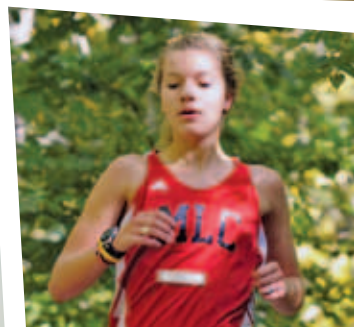


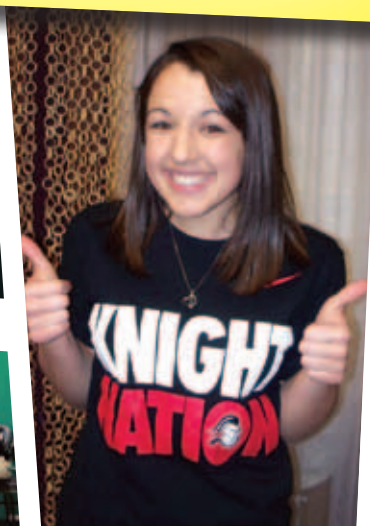
# knightwatch MLC

MARTIN LUTHER COLLEGE

SPRING/SUMMER  
2013



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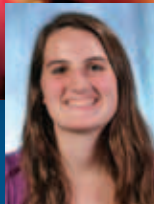
MARTIN LUTHER COLLEGE  
MLC

# Melissa<sup>Wolff</sup>

*She's been dreaming of MLC since she was a little girl, and being the only one in her class to come here did not deter her. Maybe it was the inspiration of her first grade teacher. Maybe it was the thought of singing in an MLC musical. Or maybe it was the simple desire to bring the joy of the gospel to children's lives.*



Melissa sang in the chorus of *Singin' in the Rain* last November.



**Winnebago Lutheran Academy**  
**Faith-Fond du Lac WI**

**First-year in Education Studies**  
**Major:** elementary education

**Activities:** Forum (musical), talent show, piano lessons

**She always knew:** It was always a dream to come here. Even though I could've found a state school closer to home, the benefits of MLC outweigh the distance—being in God's Word every day and being with fellow believers.

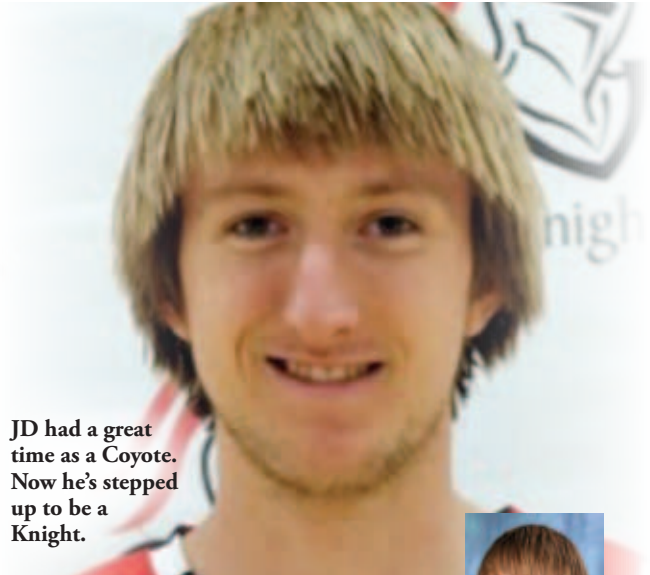
**That first grade teacher:** Mrs. Lauber inspired me to go to MLC. Seeing how much she cared for her class made me want to be like her. Bringing that kind of joy to a child's life and possibly making a difference in their future is the success I would want in my classroom someday.

**The musical:** Everyone was so welcoming, even though I was a freshman and didn't have a large part. I really bonded with some of the people in the cast.

*“Hey, WLA! We could use some more of you up here! Also, a quick shout-out to BEN WOLFF, my baby brother that I miss. I'm hoping someone's been keeping an eye on him.”*

# J.D.<sup>Uhlhorn</sup>

*Pastors. He respects them. He respects the work they do. The question is, could he be one of them? With the Lord's help, yes.*



JD had a great time as a Coyote. Now he's stepped up to be a Knight.



**Arizona Lutheran Academy**  
**Salem-Scottsdale AZ**

**First-year in Preseminary Studies**  
**Major:** biblical languages

**Activities:** basketball, intramurals, Männerchor

**Job:** ball runner for MLC soccer team

**It started at ALA:** Pastor Bode at ALA really put the thought in my head that I might enjoy being at MLC and working towards a career in ministry. I believe I could carry out the jobs involved with being a pastor, with the Lord's help, and make a positive impact on those around me.

**It's different from ALA:** Apart from the major differences (the weather), you develop a routine here that's quite different from ALA. And it's easier here to talk to anyone and get to know them well. Sure, there are still cliques—I doubt they'll go away—but it's a step up from high school in that way.

**And he's different too:** I'm a different person from the first day I stepped onto campus. I'm more confident! I have a better understanding, thanks to my religion class. And I have a number of friends who I can count on.

*“Hey, ALA! First, miss you guys! I hope you consider MLC, because I know plenty of you have the gifts to be here. Despite what you might think about going to college in the Midwest, it's not as scary as you might think. Give it some thought!”*



# Ben<sup>Ewings</sup>

*He was recruited by several schools, including the University of Wisconsin, to play football. Although the allure of D1 ball was strong, those words he heard at church wouldn't let go: I heard the voice of the LORD, saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I! Send me!" So he's at MLC, studying for ministry and, yes, playing football—with intensity.*

**Whether a Warrior or a Knight, Ben Ewings is a force to be reckoned with.**



**Lakeside LHS**  
**Lord of Love-De Forest WI**

**First-year in Education Studies**

**Major:** secondary communication arts & literature

**Major:** secondary physical education

**Minor:** coaching

**Activities:** football, intramurals

**It's called a work ethic:** I work harder and try to get better in everything I do every day. I want to be the best at whatever I'm doing.

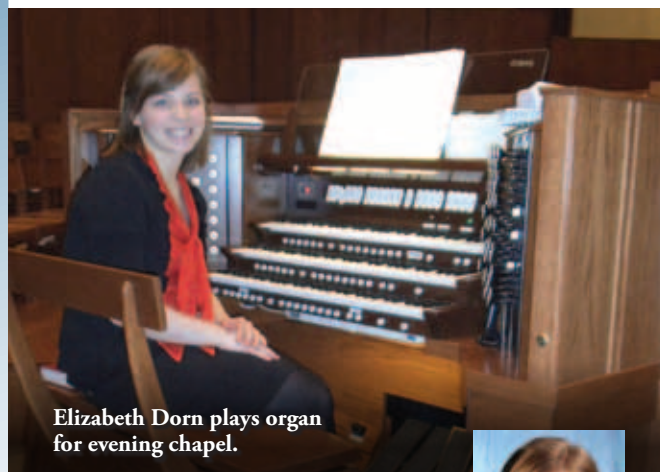
**It's called humility:** If there is one person's example to follow in life, it's Jesus. I won't be able to do anything greater than serve him in all I do. And I want to make my mom proud. I'm so thankful for all the support and encouragement she gave me, and for always pushing me to be the best man I could be.

**It may not be D1, but . . .** MLC football is definitely a lot harder than high school football, and honestly, what I liked the most was noticing improvement every day. I felt like a much better football player at the end of the season than at the beginning.

**“Hey, Lakeside! Unbelievable! . . . Mamacita, te necesito! . . . I miss Mr. Kuehl. . . . Work hard every day.”**

# Elizabeth<sup>Dorn</sup>

*At 3, she told her parents she wanted to “teach the kids,” and by 15 she was assisting her mom, also a teacher, in her classroom. Combine that with choirs, musicals, and piano lessons since age 8, and it adds up to an easy decision: an education major and a music minor at MLC.*



Elizabeth Dorn plays organ for evening chapel.



**Luther HS**  
**St. John-Lewiston MN**

**Sophomore in Education Studies**

**Major:** elementary education

**Minor:** music

**Activities:** Chorale, organ lessons

**Job:** staff member for a developmentally challenged adult (off campus)

**Playing organ in the Chapel of the Christ:** It's simply amazing! I love how the sound penetrates the entire chapel. After playing the organ for just a year and a half, I have come a long way. I love being able to help edify worship with music, whether it's through the organ, piano, or choir.

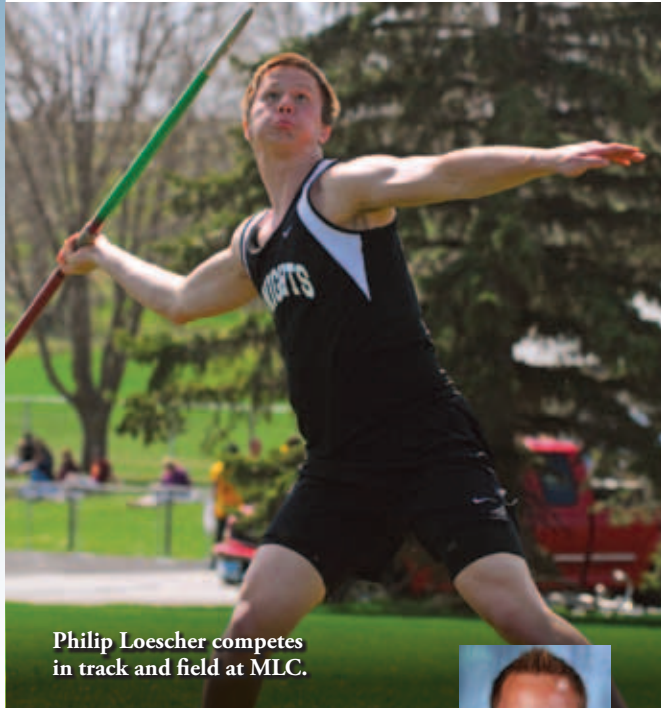
**Just attending chapel . . .** has helped my faith to grow stronger. I'm so eager to worship with others in God's house. I'm excited to be in the ministry and can't wait to share my enthusiasm for God's Word.

