

UNITY... FAITH, EXCELLENCE, SERVICE

HOME BULLETIN

March 1, 2018

Created to Worship is Unity's chapel theme this year.

God is our refuge and strength, an ever present help in my trouble. Psalm 46:1

Our theme for February was: "I Need Help." Sometimes we are reluctant to ask for help – we think we can handle life's problems by ourselves. God has placed us in community and put people in our lives who can be a source of help. But we also need to acknowledge that we need God to be our daily help and guide. When we recognize our weaknesses and our need for help, God is ready and willing to give us guidance, encouragement, and help.

Our theme for March is: "Why Lord?"

- UNITY'S OFFICE HOURS DURING SPRING BREAK:
 Unity's office will have limited hours during spring break. Please call before you come in.
- 2. <u>LATE START</u>: Wednesday, March 14, will be a late start. For all students riding a bus, the bus schedule will remain the same and you will arrive early (normal bus schedule time). For students who drive or arrive other than a bus, school will begin at 8:25 a.m. (first bell rings at 8:20 a.m.). Our final late start will be Wednesday, May 16.
- 3. **2018-19 TUITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM:** For the coming 2018-19 school year, Unity will be continuing to utilize FACTS, an online web-based application program.
 - ◆ All parents requesting tuition assistance are required to participate in the FACTS program to receive Unity tuition assistance. The FACTS application must be completed by the March 31, 2018, deadline. Confirming documents can be submitted later. Unity will inform its applicants of their tuition assistance amounts by May 1.

Please contact the FACTS organization at their toll-free number (1-866-315-9262) should you have any issues or questions with the online application. For additional information on the process, please call Mary Overweg, Unity's Financial Manager, at 616-669-1820.

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4. NEW STUDENT NIGHTS AT UNITY:

During three nights in February, Unity students and staff hosted 155 eighth graders and their parents for an orientation to Unity. The night consisted of a tour of the building with brief descriptions of what students will experience and learn, a time where counselors explained the curriculum and course selections and, at the end of the evening, students were able to pick up a Unity Christian portable charger.

If you attended a new student orientation night, you will receive in the mail a copy of your student's class registration list you filled out. If you did NOT attend a night and would like to register a student, please contact Unity's office at 669-1820.

5. **ONE SAVED:**

During the two weeks of Winterfest, student council held a fundraiser to support One Saved, an organization from Hudsonville that helps combat child sex trafficking. We want to thank all our students for their incredible participation in this fundraiser, as the student body raised \$1,985.21. The senior class raised the most money with \$1,020. Thank you, students!

6. **CHOIR NEWS**:

Last month, all the Unity choirs performed at District Solo and Ensemble and/or District Choral Festival. All the choirs received a "1" rating.

On Friday and/or Saturday, April 13 and 14, Chamber Singers and Choral Ensemble, as well as soloists, will perform at State Solo and Ensemble at Allendale High School. Performance times will be announced. There will be a recital for these choirs and soloists before State. The time and date are to be determined.

7. ORCHESTRA NEWS:

State Solo and Ensemble is on **Saturday, March 17, at Portage Northern in Kalamazoo**. Times should be coming home soon. Best wishes at State!

Congratulations to the Chamber Strings and Concert Orchestra who received excellent ratings at District Festival. These students have been working on three very difficult pieces which they played for three judges as well as sight-reading a piece for another judge. Each group had a very successful day, played with excellence, and made Unity Christian very proud. Congratulations to the Chamber Strings and Concert Orchestra for an outstanding performance and job well done!

Senior Solo Night is **Sunday**, **April 22**, **at St. Cecilia Music Society**. The concert will be at 7:30pm. This will involve only the Chamber Strings.

Spring Concerts for the orchestra are as following:

Chamber Strings and Symphonic Band: May 8 at 7:30, Fair Haven.

Concert Orchestra and Concert Band: May 17 at 7:30, Unity Christian High School.

8. **BAND NEWS:**

Congratulations to the Symphonic Band for a great performance of their festival music. The band received a "1st Division" rating – the highest possible.

