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From the President

By **Rev. Mark Zarling** *WLS* '80 President, Martin Luther College



Next year, 2020, marks the 25th anniversary of Martin Luther College. Back in 1995, Northwestern College (the preseminary college) and Dr. Martin Luther College (the teacher-training college) amalgamated so that Martin Luther College became the WELS College of Ministry. Since that time, there is one college that offers all tracks of ministry training.

Thus, though only 25 years old, MLC continues a heritage of more than 150 years. It is a heritage of grace! The Lord has allowed the unconditional gospel to endure in our dear synod and to remain the

core of ministry training from generation to generation. To God alone the glory! We join Luther in saying, *And had I been without Thy aid and counsel, I would surely have ruined it all long ago.*

To celebrate this anniversary, MLC is launching **EQUIPPING CHRISTIAN WITNESSES**. Authorized by the Conference of Presidents, this two-year campaign occurs during school years 2019-2020 and 2020-2021.

The campaign has three pillars: student recruitment, student financial aid, and facility improvements. The materials in the middle of *InFocus* describe these pillars and the blessings they will provide as we train another generation of pastors, teachers, and staff ministers.

Please take some time to peruse, pray, and ponder. Peruse the campaign materials. Pray that God pour out his blessings on this campaign, just as he has blessed our endeavors thus far. Ponder how you might be a blessing too—with your financial gifts, your encouragement of young people, and, yes, more prayers.

If every congregation in our dear synod prays for us, the campaign will surely be richly blessed as a gracious Lord Christ hears and answers according to his infinite love.

On the cover:

The 2019-2020 Student Ambassadors. Read more on page 4.

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 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.





The alumni photos at the bottom of the pages are from the anniversary classes of MLC, NWC, and DMLC: '40, '45, '50, '55, '60, '65, '70, '75, '80, '85, '90, '95, '00, '05, '10, and '15. Thanks to Alumni Director Steve Balza *DMLC* '93, who provided this random selection of alumni.



Karyl Kelley DMLC 1975 Adrian MI



New Beginnings, New Blessings

August brought 731 undergrads to campus, ready for another year of ministry training.

Resident assistants (1) welcomed the 181 first-years and helped them move into their home away from home (2). The first-years got to know one another at the traditional Ballroom Blast (3), and the school year opened officially with an opening service Monday, August 25 (4).



EDUCATION (includes Staff Ministry)

First-year Sophomore

Junior Senior Fifth-year

Other

PRESEMINARY

2019-20

2022-23 2021-22 2020-21

Total

ENROLLMENT

731 Undergraduates on campus

51% Female 49% Male

99% Traditional-age students

Representing 35 states and 6 countries





Evan S Chartrand MLC 2010 Manassas VA



Bethany **Ehlert** DMLC 1990 Madison WI



Jeffrey Spiaser DMLC 1985 Livonia MI



Kristin Redlin **DMLC 1985** Tucson

here on the

Recruitment Starts with Relationship

In 2018-2019 more than 1,000 high school students visited campus to meet students, sit in on classes, see campus life in action, and ask themselves: "Can I see myself at MLC? Might I be a pastor, teacher, or staff minister someday?"

Our admissions counselors go to the high schools too, encouraging thousands of students every year to prayerfully consider the ministry.



Welcome, Kingdom Prep!

In August, students from the newest WELS high school, Kingdom Prep-Milwaukee, made their first visit to our campus. We were so happy to worship with them, show them around, and answer their questions about ministry training at MLC. Maybe in a few years, one of them will be here leading a campus tour!



Student Ambassadors

With a heart for ministry, the student ambassadors make high school visitors feel welcome on campus. They give tours, assist at Focus on Ministry weekends, and help out the Admissions Office in a hundred different ways.

This year's ambassadors are (back row) Anna Treder (California LHS / Christ the Vine-Temecula CA), Isaiah Hahm (Wisconsin LHS / Zion-Hartland WI), Seth Hackbarth (Lakeside LHS / St. Paul-Lake Mills WI), Mike Radue (Wisconsin LHS / Mt. Calvary-Waukesha WI); (middle row) Katherine Fink (Shoreland LHS / Mt. Zion-Kenosha WI), Morgan Gosch (Great Plains LHS / Bethel-Sioux Falls SD), Alyssa Heckendorf (Fox Valley LHS / Immanuel-Greenville WI), Halie Flores (California LHS / Reformation-San Diego); (front row) Libby Kassuelke (Minnesota Valley LHS / Peace-North Mankato MN) and Elliot Butler (Lakeside / St. Matthew-Oconomowoc WI).



Susan R Odegard DMLC 1970 Los Angeles



Harold R Johne NWC 1950 Racine WI



Gayle Schultz DMLC 1980 Lewiston MN



Darren Green NWC 1990 Mt. Lake MN

MARTIN LUTHER COLLEGE MICHIEL

Community Tees Up Thousands for MLC in 2019 Golf Classic

Once again, the New Ulm community gave a strong show of support for the college through the MLC Golf Classic. Chaired by Chuck Spaeth of Chuck Spaeth Ford in New Ulm (*pictured right*), this year's event at the New Ulm Country Club raised \$20,000 for scholarships and \$14,000 for new parking spaces near the tennis courts.

For the first time in 27 years, a student team took home the gold. **Luke Gartner** (*St. John-Redwood Falls MN*), **Alison Lindemann** (*St. John-Lewiston MN*), **Kyle Lindemann** (*St. John-Lewiston MN*), and **Josh Schroeder** (*St. Peter-Modesto CA*) shot a 60 to earn the top spot among 112 golfers.



The Zarling Foursome—Tom WLS '79, Phil WLS '70, Fred, and Mark WLS '80 (pictured left)—also shot a strong round.



By Student Editor Kara Peter '22 (St. James-Portage MI)

When **Jeremiah Callies** (*St. Matthew-Iron Ridge WI*) first learned that an on-campus disc golf course was a possibility, he jumped at the opportunity. An avid disc golfer since the age of 10, he had always dreamed of designing a course but thought the idea was a long shot.

Last year that idea became reality. With the aid of a campus/student life grant, Jeremiah and fellow aficionado **Evan Kolander** (*Bethlehem-Menomonee Falls WI*) teamed up to plan the Luther Hollow course.

The duo hit a few hazards along the way. Jeremiah says, "A struggle was designing the course during winter and trying to see how to best utilize the space we had." Evan adds, "The biggest challenges were working within our budget and figuring out how to put nine holes into a small space. Our original design actually had a hole in President Zarling's backyard, but we changed that, definitely for the best!"

For Evan the joys outweighed any logistical complications. "It was enjoyable work because it's something we're passionate about. The Grounds Crew did an amazing job installing it this summer." Now president of the new Disc Golf Club, he says, "The course is really fun and looks beautiful."

Pictured: Chantel McGill (Hope-St. Charles MI) takes a shot.





Jacqueline Dorn DMLC 1980 Filley NE



Kenneth Ewerdt NWC 1975 Brownsville WI



Bonnie L Whittaker MLC 2010 Monroe MI



Paul Lindloff NWC 1985 Thiensville WI



Call for Thalassa Submissions

Martin Luther College has now begun accepting submissions for the **14th annual Thalassa Prize**. This \$1,000 prize is awarded to the best photo-and-essay submission from an MLC student or graduate who has served in an international ministry.

PAST WINNERS: mlc-wels.edu/thalassa

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES: mlc-wels.edu/thalassa

DEADLINE: April 30, 2020

2019 WINNER: ETHAN SCHULTZ

"The Flock Under His Care" – Southeast Asia



Ladies' Auxiliary Sets \$40,000 Goal

On Auxiliary Day, October 5, the MLC Ladies' Auxiliary chose their 2019-2020 projects and set a goal of nearly \$40,000 to fund them.



Standing projects, which total nearly \$10,000 every year, include the Auxiliary Scholarships, Daylight outreach, student travel assistance, and window treatments for Augustana Hall. New 2019-2020 projects include Hebrew dictionaries, fitness equipment, and library study carrels.

Auxiliary members also heard presentations on the EQUIPPING CHRISTIAN WITNESSES campaign and the Staff Ministry and Science Education programs, attended chapel and prayed for the MLC family, and enjoyed plenty of fellowship time.

