

# THE STEEPLE

## Williston Federated Church

*An Open and Affirming, Reconciling Congregation*

### Interim Pastor's Message

*"When you send forth your spirit, they are created; and you renew the face of the ground." (Psalms 104:30)*

While I appreciate all the seasons, it's summer I look forward to most. I feel relieved after a hard winter when I feel the sun warming me to the bone and the pace of life changing. I run, run, run up to summer, feeling that once it arrives I'll be able to ease up a bit. Then there are the summer delights: long days of sunlight; fresh produce and flowers bursting with color; swimming, biking, and picnics. In this season I feel most alive and most connected to the earth.

Wouldn't it be wonderful if we could store up summer? In *Frederick*, a children's book by Leo Leoni, the mouse protagonist spends his time not in preparing for the long winter but in storing up the warmth of the sun, nature's colors, and poetry. Though criticized at the time, come the dead of winter he shares all he's "harvested" with his grateful mouse brothers and sisters. Of course, we can't really capture the warmth of summer and color of this time of year. Canned tomatoes in February just aren't the same as those savored fresh in summer!

Similarly, it's hard for us to always carry with us a strong sense of God's Spirit. Poet Gerard Manley Hopkins reminds us of the ever-present and creative force of the Spirit in "God's Grandeur," in which he says,

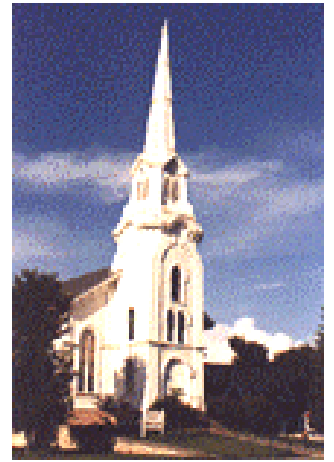
The world is charged with the grandeur of God.  
It will flame out, like shining from shook foil;  
It gathers to a greatness, like the ooze of oil  
Crushed....

There lives the dearest freshness deep down things;  
And though the last lights off the black West went  
Oh, morning, at the brown brink eastward, springs—  
Because the Holy Ghost over the bent  
World broods with warm breast and with ah! bright wings.

For Hopkins, the Spirit hovers over creation, caring for it as a mother bird. With the psalmist, he celebrated God's creative Spirit that renews the face of the ground.

This summer, I hope we all can be increasingly aware of God's grandeur in nature and in our own lives, carrying with us an abiding sense of the Spirit's power to bring order from chaos, light from darkness, and life from death. May we enjoy the re-creation of the summer season and find evidence of God's grandeur around us. May we know that every day finds us in the season of Pentecost, in which God's Spirit is the breath of life, the wind that can move us all to do great things in the name of Christ.

Peace, Jonathan



**JUNE 2007**

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Sunday Worship

Service:

9:30 AM

**Interim Pastor:**

Rev. Jonathan New

**Director of Children's  
and Youth Ministries:**

Laurie Chipman

**Temporary Secretary:**

Suzi Ange-Roland

**Organist and Junior  
Choir Accompanist:**

Carolyn Pillsbury

**Music Director:**

Martin Hain

**Nursery Caregiver:**

Michelle Davis

## Ruth Painter Selected As Vermont Conference UCC Honored Laywoman

Our own Ruth Painter will be among Lay Women from across the United Church of Christ in being honored at the UCC's General Synod 26, later in June. Ruth was selected by the UCC's Vermont Conference for her involvement in the ministry of the Williston Federated Church, the Vermont Conference, and in the Williston area. Writing on behalf of the Vermont Conference, Interim Conference Minister, Rev. Susan Henderson, noted Ruth's deep commitment to issues of peace and justice, work on such problems as ending childhood hunger and establishing a livable wage, the valuable example she has been to others, and her passion for outreach. In conclusion, Henderson wrote, "Ruth, it is a joy and an honor to you to lift up your ministry at the Williston Federated Church and within the United Church of Christ. You are indeed a faithful servant. We are blessed by your courage and nurtured by your authenticity."

## Audio Worship Tapes Available

Audio tapes of our Sunday worship service are now available. Please contact the church office, Nancy Stone, or Denise Johnson if you would like a cassette for your use or to share with family and friends. (We regret that, at this time, it is not possible for us to make copies of the worship service in CD format.)