Concert Band participated in a Band Clinic held at Hope College and Covenant Christian High School.

Congratulations to the individual students and small ensembles for excellent performances at the recent Solo & Ensemble Festival. State Solo & Ensemble will be at Portage Northern High School on Saturday, March 17. These include: Ashley Mulder (clarinet), Jacob Feenstra (trombone), Sam Kuipers (trombone), Morgan Ridder (flute), Lauren Draisma (flute), Grace Kuipers (saxophone), Ashley Bennink (percussion), Katelyn Benes (percussion), Ellen Scholtens (percussion), James Scharphorn (baritone), Ryan Johnson (saxophone), and Franklin Cook (tuba).

We look forward to our Spring Concerts (Symphonic Band/Chamber Orchestra on May 8 at Fair Haven and Concert Band/Orchestra on May 17 at Unity) and the Tulip Parades on May 9.

9. **PARENTS OF PROM-GOERS**:

Please take note of the dress code for all semiformal/formal wear at Unity events. It can be a bit challenging to meet ALL criteria, but it can be done.

A copy of the "Dance and Dress Code" is enclosed with this Home Bulletin. Please note the three options a student will be given if his/her attire does not meet the dress code.

Parents, we ask you to help your student meet the dress code. We are very willing again this year to look at attire in advance to make sure it meets the dress code. If you have any questions, please call Laura Brinks 669-4680.

Prom 2018 (April 20):

- For Unity's juniors and seniors
- Tickets are \$25 for juniors, \$20 for seniors, \$25 for guests, and will be on sale March 20, 21, and 22.
- Held at: Van Andel Museum, from 8:00 11:30 p.m.

10. HOSTING INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS:

We have the opportunity to partner with several different agencies that facilitate international students while here in the United States. They are Adams International, CET International, FLAG International, and Partners in Learning.

Each agency is dedicated to the promotion of world peace and understanding by bringing together foreign teens with American host families. These programs allow students from

many countries to become familiar with the American way of life by experiencing its schools, homes, and communities. These international students may choose Unity Christian as their American school to attend.

During the 2017-2018 school year, Unity had 18 international students through these four agencies.

If you are interested in learning more about becoming a host family for an international high school student, please contact Julie Essebaggers at Unity, 669-1820 or jessebaggers@unitychristian.org.

11. <u>UNITY DIRECTIONS – AND DUE DATES FROM THE GUIDANCE STAFF:</u>

Mr. Bill Postma - Director of Instruction

Mrs. Julie Essebaggers – Counselor (Middle Schools; International Students)

Mr. Randy Heethuis – Counselor, (A - K)

Mr. Dan Sanders – Counselor, (L - Z)

Mrs. Cyndi Post - Specialist in learning disabilities

FRESHMEN

- On April 10, all freshmen will be taking the PSAT 8/9 in the morning at Unity.
- Each student will meet with his/her counselor during April and May to make plans for next year and beyond. Parents will receive a copy of the schedule for final approval via email.

SOPHOMORES

- On April 10, all sophomores will be taking the PSAT 10 in the morning at Unity.
- Counselors meet with each sophomore to ensure that class choices fit career goals and to adjust the plans developed during the freshman year. Parents will be emailed a letter and a copy of their student's schedule after this meeting.

JUNIORS

- ◆ Juniors are currently meeting with counselors regarding course choices for next year and plans for after high school. Parents can expect an email when this conference is completed.
- ◆ Juniors will be taking the SAT test as part of the MME (Michigan Merit Exam) at Unity on April 10. MME testing will continue April 11 with additional testing times to be determined. It is important that juniors be in school these two days. Make-up testing requires students to miss a considerable amount of class time.
- ◆ Other dates for the SAT which students sign up for on their own are May 5 and June 2. Test dates for the ACT (Academic Collegiate Test) are April 14, June 9, and July 14.

SENIORS

- On April 10, seniors are not required to be at school.
- ◆ College and student aid applications should have been submitted by now. Various deadlines exist for scholarship applications. For details on organizations still accepting applications, see Mr. Heethuis, Counselor.

