

# knightwatch weekly



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November 25, 2020

MARTIN LUTHER COLLEGE

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## A Thanksgiving Message

Israel camped out at the spring of Harod, with their enemies the Midianites waiting for them just to the north. Gideon was the leader of God's people, and, despite the imminent threat of a rival nation, he trusted that God would give the Israelites the victory. After all, he had 32,000 fighting men primed for battle.

But God decided that Gideon was a little too comfortable with what he had.

You know the story from Judges 7. God instructed Gideon to put his army through a series of tests that left him with just 300 men. Still, they obliterated the enemy in a way that no one expected. In the midst of unusual and uncomfortable circumstances, God was in control.



Seven out of 12.

I have written seven of my 12 issues of *Knightwatch Weekly* from my desk here in my bedroom. Many pictures were carefully selected, many Google Meet interviews were conducted, and many cups of coffee were consumed as I typed into the wee hours of the morning.

I learned during my first quarantine how difficult it is to write about a Homecoming week you didn't get to attend. I shed more tears than I care to admit as I tried to choose the perfect 250 words to show you how much I loved the musical that never happened. I fought to give you a glimpse behind masks and social distancing regulations so you could see the smiles, the precious memories, and the friendships that bloomed at MLC this semester.

Because honestly, COVID took nothing out of the 10 weeks we got to enjoy the campus of Martin Luther College. There were fewer chairs in the Chapel of the Christ, but our praises still flew to the highest rafters and filled the room. Our desks were meticulously placed with 6 feet in between them, but the love in every classroom was as tangible as ever.

Because what makes MLC great can't be touched by a virus. Frankly, it's hardly affected by the hundreds of miles that separate our campus family today. We exist for so much more than the "college experience." We chose MLC because "the harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few." Because the hundreds of MLC students tuning in to Google Meets and Moodle forums will one day reach *thousands* of souls in need of a Savior.

Because our God is the God who revealed his glory in the midst of Gideon's uncomfortable circumstances, and he'll do the same for us now. All of us.

This is a Thanksgiving message. Thanks be to God for Martin Luther College. Thanks be to God for the faculty and staff who have spent countless hours making ministerial education possible this semester, both on campus and online. Thanks be to God for the students that walk the halls of our campus and diligently study for their ministries from home. And thanks be to God for you, whether you'll be joining us soon or you simply lift us up in your prayers.

May the God who thrives in even the most uncomfortable situations richly bless you this Thanksgiving!