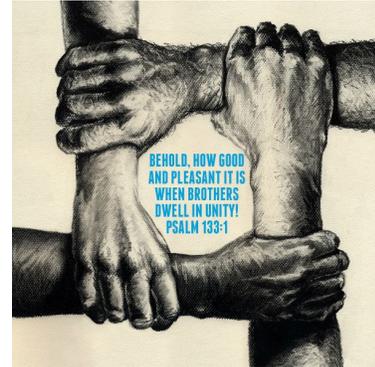


***A mission project of the Southern Illinois District - LCMS***

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



### **WE'RE BACK!**

We were SO excited to start school on August 17<sup>th</sup>! We currently have 125 students. Things are looking much different this year with appropriate COVID protocol in place. When anyone enters the building, they have to get their temperature checked and use hand sanitizer. Students eat breakfast in their classrooms and desks have to be appropriately spaced apart. They also walk down the hallway with space between each of them, and only one class walks down the hallway at a time. Only 2 or 3 grades are assigned to each bathroom, and only 1 class can use the bathroom at a time after which the bathrooms are sanitized. We now have 5 lunch periods and we eat in the cafeteria and the art room. When one grade has finished eating, the custodians sanitize all tables and chairs before the next group comes in to sit down. Students can no longer have recess on the playground equipment, but we do have "mask breaks" where we go outside and the children can space out; take their masks off, do some calisthenics or walk around in the playground area. In the classroom there are no shared books or writing utensils, and when we leave at the end of the day, we leave in 3 shifts. With all of these COVID protocols in place, we are confident we can keep our students and staff healthy this school year. Please pray as we all adjust. -Mrs. Nancy Stallard, Development Director



### **OUR AMAZING STAFF**

Front Row: Nancy Stallard (Development), Jennifer Venable (Gr.1), Mary Hamrick KDG), Katie Gould (Gr.2), Keyera Dickerson (PK4), Lillie Hardieway (Gr.5), Charlene Dickerson (PK3), Alice Gully (Admin. Asst.)

Back Row: Phyllis Clay (Gr.4), Kevin Williams (Gr.8), Rev. Aaron Dickerson (Prin.). Andrea Roy (Gr. 3), Nick Wiesbrock (Gr.6), Joseph Stock (Gr.7)

### **THANKS!!!!**

A BIG shout out to everyone who gave us school supplies!! WOW! We thank you SO much for your support! We are totally stocked on school supplies and they all fit nicely in the supply room where more shelves were built by the men of Zion in Belleville. However we will ALWAYS be in need of COVID cleaning supplies:

Wipes for students hands and Clorox wipes to wipe down desks  
Hand sanitizer of all sizes  
Lysol spray, any cleaning spray that kills germs

Rolls of paper towels  
Disposable masks when students forget to bring theirs

## VIRTUAL WHEN I'M 64 BEATLES FESTIVAL on FACEBOOK LIVE

SEPTEMBER 12, NOON - 7PM

Follow the When I'm 64 Facebook page and watch from home or wherever!

All donations go to support Unity.

Click here: [When I'm 64 on Facebook](#)

ALL BEATLES. ALL DAY.

[When I'm 64 Promo Video Click Here](#)



### THREE CHEERS FOR OUR VOLUNTEERS!



### LIBRARY VOLUNTEERS

The library ladies came last week to start cleaning the library since students can not come into the library and select books anymore. These lovely ladies will load up a mobile cart, with age appropriate books, and take them to each classroom. Thank you ladies for your service!

Pictured: Diane Hoerchler, Mary Neher, Margo Wolf



### STAFF SPOTLIGHT - REV. AARON DICKERSON

We are SO privileged to be under the amazing leadership of our Principal, Pastor Aaron Dickerson, here at Unity! Pastor Dickerson has been in Lutheran Education for 38 years, and this is his 11th year at Unity.

He loves being able to minister to an awesome group of children. Every day at Unity is an opportunity that God has given him to make a difference in a student's life, a responsibility that he takes very seriously. He says he also enjoys getting to work with a dedicated staff who loves our students. Our theme this year is "Walking Together In Christ." This Bible verse is from Psalm 133:1. No matter what's going on around us at Unity, Pastor makes sure we are

all Walking Together In Christ. He very much enjoys getting to share God's Good News about Jesus every day in our "Belong To Jesus" time.

One of his favorite Bible verses is Philippians 4:13, which says, "I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength." Pastor Dickerson feels that Unity School serves as a light to the community where parents can send their children to receive a quality education as well as learn about Jesus and be loved. He is thankful for all our supporters and says, "The old saying that it takes a village to raise a child, I believe is very true." Here at Unity, our supporters play a major role. He says we could not do what we do at Unity without God's help and the people that God has placed around us who care and support our ministry. He wants to take this opportunity to say "Thank you!" to everyone who has helped in any way and asks for your continued support and prayers as we do in-school learning during COVID here in East St. Louis.

[Video Interview with Rev. Dickerson Click Here](#)



### STAFF SPOTLIGHT - MR. KEVIN WILLIAMS

We are thrilled this year to have Mr. Kevin Williams for our 8<sup>th</sup> grade teacher!! This will be his 15th year of teaching and his 9th year at Unity. Mr. Williams says he loves the students, their families, and the great relationship among the staff. He has two favorite Bible verses: Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." And John 3:17 - For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him.

Mr. Williams enjoys teaching his hard-working 8<sup>th</sup> grade students and works diligently to get them ready for high school next year. He teaches math to 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders, and the students say he has a great way of teaching this difficult subject. He believes Unity is another extension of God's hands and feet in East St. Louis. When students attend Unity and hear the Good News of Christ, they get excited and share that with their families who share with others. It's important to the city because families have a place where their students are loved, cared for, and also have the opportunity to grow spiritually and physically. Mr. Williams is grateful for supporters who also believe in what we do here and says that their prayers and financial support help us to extend the mission and to reach more families. Unity is blessed to have so many caring supporters!

[Video Interview with Mr. Williams Click Here](#)

### We're Now on Instagram!

For regular updates on activities at school.

Just click the links below for Instagram or Facebook.



Visit our Website