To see the new project list and make a donation, go to mlc-wels.edu/mission-advancement/wish-list.

And be sure to follow MLC Ladies' Auxiliary on Facebook!

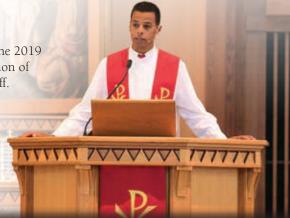
Pictured: MLC Ladies' Auxiliary President Janine Enter (*Trinity-Nicollet MN*).

World Mission Festival Service

Rev. Peter Öman (*pictured right*), a pastor in Umea and Stockholm, Sweden, preached at the 2019 World Mission Festival Service on September 25. He also presented "The Imperfect Division of Church and State: 500 Years of Lutheranism in Sweden" to all interested students and staff.

The Lutheran Confessional Church of Sweden has seven congregations consisting of 270 believers who remain faithful in a country that, according to Gallup, is the fourth least religious country in the world.

The MLC campus family was happy to worship and partake of the Sacrament of Holy Communion with Pastor Öman, and to pray for the Lutherans in Sweden.





Kate L Hieb MLC 2010 Middleburg Heights OH



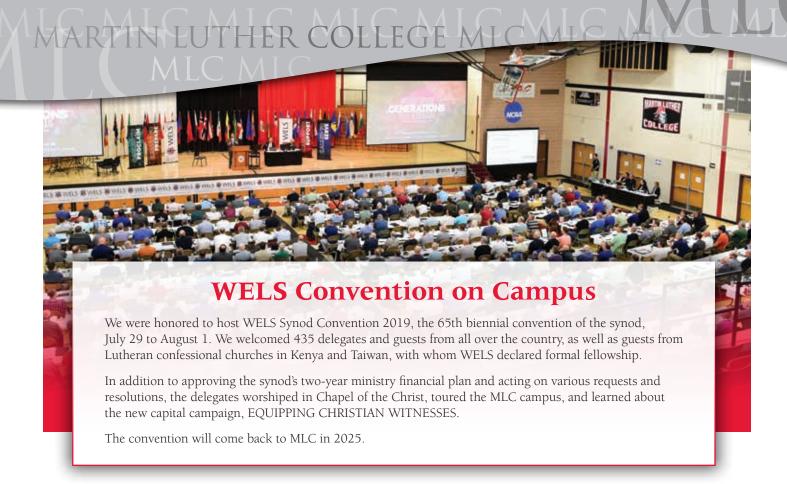
Jonathan A Roux DMLC 1995 Saginaw MI



Dolores Cook DMLC 1965 Owosso MI



Brent W Sorn MLC 2005 Cincinnati





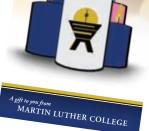
MLC Christmas Concert

CHAPEL OF THE CHRIST

Friday, December 7, 7:30 pm Saturday, December 8, 4:00 pm

New Advent Devotional for You

Christ Is the World's Light is MLC's newest devotional book, our gift to help you prepare for the coming of Christ, the Light of the World. The 25 Advent devotions, one for every day December 1-25, can accompany the lighting of the candles in a traditional Advent wreath. Our anticipation will grow as we study more Scripture and light another candle each week of December: the Prophecy Candle, the Bethlehem Candle, the Shepherds' Candle, the Angels' Candle, and the Christ Candle.



ADVENT DEVOTION

The booklet will be available after November 15 for ordering and online viewing at **mlc-wels.edu/ publications/seasonal-devotions**. You may also sign up for daily delivery of the devotions to your email inbox.



Cassandra Bauer DMLC 1965 Bismarck ND



David M Learman MLC 2000 Friendswood TX



Lynnee Julien DMLC 1975 Kent WA



Andrew M Nemmers MLC 2015 Allen TX





MLC Awards \$3.4 Million in Aid

Martin Luther College awarded \$3.4 million in institutional grants and scholarships to students last school year, and the 2019-2020 total looks to be even higher.

We're deeply grateful to the generous donors who have established named grants and scholarships for our students. What a wonderful legacy you are leaving!

We're also grateful to congregations participating in the Congregational Partner Grant Program (CPGP). MLC matched the congregations' gifts, resulting in \$750,000 awarded to students in 2018-2019 and about \$1,000,000 in 2019-2020.

These gifts from God's people to the WELS College of Ministry help make MLC a great value! In fact, College Factual listed MLC in the top 5% nationwide for "Best Value," noting both our high academic quality and our low cost.

Would you like to establish a grant or scholarship? mlc-wels.edu/scholarships

Would you like to support the CPGP? mlc-wels.edu/cpgp

MLC Students Work Hard to Pay Tuition

In addition to their studies, which is their #1 job, the vast majority of MLC students work to earn money for college.

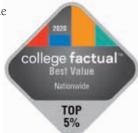
More than half work on campus—379 last school year—doing clerical work in the library, washing dishes in the cafeteria, tutoring in the Student Success Center, or doing janitorial work, just for starters.

Many work off campus as well, coaching, clerking, waiting tables, even milking cows. *Pictured:* **Jace Fellers** (*Grace-Charlotte NC*) earns tuition money doing janitorial work.

MLC a "Best Value" College

MLC ranked in the top 5% nationwide for best value, according to College Factual.

College Factual notes both high academic quality and low cost. The higher the quality and the lower the cost, the better the value.



We're grateful to the individuals and congregations who help us keep ministry training affordable. Your congregational offerings and your special gifts support all the students who have committed themselves to ministry training. These are the young people who will become your next pastor, teacher, or staff minister.



NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP

(Qualifying PSAT score)

Colin Krueger Fox Valley LHS

PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARSHIP

(High school valedictorian)

Stephanie Dalueg Minnesota Valley LHS

Amanda Kant

California LHS

Caleb Lash Shoreland LHS

Jonah Plocher California LHS

Amanda Rehberger Luther Prep

Hannah Schneekloth Mabel Canton HS-Mabel MN



Adolph Leimer DMLC 1950 Truman MN



Esther Oestreich DMLC 1955 Milwaukee



Paul Marggraf NWC 1980 Guatemala City, Guatemala



Katelyn M Smith MLC 2015 Grove City OH

Focus On Sports



Three New Head Coaches Set for Fall Season

By Michael Gibbons, Sports Information Director

The Martin Luther College coaching staff underwent a shake-up in the summer of 2019 that led to changes at the helm of three fall sports.

Dr. Larry Lotito, who served as head coach of men's golf from 2006 to 2018, retired as a coach and professor at the end of last school year. Former head cross country coach **Professor Matt Pearson** '97 has taken Lotito's place as the new head coach of the men's golf program.

Replacing Pearson in cross country are **Professor Greg Diersen** '96 and **Professor Breanna Olson** '12 as men's and women's coach, respectively.

During Lotito's 13-year coaching career at MLC, he was named UMAC Coach of the Year in 2008 and coached seven All-UMAC performers. "Larry Lotito is a technician and a true teacher of the game," MLC Athletic Director **Jim Unke** *DMLC* '83 said. "He led the program to be very competitive in the UMAC. His expertise will be missed."



Matt Pearson takes the reigns of the golf program after five seasons coaching cross country. He has an extensive playing history that includes one season at MLC and three top-20 finishes in the I-Tour (Houston division) in 2009. He also worked as junior golf coordinator for Koshkonong Mounds Country Club in Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin, from 1997 to 2005. Pearson will also continue in his role as head softball coach in the spring.



As the new men's cross country coach, Greg Diersen brings a successful coaching history. He was head coach of the track and field (1997-2012) and cross country (1999-2011) programs at Great Plains Lutheran High School, and won Area Coach of the Year honors in both sports. He's also been an assistant track and field coach at MLC since 2013, working mainly with distance runners.



2018-19

2015-16

2014-15

Breanna Olson joined the MLC faculty this summer after taking a call to join the PE department. She takes over the women's cross country program from Pearson and brings five years of experience coaching track and field, including two seasons as head coach, at New Ulm High School. She will also serve as an assistant track and field coach in the spring.

(SECOND IN UMAC)

"We're excited about our new fall coaches for the great mix of experience and passion they bring to their respective sports," Unke said. "We believe they will provide a great environment for our student-athletes to compete and grow."

