



JUNE 2022

BULLETIN

SCRIPTURE DRIVES OUR STORY Thy Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path — Psalms 119:105



This is the day which the Lord has made; Let us **REJOICE** and be **GLAD** in it. ~ Psalm 118:24



Dear Friend of Unity,

2021-2022 is in the rear view mirror as we speed into summer and begin making plans for 2022-2023. This past academic year was a great year! It was a year of almost no Covid impact. Business as usual, if we can describe high school life as usual! Thanks be to God for seeing us through another year.

Scripture Drives Our Story was the theme for the year. In a devotional I listened to recently, the author referred to scripture as "God's voice on paper". I cannot think of a more critical time in our history and culture to be guiding and equipping young men and women to know that Scripture is our authoritative guide to get where we need to go.

Our lives fit into the story of God.

This May, we said farewell to eight employees. All eight served in different areas of the school and brought their best to school each day. We thank God for their service and pray for His richest blessings for the next chapters of each of their lives.

- Joan Brower - Interim Art Instructor - One Year
- Dan Pluim - Interim Art Instructor - One Year
- Jeff Noteboom - Bus Driver - 16 years.
- Alysa Reitsma - Marketing and Alumni Relations - 2 years.
- Jason Reinke - Custodian - 2 years

- Vanessa Van Kempen - Spanish teacher - 6 years
- Rachel Zeutenhorst - Academic Support - 4 years.
- Gina Zylstra - School Secretary - 3 years.

2022-23 looks promising thanks to the deep support of Christian education in our communities. We are excited to register a projected 303-307 students for this upcoming school year. That is a slight decline from last year. We graduated a class of 84, and have a projected 70 freshmen coming in. Our upper class enrollment has been a pleasant surprise of growth, with 7+ new students joining us.

As we look ahead, the year of 22-23 will be an exciting Under Construction year. The building addition is well under way. The goal is to have the work completed before May, 2023. Please continue to pray for Unity Christian to be a place that is a beacon of biblical truth and biblical worldview grounding.

In Christ,
Mr. Wayne Dykstra, Head of School

From the Board President

As a school board president, I have the opportunity to see how God is working in some amazing ways at Unity. We, as a school board, continue to pursue God's plans for Unity. We see him bringing glory to Himself, as students learn and interact with the world and the people around them.

God is protecting us and guiding us through the world that has changed because of COVID. His guidance led us in ways to continue educating students while respecting the influence COVID had on the ways education was delivered.

God has brought the Impact Campaign to a point of constructing the building, which can hopefully be used late spring of 2023. We continue to rely on Him, to help people see their ability to give towards the project, to decrease the \$2.5 million debt.

We performed a Head of School survey that affirmed that we have a Godly leader for the school. God has continued to supply the school board with members that seek to serve Him through their roles on the board. Unity is blessed with an incredibly gifted and capable faculty, staff, and administration.

We continue a deliberate process of strategic planning, following the Holy Spirit's guidance of our thoughts. We have updated our vision statement, and currently designate time early in our board meetings to discuss ideas that could benefit our mission.

We plan to gather as board members and members of the

constituency in Sept to begin refining a strategic plan to follow where God is leading Unity in the next 3-5 years. If you feel called (or actually called by a board member) please consider contacting us with your ideas or presence in 1 of 4 groups of 7-8 people, as we formulate our a strategic plan this fall. As a board we continued to look for opportunities to follow and grow even before an official "strategic plan is in place. We continue to look to have a Distinctively Biblical Culture, further develop exceptional academics, have leadership that drives outcomes, and a strong sense of stewardship and security in God for our financial strength.

Please continue to pray for Unity, and share your stories with those around you of how God used Unity to bring Him glory through your life. The Heritage of what Unity is and stands for is a testament to God's provision and guidance as it has followed him for nearly 60 years.

Brad Zwart('23), Board of Trustees President

In Memory

The family of Leland Woudstra
gave a gift in his memory.

