

Academic Excellence

Spiritual Growth

Service to God and Others

Name: Mrs. Joni Zylstra

Position: Kindergarten teacher (yes, I get to teach with my wonderful sister!)

Education/Schools Attended: Elementary education degree from Purdue University with a kindergarten endorsement and a minor in reading. In recent years, I have taken continuing

education courses through Indiana Wesleyan.

What do you appreciate most about DMC?

There is something I can only describe as the feeling of the presence of the spirit when I have conversations with my kindergarteners, as the staff meets together for devotions, as I walk through the halls of DMC. Childlike faith, times when I think I am going to teach my kindergarteners something about God and instead I am the one learning, watching students learn and grow from each other - I get to be a part of that every day!

Fun Facts and Favorite Bible Verse

There are many Bible verses that are precious to me, but my life verse is Philippians 4:4 – Rejoice in the Lord always! I say it again, rejoice! I love that Paul wrote these words while imprisoned – certainly, belonging to Christ always gives us a true joy.

I thank God every day for my husband, Tim and for our four children: Luke (senior at CCHS), Hope (sophomore at CCHS), Kendra (8th grade at DMC), and Connor (3rd grade at DMC). We enjoy traveling, going to zoos, and the Cubs!