A HISTORY OF ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Number of MLC athletic teams with highest team GPA in UMAC All-UMAC Honorees

9 OF 16 161 (MOST IN UMAC)

152 (MOST IN UMAC)

10 OF 16 147 (MOST IN UMAC)

8 OF 16 142
(MOST IN UMAC

To be named Academic All-UMAC, a student-athlete must record a GPA of 3.5 or better in the semester(s) of competition



John Keibel DMLC 1990 Concord CA



Elizabeth M Kramer MLC 2000 West Salem WI



Patrick J Downey, Jr. MLC 2000 San Jose



Julie K Ahlers MLC 2005 Tirana, Albania





of ministerial training **Martin Luther College** 1995-2020



From President Mark Zarling

Dear friends, in this, the 21st century, our church is embarking on something extraordinary.

Our gracious Savior, who "is not willing that any should perish," is opening mission doors beyond our imagination! As the WELS College of Ministry, we at Martin Luther College want to seize these opportunities—to his glory! Now is the time for all of us to equip *even more* Christian witnesses to share Christ's love with the world. That is what this campaign is all about.

We will re-energize our **RECRUITMENT** of students for the holy adventure of ministry. We will provide even more **FINANCIAL AID** so that every student who wants to train for ministry can do so. And we will equip these students with enhanced and enlarged **FACILITIES**—a living and learning environment worthy of this training!

By the grace of God, EQUIPPING CHRISTIAN WITNESSES will positively impact ministry for the 21st century!

★ ECW Campaign Toolbox

The ECW toolbox is where you can find everything you need to promote EQUIPPING CHRISTIAN WITNESSES in your congregation: print materials, campaign updates, graphics for posting on social media, even videos.

Download whatever you need. Or request print copies from us, and we'll send you high-quality casebooks, bulletin inserts, posters, and even activity books for the kids.

mlc-wels.edu/ecw-toolbox





900-1,000 STUDENTS EAGER TO TRAIN FOR GOSPEL MINISTRY

Current Vacancies

For several years, we've had an increasing demand for more pastors and teachers. Large numbers of baby boomers are retiring, and we simply don't have enough candidates to replace them.

After new pastors and teachers were assigned in May, many congregational vacancies remained. If your congregation is one that's been waiting for a new pastor or teacher, you understand the need firsthand.

From President Mark Zarling



This pillar of our campaign depends on the spiritual gift of encouragement.

For many of our students, it was just one person's

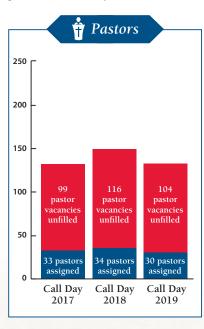
encouragement that led them to come to MLC and prepare to be a pastor or teacher.

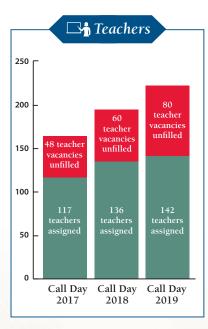
We humbly ask you to encourage prospective students as well. Why? Because we need many more Christian witnesses. We are facing both . . .

- a concerning number of **CURRENT VACANCIES** in our congregations and schools and
- an exciting and almost unimaginable number of **OPEN DOORS** to new ministries.

MLC enrolls about 750 on-campus undergraduate students. Could that number grow to 900? To 1,000? Yes, if God so blesses!

What we know for certain is that higher enrollment numbers are required to meet the numbers in need: the thousands of souls in existing WELS congregations who need a new pastor or teacher and cannot get one . . . the hundreds of thousands across the world who are asking for biblical instruction . . . and the multitudes who do not even realize they are lost.





Open Doors

The Holy Spirit has opened huge doors for WELS in Asia, Africa, and the Americas—and at home as well.

- New home missions open every year, some with schools and preschools.
- Urban schools, spurred by Parental Choice laws, are outgrowing their facilities and faculties.
- Preschools—almost 400 of them!—are proving wonderful seeding grounds for the gospel.

We need more Christian witnesses! We need trained pastors, teachers, and staff ministers to seize these new opportunities to impact the world with the Word.





What Can You Do?

How can you help recruit students eager to pursue gospel ministry at MLC, students who might become *your* next pastor, teacher, or staff minister?

You probably can identify a couple students right now in your own mind. Tap them on the shoulder! Be the encourager they need: "You did a great job speaking in front of the church. I can see you as a pastor or teacher."

Then share their name with us! Use this QR code to submit a name to MLC electronically. Or go to mlc-wels.edu/go/recommend. We will reach out and ask permission to send the student information about MLC so they can consider ministerial training for their future!



? Good Question!

- 1. Enrollment usually cycles in correlation with assignment supply and demand. So why the urgency? Yes, enrollment often rises and falls, following the curve of available calls in churches and schools. But for several years now, the demand for more called workers has only gone *up* because 1) so many baby boomers are retiring; 2) a fair number of called workers resign every year—mostly women who are getting married or having children; and 3) more ministry opportunities are opening up. We don't see a downturn in demand in the near future.
- 2. I've seen MLC's enrollment listed as about 730-800 students in some places and more than 2,000 students in other places. Which enrollment number is correct? Both. Our undergraduate enrollment fluctuates between 730 and 800. Our continuing education and graduate study enrollment is about 1,000-1,300. So our total enrollment is about 2,000.

Your Encouragement Makes a Difference!

I want to thank **Mr. Keith Bowe** for pulling me aside one day after I gave a presentation in Christian Life Planning class and telling me that he saw natural gifts in me for the public ministry! I couldn't be more thankful! I am now student teaching in a 3rd grade classroom and enjoying every minute of it!

Arianna Sanchez

Wisconsin Lutheran High School St. Peter-Milwaukee

When I was a senior, I took every computer class I could with Mr. Ted Klug. He quickly became one of my biggest role models. In March, I was given the opportunity to give chapel. Afterwards, I ran into Mr. Klug in class. He told me this: "Jacob, you're pretty good with all of this [motions to computers], but lots of young men can do that. Not everyone can do what you just did, Jacob." That was the day I decided to go into full-time ministry.

Jacob Klug Lakeside LHS St. John-Juneau WI

Thank you, **Mrs. Danielle Powers**, for encouraging me to become a teacher. I still remember the day when I was playacting with some kindergarteners at a basketball camp. I turned around, and there you were, watching. You told me I would become a great teacher. It was that day that I actually considered going to MLC. It was the best decision I have ever made.

Lisa Lindemann

Manitowoc LHS St. John-Newburg WI

I'd like to say thank you to Mr. Jared Christensen. When I took a year off of MLC because I thought I didn't want to be a teacher, he roped me into teaching Wednesday School at church, got me a job working in the kindergarten and preschool classrooms, and repeatedly let me know that he thought I had what it took to be a teacher. He saw something in me that I didn't see in myself and encouraged me daily to return to MLC.

Allison Hofland Homeschool Resurrection-Rochester MN



CONGREGATIONAL

CONGREGATIONAL

PARTNER GRANT

PARTCHING FUND \$3-5 M

Actually Pay?

TUITION, ROOM & BOARD: \$21,490 AVERAGE FINANCIAL AID: \$8,485

AVERAGE OUT-OF-POCKET: \$13,005

How Much Do MLC Students

* 2018-2019 figures. Financial aid figure includes scholarships and grants, not loans.

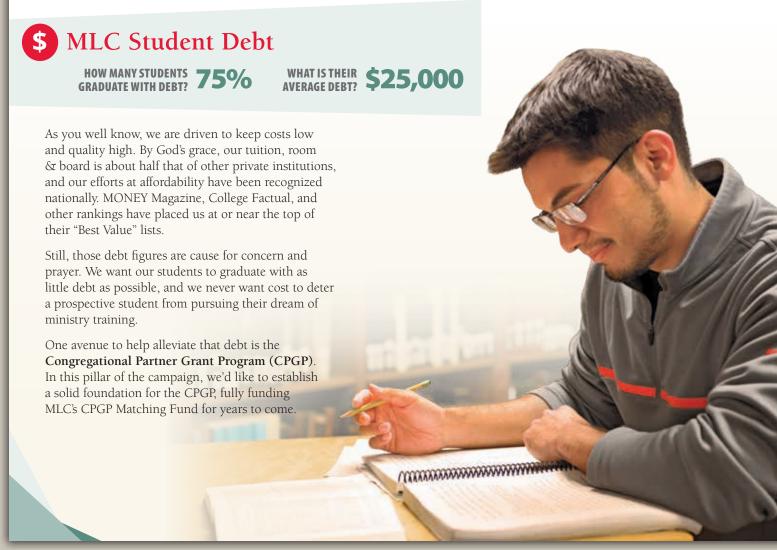
From President Mark Zarling



Our second pillar addresses student financial aid.