Mom's in Prayer

After heading up our Moms in Prayer group, Sue Dykstra is handing over the reins. Eleven years ago when the Dykstra's moved to Orange City, Sue was elated that a Moms in Prayer group was already active at Unity. But they needed a new leader, so Sue volunteered. It was a choice that gave her and the group many blessings. They learned more about WHO God is while witnessing his faithfulness in answered prayers.

The group always began each hour of prayer reading scripture, highlighting a character of God. Following that, they would then take time to offer prayers of praise and worship back to God for who he is. The second part of their prayer time was confession, and third, they gave thanks to God. The final prayer time was for requests. Sometimes students and teachers had specific ones. Throughout the year, each student and teacher was prayed for by name three times. The final prayers were for the ministry of Moms in Prayer. Because it's a worldwide ministry, each state is assigned countries to pray for. Algeria,

Nigeria, Germany, and Lithuania were the four countries they covered in prayer. They also asked God to raise up Moms in Prayer groups, so that every child in the world is covered in prayer.

Thank you Sue Dykstra for leading the group, and thank you to all the Moms who covered our school in prayer.



Praise

...for a safe school year.
...for all the work of the Unity Auxiliary and Booster Club.
...that most of the staffing and teaching positions are filled.
...to the following students who were selected to play at the Iowa String Teachers Association State Honor Orchestra at UNI in Cedar Falls. Violin: Kaeley Meyer, Reagan Noteboom, Casey Oolman, Laura Ross. Viola: Jaiden Kooima. Cello: Tara Joiner, Brynn Vand Mr. Benson sent a team to compete in the State FFA Nursery & Landscape Contest on June 14th in Cedar Rapids at Kirkwood Community College! The team placed 3rd in the state and won the general knowledge portion of the contest! Team members were Bryce Fedders, Abby Van Roekel, Jocelyn Muilenburg.en Brink

Bass: Jocelyn Muilenburg
...for Mr. Benson's team that competed in the State FFA Nursery & Landscape Contest on June 14th in Cedar Rapids at Kirkwood Community College! The team placed 3rd in the state and won the general knowledge portion of the contest! Team members were Bryce Fedders, Abby Van Roekel, Jocelyn Muilenburg.

...to Gabe Schiebout in placing first at the State Ag Mechanics contest. Gabe placed first in the welding area which is part skill and part test, and Jocelyn Muilenburg won 4th in the State Nursery & Landscape general knowledge test.

Art Student Wins American Visions Medal at Carnegie Hall in New York City

Elida Chen won several Scholastic Art and Writing Awards. The first round was the regional competition. She received 1 American vision nominee, 6 gold keys, 7 silver keys, and 3 honorable mentions for the first round. After that, all the works win a gold key. The American vision nominees (5 for each States) are sent to the national competition. One of her illustration work received the gold medal and American vision medal (only 1 American vision medal per State). Congratulations Elida!



Prayers for

...Unity Alumni Nick Van Veldhuizen and his family as he remains in a comma.
...students recovering from surgeries.
...Unity Alumni, Maranda Heytsi, and her family who are living in the Ukraine. Her family is currently serving displaced Ukrainian citizens who have left their homes due to war.
...the planning and work for the next school year.



Congratulations War Eagle Conference Academic Award Recipients! These students represent the top 5% of each class at Unity and we, along with the War Eagle Conference, recognize them for their academic accomplishments!



