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MARTIN LUTHER COLLEGE

**Tutor Philip Schroeder** (*left*) and **Pastor Aaron Robinson** (*right*) and their wives couldn't help but smile after the gentlemen were installed last Monday.

## **Our Great Heritage**

It was the first day of school, and electricity was in the air as students, faculty, staff, and friends filed into Chapel of the Christ.

Clearly, this year was different from last. We didn't consult a schedule to see which dormitory could come to worship. We saw no gaps separating the brothers and sisters in Christ who love to sing alongside one another. Hymnals and chapel liturgy booklets filled the compartments under the chairs, and our campus family sat in row after row of green padded seats for the first time in nearly 16 months.

After the cross was put in its place by the altar, President Gurgel opened the service and the new semester with a beautiful blessing: "The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen."

This wasn't the only blessing the assembly received that morning. The service was full of them. Pastor Daniel Schroeder of St. Peter-Modesto CA delivered a tremendous sermon about how God prepares his children for service to him. We saw the installation of five new pastors onto the college's faculty and welcomed their families to our school. Finally, every voice joined in the a cappella singing of "God's Word Is Our Great Heritage."

Mine was not the only heart that was full as I walked through the big glass doors after the service to continue my day. President Gurgel himself said, "What a joy to see the entire student body, our guests, families, and visitors with us this day, together in one place, remembering whose we are, who we are, and what we are training for." It truly was a great day to be an MLC Knight and—even better—a child of God.



Some of this year's RAs: (back) Joe Grambsch (Lakeside / Zion-Columbus WI), Seth Koelpin (LPS / Calvary-Dallas); (front) Hannah Kratz (GPL / Our Savior-Birmingham AL), Ally Platzer (Olivet HS-MI / Shepherd of the Hills-Lansing MI), Megan Buth (East Coweta HS-GA / Faith-Sharpsburg GA), Amber Barcalow (Shoreland / Friedens-Kenosha WI), Grace Bain (Luther HS / St. Paul-Onalaska WI), and Kara Peter (MLS / St. James-Portage MI).

## **RAs Set the Tone**

Strong student leadership is one of the most important factors in establishing a campus culture rooted in Christ. MLC's Resident Assistant (RA) staff is up for the job! From serving on late-night cage duty to being compassionate Christian mentors, RAs have one core purpose—to serve the student body of the college faithfully.

Junior RA **Maggie Gabb** (*LPS / St. Paul-Beverly Hills FL*) said, "Christ's love is always present, even when things get tough. I'm excited to be able to constantly remind the girls on my floor of that love throughout the year."

One of the coolest jobs of the RA staff is helping with first-year orientation. This year's crop of prospective called workers bring a ton of energy to the table, rivaled only by their fearless leaders. The first week on campus for these folks culminated in the traditional "Ballroom Blast," a great chance for them to meet their classmates and make fast friends. We appreciate your prayers for what already promises to be another blessed year of learning how to feed Christ's lambs!