College debt is a concern across our nation. We at MLC are especially concerned, because we know that our graduates are not entering positions that will allow them to pay off college loans quickly.

Here is the data. Since 2015, 75% of our students have graduated with debt, and that debt averages \$25,000.



Here's How CPGP Works

Through CPGP, MLC matches dollar for dollar, up to \$1,000, the gift a congregation gathers to apply to the tuition of their student at MLC.

As a renewable effort, CPGP can provide four or five years of financial aid support—up to \$10,000 to each student—in addition to the other financial aid the student receives.

	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020
PARTNER CONGREGATIONS	80	150	250	275
STUDENTS RECEIVING GRANTS	100	250	450	600
CONGREGATIONAL GRANTS	\$90,000	\$200,000	\$375,000	\$500,000
MLC MATCHING FUNDS	\$90,000	\$200,000	\$375,000	\$500,000
TOTAL GRANT MONIES AWARDED TO STUDENTS	\$180,000	\$400,000	\$750,000	\$1,000,000

In EQUIPPING CHRISTIAN WITNESSES, we are asking you to consider a financial partnership with MLC on behalf of all our sons and daughters. Your gift will help provide the for these congregational gifts.

MLC MATCHING FUNDS



"Since we didn't have any students currently on the worker training path, we wanted to support other students who were. We rejoice in the fact that we are walking together with a larger body of believers to spread the gospel to the world. We are happy to support the advance of the gospel, and those who proclaim it, in any way we can!"

Pastor Michael Koepke Salem-Ann Arbor MI Matching Congregation

? Good Question!

Why is college in America so expensive?

- Faculty and staff compensation, including healthcare, typically accounts for more than half of colleges' operating expenses.
- Infrastructure maintenance is also an issue. Aging buildings need repair, and technology needs constant updating.
- Compliance to rules, regulations, and laws is expensive.
- The economic downturn that began in 2007 decimated endowments, leaving colleges without the distributions they had counted on. These endowments have mostly rebounded, but colleges are still left with expenses they deferred in those rough years.
- Parents and students expect certain amenities in their living and learning environments, and if colleges are to compete, they must provide them.

How does the cost of MLC compare?

- The cost of MLC is about half the cost of other private colleges.
- We do not adhere to the high tuition/ high aid model, whereby some colleges inflate their tuition rate and use the excess monies gathered from affluent students to provide financial aid to needier students.
- We are grateful for a synod subsidy that supports approximately fifteen to twenty percent of our operating budget.
- We continue to do all we can to keep quality high and costs low at the WELS College of Ministry. We want to glorify God by following the highest stewardship practices *and* maintaining a campus that is beautiful, comfortable, and efficient.

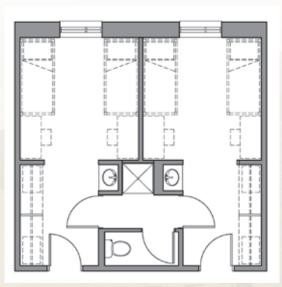


Luther Heights Residence Hall

The beautiful Luther Heights is modest but high-quality, providing our students both more personal space and more shared space for collaboration. Overlooking Summit Avenue, at the main entrance of our college, it will be a beautiful new focal point of the campus and a wonderful place for our students to call home—a place where they'll live, learn, and grow together as a Christian community.



The architectural design of Luther Heights respects the historic aesthetic of our campus, but also tips its hat to the future, especially with the striking glass Skyline Studies on the ends of each floor.



In Luther Heights, four students will live in each two-bedroom SUITE. Each room will have two beds, two desks, two closets, and one sink. The four students will share the bathroom and shower.

From President Mark Zarling



As a centerpiece of this campaign, we want to build a new residence hall and renovate our current dormitories to meet the needs of the next generation.

Admissions counselors report that the campus visit is the most important factor in the prospective student's college decision-making process. Generally, our visitors love the Christ-centered culture of MLC, the beautiful chapel, the well-tended grounds, the welcoming faculty, and the friendly and dedicated students.

Our campus facilities, however, are in need of an update! Almost all our buildings are more than 50 years old. We are grateful to the Christians of past generations who gave so generously to make them a reality. Unfortunately, buildings are not timeless, even if the Word spoken within them is.

Now it is our generation's turn. With the input of two consulting firms—and keeping in mind good stewardship of the synod's resources—we have prioritized a new residence hall: Luther Heights!

Luther Heights will allow all students to live on campus. (In recent years, some students have been compelled to live in alternative, off-campus housing because of our lack of space.) It will provide rooms for the prospective students who visit us, sometimes in groups of several hundred. And, if God so blesses, it will provide a home away from home for the expanding enrollment we are anticipating.









Luther Heights Residence Hall

152 beds 42,678 square feet 4 floors

ALL LEVELS

4-Bed SuitesStudy Lounge2 Skyline StudiesLarge energy-efficient windows

MAIN LEVEL

Gathering space for families and visitors Office Director's apartment

LOWER LEVEL

Kitchen
Exercise Room
Restroom / Locker Room
Laundry
Outdoor Patio

GREEN SPACE

153 PARKING SPACES



? Good Question!

Why do students need suites, AC, and other "luxuries"?

- MLC competes with other colleges to win recruits, many of whom are high school students still unclear about what to do with their lives. If living conditions at MLC are inferior to that of other colleges, we will have a harder time swaying these undecideds.
- These amenities are hardly luxuries. Fifty years ago, when our "newest" residence halls were built, students often came from homes where they shared a bedroom with several siblings and where they did not have AC. When they went to college in New Ulm or Watertown, they went to conditions very much like the homes they were leaving-and sometimes even a little nicer. Now we are asking them to move away from home and live in conditions inferior to their homes—in older buildings (Summit Hall: 1911), with crowded conditions and very little privacy, and with occasionally stifling heat in August, September, and May.

"Luther Heights will be great for recruitment because it will be an attractive, new building of brick and glass, a comfortable place for recruits to envision themselves living.

"A huge blessing of being at MLC is the faith all the students and faculty share. Professor Nass recently said in chapel that Jesus brings us not only perfect peace with God, but also a degree of peace with fellow believers. Friendship between believers is a great blessing.

"Luther Heights seems like a place that will promote that Christian friendship and will prepare MLC for more students."

Jared Lindemann '19 Member, Luther Heights Building Committee



23

Knight Center

This 36,000-square-foot facility will provide for many of our athletic department's needs: locker rooms, batting cages, golf simulators, and yards and yards of artificial turf.



From President Mark Zarling



Athletics and physical education are an important part of the Martin Luther College experience. For those students training to be PE teachers and coaches in WELS schools, they are an integral part of

their development as future called workers.

One of our basketball players said it well. He said he was thankful MLC provided him the opportunity to use all his gifts to the fullest and to "grow into the Christian man I want to be."

For many years, however, we have not had adequate athletic space—for our student body, our teams, or visiting teams.

The new Knight Center will meet these pressing needs of today and help us offer expanded opportunities tomorrow. Specifically, the Knight Center will . . .

- Expand the PE curriculum to year-round
- Allow all spring sports to practice regularly
- Provide additional locker rooms for home and visiting teams
- Multiply opportunities for health and wellness
- Increase intramural offerings
- Create community connections
- Save money currently spent on facility rental for spring practices





Large turfed field for track & field, softball, baseball, soccer, football, golf practices, intramurals, student life activities, recreation, and fitness



Locker rooms and showers for home and visiting teams



Batting cages for baseball and softball



Golf simulators for golfers of all ages, all year round



? Good Question!

Isn't it more important to support new home and world missions than to add two buildings to our ministerial training college?