## WFC Annual Meeting — June 10

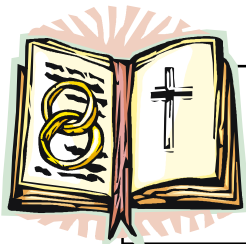
Our church's Annual Meeting — open to all — will be held **Sunday, June 10, following worship**. Come to hear church reports, approve a budget for the '07-'08 fiscal year, elect new committee representatives, and discuss our goals for the coming church year. A proposed Bylaw amendment concerning affiliate membership will also be presented and voted upon. See you there!

## Mission Trip to Van Cleave

A group of folks from Williston Federated Church is planning a return Mission Trip to Van Cleave Mississippi to continue the work of Hurricane Katrina rebuilding. The dates for the trip are October 21 – 27<sup>th</sup> 2007. We invite others to join with us. Our hope is to recruit at least four volunteers from five other churches. There is still much work that needs to be done. For additional information contact Tony Lamb [alamb@alamblaw.com](mailto:alamb@alamblaw.com) or 802 343-1544 or Ken Stone [KMStoneVT@aol.com](mailto:KMStoneVT@aol.com) or 879-0243.

## Introducing Suzanne Ange-Roland

We are pleased to welcome Suzanne Ange-Roland to the church office staff. Suzi has been hired on a temporary basis to perform the duties of office secretary. She will be in the church office Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, 8:30-2:30. A sub-committee of the Pastor and Staff Relations Committee is currently meeting to begin the task of selecting a permanent staff member for this position.



## 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 3

Proverbs 8: 1-4, 22-31  
Psalm 8  
Romans 5: 1-5

### June 10

Kings 17: 8-24  
Psalm 146  
Galatians 1: 11-24  
Luke 7: 11-17

### June 17

Kings 21: 1-21a  
Psalm 5: 1-8  
Galatians 2: 15-21  
Luke 7: 36-8: 3

### June 24

Kings 19: 1-15a  
Psalm 42  
Galatians 3: 23-29  
Luke 8: 26-39

**A Message from Joan Newton O'Gorman**

Dear Members & Friends of the Williston Church,

*"I thank my God every time I remember you..."  
Philippians 1:3*

On April 28th, when we gathered for a pot-luck supper and the opportunity to meet and greet each other, I was invited to offer the blessing and together we sang "thank you" to the tune of *Amazing Grace*. That blessing is based on the words of Meister Eckhart, a 14th century German theologian and mystic who wrote, *"If the only prayer we ever say in our lives is 'thank you' that will be enough."*

The next day, April 29, I felt so honored to lead worship and preach the candidating sermon. You then blessed me with the call to serve as your Pastor. I felt overwhelmed when I returned to the Sanctuary following the vote and you stood and sang, *"Thank you"* to me!

My thanks to you continues without pause. Deep appreciation to Mark Trifilio, Chair of the Search Committee and members, Jane Stickney, Deb Beckett, Shirley Rounds, Emily Morton, Bill Skiff, Sarah Hibbeler, Diane Davis, and Don Thurston for honest communication, thought-provoking questions, laughter, and some very good meals! Sincere thanks to Jonathan New for his insights and assistance to me during this time of transition for all of us. As I prepare to conclude my ministry on June 17 among the faithful church family in Cornwall, I find myself offering prayers of deep gratitude - for the opportunity to be part of a redevelopment effort in Cornwall for the past 2 1/2 years...and now for the invitation to join with the Williston Church family in this season together as we enter a great partnership in ministry - loving and serving God, loving neighbor as we love ourselves.

Gary and I plan to move into the parsonage in early August. My first Sunday leading worship and preaching will be September 2nd. I plan to be in and around the church during the last two weeks in August - moving in books and getting accustomed to new surroundings. I have always practiced an "open door" policy - if you are at the church and wish to stop in my office and say "hello", I will welcome you! And, again, *thank you*.

Peace, Pastor Joan

With the arrival of summer, a number of projects around the church property will become more visible to the casual observer. Your trustees are hard at work coordinating these projects and want to keep you updated on recent progress:

**FIRE SPRINKLER SYSTEM**

North Country Fire Protection, Inc. has been selected to install a fire protection sprinkler system throughout the church complex. If all goes according to plan and required permits are obtained, work should begin by the end of May. Installation will take about six weeks. The contractor has been advised of church activities and commitments and will strive for minimal disruption. Due to the magnitude of this project, a bank loan and congregation support will be needed. Total estimated cost of the project is \$91,000.

