

The Knight Light

Unity Christian School
Comprehensive Christian Education
Day Care, Preschool, Elementary, Junior & Senior High



October 17, 2019

(Next issue: October 31, 2019)

Glory to God Alone

It is hard to believe that we are half way through October – one quarter of the way through the year; it is going so quickly. October is an action-packed month. Our volley ball and soccer teams have come to the end of their seasons, our drama department is making preparations for their performance, band and choir have their first concert of the year tomorrow, and our Parent-Teacher conferences are next week.

There has been plenty of excitement. The elementary students enjoyed fire prevention week and the high school soccer team won the NICC conference tournament on a chilly October Saturday.

As far as a spiritual focus, October is a big month for that too. Unity Christian School is a Reformed school – though we are technically non-denominational, we hold to Biblical Truths that were brought to light during the protestant reformation. That reformation is marked by five specific distinctions known as the five “solas” which is a Latin word for “alone.” A summary statement of these distinctions is: We (as Christians) are saved by grace alone through faith alone in Jesus Christ alone according to scripture alone for the glory of God alone. Scripture is our authority – the Word of God, not the words of people. Grace is a gift that cannot be earned and we receive this gift by placing our faith in Jesus, not in our own works; we do not require an intermediary – Jesus is our high priest. The primary focus for us as Christians...and our focus for our theme in 2019 is to give glory to God; this glory should not be given to people or saints or anyone other than God.



It can seem difficult to take the focus off of ourselves in order to glorify God. We live in and our children are growing up in a postmodern world that believes nothing is absolute – that there is no real Truth and no certainty of anything – everything is acceptable. We have a sobering word from James 4:4, “whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.” In John 15, Jesus gives much more encouragement: “If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you.” and “You are my friends if you do what I command you.” What an amazing truth: we can be friends with God. The same passage goes on to say that God views us as friends rather than as servants. This does not make us entitled to anything, it makes us grateful for everything. Although because of our sin we deserve death and hell; because of the friend we have in Jesus, we will receive heaven and glory. God is good all the time.

-Chris Pluister



Calendar for the next two weeks:

Thursday (17th) – 11:45 TRIP at Bargain Bonanza

11:25,11:30 Dismiss

P.M. In-service

Friday (18th) – Report cards will be sent home with 7-12 students; K-6 will be emailed

6:30 7-12 concert. Come and enjoy our first concert of the year. See how our students have been blessed and will bless others!

Wednesday (23rd) – 9:30 Elementary chapel (Preschool) NOTE TIME CHANGE

Thursday (24th) – 11:45 TRIP at Bargain Bonanza

1:00 Dismiss

4:30-6:30 Soup supper fundraiser

2-5:00 Parent-Teacher Conferences

(5-6:00 Teacher dinner break)

6-8:00 Parent-Teacher Conferences

Friday (25th) – No School

6:30 “A Little Piece of Heaven”

Saturday (26th) – 6:30 “A Little Piece of Heaven”

Monday (28th) – Jr. high boys’ basketball practice begins

6:30 High school volleyball and soccer awards night. Freshmen and sophomores please bring a main dish & a dessert; juniors and seniors please bring a main dish and a salad. Please bring your own table service. Beverages will be provided.

Tuesday (29th) – 6:30 Parents’ Education Night

Wednesday (30th) – 8:20 Elementary chapel

10:24 High school chapel (Reformation Day - The Five Solas)

Thursday (31st) – 11:45 TRIP at Bargain Bonanza

Friday (1st) – 5:30 Auction meeting

Saturday (2nd) – Elementary IMEA

Menu for next two weeks (subject to change):

Monday (21st) – Chili, cornbread, green beans, fruit, milk

Tuesday (22nd) – Beef & bean burrito, side salad, baked apples, milk

Wednesday (23rd) – Hawaiian chicken wrap, broccoli with dip, fruit, milk

Thursday (24th) – Hot dog, baked chips, coleslaw, fruit, milk

Friday (25th) – No school

Monday (28th) – Taco soup, cornbread muffin, fruit, milk

Tuesday (29th) – Chicken gravy over biscuit, peas & carrots, fruit, milk

Wednesday (30th) – Chef’s salad, croutons, fresh fruit, milk

Thursday (31st) – Beef stroganoff, bread, carrots, fruit, milk

Friday (1st) – Homemade pizza, side salad, fruit, milk

Sympathy

We express our deepest sympathy to Tara Dolmage (our assistant cook) and her family on the passing of her father. We pray God will surround them with His perfect comfort and peace.

A Little Piece of Heaven

October 25 & 26 6:30 P.M.

“Have you ever lost anything that meant a great deal to you? Something that if you could ever find it again would make a huge difference in your life? If you have, ‘A Little Piece of Heaven’ is the shop for you.” Come and see what our cast and Mr. Hopkins have prepared for your entertainment. Elizabeth and Henry are the owners of this special shop where people find things they have lost. Michael, a biker, and Lilly, an 87-year-old woman, along with other interesting characters all come to the shop to help the audience try to understand just what makes this place and Elizabeth and Henry so special. Cookies will be available during intermission. Admission is by donation.

Blessings of Staffing Updates

I am pleased to announce that Joel Medendorp will be coming on as Unity’s Business Manager to provide some assistance administratively for Chris Pluister. Becca Leathers will also begin transitioning into the morning fourth grade role as Tom Catlin eases out in an attempt to provide as smooth a transition as possible for our 4th grade students. These are both answers to prayer.