Both missions and ministerial training are important arms of our church body. If we neglect our ministry training college, we won't have the called workers we need to serve new and existing missions, churches, and schools. The high vacancy rate right now underscores this need for workers.

Simply said, we need more students, and the new facilities, Luther Heights and the Knight Center, are integral to our recruitment efforts. Students are very often unsure of whether they want to enter the public ministry. What we have learned is that more will be willing to give MLC a try if they see that they will live and learn on a campus that is safe, comfortable, and attractive, and if they see that we are providing the facilities that will allow them to develop all their God-given gifts, including athletic gifts.



"The MLC Admissions Office functions in an extremely competitive atmosphere as they help potential students consider MLC and full-time ministry. We need to offer what other schools consider normal facilities for college students. The Knight Center should not be considered a luxury but a necessity for students perusing the landscape of post-secondary education options."

Athletic Director Jim Unke



"MLC Is the Foundation" An Interview with MLC Supporter Roger Heller



Roger Heller of Olivia, Minnesota, has taken a leadership role in EQUIPPING CHRISTIAN WITNESSES, both as an early donor and as a conference coordinator assisting 21 congregations.

Mr. Heller's generous gift to the campaign is an asset donation, a gift of grain. "The timing of the gift coincides with my retirement from farming," he says. "As I was studying the materials from the EQUIPPING CHRISTIAN WITNESSES program, I realized that there was a new and immediate need on campus."

One immediate need Mr. Heller notes, a need that eclipses even facility needs, is for more called workers. That hits home for his congregation, Zion in Olivia, which issued calls for a new pastor for more than a year and finally received a seminary graduate (**Isaiah Horn** *MLC* '15) in 2019. And his congregation needs teachers as well, specifically early childhood teachers for the Little Lambs Learning Center-Danube, which Zion and three other congregations support.

"The shortage is obvious," he says. "We need to all be working on that. We need to tell young people that this is a career choice, and it's a career choice *of choice*. It's the Lord's work! What did Jesus say in the example of Mary and Martha? It's the one thing needful."

Mr. Heller also understands the connection between recruitment and campus facilities. "The dormitory and the phy ed facilities that [MLC is] planning on improving are probably extremely important for when the students come to the campus, to see what facilities are there. Oftentimes, these young people go from campus to campus to decide, 'Where am I going to go to school?' We live in a secular world, so we do have to provide some comforts and some necessities for those students.

"I think back to the dormitory I had at South Dakota State way back 65-70 years ago," he continues. "It was pretty bare bones. But that isn't what students expect today. It's their first time away from home, so . . . make them comfortable. Make them feel welcome."

Mr. Heller encourages both congregations and individuals to give to EQUIPPING CHRISTIAN WITNESSES, even if it's a small gift, like the widow's mite. "There's great joy in giving," he says.

"MLC is the foundation," he concludes. "Yes, we have the seminary and other training facilities, but the college is the foundation for everything we do, both for teachers and for pastors."

To hear more from Mr. Heller, including the tax advantages available to farmers who make gifts of grain, watch the videotaped interview at mlc-wels.edu/heller-video.

Please support **EQUIPPING CHRISTIAN WITNESSES!**

Give quickly and conveniently online or use the envelope provided in this magazine.







MLC and WELS: Partners in Ministry Training

As your WELS College of Ministry, we at MLC are happy to partner with WELS to offer ministry training.

Not only does MLC train college-age students to be pastors, teachers, and staff ministers . . . and offer three master's degrees . . . and teach courses, workshops, and webinars to teachers in the field, we *also* partner with the WELS Conference of Presidents and the WELS Commissions on Special Ministries, Lutheran Schools, and Evangelism

to make many different programs available to both lay members and called workers.

"We treasure our partnerships with synod agencies," says **Dr. John Meyer** *DMLC* '87, director of graduate studies and continuing education. "We are blessed to use our educational expertise and infrastructure to deliver high-quality training and prevent duplication of ministry resources."

WELS CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS

- Teaching Ministry Certification
- WELS Principal Credential

WELS COMMISSION ON SPECIAL MINISTRIES

- Chaplain Certificate
- American Sign Language

WELS COMMISSION ON LUTHERAN SCHOOLS

- 21st-Century Principal Initiative
- New Teacher Induction
- Ministerial Growth & Evaluation Program

WELS COMMISSION ON EVANGELISM

• Evangelism Certificate



Micro-Credentials

FROM MARTIN LUTHER COLLEGE

Formal Recognition for Informal Learning



10 THINGS TEACHERS NEED TO KNOW

- 1. Micro-credentials are a growing trend in teachers' professional growth, unlike anything else offered in the past.
- 2. Micro-credentials are awarded by distinguished universities like Harvard, Berkeley, MIT—and now MLC.
- 3. Micro-credentials provide formal recognition—called digital badges—for your informal learning.
- 4. Micro-credentials signify that you have mastered specific, bite-sized, "micro" teaching skills.
- 5. Micro-credentials are not about sitting through a webinar or participating in a class. They are about demonstrating a teaching skill.

- 6. Micro-credentials offered by MLC are precisely the Ministerial Growth and Evaluation Program (MGEP) skills the Commission on Lutheran Schools desires teachers and principals to master.
- 7. Micro-credentials are affordable—only \$50 apiece.
- 8. Micro-credentials allow for faculty growth and collaboration. Whole faculties can pursue the same micro-credential at the same time.
- 9. Micro-credentials can be included in your Ministry Development Plan, just as you include credits and clock-hours.
- 10. Micro-credentials are a great way to boost your professional growth. Get started now at mlc-wels.edu/go/micro-creds.



Gathered Again

This summer and fall, many alumni worked their way to New Ulm for class reunions, including DMLHS 1959, MLA 1969, DMLHS 1954, MLA 1979, and DMLC 1969 (*photo not available*). Typical reunions include worship in Chapel of the Christ; an evening social; tours of the chapel, campus, and community; banquet and program; and plenty of time to reconnect with classmates.

What's it take to get a reunion going? Contact the Alumni Office (507.217.1731 or alumni@mlc-wels.edu), recruit a coordinating committee, and the ball is rolling. The Alumni Office can assist with class contact info, mailings, teleconference services, memento booklets, nametags, campus venue reservations, etc. Most groups start planning 10-15 months prior to the event, so don't delay! Get started today!

Several gatherings are already in the works for 2020 and beyond. Check them out at mlc-wels.edu/alumni/reunions.











Philip J Strong MLC 2010 Greenfield MN



Jessica M Mau MLC 2015 Loveland CO



Bradford Knapp NWC 1970 Portland



Elaine R Voll DMLC 1970 Milwaukie, OR

Fishers of Men Campaign Nearing Completion







The MLC Alumni Association is excited to announce that its three-year campaign to establish an endowed scholarship and to gift a statue of Christ to the campus will soon end.

The statue, "Fisher of Men" (1), will stand on a base mirroring that of the campus's Luther statue. It will be set at the center of the MLC mall (2). Symbolically, as Luther points to the Bible in his hands, he will be looking down the mall toward Christ, who holds a fishnet.

This gift will recognize God's goodness and blessings upon our alma mater as it completes 25 years of training "fishers of men."

Alumni and friends have given over \$70,000 of the \$100,000 goal! We will send one final appeal letter this fall. Lord willing, the statue dedication will take place August 21, 2020, as students return for the fall semester of MLC's 26th year. We will also award scholarship dollars to worthy recipients in 2020-2021.

Please consider helping us reach our goal of fully funding this worthy project. Make your check out to MLCAA and send to MLC Alumni Association, 1995 Luther Ct, New Ulm MN 56073. Or make your gift via credit card or echeck online at bit.ly/MLCAlumni.

Find full details at mlc-wels.edu/fishers-of-men.

*The "Fisher of Men" artwork by Max Greiner, Jr., is protected by Copyright and Trademark Registration.



Avis Sieg DMLC 1960 Monticello MN



Nicole R Dorn MLC 2015 Crete IL



Jason Baldwin NWC 1995 Silverwood MI



Amy E Giese DMLC 1995 Mobridge SD

70 YEARS

of the Lutheran Chapel Service

By Clarice Fastenau DMLC '64

Part of my Sunday morning routine is to listen to the Lutheran Chapel Service as I get ready for church and drive there. It's been part of my life for many years. I grew up in the New Ulm area, and already when I was a grade school student, our family regularly tuned in to the radio service on KNUJ.