**STEEPLE**

You may have noticed some activity around the steeple early in May. No, it wasn't Spiderman! It was Bahr Property Management of Williston giving the steeple a much needed face-lift. The steeple preservation/beautification project includes scraping, caulking, spot priming, effecting needed repairs, and painting. Weather permitting, it should take about two weeks.

**PARSONAGE WINDOWS**

The trustees have decided to have the wooden window sashes in the parsonage restored instead of replaced because the Williston Development Review Board denied our application for replacement. The issue boiled down to restoration as opposed to replacement of original parts of a historic structure, whenever possible. Jeff Fellingner, who restored the sanctuary windows for us, will be doing the work.

A special thanks to Trudy Anderson for commandeering this project from the beginning on behalf of the trustees and the entire congregation.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

Flowers are popping up all over the church grounds, and you may soon see a walkway on the east end of fellowship hall from the emergency exit to the parking lot.

Parking lot maintenance is under way. Say goodbye to those potholes (for a while). You may also see some improved signs in the near future.

After the steeple is painted, the day-care play area fence will be replaced thanks to some IBM donors and a United Way grant.

Stay tuned.....

Williston Federated  
Church Calendar

# JUNE 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 6:30 am Men's Bible Study	2  9-3 NAMI
3 9:30 am Worship  11:00 am Youth Ministry  4:00 pm Youth Gathering at The Light's	4  Called to Care 8:30 am – 10:00 am	5 10-12 Senior Exercise	6 7:30 pm AA  7 pm Education	7 7:30 am Rotary  9:00 am Caring Circle  10-12 Senior Exercise  Choir 7, 8:15	8 6:30 am Men's Bible Study  Called to Care 8:30 am-10 am	9  3:00 pm Wedding
10 9:30 am Worship <b>Annual Meeting</b>	11	12 10-12 Senior Exercise  7:00 pm Official Board	13 7:30 pm AA	14 7:30 am Rotary  10-12 Senior Exercise  Choir 7, 8:15  <b>Flag Day</b>	15 6:30 am Men's Bible Study	16
17 9:30 am Worship  Summer One Room Sunday School Begins  <b>Father's Day</b>	18	19 10-12 Senior Exercise  Dismas Meal	20 7:30 pm AA	21 7:30 am Rotary  10-12 Senior Exercise  5:30 pm Pastor/Staff	22 6:30 am Men's Bible Study	23
24 9:30 am Worship	25	26 10-12 Senior Exercise	27 7:30 pm AA	28 7:30 am Rotary  10-12 Senior Exercise	29 6:30 am Men's Bible Study	30

**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  
REQUESTED



**Come, Meet Christ, Go Serve**

Label goes up to the line  
covering these words.  
Thanks

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**WFC ANNUAL CHICKEN BBQ**

Mark your calendars now for the  
Annual WFC July 4 Chicken BBQ  
at the Williston Central School  
from 11:30-1:00 pm.

Sign-up Posters for helpers are posted outside  
the Fellowship Hall. We need LOTS of help.

For more information,  
Contact Barb Bristol or Carolyn Pillsbury.

**Worship at the Old Brick Church**

The Annual Fourth of July Worship  
Service at the Old Brick Church will be held on  
Sunday, July 1 at 9:30 am

# Christian Education for Youth & Children

## **First Sunday of the Month—June 3**

Communion Sunday / Circle Time

All preschool children up to fifth grade are excused from worship after 'Time with Children of All Ages' and then will return in time for Communion.

Junior & Senior High remain for the whole worship service.

## **June 10**

This will be our last day of regular Sunday school classes before we begin using 'One Room Sunday school' curriculum for the Summer.

## **Father's Day - June 17**

Summer Sunday school begins for all those in currently in preschool and on up through grade 5. Please look for the sign up sheet on the Current Needs Bulletin board. We are using the 'One Room Sunday School' curriculum again this summer which will be separated. Each Sunday will have it's own packet and you can collect your packet from the blue binder that is located on the hall table.

This is a great way to help you stay young and get to know the young generation of WFC. God Bless!

## **2007 Open House at Camp**

June 23 from 10 to 4pm at Covenant Hills

June 23 from 1 to 3pm at Skye Farm

For more information look in the Camp Brochure.

There are more on the table in the hall.

Check out the web sites of both the camps!