**Thank you, Mom:** I've looked up to my mom ever since I was a little girl. I see the passion she has when she teaches and the love she shares with her students. I hope that someday I can become an example for Jesus' little lambs too.

**“Hey, Luther! Whether or not you think you are cut out for the ministry, God has a plan for you. Being a pastor or a teacher is not the only way you can serve the Lord. Rather, use your gifts to the best of your ability and trust in his plan.”**

# Philip<sup>Loescher</sup>

*For a while, math was an option for him—maybe mechanical or electrical engineering. But in the end, the path he really wanted was the one his father had chosen first: the pastoral ministry. And along the way, he could keep doing some of the other things he loved, like throwing that javelin.*



Philip Loescher competes in track and field at MLC.



**Kettle Moraine LHS**  
**David's Star-Jackson WI**

**Senior in Preseminary Studies**  
**Major:** biblical languages

**Activities:** football, track, intramurals

**Job:** snow shoveling (on campus), refereeing basketball, assisting with gymnastics equipment at Turner Hall (off campus)

**Like father, like son:** My father is one of the most important role models in my life, and ever since I was a young boy I have wanted to follow in his footsteps as a pastor.

**Growing into the ministry:** I am a more confident speaker and communicator of God's Word. I value time spent with the Lord more than I have in the past. For me, MLC is a gateway into a life for the Lord.

**Branching out in other ways too:** Track at MLC is a great way to branch out and make friends with students of all classes.

*“Hey, KML! Ain't nobody gonna beat my discus record!”*

# Emily<sup>Lai</sup>

*A lover of music and theater, she considered a career as a classical singer. But she also wanted to share her love of music with others through teaching. At MLC, she could pursue her dream to teach and cultivate her gifts in the performing arts. That was music to her ears.*



Emily Lai's title role in *Antigone* showcased her many theatrical gifts. She also produced *Julius Caesar*, was musical director for *Singin' in the Rain*, and sang in *Oklahoma!* and *She Loves Me*.



**Luther Preparatory School**  
**St. Matthew-Oconomowoc WI**

**Junior in Education Studies**  
**Major:** elementary education  
**Major:** secondary vocal music

**Activities:** College Choir, Forum (musical, winter play), band, voice lessons, piano lessons, organ lessons

**Job:** piano teacher (off campus)

**A “Forum” for learning:** I really like Forum (drama club) because I love acting and meeting new people. I also like how we get to take leadership roles and learn to direct/produce plays, a skill that may be valuable in my teaching ministry!

**She's already a professional piano teacher:** MLC has a great reputation in the community, and parents come here to get quality piano lessons for their kids from student musicians like me. It's a great opportunity for me to practice my teaching skills while doing something that I love.

**Kudos to St. Matthew-Oconomowoc WI:** My entire congregation has always been very encouraging. I am very fortunate to have all of their support. I am more excited than ever to devote my life to the public ministry.

*“Hey, LPS: Study hard and enjoy your high school years. They go by before you know it!”*



# Micah Plocher

*He knew that at MLC he'd have a chance to play the basketball he loved, but he also knew that basketball wasn't a good enough reason to enroll in a college. It was his coach who told him that if he did go to MLC, he'd receive so much more than a chance to wear the jersey.*



Micah Plocher played Knights basketball two years at MLC.



**Michigan Lutheran Seminary**  
**St. Luke-Vassar MI**

**Junior in Preseminary Studies**

**Major:** biblical languages

**Minor:** confessional languages

**Activities:** football, basketball, College Choir, Forum (musical), intramurals

**Job:** resident assistant, gym supervisor (on campus)

**Sometimes those teachers are right:** My teachers and coaches, especially Coach David Lecker, told me over and over that I had the gifts to serve, and that even if I wasn't sure about it, MLC would be a great place to try. Now I can't imagine doing anything else.

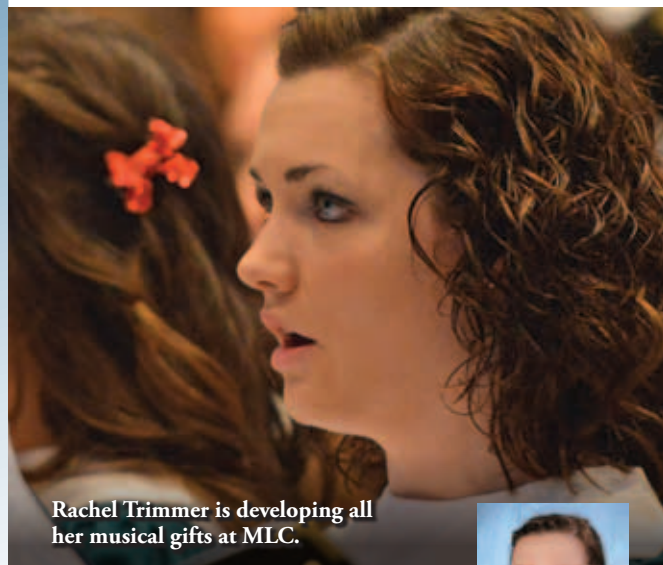
**Summer of a lifetime:** Last summer my friend and I worked at St. Peter-Fort Collins CO for 10 weeks as summer interns. We experienced many different aspects of ministry: special needs ministry, youth and children's ministry, outreach through a soccer camp, and even performing and accompanying church services. It really got me excited, and I can't wait to learn more and get out into the real world.

**One thing MLC emphasizes:** The ministry isn't about languages or lesson plans. It's about people. It's Jesus' love for us that we show in the way we deal with people. I feel like I'm a lot more at ease around people than when I first arrived. I've grown into situations where I need to meet people and be engaging, and conversation has gotten a lot easier. Even getting up in front of people and talking usually isn't a problem.

**“Hey, MLS! Good luck to Coach Lecker, Coach Vasold, and the basketball teams. Keep up the good work representing the Seminary family!”**

# Rachel Trimmer

*She loves music and had a strong desire to teach music, but she always said she was not going to go to MLC. A performing arts school, maybe, or another Lutheran college, but not MLC. What changed her mind? A visit to our campus and a music teacher at her own.*



Rachel Trimmer is developing all her musical gifts at MLC.



**Great Plains LHS**  
**Atonement-Parkville MD**

**First-year in Education Studies**

**Major:** secondary vocal music

**Major:** secondary instrumental music

**Activities:** Chorale, Wind Symphony, Forum (musical), voice lessons, saxophone lessons, piano lessons

**Job:** Perkins waitress

**Thank you, Focus on Ministry:** When I came to MLC for a Focus trip, it just hit me that this was the place I should be.

**Thank you, Mr. Martens at GPL:** Eric Martens made me want to teach music in one of our WELS schools.

**Music at MLC so far:** I really enjoy Professor Wurster because he makes band enjoyable and always gives us something that will extend our skill range. I like choir because Mrs. Boeder is so cheery and keeps it lively. I feel I'm growing a lot as a musician because music itself ties into everything I do now—something as simple as going to theory class in the morning, and that afternoon a chord or phrase in choir becomes easier for me. Every day I'm learning something new and becoming a better musician.

**“Hey, Great Plains! Remember that God has a plan for you. Sometimes he has different plans than what you think will happen.”**

# Wyatt<sup>Weimer</sup>

*While at community college for two years, exploring everything from business to marine biology, he was also coaching at Evergreen. Seeing that light bulb moment, when everything clicked for one of his players, was something he knew he wanted to experience again and again. Teaching and coaching—that's what he would do. He visited MLC, and the rest is history.*



Wyatt Weimer found transferring to MLC a piece of cake.

**Evergreen LHS**  
**Holy Trinity-Des Moines WA**

**First-year in Education Studies**

**Major:** secondary physical education

**Major:** secondary social studies education

**Minor:** coaching

**Activities:** baseball, intramurals, piano lessons

**Job:** middle school basketball referee (MLC Knights Refereeing Association)

**Transferring in:** It was easy. Many of my credits transferred without any issues. I like to think that being a transfer gives me an advantage. I have a different viewpoint than many students who have only experienced education in a WELS grade school and high school.

**After one semester at MLC:** The biggest difference is that I have grown in my faith. After being away from my Lutheran high school for a couple years, it is amazing to again go to chapel, have religion classes, and be surrounded by fellow believers all the time.

**Those teachers at Evergreen:** They were all an inspiration to me, because I would see them working and could tell that they were truly happy with their career choice.

