

# IN FOCUS

MARTIN LUTHER COLLEGE

YEAR IN REVIEW 2017-2018

## In This Issue...

### THE HOLY ORDINARY

25 Years of Staff Ministry Program

2017-2018 Morning, Noon, & Knight

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# THE HOLY ORDINARY



By President Mark Zarling WLS '80

At my stage in life, I no longer need an alarm. Don't get me wrong. I always set it, hoping beyond hope I'll need it to wake me up. Yet advanced years seem to bring advanced wake-up times. So the real issue now is remembering to turn off the alarm before it startles me in the midst of my early morning routine.

What's your routine like for the day? Mine includes some wonderful blessings. That glorious first cup of coffee. The freedom to read from Scripture—unhurried and unafraid of arrest for possession of “subversive material.” A hot shower. A closet full of clothes. Ok, some are out of style, and some can't work for an out-of-shape owner, but I have more choices than most of the world can fathom.

Some routines bring spiritual blessings. Greeting numerous faculty and staff members, brothers and sisters in the faith who are united by the Spirit in *one Lord, one faith, one baptism*. Gathering with hundreds of fellow Christians in a stunning chapel whose art and architecture proclaim *the one thing needed*, complementing the gospel proclamation. Walking with another generation of sons and daughters of the King, Christians who have submitted themselves to the Word of life and are preparing to take that life-giving Word to souls in need of Jesus. Seeing these young Christians excel in academics and drama and athletics and the arts. How marvelous the visible sermons that compose my daily routine as I watch so many students *do it all to the glory of God, giving thanks to the Father through Jesus Christ*.

My routine includes a Christian wife and family who pray for me and for my ministry. And a quiet place with a comfortable mattress to seek a night of peaceful sleep—all after the comfort of asking, “If I should die before I wake, I pray the Lord my soul to take, and this I ask for Jesus' sake. Amen.”

Professor Paul Wendland from our dear seminary in Mequon uses the phrase “the holy ordinary.” That's the spark that ignited this note, and I thank him. As we present to you another issue of the *InFocus Year in Review*, think of the “holy ordinary,” the blessings in the routine. Another year of God's amazing grace in our midst: grace revealed in the free proclamation of the gospel in chapel and classroom and dorm. Another year of God's amazing grace in the lives of our students, raised up by the Spirit to ponder and pursue a lifetime of gospel service.

I pray that the Lord preserve these students in their future ministries, so that they too may enjoy many years of these “routine” blessings. To God be the glory. *Because of the LORD's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.*

## On our cover:

The crucifer, or cross-bearer, carries the processional cross to begin a worship service at Chapel of the Christ.

MLC *InFocus* is published by Martin Luther College Mission Advancement Office and is distributed free of charge to students, faculty, staff, alumni, parents, and friends. Comments are welcomed and should be directed to [gaugerlf@mlc-wels.edu](mailto:gaugerlf@mlc-wels.edu) or Laurie Gauger, MLC *InFocus*, 1995 Luther Court, New Ulm MN 56073.

The mission of MLC is to train a corps of Christian witnesses who are qualified to meet the ministry needs of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod.



All *InFocus* magazines are online at [mlc-wels.edu/publications](http://mlc-wels.edu/publications). If you'd like to receive your magazine electronically ONLY, please let us know. Contact Tami at [boardtl@mlc-wels.edu](mailto:boardtl@mlc-wels.edu).

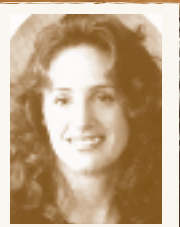
The alumni photos at the bottom of the pages are from the anniversary classes of MLC, NWC, and DMLC: '43, '48, '53, '58, '63, '68, '73, '78, '83, '88, '93, '98, '03, '08, and '13. Thanks to Alumni Director Steve Balza DMLC '93, who provided this random selection of alumni.





## WORSHIP AT CHAPEL OF THE CHRIST

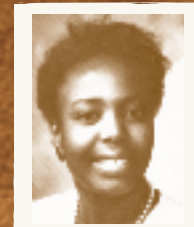
Twice a day the campus family make their way into Chapel of the Christ. We may rise for a processional with crucifer and candles, and then partake of the Sacrament, or we may sit quietly for a simple psalm and sermon. We may hear the Word from a seasoned preacher or from a first-time preseminary student. Our singing might be bolstered by choirs and instruments of all kinds, or rendered in exquisite a cappella harmony. Because of its regularity, one might call MLC worship an ordinary part of the day. But it's so much more. It's one facet of the *holy* ordinary here on the hill. **1** *Worship processional in Chapel of the Christ.* **2** *Chapel of the Christ.* **3** *Women's Choir.* **4** *Students at chapel.* **5** *Jonah Backus and the Conquerors, a contemporary worship band at MLC.*



**Margo Wendt**  
MLC 1998  
North Tonawanda NY

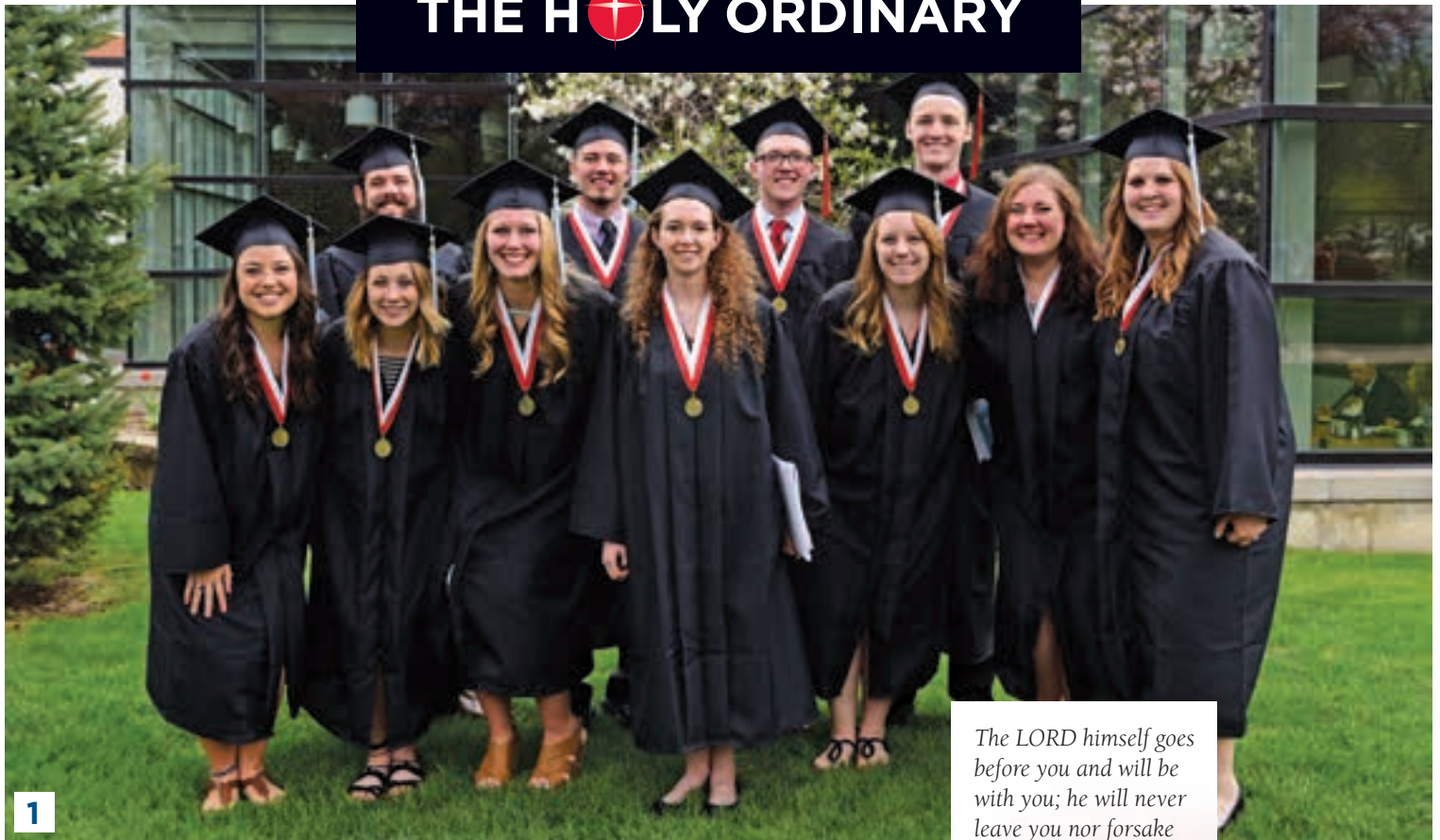


**Scott Henrich**  
MLC 2013  
Milwaukee WI



**Tracy Jarvis**  
DMLC 1988  
Tyrells Liberta, Antigua





*The LORD himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged.*  
Deuteronomy 31:8



## COMMENCEMENT

Every college holds commencement. MLC's commencement, however, centers not on the graduates, but on the holy God who brought them to that day.

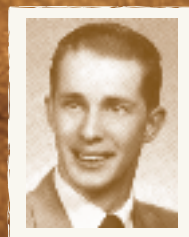
At MLC's commencement, our graduates receive their diplomas with deep gratitude—to the Lord of the Church and to the family, friends, and faculty who supported them on the journey. They also know there are strangers to thank—WELS members they've never met who hold the public ministry of the gospel worthy of their prayers and their financial support. **1** 2018 MLC graduates from Michigan Lutheran Seminary. **2** Prof. Paul Koelpin, Dr. Jeff Wiechman, President Mark Zarling. **3** Garrett Buch. **4** Heidi Nielsen. **5** President Zarling. **6** Sarah Melcher.



**John Dorn**  
NWC 1978  
Winona MN



**Lucy Templeton**  
MLC 2003  
LeSueur MN



**Dale Kammuehler**  
DMLC 1958  
St. Paul MN



**Katrina Barnier**  
MLC 2013  
Clayton MI





1



2



3



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## CALL DAY

Graduates at other colleges would consider it extraordinary. To sit in a gymnasium on their graduation day and listen as someone calmly tells them—and everyone else—what their first “job” will be. But graduates of (Dr.) Martin Luther College and Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary know how this works. They’ve written “Call Day” on their spring calendars for more than a century.

They understand they’re dedicating their lives to the church, and they’re ready to serve wherever they’re assigned. On pages 20-25, you’ll see where the Conference of Presidents and their advisors prayerfully decided to place our graduates. Right here you’ll see what happened when those assignments were announced. It’s far from ordinary. **1** Eric and Hannah Uher. **2** Danielle Hall. **3** Elizabeth Duff. **4** Santiago Botero.