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE:

Allendale Area Chamber of Commerce – Allendale resident going to GVSU – March 31

Community West Credit Union – Vern Hyde Scholarship – March 22

Grandville-Jenison Chamber of Commerce Ted TerHaar Memorial Scholarship – March 29

Grand Rapids Community College Scholarships

Holland Hospital RN Scholarship Program – March 17

Michigan Retailers Association Scholarship – April 12

Ottawa County Bar Association Frantz Scholarship – April 13

Spectrum Health Zeeland Community Hospital Service League Healthcare Scholarship – March 31

<u>Tech Center (Sophomores and Juniors)</u>: A number of Unity sophomores and juniors have applied for various programs at the Careerline Tech Center. Since there will not be enough openings at Careerline Tech Center to accommodate everyone's application, the following process will be used:

- a. Each high school in the Ottawa Area Intermediate School District is allotted space in each Tech Center program according to school enrollment.
- b. Any student who is attending the Tech Center as a junior and wants to stay in the <u>same</u> <u>program</u> automatically gets one of the slots. Students who want to change programs must reapply for the new program.
- c. Unity counselor, Dan Sanders, meets with the applicants to evaluate their level of interest in the program and to assess possible problems (for example, a history of excessive absences).
 - > If all students qualify, numbers are drawn to determine their position.
 - ➤ "Wait-listed" students are enrolled in slots as they open. This may occur as late as Labor Day of the new school year.

Be assured Unity and Dan Sanders will do all they can to get a Unity student into the program of his/her choice. If you have questions about Tech Center enrollment procedures, call Dan Sanders. On March 19, Mr. Sanders will be informed if any of our waitlisted students have been placed. Placements will occur through the summer as spots open in different programs.

12. **WINTER SPORTS UPDATE** (as of March 1, 2018)

Basketball – Girls

Freshman 16-4 JV 16-4

Varsity 3-18 Tied for 6^{th} in the OK Green Conference

Basketball – Boys Freshman		
IV	15 - 5 $20 - 0$	
Varsity	17 – 3	OK Green Conference Champions
		Starts District Tournament Monday, March 5 th , 6:00pm vs. Hamilton at Hamilton
Bowling		1
Girls	15 – 3	2 nd in the OK Green/Gold Conference 1 st at the Regional Team Tournament Qualified for the State Team Tournament held March 2 at
		Northway Lanes in Muskegon. Kirstin Montsma and Chloe Pals qualified for the State Individual Tournament held March 3.
Boys	9 – 11	4 th in the OK Green/Gold Conference 1 st at the Regional Team Tournament Qualified for the State Team Tournament held March 2 at Northway Lanes in Muskegon. Jacob Piechocki qualified for the State Individual Tournament held March 3.
Hockey	10 – 11	(Cooperative program with Hudsonville H.S.)
Swimming – boy	s	3 rd in OK Red Conference Congratulations to Caleb Velzen for setting a new school record in the 50-yard freestyle with a time of 22.59 seconds. Caleb will be swimming in the state finals.
Wrestling	6 – 13	6 th in the OK Green Conference Nate Postma, Lucas VanderPloeg, Levi Walters, and Seth Konynenbelt qualified for Regional Tournament. Seth Konynenbelt finished 1 st in Regional and qualified for the State Tournament held March 2 nd & 3 rd at Ford Field.
SPRING SPORT	S AND THE	IR COACHES:
Baseball – Varsity	Mr.	. Bill Lutke
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13.