Kaitlyn Ammons



Isaac Baart



Isaac Bandstra



Tye Borchers



Mr. Wayne Dykstra
Head Of School



Mr. Jake Byma
Class Advisor



Mrs. Luanne Goslinga
Class Advisor



Mrs. Sandra Nyenhuis
Class Advisor



Mr. Josh Van Kempen
Class Advisor



Noah Bronner



Simeon Bulk



Emma Byker



Boaz Byl



Kaitlyn Calkhoven

Unity Christian High School

Orange City, Iowa Class of 2022



Nerwen Cao



Carter De Jong



Ella Dekkers



Dacey Driesen



Daelyn Driesen



Jacksen Dykstra



Rebecca Dykstra



Jacob Huisman



Madelyne Huizenga



Cassidy Hulshof



Brooke Jacobsma



Courtney Joiner



Tara Joiner



Kobie Karhoff



Anneke Klompjen



Alyssa Koelewyn



Levi Landman



Sydney Miedema



Jonah Nibbelink



Taylor Nieuwsma



Benjamin Noteboom



Jack Noteboom



Lucas Noteboom



Nicholas Noteboom



Jace Noyes



Elias Obbink



Casey Oolman



Caleb Schrock



Levi Sieck



Lila Sieck



Caleb Smit



Tyler Stoub



Jane Taylor



Caleb TeKrony



Katy Timmer



Lucas Van Berkel



Hannah Van Den Berg



Kayda Vanden Berg



Connor Visscher



Rylee Visser



Mylia Wagenaar



Katrina Walhof



Kia Wassenaar



Connor Weida



Carissa Winn



Maddalie Wolgen



Saiya (Deborah) Wu

Unity Honor Society Class of 2022

Kaitlyn Ammons
Isaac Bandstra
Jenna Bos
James Bouma
Jenna Bouma
Noah Bronner
Emma Byker
Boaz Byl

Nerwen Cao
Siyu Chen
Kylie De Boer
Amy De Groot
Ella Dekkers
Dacey Driesen
Jacksen Dykstra
Rebecca Dykstra

Samuel Eppinga
Olivia Fedders
Landon Hofmeyer
Madelyne Huizenga
Cassidy Hulshof
Brooke Jacobsma
Courtney Joiner

Tara Joiner
Anneke Klompjen
Alyssa Koelewyn
Levi Landman
Naomi Mellema
Kaeley Meyer
Mikayla Meyers

Sydney Miedema
Lucas Noteboom
Elias Obbink
Casey Oolman
Cody Scholten
Lila Sieck
Jane Taylor

Future Plans

Seniors 2022

Ammons, Kaitlyn
 Baart, Isaac
 Bandstra, Isaac
 Borchers, Tye
 Bos, Jenna
 Bouma, James
 Bouma, Jenna
 Broek, Michaela
 Bronner, Noah
 Bulk, Simeon
 Byker, Emma
 Byl, Bo
 Calkhoven, Kaitlyn
 Cao, Nerwen
 Chen, Chris
 Chen, Siya Elida
 De Boer, Kylie
 De Groot, Amy
 De Jong, Carter
 Dekkers, Ella
 Driesen, Dacey
 Driesen, Daelyn
 Dykstra, Jack
 Dykstra, Rebecca
 Eason, David
 Eppinga, Sam
 Fedders, Olivia
 Hofmeyer, Landon
 Huisman, Jacob
 Huizenga, Madelyne
 Hulshof, Cassidy
 Jacobsma, Brooke
 Joiner, Courtney
 Joiner, Tara
 Karhoff, Kobie
 Klompier, Anneke
 Koelewyn, Alyssa
 Landman, Levi
 Lief, Christian
 Mellema, Naomi
 Meyer, Kaeley
 Meyers, Mikayla
 Miedema, Sydney
 Nibbelink, Jonah
 Nieuwsma, Taylor
 Noteboom, Ben
 Noteboom, Jack
 Noteboom, Lucas
 Noteboom, Nicholas
 Noyes, Jace
 Obbink, Elias
 Oolman, Casey
 Raines, Raeleigh
 Reinders, Clayton
 Reitsma, Gavin
 Scholten, Cody
 Schrock, Caleb
 Sieck, Levi
 Sieck, Lila
 Smit, Caleb
 Stoub, Tyler
 Taylor, Jane
 Tekrony, Caleb
 Timmer, Katy
 Van Berkel, Lucas
 Van Den Berg, Hannah
 Van Essen, Amaya
 Van Ginkel, Caleb
 Van Schouwen, Tyler
 Vande Voort, Sandi
 Vanden Berg, Kayda
 Visscher, Connor
 Visser, Rylee
 Wagenaar, Mylia
 Walhof, Katrina
 Wassenaar, Kia
 Weida, Connor
 Winn, Carissa
 Wolgen, Maddalie
 Wu, Deborah
 Zevenbergen, Rayanna
 Zhang, Amy
 Zomermaand, Jorja
 Zwart, Kate