**George Rausch**  
DMLC 1963  
Rawson OH



**Khrista Petrie**  
MLC 2003  
Ottawa, Ontario,  
Canada



**Edward Schuppe**  
NWC 1973  
Fond du Lac WI



**Jayne Schwab**  
DMLC 1983  
Kawkawlin MI





## STRIVING FOR EXCELLENCE 2018 MLC Senior Award Winners

(back)

**Ethan Schultz** (Trinity-Waukesha WI)

Knight Scholar-Athlete Award  
Jerome Kruse Knight Award for Athletic Achievement  
MLC Leading Preseminary Scholar

**Evan Arrowsmith** (Trinity-Bay City MI)

Student Body President Recognition

**Joel Prange** (St. John-Burlington WI)

MLC Via Veritas Vita Award

**Carl Boeder** (St. John-New Ulm MN)

MLC Fine Arts Award

**Stanley Draper** (St. Paul-New Ulm MN)

Brooks Scholarship

(front)

**Kira Grev** (Divinity-St. Paul)

Knight Scholar-Athlete Award  
UMAC Scholar-Athlete Leadership Award  
Jerome Kruse Knight Award for Athletic Achievement

**Elizabeth Duff** (Crown of Life-West St. Paul)

MLC Leading Education Scholar

**Danielle Hall** (Living Water-Oshkosh WI)

MLC Service Award



## Athletics: First Team All-UMAC 2017-2018

**Ben Bitter**

(St. John-Milwaukee)

Cross Country,  
Track & Field

**Ryan Gurgel**

(Christ Alone-Thiensville WI)

Cross Country

**Justin Wilkens**

(Bethlehem-Manassas VA)

Cross Country

**Nate Graumann**

(Bethany-Fort

Atkinson WI, pictured)

Soccer

**Sarah Kell**

(Christ-Zumbrota MN)

Soccer

**Kira Grev**

(Divinity-St. Paul)

Volleyball

**Jade St. Germaine**

(St. Mark-Watertown WI)

Volleyball

**Audrey Timm**

(St. John-Tomah WI)

Softball

**Joshuah Kren**

(Trinity-Waukesha WI)

Track & Field

**Anna Hemmelman**

(Trinity-Goodview MN)

Tennis

**Rachel Riediger**

(Christ-West Salem WI)

Tennis

**Matthew Baehman**

(Trinity-Neenah WI)

Baseball



**Archie  
Broitsman**  
NWC 1948  
La Crosse WI



**Margaret  
Oswald**  
DMLC 1968  
Clayton MO



**Ernie  
Schultz**  
NWC 1988  
West Bend WI



**Rachel  
Duncan**  
MLC 2008  
Nicollet MN



## STRIVING FOR EXCELLENCE

### 2018 NWC Alumni Society President Grant Winners

**Nicolas Gartner** (St. John-Redwood Falls MN)  
Robert J. Voss Grant for Student Life

**Joshua Koelpin** (St. John-New Ulm MN)  
Adam Martin Grant for Living Languages (Spanish)

**Christian Arnold** (St. Paul-Oconto Falls WI)  
August F. Ernst Grant for Confessional Languages  
(German, Latin)

**Jacob Ungemach** (First German-Manitowoc WI)  
Lewis O. Thompson Grant for Worship and Music

**Benjamin Kieta** (Peace-Livonia MI)  
Carleton Toppe Grant for GPA and Religion

**Christian Willick** (St. John-Wauwatosa WI)  
August F. Ernst Grant for Confessional Languages  
(German)

**Matthew Zeng** (New Life-Shoreview MN)  
Robert J. Voss Grant for Student Government

**Jeremiah Wallander** (Eternal Love-Appleton WI)  
John A. Braun Grant for Leadership

**Joel Hopper** (Trinity-Waukesha WI)  
E.E. Kowalke Grant for Biblical Languages

## Music: Recitalists 2017-2018

**Zach Scharlemann**  
(St. Paul-New Ulm MN)  
Voice, Instrument

**Raquel Freese**  
(Abiding Word-Houston)  
Voice

**Joseph Loescher**  
(David's Star-Jackson WI)  
Voice

**Heidi Kruger**  
(St. Paul-Wonewoc WI)  
Voice

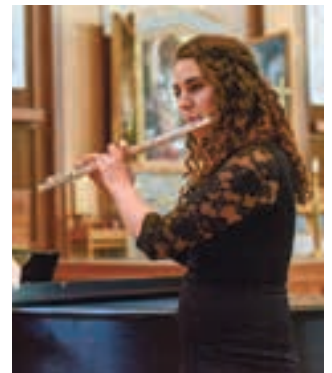
**Hannah Cook**  
(Christ-West Salem WI)  
Piano

**Rachel Winter**  
(Immanuel-Manitowoc WI)  
Oboe

**Elsie Koutia**  
(Cross of Glory-  
Peoria AZ, pictured)  
Flute

**Emily Schmidt**  
(Crown of Life-  
Hubertus WI)  
Oboe

**Tara Winecke**  
(Lincoln Heights-  
Des Moines IA)  
French Horn



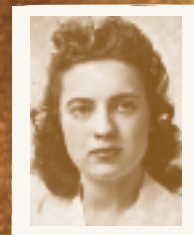
**Henry  
Engelhardt**  
DMLC 1938  
Elgin ND



**Joann  
Martin**  
DMLC 1978  
Midland MI



**David  
Warskow**  
NWC 1993  
Phoenix AZ



**Violet  
Stechmann**  
DMLC 1943  
New Ulm MN



# THE HOLY ORDINARY



1



2



3

## SERVICE

**1 Daylight:** For MLC students, service is as ordinary as water—which is what these students handed out at the church booth they staffed at a Christmas Expo in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Staffing the booth was just one of many services the students offered Living Hope LC during their Daylight ministry trip over Christmas break.

This summer the service continues. Daylight trips will take 85 students to 30+ congregations and ministries in 17 states.

**2 A Night with the Knights:** As the MLC volleyball team heads to a Wisconsin tournament each fall, they leave a day early to offer a free clinic to seventh and eighth graders at a Lutheran high school on the way. This year's clinic, *pictured*, was at Luther High.

**3 Knight Basketball Academy:** MLC basketball players helped run the Knight Basketball Academy, where some 65 high school players learned the finer points of the game.

"Our program is unique," said Coach **Dan Gawrisch '08**, "in that most of our students will have the opportunity to be a coach. I wanted to strengthen their passion for the coaching ministry, give them more experience, and help them realize they're not just another player on a college roster, but they're my future colleagues in the coaching ministry."



**Roger  
Dallmann**  
NWC 1963  
New Ulm MN



**Kathy  
Schoen**  
DMLC 1978  
Green Bay WI



**Philip  
Paustian**  
NWC 1983  
Watertown WI



**Trudy  
Hoeft**  
DMLC 1988  
Saline MI



# THE HOLY ORDINARY



4



7



5



6

## SERVICE

**4 United at the U:** MLC students partnered with WELS students at the University of Minnesota for an Easter outreach event. The students prepared and handed out 2,000 Easter eggs that contained an invitation to Easter worship at WELS True North Campus Ministry.

**5 SAAC Special Event:** The Student Athletic Advisory Committee (SAAC) coordinated a Special Olympics kickball game on campus. The college students lent their support with lots of signs, cheering, high-fives, and autograph signing.

**6 Anchored in Service:** MLC's student service organization, Anchor, facilitated some great events again this year.

Students enjoyed dancing, games, and cake balls at the fancy gala, *Night on the Town* (pictured)—all to raise money for an MLC student whose Virgin Islands home was swamped by a hurricane.

Fundraising was the goal of *Harvest Hoedown* as well, an autumn costume party complete with bobbing for apples and carving pumpkins.

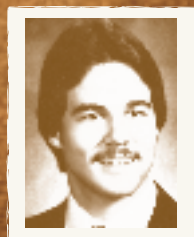
**7** Anchor also makes weekly nursing home visits to play games or sing with residents. And they participate in community events as well—like *New Ulm Day of Caring* (pictured), where they did fall yardwork for senior citizens.



**Robert  
Wolf**  
DMLC 1948  
Truman MN



**Michelle  
Engelbrecht**  
MLC 1998  
Yorkville IL



**Jeff  
Luplow**  
NWC 1983  
Saginaw MI



**Jacquelyn  
Colletta**  
MLC 2008  
San Jose CA

# 25 YEARS of Meeting Ministry



## *An Interview with Dr. Lawrence Olson WLS '83*

*Since 1993, two years before the amalgamation of Northwestern College and Dr. Martin Luther College, Dr. Lawrence*

*Olson has been directing the Staff Ministry Program on this campus. He agreed to tell InFocus readers more about how this important program began and how it continues to serve WELS congregations.*

### **Tell us about the beginnings of the Staff Ministry Program.**

The seeds of the program began to grow during the late 1970s and early 1980s when congregations began to identify ministry needs and opportunities that required additional called workers, but did not exactly match the profile of a pastor or classroom teacher. In response, committees appointed by three WELS leadership groups—the Conference of Presidents and what are now the Congregational Ministry Support Group and the Board for Ministerial Education—studied “additional forms of ministry.”

Representatives from those three groups formed a fourth committee that brought a proposal to the 1991 Synod Convention recommending the establishment of the Staff Ministry Program.

They cited three major points as rationale: congregations were calling and considering such positions; there was an increased need for specialized help in congregations;

and decency and order required theological training and certification for those kinds of positions.

I received the call to develop and direct the program in late 1992 and began that work in early 1993.

### **How has the program changed over the years?**

We’ve made a few minor changes to the program over the last 25 years, but no major overhauls. That’s likely due to the way we developed the curriculum. We gathered almost all the individuals serving in staff ministry positions to capture what they were doing in ministry and to identify with them the knowledge, skills, and traits necessary for those responsibilities. In other words, our program in practical theology was, from the beginning, not a top-down theoretical approach but a grassroots, ministry-based approach grounded in actual practice.

Staff ministers serve in five different areas: evangelism, youth and family ministry, parish education (outside of the Lutheran elementary school), member care (mostly one-on-one ministry, such as visitation and counseling), and administration.

MLC’s Staff Ministry Program takes a generalist approach: Candidates are certified as staff ministers, not for specific positions such as evangelist or youth minister. All students, therefore, take a common core of courses in those five areas. They’re also encouraged to add a second major to their program, either parish music or one of our teacher education programs.





# Needs Through Staff Ministry

## How is this program a blessing for the synod?

Many congregations continue to identify the need for specialized help that already was evident 25 years ago. That need may be in retaining young people who are drifting away from the congregation, reaching out to our unchurched friends and neighbors, coordinating members' volunteer service, directing the church's educational program, assisting in administrative tasks, or some other need or combination of needs.

Especially when we face a shortage of pastors, staff ministers can assist pastors by meeting those needs.

## What are your goals for the future of the program?

My most significant goal is to help create a wider understanding of staff ministry, especially in how that form of ministry compares to that of the pastor.

Staff ministers do not receive the depth of training pastors do in biblical theology, systematic theology, and historical theology. That's appropriate, since staff ministers don't serve as the "bishop" or "theologian-in-residence" of a local congregation.

Staff ministers receive training in practical theology, which equips them to serve under and with pastors as "ministry specialists."

Perhaps the analogy of physicians and physician assistants can help. A PA is not a doctor, and PA training is not as broad and deep as the training doctors receive in medical school and residencies. However, PAs do possess the academic knowledge and clinical skills to provide health care services under the direction and supervision of a doctor.

The relationship between staff ministers and pastors is similar. In some ways, it follows the pattern of Levites working with the priests in the Old Testament and of deacons working with the pastors, or elders/overseers, in the New Testament.

## After 25 years of administering this unique and important program, what do you pray for?

My prayer is that the awareness of how staff ministers are trained and what they are equipped to do will continue to grow as we all—pastors, staff ministers, teachers, and lay members—work together in carrying out the ministry work our Lord has entrusted to us.

## Staff Ministry Courses at Martin Luther College

- Theology and Practice of Ministry
- Biblical Interpretation
- Intro to Youth and Family Ministry
- Foundations of Evangelism
- Congregational Assimilation and Retention
- Parish Education
- Caring and Counseling
- Parish Visitation
- Organization and Administration in the Parish
- Developing and Training Leadership
- Early Field Experience I, II, & III
- One-Semester Internship



# 25 YEARS of Meeting Ministry



## **Staff Minister Kristen Koepsell**

Cross of Christ-Boise, Idaho

*In 2003, Kristen Koepsell was finishing her degree in psychology, with minors in theology and communication, at Wisconsin Lutheran College. Her goal? To be a Christian counselor. But God had other plans.*

Over Christmas break, in January 2003, I received a divine call from St. Andrew Lutheran Church in Middleton, Wisconsin, to serve as their staff minister for worship. Their district president had approved adding my name to their call list based on my significant involvement with worship at WLC.

Could I do that? Turns out, yes, I could. My role was placed under the authority and supervision of the pastor. St. Andrew would also provide funding for me to pursue staff ministry certification at MLC.

As staff minister for worship, I coordinated, supervised, and directed all aspects of the worship ministry: music, primarily; but also hospitality (ushers, greeters, and nursery); visual arts; altar care; and audio-visual tech. I collaborated with our pastor on unique liturgies, music choices, and questions of worship philosophy and style. We maintained a second worship site for a few years. I mentored volunteers, maintained our music library and copyright compliance, assisted with budgeting, and kept

track of things like Advent candles, pew pencils, and that one black cloth to drape over the cross on Good Friday.

