


A Story of God's

Faithfulness

50th

ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATION



Over the past several months, the 50th Anniversary Taskforce has been working hard on putting together the commemorative book as well as planning all of the celebratory events. It has been a momentous undertaking, but all motivated by a desire to fully share the story of God's faithfulness.

On behalf of the Unity community, I would like to express our deepest gratitude to:

*Steve Brouwer
Cynthia de Visser
Bill Driesen
Harvey Haan
Kim Kooyman
Diane Van de Kamp
Evelyn van Egdom
Linette Vugteveen
Jeff Ypma*

A Story of God's Faithfulness

Celebration is an essential part of being a healthy, vibrant, reflective, and firmly-rooted community. The Unity Christian School community, formerly

Those that have participated on the journey have been driven by a relentless desire to provide a Christ-centered education to God's children in the Eastern Fraser Valley, where Jesus and the Kingdom of God pervaded every subject, every teacher, every experience, every relationship, every day.

Chilliwack Christian School, has much to celebrate as together we reflect on a 50-year journey; a journey that can be characterized by sacrifice, generosity, dedication, wisdom, and love. Those that have participated on the journey have been driven by a relentless desire to provide a Christ-centered education to God's children in the Eastern Fraser Valley, where Jesus and the Kingdom of God pervaded every subject, every teacher, every experience, every relationship,

every day. At this significant road marker on the journey, we rightfully need to stop and celebrate while we look back on the road travelled with its twists, turns, switchbacks and straightaways, in order to appreciate where we are today and continue our journey forward. But more importantly, see and express our gratitude to our faithful God, whose providential and provisional hand has guided and directed us through each stage of the journey.

On September 16th, 1969, the founders of Chilliwack Christian School, along with 200 grandparents, parents, students, and committed stakeholders gathered together to celebrate the official opening of four classrooms to approximately 60 students and four staff members. The budget in 1969 was \$29,000; tuition costs were \$60 for one child, \$67 for two children, and \$72 for three or more children. Many of the society members were deeply involved with the running of the school through the various committees. The Women's Circle worked tirelessly to provide a stencil machine, playground equipment, school stationery, and presented a \$600 cheque for new science equipment.

Since 1969, Chilliwack Christian School has undergone numerous transformations. There were building projects in 1983 and 1992. Unity Christian High School, in partnership with Agassiz Christian School, opened its doors in 2001. In 2013, an addition to Unity Christian School was completed in order to start a Pre-K – 12 school, and the original Chilliwack Christian Elementary School closed its doors. Experiencing rapid student

growth, a second addition was made in 2016 to accommodate four more classrooms.

Despite all the changes and transformations, the original mission and vision of Chilliwack/Unity Christian has remained steadfast and resolute. Unity Christian School continues to be committed to providing a Christ-centered education where students are engaged in the Word and the world. Moreover, from its founding in 1969, Chilliwack/Unity Christian School has been a parent-supported, and to an extent, parent-led school. The names of committees and fundraising groups have changed over time but there are generations of board members, principals, teachers, staff, grandparents, parents, students, and community stakeholders that have given of their time, energy, skills, finances, and thoughtful prayer along the journey to bring us to where we are today.

The 50th taskforce is hopeful that as you thumb through this commemorative book and interact with the photos that you will both be reminded

of the journey and able to recall memories and stories as well as learn about parts of the journey you were unaware of. One of our original theme verses comes from Colossians 2:2-3, which expresses our hope for the entire 50th anniversary celebration:

"My goal is that they may be encouraged in heart and united in love, so that they may have the full riches of complete understanding, in order that they may know the mystery of God, namely, Christ, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge."

Let's celebrate!

Matt Van Muyen
System Principal

First classes of 1969-1970!