Plans after High School

Dordt University
 Dordt University
 Dordt University
 Iowa Central
 NCC
 Northwestern College
 Northwestern College
 Undecided
 Dordt University
 Southeast Technical College
 Dordt University
 Dordt University
 Dordt University
 University of Texas at Austin
 Palm Beach Atlantic University
 Parsons School of Design
 Dordt University
 Union University
 Dordt University
 Dordt University
 Dordt University
 Dordt University
 Dordt University
 Northwestern College
 Dordt University
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 Dordt University
 Northwestern College
 NCC
 Purdue University
 Northwestern College
 Dordt University
 Dordt University
 University of Iowa
 WITCC
 Dordt University
 Dordt University
 Dordt University
 Northwestern College
 Dordt University
 Dordt University
 Dordt University
 University of Northern Iowa
 NCC
 Morningside University
 Work
 Northwestern College
 Lake Area Technical College
 Dordt University
 Lake Area Technical College
 Dordt University
 Dordt University
 Dordt University
 Dordt University
 WITCC
 Work
 WITCC
 Midwest Diesel Tech Academy NCC
 Dordt University
 Work
 Oberlin College
 Dordt University
 Dordt University
 Dordt University
 Northwestern College
 Dordt University
 Work
 Dordt University
 Gap Year
 University of Sioux Falls
 South Dakota School of Mines Dordt
 University
 Dordt University
 Liberty University
 University of Nebraska
 NCC
 Northwestern College
 Dordt University
 University of Alberta
 Dordt University
 University of Toronto
 Southeast Technical College
 Dordt University

Major

Nursing
 Political Science
 Undecided
 Ag Business
 Dairy Science
 Undecided
 Business
 Graphic Design
 Accounting
 System Administrator
 Elementary Education
 Business
 Pre-Vet/Animal Science
 Astronomy
 Business Marketing
 Design and Technology & Illustration
 Computer Science & Criminal Justice
 Undecided
 Business Marketing
 Social Work
 Psychology
 Secondary Art Education
 Exercise Science
 Nursing
 Work
 Engineering
 Elementary Education
 Business Management
 Undecided
 Veterinary Nursing
 Nursing
 Communications
 Computer Science
 Graphic Design
 Police Science
 Elementary Special Education
 Nursing and Spanish
 Biology
 Undecided
 Human Resources
 Undecided
 Nursing
 Social Work
 Automotive and Light Diesel Mechanic
 Ag Education
 Work
 Business Administration
 Aviation Maintenance Technology
 Agribusiness
 Aviation Maintenance Technology
 Physics and Mathematics
 Mechanical Engineering
 Health and Human Performance
 Agriculture Technology
 Police Science
 Undecided
 Work
 WITCC
 Diesel Technician
 Business Management
 Business & Accounting
 Biology
 Undecided
 Undecided
 Graphic Design
 Health and Human Performance
 Elementary Education
 Nursing or Social Work
 Pilot's License
 Accounting
 Undecided
 Nursing and Spanish
 Math/Computer Science
 Communications
 Undecided
 Criminal Justice
 Undecided
 Diesel Technology
 Art
 English and Secondary Education
 Psychology
 Social work
 CCIT
 Ag Business
 Business Administration

Caleb Te Krony
 Katy Timmer
 Amaya Van Essen
 Caleb Van Ginkel
 Tyler Van Schouwen
 Sandi Vande Voort
 Kayda Vanden Berg

Rylee Visser
 Mylia Wagenaar
 Katrina (Kate) Walhof
 Kia Wassenaar
 Maddalie Wolgen
 Rayanna Zevenbergen
 Amy Zhang

Iron Sharpens Iron - Girls Golf 2022

It truly is a joy for me to watch golfers improve throughout the season and to also see the pride the girls have when they keep improving on their best score. The excitement is contagious. The girls started out the season as a very inexperienced team with three girls playing golf for the first time this year. The girls did a great job of improving throughout the season even when it was tough to practice because of the cold, windy spring that we had. The girls started the season shooting in the 230's and ended the season shooting around 210. They were able to finish 5th in the WEC with a record of 13-7.