Nine years later, in 2012, God sent me another staff ministry call, which I accepted, to Cross of Christ Lutheran Church in Boise, Idaho, as coordinator of music ministry and elementary education/fellowship. I assist the pastors in expanding our musical horizons through songs from various sources and styles, accompany worship on piano and organ, direct the adult choir, and involve and mentor musicians of all ages. I administer Sunday school, which is our main youth education program, by recruiting, training, and supporting staff; encouraging family participation; and leading the kids in music. I developed a program of monthly fun and faith-related activities for grades K-2 and 3-5, which are interspersed with family activities throughout the year and larger events like Christmas for Kids, Easter for Kids, and vacation Bible school. And now, despite being single, I have nearly 80 kids I love dearly.

Sometimes you don't know where you're supposed to be until you get there. Staff ministry was not on my radar until God put it there. I thank God almost daily for where he has put me, past and present, because it is always right where I am supposed to be.



# Needs Through Staff Ministry

## Staff Minister Daniel Kock '15

Grace-Crivitz, Wisconsin

I get to share Jesus with kids in many different ways, including Wednesday school, teen Bible study, and outreach events. God has blessed our ministry and has connected many families to God's Word and to our church family.



## Staff Minister Matthew Werner

Grace-Oshkosh, Wisconsin

*Matthew Werner always wanted to serve the church. The question was, as a teacher or a pastor? Then, as a high school student at Camp Phillip, he learned about staff ministry. Question answered.*

I am currently serving as a staff minister at Grace Lutheran Church in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. I was called to serve the homebound members of Grace, to minister to the youth, and to coordinate fellowship opportunities. I work alongside the pastors and principal as part of the senior leadership team. My ministry is always changing to fit the needs of the congregation and school.

**Visitation Ministry:** A joy in my ministry is visiting homebound members. A portion of these visits is certainly social; I hear many different stories, stories about the history of the congregation or what it was like to work at the local dump. But the driving factor behind all of these visits is means-of-grace ministry. It's refreshing to visit Christian brothers and sisters who yearn for the gospel. It's humbling to hear such gratitude for such a simple service.

**Youth Ministry:** The congregation's dedication to Christian education has shaped the way my talents are used on a daily basis. I spend 2-10 hours a week engaging with the students of Grace Lutheran School—from catechism class to the playing

field and many places in between. Coaching is one of the ministry surprises I've experienced. I had no idea I'd be coaching soccer and basketball, but for the past four years that's exactly what I've done. Coaching is a unique opportunity to help young athletes apply the Word of God.

**Fellowship Ministry:** C.S. Lewis wrote, "Is any pleasure on earth as great as a circle of Christian friends by a fire?" At Grace, I'd replace the word *fire* with *meal*, maybe even *potluck*. Lenten meals bring together Christians from all age groups. The bus arrives from WLA, the disabled taxi service pulls up to church, and adults scramble to make it to church from their jobs. The cafeteria is overflowing with people from every generation. Most evenings during Lent, I leave church with my face hurting from smiling so much.

I am blessed to call staff ministry my job. Every day God uses me to proclaim his message. On a given day, I may proclaim Christ's love and forgiveness to a 10-year-old who's crying under a coat rack because she feels overwhelmed with guilt, and then a few hours later share the Lord's Supper with a 90-year-old lady who desires nothing more than to be in heaven with her Lord.

## Staff Minister Stephen Pankow '15

St. Paul/First-North Hollywood, California

My favorite question is "What do you do?" My answer varies, depending on the day and time of the year. I start each day by greeting students with high-fives and handshakes. I teach religion classes in our grade school; counsel kids, teens, and adults; coach football and soccer; lead seminars and workshops; write devotions and Bible studies; and visit shut-ins. On the technology side, I design print media, manage social media, and edit and produce audio and video. I also help young people with enrollment at California LHS and Martin Luther College, and help new members find their place in our ministry.

All of these are just the tip of the iceberg! At the end of the day, my response is pretty easy: "I get to tell people about Jesus." I just get to do it in about a hundred different ways.







## Graduate Studies

### *Congratulations to the 30 Master of Science graduates in the class of 2018!*

Of these 30, 29 earned their master's degree in education. The other, **Rendell Koepfel** DMLC '81, MLC '18, has the special honor of earning the first Master of Science in Educational Administration degree. Rendy, who teaches at St. Paul/First-North Hollywood, California, graduated in absentia.

**Karen Broring** (Rochester MN)

**Jared Christensen** (St. James MN)

**Joycelyn Christmas-John** (St. John's, Antigua)

**Eric Fillner** (Caledonia WI)

**Kari Fuerstenberg** (Carleton MI)

**Adam Glodowski** (Kiel WI)

**Adam Igl** (Fox Lake WI)

**Rendell Koepfel\*** (North Hollywood CA)

**Theodore Klug** (Tacoma WA)

**Calista Leistikow\*** (Campbellsport WI)

**Joyce Lendt** (Nicollet MN)

**Amanda Lewig** (Hillpoint WI)

**Angela Livingston** (Kewaskum WI)

**James Livingston** (Kewaskum WI)

**Adam Mateske** (Kaukauna WI)

**Dane Mattes** (Brillion WI)

**Richard Muchka** (Morrison WI)

**Jonathan Niemi** (Watertown SD)

**Gretl Quan** (Tianjin, China)

**Neil Schlieve** (Westland MI)

**Nathan Schultz** (Hartford WI)

**Lynn Sellnow** (Grand Rapids MI)

**Mark Thiesfeldt** (Tampa FL)

**Rachel Timmermann** (Otsego MI)

**Nolan Valus\*** (Montrose MN)

**Andrea Van Sice** (Huntersville NC)

**Darren Vogt** (Whiteriver AZ)

**Amanda Weinrich** (Neenah WI)

**Joycelyn Williams Green** (St. John's, Antigua)

**David Wilson** (Manitowoc WI)

\*In absentia

**NEW** AT MARTIN LUTHER COLLEGE



## MASTER OF ARTS IN THEOLOGICAL STUDIES

*for teachers and staff ministers*

- Graduate-level study of Scripture with applications to life and ministry
- Taught by 13 theologians from WELS / ELS colleges and seminaries
- All courses online
- Designed for those who have completed a college degree and college-level biblical studies

### FALL 2018 COURSES:

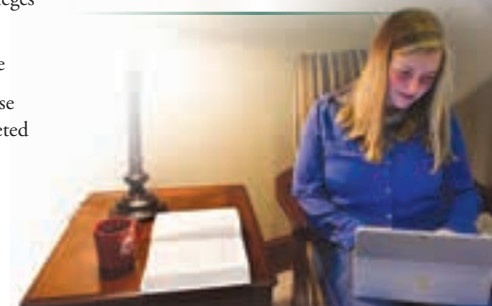
**Foundations of Ministry** Dr. Lawrence Olson

**Creation Apologetics** Dr. Ryan MacPherson

### SPRING 2019 COURSES:

**New Testament Theology** Dr. Michael Smith

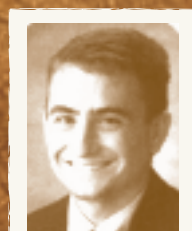
**Adult Christian Education** Dr. Paul Steinberg



**James Brohn**  
DMLC 1993  
South Haven MI



**Mara Thompson**  
DMLC 1973  
Davenport IA



**Justin Vanderhoof**  
MLC 2003  
Appleton WI



**Ione Strege**  
DMLC 1948  
Watertown SD



# Continuing Education

## Revamped WELS Teaching Ministry Certification

The WELS Teaching Ministry Certification program is for licensed teachers who belong to WELS and would like to teach in WELS schools, but who have not yet received ministry training.

MLC is happy to facilitate this program under the authority of the WELS Conference of Presidents (COP). The COP has initiated several changes to this program, effective August 1, 2018:

**Fewer Credits:** They've reduced the curriculum requirement from 24 credits to 18.

**More Theological Application:** They've revamped the online theology courses to improve participant experience—adding more opportunities for application and exploration of participants' questions.

**More Flexibility:** They're offering more courses each fall and spring semester to help teachers finish the program faster.

**Test-Out Option:** Soon, they'll allow participants to demonstrate mastery of biblical knowledge through testing.

The COP urges teachers who are not yet ministry-certified to begin the program soon. Enrolled participants who want to switch to the new program should contact the Office of Teaching Ministry Certification at MLC: [teachingministrycert@mlc-wels.edu](mailto:teachingministrycert@mlc-wels.edu) or 507.354.8221.

See more information at

[mlc-wels.edu/ministry-certification](http://mlc-wels.edu/ministry-certification)

*"Having grown up attending WELS schools, I had a solid foundation with Bible study and catechism studies. Certification courses helped me realize that foundations beg to be built upon. Certification professors guided me through more complex and nuanced understandings of familiar content. I also gained important practical classroom skills and philosophical explorations that have shaped my teaching ministry deeply."*

**Jason Jaspersen**

*Art Teacher, Minnesota Valley LHS  
Graduate of Bethany Lutheran College*



**Ervin  
Walz**  
DMLC 1943  
Java SD



**Anita  
Kutz**  
DMLC 1943  
Oakfield WI



**Loren  
Lucht**  
NWC 1973  
West Allis WI



**Tabitha  
Hahm**  
MLC 1998  
Los Alamos NM



## AUGUST

**Four Times the Charm** sings the National Anthem for the Brewers / Twins game at WELS Night at Miller Park (Milwaukee).



### **Lutheran College Conference:**

MLC hosts the faculties of Wisconsin Lutheran College and Bethany Lutheran College. President **Mark Zarling** WLS '80 welcomes WLC President **Dan Johnson** and BLC President **Gene Pfeifer**, both DMLC grads, '88 and '81, respectively.



## SEPTEMBER

**Lacrosse** is offered as a PE course for the first time in fall '17.



### **Clean & Jerk:**

Coach Stephen Pearson trains students (*pictured*) in Olympic weightlifting. At age 65, Coach is still winning competitions!



## OCTOBER

**Reformation 500:** It's all Luther all the time!



**Reformation from the Roof:** A student brass group rings out "A Mighty Fortress" at dawn from the rooftop.



## YEAR IN REVIEW

# 2017 -



## NOVEMBER

**Forum stages Camelot.** The season also includes *The Six Shooter*, *The Crucible*, and *Cinderella and the Substitute Fairy Godmother*.



## DECEMBER

**Christmas at MLC** warms December hearts. And yes, choirs still sing "O Jesus Christ, Thy Manger Is."

**Eight Lutheran high schools** compete at the MLC Tip-Off Tournament.





## JANUARY

**Evangelism Day** brings Pastor Jon Enter and about 40 more speakers to MLC to inform and inspire students about sharing the gospel.



**MLC's Winter Carnival Talent Show** runs circles around other talent shows.



## FEBRUARY

**Suit 'em up.** Treasure Haus offers free suits to all MLC men.



**MLC and WLC students** met at Camp Phillip for a weekend of Bible study and winter fun.



## MARCH

**College Choir** sings their way down the East Coast, stopping at Fort McHenry along the way.



**Italy and Southeast Asia** are just two student destinations over Spring Break. Some went to study. Some went to serve. It's all part of ministry training.



# - 2018

## APRIL

**Historic April blizzards:**

Yes, that's plural. And did we mention thundersnow?



**Dr. Gottfried Hermann** of the Evangelisch-Lutherische Freikirche delivers a Reformation lecture.



**Newbery Award-winning author Avi** speaks on campus.



## MAY

**Wind Symphony** tours Minnesota and Wisconsin the week after commencement. Grade schools enjoy "demonstration concerts."