[www.covenanthillscamp.org](http://www.covenanthillscamp.org)

[www.skyefarmcamp.org](http://www.skyefarmcamp.org)

WFC has scholarship money for camp to help with your child cost of this great camping experience. Also, parents can volunteer to counsel and have \$95 put toward their child's camp fee. Please see Laurie Chipman if you have any questions.

## **Education Committee Members for 2006-07**

Barb Berry

Brad Berry *Youth Representative*

Carolyn Carlson *Chair*

Laurie Chipman, *DCYM*

Robin Coletta

Polly Malik

Mark Trifilio

## **High School Graduates**

### **Champlain Valley Union High School**

*Grace Gaylord*

American University, majoring in American Foreign Policy and Communication

*Ethan Hain*

University of Michigan, majoring in Aeronautical Engineering

*Ariel Marcy*

Stanford University, majoring in Biology

*Noah Mease*

Middlebury College, with a minor in Spanish

*Lucy Monette*

University of Tampa, studying Art and Foreign Language

*Emily Morton*

University of Mary Washington, majoring in Historic Preservation, with a minor in Anthropology

*Haley Peterson*

*Lindsay Simmons*

Rider University, with an athletic scholarship for swimming

*Derek Smallwood*

### **Essex High School**

*Ben Goodheart*

University of Montana

### **Mount Mansfield Union High School**

*Brett Chipman*

Syracuse University, majoring in Music Education

### **Poultney High School**

*Ian Louis Meunier*

Alfred University, Secondary Education - Math

## **College Graduates**

Lynn-Marie Monty, *St. Michaels College*  
Bachelor of Arts

Kim Bouchard, *University of Vermont*  
BS Recreation Management  
Future plans: moving to Colorado

Megan McBournie, *Boston College*  
Bachelor of Arts in Hispanic Studies

Jessica Kulp, *Goshen College*  
Nursing

# Youth Ministry News

## COTS Walk was May 6th

Raised \$455

Walkers were: Miranda Haskell, Sarah Leister, Brett Chipman, Vicki Watson & Rich Haskell.

## Sunday, June 3

11am—12noon Youth Ministry Planning time for Heifer trip and Soulfest trip.

4-7:15pm Youth Gathering  
at Deb & Hannah Light's  
Carpooling to Lights —meet at church at 3:30pm

Parents please pick up your youth by 7:15pm and join us at the 7:30pm Night Light Youth Praise Service at the United Church of Underhill.

## SUNDAY, June 10

No Youth time

Annual Meeting after worship

## SUNDAY, June 17

No Youth time

*Spend some time with your Dad!*

## SUNDAY, June 24

No Youth time

## Friday, June 29—Tuesday, July 3

2007 Youth Mission Trip  
Heifer Overlook Farm  
Rutland, MA

### **Your cost of \$70 is now due!**

Please make checks out to 'WFC Youth Group'.

**We have already paid for 12 people to go on this trip! Please help us fill the spots!**

*Youth must already be 12 years old.*

*Junior High Youth:*

Asa, Hannah, Miranda

*Senior High Youth:*

Brett, Emily, Josh, Troy

*Female Adult Advisors—*Laurie Chipman & Deb Light

*Male Adult Advisor—* Larry Pillsbury



## **SOULFEST 07**

**Gunstock Mountain Resort  
Gunstock, NH**

**Wednesday, August 1– Saturday, August 4**

A Senior High Sponsored Event  
(current 8th graders and up)

Enjoying great concerts & workshops!

Trip cost is around \$170. Youth Fund will pay half. Our campsite only holds 12 people. Sign up today!

**Only 5 spots remain!**

**Pick up a flyer on the bulletin board!**

Senior High Youth: Brett, Emily, Lillian and Troy  
Trip Advisors: Laurie Chipman, Trent Coletta and Ashley Dubois

**We are still looking for a Camper to go with us to Soulfest!** If yours is available—please contact someone on the YMC. Thank you.

\* \* \* \*

## **Fundraiser Totals**

Many thanks to those who helped and supported the fundraisers this year! Whether you bought or donated items, gave of your time, your talent or just were present with your support  
God Bless!

