

knightwatch weekly



MARTIN LUTHER COLLEGE

www.mlc-wels.edu

November 6, 2020

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Luther HS / St. Paul-Onalaska WI

He Will Prepare You for What's Next

Does the thought of knocking on a stranger's door to talk to them about Jesus make you sweat a bit? Do you shake in your boots at the idea of addressing a classroom of brutally honest third graders or a sanctuary full of expectant members? Evangelism can be intimidating! That's why I get so excited when I think about MLC's Evangelism Day—when the whole campus gets the day off from class to listen to real-life evangelists share tales of great successes, heartbreaking setbacks, and how to preach Jesus through it all.

Obviously, 2020 is not the best year to bring dozens of visitors to campus to talk about evangelism, so E-Day couldn't happen. However, we have great pictures from last year, and we can still learn from our faculty, which just bubbles over with sage wisdom about sharing the gospel. They're training evangelists, after all!

Dr. Kari Muenta spoke to me about one of the most valuable lessons she's learned through her ministry and evangelism—to trust God with the plans. “One of the toughest things for us to accept is that God's the one who's in control,” she said. “We go into ministry thinking ‘I want to be just like this teacher’ or ‘I'm going to be like that pastor who influenced me.’ But that's not who God wants you to be . . . He made you to be you, whatever he decides that should look like.”

Dr. Muenta came to MLC as a second-career student, feeling that God was calling her to do something different with her life. One step at a time, he has opened doors to bring her to where she is today. “It's ok not to have it all figured out,” she said. “Go where God is calling you, and he will prepare you for what's next.”

If I had to pinpoint a takeaway from the two Evangelism Days I've been a part of at MLC, it would be that called workers are people too. They wrestle with the same insecurities and self-doubt that trouble you and me from time to time. Praise God for his abundant grace! He chooses to use broken vessels to carry the gospel.

Professor John Schmidt told me, “My evangelism approach these days is simple. You do more evangelism with your ears than with your mouth. You have to listen to people. It's amazing what you'll hear.”

He told a story of a man who sat next to him on a park bench. After Professor Schmidt asked just a few questions, the man unloaded a heartbreaking explanation of the ways his life was falling apart. He had searched far and wide for answers or hope, but found nothing. After hearing him out, Professor Schmidt was able to tell this man about a God who loved him in exactly the way he needed. The stranger walked away feeling lighter, with the Holy Spirit already working in his heart.

Yes, evangelism can be intimidating. But the same God who reassured a terrified Moses with the words “I will help you speak and will teach you what to say” (Exodus 4:12) walks with you. I hope you've gotten a taste of how encouraging Evangelism Day can be, and that one day you'll join us to experience one yourself. I also pray that you'll strive to trust God with the plan for your life, whatever it may be, seeking real conversations with real people about their Savior Jesus.



Jason Jaspersen shares insightful thoughts about the role of art in ministry at E-Day '19.



Brett Burger (*Lakeside / St. John-Waterloo WI*) listens intently as a friend shares her thoughts on using schools for outreach at E-Day '19.



Eric Helmer (*LPS / Zion-Arlington WI*) shares evangelical wisdom with friends **Will Halldorson** (*LPS / Grace-Scroggins TX*) and **Mason Prost** (*LPS / Divine Savior-Doral FL*).