Lauren Vande Griend earned 1st team All-Conference honors and Lauren was also able to advance to the Regional Final after finishing 4th at Regional.

1. Lauren shot a 95 and finished 7th which was extremely close to qualifying as the top 6 individuals move on to state. Thank you to Coach Holwerda for assisting this past season and providing guidance on and off the course. The girls really focused on being positive, controlling what they can, and not dwelling on the past. Jon and I enjoyed the conversations, the



Left to right: Lauren Vande Griend, Adriana Van Maanen, Allyson Yesda, EmmaLee Sandbulte, and Marsadie Goebel. (Photo by Generations Portraiture)

food, and the fellowship with throughout the season. There were no seniors on this year's team so we are excited to see what the girls can do next year as a young team after a year of experience and playing this summer.

Iron Sharpens Iron - Boys' Golf 2022

The 2022 golf season was a roller coaster ride for the boys golf team. We would have some great meets and play well and then we would struggle for one or two meets. I was proud of how the boys kept working hard during the good and the bad. They all did a nice job of improving throughout the season and most of the guys were able to shoot some of their best rounds towards the end of the season. We finished 3rd in the conference with a record of 16-5. Titan Hulstein was named 1st team All-Conference and Bryce Harskamp and Graden Van Essen earned 2nd team All-Conference honors.

I am excited for the underclassmen as they continue to work on their games this summer and are striving to improve even more for next season. I would like to say a special thank you to Coach Holwerda for assisting this season and to the seniors that were a part of the Unity golf program the past 4 years: Jack Noteboom, Lucas Van Berkel, Nick Noteboom, Isaac Baart, Gavin Reitsma and Tyler Van Schouwen. Throughout the season the guys focused on not letting a score or number define them but to realize that they are first and foremost a child of God who is fearfully and wonderfully made.



Left to right: back row: Jacen Huizenga, Graden Van Essen, Issac Baart, Tyler Van Schouwen, Nicholas Noteboom, Titan Hulstein, and Issac Krommendyk. Front row: Dorian Tintle, Wyatt Nykamp, Jack Noteboom, Lucas Van Berkel, Gavin Reitsma, Bryce Harskamp, and Hezekaiah Hanson. (Photo by Generations Portraiture)

Stepping Up with Girl's Soccer

By Macy Kuehler

We ended with an 8-8 record. The biggest highlight for our team, that was mentioned a lot from the players, was our game against Spencer. Although we did lose, the girls fought tremendously. We are the only team in the conference to not get mercy ruled by Spencer, and the only team that scored on them.

Spencer's team has always been a powerhouse and a very tough team to go against, but like I said, the girls fought tremendously and it was super exciting to put in a goal and play the full 80 minutes. I also want to highlight our freshmen class.

We had a total of 15 freshmen out and they all did a great job of taking on a new role of being on a high school team. Autumn Bousema, Julia Dykstra, Brynn Franken, and Callie Karhoff all stepped into starting positions on varsity, and did fantastic. Autumn was a beast up top, scoring a lot of goals for us. Julia and Brynn both stepped up to take on defensive roles in our backline, and stopped many, many attacks from progressing. Callie played both defensive and attacking roles. She also helped stop many



Left to right: back row: Callie Karhoff, Karyss Muyskens, Brooklyn Vander Veen, Cambree De Jong, Rylee Visser, Katy Timmer, Mylia Wagenaar, Anneke Klompier, and Kylie De Boer. Front row: Faith Elgersma, Autumn Bousema, Emily Vande Zande, Emily Eppinga, MyKayla Zylstra, Maggie Alons, Julia Dykstra, Brynn Franken, and Kadence Driesen. (Photo by Generations Portraiture)

opposing attacks, but was also there to help start our own attacks.

