
2025 Unity Christian Board Nominees Biographical Information



Rebecca Hanson - Partner Society

Harrison and I have been married for 22 years. We have 4 children: Hezekiah (a 2024 Unity Grad), Gideon (Class of 2027), Abraham (Class of 2028) and AnaPrisca (Class of 2032). I have been a homemaker and stay-at-home mom since Hezekiah was born, supporting Harrison in his work at the hospital and providing stability at home.

Prior to having children, I worked for the Billy Graham Evangelical Association, helping start an in-house advertising agency. I traveled with the teams for Rev. Billy Graham's Crusades, working on TV cameras, television trucks, and running projects alongside local churches here in the US and in Central America. In my free-time, I spent my hours completing my private pilot's license.

We are members at New Hope Evangelical Free Church in Orange City, where Harrison has been an elder and I have been a deaconess and co-led the Women's Conference Committee. We have taught the Junior and Senior High School Sunday School Class in Apologetics (year 1) and Biblical Manhood and Womanhood (year 2) for 6 years. I am currently serving on the Landsmeer Golf Course Board. I have a BA in Biblical and Theological Studies.

Our desire is for the the Bible to inform all our decisions, and Deuteronomy 6 changed our lives as we prayerfully considered our children's education. We recognize Christian education is a gift to steward and as the best way in which we, as Christians, should educate our children. Giving our children the understanding that Jesus Christ is the foundational creator and upholder of all aspects of history, science, art, music, math, literature etc. is one of the greatest gifts we can give our children, and I am happy to offer my efforts to maintaining that gift for the future students of Unity.

Nigel Millard - Partner Society

My wife Lindsay and I have lived in the Orange City community since moving here in 2010. I am originally from a small town in north central Iowa, Northwood. I am a family physician at Orange City Area Health System. I attend New Hope Evangelical Free Church, where I served as deacon for four years. I also served on the local Bethany Christian Services board for nine years.

We are blessed to have three children. Cael is a sixteen year old sophomore at Unity Christian. Asher is fourteen and Halle is twelve. They attend Orange City Christian School. I enjoy cycling, weight training, and spending time playing sports with family. I also enjoy splitting wood and helping my wife grow flowers out on our acreage.

I am passionate about a Biblically based classical education that is Christ centered and well rounded.

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Mike Calkhoven - At Large

My name is Mike Calkhoven. My wife, Renae, and I live on an acreage in between Sioux Center and Ireton. We have 5 children, Kaitlyn (getting married in June), Lyndsey (Freshman at Dordt), Alexa (Senior at Unity), Jenna (Sophomore at Unity) and Cole (7th grade at Sioux Center Christian). I am employed as the VP of Finance at Perdue and Renae is a Surgical Nurse at Sioux Center Hospital. We attend Faith CRC in Sioux Center where I have served on the Christian Education Fund committee as Treasurer and as deacon where I served as Treasurer and member of the executive committee. I grew up in Hull and attended Hull Christian and Western Christian before attending Dordt. After graduation we moved to Sioux City where we lived for a little over 10 years. Once Kaitlyn reached school age, we decided to move back to the Sioux Center area so that our kids would have the opportunity to attend Christian schools as we did. Investing in Christian education for our kids has always been a priority for us. I believe it is important to not only give our children a top-quality education, but also to give them an education which teaches them that God is a part of every part of their lives. Christian education infuses God's teaching into every subject area.

I'm excited at the opportunity to serve on the Unity school board because I want to serve the school and to be part of a team that ensures Unity remains true to its mission and to its Reformed Christian perspective that continues to teach the students how to live out God's unique story in their lives.