## JUNE

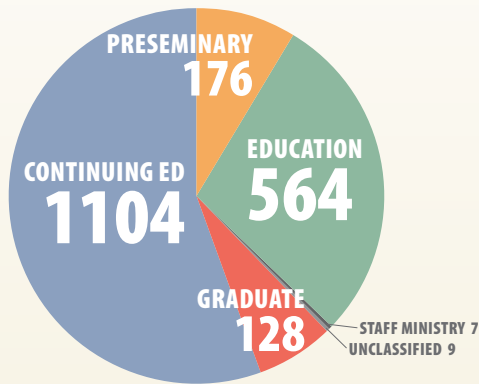
**Luther Lands Tour:** A group of 96 alumni and friends celebrate the Reformation in a big way.



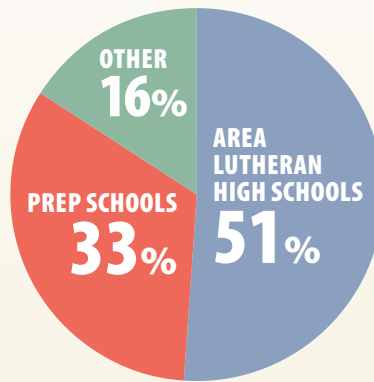


# 2017-2018 MORNING,

## ENROLLMENT: 1988



## UNDERGRAD STUDENTS BY HIGH SCHOOL



## OUR FIRST-YEARS

**40** High Schools  
**21** States  
**4** Countries

**3.46** Average HS GPA  
**24.3** Average ACT

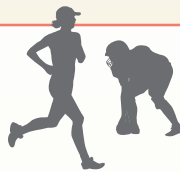


## TUITION, ROOM & BOARD

**2016** Tuition \$13,980  
**2017** Room & Board \$5,510  
**2017** Total \$19,490

**2017** Tuition \$14,680  
**2018** Room & Board \$5,790  
**2018** Total \$20,470

**2018** Tuition \$15,410  
**2019** Room & Board \$6,080  
**2019** Total \$21,490



## ATHLETICS

**1/3** Play NCAA D3 athletics  
**3/5** Play intramurals

**9 of 16**

D3 UMAC sports where MLC led in team GPA

**3.82** women's volleyball  
**3.78** women's cross country  
**3.75** women's tennis  
**3.73** women's soccer  
**3.72** men's tennis  
**3.69** women's softball  
**3.60** women's basketball  
**3.35** men's soccer  
**3.34** men's baseball

Rev. July 2018

## EMERGENCY TEACHERS

**6** Seniors filled emergency calls

## MUSIC

**1/2** Students took piano or organ lessons



**1/20** Played in wind symphony

**1/3** Sang in a choir

**1/7** Participated in fall musical

## FINANCIAL AID

**\$2.2** Million institutional aid given



**95%** Students received scholarships, grants, loans, and/or work-study funds from MLC



## RESIDENTIAL LIFE

**4** Residence halls **98%** Students live on campus

**35+** Students compelled to live in New Ulm homes next year due to campus housing shortage

## VISITING LUTHER LANDS



**96** Alumni tour participants

## RECRUITMENT

### ON CAMPUS

**730** HS students attended Focus on Ministry weekends on campus

### OFF CAMPUS

**1,000s** HS students visited by admissions counselors

## CONGREGATIONAL PARTNER GRANT PROGRAM

**\$400,000** Awarded

**242** Students receiving grants

**146** Participating congregations



# NOON, & KNIGHT

## GRADUATES

DEC 2017 **13** Education

MAY 2018 **109** Education  
**36** Preseminary  
**30** Master of Science

Note: 23 graduates (14 education & 9 preseminary) have opted to teach abroad following graduation

## DAYLIGHT MINISTRY ASSISTANCE

**81** Students participated  
**38** Congregations received assistance  
**17** States & territories served



Strategic Plan Goal:

**100%** MLC student participation in Daylight

## MLC 2017-18 "BEST COLLEGE FOR YOUR MONEY"

### BACHELOR OF ART & SCIENCE

**#1** in Minnesota Best College for Your Money



**#3** in America Best Value



## STAFF MINISTRY



25-Year anniversary of program

## CONTINUING ED

**1104** Participants (mostly called workers) served

**114** Courses (on campus, online, and on location)

## GRADUATE STUDIES

**13** Years in existence

**3** Degrees offered

- MS-Education (instruction, leadership, special ed, and ed tech emphases)
- MS-Educational Administration (principal & EC director tracks)
- MA-Theological Studies

**115** Degrees granted

**128** Students

**40** Courses

**41** Professors (10 MLC & 31 adjunct)



## MASTER OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION

**#1** in America Best Value



**#3** in America Most Affordable



## NCAA SPOTLIGHT

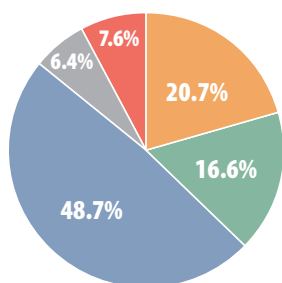
**1** 2018 UMAC Female Scholar-Athlete Leadership Award – given to MLC volleyball player Kira Grev

**4** Seasons Kira won First Team All-UMAC and Academic All-UMAC honors

**1,000+** Kills and hits by Kira



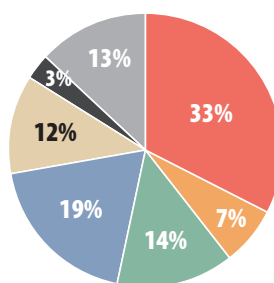
## WHERE DOES THE MONEY COME FROM?



FY 2016-2017\*

Synod support (WELS/MLC)	20.7%
Gifts and bequests	16.6%
Tuition	48.7%
Government student aid	6.4%
Other	7.6%

## WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO?



FY 2016-2017\*

Instruction	33%
Instructional Support	7%
Student Services	14%
Environmental Services	19%
General and Administrative	12%
Mission Advancement	3%
Auxiliary Enterprises	13%

**TOTAL BUDGET = \$20 MILLION**

\*2017-2018 figures not yet available.



# MLC AND WLS GRADUATES

## ARIZONA-CALIFORNIA DISTRICT

Jacob Andersen (Cedar Rapids IA) to **Emmaus LS-Phoenix**: gr 5-6, AD

Allison Bovee (New Ulm MN) to **Apostles LS-San Jose CA**: gr 1

Dean Ellis (Cape Town, South Africa) to **Crown of Life LC-Inland Empire CA**: associate pastor

Tessa Heiling (Redwood Falls MN) to **California LHS**: dorm supervisor, instructor (one-year assignment)

Timothy Leistekow (Bend OR) to **Grace LC-San Carlos AZ / Peridot LC-Peridot AZ**: pastor

Kyle Melso (Brookfield WI) to **California LHS**: dorm supervisor, Spanish, coaching (reassigned second year)

Leah Nass (Manitowoc WI) to **California LHS**: dorm supervisor, instructor (reassigned second year)

Jessie Stibb (Princeton WI) to **Shepherd of the Hills LPS-Las Vegas**: ECE director apprentice (one-year assignment)

Bryan Walkley (Onalaska WI) to **California LHS**: dorm supervisor, instructor (one-year assignment)

Michael Wilde (Stratford WI) to **Grace LS-Glendale AZ**: K, organ

Sara Willems (Mount Pleasant WI) to **California LHS**: dorm supervisor, instructor (reassigned second year)

## DAKOTA-MONTANA DISTRICT

Elizabeth Duff (St Paul) to **St Martin LS-Watertown SD**: upper grades, departmentalized (one-year assignment)

Gina Radue (Waukesha WI) to **Great Plains LHS**: dorm supervisor, math (reassigned second year)

Noah Willitz (Wausau WI) to **Living Savior LC-Missoula MT**: pastor

## MICHIGAN DISTRICT

Christa Backhaus (Tomah WI) to **St Paul LS-Columbus OH**: gr 3-4

Julius Buelow (Carthage MO) to **St Paul LC-Saginaw MI**: associate pastor

Ross Chartrand (Manassas VA) to **Michigan Lutheran Seminary**: tutor (reassigned second year)

Hannah Cook (West Salem WI) to **Zion LS-Chesaning MI**: gr 2-4, organ

Rachel Frost (Appleton WI) to **Ascension LPS-Macomb Township MI**: ECE director apprentice (one-year assignment)

Nathan Guhl (Jackson WI) to **Michigan LHS**: dorm supervisor, science (one-year assignment)

Lillian Herber (Linwood MI) to **St John LS-Westland MI**: gr 3-5

Elizabeth Jeske (Milwaukee) to **Michigan Lutheran Seminary**: tutor (reassigned third year)

Philip Loescher (Jackson WI) to **Crown of Life LC-Cadillac MI**: pastor

Aaron Luedtke (Troutville VA) to **St John LS-Pigeon MI**: all grades (reassigned fourth year)

Alyssa Maertz (Watertown SD) to **Michigan Lutheran Seminary**: tutor (reassigned second year)

Micah Plocher (Vassar MI) to **Michigan Lutheran Seminary**: tutor (one-year assignment)

Megan Rabbers (Stevensville MI) to **Bethany LPS-Saginaw MI**: ECE director apprentice (reassigned second year)

Haley Roske (Willmar MN) to **Huron Valley LHS**: English

Caleb Schmiede (Madison WI) to **Michigan Lutheran Seminary**: recruiter (one-year assignment)

Garrett Schoch (Merrill WI) to **St Paul LS-Columbus MI**: gr 5-6, organ, AD

Aaron Schrimpf (Zumbrota MN) to **Michigan District**: associate pastor with district president (one-year assignment)

Aaron Schwartz (La Crosse WI) to **Peace LS-Livonia MI**: gr 7-8, principal apprentice (assignment made permanent)

Magdalen Schwartz (La Crosse WI) to **Peace LS-Livonia MI**: K (assignment made permanent)

Matthew Stob (Star Prairie WI) to **St John LS-Hemlock MI**: gr 5-8 (one-year assignment)

Katherine Van Alstine (Howards Grove WI) to **Michigan Lutheran Seminary**: instructor (one-year assignment)

Paul Wilde (March Rapids WI) to **Salem LC-Owosso MI**: associate pastor

Hannah Zabel (Fond du Lac WI) to **Michigan LHS**: dorm supervisor, social studies (reassigned third year)

## MINNESOTA DISTRICT

Dakota Brown (Prior Lake MN) to **Little Lambs Learning Center-Duluth MN**: ECE

Grey Davis (Lake Mills WI) to **St Croix LA**: dorm supervisor, social studies (reassigned third year)



Duane Tomhave  
NWC 1958  
Mankato MN



Eleanor Hookstead  
DMLC 1948  
Milton WI



Matthew Zimpelmann  
MLC 1998  
Eagle River WI



Molly Schumann  
MLC 2003  
Prior Lake MN

# Assigned to Your District

Thomas Gorzalski (Appleton WI) to **Minnesota District**: associate pastor with district president (one-year assignment)

Kali Gross (Oconomowoc WI) to **Samuel LS-Marshall MN**: ECE director apprentice (assignment made permanent)

Karlie Habermann (Manitowoc WI) to **The Shepherd's Lamb Child Care Center-New Hope MN**: ECE teacher, assistant director (assignment made permanent)

Eric Hahn (New Ulm MN) to **Salem LS-Loretto MN**: gr 5-6, AD

Melissa Koenig (De Pere WI) to **St Mark LS-Bemidji MN**: gr K-2

Paul Koester (West Allis WI) to **Martin Luther College**: tutor (one-year assignment)

Karl Kuschel (Mukwonago WI) to **St Croix LA**: dorm supervisor, math (one-year assignment)

Heidi Nielsen (Golden Valley MN) to **Little Lambs Learning Center-Danube MN**: ECE

Stephanie Rockhoff (Kenosha WI) to **St John LS-Sleepy Eye MN**: K4, K, ECE director apprentice (one-year assignment)

Marah Schneider (Schertz TX) to **Mt Olive LS-Delano MN**: gr 6-8 (one-year assignment)

Sarah Schulte (La Valle WI) to **St Croix LA**: middle school language arts (one-year assignment)

Caitlin Smith (Westland MI) to **St John LS-Red Wing MN**: PK, K (assignment made permanent)

