



Williston Federated Church

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.

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.



Pastor – Reverend Paul Eyer phone: 802-878-5792 email: pastoreyer@gmail.com

Emeritus Associate Pastor – Charlie Magill

Lay Leader – Ashley Dubois

Church Office Administrator – Pamela Osborne

Music Director – Martin Hain

Organist – Carolyn Pillsbury

Choir Accompanist – Carol Schein

Nursery Caregiver – Michelle Davis

Sunday School Coordinator – Jenny Rousseau, Ed.D

44 North Williston Road, Williston, Vermont 05495

Church Office: (802) 878-5792

E-mail address: WillistonFederatedChurch@gmail.com Website: www.steeple.org



United Church of Christ and United Methodist Church
Federated in 1899



Welcome To All Who Worship Here!

September 12, 2021, 9:30 A.M.

Call to Worship	One: On this morning, as every morning, All: we are surrounded by God's grace. One: In these moments, as in every moment, All: we are called to costly discipleship by Jesus. One: Throughout this day, as every day, All: we are taught peace and hope by the Spirit.	Ashley Dubois
Prelude	"Lord Whose Love Through Humble Service" Arr. by Wilbur Held	Carolyn Pillsbury
Welcome Sharing the Peace of Christ	Lighting the Peace Candle One: Peace to with you All: And also with you	Pastor Paul Eyer & Congregation
Opening Hymn	"Blessed Be the Name of the Lord" WFC Songbook #23 (sing verses 1 and 2)	Choral Ensemble
Prayer of the Day	All: Strengthen our hearts, O God of hope, so that we might sustain the weary, not just with words, but with our friendship; so that we might face down cruelty with kindness and mercy. Morning by morning, day by day, continue to teach us your ways. Amen.	

Anthem	"Lord Is My Shepherd" by Robert Newton	Choral Ensemble
Time with Children		Pastor Paul Eyer
Scripture	<p>Mark 8:27-38</p> <p>27 Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?"</p> <p>28 And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." 29 He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah." 30 And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him. 31 Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. 32 He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. 33 But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." 34 He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If</p>	Bob Driver

any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. 35 For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. 36 For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? 37 Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? 38 Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

Prayer Of
Illumination

May the Words of my mouth and the meditation of our hearts be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, our strength and our redeemer.

Pastor Paul
Eyer &
Congregation

Sermon

"Who Do You Say That I Am?"

Pastor Paul
Eyer

Celebrations/
Prayers

Pastor: Lord of Life and Love
Congregation: Hear our prayer
Prayer requests may be submitted to:
WFCPrayer44@gmail.com
(public prayer request)
pastoreyer@gmail.com

Pastor Paul
Eyer

(private prayer request)

Silent
Reflection

A time for silent Prayers

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.

Pastor Paul
Eyer &
Congregation

Offering/
Offertory

Mailing: Williston Federated Church
44 No. Williston Rd
Williston, VT. 05495

Online: <http://onrealm.org/WFC/give/giveonline>

Church website: www.steeple.org

Offertory
Music

“Andantino” by Orlando Gibbons

Carolyn
Pillsbury

Prayer of
Dedication

All: Open our ears to the struggles around us; open our voices to speak out for justice; open our hearts to welcome the forgotten; open our treasures so they may be used to care for all your children.

Pastor Paul
Eyer &
Congregation

**This we pray in the name of Jesus the
Messiah. Amen.**

Life and Mission of Church		Pastor Paul Eyer
Closing Hymn	“Lift High the Cross” UMC Hymnal #159 (sing verses 1 and 4)	Choral ensemble
Benediction/ Blessing		Pastor Paul Eyer
Postlude	“Simple Gifts” Arr. by Wilbur Held	Carolyn Pillsbury

Liturgical Resources *The Call to Worship, Prayer of the Day, and Prayer of Dedication are adapted from “Lectionary Liturgies” by Thom Shuman, found at <http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/2018/09/alternate-texts-liturgy-with-communion.html>.*

Ushers: The Vaughn Family

Greeters: Chris Stewart

Online Greeter: Jackie Lingelbach

Online Prayer Coordinator: Ashley Dubois

This Week and Beyond at Williston Federated Church

Coffee Hour Update - Given the recent increase in the Delta variant, a decision has been made by the Membership Committee to put a temporary hold on serving coffee & refreshments after worship. Folks may still gather for conversation outside or in Fellowship Hall (if raining) for conversation and a time of fellowship. Our committee meets again September 16th at which time we will reevaluate the situation. Thanks for your understanding! Carol Bouchard Membership Committee Chair.

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### **A Note about the Time with Children**

We are delighted to welcome children into our worship service! And we have a special time during the service aimed especially at the youngest among us—and the young at heart! We welcome children to participate in the “Time With Children” in any of the following ways: remain seated in the pew with their family; gather on the first pew; or sit on the chancel steps. Remember that the worship service is being livestreamed to social media. So if you would prefer that your child not appear in this video on our church’s Facebook page, you can keep the children with you in the pew or have them sit on the first pew with their back to the camera. If you have no objection to your child appearing in this livestreamed video feed, then all of the options are open to you.

And then following the Time With Children, the younger set can head off to join Susan Lamb and other volunteers to engage with the children (outdoors if the weather permits). And Michelle Davis is offering nursery care for the youngest children in the Sitting Room. It is a joy to welcome children in our midst!