**“Hey, Evergreen! Girls’ basketball team: Keep working hard this year and good luck. Baseball team: Don’t let Ryan pitch. And to all the students of Evergreen: Enjoy the new campus next year!”**

# Amber<sup>Flunker</sup>

*As a first-year, she wasn’t sure she wanted to be a teacher. As a junior, she’s still not sure. She sometimes dreams of working not with children, but with the elderly. But she is sure that MLC is the right place for her, and she’s quietly making her mark on both campus and community.*



Amber Flunker balances her MLC activities with an active off-campus life.

**Fox Valley LHS**  
**St. Peter-Freedom WI**

**Junior in Education Studies**

**Major:** elementary education

**Activities:** hair and makeup artist for Forum (drama club)

**Job:** assisting an elderly couple, grocery store bagger, babysitting (all off campus)

**Making a mark on campus:** My friends Lauren and Pedro and I have been the hair and makeup heads for several drama productions. We have so much fun experimenting on the cast. Children’s Theater is by far our favorite, because we get to make everything sparkle and pop.

**And off campus too:** I’ve accumulated quite a few jobs. I do odd jobs for an elderly couple who have taken me in as their own. (I love the elderly. I sometimes think my dream is to be an activities coordinator for a nursing home, where I would get to chat with the residents, help them enjoy life, and give them the hope found only in Jesus.) I also babysit, and I work at a grocery store, double-bagging your frozen items. Finding a job is easy, and having jobs is manageable with the homework load.

**If not teaching:** If I decide against teaching or if God opens other opportunities, then MLC is the place where I deepened my faith to take on those roles. Christian education is never a mistake or a waste of money.

**“Hey, FVL! Take time out of your busy schedule to listen to the encouragement our God has given us. Hebrews 10:23: ‘Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful.’ ”**



# Matthew<sup>Olson</sup>

*As he contemplated coming to MLC, he did his research, talking to others who had gone to the WELS College of Ministry. Now that he's here, he's making two dreams come true: pursuing a teaching career and playing football. Both are making him work harder than ever before.*



Matthew Olson gives all he's got on the football field.

**St. Croix LHS**  
**Christ-North St. Paul MN**

**First-year in Education Studies**

**Major:** secondary math education  
**Major:** secondary physical education  
**Minor:** coaching

**Activities:** football, baseball



**Inspiration from all sides:** Talking with the student teachers coming through St. Croix made me want to be a teacher too. And my dad has always had a big influence on me. He's a great people person. Seeing how he dealt with kids inspired me to be a teacher.

**College football—fun but tough:** At MLC I learned how much faster, harder, and competitive college is than high school. I also learned how to play through tough times.

**College homework:** I feel like I work much harder in school. In college you can't really give half effort, because it is so much harder than high school.

*“Hey, St. Croix! Seriously consider going into the public ministry. Not only will you get to meet great people, but you will be able to share the Word of God.”*

# Nicole<sup>Dorn</sup>

*Yes, she's one of those students. She comes from a called worker family and always knew she'd be a called worker too. MLC was the only college she applied to. But it's not like she's following blindly. She's had teaching experience, and she knows exactly what kind of fun—and fulfillment—she's getting into.*

Nicole Dorn has thoroughly enjoyed her teaching experiences so far, and she can't wait to have her own classroom someday.



**Illinois LHS**  
**Trinity-Crete IL**

**Sophomore in Education Studies**

**Major:** elementary education  
**Minor:** coaching

**Activities:** soccer, softball, Chorale, piano lessons, intramurals

**Been there, done that, loved it!** I've taught Sunday school and VBS. I love it, and I've known for a long time that it's something I would love to do for the rest of my life. As a teacher, no day is the same. There's no way I could ever get bored!

**MLC's program is distinctive:** MLC gives me the opportunity to teach not only all the basic subjects, but also the love of Jesus to children every single day, something I will not take for granted!

**Thanks, Dad!** I had my dad as a teacher when I was in fifth grade, and he was my basketball coach throughout grade school and high school. He's been an awesome role model and has always encouraged me to follow my dreams. I'm not the only one that thinks my dad is a great teacher, and I hope that someday students will look up to me like they do to him.

*“Hey, Illinois! Seniors, enjoy your last few months of high school! Don't wish it away. Cherish the moments you have with your friends and family—you're going to miss them! Good luck with the rest of basketball season! I miss watching you guys play!”*

# Megan Rabbers

*MLC was not her first choice. She spent her senior year peeking behind other doors: physical therapy, communication, agricultural business. What she wanted was to truly make a difference in people's lives. And as soon as she said it that way, she knew the answer.*



Megan Rabbers thoroughly enjoyed Early Field Experience her freshman year. It confirmed her decision to be a teacher.



**Michigan LHS**  
**St. Paul-Stevensville MI**

**First-year in Education Studies**

**Major:** elementary education

**Major:** early childhood education

**Activities:** Anchor (service club), Forum (musical), Chorale, Dorm Council, intramurals, piano lessons

**Volunteer work:** Cards for Caring at St. John-New Ulm

**Teachers make a difference:** When I think of the people who have influenced me, besides my family, teachers and pastors are definitely at the top of my list. I too want to make a difference in someone else's life, and teachers have the incredible opportunity to do this!

**She's making a difference now too:** I'm the historian for Anchor (service club). I take pictures of our events and compile them in a scrapbook at the end of the year. We go to the nursing home every week and usually sing and make crafts with the residents. We plan two major fundraisers and several mini-fundraisers for charities, and the students always have a good time at them!

**And she herself is a different person:** The first time I stepped on campus, I was choking back tears. Today I am a lot more confident!

**“Hey, MLHS! Give MLC a shot! You've got nothing to lose and a lot to gain!”**

# Jennifer Uhlhorn

*In addition to teaching, she had considered occupational therapy and speech therapy—all helping professions. So it's no surprise that even her campus job is a “helping profession.” She's an assistant to MLC's event coordinator, and the skills she's learning will definitely translate to that great “event” she will coordinate a few years from now: running her own classroom.*



Jennifer Uhlhorn lets her light shine in her MLC campus job.



**Rocky Mountain LHS**  
**Fount of Life-Colorado Springs CO**

**Junior in Education Studies**

**Major:** early childhood education

**Activities:** intramurals, Chorale, piano lessons, women's Bible study

**Job:** event coordinator assistant (on campus)

**It's a great job:** As assistant to the event coordinator, I've learned many things about planning, organizing, how everything works, and how much work goes into an event. We meet so many people and get to let our light shine to visitors on campus.

**Her next “job” will be great too:** I want to teach God's Word to his little lambs. I'm beginning to understand the complexity of being an effective teacher, the importance of knowing and applying what I've learned about child development.

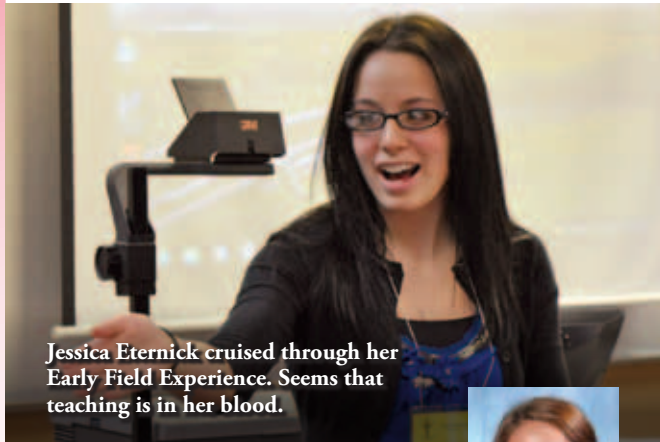
**She had a remarkable example at RMLHS:** Mr. Rick Lohmiller was my high school principal and a great teacher! His enthusiasm was evident in his teaching, coaching, and relationships with the students. He always seemed to be having a great day!

**“Hey, Rocky Mountain! Don't automatically think MLC is for people who go just because their parents went, or so they can get married. The student body is diverse, and their backgrounds and the stories of how they got to MLC vary from person to person. . . . Say hi to my brothers, Ryan and Michael Uhlhorn ☺ I miss them! . . . Good luck, boys' and girls' basketball teams! . . . I am praying for the project of Rocky Mountain's new building.”**



# Jessica<sup>Eternick</sup>

*Sometimes it runs in families—this urge to share the Word of God in a classroom. When Jessica came to MLC, she followed in the footsteps of her siblings Justin and Jaime. But the decision was all hers, and she is making this college her own.*



Jessica Eternick cruised through her Early Field Experience. Seems that teaching is in her blood.



**Lakeside LHS**  
**St. John-Waterloo WI**

**Sophomore in Education Studies**  
**Major:** elementary education  
**Major:** early childhood education

**Activities:** Chorale, piano lessons, intramurals

**Job:** waitress at bowling alley / bar & grill (off campus)

**Sister Act:** My older sister was set to attend a college in Wisconsin but then changed her mind two weeks before school started, knowing MLC's teaching track was for her. I was pretty touched. Seeing how much MLC can affect people such as herself, I knew there was something special about it.

**Feels like home:** Once I got here, I instantly knew I had chosen the right school. The people are like family. I'm comfortable enough to be myself. I can go around campus without having to worry about people judging me. The professors are like parents when you need help with a problem or just want to have a nice chat. MLC is a special place; there really isn't any other place like it.