Total raised so far this year: \$1, 893.05

\* \* \* \*

## **Youth Ministry Committee:**

Laurie Chipman, DCYM 899-4276

Trent Coletta 878-2012

Ashley Dubois 658-2865

Deb Light 899-3212

**Fifty Years of Barbecued Chickens**  
**(A Fourth of July Tradition)**  
**By Carolyn Pillsbury**

Eight years ago this flatlander volunteered to co-chair the Williston Federated Church Chicken Barbecue with Barbara Bristol, a native Williston resident, who worked on this event for at least twenty-five years. I had no idea at the time of the history behind these barbecued birds. For years I entertained my visiting Philadelphia friends at the barbecue, proud to have an opportunity to introduce them to all of my wonderful country neighbors. Just about everyone in town came to the barbecue. In the morning of the Fourth, I delivered my cupcakes and merrily went on my way to be part of the parade and to enjoy the festivities.

Leonard Mercia, retired Extension Poultry Specialist for the University of Vermont and Williston resident for many years, initiated and supervised the Williston Federated Church's first chicken barbecue in 1956. His predecessor at the University demonstrated these events throughout Vermont to increase the consumption of broiling chickens. Leonard inherited this responsibility with his job. He worked on the barbecues sponsored by Vermont churches. Some of these were held in Craftsbury, Morrisville, and Stowe. In 1956 ten thousand chicken halves were prepared for the Rutland, Vermont Dairy Festival. President Eisenhower attended. My sister-in-law- Mavis Pillsbury was the Poultry Princess that year.

When the Williston Church selected a chicken barbecue as a fund-raiser, Dick Bell, using his skills as a welder, and with Leonard's help designed the grills we use today. They hold 35-40 chickens on a rack that can be turned as a unit eliminating the need to turn every bird. Chickens must be placed correctly on the grills to hold their maximum capacity. Leonard taught the original pit crew made up of Fred Bristol, Brad Hart, and Dick Bell how to determine when the birds were properly cooked. Roy's New England Sauce was used to baste the birds throughout the cooking process.

The pit crew's Fourth of July started at 5A.M. Williston Central School was always the site of the barbecue. The birds were first cooked on the east side of the building. It was moved each year as the school changed. Once the birds were cooked in the area where the tennis courts are today. A pit was used for the charcoal. One year it looked like rain, so the men borrowed a tent from the boy scouts. After removing the last thirteen chickens from the grill, there was a sudden downpour. The water ran like a river through the charcoal in the pit and put the fire out.

The original menu for the barbecue is similar to the one used today. Times have changed and parishioners who volunteer to work cannot cook the amounts from scratch needed today. Beulah Pillsbury made the wonderful potato salad that Leonard recalls "being the best he ever had." Marion Prim made all the rolls at the school and charged only five cents a roll! Ginny Salter shredded the carrots for the coleslaw. Others volunteers shredded cabbage. Now we purchase these ingredients already shredded and just add the dressing.

One year the menu changed when our grills vanished mysteriously from the barn where they were stored. The sheets of metal and racks were believed to be material for the dump. That year was the first I became involved and organized a lunch of home made baked beans, ham, rolls, and watermelon. The thought of not having a festive community meal was just not ok for Williston's Fourth of July celebration. Fortunately the grills were reconstructed, and once more the barbecued birds returned, the fragrant aroma drifted over the school grounds.

Many volunteers make this event happen. As long as we have a "pit crew" of experienced chefs, kitchen staff, and two chairpersons, we will be able to continue this traditional part of Williston's celebration. It is a joy to be in charge of this community event. Barb Bristol and I thank everyone who attends, which makes the work worthwhile.

**Chittenden Emergency Food Shelf** is in need of summer food items. Please help fill the containers in the Fellowship hallway. Nutritious summer snacks, cereals, fruit, peanut butter and small juices are especially appreciated.

**Green Mountain Habitat for Humanity Community Summer Picnic at Shelburne Farms**

**Sunday, July 29th.** Call 872-8726 for tickets or [www.Greenmountain.org](http://www.Greenmountain.org)

\$10 per person or \$25 / family. Check out the business team prices also.

Enjoy a fun beautiful summer picnic with your family and friends. Games start at 3:00 PM and NECI prepared Food about 5:00 PM. Traditional backyard games, for all ages, on the shores of Lake Champlain. Support Habitat and have fun doing it!

**Habitat for Humanity work days.** Join with Ruth and Charlie Magill doing some volunteer labor in the North end of Burlington. Wednesdays, June 6, June 20, July 25, and Aug. 8. You don't need special skills to be helpful. Call the Magills for directions and more information, 879-6238.