Autumn Bousema had eight goals for the season, the highest for the team. Callie Karhoff led the assists with a total of four, along with six goals. Rylee Visser had a total of 133 saves, with a save percentage of 82.6%. Rylee Visser, Emily Eppinga, and Julia Dykstra all received All-Conference honors for the Lakes Conference. Mylia Wagenaar received Honorable Mention. Rylee Visser also made the 1A West All-District Second Team honors as a goalie.

Boys' Soccer 2022

By David Lee

Unity Boys' soccer wrapped up our season after losing to the Sioux Center Knights in the second round of the sub-state playoffs. Overall our team has made significant strides since our last season. I am proud of what we have achieved as a team and look forward to making improvements as we continue to grow in this beautiful game we call soccer.

As a coach, I had set high goals for myself and the team for this season. On one hand, it is a little disappointing and upsetting that we didn't reach those goals. But on the other hand, such results humble and remind me that soccer is not an easy sport and requires long-term investment and diligence. It requires dedication and consistent hard work throughout the year just like any other sport in order for one to be successful.

As I tell people, my vision as a coach is to help young players enjoy and better understand the game. In addition, I want to be a part of the team that helps develop soccer here in Northwest Iowa. This season was special to me, because I was able to witness a little bit of that. I had the privilege to coach guys who fell in love with the game. Yes,

we still have a lot of work to do as a program, but it is definitely encouraging to know that we were taking steps in the right direction.

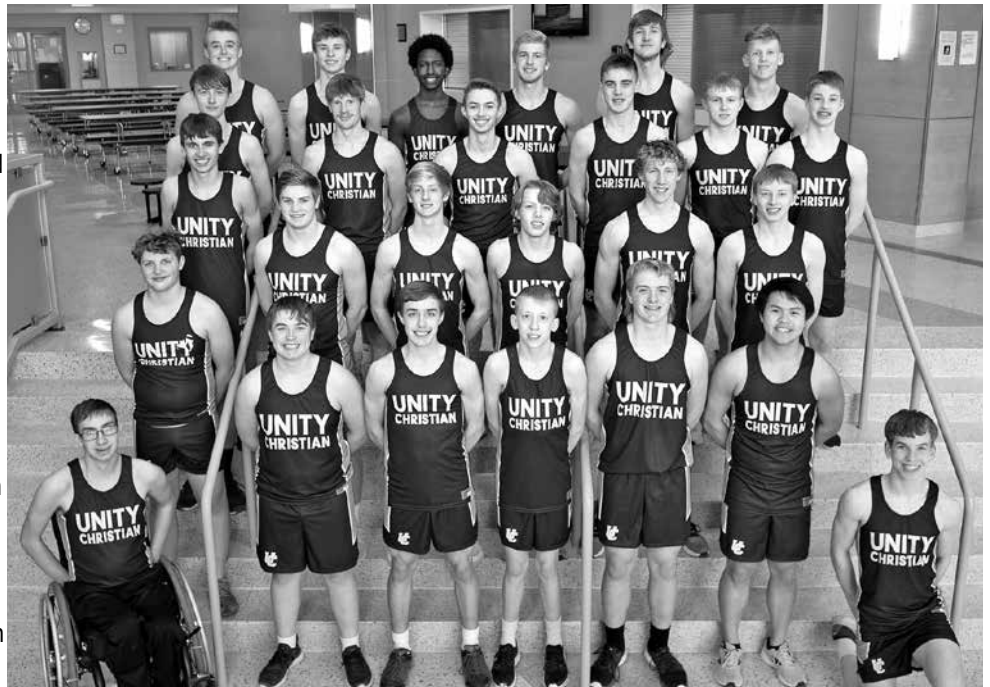
Lastly, I want to thank the three seniors who have done a tremendous job in leading the team and who have been a key part of this program in the past few years: Jack Dykstra, Elias Obink, and Sam Eppinga. Not only have they set an example for their teammates on the field but also off the field. Coaching these guys have been a huge honor. My hope is to continue to develop well-rounded student-athletes and soccer players like them next season and the following seasons. At the end of the day, that is what soccer is all about. Growth.



