

*A mission project of the Southern Illinois District - LCMS*

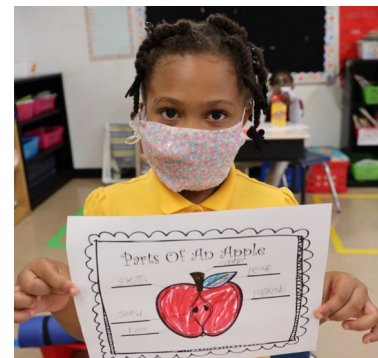
## October 2020

### 2020-2021 School Theme: Walking Together In Christ



#### Off to a Great Start!

We currently have 136 students at our school with 21 of them participating on-line. The students continue to follow all the Covid protocol practices, and we are having a great year so far! In our daily "Belong to Jesus Time," Rev. Dickerson has been sharing lessons from Genesis on the creation of the world, our fall into sin, and Abraham. It's so wonderful to hear him teaching God's Word to these students every day! Fun projects this month have been Adjective Posters in Mrs. Hardieway's fifth grade class (poster winner below), Dioramas in Mr. Williams' eighth grade class, and Johnny Appleseed Day in Mrs. Gould's second grade class, where students learned apple parts and made applesauce!



Unity Staff ... Fall 2020

Here's another picture of our staff. Thank you, Amanda Zika, for coming in and taking a great picture of these hard-working teachers and staff members!

Back row: Andrea Roy (Gr. 3) Nancy Stallard (Development Director) Rev. Aaron Dickerson (Principal) Nick Wiesbrock (Gr.6) Kevin Williams (Gr.8) , Joseph Stock (Gr.7) Lillie Hardieway (Gr.5)

Front row: Jennifer Venable (Gr.1) Charlene Dickerson (PK3) Katie Gould (Gr.2) Alice Gully (Admin. Assistant) Mary Hamrick (KDG) Phyllis Clay (Gr.4) and Keyera Dickerson (PK4)

#### Congregation Visits

Mrs. Stallard and Mr. Williams went to visit the first SID congregation of the school year with these 2 wonderful students. We were warmly welcomed by Pastor



Wilcoxon at Zion in Carlinville, Illinois. If you would like a video presentation done at your church or Bible class or a presentation done via Zoom to your Bible class or group, just let us know. Pictured: Mr. Williams, Unity 8th grade teacher, 2 Unity students, Mrs. Stallard, Unity Development Director, and Rev. Timothy Wilcoxon of Zion holding his 2-year-old son.

## Donors Make the Difference!

We thank ALL of you for donating faithfully to Unity! This school cannot survive without donors giving on a monthly or yearly basis. You can give online at the school website or mail a check in anytime! Checks can be made out to "Unity Lutheran Christian Elementary School" and mailed to 1600 N. 40th Street, East St. Louis, IL 62204. You will receive a tax-deductible receipt.

One couple was a FUN blessing to us by purchasing these Unity masks! Every student and staff member got a maroon mask (which is one of our school colors) and the masks were imprinted with "Unity" and then our Bible Verse which is our theme for the year: Psalm 133:1 "How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in UNITY!" Click here for a fun mask video:

[Unity Mask Video](#)



Lots of donors gave to make this "mask-free learning" experience happen! With Covid, it's nice for students to get to go outside and still learn while getting to breathe some fresh air without their masks on. The students were practicing "Social Distancing" by sitting more than 6 feet apart from each other. Thanks to MANY people who donated these yoga mats and lap desks for the Pre-K3 up to second grade classes!! YOU ROCK!!! Click here for a fun video:

[Fun Video](#)



## THREE CHEERS FOR OUR VOLUNTEERS!



The library ladies are working incredibly hard! Because of Covid, they now have to take books to the rooms on a cart, and in between, the books are put in quarantine for a few days to make sure they are germ free to go back on the cart and to be shared with the next class. Also, because of a computer hack over the summer, we lost all the information on our library books. A donor has given money to purchase a new system that has a great backup.



Books in Quarantine



Volunteer Donna Sprengel reading to Pre-K students

**We currently need volunteers to come and enter our 15,000 books into our new Destiny Library System.** If you like to type, you can come for an hour or more. Once you are trained, you can pick your own day and hours to come in. We still have 14,650- books to enter! If you are interested, you can send an e-mail to Nancy Stallard at [Nstallard@unityesl.org](mailto:Nstallard@unityesl.org)

**A big shoutout** to Mr. Ken Allen who works on our website! I have been giving him LOTS of pictures and

videos to upload, and there has been doing a phenomenal job keeping the web site up to date! Thank you, Ken!! Check it out at [www.unityesl.org](http://www.unityesl.org)

**Fundraising:** A HUGE thanks to Mr. Paul Miller for hosting the “When I’m 64 Beatles Festival” fundraiser for the 6th year in a row! Because of Covid, we had to do it virtually this year, but we still raised over \$3,500! Thanks to all the bands who played online in their time slot and to everyone who came out (see fun group picture) to Prairietown and thanks to everyone who donated! The money goes to our much-needed Scholarship Fund.



**Yardwork Volunteers Needed!** We have a volunteer day coming up on Wednesday October 21, 9:00am-Noon. We will be doing a “Grounds beautification day.” All skills levels are needed. Please bring clippers, trimmers, rakes, any yardwork tools you can. Anyone who comes will receive a “Live Generously” T-shirt! Thank you for your time!!

## Annual October Walkathon moved to May 2021!



### Staff Spotlight

This month our Staff Spotlight falls on Mr. Joseph Stock. We are excited to welcome Mr. Stock here at Unity this fall, and he comes with 14 years of teaching behind him. He is our 7th grade teacher and is doing an AWESOME job! He also teaches science to all 3 middle school classes. He is married and they have a sweet baby girl. Mr. Stock says what he loves best about teaching at Unity is all the support of students and families at Unity. He finds their desire for success to be very inspiring. His favorite Bible verses are Romans 12:6-8, which says, “We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; 7 if it is serving, then serve; if it is

teaching, then teach; 8 if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.” He says he is glad to be part of the Unity staff because Unity offers a place for students not just to learn the important core of education but to start each day, the way we all should, with the love of Jesus. The students are then able to take the love of Christ out into the community. He feels that Unity is blessed and is able to be a blessing because of the support we receive. The supplies for teachers and students allow us to keep pace with the growing technology and curriculum that the students deserve. The love, prayers, and support of individuals and congregations will continue to bless these deserving students and future leaders. We are excited that Mr. Stock has joined us this year!

[Video Interview with Mr. Stock](#)



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