Paul Spaude (Antigo WI) to **Martin Luther College**: tutor (reassigned second year)

Emily Unke (Las Vegas) to **Martin Luther College**: admissions counselor (one-year assignment)

Zachary Unke (Howards Grove WI) to **Trinity LS-Belle Plaine MN**: gr 5-6, music (one-year assignment)

Benjamin Zamzow (Antigo WI) to **St Mark LC-Bemidji MN**: pastor

Jason Zuehlke (Oconomowoc WI) to **Shepherd of the Lakes LC-Fairmont MN**: pastor

## NEBRASKA DISTRICT

Ethan Doble (Ortonville MI) to **Zion LS-Valentine NE**: principal apprentice, gr 4-8 (one-year assignment)

Taylor Eastin (Westland MI) to **St Mark Little Lions PS-Salina KS**: ECE director apprentice (one-year assignment)

Megan Fury (Houston) to **Hope Lutheran Early Learning Center-Manhattan KS**: ECE director apprentice (one-year assignment)

Abigail Hemmelman (New Ulm MN) to **Zion LS-Denver**: gr 6-8

Chandra Lange (West Allis WI) to **Prince of Peace LS-Salt Lake City**: K-2

Seth Lange (New Ulm MN) to **Prince of Peace LS-Salt Lake City**: gr 3-5

Holly Marquardt (Guntur, India) to **Nebraska LHS**: dorm supervisor (one-year assignment)

Nicholas Mount (Mukwonago WI) to **Grace LC-Geneva NE / Trinity LC-Grafton NE**: pastor

Benjamin Olsen (Spooner WI) to **Nebraska LHS**: dorm supervisor, Spanish (reassigned second year)

Douglas Peavy (Muskego WI) to **Trinity LS-Hoskins NE**: upper grades

Emma Plocher (Garden Grove CA) to **Zion LS-Valentine NE**: K-3 (one-year assignment)

Martin Santos (Seattle) to **Nebraska LHS**: dorm supervisor, instructor (one-year assignment)

Nathan Scharf (New Ulm MN) to **Shepherd of the Valley LS-Westminster CO**: principal

Megan Schoch (Merrill WI) to **Nebraska LHS**: dorm supervisor, instructor (one-year assignment)

## NORTH ATLANTIC DISTRICT

Katie Henzi (Brillion WI) to **Lambs of Grace Child Development Center-Charlotte NC**: ECE (one-year assignment)

Caleb Schultz (Ottawa, Ontario, Canada) to **Cross of Life LC-Mississauga, Ontario, Canada**: pastor

## NORTHERN WISCONSIN DISTRICT

Abigail Bosin (Greenville WI) to **Manitowoc LHS**: Spanish

Allan Caldwell-Boeder (Manitowoc WI) to **St Mark LS-Green Bay WI**: gr 5 (one-year assignment)

Meryl Fenske (Norfolk NE) to **Trinity LS-Kaukauna WI**: ECE director apprentice (assignment made permanent)



Dennis Halvarson  
NWC 1968  
Minneapolis MN



Janice Kuester  
DMLC 1948  
Chaseburg WI



Jonathan Laabs  
MLC 2008  
Kiel WI



Faith Scheer  
DMLC 1993  
Lenexa KS



# MLC AND WLS GRADUATES

## NORTHERN WISCONSIN DISTRICT

Danielle Hall (Oshkosh WI) to **Zion LS-Rhineland WI**: K

Stephanie Johnson (Cleveland WI) to **Peace LS-Green Lake WI**: gr 3-4

Brittany Krause (Hortonville WI) to **Grace LS-Oshkosh WI**: ECE (one-year assignment)

Aaron Kristopeit (South Milwaukee WI) to **St Peter LC-Weyauwega WI**: associate pastor

Victoria Lober (Juneau WI) to **Trinity LS-Kaukauna WI**: K (one-year assignment)

Nathan Meitner (Appleton WI) to **Manitowoc LHS**: social studies

Rachel Naumann (Morton Grove IL) to **St John LS-Montello WI**: K-1

Wolf Parsons (Box Elder SD) to **Divine Savior LC-Shawano WI**: pastor

Kimberly Rehbaum (Watertown WI) to **Zion LS-Egg Harbor WI**: ECE

Kenneth Rodrigue (Clifton Park NY) to **Grace LC-Sugar Bush WI**: pastor

Bethany Waldschmidt (Greenfield WI) to **St Paul LS-Algoma WI**: ECE director apprentice (assignment made permanent)

Nathan Wordell (Kenosha WI) to **Northern Wisconsin District**: associate pastor with district president (one-year assignment)

## PACIFIC NORTHWEST DISTRICT

Elizabeth Henning (Kewaskum WI) to **Holy Trinity LS-Des Moines WA**: upper grades, departmentalized, AD (one-year assignment)

Travis Kretsch (New Ulm MN) to **Immanuel LS-Salem OR**: upper grades, departmentalized PE, AD, coaching (one-year assignment)

Heidi Kruger (Mauston WI) to **Faith LS-Anchorage AK**: K

Megan Lemke (Jefferson WI) to **Grace LS-Portland OR**: gr 4-5, AD

Cale Mead (Wonewoc WI) to **Christ LC-Juneau AK**: pastor

Heidi Moldenhauer (Manitowoc WI) to **Faith LS-Tacoma WA**: gr 5-6, AD, coaching

Benjamin Phelps (Plymouth WI) to **Grace LC-Kenai AK**: pastor

Vincent West-Hallwas (Beach Park IL) to **Christ the King LS-Bremerton WA**: gr 5-6, principal training program (one-year assignment)

## SOUTH ATLANTIC DISTRICT

Luke Dorn (Lewiston MN) to **St Paul LS-Beverly Hills FL**: gr 4, coaching

Jason Dutcher (Wood Lake MN) to **Good Shepherd LA-Deltona FL**: gr 4

Nathan Hablewitz (West Allis WI) to **New Hope LA-West Melbourne FL**: gr 3-4

Scott Henrich (St John's-Antigua) to **Shepherd of the Hills LC-Knoxville TN**: pastor

Erik Janke (Watertown SD) to **Risen Savior LC-Pooler GA**: pastor, shared-time ministry

Aaron Markgraf (Cincinnati) to **St Paul LS-Beverly Hills FL**: gr 7-8, principal training program (reassigned second year)

Hannah Markgraf (Fond du Lac WI) to **St Paul LS-Beverly Hills FL**: lower grades (reassigned second year)

Julia Marshall (Mishicot WI) to **Divine Savior Academy-Doral FL**: gr 3 (assignment made permanent)

Justin Marshall (Dickinson TX) to **Divine Savior Academy-Doral FL**: gr 5 (assignment made permanent)

Emily Neeb (Gilbert AZ) to **Abiding Peace Academy-Simpsonville SC**: ECE

Ruth Nottling (Fox Lake WI) to **Divine Savior Academy-Doral FL**: gr 1

Rebecca Olson (Dousman WI) to **Ascension LS-Sarasota FL**: gr 5-8 (one-year assignment)

Zachary Peterson (Watertown SD) to **Divine Savior Academy-Doral FL**: middle school math & religion

Mackenzie Rothfuss (Bay City MI) to **Divine Savior Academy-Doral FL**: middle school math & English (assignment made permanent)

Robert Schmidt (Janesville WI) to **Divine Savior Academy-Doral FL**: gr 4

Joel Sonntag (Milwaukee) to **Good Shepherd LA-Deltona FL**: gr 6-8, principal training program (reassigned second year)



Charles  
Enter  
DMLC 1978  
Nicollet MN



Arlyn  
Boll  
DMLC 1958  
Winona MN



Kurt  
Wittmershaus  
DMLC 1988  
Bangor WI



Colleen  
Prendota  
DMLC 1983  
Batavia IL

# Assigned to Your District

## SOUTH CENTRAL DISTRICT

Elizabeth Bergemann (Sussex WI) to **Grace LA-Lowell AR**: gr 1-4

Alec Bergmann (Slinger WI) to **Divine Savior Academy-Sienna Plantation TX**: gr 5, principal training program (one-year assignment)

Benjamin Melott (Delano MN) to **Grace LA-Lowell AR**: gr 5-8

Rachel Riediger (West Salem WI) to **Divine Savior Academy-Sienna Plantation TX**: gr 3-4

David Strucely (Dallas) to **Atonement LC-Plano TX**: pastor

## SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN DISTRICT

Carlene Braun (New London WI) to **Bethlehem LS-Menomonee Falls WI**: gr 3 (assignment made permanent)

Garrett Buch (Manitowoc WI) to **Trinity LS-Waukesha WI**: upper grade social studies, AD (one-year assignment)

Andrew Carter (Round Rock TX) to **Grace LC-Milwaukee**: minister of discipleship

Shannon Eggers (West Bend WI) to **Lord and Savior LS-Crystal Lake IL**: gr 5-8 (reassigned second year)

Nicole Gawel (Milwaukee) to **Christ/St Peter LS-Milwaukee**: gr 1 (one-year assignment)

Jeni Heiden (Mequon WI) to **Good Shepherd LS-West Bend WI**: gr 4K-3 English, math

Nathan Hensler (Freeland MI) to **Zion LS-South Milwaukee**: gr 6-7, AD

Julie Kent (Milwaukee) to **Risen Savior LS-Milwaukee**: ECE (one-year assignment)

Lindsay Knight (West Bend WI) to **Wisconsin LHS**: science (assignment made permanent)

Elizabeth Knox (Glendale WI) to **Christ Alone LS-Thiensville WI**: gr 3-4 (one-year assignment)

Sarah Krueger (Round Rock TX) to **Trinity LS-Waukesha WI**: gr 5, gr 5-8 music & technology (reassigned second year)

Jacob Lash (Racine WI) to **Illinois LHS**: math

Hope Loescher (Sun Prairie WI) to **Peace LS-Hartford WI**: gr 5 (reassigned second year)

Elizabeth Mantz (West Bend WI) to **Christ the Lord LS-Brookfield WI**: gr 3-4

Sarah Melcher (Johnson Creek WI) to **Kettle Moraine LHS**: English, math, science (one-year assignment)

Mary Meyer (New Ulm MN) to **St Marcus LS-Milwaukee**: gr 4-8, departmentalized language arts & math

Alana Mittelstadt (Lake Elmo MN) to **Loving Shepherd LS-Milwaukee**: gr 3-4, organ (one-year assignment)

Erin Plocher (Phoenix) to **Word of Life LS-Milwaukee**: gr 1-2 (one-year assignment)

Keely Prekop (Lake Geneva WI) to **Loving Shepherd LS-Milwaukee**: ECE director apprentice (reassigned second year)

Sarah Proeber (Billings MT) to **Kettle Moraine LHS**: health, world literature, PE (one-year assignment)

Monica Rehberger (Appleton WI) to **St John LS-Libertyville IL**: gr 1-2, organ

David Roekle (Racine WI) to **Good Shepherd LS-Downers Grove IL**: principal apprentice (assignment made permanent)

Sarah Schroeder (Lake Mills WI) to **Bethlehem LS-Menomonee Falls WI**: gr 4 (reassigned second year)

William Schubert (Winnebago IL) to **Heritage LC-Lindenhurst IL**: pastor

Russell Scoggins (Austin TX) to **Oasis Youth Center-Racine/Kenosha WI**: pastor

Kaylee Swanson (Two Rivers WI) to **St Lucas LS-Milwaukee**: gr 7, language arts (reassigned second year)

Kelsie Tupper (Minocqua WI) to **Trusting Hearts Learning Center-Palos Heights IL**: ECE director apprentice (one-year assignment)

Raine Vrable (Bay City MI) to **Christ/St Peter LS-Milwaukee**: gr 7 (one-year assignment)

Lydia Wassermann (La Crosse WI) to **Mt Calvary LS-Waukesha WI**: gr 1 (one-year assignment)

Rebecca Wilkens (Germantown WI) to **Zion LS-Hartland WI**: gr 3-4 (one-year assignment)

Miriam Willitz (Frankenmuth MI) to **St Paul LS-Franklin WI**: gr 1, youth choir (one-year assignment)

