will appear soon. Make plans now to be part of this Williston Federated Church tradition!

Trevor and Jesus (the Jesus doll) at the Corn Roast

It was corn roast Sunday and Trevor was practicing his run and jump - run through the door to the side yard and jump off the little step - then do it again.

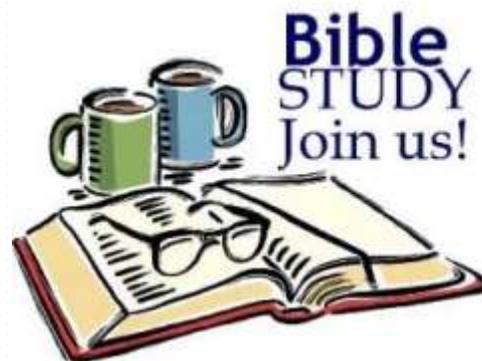
I was in the hallway carrying the Jesus doll. Trevor saw me and stopped. I thought maybe he would want to high 5 with the doll or shake hands but instead he ran to the Jesus doll and gave him a big hug and then continued his run and jump routine. When he came back he hugged the doll again and he did it again and again maybe 20 times. Considering Trevor's speed, his dad got a pretty good picture of the hugging.



**Trevor, the Jesus Doll and
Donna Fellinginger**

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Join us for soup and scripture each Thursday starting October 18!

CROP WALK

Sunday, October 7

CROP Walk: The CROP Walk to combat hunger (both here and around the world) will take place on Sunday, October 7. Registration is 1:30 p.m. at First Congregational UCC in Burlington. The walk begins at 2:00 p.m. For more information see: <https://www.crophungerwalk.org/burlingtonvt>.

Champlain Association

Vermont Conference, United Church of Christ

Fall 2018 - Events Schedule

Fall Association Meeting

November 4, 2018

Malletts Bay Congregational Church, UCC

Colchester, VT

12:30 pm Lunch

1:00 pm Association business meeting

2:00 pm U2 Eucharist Worship Service

The WFC STEEPLE

At this writing, preparations are underway onsite at the church for the removal of the current church steeple and the exciting moment when the new steeple will be put in place. The expectation is that the current steeple will come down on October 3. A temporary cap will then be placed where the steeple stood. And the grand moment when the new steeple is lifted into place is anticipated to be Monday, October 15.

If this timetable holds, the likely date for the dedication of the new steeple will be during 9:30 a.m. worship on Sunday, November 11. Join us to view this exciting transition to a new steeple in October, and be sure to be with us for the steeple dedication on November 11.

A HEIFER INTERNATIONAL THANK YOU

At Heifer, we're grateful for your efforts to end hunger and poverty. Here is an example of what your giving has done:



Seven year old Izabela Sambane lives in southern Tanzania with her parents and little brother, Musa. She is a student at Itunduma Primary School and has lots to be excited this year. She is participating in Heifer International's [Tanzania School Milk Program](#) and receives regular helpings of milk that have already boosted her energy, attention span and attendance. Launched in 2017, this program not only improves nutrition for children like Izabela but it also helps dairy farmers cultivate markets, which strengthen the local economy. Since joining the program, Izabela's mom, Justina, reports that her grades are among the highest in her class and she's excited about getting up each morning to go to school.

YOUR support has allowed children like Izabela to live a life free of hunger and poverty. We appreciate your help in making that happen.

For more information about our School Milk program, please [click here](#).

Yours for a better world,

Liz

WFC AT THE GAY PRIDE PARADE





World Communion Offering: October 7 is World Communion Sunday, a time when Christians of many denominations throughout the world break bread and pour the cup to remember that we are a global community of believers and followers of Christ. On this day, WFC takes a special offering to commemorate this celebration.

These gifts are shared equally between the United Church of Christ and the United Methodist Church.

The UCC offering is for “Neighbors in Need,” supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. Local UCC churches receive much needed funds for staff training and development, in addition to projects that address systematic injustice. (More information is available at <http://www.ucc.org/nin>.)