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Baseball – Varsity	Mr. Bill Lutke
Baseball – JV	Mr. Joe Baillargeon
Baseball – Freshman	Mr. Bob Bakker
Golf – Boys – Varsity	Mr. Dave DeMey
Golf – Boys – JV	Mr. Mark TeSlaa
Soccer – Girls – Varsity	Mr. Randy Heethuis
Soccer – Girls – IV	Mrs. Noëll Engbers

Softball – Varsity Mr. Mark Meinzer Softball – JV Ms. Amanda Felton

Tennis – Girls – Varsity Mr. Mark Brink

Tennis – Girls – JV Mrs. Amy Grasman

Track – Girls Mr. Rob Bosma Track – Boys Mr. Dan Landstra

Lacrosse-

Girls (Co-op with Hudsonville) Ms. Valerie Phillips Boys (Co-op with Holland Christian) Mr. Cody Zoerhof

14. OTHER ATHLETIC INFORMATION:

- <u>CONCESSIONS</u>: A huge thank you to the many who worked in Unity's concession stand during the winter sports season. Over 200 people either helped with admissions or served at concessions, and their work raised funds for the athletic program.
- <u>SPRING SPORT TRYOUT INFORMATION</u>: The following is a list of requirements that need to be completed before March 12th if you child would like to participate in a spring sport. Spring sports begin March 12. Those without a CRU card will not be able to try out until the requirements have been met.

Physical dated after April 15, 2017 turned in to the Athletic Office ~ Final Forms information filled out and signed by parents. Click <u>HERE</u> to access the Final Forms site where you will input your information. If you completed this in the fall, you don't need to do it again, but are able to update your information. Remember to mark down whatever sport your son or daughter plans to try out for.

Final Forms documents signed by student (only has to be signed once per year).

ImPact Baseline Concussion Testing (Baseball, Softball, Girls Soccer, Lacrosse must have an up to date baseline (within the last two school years))- Please check final forms for when your test expires. LAST CHANCE TESTING ONLY (office permission required) is March 8 at 2:45 p.m.

CRU Card Availability: CRU Cards will be available for pick up on March 7. Times and other dates will be posted on our website as well as in the student bulletin.

Unity requires that all athletes have primary insurance. Unity offers secondary insurance. Students whose family does not have insurance or has "My Child" insurance must contact

the Athletic Director who will provide information about temporary insurance during the athlete's sport season

More information about the CRU Card is available online at http://www.unitychristianathletics.org/main/adnews/ID/43515725

THERE WILL BE NO PARTICIPATION WITHOUT A CRU CARD

• <u>COACHING POSITIONS</u>: Unity Christian High School is looking to fill the Head Coaching position of Varsity Boys Tennis. We are searching for someone that has a passion for the Lord, enjoys working with high school students, and is knowledgeable about the sport. If you have any interest or know of someone who might have interest, please contact Unity Christian Athletic Director Jeff Engbers at 669-1820 or <u>jengbers@unitychristian.org</u>

Or Click <u>HERE</u> for an application. More information can be found on the athletics website.

• <u>SPRING SPORTS SCHEDULES</u> -Spring schedules can change daily. You are encouraged to check the up-to-date schedules and scores which are updated daily on Unity's athletic website (<u>www.unitychristianathletics.org</u>). You can sign up for alerts (text or email) for individual teams for the most up to date information. Cancellations of athletic events are made after 2:00 p.m.

• SAVE THE DATE:

Friday, April 27, we will host a **Springtime Sader Tailgater**. Plans are being put in place for a pig roast and JV and Varsity Baseball vs. Covenant Christian, JV and Varsity Softball vs. Forest Hills Central, and JV and Varsity Soccer vs. Hudsonville! More details to follow.

Stay tuned for information on a **blood drive** at Grace Community Church on June 1, that will benefit Unity Christian Athletics. For each person that attempts to give that day, UC will receive \$10.

- <u>SPRING SPORTS PARENT MEETING</u>: If your son/daughter is trying out for a spring sport, put Wednesday, March 21, on your calendar for the spring sports parent meeting. More information will be emailed to you after tryouts have been completed.
- 8th GRADE CO-CURRICULAR ORIENTATION will be held on Monday, May 7, at 7:30 p.m. at Unity. More information about the evening will be sent directly to the 8th graders and their parents.
- <u>SPORTS PHYSICALS FOR 2018/2019</u>: Unity is making sports physicals available to its students as well as middle school students. Dr. Steven Verkaik, along with several other doctors and assistants, will sponsor this sports physical evening on <u>Wednesday</u>, <u>April 25</u>, <u>6:00 8:00 p.m</u>. Details will be available next month.