When I was a student at Dr. Martin Luther High School and a choir member, I regularly sang for the service, which was broadcasted in the auditorium on Sunday mornings. I continued that as a college student, also occasionally playing the organ for the service. I lived outside of the New Ulm area for over 40 years and, when I moved back in 2003, I found the Lutheran Chapel Service—same time, same place—on KNUJ 860 AM at 7:45 on Sunday mornings. The message was the same; only the format had changed.

This is the 70th year of the Lutheran Chapel Service, a joint endeavor of WELS congregations in the New Ulm area and Dr. Martin Luther College/Martin Luther College. Originally, it was broadcasted live in the KNUJ studio on Sunday mornings. Later it was broadcasted live in the DMLC auditorium, and after 1962 it was recorded Thursday evenings in the DMLC Music Center.

Until 1988 it began with a 15-minute German service led by area pastors or DMLC professors. From 1988 to 2009, the German service was replaced with "Music for the Master" purchased from "Message from the Master" (Milwaukee WI). Professor Emeritus John Jeske (Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary) and Professor Emeritus Mark Braun (Wisconsin Lutheran College) served as narrators.

In 2009, "Good News for Today," narrated by **Professor Emeritus Mark Lenz** and later **Professor James Pope**, took its place. This 15-minute segment included Scripture and choral music. The service host for the 30-minute chapel service was **Professor Emeritus Darvin Raddatz** from 1988 to 2011.

Since July 2011 **Professor Daniel Balge** has narrated "Good News for Today," and Professor James Pope has hosted the chapel service.

The broadcast has had only two technicians through the years, **Professor Emeritus Waldemar Nolte** from 1962 to 1988 and **Professor Emeritus John Nolte** from 1988 to the present. John Nolte visited many area choir rehearsals over the years, recording about 400 hymns and psalms that are still used for the chapel service. The hymns are often also recordings of MLC choirs.

Area WELS pastors and MLC professors record the sermons at a time convenient for them.

The shut-ins I visit listen regularly to the Lutheran Chapel Service. They are especially pleased to report that their pastor or another pastor they know was the preacher on a recent Sunday morning.

These days much of our outreach is carried out very successfully with Facebook, smartphone apps, etc. However, the Lutheran Chapel Service radio broadcast is still very effectively bringing God's Word to many appreciative listeners.



Professor Meilahn Zahn directs a choir for the Lutheran Chapel Service in 1966-67, while **Pastor Roland Hoenecke** waits to read his sermon.



David KipfmillerNWC 1975
Bay City MI



Jan Christianson DMLC 1975 Tuscon



Dean Biebert NWC 1980 <u>New</u>burg WI



Barbara Yecke DMLC 1980 Lancaster CA



Promote and celebrate ministerial education by hosting an MLC Day in your congregation!

MLC Day is a day to . . .

PRAY for our mission and ministry

SHARE our story

GIVE to support ministerial training

Help us celebrate at MLC too! Anytime between now and May 6:

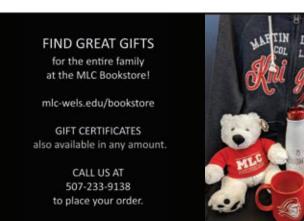
- **Photograph** your school, class, or faculty creating an MLC greeting.
- Videotape an MLC shout-out, song, or skit.
- Write a prayer for our students and staff.
- Share all of these with us by email or Facebook!
- Gather an offering for your College of Ministry. Your gifts on MLC Day will help fund the Congregational Partner Grant Matching Fund, directly supporting MLC students!
- Find more ideas at mlcday.com!

On MLC Day, May 6, we'll have a grand unveiling of all the schools' and congregations' prayers, posts, shout-outs, and songs!

Martin Luther College Choir Tour



Sat, Nov 16	7:00 pm	First-Lake Geneva WI	
Sun, Nov 17	10:00 am 7:00 pm	First-Racine WI Riverview-Appleton WI	
Mon, Nov 18	10:00 am	Fox Valley LHS-Appleton WI	
Thu, Feb 27	7:00 pm	Rock of Ages-Madison TN	
Fri, Feb 28	7:00 pm	Lamb of God-Madison AL	
Sat, Feb 29	7:00 pm	Faith-Sharpsburg GA	
Sun, Mar 1	10:30 am 6:30 pm	Sola Fide-Lawrenceville GA Abiding Peace-Simpsonville SC	
Mon, Mar 2	7:00 pm	Risen Savior-Pooler GA	
Tue, Mar 3	7:00 pm	King of Kings-Maitland FL	
Wed, Mar 4	7:00 pm	Divine Savior-West Palm Beach FL	
Thu, Mar 5	10:30 am	Divine Savior Academy-Doral FL	
Fri, Mar 6	7:00 pm	Crown of Life-Ft. Myers FL	
Sat, Mar 7	7:00 pm	St. Paul-Beverly Hills FL	
Sun, Mar 8	9:30 am	Open Bible-Oxford FL	
Sun, Mar 22	3:00 pm	Martin Luther College	





David P Becker MLC 2015 <u>Phoeni</u>x



Jennifer M Levy MLC 2005 Conyers GA



Erhard Opsahl NWC 1965 Thiensville WI



Amy L Schroer MLC 2000 Saginaw MI

Good News for All Nations



Dean of Preseminary Studies Daniel Balge *WLS* '85 traveled to
Ethiopia this summer to teach at
Maor Lutheran Theological Seminary

of the Lutheran Church of Ethiopia. About 20 Ethiopian and South Sudanese students took his course, an overview of the four gospels with a more intensive focus on the gospel of Mark.

The course falls under the aegis of Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary's Pastoral Studies Institute, which sends a steady stream of instructors to seminaries in our fellowship all over the world. **Professor Doug Lange** *WLS* '81 also taught in Ethiopia, during the summers of 2017 and 2018.

Did you know? About two-thirds of Ethiopia's 112 million inhabitants are Christian (mostly Oriental Orthodox), and one-third are Muslim. The Lutheran Church of Ethiopia is seven years old and has 410 souls.



Professor Balge preached in two Sunday worship services. Dr. Kebede Yigezu, president of both the synod and the seminary, translated the sermon into Amharic for the congregation.



Dr. Keith C. Wessel *WLS* '91 traveled to Sweden and Norway in July as the contact person for the WELS Commission on Inter-Church Relations Scandinavia.

At St. Markus-Ljungby, Sweden, he preached and gave an afternoon lecture on "Widows in the Book of Acts." The *Lutherska Bekännelsekyrkan* (Lutheran Confessional Church) of Sweden has

seven congregations. Pastor Ingvar Adriansson serves as president.

The following weekend he preached and gave a lecture on "The Thousand Years of Revelation 20" to the biennial convention of the *Lutherske Bekjennelseskirke* (Lutheran Confessional Church) of Norway. This church body has two congregations. Pastor Egil Edvardsen serves as president.

Did you know? A recent Gallup International Poll indicates that Sweden and Norway rank #4 and #5 in the top 10 non-religious countries in the world. Reaching out with the gospel in Scandinavia is an incredibly difficult task, and the size

of the respective synods indicates this: LBK Sweden has about 270 members, and LBK Norway has about 55 members. Being so small, these synods (as well as the synod in Finland) greatly treasure their wider fellowship with WELS and the other churches of the Confessional Evangelical Lutheran Conference (CELC).



Dr. Wessel preached in Norway with Pastor Egil Edvardsen serving as translator.



Lisa Luedtke DMLC 1985 Jefferson WI



Donald F Johnson NWC 1955 West Allis WI



Michelle R Moeller MLC 2010 Vista CA



Gerhardt Struck NWC 1970 Kewaunee WI



Professor Paul Koelpin *WLS '90* taught "The Lessons and Practice of Historical Study" in Lusaka, Zambia, this summer. The four students in his course were men studying for a Master of Theology degree

granted by Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary through the Pastoral Studies Institute.