The UMC World Communion Sunday offering funds scholarships for ethnic minority graduate and undergraduate students that allow them to work for social justice both internationally and in the U.S. These gifts serve the marginalized and give hope to those in need. (For more information see: <http://www.umcsgiving.org/question-articles/world-communion-sunday-faq>.)

Please give generously on October 7. Special envelopes are available in each pew. Checks are payable to WFC, with the notation, World Communion Offering

In order to bring our worship service closer to the world, the Music and Worship Committee is asking the people of the church to bring small items to display on the railing near the altar and in the Fellowship Hall. Cloth and small items reflecting the art of a particular country are suggested. Also if anyone is interested in providing a type of bread associated with a particular culture, please contact Carolyn Pillsbury, someone from the Music and Worship Committee, or contact the church office.

THANK YOU USHERS



Thank you to all who have volunteered to usher.

Hopefully you have all received hard copies of the usher guidance, list of ushers and the usher schedule through June.

Please contact me if you have volunteered to usher but have not received a hard copy.

Sara Moran

Composting

There is a green composting bucket and there are compostable **plastic bags in the kitchen. Hopefully we can reduce our church's** load on the landfill by separating things that can be turned into useful soil from things that are buried forever.

In general, things that have once been alive can be composted. Paper, from trees, and bones, from animals, are examples. But petrified wood, coal, and diamonds are exceptions.

Most paper cups and expensive paper plates have a plastic coating that prevents their being composted; it is possible to buy cups and utensils that are made from corn, cane, or grass that can be **composted. Don't put anything in the green bucket you are not sure about, but strive to get and use** things that can be reused, recycled, or composted. Inexpensive paper plates and used paper napkins can be composted.

Do Compost:

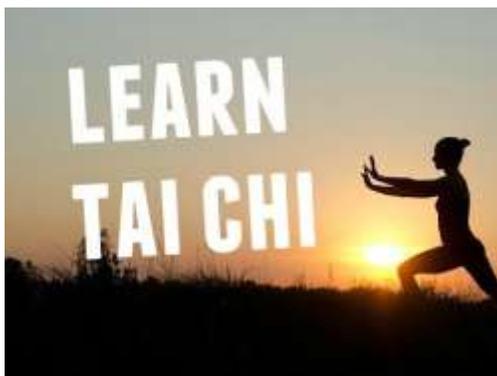
table scraps, coffee filters and grounds, paper tea bags, shells, rinds, meat, bones & fish, shellfish, dairy products, fats & cooking oils.

paper napkins & paper towels, uncoated paper plates, oily take-out pizza boxes, wet or soiled paper bags & wet newspaper, unlined flour & sugar bags, uncoated butcher paper.

Do Not Compost:

plastic, glass, condiment packets or cups, waxed paper, metal, foil, straws or swizzle sticks, produce stickers, glossy or plastic-coated paper, twist ties, rubber bands, human or pet waste, dryer lint, coal, diamonds.

Compost, up to 30 pounds, can be dropped off free at the CSWD composting site on Redmond Road. If each of us take a turn, composting should be easy, good for the environment, and reduce the use of the land fill.



BEGINNING TAI CHI CLASS

Tai Chi - a flowing and graceful sequence of movements has been called "meditation in motion." Research evidence finds that the practice of Tai Chi improves balance, focus, and an over-all sense of well-being.

This class will present Sun style Tai Chi which is appropriate for all ages and also for people with inflammatory joint issues such as arthritis as well as other conditions that limit mobility.

WHERE: Williston Federated Church
WHEN: Mondays and Wednesdays, 11:30-12:30
DATES : September 10- November 7
COST: No fee. Sponsored by Age Well
FOR MORE INFO OR TO REGISTER: Adina Panitch



Centering Prayer

Silent Prayer and Bible Reflection

The Thursday morning group encounters moments of clearer understanding of the faith journey, moments of learning and moments of spiritual connections. This group meets from 8am-9am. The group begins with 20 minutes of silence, followed by a sharing of responses to a few Bible verses. The method, called Centering Prayer, will be practiced by some in the group, others will practice whatever form of silent prayer or meditation they choose.