**Sister Act 2?** I'm planning a Daylight trip to Colorado Springs during spring break to help with the church and school where my sister and her husband teach.

*“Hey, Lakeside! Thank you for preparing me for the ministry. I miss walking those hallways every day. Nothing will replace the great memories I have. I hope the sports teams, music programs, and other clubs are doing what they do best at Lakeside, which is dominating. I hope to see all your faces up here next year and for years to come. Oh—and make sure my little brother is staying out of trouble!”*

# Kirsten<sup>Kowitz</sup>

*She's at MLC for the very best reason: she loves to see the Holy Spirit work in children's hearts. She experienced this in a powerful way the summer after her junior year—in China—and now she knows she wants to be a part of that process for the rest of her life.*



Kirsten Kowitz loves college at MLC.



**St. Croix LHS**  
**Crown of Life-West St. Paul MN**

**Sophomore in Education Studies**  
**Major:** early childhood education

**Activities:** intramurals, Chorale, piano lessons, Anchor service club

**Volunteer work:** Jesus Cares

**In China:** I taught music at an English camp. It was the first time many of the people had ever heard about God. Watching the Holy Spirit work in the hearts of the children there was truly inspiring, and I want to be able to see that happen again someday.

**She looked at other schools:** Other schools offer teacher programs, but MLC specializes in it. The professors are here to help you become the best teacher possible. All the students at MLC are here for a common goal, to serve in the public ministry.

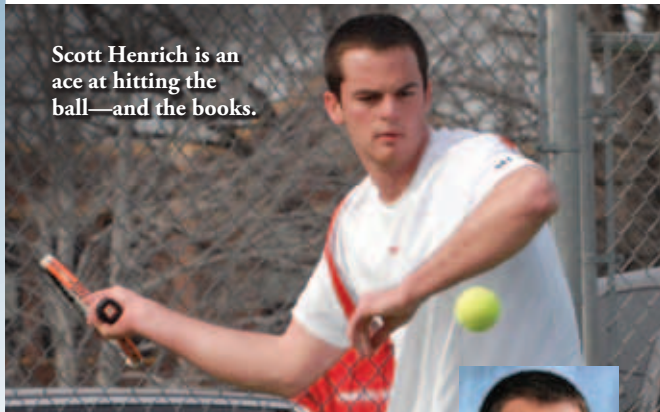
**Thank you, Becky:** Becky Laitinen Foxen is part of the reason I'm here. When I was in seventh grade, she student-taught at my grade school while living at my house. I loved spending time with her. I would sit in her room and watch her correct papers. It didn't matter what she was doing; I truly looked up to her.

*“Hey, St. Croix! Seniors, I know I was worried about college when I was your age, but don't be! You're going to love it! Just remember that wherever you go or whatever you do, God is always with you!”*

# Scott<sup>Henrich</sup>

*He would rather you didn't mention it, but he did have a full-ride Evans Scholarship to the University of Wisconsin. For him, MLC's ministry training was worth more than the money. So now he works to pay for tuition and balances that with a hefty schedule of Hebrew, Greek, Spanish, and philosophy, as well as intercollegiate football, basketball, and tennis. It's a crazy schedule, but he knows what his priorities are.*

Scott Henrich is an ace at hitting the ball—and the books.



**Luther Prep**  
**Atonement-Milwaukee WI**

**Senior in Preseminary Studies**

**Major:** biblical languages

**Emphasis:** Spanish for pastors

**Activities:** football, basketball, tennis, Student Athletic Advisory Committee, Anchor service club, intramurals

**Job:** dormitory RA (resident assistant), library assistant, writing coach in Academic Success Center (all on campus)

**Priority one—the gospel:** I grew up on the island of Antigua in the Caribbean. My preparation here at MLC to go into all the world and make disciples has a special meaning, because I have seen firsthand the urgency of that commission.

**Academics before athletics:** MLC coaches take the concept of student-athlete seriously. Participating in a sport is a huge time commitment, but I've never felt pressured to compromise my studies for the sake of the team.

**Some experience before graduation:** This spring I will be traveling to New York with a couple friends through MLC's Daylight program. We will use the Spanish we've learned at MLC to help our WELS church canvass Latino neighborhoods in preparation for Holy Week. It's a great opportunity to gain some cross-cultural experience.

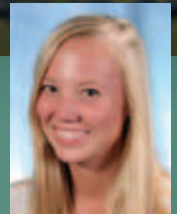
**“Hey, LPS! High school rivalries don't matter in college. A lot of my good friends and teammates now went to Prep's biggest rivals. That being said, beat Lakeside!”**

# Hannah<sup>Mattek</sup>

*A graduate of the largest WELS high school, she was ready to try something even larger, so she went to the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh for nursing. When nursing lost its appeal, she tried an education course. When the course required 50 hours of classroom observation, she chose a third-grade classroom in a Lutheran school. That convinced her: she was transferring to MLC. But what would it be like attending a college with fewer students than her high school?*



Playing soccer introduced Hannah Mattek to her first group of friends after she transferred to MLC.



**Wisconsin LHS**  
**Christ-Pewaukee WI**

**Senior in Education Studies**

**Major:** elementary education

**Activities:** soccer, piano lessons, intramurals

**Job:** elementary school tutor (off campus)

**Good things come in small campuses:** Though MLC might be smaller in size, it makes up for it in dedication and heart! I can still remember the first time I was at chapel. It gave me the shivers—just knowing that we were all here for one purpose, to learn how to better serve God and his kingdom.

**From public university to MLC:** The university was a completely different atmosphere than here at MLC, but I was able to learn a lot about the world and about myself, so I do not have any regrets about starting out there.

**To other possible transfers:** It's ok to come here if you have already started another career. The campus is very friendly, and it's not hard at all to find a nice group of friends.

**“Hey, WISCO: Seniors, have fun and appreciate your last year at WISCO, and ‘Go, Wis House!’”**



# Kate<sup>Wierzbicki</sup>

*Though she's only a first-year, she's found her voice as a Student Senate representative. Whether she keeps serving in that organization or chooses other campus activities, she's got three more years to speak up and be heard. But what really excites her is the prospect of getting a call one day and using that voice to share the love of Christ with children and their families.*



As a member of Senate, Kate Wierzbicki is a proud Knight who helps plan lots of campus activities.

**Kettle Moraine LHS**  
**Peace-Hartford WI**

**First-year in Education Studies**

**Major:** elementary education

**Minor:** secondary communication arts and literature

**Activities:** Student Senate, Chorale, softball, intramurals

**Speaking up in the Senate:** Student Senate is a great way to give a voice to what the students want and to make a difference on MLC's campus. Plus, it's really fun planning and carrying out Homecoming, Winter Carnival, and many more activities.

**Speaking up in her own classroom:** How cool it will be to teach a child to read for the first time! But even more amazing will be telling a child and his family about their Savior, Jesus Christ.

**Speaking up like Mr. Zeamer does:** Mr. Gerald Zeamer, a teacher and admissions counselor at Kettle Moraine Lutheran, inspired me to be a teacher. His passion and love for the Lord and his students is something I wish to have someday when I am working in public ministry.

*“Hey, KML! Shout out to the varsity volleyball team for winning state this year! Great job, ladies! Seniors (you know who you are), I can't wait to see you guys up here next year! It's gonna be a blast!!”*

# Miranda<sup>Maasz</sup>

*Her mom, six aunts, and seven cousins went to college here, and it was always number one on her list. But recently she decided that teaching is not for her. So what is she doing next year? Coming right back to finish her degree at MLC. She says there's just no better place to go to college than here, where she can be with others who love Jesus—and who love volleyball too.*



Miranda Maasz earned first team all-conference honors in volleyball. Last year she was named Conference Rookie of the Year.

**Minnesota Valley LHS**  
**St. John-Sleepy Eye MN**

**Sophomore in Education Studies**

**Major:** educational studies

**Minor:** social studies

**Minor:** coaching

**Activities:** volleyball, Women's Choir, intramurals, piano lessons

**Job:** volleyball referee (off campus)

**Why stay?** MLC has a great atmosphere where everyone reflects their love for Christ in the way they present themselves in the classroom, dorms, and everyday life. Here I am surrounded by Christian teammates, professors, and friends, which is a blessing students often take for granted.

**Bump, set, spike it – that's the way we like it:** Volleyball takes a good portion of my time. At MLC, teammates are family. Everyone plays their heart out for the girl standing next to them. I love the respect and admire the work ethic among all the athletes. What makes MLC volleyball unique is the common goal not only on the volleyball court, but also in sharing the love of Jesus.

**And after graduation:** I am considering pursuing my master's in human services or public relations. Each day I want to focus on taking advantage of the opportunities God presents me to witness my faith and have an impact on the people God places in my path.