Three of the men are instructors at the Lutheran Church of Central Africa (LCCA) Seminary in Lusaka: Rev. Anthony Phiri,

Rev. Chibikubantu Simweeleba, and Rev. David Kamwata. The other gentleman, Rev. Bright Pembeleka, is a vice president of the Malawi synod of the LCCA.

Did you know? The Lutheran Church of Central Africa began in the 1950s. Today it is the home of 54,000 souls in 244 congregations in Zambia and Malawi. It has two training centers, the Lutheran Bible Institute in Lilongwe, Malawi, and the Lutheran Seminary in Lusaka, Zambia.



Professor Koelpin (middle) with the four students in his class in Lusaka: Rev. Bright Pembeleka, Rev. David Kamwata, Rev. Chibikubantu Simweeleba, and Rev. Anthony Phiri. **Professor Koelpin** notes: "We concluded our class on a Saturday mid-afternoon in late July with five pastors, united in faith and voice, singing together the stanzas of 'O God, Our Help in Ages Past,' a hymn familiar to us all."



Kathleen M Brug DMLC 1970 Bay City MI



Joel A Jaeger MLC 2005 Tucson



Cynthia M MacKain DMLC 1995 Long Beach CA



John D Roebke NWC 1990 Onalaska WI



FACULTY & STAFF NOTES

Dr. Bethel Balge (adjunct, music) gave a master class to contestants in the 2019 Steinway Piano Competition in Edina MN last April. She performed a solo recital in the Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary Chapel in April. She performed with two members of the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra in the Music on the Hill Chamber Music Series in Mankato MN in November. And she, along with musician Peter McGuire, is founder and artistic director of the new ProMusica Minnesota Chamber Music Festival; the inaugural concert was in June.



Professor James Carlovsky '02 (math, instructional technology) earned his PhD in math education from the University of Minnesota after defending his dissertation, "Recognizing Mathematical Opportunities in Student Thinking by Preservice Teachers."

Professor Ben Clemons '03 (dean of education and staff ministry; director, Urban Ministry Program) taught two Bible classes at St. Paul-New Ulm MN: "God's Word, the Foundation for Our Family" and "God's Word, the Foundation for Our Parenting."



Professor Daniel Fenske DMLC '87 (science) earned his Master of Science degree in biological studies at Clemson University.

Professor Joel Fredrich WLS '82 (foreign languages, theology) led a study of baptism at the Cottonbelt Pastor Conference at Amazing Grace-Myrtle Beach SC in October.

Professor Daniel Gawrisch '08 (physical education) presented "Understanding Career Choice Among Kinesiology Undergraduate Students" at the International Association for Physical Education in Higher Education (AIESEP) Conference at Adelphi University in Garden City NY in June. In October he presented "The Need for Daily Physical Exercise and Movement Throughout the School Day" at both the Minnesota District Lutheran Teachers' Conference at Bethany Lutheran College-Mankato and the Wisconsin Lutheran State Teachers' Conference in Milwaukee.



Professor Kelli Green DMLC '92 (special education) provided inservice training at Crown of Life-West St. Paul MN in August: "Behavior: Theory, ASD, EBD, ADHD, Trauma, Interventions, and Data Collection" and "Public and WELS Collaborations."

Professor Daryl Hanneman DMLC '75

(special education) presented "High-Leverage Practices for Teachers" at the Western Wisconsin Teachers' Conference in June.

Professor Grace Hennig DMLC '89 (music) was granted a partial sabbatical in spring 2019 to compose an order of worship based on the Common Service, some psalm settings for the new WELS Psalter, and other choral pieces. Her music for the Common Service Ordinary will be sung by a local junior choir. She also wrote a setting of "The Morning Breaks in Mercy," a text by **Laurie F. Gauger** DMLC '87, which was premiered by the MLC Women's Choir at the Commencement Concert in May.

Megan Kassuelke (international coordinator) and *Professor Thomas Hunter* DMLC '74 (director, International Services) were part of a team of Qualified Administrators of the Intercultural Development Inventory that provided individual culture consultations for all new Friends of China teachers.

Professor Ted Klug '97 (admissions counselor) presented "Microsoft Teams and One Note" and "Technology Integration for the 21st Century" at the WELS EdTechLead Summit in Wisconsin Dells in June.

Dr. Ryan MacPherson (adjunct, graduate studies) presented "Is the Old Testament Reliable? The Evidence Within the Text" at the Second Annual Apologetics Conference at Bethany Lutheran College (BLC)-Mankato MN in June. He presented "Epistemology and Science: A Lutheran Perspective" at the inaugural Trotzendorf Lectures sponsored by the Center for the Advancement of the Lutheran Liberal Arts at Concordia University Chicago in July. He presented "Spiritual Self-Defense Boot Camp: Learn How to Talk About Jesus Without Losing Your Faith" at the Lutheran Youth Association Convention at BLC in July. And finally, he taught an intergenerational Bible



Kimberly Gartner DMLC 1990 Yale MI



Dennis Rasmussen NWC 1960 Tucson



Myra Bruns DMLC 1945 Nicollet MN



David Rockhoff NWC 1985 Tawas City MI

study at Mt. Olive LC-Mankato MN based on his book *Studying Luther's Large Catechism* (Hausvater Project 2012).

Bob Martens '09 (webmaster) presented "Communicate and Collaborate Using Team Chat" at the College of St. Scholastica Academic Technology Institute in August.



Dr. John Meyer DMLC '87 (director, Graduate Studies & Continuing Education) gave a poster presentation, "Leading Cognitive Change: A Transdisciplinary Model," at the Leadership in Higher Education Conference in St. Louis in October. He also presented the keynote address "Pursuing Excellence" at the South Atlantic District Teachers' Conference in Miami in October.

Dr. Kari Muente '99 (social sciences) presented "Inclusive Practices in the Secondary-Level Social Studies Classroom" at the Teacher Education Division of the Council for Exceptional Children annual conference in New Orleans in November.

Dr. Mark Paustian WLS '88 (English, Hebrew) presented "A Pastor's Review of Old Testament Hebrew: The What, the How, and the Why" at the St. Croix Pastors' Conference in September and a keynote and sectional titled "Communicating Christ in the 21st Century" at the Wisconsin Lutheran State Teachers' Conference in Milwaukee in October. He also preached for the 30th anniversary of New Life-Rockford IL, the congregation he planted, in September.

Dr. Joel Pless WLS '86 (adjunct, graduate studies) presented "A Hostile Source Is a Reliable Source: The Archaeology Behind Tacitus' Description of a 'Vast Multitude' During the Persecutions of Nero" to the Milwaukee Area Biblical Archaeology Society in April.

Michael Plocher DMLC '93 (adjunct, educational technology) presented "G Suite and Other Google Tools" at the Minnesota District Teachers' Conference at Bethany Lutheran College-Mankato in October.

Gail Potratz DMLC '74 (adjunct, graduate studies) presented "It's All About Communication" to the support staffs of the Winnebago Lutheran Academy federation in June.

Dr. Ryan Rathje '98 (adjunct, graduate studies) presented "An Introduction to Curriculum Mapping" to the Rocky Mountain LHS faculty in August and "Standards-Based Grading and Assessment" to the faculties of Salem-Greenfield MN and Holy Trinity-New Hope MN in September.

Dr. Leslie Rogers (adjunct, graduate studies) and two colleagues published "Communicative Challenges in the Parent-Teacher Relationship Regarding Students with Special Needs" in the Communication and Theater Association of Minnesota Journal.



Professor Jon Roux DMLC '84 (education) presented "New Picture Books to Explore 2019" and "Chapter Books for Your Students 2019" at the Minnesota District Lutheran Teachers' Conference at Bethany Lutheran College-Mankato in October.

Professor Jon Schaefer '02 (director, New Teacher Induction) led training on

"The WELS Teaching Standards" and "Coaching: A Formative Process" for Minnesota and Pacific Northwest District teachers. He also presented "Creating Positive and Productive Learning Environments" at the Pacific Northwest District Lutheran Teachers' Conference in October.



Professor David Scharf WLS '05 (theology) presented "The Doctrine and Practice of Stewardship" at the Minnesota District Pastors' Conference in St. Cloud in May and also at the South Atlantic District Pastors' Conference in Palm Coast FL in June. He also continues to write devotions for Grace Moments and to present videotaped devotions for Grace Talks, both productions of Time of Grace-Milwaukee.



