

MLC Early Childhood Learning Center Timeline

September 2010

The MLC Governing Board directed the college to seek permission from the Conference of Presidents (COP) to conduct a capital campaign during the next biennium (August 2011-August 2013) to address, in part, the construction of a new early childhood learning center

February 2011

The MLC Governing Board reiterated its support for the launching of a capital campaign in cooperation with the WELS Ministry of Christian Giving while understanding that the matter is subject to the approval of the COP.

September 2011

The board resolved to move ahead with the Intergenerational Ministry Project, including construction of a 15,500-square foot early childhood learning center and a 50-unit senior housing facility on the Luther Manor site. Funding for the learning center is primarily dependent on a capital campaign. The senior housing will be built on land leased from the college, funded by Doneff Companies, and managed by The Lutheran Home Association.

December 2011

The board reviewed a report from the consulting team Bentz Whaley Flessner and subsequently ratified a recommendation to launch a campaign to raise funds for the construction of a new early childhood learning center.

January 2012

MLC and the WELS Ministry for Christian Giving are partnering in a capital campaign to fund the building of a new early childhood learning center. Entitled *Let the Children Come*, this joint effort will allow our local congregations to reach out to more families with the gospel message.

February 2012

The board resolved to seek permission from the Synodical Council to negotiate and finalize the sale of the southern half of the Luther Manor property to Doneff Companies, which plans to build a 50-unit senior housing project on the property as a complement to the early childhood project.

October 2012

Martin Luther College gratefully reports a generous outpouring of support for its *Let the Children Come* campaign. A group of donors is presenting \$1.25M to MLC as a challenge grant. This group of donors will match gifts for *Let the Children Come* dollar for dollar up to \$1.25M.

January 2013

Martin Luther College's Early Childhood Learning Center moved to a temporary location in the Luther Student Center on the MLC campus. The college received bids on the construction of a new ECLC from RW Carlstrom Construction of Mankato with a guaranteed maximum price of \$3.385 million. Rather than delay construction and risk potential cost increases, and to immediately serve the blessed growth in the MLC early childhood program, an interim funding plan for the new ECLC was approved by the MLC Governing Board and was also ratified by the WELS Synodical Council.

April 2013

On April 6, 2013, a ground-breaking service was conducted for our new Early Childhood Learning Center. Governing Board member and area pastor Mike Otterstatter officiated. Occupancy for the new center is slated for next fall, with 44 pre-primary students already on the enrollment list.

October 2013

Many Homecoming visitors attended the dedication of the new state-of-the-art Early Childhood Learning Center Sunday, October 27, 2013. The center opened with 51 infants, toddlers, and pre-primary children enrolled and 18 student teaching slots filled.

January 2014

At a teleconference on January 29, 2014, the MLC Governing Board announced that the *Let the Children Come* campaign, at \$ 3.745M raised/committed, has been successfully completed. The building project was completed without drawing on college reserve funds or acquiring debt. The MLC Governing Board gave thanks to the Lord of the Church for this tremendous blessing and commits any additional gifts received for this campaign to be used for early childhood education scholarships or program enhancement.