IMPORTANT NOTE ABOUT PHYSICALS FOR 2018/19: Every physical MUST be on the approved MHSAA form (updated for 2017/18). Physicals not on this form will not be accepted. All signatures are required - no incomplete forms will be accepted. You can find a copy of the blank form in the high school office online at http://www.unitychristianathletics.org/main/otherad/contentID/39776006

• <u>MIDDLE SCHOOL SPORT OPPORTUNITIES</u>: The following are two opportunities to get middle school aged children involved in bowling and tennis.

Middle School Bowling begins March 6th for boys and girls in 7th or 8th grade. More information can be found on our website. Click <u>HERE</u> to register.

Middle School Tennis will begin after spring break for boys and girls in 7th or 8th grade. More information can be found on our website. Click HERE to register.

15. <u>UC CELEBRATION BANQUET 2018</u>: Please plan now to attend the UC Celebration Banquet 2018 that will be held on **Monday**, **April 30**, at **Unity** in the **multipurpose gymnasium**. A wonderful, family-style, sit-down dinner will be catered by The Trestle Stop of Hamilton. Our featured guest entertainer will be **Aaron Shust**, a very talented Christian musician who will help us give praise to God for all the blessings our Lord has bestowed on Unity Christian High School through YOU, our faithful community.

We hope our community comes out for this night of fellowship, celebration and food! And, for those guests who haven't yet visited Unity, you are invited to arrive early and enjoy a tour of the school. (Doors will open at 5:30.) Dinner will be served promptly at 6 p.m.

As this banquet is our annual fundraising event, you will have an opportunity to help support Tuition Assistance and the Unity Education Foundation through your gifts and pledges.

Please plan now to join us at this banquet. An invitation will be sent out by the end of this month, and reservations will be required. To reserve your place early, you may call the Development Office at 662-4011, or email <u>development@unitychristian.org</u>. **Reservations are due by April 20**.

16. **RAINBOW GRILL EVENT:**

Come out to the Rainbow Grill Hudsonville location on Wednesday, March 14, from 6:30 a.m. – 9:00 pm. 10% of all sales that day will be donated to Unity's senior all-nighter. This is a late start for Unity so take your high schoolers out for breakfast or have them meet their friends. Please spread the word to all your friends and neighbors!

17. **REVIVE:** Spring has arrived at Revive! Revive will be closed March 3 and 5 to move out winter but will re-open at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, March 6, with all of our spring items!

<u>Volunteer Opportunity</u>: Revive is looking for volunteers to cashier. We will work around your schedule. If you are interested, please call 662-3854 or stop by Revive and speak with a manager.

18. **REQUESTED ANNOUNCEMENTS**:

- **Jenison Christian School's Parent Club** will be hosting their annual auction on Saturday, March 10. This event will be held in the school gymnasium. Doors will open at 4:00 p.m. with dinner catered by Hog Wild BBQ. Silent auctions begin at 4:00 p.m. and the Live auction begins at 7:00 p.m. Come out and help the children of JCS. Any questions, please contact Jodi Mitchell at auction@jenisonchristian.org. Hope to see you there!
- West Side Christian School auction is coming on March 10! WE would love for you to join us as we raise money for a new English Language Arts curriculum. Join us at 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 10, for a fun night of food, fellowship, and helping WSCS strive for "The Places We'll Go." There will be great items to bid on and a delicious ham dinner. Check out the school's auction Facebook page for more information. https://www.facebook.com/events/1976345095959697/. You can also check out our Auction Raffle Page and buy Raffle tickets for our classroom donations before the auction. Check out all the details at: www.tinyurl.com/wscsauction.
- Jenison Christian School is looking to hire a Childcare Assistant for the Summer Care Program. This person must be at least 17 years old. The assistant helps with activities implemented by the lead teacher, maintains control of the classroom along with the lead teachers, engages with children on a group and individual basis and maintains flexibility with room assignments. The position will be an afternoon position ranging from 15-20 hours per week. Those interested can bring their resume to the Jenison Christian School office or email them Stacey Christians and Ellie to Sytsma at schristians@jenisonchristian.org by March 30.
- 19. **PRAYER CALENDAR:** The Prayer Calendar is located on our website or by clicking https://www.unitychristian.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/UCHS-PRAYER-CALENDAR MARCH-2018 FINAL .pdf

