

September 30, 2020



Parents *Page*

E-NEWSLETTER

What Will October Be Like?

Your first-year student is settling in! We're sure you're wondering just what they're going through. Well, the transition to college is different for everyone, but here are a few events and emotions your student might be experiencing:

Still lots of excitement: They're still meeting new faces, new spaces, new challenges. God is good!



Chapel services: Awesome. 'Nuff said!

Weather: In October in southern Minnesota, we expect an average high of 60 and low of 37.

Academics: They may be wondering: Is this what college is really like? Can I handle this course work? Am I using my time well? Do the professors like me? What are college midterm exams going to be like?

Handling new freedoms: They're learning to be more responsible, which is all good! Daily decisions include issues like these: Should I go disc golfing or finish that project? Should I limit my Snapchat / Instagram / Twitter time? Do I need to be more careful with my money?

Fitting In: They may not have found a group of really good friends yet. They may also be surprised that the campus culture isn't what they thought it would be. These things take time!

Breakups: High school romances may fade or break entirely, which can be upsetting.

Homesickness: They may call and text you a lot. Some may battle the urge to give up and go home where things are familiar. But this will pass!

Sports, music, fun: Even with COVID-19 restrictions, there's so much to do on campus! Musical rehearsals. Intramurals and intra-squad games. Knight Time on the patio. Walks in Flandrau State Park. Ultimate Frisbee and disc golf. The list goes on. (See "From the Portal" below.)

All these challenges, all these conflicting emotions—they're all normal! Each student will settle into life at MLC in their own way. Be patient with them and don't worry. They're growing, and sometimes growth is painful. God is taking care of them, and they'll be fine!

† COVID-19: IWILL4U †

By Vice President Jeff Schone

Once again, we thank our gracious God that he has not allowed an outbreak of COVID-19 on our campus.

Our students—your students—continue to live by our theme IWILL4U. Notice that the IWILL4U slogan has a cross both before and after it. This is meant to communicate the power behind our life of sanctification and love, namely the love and redemption of Christ. This is also the truth about our Christian freedom, namely that we are free to love and serve God and our neighbor, unbound by the chains of sin and guilt and condemnation.

In Christian freedom, then, our students are showing concern for others by practicing masking and social distancing.

But please don't picture them holed up in their dorm rooms! Nope, they're out and about on campus.

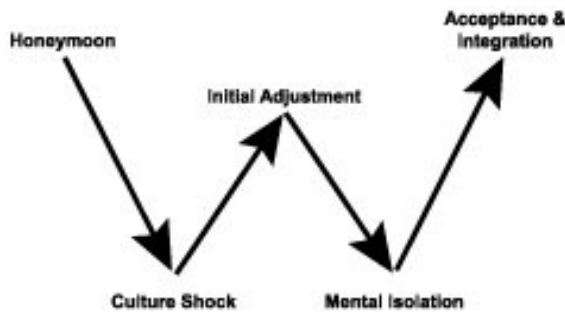
They're going to class, worshiping in Chapel of the Christ, and spending lots of time outdoors. They're eating at the new picnic tables, playing disc golf and ultimate Frisbee, enjoying "Knight Time" music and games at the new Augustana/Concord patio, and even taking a long bike ride with President Gurgel. (We called it Pedal with the Prez. *See the photo below.*)

Find everything you need to know here: [COVID-19 Updates](#)



Is the Honeymoon Over?

The W-Curve Explains the Emotional Journey of First-Years



Does the following sound familiar?

Your student was so excited to come to MLC. And the first few days were great! Orientation was fun. They met cool people at the mixer. Their classes sounded interesting, and the profs were nice. They felt like real college students. Wow! Things were good. Then . . . CRASH!

For some students, going away to college is like going to a foreign country. They experience a kind of culture shock. Two psychologists, Zeller and Mosier (1993), found that students going to college for the first time experience a predictable pattern of stages called the W-Curve.

[More.](#)

Should My Student Have a Credit Card?