Amber Zoellner (Mankato MN) to **St Lucas LS-Milwaukee**: gr 6, STEM middle grades (assignment made permanent)



Wayne Schmidt  
DMLC 1948  
Fond du Lac WI



Susan Koellen  
DMLC 1958  
Bay City MI



Marshall Milbrath  
MLC 2008  
Owosso MI



Otto Bauer  
NWC 1943  
Echo MN



# MLC AND WLS GRADUATES

## WESTERN WISCONSIN DISTRICT

**Tarah Beduze** (Boise ID) to **Key to Life Christian Childcare-Weston WI:** ECE director apprentice (assignment made permanent)

**Annalies Brander** (Picture Butte, Alberta, Canada) to **St Paul LS-Wonewoc WI:** ECE (one-year assignment)

**Samuel Crass** (Watertown WI) to **Luther Preparatory School:** tutor (reassigned for second year)

**Kelli Doell** (Appleton WI) to **Luther Preparatory School:** tutor (one-year assignment)

**Andrew Ewings** (De Forest WI) to **Resurrection LC-Verona/Monroe WI:** associate pastor

**Benjamin Ewings** (De Forest WI) to **Luther Preparatory School:** instructor (reassigned third year)

**Rachel Haugly** (Fond du Lac WI) to **St Paul LS-Wisconsin Rapids WI:** K

**Joel Hering** (Rowlett TX) to **Luther Preparatory School:** tutor (one-year assignment)

**Joshua Jensen** (Ixonia WI) to **Luther Preparatory School:** tutor (reassigned second year)

**Emma Hirsch** (Manhattan KS) to **Luther Preparatory School:** tutor (reassigned second year)

**Lucas Krogmann** (Iron Ridge WI) to **Luther Preparatory School:** music instructor (reassigned second year)

**Joshua Mose** (Iron Ridge WI) to **St Mark LS-Watertown WI:** gr 3, principal training program (reassigned third year)

**Emily Muir** (Watertown WI) to **Luther Preparatory School:** tutor (one-year assignment)

**SiKyung Oh** (Seoul, South Korea) to **Westside Christian School-Middleton WI:** gr 1-2, music

**Lucas Proeber** (Saginaw MI) to **St Paul LC-Wisconsin Rapids WI:** associate pastor

**Luke Rothe** (New Berlin WI) to **Luther Preparatory School:** tutor (reassigned second year)

**Emma Schultz** (Elkhorn WI) to **Luther Preparatory School:** tutor (one-year assignment)

**Megan Stein** (New Ulm MN) to **St John LS-Jefferson WI:** gr 7-8 (one-year assignment)

**Wesley Towne** (Bay City MI) to **Mt Calvary/Grace LS-La Crosse WI:** departmentalized middle & upper grades, technology

**Andrew Tramp** (Green Bay WI) to **St John-Baraboo WI:** staff minister (one-year assignment)

**Eric Uher** (Waukesha WI) to **Peace LS-Sun Prairie WI:** gr 6, technology, coaching

**Hannah Uher** (Milwaukee) to **Lakeside LHS:** science

**Ashley Urbanek** (Bangor WI) to **St John LS-Neillsville WI:** gr 3-5, music

**Joshua VonDeylen** (Friendswood TX) to **Luther Preparatory School:** tutor (one-year assignment)

**Jonathan Witte** (Fond du Lac WI) to **Luther HS:** high school and federation grade school band director



**Paul Hoversten**  
MLC 2013  
Litchfield Park AZ



**Christine Schuppenhauer**  
DMLC 1973  
Milwaukee WI



**Armin Panning**  
NWC 1953  
Gibbon MN



**Helen Groth**  
DMLC 1953  
Wauwatosa WI



# Assigned to Your District

## HOME & WORLD MISSIONS

**Santiago Botero** (Bogotá, Colombia) to **Metro Los Angeles**: evangelist (one-year assignment)

**Tassia-Channel Clement** (Corinthe Estate, Gros Islet, St Lucia) to **Grace LS-Grand Anse, Grenada**: teacher mentor

**Eric Dorn** (Crete IL) to **St John LS-St John's, Antigua & Barbuda**: gr 3 (one-year assignment)

**Aimee Duncan** (Mechanicville NY) to **St John LS-St John's, Antigua & Barbuda**: gr 5 (reassigned second year)

**Peter Janke** (Watertown SD) to **East Asia**: missionary (assignment made permanent)

**Josiah Nommensen** (Cudahy WI) to **Grace LS-Grand Anse, Grenada**: gr TBD (one-year assignment)

**Elise Rosenbaum** (St Joseph MI) to **St John LS-St John's, Antigua & Barbuda**: gr 1 (one-year assignment)

## INTERNATIONAL SITES CHOSEN BY GRADUATES

**Joshua Busch** (Rapid City SD) to **Southeast Asia**

**Madeline Helwig** (Mequon WI) to **Southeast Asia**

**Samuel Helwig** (Richfield WI) to **Southeast Asia**

**Sarah Kell** (Zumbrota MN) to **Southeast Asia**

**Caleb King** (Lomira WI) to **Chile**

**Caroline Madson** (Acworth GA) to **Dominican Republic**

**Erich Osterman** (Milwaukee) to **Southeast Asia**

**Zachary Satorius** (Annandale VA) to **Peru**

**Jacob Schlomer** (Helenville WI) to **Ecuador**

**Mikala Schmitz** (Fort Atkinson WI) to **Dominican Republic**

**Morgan Schnose** (Dearborn MI) to **Southeast Asia**

**Michael Schoenfeld** (Lake Mills WI) to **Southeast Asia**

**Sarah Schoenfeld** (Fort Atkinson WI) to **Southeast Asia**

**Laura Schoenherr** (New Ulm MN) to **Southeast Asia**

**Kylah Schroeder** (Modesto CA) to **Southeast Asia**

**Ethan Schultz** (Waukesha WI) to **Southeast Asia**

**Justin Steinke** (San Antonio TX) to **Southeast Asia**

**David Young** (Oconomowoc WI) to **Ecuador**

**Jason Zweifel** (Lake Mills WI) to **Ecuador**

\*Additional calls and assignments may have been made since this list went to press. For the fully updated list, go to [mlc-wels.edu/assignments](http://mlc-wels.edu/assignments) and [wls.wels.net/about-wels/assignment-list](http://wls.wels.net/about-wels/assignment-list)

### KEY:

AD – Athletic Director

ECE – Early Childhood Education

LA – Lutheran Academy

LC – Lutheran Church

LPS – Lutheran Preschool

LS – Lutheran School

LHS – Lutheran High School

PS – Preschool



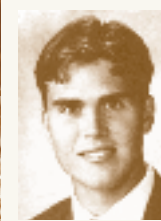
**William Meier**  
NWC 1963  
Whiteriver AZ



**Mona Hoenecke**  
DMLC 1968  
New Ulm MN



**David Clark**  
NWC 1968  
Morton Grove IL



**Martin Valleskey**  
MLC 1998  
Houston TX



## 2017-2018 UMAC Female Scholar-Athlete Leadership Award:

**Kira Grev**  
(Divinity-St. Paul)

All-UMAC and Academic All-UMAC honors all four years



### Past MLC Winners

2010-2011  
**April Cook**

2007-2008  
**Nathan Nass**

## Schultz Leaves Her Mark in Record Book



**Grace Schultz** (First-Lake Geneva WI) finished her basketball career with her name all over the program's record book.

She became the third women's player to score 1,000 career points, joining **Erica Babinec** '12 and **Emma Babinec** '06. Schultz finished her career with 1,299 career points.

She set a new MLC single-season record with 97 steals, and finished second in program history with 265 career steals. She also finished second in career rebounds (666), third in career free throws (229) and field goals (484), fifth in career three-point field goals (102), and sixth in career assists (210).

## Hemmelman Wins Player of the Year

Sophomore tennis player **Anna Hemmelman** (Trinity-Goodview MN) earned Upper Midwest Athletic Conference (UMAC) Player of the Year this season as well as All-UMAC honors for the second straight season.

Hemmelman pulled off an undefeated UMAC season (7-0) in number-one singles play, the first MLC player in program history to do so. She opened the season with a pair of defeats in number-one singles against strong competition, but closed the year with a 13-3 overall singles record that included an 11-match win streak to finish the season. She was also very strong in doubles play, finishing with a 9-7 overall record, including a 6-1 mark in UMAC contests in the number-one spot.

Hemmelman was also the MLC recipient of the UMAC Sportsmanship Award, given to one player on each team who best exemplifies sportsmanship during the season.



**Ryan Schlicht**  
MLC 2008  
Sturgeon Bay WI



**Kathleen Cuppan**  
DMLC 1958  
Milwaukee WI



**Barry Wierschke**  
DMLC 1968  
De Pere WI



**Albert Nolting**  
DMLC 1948  
Frontenac MN



## Timm, Pearson Honored for Strong Softball Finish

Junior outfielder **Audrey Timm** (St. John-Tomah WI) was named First Team All-UMAC, while **Matt Pearson** '97 was named UMAC Coach of the Year at the end of the softball season.

Timm earned First Team honors after leading MLC in batting average (.396), home runs (four), runs batted in (22), runs scored (21), slugging percentage (.625), and on-base percentage (.427) this season.



She also tied for the team lead in doubles (eight) and ranked second in stolen bases (eight). In conference play, Timm hit .345 with two home runs, 12 runs batted in, and 10 runs scored.

Timm also proved to be one of the best defensive outfielders in the conference, showcasing both her range and strong arm during the season.

Pearson was named Coach of the Year for the first time in his four-year career after helping the Knights to an 8-8 conference record and 11-17 record overall. Pearson helped the Knights navigate a difficult and unpredictable spring due to bad weather to finish as one of the hottest teams in the conference. They went 7-1 in conference play in the final week of the season to finish just out of the conference tournament picture.

Pearson is the second MLC head coach to earn 2017-18 Coach of the Year honors, joining football coach **Mark Stein** DMLC '92.



**Matt Pearson**  
UMAC Softball  
Coach of the Year



**Mark Stein**  
UMAC Football  
Coach of the Year

## Bitter, Kren Lead the Way for MLC Track & Field



**Ben Bitter** (St. John-Milwaukee, pictured) and **Joshuah Kren** (Trinity-Waukesha WI) were named All-UMAC after stellar performances at the UMAC Outdoor Track & Field Championships. They combined to score 46 of MLC's 79 points at the event, helping the Knights to a fourth-place finish out of eight teams in attendance.

Bitter earned All-UMAC honors for the second straight season (to add to his two All-UMAC honors in cross country) after winning the 1500 Meters and taking second in the 3000 Meter Steeplechase. The sophomore earned all-conference honors last season after taking first (and setting a conference record) in the 3000 Meter Steeplechase and taking second in the 1500 Meters. Bitter also took part in the 4x400 Meter Relay, helping MLC to a fourth-place finish.

Kren made a big impact for the Knights in his first season on the track, finishing second in both the 100 Meters and the 200 Meters. He ran the 200 Meters in 23.03 on Friday, and then finished with the second-fastest time in the 100 Meters in both the prelims (Friday) and finals (Saturday). Kren also ran the first leg for the 4x100 Relay team that finished second and threatened the MLC record in that event.



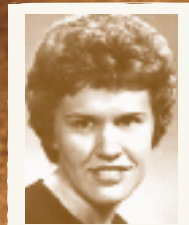
**Wilbert Luehring**  
DMLC 1948  
Nicollet MN



**Kristine Yarbrough**  
DMLC 1993  
Santa Clarita CA



**James Fischer**  
NWC 1978  
Beaver Dam WI



**Adeline Weiss**  
DMLC 1963  
Akaska SD



# Mission Advancement



VP Michael Otterstatter preaches at Christ the King-Bremerton WA

## MLC Sundays *Highlight Our Mission and Ministry*

By Vice President Michael Otterstatter WLS '94

"Thank you for coming! It was great to learn new things about Martin Luther College!"

