

knightwatch weekly



MARTIN LUTHER COLLEGE

www.mlc-wels.edu

October 1, 2021

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Luther HS / St. Paul-Onalaska WI

Say Hello to Professor Daniel Waldschmidt

This week we welcome another new member of our campus family, Professor Daniel Waldschmidt.

Prof. Waldschmidt moved to New Ulm from Burlington, Wisconsin, where he served the congregation at St. John's. He is husband to Cori and father to Luke (6), James (4), Justus (3), and Magdalena (1).

Prof. Waldschmidt is excited to instill in his Greek students the important truth that God equips believers with all different kinds of skillsets for ministry.

"Believe it or not," he said, "I did not do well in high school language classes. But when I came to MLC, I realized studying the New Testament in its original language was an awesome opportunity not to be taken for granted. With this newfound interest and some hard work, I got the hang of the Greek. I hope to inspire in my students that same love for the biblical languages."



A New Man in the Dean's Office

This year MLC also welcomed Prof. James Danell to the position of Academic Dean for Preseminary Studies. He follows Professor Daniel Balge, who completed his term as dean and is now teaching Greek and German. Dean Danell, who's also a German prof, is responsible for a lot of behind-the-scenes administrative work as well as shepherding MLC's prospective pastors.

One of the new dean's first orders of business was getting to know the young men he serves. In the first few weeks of school, he met with each of the seniors. He said that hearing them reflect on their time here at MLC was a highlight of the job so far.

"I'd like for us to always try to make the preseminary program as strong as it can be," he said. "As we learn and progress toward our mission of spreading the gospel, let's find even better ways to evaluate how each of us is doing in that effort. I want to include you students in that conversation."

Dean Danell isn't interested in just connecting students to faculty. Early this semester he implemented a new mentorship program that pairs presem seniors with first-years. The hope is that those going through the rigors of the program for the first time can get some meaningful guidance from those who studied the same Greek verb endings and conditionals a few years ago.

He said, "The best encouragers for students are other students. Profs can say this or that, but when brothers rally around each other in the dorms and help one another to grow, that's what really makes a difference."

This "brotherhood" is something you'll hear about all the time from people in the preseminary program. It's no exaggeration: We really are all in this together, and with each group of first-years, the group grows! Could you see yourself joining us?



Dozens of future pastors pray together at a preseminary fellowship gathering.