Auction Meeting

Friday, Nov. 1, 5:30

There will be a meeting on Friday, November 1, regarding this year's Auction. Anyone who is interested in any part of this important event is encouraged to attend. We will share ideas to make it even better. If you are already on the Auction team, please come to this meeting. There are important decisions to be made. See you there!

Parents' Night Out

Friday, Nov. 8

Our freshman class will provide you with an opportunity to spend an evening without the kids – go out for dinner or a movie or do some Christmas shopping – or stay home and enjoy the quiet. The children (any age) will be entertained with a variety of games, activities and movies. They won't want the evening to end! There are limited spots available so sign up soon. The time is 5:30 – 10:00 and the cost is a donation. Registration forms are available in either office.

Grandparents' and Veterans' Day

Monday, Nov. 11

Mrs. Behr is looking for cookie donations (nut free) for Grandparent/Veteran's day. We also need helpers in the kitchen and at both doors to greet guests. If you are interested in helping, please let Mrs. Behr know.

Also if you have a veteran in your family and have a picture of them, we are planning to have a picture display board. Please send a picture with information of who the particular veteran is and their relationship to you.

HEART Opportunities with Boosters

There are still openings for HEART credit at the Tree Farm and Trivia Night. We need two more adults on Friday, November 29, 1-5:00, and one more adult on December 22 from 12 – 5:00.

Boosters are also looking for a coordinator for Trivia Night, along with other Trivia workers. See Mrs. Behr if you can help out with any of these position.

Jr. High Boys' Basketball

Jr. high basketball for boys in grades 5-8 begins soon. The season will start on Monday, October 28, and run until December 17. Practices will be from 3:30-5:00. If your son would like to participate, he will need to purchase a practice jersey from Mrs. Behr for \$20 unless he has one from last year. All boys will need clean shoes just to wear inside for games and practices.

We are still in need of a head coach. Please prayerfully consider helping lead these young men. The season is in jeopardy if we don't find a head coach.

Bargain Bonanza

Bargain Bonanza is looking for a couple of volunteers who would like to work the checkout register in the store. The hours can be flexible and can be applied toward your family's HEART hours. Please contact the store manager, Connie Shannon, for more information.

Parent Education Night

Unity Christian will be hosting a parent education night on October 29 at 6:30 PM. This is an optional event geared toward informing parents in regard to the dangers and pitfalls our children may face in the 21st century that we as (20th century) parents did not (ie cell phone, social media, vaping, legalization of recreational marijuana). Mr. Pluister and others will present some tips for parents considering how to address their children and things to watch out for. In addition to Mr. Pluister we will be bringing in some experts to make us aware of some trends for youth. This event is geared toward parent awareness and is not for students – child care will be available. Another goal is to share cautions and encouragements from other parents who have faced issues that our children may not have faced yet. The information will be geared toward parents of third grade and up to high school. A cell phone that has a camera and access to the internet is far too powerful a tool to be used by a child that has not been thoroughly equipped to handle such power. How do we as parents and educators facilitate, guide, and monitor that equipping? This event is geared toward parents of upper elementary and junior high students, but everyone is welcome to attend. We will finish no later than 8:00. There is a second evening on the calendar on Nov. 7 which may be a repeat, or an extension, or cancelled depending on the outcome of the Oct. 29 meeting.

Mark Your Calendar

Wed., Nov. 6 11:25 dismiss

Fri., Nov. 8 6-10:00 Parents' Night Out

Mon., Nov. 11 Veterans' and Grandparents' Day; dismiss 11:25

If you should ever have a dispute – Matthew 18 principle

We would love to be a perfect school where there is no conflict or issues of any kind, but we are full of people, so that eliminates perfection. When issues do arise, we seek to follow the Matthew 18 principle. If you feel you or your child has been wronged by someone, a typical human reaction is to pray...just kidding. That would be a great start, but often our first inclination is to talk about it, not with the one we should talk to, but all our friends, neighbors, and anyone who will listen on Facebook. Sadly, this is not the direction Scripture gives to solving problems. The first step (after prayer) should be to talk with the person who wronged you, privately. Face to face is best, over the phone is ok, digital communications are convenient, but rarely convey the message well. They are also often too fast to give you time to reflect on what you should say. Be careful what you put in writing. At school, step one typically involves a parent communicating with the teacher. If that does not address the issue or bring resolution, step two involves bringing an additional person – a third party – typically at school this could be Mr. Pluister. Most issues can be resolved in the first two levels of communication. However, if that still doesn't address the situation adequately, you can write a letter to the school to be taken directly to the school board. Unity has requested that this letter be received physically rather than digitally for the reason mentioned above. We are all in the business of making disciples of Christ – doing kingdom work at Unity. We can work together.

It is the desire of every member of Unity's faculty, staff and administration to serve Christ as King. You can help. Please pray for us daily as we pray for you. Encourage us as we encourage you. And, as in every other part of life, problems occur. Please let us know how we can help. Talk to your teacher, staff member and principal when problems or concerns arise. Thank you.

Administrative Emails

Mr. Pluister, Principal – cpluister@unitychristian.com
Barb Wright, Secondary Adm. Ass't. – bwright@unitychristian.com
Korri Marcum, Elementary Adm. Ass't. – kmarcum@unitychristian.com
Theresa Farrell, Bookkeeper – tfarrell@unitychristian.com
Jana Behr, Athletic Director – jbehr@unitychristian.com
Julie Foust, HEART Chair – heart@unitychristian.com
Todd Wilbur, Board President – todd.wilbur@adm.com

**Join us for the drama production –
A Little Piece of Heaven**

**at 6:30 PM on Friday October 26
and/or Saturday October 27**

Parent Education Night Oct 29 6:30-8:00