A couple dozen times a year, I have the opportunity to preach and teach at WELS congregations for an "MLC Sunday." For a few hours, I'm a welcomed guest. No matter the city or state, in sunshine or blizzard, God's people always receive me with sincere interest and gracious appreciation.

There's another consistent reaction by those in attendance. Countless times I hear, "I didn't know that about MLC! Wow, that's great!"

People say that when they hear that, in addition to serving over 700 students in the undergraduate program, we offer continuing education and graduate studies to another 1,000 students annually.

When I encourage lay members to check out the dozens of classes geared to train them for ministry, the expressions of wonder grow louder. For most, that's the first they've heard that MLC offers something for them.

I hear similar surprised responses when I tell members of WELS that their College of Ministry ranks among the top

colleges in the U.S. for quality and value every year. (This year we ranked #1 in Minnesota!)

And you should see the smiles and nods when I explain that their gifts to the synod and to MLC make all this possible. (In fact, those gifts supply almost 40% of our annual budget!)

Right before my eyes I see them grow closer to their College of Ministry. Then I know my visit was worth the trip a hundred times over!

I'm nearing 100 MLC Sundays in my five years as vice president for mission advancement. One congregation at a time, I highlight the mission and ministry of MLC in this special way. It's been my pleasure to preach and teach in so many different places. I offer a sincere thank you to those congregations that have welcomed me in the past, and I welcome an invitation from the rest.

I pray that as we continue to "train a corps of Christian witnesses to meet the ministry needs of WELS," I will have updates to share and thanks to offer at even more congregations.

*If you'd like to schedule an MLC Sunday at your congregation, contact VP Otterstatter at 507.766.2744 or [ottersmj@mlc-wels.edu](mailto:ottersmj@mlc-wels.edu).*

# “Equipping Christian Witnesses” A Silver Anniversary Campaign

By **President Mark Zarling** WLS '80

With the permission of WELS Conference of Presidents, we will conduct a two-year capital campaign in conjunction with the 2020 silver anniversary of MLC. The title, “Equipping Christian Witnesses,” not only reflects the mission of our institution—to train a corps of Christian witnesses to meet WELS ministry needs—but also the pillars of this campaign:

- **Recruitment:** Pray for more pastors, teachers, and staff ministers, and purposefully identify and encourage young Christians who could serve in these roles.
- **Financial aid:** Support the Congregational Partner Grant Program (CPGP), through which MLC matches congregations' gifts for their enrolled students, dollar for dollar, up to \$1,000 per student every year.
- **Facilities:** Repair and augment campus spaces for ministry training: academics, student life, athletics, and the arts. With the help of two consulting firms, we are prioritizing our facility needs.

**Endless Opportunities:** Our Savior Jesus *is not willing that any should perish*. Never before in our synod's history have we seen so many mission opportunities. Hundreds of people all over the world are approaching WELS for scriptural instruction and evangelism assistance. Technology is enabling us to reach countless homes in many different countries with the gospel. And today's young Christians are travelers, eager to take the gospel anywhere in the world.

**Deep Needs:** We need more workers—not only to fill our vacancies, but also to grasp these new opportunities, to seize the day the Lord has provided us to impact the world with his Word.

**Bold Prayers:** “Equipping Christian Witnesses” is a celebration of God's goodness—not only for 25 years of MLC ministry, but for more than 150 years of the unconditional gospel in our midst. Pray boldly that we use this celebration to



recruit with rigor countless Christian witnesses . . . to increase our financial support of our students . . . and to provide the necessary facilities to equip our students for their future ministries.

*Please watch for details in the coming months!*



**Hands-on Input:** Faculty and staff enjoyed a tactile exploration of the campus facilitated by Credo, a consulting firm that works with private colleges. Credo also held a town hall meeting and interviewed faculty and staff before producing a master site plan that includes the renovation and addition of residence halls, academic spaces, athletic facilities, and arts areas.

We also engaged Bentz Whaley Flessner to complete a feasibility study, which included email surveys as well as phone and face-to-face interviews. The initial investigation suggests that the college, working in partnership with the WELS Ministry of Christian Giving, has the capacity to conduct a campaign that supports the proposed initiatives.



## MLC Publication Wins Design Award

The MLC 2017-2018 Desk Calendar (*pictured*) has won a Gold Award from the Service Industry Advertising Awards (SIAA). This is the ninth award—and the first Gold Award—MLC has received from SIAA, which recognizes creative and communication excellence in the service industries.

Public Relations Director **Bill Pekrul** DMLC '80 created this beautiful project with Lime Valley Advertising of Mankato, Minnesota.





## MLC Day 2018 *One for the Record Books!*

Once again, MLC Day was a rousing success as our friends showed their love and support.

- 1,400 sent prayers and encouraging messages, photos, and videos – *like the shout-out from Arizona Lutheran Academy students below!*
- 1,700 visited our Facebook page.
- 5,200 viewed our MLC Day video.
- \$51,026 was received from donors.
- \$50,000 was matched.
- \$101,026 was raised—meeting and beating our goal!

MLC friends, we thank you, and we thank God for your partnership with us in this gospel ministry.



## The Shepherd Society

Founded in 2008, the Shepherd Society is comprised of called workers who've been recognized for making a difference in people's lives through their ministries. The called workers nominated for the Shepherd Society receive a commemorative plaque with a personal Certificate of Appreciation from the MLC president. Anyone may nominate a pastor, teacher, or staff minister for the Shepherd Society by going to [mlc-wels.edu/go/shepherd-society](http://mlc-wels.edu/go/shepherd-society).



*The following honorees were added to the Shepherd Society in 2017-2018.*

Michael Bartsch	Neil Hansen	Jon & Pat Stern
James & Dianne Bilitz	Ruth Huebner	James Unke
Bill Birsching	Marie Janke	David Voss
Hartley Dus	Marilynne Maciejczak	Marcia Wendt
Suzanne Geiger	Lester & June Ring	Michael Woldt
	Stephen Smith	Colette Zarling

## Scholarships 2016-2018

Motivated by love for their Savior and deep respect for the public ministry of the gospel, many generous donors have established scholarships at Martin Luther College. Some are merit-based, and others are need-based. Some are created in honor of a loved one, and others are created to support a specific ministry that donors hold close to their hearts.

All make a significant impact on the lives of our students. All bring glory to our gift-giving God.

The following scholarships were established in 2016-2018.

- MLCAA Endowed Scholarship
- Ruth Odegard Endowed Scholarship
- Hugo & Janet Bilitz Scholarship Fund
- Organ Students Scholarship
- LeDell & Fern Plath Leadership Scholarship
- Betty Schweppe-Gerlach Scholarship Fund
- Kenneth and Mary Abraham Scholarship
- Dusseau Family Urban Teaching and Leadership Scholarship
- Ivan & Jeanette Gruetzmacher Scholarship
- Robert A. Schaefer Scholarship Fund
- Manfred E. & Olga A. Tiedemann Scholarship
- Tell the Next Generation Scholarship
- Earl and Elnor Reichel Memorial Scholarship Endowment Fund

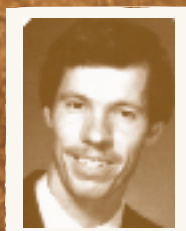
If you are interested in establishing a scholarship at Martin Luther College, please call 507.354.8221.



**Luther Curia**  
MLC 2003  
Citrus Heights CA



**Barbara Hoerz**  
DMLC 1963  
Neosho WI



**David Siekmann**  
DMLC 1983  
Marshall MN



**Ardean Nunnenkamp**  
DMLC 1973  
Sutton NE

# Governing Board Digest

By Vice President Steven Thiesfeldt DMLC '74

## Campus Meeting September 28-29, 2017

- Endorsed **urban education ministry/Spanish** minor.
- Approved MLC's participation in Wisconsin LHS **Urban Teacher Initiative**, appointing a subcommittee to develop the details.
- **Faculty actions for 2018-19:**
  - Appointed Professor Scott Schmudlach as vice president for administration and reassigned Professor Steven Thiesfeldt from vice president for administration to classroom professor and director of institutional research and effectiveness.
  - Approved calls for three professors of education.
- **Synod Certification:**
  - Directed college to review synod certification courses in view of urban ministry needs.
  - Directed college to implement a "test-out" competency option.
  - Directed Chairman Woldt to appoint a study committee investigating alternative methods of delivery for synod certification courses.
  - Gave the Apache Christian Training School authority to certify Apache teachers locally.
  - *Note:* Synod Certification, now called Teaching Ministry Certification (see page 15), falls under the authority of WELS Conference of Presidents with MLC serving as facilitator.
- Approved **fee increases** of 5% for 2018-2019, bringing tuition, room and board to \$21,490. Also approved a 5% **accompanying increase in financial aid**.
- Endorsed expansion of **Congregational Partner Grant Program** to include third-year students and eventually fourth-year students.
- Ratified the hiring of Credo as a **consulting firm** for the upcoming capital campaign. (*See page 29 for details.*)
- Approved **designation of funds:** \$3.1 million for institutional financial aid, \$100,000 for emergency maintenance needs, and \$100,000 for Credo consultation fees.

- Adopted a revised unrestricted net asset policy, setting the **Economic Sustainability Fund (ESF)** minimum and maximum target balances and limiting the funds available for allocation to the operating budget per year.

## Campus Meeting February 8-9, 2018

- Ratified the **distribution** of \$202,817 from 2017 proceeds of the Romberg Foundation (\$25,000 to St. John-Sleepy Eye MN; \$44,454 to Minnesota Valley LHS; and \$133,363 to MLC student assistance). Approved motion to transfer the assets of the foundation to the WELS Foundation.
- Adopted the following **retention and graduation** goals:
  - Undergraduate Studies retention: 85%
  - Undergraduate Studies graduation: 75%
  - Graduate Studies graduation: 80%

## Teleconference Meeting March 8, 2018

- Approved calls for two professors of theology.

## Teleconference Meeting June 9, 2018

- Accepted with thanks a distribution of \$150,000 from the Synodical Council, in part for financial assistance for 2018-19 seniors, who have not benefited from the Congregational Partner Grant Program implemented three years ago.
- Resolved to cap the number of emergency teachers for 2018-19 at six, which matches the number returning from emergency teaching in 2017-18.
- Approved a call for a new admissions counselor to replace Professor Ross Stelljes, who accepted the call of theology professor.

## Thank You for Your Service

We extend our gratitude to two board members who have finished their terms, Dale Krause and Michael Krueger. We also thank advisory board member and Minnesota District president, Rev. Charles Degner WLS '79, who is retiring. The board invited Mr. Krueger to continue to serve as an advisory member with the mission advancement subcommittee.



**Scott  
Zerbe**  
NWC 1988  
Muskegon MI



**Maria  
Gines**  
MLC 2013  
Merritt Island FL



**James  
Price**  
NWC 1993  
Elizabeth IL



**Rebecca  
Flad**  
MLC 2013  
Winona MN



## Luther Lands Alumni Tour

A group of 96 alumni and friends toured the Luther lands, Austrian Alps, and Italy June 18-July 4. The tour was led by **Steve Balza DMLC '93** (alumni relations director) and **Michelle Gartner DMLC '93** (event coordinator), with devotions and expert insights from four faculty members: **President Mark Zarling WLS '80** and **Professors James Danell WLS '90**, **Paul Koelpin WLS '90**, and **Keith Wessel WLS '91**.

## Alumni Association Gears Up for Silver Anniversary Gift



The MLC Alumni Association has initiated a campaign to raise \$100,000 in celebration of the silver anniversary of Martin Luther College in 2020. Designations include \$70,000 for a Fisher of Men® statue and \$30,000 for student scholarships.

Contribute or learn more about the project at [mlc-wels.edu/fishers-of-men](http://mlc-wels.edu/fishers-of-men)

"Fisher of Men"® is the copyrighted and trademarked creation of Christian artist Max Greiner, Jr., of Kerrville TX © [maxgreinerart.com](http://maxgreinerart.com)



## For All the Saints

Read obituaries of professors called home, including the most recent: **Professors Mervin J. Ingebritson** (pictured), **Alan Spurgin**, **Arnold Koelpin**, **Theodore Hartwig**, **Howard Wessel**, and **Lyle Lange**.