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Membership Opportunity

All are welcome here at WFC. Being a full member of the church is not a requirement for participation in all aspects of worship, serving on committees, providing outreach and service to others. It is an opportunity to make a public statement of Christian witness. If you are new to the church community, or have been worshipping with us for years, and are interested in joining the church, please speak to Pastor Paul Eyer or a member of the Membership Committee: Carol Bouchard, Ruth Magill, Sally Metro, Janice Mejia, Carol Burbank or Gary Lewis. New members will be received during worship this fall. The date is to be determined.

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### **Thursday morning Centering Prayer Group:**

This Thursday morning, September 16 at 9am the Centering Prayer group will gather in person and via Zoom for silent prayer and Bible discussion. The session begins with a brief reading and then 20 minutes of silence. After 20 minutes a bell will ring 3 times. Then the Bible passage of the day will be read three times. Participants will talk of the part of the passage that touched them or had questions or special

meaning. The gathering lasts about one hour, ending with the Lord's Prayer also known as the Our Father. For Zoom code or questions call or text Donna Fellingner 802-355-1700 or by email at [donnafellingervt@gmail.com](mailto:donnafellingervt@gmail.com)

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Dismas House

Every month, for the third Tuesday, we watch in awe, how our community provides a meal to the table of the residents, volunteers and staff at Dismas House in Burlington. The next opportunity to participate in this deeply meaningful mission, will be the third Tuesday of September 2021: September 21, 2021.

After September 21, 2021, the next 3rd Tuesday with Dismas House will be October 19, 2021. Jane Stickney and Barb Bristol have offered to bring October's meal to the Dismas House table. Thank you Barb and Jane!

The remaining "third Tuesdays" of 2021 are all listed within the Dismas House announcement on the virtual bulletin board that can be viewed on the church's website.

For more detailed information, please contact Peet Grobler at (802) 881-9007 or peetgrobler@aol.com.

Thank you for considering. Your Missions and Social Concerns Committee.

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### **Labyrinth**

Ruth and Charlie Magill have uncovered the Labyrinth on the church front lawn. For the next few months (before snow!) it will be a special place for a quiet prayerful walk. Follow the grass path between the bricks, stop at the center stone and gaze at the majestic steeple as you pray for peace, good health, and special needs. Copies of "Sample Prayer Guide" are in the envelope posted on the bulletin board nearest the door to the outside.

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Virtual Bulletin Board

We are happy to share that we have created a virtual Bulletin Board for announcements and sign ups that will be accessible through our website. We have also created a tutorial video to guide you through using the bulletin board. Both the tutorial and bulletin board can be found on our website.

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## **September is Suicide Prevention Month**

Suicide is the tenth leading cause of death in the USA. Please reach out to those who have lost loved ones and consider supporting NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) VT at <https://namivt.org/> or the Vermont Suicide Prevention Center at <https://vtspc.org>  
Below are links to for more information:

### **National Suicide Prevention Week 9/5 - 9/11**

[Suicide Prevention](#)

### **World Suicide Prevention Day 9/10**

[Suicide Prevention Strategies](#)

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Resource Day with Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Magill

Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Magill, daughter of Charlie and Ruth Magill, will be the keynote speaker for the "Resource Day" offered next month by the Green Mountain District of the New England United Methodist Conference. This event takes place via Zoom on Saturday, September 25 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. and will focus upon feeding ministries. Rev. Dr. Magill is the author of "Five Loaves, Two Fish, Twelve Volunteers: Growing a Relational Food Ministry."

Register for "Growing Relational Food Ministries in Our Communities"

Register now for a special webinar workshop featuring keynote speaker Pastor Liz Magill along with speakers from 4 of our Vermont congregations on Saturday, September 25 from 9:00 a.m. – noon via Zoom. This event is for lay people as well as clergy – encourage a group from your congregation to participate!

The history of food programs is one of compassion but not necessarily thoughtfulness as to the best way to help the food insecure people in our communities, which COVID-19 has exacerbated. Most food pantries and meals are transactional rather than relational. Pastor Liz Magill will help expand our concepts of how we feed others.

We hope you will join us for this webinar! The speakers will share their knowledge and experiences with current food ministry programs, and we may have breakout rooms to facilitate interactive delving deeper. Topics covered may include:

- How to make food ministry programs more relational
- How best to join forces with other churches or organizations that might seem wary of partnership
- How to “right-size” a food ministry program at a small church
- When it is time for a food ministry to be a focal point in a church

Register for this event at: <https://neumc-reg.brtapp.com/ConferenceResourceDayGrowingRelationalMinistriesinOurCommunities>

This promises to be a very meaningful program. She has profound insights to share!

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### **COVID-safe guidelines for use of church facilities**

The Re-entry Steering Committee has updated the protocols for use of church facilities. In order to help reduce the spread of Covid-19 and in accordance with CDC recommendations we are making the following changes to our guidelines for use of the church building:

- We now recommend that all people entering the church building wear masks whether or not they are vaccinated with the following exceptions:
  - People presenting worship services may remove their mask while presenting in the chancel area.
  - Masks may be removed while receiving communion.
  - People working alone in an office may remove their masks if the doors are closed or no one else is around.
- Indoor food consumption other than communion is no longer allowed. Food may be prepared in the kitchen, but not consumed within the church building.

Outside groups are expected to adhere to our guidelines with the exception of the daycare and preschool, who are subject to guidelines set for by the licensing agency for daycare facilities.