Grades 1 & 2



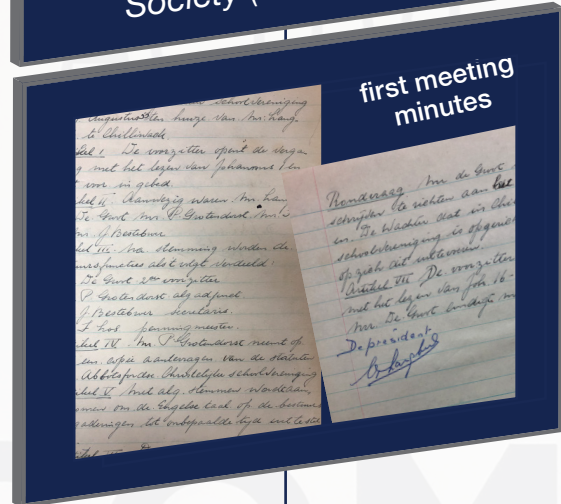
Grades 3 & 4



Grades 5, 6 & 7



AUGUST 24, 1955
The first official meeting of the Chilliwack Christian School Society (CCSS) is held



JUNE 8, 1960
The Chilliwack Christian School Society is officially registered with CRA

SEPTEMBER 1963
22 children are bused to Abbotsford Christian School by Mr. Teule in a 1956 Fargo bus

1969

SEPTEMBER
The land the school is situated on is purchased from the First Christian Reformed Church for \$1,600

The cost of the initial four-classroom building is \$46,500

Celebrate!

Chilliwack Christian School opens with four classrooms and approximately 60 students from 26 families



Annual Budget: \$29,000

Tuition: 1 (CHILD) \$60
2 \$67
3+ \$72

John VanderVelde becomes Principal

1970

The McNaught Playground Improvement Project – a government grant is obtained and the playground and playing fields are improved at a cost of \$11,000

EARLY-MID 1970s
Ben DeRegt becomes Principal

1975

SEPTEMBER
Staff size: Five

1976

MARCH
Wake-A-Thon raises \$1,700 for gym renovations & sports equipment



1977

SEPTEMBER
Partial government funding for Christian schools begins

MID-LATE 1970s
Jim Bleeker becomes Principal

1979

A new logo is designed by Ben DeRegt



1980

SEPTEMBER
Kindergarten is added with an enrollment of 10 students, bringing total enrollment to 77



1981

3-hour Lap-A-Thon raises approximately \$2,200

MAY
The Annual Drive brings in \$8,635 (\$1,635 more than the goal)

1982

School verse is Colossians 2:2-3

"...that they may know the mystery of God, namely, Christ, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge."

1983

JULY
Society approves the addition of home economic facilities, library, gym, storage rooms, staff room, and two additional classrooms at a cost of \$290,000



Celebrate!

DECEMBER
Open House to celebrate opening of new spaces

For the love of your child...
for the love of the Lord



1984

SEPTEMBER
Enrollment: 97 students

OCTOBER
The official school song is sung in public at the Thanksgiving Program for the first time



Throughout the year we work and learn
Our minds we use as tools,
In all the things we do we know,
The Bible is our rule.

Pressing t'ward the mark,
Enlightening the dark,
Always marching onward,
With our Chilliwack Christian School!

With spirits high and bodies strong
With minds so clear and cool,
We'll ever march in search of all
That's good and beautiful.

Witness then our growth,
For God and country both.
Always marching onward,
With our Chilliwack Christian School!

1985

Celebrate!

JUNE
Chilliwack Christian School Society's 25th Anniversary Celebration



SEPTEMBER
Staff size: Six



1988

Women's Circle brings in approximately \$24,000 from their various fundraising endeavours

SEPTEMBER
Norm Brouwer becomes Principal

1989

School playground addition and fencing

1990

SEPTEMBER
Enrollment: 138 students

Staff size: 11



1992

School playground addition



MAY
Society approves the addition of three additional classrooms, computer lab, remedial room, and expansion of the existing library at a cost of \$450,000

Celebrate!
SEPTEMBER
Grand opening of new space



1994

Celebrate!