Matt Boogerd - At Large

Hello my name is Matt Boogerd. My wife Janey and I have three kids, Brady is a senior at Unity and plans to attend Dordt University in the fall to study Biology, Addison is a freshman at Unity and Levi is currently an 8th grader at Sioux Center Christian School and will be attending Unity next year. I work as a veterinarian and owner at Central Veterinary Clinic in Sioux Center and my wife is a paraprofessional at Stepping Stones in Sioux Center. Our family attends Bethel CRC in Sioux Center and I have been blessed with the opportunity to serve as chair of both the deacons and elders in the past 10 years and my wife and I were fortunate to serve as youth group leaders for 4 years. In our free time we love to go and watch all three of our kids play baseball/softball for Unity, as well as volleyball, and basketball for Addison. The boys and I enjoy hunting and fishing whenever and wherever we can. As a family we love the mountains whether that is hiking, backpacking, skiing, rafting, or hunting, God's creation is awesome.

When I was asked if I would be willing to let my name stand for school board at Unity it was not a hard decision. Saying this, it is not that I am seeking to be on the school board just to be on school board, but rather I believe that we are called to be active participants in instructing our kingdom children and this is one of many ways that calling can be served out. What Christian education means to my wife and I is foundational to why we ended up here. Christian schools were the number one criteria on our list as I looked for jobs in my profession. Both of our parents instilled in us the importance of the three legged stool model, church, school and family for raising our children and that is something that we take very seriously. We have had the opportunity to see our parents witness of Christian education in their lives with my father and mother in-laws both serving as teachers at Mount Vernon Christian School in Washington state and my parents as former board members at OCCS and Unity and longtime supporters of all levels of Christian education. Unity is more than a school to my family, it is a who we partner with to instruct our children in a biblically founded, theologically sound way on a day to day basis. In summary I would be proud to partner with Unity to help maintain a Biblically centered focus and theologically sound approach to education and future planning as a board member.

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Teri Bos - Living Water, Orange City

I am Teri Bos, a wife, mom, teacher, nurse, supporter of Christian education and child of God. I am married to Matt Bos and we are fairly recent empty-nesters. We live in Orange City and are active members of Living Water Community Church. After graduating from Unity Christian High School I earned a secondary education degree from Dordt College and taught high school Spanish and English for 14 years in Christian schools in Florida and Iowa. Following God's call on my life, I returned to college in 2009 and earned my RN and BSN from Northwestern College. I have worked as a nurse at Orange City Area Health System and Community Health Partners since 2013. Our children include our daughter, Jordan, and her husband, Chris De Groot, and our son, Devin, and his wife, Eliana. We love playing pickleball and hiking tall mountains with our adult kids. When I have free time at home I enjoy reading and working in my garden.

I would be honored to serve on the Board of Unity Christian High School where both my husband and I and our children attended. Serving on the Board would not only be an opportunity for me to give back to a school that was instrumental in shaping our family's academic and spiritual development, but would also provide an opportunity to support and strengthen the ongoing mission and vision of Christian education in an ever-changing world. I believe that my educational background and teaching experience in Christian schools would be an asset to the Board as Unity Christian High School continues to cultivate academic excellence, encourage spiritual growth, and develop Kingdom citizens equipped to serve in God's world.

Matt Mellema - Living Water, Orange City

I grew up on a farm near Worthington, MN, and attended Worthington Christian Grade School and Southwest Christian High School. After high school I attended Dordt College where I studied Mechanical Engineering. Following graduation, I took a job with Pella Corporation in Pella, IA, and also started dating my wife Kristin. We were married two years later and lived in Pella for another six years before moving back to NW Iowa to be closer to family. We have been in Orange City since 2007 and I've continued to work at Pella Corporation where I currently serve as Plant Manager.

Kristin grew up in Orange City and is a graduate of Unity. She is self-employed as an Interior Designer. We've been blessed with six children: Naomi and Simon are both at Dordt; Owen is a sophomore at Unity; and Elsie, Michelove, and Dawensky attend OCCS. We highly value the Christian education opportunities our family has experienced and love our local Christian schools and the faculty who serve there.

We view Christian education as a gift to assist parents in raising our children to be devoted followers of Christ. Our family is a part of Living Water Church where I've served as an elder, on various ministry teams, in small groups, and teaching Sunday school and catechism. For fun, I enjoy staying active, music, reading, and hanging out with family and friends.