

knightwatch weekly



MARTIN LUTHER COLLEGE

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MLS / St. James-Portage MI



Campfire Fellowship

A campfire, a Bible, and a guitar. For some students this is the perfect combination. Organized by sophomore **Cameron Schroeder** (*Luther HS / St. Paul-Onalaska WI, pictured*), Evening/Morning Praise—held outside either at 9 pm on Thursday or 9 am on Saturday—provides a new way to worship.

“Each week,” Cameron says, “we worship with a variety of songs and hymns that surround a specific theme and are woven together by Scripture.” Male students lead the devotions, gaining an opportunity to practice for their future calling.

When the weather gets blustery, the group simply moves into the chapel. After all, it’s about more than a campfire.

“Those who attend often say it’s a highlight of their week,” says Cameron. “One of the coolest things about the praise sessions is the community it fosters. Worshipers will stay afterwards, sometimes for almost an hour, sharing each other’s burdens, praying, singing more songs, or just enjoying Christian company.”

What I Wish I’d Known Before Coming to MLC

A note from Student Editor **Kara Peter** (*MLS / St. James-Portage MI*)

Seniors: Either you’ve already sent in a college application or you’re on the brink. Are you feeling something like this?

As you’re trapped in the stifling halls of high school and exasperated by the same 50 kids, college masquerades as a sea of shiny brochures, pristine lawns, and befuddling admissions essays. The pressure mounts with every well-meaning interrogation about future plans. And then there’s MLC.

“It’s not a real college. It’s just like high school. It’s the easy way out. It’s a dedication of your life to monastic living in Siberia.” As a high school student, I gleaned all these speculations and more. But rampant rumors distort the true character of MLC. Here’s what I wish I’d known then.

Nestled on a hill in New Ulm, Minnesota, MLC offers four-year, state-certified teaching degrees as well as staff ministry and preseminary programs. The people here aren’t perfect, but they care. “How are you?” is a ubiquitous question, and people genuinely want to know the answer. It’s not an exclusive club, and although some students initially cling to their high school friends, those barriers fade.

People here want you to be happy. The teachers aren’t ruthless taskmasters, nor do they lecture to an auditorium of strangers. They yearn for your success in class, life, and ministry. They understand you may still be questioning your path.

It will be ok. You won’t have to change to thrive at MLC. I wish I’d known that by the time the snow faded in April, I’d wonder how the time had disappeared, how I’d met such amazing people, and how I’d started to think of MLC as home.

Pictured: Megan Butth (East Coweta HS-GA / Faith-Sharpburg GA), Kara Peter, and Elena Thoma (Manitowoc LHS / St. Peter-Sturgeon Bay WI) hang out in the dorms.

