

knightwatch weekly



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MARTIN LUTHER COLLEGE



Of All the Colleges . . . Why MLC?

We know the college decision is one of the hardest ones you've ever had to make. So many choices! And you have so many different gifts and interests—which ones do you follow? Truth is, the decision was difficult for some of our student ambassadors too. Maybe reading about their journeys will help just a little bit with yours.



Ministry for this moment: I was very into politics and what was going on in the world. I enjoyed watching debates and political arguments about pretty much everything. I had this idea since 8th grade that I'd go into political science and attend a huge university. In 2020 when the whole world started falling apart, I realized that everything I had cared about for so long was really just making me

sad—the anger people had toward each other and the way we were fighting over this new virus. I took a step back and looked at the career I once loved with my whole heart and realized there was no peace, no joy, but just complete and utter chaos.

I didn't plan on being a teacher, but my high school history teacher, **Mr. Jesse Nofftz MLC '15**, told me all about his story and how he became a teacher. Slowly but surely the idea kept growing in my mind, and I couldn't stop thinking about it. The way I could still take what I loved—the politics, the debates, the geography—and not only teach that to kids and show them how amazing it is, but also add God's Word. Show them that even when things are hard, like the COVID pandemic, there is God's grace. Even when the world seems to be split in two due to politics, we know as Christians that we love and cherish everyone.

I am so thankful that this is the path that I was led down, and honestly it came out of the blue for me.

Hailey Rice (*RML / Living Hope-Denver*)



It's about changing lives: MLC was always on my radar, but I also looked into colleges with tracks in journalism and psychology. The best word of advice someone shared with me was just pointing out how many people's lives I can change by being a teacher. Not only do I tell children about their Savior, but think of all the people they tell about what they learn in school!

Alyssa Heckendorf (*FVL / Light of the Valleys-Reno NV*)



Getting ministry experience convinced him: I was pretty set on MLC, but it was for teacher track. I'd also thought about being a game warden or a police officer—until I did mission work with some churches. Then I realized God had given me gifts for pastoral ministry, and I'm glad I decided to come.

Nathan Pausma (*WLA / St. Luke-Oakfield WI*)



It's about relationships: I've always wanted to be a teacher. Both my parents are teachers, and I wanted to be just like them as I witnessed them develop Christ-centered relationships with their students and faculty. I also love working with children of all ages and watching them grow and develop in their faith and gifts. My family and family friends

have been huge supporters for me as I considered how to best serve my Savior. Teaching isn't always about how much knowledge you give to your students. It's about the influence you have on your students to bring them closer to God. I love meeting people and forming connections with them, and I hope to bring this positivity to my future classroom someday.

Kate Mensching (*LPS / St. Luke-Watertown WI*)



Her teachers' encouragement hit home:

I'd always had the idea of coming to MLC on the back-burner, but I was super interested in going to school at UW-La Crosse, UW-Madison, or Grand Canyon University in Arizona for a business or education degree. I was unsure of what I wanted to do exactly, and my soccer coach, **Mrs. Hannah Uher MLC '17**, along with

my history teacher, **Mr. Matt Doering MLC '96**, strongly encouraged me to consider the public ministry. The time they took out of their days to tell me personally that I could be a good candidate for public ministry really struck home with me.

Lydia Krenke (*Lakeside LHS / St. John-Jefferson WI*)