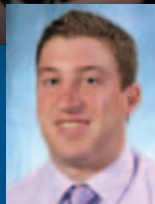
*“Hey MVL! All you athletes, take a second to absorb the MVL gym and the memories made there. Realize what awesome opportunities God has set before you and strive to use the talents he blessed you with to the fullest. Also, don't take your friendships formed at MVL for granted. You don't realize how much you love your friends until after graduation. One more thing: Basketball girls, it's about time the Chargers reclaim their conference title! What do ya say??”*

# Tommy<sup>Stelter</sup>

*As a fifth-year senior and a double major, he's finished his Early Field Experiences, clinicals, and student teaching in two high schools. Now he's student teaching in elementary schools. While working hard at every level, he's learned the most important lesson of all: to have a servant's heart.*



Tommy Stelter spent 10 weeks at West LHS, where he taught PE, health, and religion, and helped coach girls' basketball



**Montello HS-Montello WI**  
**Emmanuel-Montello WI**

**Fifth-year in Education Studies**

**Major:** elementary education

**Major:** secondary physical education

**Minor:** coaching

**Activities:** intramurals

**Job:** basketball coach (off campus)

**Confidence and competence:** My clinicals and Early Field Experiences helped me decide whether teaching was the right career for me. I also student taught at GFW, a public high school in Fairfax, Minnesota, and at West LHS in Plymouth, Minnesota. The positive lessons I learned from the veteran teachers I served under will stick with me for the rest of my life.

**West is the best:** My student teaching at West was absolutely amazing. I learned so much about educating students and leading with a servant's heart. I will always have a special place in my heart for West.

**Special thanks:** Pastor Mark Kolander served as my pastor, teacher, and coach in grade school and high school. His enthusiasm for the Word of God made a profound impact on my life. I would say he is one of the main reasons I am about to graduate and (Lord willing) receive a call into the ministry.

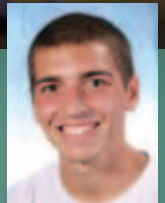
**“Hey, West!** Thank you all for a wonderful student-teaching experience. One of these days I will stop by for a visit. I hope to see that Mr. Bain's 9th grade religion class is still as peppy as ever . . . Principal Meitner's 10th grade religion class still brings energy and excitement to that fateful hour before lunch . . . Mr. Meitner's phy ed classes still do their pre-activity warm-ups without complaint . . . Mrs. Kieffer's 7th hour study hall still gets into heated, constructive debates . . . and the girls' JV and varsity basketball teams finally get Coach Champ to do the prayer wave before each game. God bless you all! Hope to see you soon! Mr. Stelter”

# Caleb<sup>Solofra</sup>

*Like all first-year preseminary students, he's studying Greek, and his junior year he'll start Hebrew. But that's not enough. Since he took two mission trips to the Dominican Republic in high school, he wants to study college Spanish too. Fortunately, MLC has a program for that.*



Caleb Solofra taught vacation Bible school in the Dominican Republic.



**Northland LHS**  
**CrossWalk Lutheran Ministries-AZ**

**First-year in Preseminary Studies**

**Major:** biblical languages

**Emphasis:** Spanish for pastors

**Activities:** Chorale, soccer, intramurals

**Job:** student life assistant (on campus)

**El Evangelio en Español:** In the Dominican Republic I was able to teach a vacation Bible school in Spanish, and I absolutely loved it. This opportunity to spread God's Word in Spanish lit the spark, and I joined the Spanish program for pastors.

**¿Porque un pastor?** I was told by family, friends, and teachers that I had gifts to be in the ministry, and so I thought about being a pastor or teacher. It wasn't an instant answer that came to my head; I was really confused. My dad was the main person who influenced me to become a pastor.

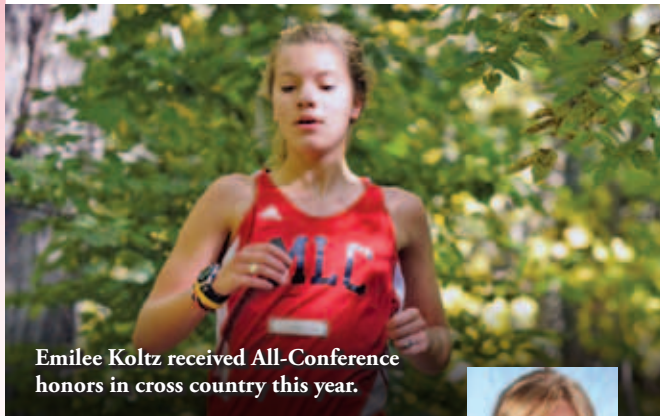
**Papá me ayudó:** I was stressed about completing my ACT, deciding what major I wanted to study, and paying tuition for college. My dad listened to me and gave me helpful advice. He reminded me not to worry but to go to God in prayer.

**“Hey, Northland! Seniors, don't get too stressed as the year winds down! Deciding what to do in college is difficult, but it will all come in time.”**



# Emilee<sup>Koltz</sup>

*A Luther Prep grad, she knew that some simply assumed she would come to MLC. But she explored other colleges and careers, including sports medicine and pediatrics. It was eye-opening, she says, because fair comparisons showed her that MLC really was the best choice. Now she's here, happily running cross country and track, as well as speeding from class to choir to lesson to club, leaving her footprint all over this campus.*



Emilee Koltz received All-Conference honors in cross country this year.



**Luther Preparatory School**  
**St. Matthew-Oconomowoc WI**

**Sophomore in Education Studies**

**Major:** elementary education

**Minor:** secondary communication arts & literature

**Activities:** cross country, track, Chorale, organ lessons, piano lessons, voice lessons, Anchor service club, intramurals

**Job:** Student Ambassador (on campus)

**Running the trails:** I've spent a lot of time running on the hills of New Ulm! Cross country and track have been huge blessings. I meet other runners and grow in faith with them the whole season.

**Running around campus:** MLC's a great place to find out what I'm good at and develop my skill set as I prepare for a life of service to the Lord.

**"Running the race":** At MLC we are constantly encouraged to attend chapel and Bible studies, read devotion books, and pray. I feel like I really have a much stronger connection to my Savior.

**MLC is not Prep 2.0:** College is very different from high school. The word that best describes it is freedom. Managing your faith, time, grades, and social life is left completely in your hands.

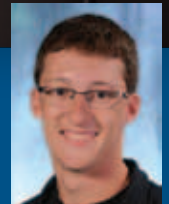
**"Hey, LPS! Keep praying constantly about your future and definitely consider MLC! We never have early bedtimes!"**

# Jesse<sup>Nofftz</sup>

*At the end of his first year at MLC, he had his doubts. He filled out an app for a Wisconsin university and took some time to think. What came to mind were faces: Grandma Krause and Aunt Beth, called servants who loved their jobs; Coach Brad Schaper, who always put his students before himself; and all the teachers who doled out not only math lessons but life lessons. He decided that if he really wanted to make a difference in people's lives, MLC was the college that would teach him how.*



Jesse Nofftz is commissioner of the Knights Referee Association, whose 30 MLC student members ref at 16 public and parochial schools.



**Luther High**  
**Mt. Calvary-La Crosse WI**

**Junior in Education Studies**

**Major:** elementary education

**Major:** secondary social studies education

**Activities:** intramurals

**Job:** Knights Referee Association commissioner

**He wants to serve:** I want a life where I can go to work every day with a smile on my face, because I know that by just being there, the Holy Spirit is working through me. If the Holy Spirit is able to bring just one person to faith in Christ through my actions, then everything I have sacrificed will be worth it.

**Teacher, mentor, fellow servant:** The person I strive to make proud of me is Mr. Brad Schaper at Luther. He's been my teacher, basketball coach, and friend since 5th grade. He always puts his students before himself. He always gives 100% to everything. And he always, always is willing to offer guidance in times of distress. For his influence, I thank our Lord.

**Reffing is serving too:** My position as commissioner of the Knights Referee Association is an exceptional chance for me and my officials to serve our Lord. As basketball referees, we represent our association, our college, and our Savior.

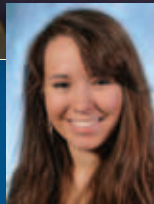
**"Hey, Luther! To the boys' basketball team: Keep working hard, and most importantly, stay TOGETHER. 'For a house divided against itself cannot stand.' To the men of the academic wing, past and present (you know who you are): Thank you for the life lessons and mentorship. You guys show me what it means to love your work. I hope someday that I am privileged enough to serve with men as dedicated as you. To Mrs. Kilmer: Keep an eye on my brothers. They need it."**

# Lauren<sup>Grove</sup>

*She's played several roles on MLC's stage, but her campus résumé includes much more: golf, band and choir, clubs and committees, and a campus job. As a public school grad, she may have come to MLC alone, but it took her about two whole minutes to find friends and fellowship and fun—and many, many ways to develop her gifts to serve.*



Ado Annie in *Oklahoma!* was one of several roles Lauren Grove has played on the MLC stage.



**Century HS-Rochester MN**  
**Resurrection-Rochester MN**

**Junior in Education Studies**

**Major:** elementary education

**Major:** secondary social studies education

**Minor:** math

**Activities:** golf, Forum (drama club), Forum Board treasurer, Aulic, band, College Choir, piano lessons, flute lessons, voice lessons, intramurals

**Job:** RA (resident assistant in dorm)

**A big step:** I came from a public high school of almost 2000 students, so I love the fact that here you're able to know so many more people and create relationships with your professors. And having the opportunity to worship twice a day and discuss your faith openly with your professors and peers is such a blessing.

**A big stage:** Through Forum (drama club), you're able to meet new people, work as a team, grow as an individual, and use your God-given talents to his glory and as a witness tool.

