

***Presentation of Gifts with Doxology**

Hymnal #94

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below:

Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts:

Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts;

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia

Prayer of Dedication

Loving and gracious God, who gave us Jesus Christ and who with him has given so freely to us, receive these our tithes and offerings, and enable us, with all our gifts, to yield ourselves to you, that with body, mind and spirit, we may truly and freely serve you. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.

***Hymn**

Take Time to be Holy
(Hymnal #395)

Going Out to Do God's Word

The Life and Mission of the Church

***Benediction**

Strengthen the fainthearted, support the weak, help the afflicted, honor all persons. Love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen.

Postlude:

March in D Major
(J.S. Bach)

Greeter : Barb and Rich Bristol **Coffee:** Carol Burbank

Usher:

Scripture Reader:

Flowers on Altar: Donated by Barb Powell in memory of Louise Whitcher

UPLIFTING THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Praise the Lord! Oh give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; for His loving kindness in everlasting.

Should you need a ride to church or events for any reason, contact donnafellnergvt@gmail.com

Williston Federated Church

*United Methodist Church and United Church of Christ – Federated 1899
An Open and Affirming, Reconciling Congregation*

Mission Statement

Our church is a community which seeks, welcomes and gathers people to share the Gospel of God's love, enables people to find fullness of life through Jesus Christ, goes into the world to live lovingly and justly as servants of Christ, and responds actively to human need.



*Interim Pastor ~ Reverend Barbara Lemmel 881-3267, barblemmel@mac.com
Minister of Pastoral Care ~ Rev. Paul Hoffman 371-9770, plhoff123@gmail.com*

Emeritus Pastor ~ Rev. Charlie Magill

Lay Leader ~ Ashley Dubois, Ministers ~ The People of the Church

Church Office Administrator ~ Sally Nowotarski

Music Director ~ Martin Hain, Organist ~ Carolyn Pillsbury

Choir Accompanist ~ Cindy Thurston Nursery Caregiver ~ Michelle Davis

44 North Williston Road, Williston, VT 05495

Church Office: (802) 878-5792, e-mail address: office@steeple.org, Website: www.steeple.org

Welcome To All Who Worship Here!

February 12, 2017 ~ 9:30 A.M.

Childcare is available downstairs in the nursery for children up to age three.
Hearing assistance devices are available – please ask an usher for assistance.

A Fellowship time follows worship—Please join us downstairs in Fellowship Hall

Centering Words:

*See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity...
Choose life. [Deuteronomy 30:15]*

Prelude

Air in A Minor
(J.S. Bach)

Greeting and Announcements

***Sharing the Peace of Christ** (a brief time of greeting other worshippers nearby)

*Hymn

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty
(Hymnal #139)

Lighting the Peace Candle

Call to Worship

One: Happy are those who are without blame.

All: Blessed are those who walk in God's ways.

One: Happy are those who are faithful.

All: Blessed are those who seek God.

One: We will obey your word, O God.

All: We will praise you forever.

Unison Prayer of Confession and Forgiveness ☩

Loving God, you call us into community, you teach us your ways, and bless us with abundant life. Yet we turn aside to follow other paths: we take the easy way out, listening to the world's call rather than your call to commitment; we quarrel with one another; we cherish our resentments; we cling to petty jealousies.

Forgive us when we wander from your love. Draw us into community with each other, and feed us with the milk of your grace, that we may grow in faithfulness, and work together in peace. Amen.

Anthem

Let It Shine
(by Besig and Price)

Listening for God's Word

Time with Children of All Ages

Hymn

Make Me a Captive, Lord
(Hymnal #421)

Scripture Readings

O.T. page 186
N.T. page 94

Deuteronomy 30:15-20
John 3:11-21

Sermon

Choosing Life

Rev. Paul Hoffman

*Hymn

O Come and Dwell in Me
(Hymnal #388)

Responding to God's Word

Celebrations & Concerns Response: Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Offering

Offertory

Presto
(Moller)

Women's Book Club and Pot Luck

Susan Lamb will be the host of February's book club meeting. We will meet in the church fellowship hall on Thursday, February 23rd from 5:30 PM to 8PM. The book for February is "The Sympathizer" by Viet Thanh Nguyen. It is the story of a communist spy who is conflicted about where he stands within his political beliefs and in the world itself. His efforts to survive in two worlds at once lead him to make mistakes that end in his capture and torture at the hands of one of the people he most trusts. This sounds very intriguing, why don't you plan to come and join us.