By JoElyn Krohn, MLC Financial Literacy Coordinator

This is a great question. The short answer is: *It depends!*

- Having a credit card can help a student **build strong credit** prior to graduating and living independently. Having good credit is important when applying for car loans, mortgages, and even apartment leases. Students may be purchasing things like gas for their cars anyway, so showing they can make a purchase and pay it off right away helps build credit.
- Credit cards have a bit **more protection** than debit cards if the number is compromised and someone makes fraudulent purchases. A new credit card can be mailed out and erroneous charges removed very quickly. *A debit card is directly attached to a bank account, so fraudulent charges take funds directly from the account, and it can be a long process to get the funds restored.*
- However, **debt can easily accumulate** without self-discipline. It is easy for students to get into financial trouble if they make purchases they haven't budgeted for. Students who always want the newest and best stuff are especially vulnerable. It's essential that students understand the difference between needs and wants, how interest impacts purchases, and ultimately how their financial habits impact their overall financial health.



This is something you'll want to discuss carefully with your student. MLC students can learn more about this topic through MLC Direction, the financial literacy program, which consists

Video Update



Senior **Derek Gulrud** (*Lakeside*) gives us a little [September 25 update](#) in this recent YouTube video!

Derek is a football player and a double-major in Spanish and secondary vocal music. See what he loves about MLC, even during a pandemic.

If They Need to Talk



Has your student said anything like this to you?

- It's really hard to fit in here.
- This isn't what I expected.
- I don't feel like myself.

These are all fairly common thoughts for a first-year student, but that doesn't make them any easier to work through.



If your student is struggling with these or any other personal or spiritual concerns (stress and anxiety, depression, guilt, temptation, low self-esteem, and so on), MLC has many people ready to help. Mature friends, trusted faculty members, RAs, and dorm supervisors are always available.



In addition, students can get confidential counseling from Director of Women's Housing [Angela Scharf](#) (*pictured, top*), Campus Pastor [John Boeder](#) (*pictured, middle*), and VP for Student Life [Jeff Schone](#) (*pictured, bottom*).

MLC has also established a counseling arrangement with both Christian Family Solutions, the counseling arm of Wisconsin Lutheran Child & Family Service, and Footsteps Counseling Service, privately operated by an ELS counselor. Between these two services, MLC is able to have a professional licensed WELS/ELS counselor on campus

Monday through Friday. Those who would benefit from these services can get referrals from Pastors Boeder or Schone.

In some cases MLC can assist students with counseling costs.

If one falls down, his friend can help him up(Ecclesiastes 4:10).

From the Portal



The MLC Portal is our campus bulletin board. A quick glance reveals recent opportunities your student has had:

- **Pedal with the Prez:** Student Events and the Mission Advancement Office invites you to join President Gurgel on an 11-mile bike ride with a Taste of New Ulm along the way. At each stop, there will be tasty refreshments and great presentations. Saturday, September 19, 1-4 pm.
- **Knight Sky:** Professors Tacke, Diersen, Fenske, and Paulsen (Em.) will provide telescopes and instruction so you can see the stars, Jupiter and Saturn, and maybe even the Andromeda galaxy. Friday, September 18, 8:30-10 pm.
- **Fitness Center:** Reserve your 20-minute time slot under "Bookings" in the Portal. The Fitness Center is open 5:30 am-11:00 pm on weekdays. Slightly shorter hours on weekends.
- **New Ulm Tennis Tournament:** Recreation and competitive brackets. September 19-20. MLC courts.
- **Constitution Day displays:** Library September 14-18.
- **September Wellness BINGO:** [Download](#) it, follow the directions, and qualify for a prize.
- **Disc Golf League:** Sign up for competitive or recreational divisions. Rounds played on MLC's campus course.
- **Spanish immersion:** Students from MLC and other colleges can study five weeks in Buenos Aires May 23-June 26, 2021. Open to all. Contact Professor Bases.
- **Virtual Fun Run:** Fun Run will be virtual this year, on October 3. It's [open](#) to all friends of MLC everywhere in the world. (You too, parents!) Register for Fun Run and order T-shirt [online](#).
- **Campus political discussions:** A faculty/student group will facilitate discussions throughout the semester. First step: Watch for a survey on discussion topics.
- **Intrasquad scrimmages:** Come watch! Wear masks if you cannot social distance. Tickets are required for volleyball, soccer, and football. The tickets are free, and students can pick them up in the Athletics Office. First come, first served.
 - September 25, 7:00 pm: volleyball
 - September 26, 10:30 am: softball (no tickets)
 - September 27, 2:00 pm: women's soccer
 - October 1, 4:30/5:15 pm: cross country (no tickets)
 - October 1, 7:00 pm: volleyball
 - October 2, 4:15 pm: football
 - October 3, 1:00/3:00 pm: soccer
- **Saturday Fun:** Free root beer floats available to all students who come to the women's soccer match at 2:00. (Tickets required - but they're free!) After the soccer match, RAs will host yard games like spikeball, cornhole, ultimate, and more.
- **2020 Election Info:** College students may vote as a resident of their home precinct or as a resident of New Ulm. MLC Librarian Mrs. Kramer emailed all students the information they need for voting. Also see [MNVotes.org](#).
- **Knight Time events:** Come to the Augustana/Concord courtyard for hot apple cider and entertainment 8-9 pm.
 - Thursday, September 24: Bedtime Stories and Brain Breaks
 - Monday, September 28: Music by Man's Last Chance
 - Tuesday, September 29: MLC Family Feud
- **Sunday fitness class:** September 27, 4 pm, outside LSC.
- **Reach Out:** This new group on campus is meant to equip MLC students to reach out

- with the gospel. Meetings Wednesdays 8-8:45 pm on Google Meet.
- **Marriage plans?** Students with marriage plans are encouraged to meet with Director of Financial Aid Mark Bauer to discuss financial aid ramifications.
 - **Interested in Tech?** The Technology Advisory Committee is seeking two students. No special tech knowledge needed. Just bring a desire to make a difference. Contact Professor Fenske.
 - [Scholarships](#)
 - [Employment Opportunities](#)

The Gallery Is Open

Check out photos of Orientation, worship, athletics, music, and much more in the [MLC Photo Gallery](#).



Mark the Date



Note: In-person attendance at these events is limited to the campus family. Please join us by streaming!

[Homecoming Weekend](#)

Thu-Sun/Oct 1-4

Volleyball intrasquad scrimmage

Thu/Oct 1, 7:00 pm (*tentative starting time*)

([KnightVision Stream](#))

Football intrasquad scrimmage

Fri/Oct 2, 4:15 pm (*tentative starting time*)

([KnightVision Stream](#))

Women's soccer intrasquad scrimmage

Sat/Oct 3, 1:00 pm (*tentative starting time*)

([KnightVision Stream](#))

Men's soccer intrasquad scrimmage

Sat/Oct 3, 3:00 pm (*tentative starting time*)

([KnightVision Stream](#))

Sprinter Fun Run ([Join us](#) at your location)

Sat/Oct 3

Musical Showcase ([MLC Streams](#))

Includes the College Choir, Wind Symphony, Chorale, Männerchor, Women's Choir, and Hosanna Ringers.

Sun/Oct 4

2:00 pm

25th Anniversary Worship Service ([MLC Streams](#))

Service held multiple times over Homecoming weekend (October 2-4) so entire campus family can participate.

Musical: *Spamalot* (Socially Distant Concert-ish Version)

Fri-Sun/Oct 23-25

Final Day of On-Campus Classes

Wed/Nov 25

Thanksgiving Break

Thu-Fri/Nov 26-29

Distance Learning (At Home)

Mon/Nov 30 - Thu/Dec 10

Christmas Break

Fri/Dec 11 - Tue/Jan 5

Classes Resume (On Campus)

Wed/Jan 6 (*Tentative. Final decision pending.*)

[All Events](#)

Parents *UKnighted*



MARTIN LUTHER COLLEGE

Contact us today:

Phone: (507) 354-8221

www.mlc-wels.edu