**A big supporter:** My mom would never say she played any role in my coming to MLC, but I heard the stories about her time up here, as well as her encouragement that I would make a great teacher. I can't pinpoint any one moment, but she's a huge inspiration to me. Love you, Mom!

**“Hey, seniors everywhere! Bring stationery! All you have to do is write home or send two sentences to someone and you get mail back! Trust me—it will make your day. Bonus if you get a care package!”**

# Luke<sup>Rosenbaum</sup>

*This California boy isn't afraid of the snow—or the hard work of college. He's double majoring in secondary math and secondary physical education, but he'll graduate in the normal four years because he brought 12 college credits with him. It's just another example of the MTIXE (Mental Toughness – Intensity – Xtra Effort) that Cal Lutheran bred in him.*



Luke Rosenbaum didn't grow up with snow, but he definitely can handle it.



**California LHS**  
**Living Hope-Wildomar CA**

**First-year in Education Studies**

**Major:** secondary math education

**Major:** secondary physical education

**Minor:** coaching

**Activities:** cross country, track, Männerchor, piano lessons, intramurals

**Job:** basketball referee (off campus)

**Advanced Placement = more credits, less money:**

My 12 credits from AP classes could potentially save me a semester of tuition, or at the very least lighten my workload for several semesters.

**Minnesota snow is no match for California swag:**

It does get cold, but you're not outside long, and the snow is a lot of fun! And I wear shorts at least four days a week still.

**What matters isn't climate—it's career and call:**

I chose MLC because I wanted to serve my Lord in the capacity of being a teacher and a coach. Being in Coach Peter's classes and on his teams made me more and more want to come to MLC and do the kinds of things he was doing.

**“Hey, California! C-hawk Pride! . . . MTIXE . . . #caliswag (California Swag = always wear shorts)”**



# Samantha<sup>Barber</sup>

*Her grandfather told her from little on, "You have the heart of a teacher." Those words have echoed in her mind through her four years at MLC—from her introductory courses to her senior year student teaching experiences. Her grandpa's life on earth is over, but she's ready to take over, sharing the love of Jesus with others.*



Samantha Barber has the heart of a teacher.



**Huron Valley LHS**  
**St. John-Westland MI**

**Senior in Education Studies**  
**Major:** elementary education  
**Emphasis:** physical education

**Activities:** piano lessons, baseball manager, Women's Choir, intramurals, Anchor service club

**Job:** dormitory janitor (on campus), babysitting (off campus)

**He saw her as a teacher:** My late grandfather Bill Schaffer was one of my best friends. He taught me some of the most valuable lessons in life, including God's Word. The strong faith he displayed continues to encourage me, and his words continue to speak to me.

**She's seeing herself as a teacher:** Through my Early Field Experiences, clinicals, and student teaching, I have learned what it's like to be a "real" teacher. I've been given immeasurable amounts of encouragement and ideas from the faculties I am blessed to have worked with. I can say that teaching is something I really enjoy.

**MLC is making her a teacher:** MLC gives me the training I need to share the Good News of Jesus with children, and that is ultimately what I want to do for the rest of my life.

**"Hey, Huron Valley! Study hard and have some fun. It goes by quickly, so make sure you take time to slow down and enjoy your life. You do not get a second chance. Go, Hawks!"**

# Ben<sup>Balge</sup>

*Most students want to go away to college, but he decided to enroll right where he grew up, here in New Ulm. Sure, it's because he wants to be a teacher, but truth is, he loves New Ulm. And now that he's in college, it's like everything is new.*



Ben Balge is truly at home at MLC.



**Minnesota Valley LHS**  
**St. Matthew-Milwaukee WI**

**First-year in Education Studies**  
**Major:** elementary education  
**Major:** secondary social studies education

**Activities:** piano lessons, Chorale, intramurals

**Job:** assistant to athletic trainer (on campus)

**Not ashamed to say it:** I love the New Ulm area and the fantastic atmosphere here at the college. I saw how much my older sister, Becca, enjoyed her time at MLC, and that really eased my decision.

**College is different from high school anyway:** The classes are harder and involve much more work, but they are also fewer and far between, compared to high school. The amount of time on your hands is awesome. It's really nice to spend as much time with your friends as you want, when you want.

**And he's different too:** This is probably cliché, but it's entirely true. I feel so much stronger in my faith and my relationship with God now. The biggest difference is chapel twice a day. Chapel brings the student body together on a personal level that other things might not. Nothing is more cool than everyone singing and praying to the same God you are.

**"Hey, MVL! Don't be nervous for college! I remember the decision being overly stressful and confusing, and I made my first couple weeks way more stressful than they had to be. Just relax. Choose a college that you feel would be a good fit for you, and go and make it one. Cut out the worrying and make memories!"**

# Luke<sup>Morrell</sup>

*There was always Saginaw Valley State. It was right next door, and he could've studied sports medicine. After all, sports have always been the center of his life. But something else was also at the center of his life—his faith—and that's what led him 800 miles away from Saginaw to New Ulm, Minnesota, to pursue the teaching ministry.*

Luke Morrell enjoys the challenge of MLC football.



**Michigan Lutheran Seminary**  
**St. Paul-Saginaw MI**

**First-year in Education Studies**

**Major:** elementary education

**Major:** secondary physical education

**Minor:** coaching

**Activities:** football, intramurals, piano lessons

**Why teaching?** I can't think of a better thing to do. Spreading the Word and making an impact on a child's life beats out any other job I can think of.

**A shout-out to Coach Schmugge at MLS:** Prof. Schmugge would have to be my biggest inspiration. He always put the Word at the focal point of anything, and that really got to me.

**College football vs. high school football:** In high school I never worked as hard as I do now. The guys are so much bigger and faster, and it really pushes me to get bigger and stronger so I can continue to compete with them.

**College Luke vs. high school Luke:** I would have to say that I have matured more. Living on my own and having to make my own decisions really shows me where I'm at. If something doesn't go right then I have to look at it and change something.

*“Hey, MLS! To the boys' basketball team—three-time defending conference champs and district and regional champs—make it happen.”*

# Kelly<sup>Hauf</sup>

*In her teens, she told herself she would never go to MLC—it seemed too much like high school. But she completely changed her mind. Maybe it was talks with her sister, who loved her years at MLC. Or the shoulder surgery that ended her college volleyball dreams. Or her dear grandpa, in heaven now, who always encouraged her to share the Word. At some point God answered her prayers and showed her that MLC was the place for her.*

Kelly Hauf says MLC has changed her life.



**Manitowoc LHS**  
**Bethany-Manitowoc WI**

**Junior in Education Studies**

**Major:** elementary education

**Minor:** math

**Activities:** volleyball team manager, Meet Math club, Women's Choir, piano lessons, intramurals

**Job:** JV volleyball coach at area Lutheran high school, RA (resident assistant in dorm), assistant to athletic trainer (on campus)

**She's teaching:** Early Field Experiences (EFE) reminded me how much I enjoy teaching and working with children. They were very uplifting after the tough classes of freshman and sophomore year.

**She's taping:** I'm a student trainer; I tape the athletes' ankles, wrists, etc., and sit on the benches for games with our certified athletic trainer. I love this job. One of my other career choices was athletic training, so I'm getting a bit of that along with my education degree.

**She's being strengthened:** During my stay at MLC I lost two grandparents. I'm sad, but so many Christians here remind me how blessed we are to have our Savior, who gives us eternal life.

**She's being shaped:** Whether I look at my faith-life, career choice, or who I am, I know that MLC has changed my life. God has shaped me to be the person I am today.

*“Hey, Manitowoc! Honestly, don't throw out MLC just because you think it's too much like high school. It is completely different from high school! Once you make new friends, experience campus life, get involved, it is so much more than you ever thought it would be. Give it a shot! You start off with general classes anyways, so why not take the opportunity to grow in your faith.”*

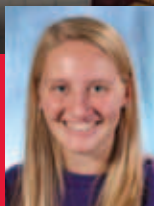


# Leah<sup>Nass</sup>

*She had a track scholarship to Winona State (Minnesota), where she could study education and become a teacher. But she realized that she didn't want to be a teacher who was Lutheran; she wanted to be a Lutheran teacher, which is a completely different thing. So she headed for MLC—with her running shoes, volleyball shoes, and basketball shoes in her bags and Mom's wise words in her back pocket.*



Leah Nass received All-Conference Honorable Mention as a first-year Knight.



**Manitowoc LHS**  
**St. Paul-Howards Grove WI**

**First-year in Education Studies**

**Major:** elementary education

**Major:** secondary physical education

**Minor:** coaching

**Activities:** volleyball, basketball, Dorm Council, Women's Choir, intramurals

**Mom's encouragement:** College is yet another opportunity to "put your big girl pants on." Your parents aren't there to buy you food, do your laundry, or spot you some cash. You're on your own.

**Mr. S's motivation:** My grade 5-6 teacher, Mr. S as he was famously called, unknowingly motivated me to become a teacher. He taught me more than reading, writing, and math. He taught me what it meant to be a Christian role model, to take ownership of my grades, and to take responsibility for my actions. To explain all the valuable lessons Mr. S taught me would require more than a simple paragraph.

**MLC athletics:** Sports keep me in shape, and I look forward to hanging out with the girls I play with. It also assists me with my homework, because I learned time management. It's also a dream of mine to coach a young grade school team someday.