Left to right: back row: Ethan Wynia, Elias Obink, Carter Slenk, Tryce Van Beek, Charlie Wierenga, Corey Kuperus, Sam Eppinga, Stephen Schruers, and Wyatt Hulshof. Front row: Stanley Altemeier, Elliot De Rooy, Even Klompier, Sam Westra, Jerad Dubbelde, Landon De Jong, Parker Van Roekel, Jack Dykstra, and Asa Byl. (Photo by Generations Portraiture)

Boys' Track 2022

The 2022 Boys Track season was a strong season of growth and change. Our team said goodbye to long-time coach Karl Kaemingk and a quarter of All-State seniors that graduated the previous year. We welcomed lots of new faces with a strong freshmen class and a number of athletes joining the team who had not run track before. Lots of cold and windy practices gave us plenty of "mental toughness" training to survive an Iowa spring sports season. There was a lot of learning as guys tried new events or continued to grow skills from previous seasons. We had a lot of strong individual performances and good success with a number of relays. We finished 3rd overall in a very tough conference and sent our 4x800 relay, Cody Feikema in the Long Jump, and Eli Horstman in his wheelchair races to the state meet. Eli and Cody capped off a strong season with All-State honors by placing in the top 8 of their respective events, including 3 All-State performances from Eli. Many laughs were shared along the way and the coaches were glad to work with such a great group of young men.



Left to right: fourth row: Jacob Folkerts, Kyan Emmelkamp, Judah Baart, Jacob Van Donge, Cody Feikema, and Levi Landman. Third row: Deker Mulder, Caleb Schrock, Caleb Van Ginkel, Daylen Mulder, Braeden Bosma, Kolton Smit, and Lane Scholten. Second row: Trevor Wierenga, Landon Meerdink, Iain Monroe, Dylan Obbink, and Caleb Te Krony. First row: Eli Horstman, Bryce Fedders, Ethan Van Ginkel, Ezra Landman, Chris Freese, Caleb Westra, and Caden Oolman. (Photo by Generations Portraiture)

Girls' Track 2022

One of my favorite memories from the season was at the conference meet. A group of four freshmen were racing in the 4x400, the last race of the meet. We were head to head with Hinton, the team we knew we were fighting for the title. Runners, throwers, managers, JV and Varsity were cheering from all areas of the track for those four freshmen. At the end of the race the entire team was in a big huddle buzzing with encouragement. I had a pretty big smile on my face seeing my team come together with such support, they were a big family.

The Lady Knights Track and Field team consisted of 2 seniors, 5



Left to right: fourth row: Jady Hofmeyer, Gracie Schoonhoven, Molly Zylstra, Haley Kuperus, Aubrey De Groot, Aaka Dekkers, and Elizabeth Westra. Third row: Morgan De Groot, Jaelye Woudstra, Madison Hoogland, Avery Mouw, Emily Noteboom, Ava Noyes, Megan Te Krony, and manager Danielle Dykstra. Second row: Manager Jaidyn De Jong, Zoe Dittman, Addison Liston, Anna Heynen, Haley Punt, Amy De Groot, Meghan Vos, Oliva Hoogland, and manager Marissa Haverhals. First row: Kyra Van Schouwen, Elizabeth Hoogland, Meysi Pennings, Laina Stuit, Elyssa Van Den Berg, Courtney Joiner, Jenna Oordt. (Photo by Generations Portraiture)

juniors, 8 sophomores, 13 freshmen and 3 managers. Together we took 13 girls in 8 events to the state meet at the Drake stadium in Des Moines. Aubrey De Groot and Molly Zylstra competed in high jump, Olivia Hoogland in the 3000m run, Gracie Schoonhoven in the 400 hurdles and Anna Heynen in the 200m Dash. Relays included the Sprint Medley, Distance Medley, 4x100 and 4x400 with runners Jady Hofmeyer, Molly Zylstra, Anna Heynen, Gracie Schoonhoven, Jaelye Woudstra, Emily Noteboom, Morgan De Groot, Maddie Hoogland, Zoe Dittman, Haley Kuperus, and Addison Liston. Earlier in the season