20. <u>UNITY'S CALENDAR FOR MARCH, APRIL, AND MAY:</u>

March 1 Parent/Teacher Conferences, 6:00 – 8:30 p.m.

March 2 Accelerated Schedule, 12:25 dismissal

Parent/Teacher Conferences, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.

March 14 Late Start; school begins at 8:25 a.m.; first bell rings at 8:20 a.m.

March 17 Sader Sale, 9:00 – noon

March 21 Spring Sports Meeting

Mar 30 – April 8 Spring Break

April 9 School Resumes

April 10 State Standardized Testing (grades 9-11; no school for grade 12)

April 20 Prom, 12:25 dismissal

April 25 Sports Physicals, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

April 26, 27 Spring Play, Beaverdam Reformed Church, 7:00 p.m.

April 27 Blood Drive

Springtime Sader Tailgater

April 30 Foundation Dinner, Unity's multipurpose gymnasium, 6:30 p.m.

May 3 Choir Concert, Fair Haven Ministries, 7:30 p.m.

May 7 8th Grade Co-Curricular Night, 7:30 p.m.

May 8 Symphonic Band/Chamber Orchestra Concert, Fair Haven Ministries, 7:30

p.m.

May 9 Senior Dinner (7:15 p.m.) and Awards Night (8:00 p.m.), Unity's

multipurpose gymnasium

May 11 Senior's last day

May 14 Senior Class Trip

May 16 Late Start (school begins at 8:25 a.m.; first bell at 8:20 a.m.)

May 17 Concert Band/Concert Orchestra Concert, Unity's multipurpose

gymnasium, 7:30 p.m.

May 21 Graduation

May 23-25 Finals

May 25 Student's last day



"UNITY... FAITH, EXCELLENCE, SERVICE"

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DANCE AND DRESS CODE

A. <u>DANCE BEHAVIOR (CONDUCT CODE)</u>:

- No body surfing
- No moshing (note: up and down is permissible, but no sideways slamming into bodies)
- NO GRINDING: leg between leg, front to front, back to front.
- Any other behavior deemed inappropriate by chaperones working the dance floor.

Students who choose to break these rules will be given a verbal warning. If a second incident occurs at the same dance, the parents will be notified and the student will be asked to leave the dance.

If in the judgment of the chaperones the behavior is a blatant disregard of the rules and/or if the student's attitude is one of disrespect or defiance, parents will be notified and students sent home without a 1st warning.

B. DRESS CODE FOR WINTER DANCE AND PROM:

This dress code must be met to be admitted to the dance. It is not written to restrict personal preferences in student dress, but rather to ensure a wholesome social activity. WE believe, with parental help and guidance in the formal/semiformal wear selections, our dress and behavior can reflect our values, and the Christian school we are and to whom we ultimately belong.

<u>Semi-formal/Formal Dress Code</u>:

- No jeans or t-shirts
- Shirts must remain on and buttoned
- Shoes must be worn except when on the dance floor
- Dresses must extend to midthigh
- No breasts or cleavage visible from any angle top or side

- Open backs must be natural waistline or higher (note: this is natural waist line, not hip line)
- Strapless and halter style dresses will be acceptable as long as coverage is complete and still passes dress code while dance.
- Those students deemed inappropriately dressed will be given four choices: 1) fix it, 2) call their parents to bring them an appropriate cover-up, 3) wear a supplied shirt over or under their outfit, or 4) leave the function, in which case their parents will be notified.
- We are very willing to take a look at your dinner dance wear in advance to make sure that it meets the dress code.

If you have any questions, call Laura Brinks (669-4680).