

knightwatch weekly



MARTIN LUTHER COLLEGE

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Luther HS / St. Paul-Onalaska WI

Ready to Share the Good News

What's your absolute favorite thing to do? Imagine that someone told you there was an opportunity to travel the country for 10 days, doing that thing with some of the people you love most, all the while taking tourist stops at beautiful and fascinating places. Members of the College Choir find themselves in this idyllic situation each March as they embark on a carefully planned tour across the nation, carrying the gospel in their vocal cords. This year's tour took these MLC students from New Ulm to South Dakota, Colorado, Texas, and everywhere in between.



Each glorious day of tour is its own adventure. Sixty-five choir members wake up with the sun and board a coach bus, full of instruments, luggage, and plenty of snacks. After a quick ride, it's time to hop off at places like the Kauffman Center in Kansas City MO (*pictured, top right*) or the Badlands of South Dakota, depending on the day. At the conclusion of a few memory-making hours, the traveling troubadours board the bus again to finish their journey to the best part of tour. . . .

A representative pastor or teacher from the church is often waiting at the door to welcome the choir, ready to share their flock for a night. Next, a flurry of instrument cases, robe bags, dresses, and ties flies off the bus as the choir sets up and prepares to share a meal with other brothers and sisters in Christ. When it's concert time, the front of the church is packed full of polyester robes as the choir stands wall to wall, ready to share the good news. When they've sung their last note and wiped the last happy tear from their eyes, another kind of ministry begins. Generous hosts from the congregation have already volunteered to open their homes for the night, providing not only a bed to occupy, but plenty of snacks and stories too.

"Meeting new people on choir tour is a great way to experience ministry," said longtime choir member **Carl Boeder** (*MVL / St. Peter-St. Peter MN*). "People around the country experience the same joys and struggles that we do. I love getting on the bus with a new perspective every morning!" Junior **Maggie Gabb** (*LPS / St. Paul-Beverly Hills FL*) feels the same way. "I love listening to people's stories! Practicing my social skills in this way is a great opportunity to let my Christian light shine."

One of the coolest parts of tour usually happens right after a concert as the pastor comes forward to thank everyone for coming. He's often emotional, with beautiful words of encouragement to share. He points to the choir and reminds the assembly that each and every voice represents a willing servant who, Lord-willing, will share the gospel with hundreds of souls at a school or congregation of their own. "It makes me so happy to think about all of the people in our choir and know that we all hope to be colleagues in the ministry someday," said senior **Livia Lickteig** (*KML / David's Star-Jackson WI*).

Can you imagine your face among the sea of robes? If you're eager to start doing ministry while you're still in college, an audition for one of MLC's choirs is a great place to start. We're excited to sing with you!