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**Presentation on Immigration**, Sunday, March 19, 2017 ~2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Mt St. Mary's Chapel—100 Mansfield Ave., Burlington, VT

The Sisters of Mercy and Mercy Associates invite you to a presentation on Immigration /Detention of Mothers and Children. Sr. Kathleen will speak, she spent 18 years at the US/Mexican border working with immigrants in detention situations, then in Omaha, she initiated the Immigrant Detainee Accompaniment Program, an International observer of Honduran elections and spent time in San Pedro Sula, Honduras as Interim chaplain. No cost for the event. Parking is available in the Mater Christi School parking lot. Everyone is welcome. For more information, call Sr. Lindora Cabral 802-557-4415.

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Helping Those In Need ~ Dear friends. When last I wrote it was about the possibility of a trip to Louisiana. When I checked air fares it became clear that it would be very expensive to go that far. Barbara Burnside in the New England Conference UMC office suggested New Jersey. The folks there still have great need, and we can drive there. The New Jersey Conference disaster recovery organization asks each volunteer to pay \$15 per night for lodging and contribute \$100 toward materials, so I'm estimating that the costs would be about \$350 per person for the week. We would car pool down on Sunday, April 23 and return April 29.

Right now I need an approximate number of people who would like to go. As usual, we probably won't know exactly what the work is until a week or two before we go, but it will be doing whatever needs to be done to get people back in their homes after the flooding and wind damage of hurricane Sandy.

Please spread this request widely.

Thank you, Charlie Magill

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**Potential Members** ~ on February 20 there will be another gathering of potential members, dessert will be served. Please RSVP to Carol Bouchard at carolbouchard@gmail.com—Thank you.

### **Williston Federated Church ~ Week of February 12, 2017**

**Sunday, February 12** ~ 9:30am Worship with Pastor Paul

**Tuesday, February 14** ~ 7:00pm Christian Education Committee, 7:00pm Official Board Meeting

**Wednesday, February 15** ~ 7:00am Mens Breakfast; 6:30pm Pastor Staff Meeting,

**Thursday, February 16**~ 8:00am Centering Prayer; 11:00am Membership Committee; 7:00pm Choir Researals

**Friday, February 17**~ 7:00am Men's Bible Study

**Saturday, February 18** ~ 8:30am Women's Breakfast

**Sunday, February 19** ~ 9:30am Worship with Pastor Barb

### **Schedule of Services—February 2017**

February 19, Pastor Barb

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Pastor Barb's Schedule:

Tuesday, February 14 ~ In Church Office, 9:00-12:00

Friday, February 17 ~ In Church Office, 9:00-2:00

Tuesday, February 21~ In Church Office, 9:00-2:00

Friday, February 24 ~ In Church Office, 9:00-2:00

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### **Upcoming Youth Group Events**

Sunday February 19th: Spectrum Center Drop-In Lunch ~ After church we will head down to the Spectrum Youth Center in Burlington to make lunch with the youth who have dropped in for something to eat and join them for the meal.

### **Lenten Devotional Booklet**

The UCC web site bookstore is offering a booklet of Lenten Devotionals. To check it out google: UCC Resources ~ Lent and Easter. The title of the devotional booklet is **Diving Lessons**. There is an entry for every day in Lent. These devotionals are written by many different UCC pastors including Molly Baskett author of **Real Good Church**. Cost is \$6.50 - shipping for one copy is free.

**Women's Breakfast** - February 18th 8:30 -10:30 AM in Fellowship Hall. Our guest speaker will be Heather Rice. Heather recently returned from Afghanistan. She will speak about her work with the Ministry of Education to improve teacher training. We hope you will plan to join us for food and fellowship.. To help with planning, please sign up on the bulletin board. For more information contact Carol Burbank 878-3155 or Carol Bouchard 862-7400

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