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MARTIN LUTHER COLLEGE

Evangelism: Joys and Challenges

Evangelism is a joy and privilege, but it can also sometimes feel like a battlefield, as we fight on the shores of souls and brave unknown territory. That's why MLC has Evangelism Day (E-Day), when teachers, preachers, and staff ministers from around the globe come to talk about their ministry experiences. On our E-Day last Wednesday, we gleaned invaluable advice from ministry veterans as they shared their mistakes and successes.

The day began with worship, the sermon by Pastor Jon Hein of the WELS Commission on Congregational Counseling. "The service," said **Sheldon Habben** (*WLHS / Mt. Calvary-Waukesha WI*), "was a beautiful and encouraging message that spurred on God's body to use the Word and trust that it will do its work."

Following the service, we could listen to four of the 26 different presenters. They covered myriad topics applicable to all future called workers. Some examples were "Reaching Out to the LGBTQ+ Community" and "Using High Schools to Reach the Lost."

John Slater (Evergreen LHS / Messiah-Olympia WA), a preseminary student, said, "One presentation I attended was 'Fear and a Faithful God in the Final Frontier,' where Pastor Mead talked about his experiences in Asia, Colorado, Alaska, and Georgia. It drove home the idea that God will strengthen me to battle the challenges of evangelism so that I can take more people with me to heaven. Nobody knows the day or hour that God will return, so we need to do what we can now."



Pictured above: Presenter Ben Dose.

After the presentations, the presenters—including Pastor Jon Enter of SCLA (*pictured*)—invited students and faculty to socialize with them in the cafeteria. During this time, we had a chance to ask any burning questions we had and hear additional stories from the presenters.

After a full day, **Melina Satorius** (*LPS / Grace-Falls Church VA*) said, "It was so enriching to hear how these people are practicing evangelism and even starting churches and schools."

And she spoke for all of us when she said, "It's exciting to think of where God will take each of us."