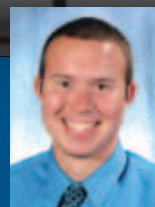
*"Hey, Manitowoc! Freshmen, I don't know many of you, but I hope you're lovin' Manty Lu. I know I did. . . . Sophomores, keep an eye on my sister. . . . Juniors, don't stress too much about college. You have plenty of time to figure it out, and just in case you don't know what to do, God has a plan all laid out for you. . . . Seniors, what I said to the juniors applies to you too, but remember it's senior year. Have fun!"*

# Caleb<sup>Klatt</sup>

*He was never ever going to choose MLC for college. That he was sure of. But then, late in his senior year, he made a campus visit, and—what can he say?—he was impressed. The admissions counselors and students were so excited to talk to him about his possible future at MLC. Now he's here, and he is one of those students who talks to visitors about their possible future at MLC.*



Caleb Klatt is an MLC Student Ambassador whose job is making sure high school students have a great campus visit.



**West LHS**  
**Holy Trinity-New Hope MN**

**Junior in Education Studies**

**Major:** elementary education

**Minor:** math

**Activities:** Forum (set building), Chorale, Meet Math club, intramurals

**Job:** Student Ambassador (on campus)

**Reaching out to students:** I really like my job of Student Ambassador because I know what it's like to not know what you want to do with your life. I want to help make high school students' decision easier in any way possible.

**Reaching out to congregations:** The MLC Daylight program is awesome. I assisted the congregation at Shepherd of the Hills-Knoxville TN. The things you do on Daylight trips really help prepare you for your future in ministry, and there's the joy of helping out a congregation as well.

**Reaching out to the world:** This campus has brought many people into my life. Each has encouraged me in some way, and each one I will be able to spend eternity with. How awesome is that. It makes me want to go out into the world and instill that great feeling in others.

*"Hey, West! I hope to see many new faces here on campus next year. I hope you consider coming to MLC, because it is a great place to start your college career. God's blessings on the rest of your year!"*

# Bailey<sup>Fenske</sup>

*She's the first to say she's not your traditional student. In Texas she attended only public school, and she'd never even heard of MLC. But on a mission trip to Arizona, two young women from Manitowoc, Wisconsin, told her about this college in New Ulm they were heading for, and she was interested. To be surrounded by Christians on a campus focused on God's Word—what could be better?*



Bailey Fenske had never heard of MLC until her junior year in high school.



**McNeil High School-Austin TX**  
**Holy Word-Austin TX**

**Junior in Education Studies**  
**Major:** elementary education

**Activities:** Dorm Council president, intramurals

**Job:** personal care assistant for people with disabilities (off campus)

**Dad and Mom say, "Go!"** My senior year, I visited MLC with my family in the dead of winter. After four days on campus, I fell in love. Everything felt perfect—other than the extremely cold weather!! And my parents were reassured that this was the place for me.

**Grandma says, "Go!"** My grandma was a huge supporter of me attending MLC, and she gave me the courage to move so far away from home to fulfill my dreams. She has guided me in many ways when it comes to my faith, and I am so blessed to have her in my life.

**Holy Word church family says, "Go!"** I'm thankful to Pastor Donald Patterson, Mr. Chad White, and Youth in Christ for inspiring me to work in the public ministry. I also thank the teachers and staff of Holy Word Lutheran School for letting me observe them and learn from their experiences to benefit my future ministry.

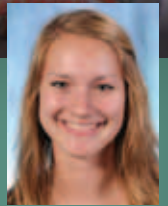
*"Hey, Holy Word! Thank you to the many wonderful people who contributed to the growth of my faith and guidance of my education and career path. You have affected my life in more ways than you will ever know, and I am so blessed and thankful to call you home."*

# Rachel<sup>Nitz</sup>

*She knew she wanted to serve God, but would teaching be the best way to use her gifts? Would teaching elementary school be challenging enough? That's what she asked herself—until she worked in urban ministry last summer and came face to face with the most passionate, intelligent teachers and the most lovable, hardworking kids she'd ever met. This was a challenge that truly inspired her.*



Rachel Nitz worked at St. Marcus last summer through MLS Project Titus.



**Michigan Lutheran Seminary**  
**Good Shepherd-Beaverton MI**

**First-year in Education Studies**

**Major:** elementary education

**Major:** secondary communication arts & literature

**Activities:** Student Senate representative, Centennial Dorm Council secretary, Urban Ministry club, piano lessons, organ lessons

**Job:** grade school tutor (off campus)

**Meeting "elementary" challenges:** I originally wanted to be a secondary ed major. I wanted to be discussing deep things in English class, not telling kids what a noun was. But after working at St. Marcus in Milwaukee last summer, I totally fell in love with the kids and decided to add elementary ed too. I realized that building the foundations of their education is just as important as the upper-level stuff.

**Meeting urban challenges:** At St. Marcus, I found a whole different world. I was so inspired to reach out to all these kids, most of whom have never heard about Jesus. Although urban ministry is a huge challenge, I absolutely fell in love with it. I love seeing kids work so hard and absolutely blow you away when they live up to the crazy high expectations you've set.

**Meeting MLC campus challenges too:** I'm kind of a control freak who likes to lead people, so Student Senate is a great way to do that. I love knowing what's going on. And improving campus to the glory of God while being with great people is a huge blessing.

*"Hey, MLS! If anyone is worried about MLC being restricting and too much like high school, don't. MLC is definitely what you make it. Also, bring every scarf you own and, honestly, a UV lamp couldn't hurt."*



# Stephanie *Rockhoff*

*She applied for a scholarship to another private college and then found herself hoping she wouldn't get it. That's when she realized her first choice really was MLC. Now the next big question: What should be her major? What age level and what subject did she want to teach?*

Stephanie Rockhoff learned that she loved preschoolers when she taught VBS.



**Shoreland LHS  
Friedens-Kenosha WI**

**First-year in Education Studies**  
**Major:** early childhood education

**Activities:** track, intramurals, Women's Choir, piano lessons

**Job:** gymnastics instructor (off campus), tour guide (on campus)



**She made a major decision:** I am an early childhood major, which I didn't decide until a week before I came to school. I taught VBS at my church, and I was in charge of 3-year-olds. I was not thrilled beforehand, because I thought I would handle older kids better, but I ended up loving it.

**She could get an education degree anywhere, right?** MLC is the only place I would go for that, because here I am trained in God's Word.

**She's coming into her own:** I have become more independent. I am still only in my first year of school, but not having my parents around has taught me to deal with problems myself instead of completely relying on them. They are always still there for me, but I have learned to depend on them less.

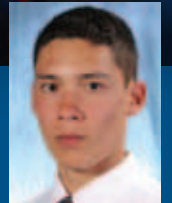
**“Hey, Shoreland! Enjoy your time still in high school. It will fly by.”**

# Thomas *Neider*

*He's a Knight three times over. After a mostly unchurched childhood, he enrolled at Nebraska LHS his sophomore year, becoming a NELHS Knight. At graduation, he joined the Marine Corps—"the knights of modern day," some say—and this year he became an MLC Knight. Talk about service!*



Thomas Neider received a year of Marine Corps training before coming to MLC to study.



**Nebraska LHS  
Bethel-York NE**

**First-year in Preseminary Studies**  
**Major:** biblical languages  
**Emphasis:** Spanish for pastors

**Activities:** football, intramurals

**Job:** Marine Reserve Unit

**Service to God and country:** I enlisted in the Marine Corps and received a year of training as soon as I graduated from high school in 2011. Now I can be in a Reserve Unit near MLC, so I can continue my training as a Knight in service to God here at MLC. If I weren't at MLC, I'd probably be in Okinawa, Japan, right now with the rest of the Marines I graduated with.

**Knights by example:** After only one semester of training at MLC, I have become a better example of Christ's work for my fellow Marines and human beings, and have observed the good examples set by the numerous staff of MLC.

**A motto to live by:** God, country, and corps: We are to serve God first and foremost in whatever we do, even above our service to our country.

**“Hey, NELHS! Thank you, Tutor Brad Krause, for your strong influence on my decision in coming to MLC. You were an outstanding example of discipline, diligence, and wisdom granted by God. To the rest of Nebraska students, you should go to MLC!”**

# MLC Professors *Make a Difference!*

Some say you can judge a college by the quality of its professors. Read what MLC students say about the profs who make their college experiences great.



**Emily Lai** (*Luther Prep*) My choir director and conducting professor, **Dr. Kermit Moldenhauer**, is awesome. He's such a good example of a good Christian music teacher, and I learn something new from him every day.



**Philip Loescher** (*Kettle Moraine LHS*) **Professor Joel Fredrich's** knowledge of the Greek language and culture is outstanding. Many of the students, and even professors, look to him for advice on big doctrinal topics as well as interpretation of certain Greek texts.



**Jennifer Uhlhorn** (*Rocky Mountain LHS*) **Professor Paul Koelpin** made history incredibly interesting. His love of teaching, shown every day, made me more excited to teach.



**Melissa Wolff** (*Winnebago Lutheran Academy*) One professor that has really had a positive impact on me has been **Professor John Nolte**. He is such a friendly guy and tries to really get to know his students inside the classroom and out of it too.