Anna Heynen broke the oldest record in the books set by Heidi Woudstra in the 200m dash back in 1976, Heidi held the time of 26.54 and Anna ran a 26.50 at the Wolverine Relays without anyone pushing her. At the state meet Anna broke her own new record and clocked 26.19. Molly Zylstra put her mark down as the 2nd highest jumper in Unity history at 5'7". The Knights placed 2nd at the conference meet with 13 girls earning all conference honors. Amy De Groot and Courtney Joiner, our two seniors, earned all conference academic awards.

It was another season of growth with a young group that stepped up to the line during a windy season ready to meet some goals. The girls did a great job and the Knights have a bright future ahead.

International Farewell

These international students have been walking our hallways for several years now. We have learned from them as they have learned about life in rural Iowa and Unity. As they further their education in the United States and Canada, we wish them God's blessing.



Several Senior girls enjoyed their class trip to Omaha.



Unity students, Queen Naomi Mellema and her Escorts, James Bouma and Caleb Smit, pose for a picture at the Tulip Festival.



The building project begins to take shape.



The Unity student body and faculty/staff walked many miles of ditches in our annual Clean-a-thon Day. The items found in the ditches create great storytelling the next day. Not only do our Sioux County ditches get cleaner, we also raise over \$50,000 dollars for our general fund. Thanks to all who participated in walking and giving!

History Day

By Jane Taylor

Nothing says 'Merry Christmas' like annotating a bibliography. While snow floated down outside and the fire crackled, we were glued to our laptops alphabetizing primary and secondary sources. A few weeks earlier, Amy De Groot, Casey Oolman, Caleb Te Kroney, and I decided to participate in the National History Day competition. The year before, our performance on a study about the effects of evaluative labeling had made it to districts, state, and then the national level. We were a finalist in the competition and placed 10th against both national and international schools.

This year we chose to create a project about espionage reform after the Aldrich Ames betrayal. This topic was close to home for us—literally. Just 20 minutes down the road, Le Mars was the hometown of CIA Counterintelligence Chief James Olson, a key figure in the story. We gained valuable sources from him and even a first-hand account of his experiences through a phone interview. After the research stage, we began to organize all 120 sources into our bibliography. We wrote our script, built a 7-foot-tall, triple-sided rotating set, and collected props and costumes. Memorization came next. We came in early, left school late, and in the end, we felt we were ready for competition.

Districts was first, and because it was virtual, we just sent a recording. We moved on to state, and honestly, hauling our



huge set down to Des Moines was half the battle. A day later, we got the results— we placed first in the state, meaning we were nationals-bound! It was incredibly gratifying to see all the hours of research, planning, and practice pay off. It's a huge honor to be the only group in Unity's history to have made it to the national level twice, and I hope we can encourage other kids to get involved in the program. This project has taught me so much; the value of teamwork and determination, the importance of understanding history, and countless other lessons. But for all the things I've learned, I can't say it's taught me to enjoy annotating a bibliography!



Our annual Box Lunch social raised over \$5,100 this year that was distributed using 25% for One Body One Hope, a Christian school and orphanage located in Monrovia, Liberia and 75% for the Heytsi Refugee Center in Ukraine. Thanks to all who participated!



Unity Christian Ag students invited area grade school students to explore different agriculture stations. Exploring farming equipment, riding horses, learning about plants, and of course, playing with puppies, were just some of the options.



The Knights Sounds enjoyed the acoustics of a cathedral in Omaha.