

knightwatch weekly



MARTIN LUTHER COLLEGE

www.mlc-wels.edu

January 20, 2023



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“Many Parts but One Body”: MLK Day at Martin Luther College



MLC celebrated its annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day this week as another step in preparing us for ministry in a multicultural society.

As Paul tells us, “There are many parts, but one body” (1 Corinthians 12). By God's grace, the body of believers love and understand each other as they live together and as they teach and preach God's Word.

Students began the day focused on Christ in morning chapel. **President Rich Gurgel** preached the sermon based on 1 Corinthians 12, and **Pastor Aaron Robinson** incorporated gospel music (*see photo of choir, left*) and liturgical variety into the service.

Immediately following the service, keynote speaker Ronald Kelly, a WELS pastor-in-training, spoke to students about his life and finding his strength in spreading the gospel.

After the keynote, we chose from several activities. In a social dynamic simulation, students tackled issues related to land use, resources, and education. Another activity taught future teachers some strategies to improve communication as the classroom diversifies. An art workshop (*see photo, right*), a music clinic, and a movie discussion were other options.

Pastor Robinson also invited students to join him for a “Voices of the Civil Rights” presentation, where he showed many approaches to bridging the cultural gap in the WELS.



The final event of the day allowed students to ask questions of some of the speakers. The panel (*pictured left*) included Pastor Robinson, MLC cultural diversity coordinator; Martín Santos, MLC admissions counselor; and Ronald Kelly, the keynote speaker. The discussion tied a nice bow on the celebration and made sure to center our eyes on the one who brings us all together, Christ.

One student, **Shawn Zumbach** (*Wisconsin LHS / Woodlawn-West Allis WI*), summed the day up nicely, saying, “MLK Day is an important day to see and understand perspectives other than your own. It's also exciting to see how the outreach of the church is vastly changing as we further God's kingdom.”