Sarah R Staude MLC 2000 Onalaska <u>WI</u>



Constance Luetzow DMLC 1965 Lake Mills WI



Mark Lenz NWC 1965 Delano MN



Abigail M Gunn MLC 2005 <u>Ph</u>oenix



FACULTY & STAFF NOTES



Professor Tingting Z. Schwartz MS Ed '15 (Chinese) leads a Saturday morning Mandarin Story Time at nearby Blue Earth County Library (pictured). She shares stories, nursery rhymes, music, poetry, and fun in Mandarin with children who speak Mandarin and families who are interested in learning Mandarin and Chinese culture. Schwartz also created "Bilingualkids," a WeChat public account where she regularly writes in Chinese about topics of bilingualism, language acquisition, Chinese and American education, and cultural differences. She and her husband, Daniel Schwartz, co-facilitated a full day pre-departure training workshop for Friends of China teachers in August. Finally, she contributed four articles on the topics of parenting, reading aloud to children, and Chinese and American culture for WELS Multi-Language Publications in East Asia in August.

Professor Bill Tackmier WLS '90 (adjunct, graduate studies) published "Streams in the Desert: Isaiah 43:16-21" in the spring 2019 issue of Wisconsin Lutheran Quarterly.

Professor Emeritus Dr. David Wendler DMLC '70 facilitated Higher Learning Commission Stakeholders' meetings in Washington DC and Chicago. In Washington the stakeholders included Department of Education officials and leaders of national education organizations and major businesses. In Chicago the stakeholders included representatives from Midwestern education organizations and Chicago area colleges and universities.

Dr. Jeff Wiechman DMLC '92 (vice president for academics) presented "Creating Ministry Development Plans" and "Teaching Social Studies: Why? How?" at the Minnesota District Lutheran Teachers' Conference at Bethany Lutheran College-Mankato in October. He also presented "Summative Teacher Evaluation," Module IV of the WELS Ministerial Growth and Evaluation Process for teachers, to teachers of southwestern Minnesota at MLC in November.

NEW FACULTY



Theodore Klug '97 Admissions counselor

Ted grew up in Lakes Mills, Wisconsin, and graduated from Lakeside LHS. He served at Luther Preparatory School (1997-1999), Our Savior-San Antonio (1999-2004), Lakeside LHS (2004-2015), and Evergreen LHS

(2015-2019). He earned his MS Ed (educational technology) at MLC in 2018. He and his wife, **Kirstie** (*nee* Lange) '98, have two daughters, Anastasia (12) and Elliana (2).



Breanna Olson '12 Physical education professor

Breanna grew up in Mesa, Arizona, and Saginaw, Michigan, and graduated from Michigan Lutheran Seminary. After her MLC graduation, she earned her MS Ed (physical education) at University of Wisconsin La Crosse. She previously

taught K-12 PE and health in the New Ulm public schools (2014-2019). She is married to **Benjamin Olson** '13, and they have two dogs, Jack and Midnight.



Joel Thomford WLS '88 Admissions counselor

Joel grew up in Zumbrota, Minnesota, and graduated from Zumbrota Public High School. As a parish pastor, he served at St. Mark-DePere WI (1988-1990), Immanuel-Willmar MN (1990-1998), and Zion-Chesaning MI

(1998-2019). He is married to **Karen** (*nee* Spaude) *DMLC* '82, and they have three children: **Luke** '13, a vicar at Beautiful Savior-Grove City OH; **Hans** *WLS* '19, a new tutor here at MLC; and **Orie** '16, a Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary student who received an emergency call to teach religion at Manitowoc LHS this school year.



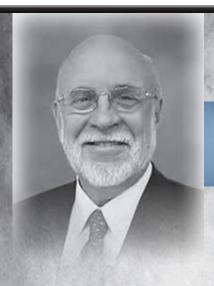
Hans Thomford WLS '19
Tutor and theology instructor



Kathryn Carlovsky '02 Adjunct organ instructor



Dinah Spurgin '97 Adjunct physical education instructor



Meet the Presidents

Dr. Martin Luther College President John Lawrenz (1993-1995)

John Lawrenz served as president of DMLC during the crucial DMLC-NWC amalgamation years of 1993-95. His challenge? To create—within two years—the best possible teaching-learning climate

for a single WELS College of Ministry. Since their founding, the two colleges of ministry had developed different cultures and traditions. After the shocking vote, both colleges needed to work together and better appreciate their diverse educational pathways and goals.

President Lawrenz brought to his task an ideal education. Twenty years of study in synodical schools culminated in a 1970 MDiv from Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary. Together with a year of tutoring at DMLC, this background provided a fine grasp of the differences in the synod's colleges. Lawrenz also pursued postgraduate education in Old Testament at Brandeis University (PhD) and worked in field archeology through Tel Aviv University. In short, he gained a scholar's attention to both detail and the broader understandings of higher education.

As a called worker, Lawrenz served as a parish pastor in Gainesville, Florida, from 1973 to 1978 and as president of Michigan Lutheran Seminary for 16 years. Here he developed empathy for young people living in a dormitory as well as an understanding of the professional and personal concerns of faculty.

As amalgamation neared, President Lawrenz attended to both student and faculty concerns. He arranged meetings of representatives from both student bodies to address student concerns large and small. He also arranged meetings of faculty representatives where they discussed academics as well as family concerns and the promotion of new friendships. Near the move-in date, the DMLC faculty was organized to befriend arriving NWC faculty and help them adjust to a new community. DMLC faculty also warmly welcomed incoming students, recognizing that displacement from one's familiar home, whether self-chosen or not, can be difficult.

The Lord blessed Lawrenz's activity well. His caring, people-centered preparations achieved the goals of amalgamation admirably.

Meanwhile the synod-elected Board of Regents for the newly created MLC had called a new president to head the new college. This allowed DMLC President Lawrenz to pursue new and vital careers in both Christian higher education as well as mission work in Ukraine and East Asia.

Dr. Lawrenz and his wife, Phoebe, both wonderful servants of the Lord with broad vision and amazing adaptability, have now retired in Milwaukee, though John still busily serves the church wherever needed.

Written by Professor Emeritus Darvin Raddatz WLS '59



1865-1869 Adam Martin 1869-1870 Lewis O. Thompson 1871-1919 Dr. August F. Ernst 1919-1959 Erwin E. Kowalke 1959-1987 Carleton Toppe 1987-1993 Robert J. Voss 1993-1995 John Braun



1884-1885 Christian J. Albrecht 1885-1893 Otto Hoyer 1893-1908 John Schaller 1908-1918 Adolph Ackermann 1918-1920 Johannes P. Meyer 1920-1936 Edmund Bliefernicht 1936-1966 Carl Schweppe 1966-1980 Conrad Frey 1980-1993 Lloyd O. Huebner 1993-1995 John Lawrenz



1995-2007 Theodore Olsen 2007-present Mark Zarling

Alumnu rours



We Loved New York!

Alumni Director **Steve Balza** (1) says 55 alumni and friends (2) had an enjoyable trip to the Empire State of New York this past June. They saw the 911 Memorial, Statue of Liberty, Niagara Falls, and much more.

Canada! July 10-25, 2020 The MLC Alumni Association is excited to announce its tour to · Excellent hotels (mostly multi-night stays) Western Canada. This is a 15-night journey to visit some of the

spectacular sights of our northern neighbor. Lord willing, the trip will take place July 10-25 with a flight option from Minneapolis.

Highlights:

- Geography and geology insights provided by Professor Greg Diersen '96
- Daily devotions led by Professor Brian Hennig WLS '90
- WELS worship with our Canadian congregations in Vancouver and Calgary
- Fellowship and newly formed friendships with like-minded believers

- Comfortable climate-controlled coaches
- The best of British Columbia, including Vancouver, Victoria, and Whistler
- Alberta's amazing beauty, including Banff, Jasper, and Calgary
- Northwest US gems such as Glacier, Coeur d'Alene, and Spokane

All WELS members are welcome to join. Registration begins in December. Find details at mlc-wels.edu/alumni/tours. (If you'd like a brochure mailed to you, contact Steve Balza at alumni@mlc-wels.edu.)