**Tommy Stelter** (*Montello HS-WI*) Teaching Physical Education in the Middle and Secondary Schools, taught by **Professor Jack Gronholz**, focused on how to make physical education all-inclusive in a high school setting. I learned many techniques and lessons that I will certainly use throughout my teaching career.



**Kate Wierzbicki** (*Kettle Moraine LHS*) **Professor Larry Lotito's** class Foundations of Education gave us knowledge of what teaching is like and also what public ministry is like. He opened my eyes to the challenges I will come across in my work but also all the rewards of working in public ministry.



**Amber Flunker** (*Fox Valley LHS*) She's not a professor, but a mama! Mama Riz (**Residence Director Wendy Ristow**) is an angel. She works so hard and does so much good for all of us on campus. She is spunky and warm and encouraging. I've never met anyone who has made me want to know Jesus more than she has. Her life reflects the Savior and all of his goodness, and she plays a very special role in serving God's people here.



**Kirsten Kowitz** (*St. Croix LHS*) **Professor Earl Heidtke** teaches geography, and he is one of the most caring, understanding, and positive teachers I've ever had. He teaches from a religious perspective and has such a cool outlook on life. He also highly encourages traveling to see God's creation. I feel like I could talk to him about anything, and he would be there to help out in any way.



**Hannah Mattek** (*Wisconsin LHS*) The one course and professor that has had the greatest, most positive impact on me was definitely Interpersonal Communication with **Professor Mark Paustian**. That class taught me the importance of relationships and how to interact with others in the best possible way. It helped me to want to be a better and more open person in my life. Professor Paustian is so open in the classroom. You just get a sense that this professor is real, and that he truly cares for each student and has a desire for all of us to succeed in ministry.







**Jesse Nofftz** (*Luther HS*) The professor that has had the biggest impact on me would be my advisor, **Dr. David Schroeder**. He works his students hard and requires what some people might consider “perfection” in our assignments, but he does this because he is preparing us for a lifetime of hard work in the teaching ministry, and because he knows that we are capable of reaching the goals he has for us. He continues to amaze me with his ability to effectively communicate with and motivate us. Dr. Schroeder is a constant reminder to me that my job won’t ever be easy. But it most certainly will be rewarding.



**Rachel Nitz** (*Michigan Lutheran Seminary*) **Professor Roger Klockziem’s** biology course has totally changed my view on science. I would not consider myself a math or science person, but I absolutely love his class. His passion for what he teaches is obvious. Since I took biology in public schools, the fact that we study God’s creation from a biblical viewpoint is such a privilege for me. Seeing his love for Christ shine through is a great example of who I want to be in the classroom. He is also absolutely hilarious, which really helps you stay awake when you’re running on three hours of sleep.



**Emilee Koltz** (*Luther Prep*) I have developed such a respect for **Professor Jim Pope**. He gives us real-life examples from his ministry and applies them so accurately to the portion of Scripture we are studying that week. It’s helped me understand that the ministry can be difficult at times, but we always have God on our side.



**Caleb Solofra** (*Northland LHS*) The Spanish professor here at MLC is definitely one that brings excitement to my day. “Profe” (**Professor Paul Bases**) is humorous in class and gets everyone involved. His love for the Latin American culture can be clearly seen. If I ever have a bad day or seem heaped with homework, Spanish class always gets my spirits up.



**Leah Nass** (*Manitowoc LHS*) **Professor David Sellnow** (we call him Chives) is so approachable and keeps shaking class up with his various teaching styles. Also, as a personal lover of history, I appreciate that he presents history as more than just facts. It’s so much more intricate. I’ve learned that it’s ok to pick a side in history, and I love that.



**Stephanie Rockhoff** (*Shoreland LHS*) **Professor Mark Tacke** was a great teacher. He made physics understandable and fun to learn.



**Bailey Fenske** (*McNeil HS-Texas*) My first religion course was Biblical History and Literature with **Pastor John Boeder**, and I was extremely nervous. Pastor Boeder took away all my fears on the first day of class and was an amazing professor. I learned so much in his class and will never forget the experience. It opened my eyes to spending more personal time in God’s Word, and for that I am so thankful.



**... a home away from home ... a place where I am surrounded by my brothers and sisters in Christ.**

Leah Nass *Manitowoc LHS*

**... life-changing and eye-opening.**

Bailey Fenske *McNeil HS-Austin TX*

**... a small campus with a big heart.**

Elizabeth Dorn *Luther HS*

**... a place where you can live your faith while strengthening it in the presence of your eternal family.**

Caleb Klatt *West LHS*

**... not what I expected. It is more work, but more worthwhile than I imagined!**

Jennifer Uhlhorn *Rocky Mountain LHS*

**... as good as I make it. It all depends on my attitude and what I am willing to put into it.**

Scott Henrich *Luther Prep*

**... a blessing. I know everyone says that, but it's true. Focusing on God's Word every day and in everything is such a miraculous thing to think of.**

Luke Morrell *Michigan Lutheran Seminary*

**... a place where people from all over the world come together in the same faith to become teachers or pastors.**

Rachel Trimmer *Great Plains LHS*

**... a great place to begin your "post-high school" lives with fellow Christians.**

Tommy Stelter *Montello HS-WI*

**... a special place. There really isn't any other place like it.**

Jessica Eternick *Lakeside LHS*



**... a close-knit family of believers working to serve God through their careers and lives.**

Kirsten Kowitz *St. Croix LHS*

**... all about the atmosphere. The people are nice, the campus is beautiful, and the events are fun.**

Ben Balge *Minnesota Valley LHS*

**... my school, and I am proud of it.**

Luke Rosenbaum *California LHS*

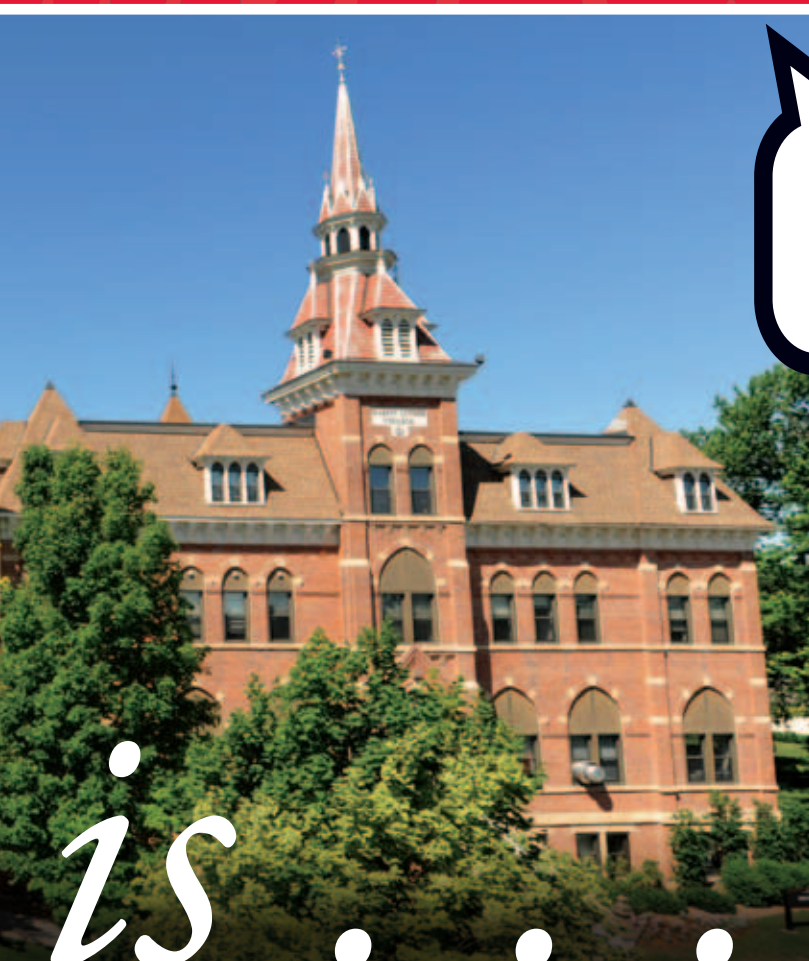
**... my second family. When I am at home, I miss my MLC family. As a first-year student, I never would have dreamed that I would feel this way, but I do. I love my MLC family.**

Samantha Barber *Huron Valley LHS*

**... a stepping stone to the life I someday want to live.**

Jesse Nofftz *Luther High*





... I'm not sure what MLC is to me yet,  
but I do know that I have never had a  
deeper relationship with my Jesus.

*Amber Flunker Fox Valley LHS*

... a place to find out what I'm good at and  
develop my skill set for my future ... a place  
to form relationships with fellow brothers and  
sisters of the faith ... a place to prepare for a  
lifetime of service to the Lord!

*Emilee Koltz Luther Prep*

... a place where you're encouraged in so  
many ways by your professors and your peers.  
Even when you leave, you still maintain  
connections that can be your support and  
encouragement in your life and ministry.

*Lauren Grove Century HS-MN*

... the best place to be! I know that God has  
led me here for a reason!

*Jordan Uhlhorn Arizona Lutheran Academy*

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**KnightWatch** is published by Martin Luther College and is intended to inform, inspire, and motivate young people who are considering enrolling at MLC to prepare for public ministry in the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod.

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