Chilliwack Christian School's 25th Anniversary Celebration

1995

SEPTEMBER
Doyle Smiens becomes Principal

1996

MARCH
Friends of the Society generously offer two acres of an adjoining property for use by Chilliwack Christian School for a playground

1997

JANUARY

Society approves the purchase of a six-acre property with house adjacent to school for a sale price of \$200,000



SEPTEMBER

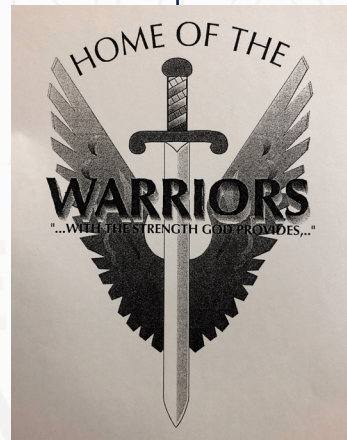
Staff size: 15



1998

MARCH

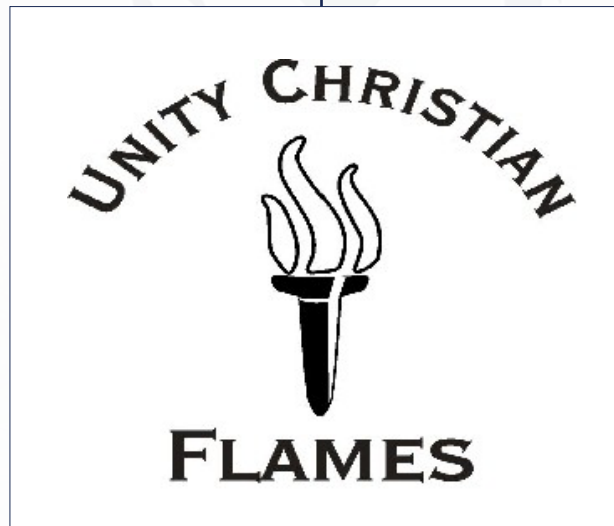
Society approves the proposal to proceed with a Middle/High school in September with the addition of grade eight



CCS sports teams are called the Warriors

SEPTEMBER

Board votes in favour of naming the Middle/High school, Unity Christian School and the Middle/High sports teams, the Flames



Middle School students (starting in grade seven) are taught in space graciously provided by Agassiz Christian School

A new Middle School computer lab is set up with 30 Pentium work stations



OCTOBER

Society approves borrowing up to \$500,000 to purchase Hack-Brown Road property

Purchase of 50950 Hack-Brown Road completes for \$400,000

1999

JANUARY
Capital Campaign
"Deep Roots, New Growth"
is launched with a
\$750,000 goal

SEPTEMBER
Enrollment: 243 students

2000

FEBRUARY
Board approves theme verse of
Ephesians 4:3

*"Make every effort to
keep the unity of
the Spirit through the
bond of peace."*

The official Ground
Breaking Ceremony is held
on February 23, 2000



Celebrate!



MARCH
Society approves the borrowing
of up to \$2.9 million in order to
complete the construction of
Unity Christian School on
Hack-Brown Road

APRIL
A new Unity logo is approved



MAY
30th Anniversary Potluck
attended by 250 people

Celebrate!

CHILLIWACK CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
"Celebrating Over 30 Years of Christian Education"



2001

JANUARY
Building begins at Hack-Brown location



SEPTEMBER 10, 2001
First day of school at Unity Christian School's Hack-Brown location

Celebrate!

Unity celebrates the dedication of their new facility on Hack-Brown Road



2002

SEPTEMBER
Staff size: 33

2003

JUNE
The first Grade 12 class graduates



JULY
Fundraising brings in \$72,669 (Garage Sale & Auction, Concession, Catering, Grocery Certificates, Golf Tournament, Pie Day, Pizza Sales, Gift Wrapping, Chocolate Bars)

2004

SEPTEMBER
Enrollment: 325 students

2005

JULY
Chilliwack Christian
Elementary School (K-6)
becomes Unity Christian
School (K-12)

DECEMBER
Brenda Bakker, Rick
DeWolde, and Berkley Glazer
become Interim Principals

Aerial View
2004



2006

SEPTEMBER
Ed Noot becomes Principal



Little Blessings Preschool opens

2007

JUNE
Society approves
subdividing off and selling
the approximately
two-acre site on
McNaught Road for a
total of \$1.5 million to CES
Developments Ltd.