Information about Centering Prayer is available. Anyone is welcome to come once a month, once a year, or once.

If you would like to join the group and are not on the email list, please contact Donna Fellingner - donnafellnergvt@gmail.com 802-355-1700.

Take Home Meals and Soups – Craft Fair

Get your Take Home Meals and Soup at the Craft Fair on Nov 17th or Nov 18th after church. We will be selling all your favorites. Also we will be selling our famous pickles and jams at the sale. The sign up sheet will be on the bulletin board on Oct 21st if you want to reserve your favorite items. Contact Vickie Walker at 497-



0017 or vwalker56@comcast.net or Polly Malik at 879-6968 or ptmalik@myfairpoint.net if you have any questions

Christmas Bazaar

November 17th 9 AM - 2 PM

Here is a preview for the Christmas Bazaar November 17th, sponsored by the Women of the Church. Look for a sign up sheet later in October for workers, soup and baked goods. Contact Carol Bouchard if you have questions.



Craft Table - Chairperson, Carol Bouchard - We need hand made items such as mittens, scarves, ornaments, jewelry, wooden items, Christmas 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, wreaths, gourds, gifts for gardeners.

Attic Treasures – Co-chairs, Peet Grobler & Sylvia Maloney – We are looking for *small* items: collectibles, old linens, jewelry, Christmas decorations, small treasures.



Silent Auction - Sponsored by the youth – Contact Matt Bliss or Ashley Dubois - Donations of goods & services are needed. Some ideas are: yard work, computer help, babysitting, pies, art work, tickets to a local sporting event, a weekend at a camp, a dinner in your home. Be creative. Proceeds benefit the youth group. Follow this [link](#) for the on line form.

Christmas Bazaar

November 17th 9 AM - 2 PM



Ready to Go Meals – Co-chairs Vicki Walker & Polly Malik. A variety of take home meals will be available. This will be our only sale of Take Home Meals so stock up on your favorites. We also have canned goods - your favorite jams and pickles. Proceeds to benefit the Community Dinner Fund

Solmate Socks – Brenda Howley is selling these mismatched socks to benefit Dragonheart Vermont, a breast cancer survivor group.



Lunch - We will be serving home made soups, pulled pork & pulled chicken sandwiches and chili. Donations of soup are needed.

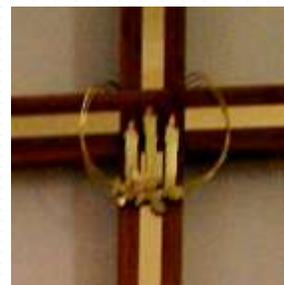
Set Up – Thursday, Nov. 15th 1-4 and Friday, Nov. 16th 9-4 - Card Tables and holiday table cloths are needed. Bring your donated items and come help us set up.



Gifts of Trudy Anderson

The second symbol was created for Advent maybe 15- 20 years ago and is a combination of copper and brass. The thoughts include the circle to symbolize eternity, Jesus being the alpha and the omega, Holly, a traditional symbol of evergreen, again eternity, holly berries, red (copper) for the blood shed at Easter.”

Per Trudy: “The first time I put the candles up and stood back I was struck by the tie in with the 3 candles and 3 crosses of the Crucifixion. I had made them thinking of the Trinity.”



GARDENS



Trudy planned, supervised and worked in the church gardens ever since anyone can remember. Her plans included many varieties that not only complemented each other but ensured colorful foliage and blooms all throughout growing seasons.

Please notice the amazing two crab apple trees one behind the Fellowship Hall and one as you enter from the parking lot.



LABYRINTH

Trudy designed the labyrinth, supervised taping the actual outline of proposed labyrinth on the carpet in the Fellowship Hall.

For the outside labyrinth she designed and obtained the bricks and worked with many helpers to ensure the bricks were placed in the correct form.

Please considering walking the Labyrinth and perhaps remembering the beauty that Trudy brought to the church.