[mlc-wels.edu/history/professor-obituaries](http://mlc-wels.edu/history/professor-obituaries)

## Speaking of My Service

**Dr. Al Spurgin** (pictured) gave an interview in the brief period between his retirement in July 2017 and his passing in April 2018. Read or listen to Professor Spurgin's warm words about his Savior and his gospel ministry on our "Professor Interviews" page.



The thoughts and insights of other 2017 emeriti are also included on the page: **Professors Joyce Diels**, **James Grunwald**, **Earl Heidtke**, **Kermit Moldenhauer**, and **Chip Rupnow**.

[mlc-wels.edu/history/professor-interviews](http://mlc-wels.edu/history/professor-interviews)

## Upcoming Reunions

DMLHS 1956	Jul 31-Aug 1
MLA 1978	Aug 4
MLA 1972	Aug 10-12
DMLHS 1958	Sep TBD
DMLHS 1953	Sep TBD
DMLC 1968	Sep 27-29

Classes ending in 4 and 9, now is the time to start putting together your plans for 2019! Contact the alumni relations office for assistance:

[mlc-wels.edu/alumni/reunions](http://mlc-wels.edu/alumni/reunions)  
[alumni@mlc-wels.edu](mailto:alumni@mlc-wels.edu)  
507.233.9135



# FACULTY & STAFF NOTES

## RETIRING in 2018



### **Professor Lance Hartzell**

After 47 years in the public ministry, **Professor Jonathan (Lance) Hartzell** DMLC '71 has retired.

Since 1993, two years before the establishment of Martin Luther College, he has served on this campus, teaching courses in education and art education.

Prior to his service at D/MLC, he taught grades 5-8 at Grace LS-Yakima WA (1988-1993), grades 1-8 at Faith LS-Anchorage AK (1975-1988), and grades 1-8 at St. John LS-East Bloomfield WI (1971-1975).

About 5,000 students have sat in his classrooms and art studios over the course of his ministry.

His colleague in the education department, **Dr. Lawrence Lotito**, is grateful for Lance's ministry.

*"If one were to look up the word humble in the dictionary," he says, "I would not be surprised to see the name Professor Lance Hartzell next to it. Lance is a multi-talented individual who quietly went about the work involved in his ministry."*

*"I was always amazed at the patience and kindness Lance would show to a struggling art student. Usually, in no time at all, he was able to instill a measure of confidence in the individual."*

*"While being humble, patient, and kind, Lance was showing the Christian love he had for his students and his faithfulness to his calling. Both students and faculty alike will miss Lance in his retirement."*

Lance hopes to pursue his art, both pottery and painting, during his retirement. He and his wife, Annette, plan to remain in New Ulm.

To MLC students, he gives this advice: "Have a good life as a teacher of the visual arts, and may God bless you in every way."



### **Instructor Jeneane Thiesfeldt**

Instructor **Jeneane Thiesfeldt** DMLC '74 has retired from a teaching ministry that spanned 44 years.

Upon her 1974 graduation from DMLC, Jeneane taught grade 6 at St. Paul LS-Tomah WI for one year. Later she taught piano and organ at Martin Luther Preparatory School (1983-1985, 1992-1995) and Luther Preparatory School (1995-1997). She also taught grades 7-8 at St. Paul LS-New Ulm MN (1997-1998) and English at Minnesota Valley LHS (1998-2001).

At Martin Luther College, Jeneane taught piano and organ for the last 17 years, from 2001 to 2018.

*"A first and lasting impression of Jeneane is that she always has a smile and kind word for everyone she meets!"* says **Professor Joyce Schubkegel**, her colleague in the MLC music department.

*"Behind those smiles and kind words is a beautiful blend of biblical Mary and Martha—placing the hearing and teaching of the Word first and foremost in her life and yet finding time to apply that Word behind the scenes—ever ready to lend a helping hand, listening ear, or encouraging word, always with the humility of a servant's heart."*

*"On a professional note, I've admired Jeneane's meticulous lesson evaluation criteria, her endless hours attending to her students' chapel-playing needs, and going the extra mile to model practical service by playing in both on- and off-campus worship."*

*"Our entire MLC family has been blessed to have had Jeneane as one of our most faithful and dedicated colleagues. May she continue to enjoy many more years of sharing her smile and kind words with all of us!"*

Jeneane and her husband, **Professor Steve Thiesfeldt** DMLC '74, will remain in New Ulm. As Steve continues teaching, Jeneane says she will serve God through whatever opportunities he presents.

To MLC students, she urges: "Be a good listener and reflect God's love for you in your words and actions with those around you."



# FACULTY & STAFF NOTES

## Celebrating ministry anniversaries

**Professor Ron Ohm** DMLC '78 (40 years)

**Dr. Cindy Whaley** DMLC '76 (40 years)

**Dr. Larry Lotito** (25 years)



## Celebrating service anniversaries

**Diana Burt** administrative assistant (45 years)

**Lynn Boesch** graphic arts (40 years)

## Joining our faculty in 2018-19

**Darrell Berg** DMLC '88 Professor of education & art

**Kelli Green** DMLC '92 Professor of special education

**Paul Koester** WLS '18 Tutor

**Catherine St. John** '13 Lead preschool teacher

**Nicolas Schmoller** WLS '10 Professor of theology  
& foreign language

**Alan Uher** DMLC '87 Professor of education

**Emily Unke** '18 Admissions counselor

## Changes in MLC ministry

**Professor Scott Schmudlach** DMLC '85 Vice president  
for administration

**Professor Ross Stelljes** WLS '89 Professor of theology

**Professor Steve Thiesfeldt** DMLC '74 Professor of science

## Concluding service at MLC

**Galen Holzhueter** '14 Admissions counselor

**Nathan Wordell** WLS '16 Dorm supervisor, instructor

## In memoriam

**Dr. Howard Wessel** 1933-2017

**Prof. Theodore Hartwig** 1921-2017

**Prof. Arnold Koelpin** 1931-2017

**Dr. Alan Spurgin** 1949-2018

**Prof. Mervin Julius Ingebritson** 1918-2018

**Instructor David Biedenbender** DMLC '88 (PE, admissions) earned his Master of Science in Sport Management from Winona State University in May. His capstone research project was entitled "Proactive Athletic Directors Assisting with Coach/Parent Relationships."

**Campus Pastor John Boeder** WLS '90 served as worship leader for the Minnesota District Reformation Service at MLC's Chapel of the Christ in October and for the Minnesota District Convention Opening Service at Chapel of the Christ in June.

**Professor Benjamin Clemons** '03 (dean of educational studies) presented "Church and School—Working Together as One Ministry" for the Milwaukee Urban Pastors' Conference in April. He also taught "The Nine Essential Skills of Love and Logic" over three sessions at Salem-Stillwater MN.

**Randy Cox** (assistant AD, Academic Success Center director) was invited to serve on the New Ulm American Legion Baseball Committee.

**Professor Rebecca Cox** DMLC '89 (PE) is serving on the UMAC 10-Year NCAA Anniversary Committee.

**Jackie Dalueg** (accounting clerk) completed her Bachelor of Science in Accounting at the University of Minnesota, Crookston, in May.

**Professor James Danell** WLS '90 (German) attended the Spring Pastors' Conference and then the 92nd Synod Convention of the Evangelisch-Lutherische Freikirche at the Emmausgemeinde in Schönfeld, Germany, in May.

**Professor Rachel Feld** '06 (director of academic computing) cohosts WELS TechPodcast every other month during the school year. Her last episode of 2018 was in April.

**Professor Joel Fredrich** WLS '82 led a study of Acts 3-5 for the Nebraska Pastors' Summer School in Omaha in July.

**Professor Emeritus James Grunwald** DMLC '76 chaired the Commission on IT and Distance Learning meeting for the National Council for Private School Accreditation in Alexandria VA in June.

**Prof. Kenneth Kremer** DMLC '69 (graduate studies) published the book *Embracing Godly Character: The Christian Community's Response to a Godless Culture* through Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis.



**Robert Martens** '09 (web master/technician) won the Undergraduate Teaching Excellence Award from the School of Business & Technology at the College of St. Scholastica, where he serves as an adjunct instructor.

**Professor Thomas Nass** WLS '82 (Hebrew) taught the Hebrew Institute, a Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary Summer Quarter course, at the MLC campus in June.

**Dr. Lawrence Olson** WLS '81 (director of staff ministry program) presented "Church and Ministry," a Congregational Assistant Program (CAP) seminar, at Cross of Life-Mississauga, Ontario, Canada, in May.

**Dr. Mark Paustian** WLS '88 (English/Hebrew) taught "Adult Education as Communication," a two-week course for the Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary Summer Quarter in June; presented "Lessons at the Burning Bush" at the Urban Pastors' Conference in Milwaukee in May; and presented "Where Two or Three: Insights in Christian Communication" at the Dakota/Montana and the Arizona/California District Conventions in June.

**Professor Matthew Pearson** '97 (physical education) chaired the steering committee for the St. Paul-New Ulm MN self-study, a requirement for the school's reaccreditation through Minnesota Nonpublic Schools Accrediting Association.



**Professor Jonathan Roux** DMLC '95 (education) is one of two winners to receive the Minnesota Reading Association (MRA) "Celebrate Literacy" award for 2018. He was recognized for his contribution to literacy during a reception at the Davis Center in Minneapolis on May 11. His daughter, first-year student Katelyn Roux, was also recognized, receiving the Karen Lamb Johnson Memorial Scholarship for the second year. The scholarship is awarded to children of MRA members who major in education and maintain a GPA of at least 3.0.

**Professor Jonathan Schaefer** '02 (director of WELS New Teacher Induction) presented "Instructional Rounds" at the Central Michigan Principals' Conference at Emanuel LS-Lansing in February.

**Beth Scharf** '00 (administrative assistant) and **Professor David Scharf** WLS '05 (theology) presented "Have Roots, Will Grow," a parenting workshop, at several Minnesota congregations in 2017-2018, the most recent being Zion LC-Winthrop MN in April.

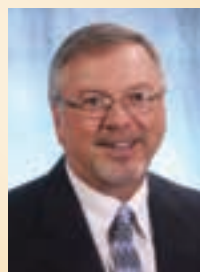
**Professor David Scharf** WLS '05 (theology) published the book *Why Am I Here?* through Time of Grace Ministries. He also presented "The Doctrine and Practice of Stewardship" at a men's retreat in Seattle in April and "Digital Outreach" at a Lutheran Women's Missionary Society conference in Dallas in April.



**Professor Tingting Schwartz** (Chinese) spoke about her conversion to Christianity and her ministry at MLC at Peace-Houghton MI in March.

**Professor Paul Tess** DMLC '77 (director of field experiences) earned a Master of Arts in Educational Psychology from the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, in May.

**Professor Emeritus Wayne Wagner** DMLC '72 taught a class about the history and music of the King's Singers for the New Ulm CASTLE Lifelong Learning Institute.



**Professor Thomas Hunter** DMLC '75 (director of international services) made several field visits this year as part of our longstanding partnerships with international schools and WELS missions.

- **Lima, Peru:** Met with administrators and MLC students teaching at B. Group Colegio.

- **Quito, Ecuador:** Met with WELS missionaries and the administrators of L.E.S. Benito Juarez School to prepare for MLC graduates who will work at the school and assist missionaries in 2018-19.
- **Grenada, West Indies:** Met with the faculty of Grace Lutheran School to discuss plans for MLC graduates filling vacancies while current teachers from Grace further their education.
- **Antigua & Barbuda, West Indies:** Finalized plans to establish St. John Lutheran School as a student-teaching location. In a historical first, MLC will offer an international student-teaching experience in the 2018-19 school year.



2018 MARTIN LUTHER COLLEGE

# Homecoming

October 12-14, 2018



View full schedule at [mlc-wels.edu/events/homecoming](http://mlc-wels.edu/events/homecoming)