Society approves the proposed
construction project at the Hack-
Brown Road campus at the
cost of \$3.5 million which would
allow us to move the Elementary
campus, expand the Middle/High
school and add a shop and
two shop classrooms

Society approves the sale
of property located behind
the Ford Creek subdivision
for a total of \$150,000
to Creekside Village
Developments

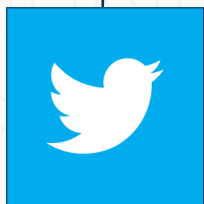
SEPTEMBER
Capital Campaign "Together to
Grow" Phase 1 is launched
with a \$1,100,000 goal

SEPTEMBER
Enrollment: 300 students

2011

SEPTEMBER

Unity Christian School is now on Facebook and Twitter



JUNE
The first five-year strategic plan is launched

OCTOBER
The tagline, Learning and Living in Christ, is added to our logo – Caroline Haan has the winning entry in the Tagline Contest



2012



FEBRUARY
Little Blessings Preschool officially changes its name to Unity Christian Preschool

MARCH
Society approves the sale of all disposable land, the arrangement of interim financing, and an increase to long-term debt by no more than \$500,000

Elementary classrooms, elementary gym, four middle school classrooms, four high school classrooms, and shop are added to Hack-Brown location



SEPTEMBER
Staff size: 35

Capital Campaign "Together to Grow" Phase II is launched with a \$650,000 goal

2013

Celebrate!

FEBRUARY
Service of Thanksgiving & Praise – celebrating 43 years of Christian education at the McNaught Road campus

MARCH
Move from McNaught Road to Hack-Brown



APRIL
The chapter closes on the McNaught Road campus. The buildings are torn down and the land is cleared to make room for the new Palisade Place townhouse complex.



MAY
Playground is added



SEPTEMBER
Mike Campbell becomes Principal

The field is completely renovated

2014

OCTOBER
Unity adopts
the current
Graduate Profile

GRADUATE PROFILE

DEDICATION OF OUR ALL TO GOD

The Unity Christian curriculum, pedagogy, assessment practices, policies, procedures and extra-curricular activities will faithfully reflect the Lordship of Christ over all.

COMMUNITY

Unity Christian seeks to engage students, parents, employees and alumni in the enterprise of learning, all focused on the same outcome of learners equipped with faith and prepared to serve the school, the community and wherever the Kingdom needs them.

GRACE

Unity Christian seeks to transform the life of each student, where each one's experience is recognized, story is heard, and potential, talents and abilities are discovered and nurtured.

ACCEPTANCE and INCLUSIVENESS

Unity Christian welcomes families and students of all Christian traditions as well as those who demonstrate a sincere interest in the Christian faith. Unity Christian seeks to include within its community those students with special educational needs, who possess varying learning abilities or come from diverse racial/ethnic backgrounds.

CHALLENGE

Unity Christian seeks to engage, challenge and instruct students in ways distinctive to each, according to their unique academic potential and learning style.

DISCERNMENT

Unity Christian believes in the importance of students who are critical thinkers and able to engage our culture through a lens of faith. Therefore, the Unity Christian community seeks to be a safe, but not sheltering place.

*Aerial View
2014*



2015

SEPTEMBER
Enrollment: 392 students

Staff size: 57



2016

MAY
Society approves the addition of four Elementary classrooms and two bathrooms to the NE corner of the school at a cost of approximately \$950,000



NOVEMBER
The current five-year strategic plan is launched

DECEMBER
Unity Christian School is now on Instagram













2017

MARCH
Official brand colours and values are updated

UNITY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

BRAND COLOURS AND VALUES

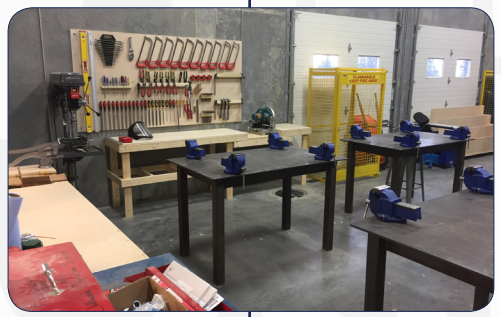
		UNITY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
<small>Pantone 655 CMYK C100 M90 Y36 K35 / RGB R24 G40 B83</small>		
		UNITY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL <small>LEARNING and LIVING in CHRIST</small>
<small>Pantone 7740 CMYK C78 M21 Y100 K7 / RGB R62 G142 B66</small>		
		UNITY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
<small>Pantone 158 CMYK C0 M60 Y99 K10 / RGB R222 G118 B29</small>		

		UNITY CHRISTIAN FLAMES
<small>Pantone 655 CMYK C100 M90 Y36 K35 / RGB R24 G40 B83</small>		
		
<small>Pantone 715 CMYK C0 M51 Y99 K0 / RGB R247 G146 B52</small>		
		
<small>Pantone 200 CMYK C17 M100 Y86 K7 / RGB R192 G32 B51</small>		

PRIMARY AND SECONDARY TYPEFACE/FONT

GOTHAM BOLD
GOTHAM MEDIUM
GOTHAM LIGHT
HELVETICA NEUE MEDIUM EXTENDED

SEPTEMBER
Unity launches its metalwork program



2018

Celebrate!

MAY
Fundraising brings in 166,000 (Auction & Celebration, Gala, Golf Tournament, Pie Day)

SEPTEMBER
Matt Van Muyen becomes Principal

Celebrate!

2019

JANUARY
The colour green is removed from our logo and replaced with orange



MARCH
The first digital report cards are sent out to grade nine students

Enrollment: 498 students

Staff size: 78

MAY
50th Anniversary Celebration



The story continues . . . *Learning and Living in Christ!*

As a learning community, we continue to look forward as to how Unity Christian can continue its original purpose to provide a Christ-centered education where Christ is integrated into every aspect of school life. Our mission continues to drive our decision-making process in order to be intentional with *“assisting our students in developing their God-given potential to enable them to join in the work of building the Kingdom of God.”* As we journey forward there will be successes and shortcomings, celebrations and disappointments, but our decisions and direction will be guided by our vision statement:

Unity Christian School, offering a distinctive approach to Christian education, will be known as an outstanding choice for education in Chilliwack. Unity students will reach their unique academic potential as Unity Christian offers a wider variety of course selections, utilizes cutting-edge resources, and strengthens extracurricular programs in applied skills, fine arts, and athletics.

Underlying the student learning experience will be full use of the Unity Christian Graduate Profile as a PreK-12 guide to student development of faith, intellect, talents, and character.

Unity Christian will utilize exemplary teaching methods by a staff of life-long learners who continuously improve their own skills. Teachers knowing all students as individuals is a hallmark of Unity Christian School and will remain an integral focus throughout all phases of our growth and ongoing commitment to Christian education.

Unity will be an inclusive Christian faith community that engages students, parents, alumni and the broader community in support of the learning enterprise. Unity Christian will strengthen its ability to accommodate diverse learning styles and needs and welcome students from diverse denominations, backgrounds, and abilities.

Unity will integrate classroom instruction with community service, thereby deepening students' faith and learning. Unity students will gain an understanding of their role and responsibility as global citizens and strengthen their local community ties.

Unity will wisely manage its growth while retaining its 'community' environment. Unity will strive to offer Christian education to every Christian family who desires it. It will foster 'community' by emphasizing parent engagement in leadership, in the classroom, and in various school events and hospitality.

What exactly is the next chapter in the story of God's faithfulness to Unity Christian School? What will be the new markers identified on the road in the next ten, twenty, thirty years? Like those that have gone before us, who did not know what the future held but stepped forward in faith, we too do not know the future, but we know the One who does, and He is faithful to His people. May this commemorative book be a testament of God's great faithfulness, encouraging and motivating the present and future generations as they lead Unity Christian School.



UNITY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

LEARNING and LIVING in CHRIST

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