

## New Counselors—They’re Here for You!

As 2023 graduates, our newest admissions counselors clearly remember asking themselves the questions you’re asking right now: *Where should I go to college? What should I do with my life?* They each said “Here am I” to MLC and the public ministry of the gospel. But that’s not to say it was an easy journey for all of them. Give their stories a read!



**Alyssa Heckendorf** (*FVL*) is a counselor you’ll meet if you’re from DSA-Doral, FVL, GPL, KML, Lakeside, LPS, Northland, Nebraska, or WISCO. “When I was considering my future,” she says, “I wanted to make a difference in people’s lives. I saw MLC as a path to influencing not only my students’ learning but also their eternal life.”

Alyssa says she had great examples in her teachers at Immanuel-Greenville WI and FVL: “I can think about every single one of my teachers, and I can describe at least one way they impacted my life.”

Her advice to you: “Do your research. Find a school with professors who are committed to you and your learning, a place that creates valuable lifelong friendships, and a place that lets your light shine. Get onto campus and picture yourself as a student. Consider each school’s opportunities, whether it’s fine arts, athletics, volunteering, or travel. But most importantly, consider how each school will affect your faith. Because that is what will matter most to you.”

Random fact to ask Alyssa about: How did she once win a brand-new car?

**Seth Hackbarth** (*Lakeside*) and **Ezra Blumer** (*SCLA*) graduated from MLC and are enjoying their first year of pastoral training at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary. But they’re also checking out games, concerts, and other events at Lakeside, LPS, KML, Shoreland, Kingdom Prep, WISCO, WLA, and Manitowoc LHS. They’re hoping to talk to a lot of you!



When Seth (*pictured left*) was a senior, he thought about the military, accounting, engineering, and pastoral ministry. “Being a pastor was at the back of that list,” he says, “but from little bits of encouragement, I decided to try out MLC. I’ve now realized how great a blessing it is to enter the ministry—the blessing of sharing the peace I have daily from God’s promises with others *as a job*. So don’t take MLC out of your consideration. The people you meet, your experiences, and most importantly, the message of God you hear every day are worth considering when you look into a college.”

When you meet Seth, be sure to ask him what he knows about krypton, bismuth, and copernicium. “Science is my least favorite subject,” he says, “but I can sing the whole periodic table.”



Ezra (*pictured left*) admits that MLC was not his first choice either. “I attended the University of Minnesota for a year, pursuing a career in high-level coaching for basketball. Then God placed on my heart a desire for ministry. The professors at MLC were so kind in helping me get back on track so I could graduate on time with my class. Ultimately, God was working behind the scenes. He guided my steps and brought me to where I’m at!”

Ezra encourages you to ask yourself one question: “How do you want to use your short time on this earth to serve the kingdom?” The Bible describes our lives as a mist, a simple vapor in the wind. If all we have is a short blip on the screen, the question should not be ‘How can we live it up while here on this earth?’ Instead, it’s more worthwhile to take inventory of the gifts and talents God has given you and then

consider how you can best use those gifts to make a difference for the kingdom. Remember, there’s no bad answer in this!”



Meet our four other counselors, the veterans, inside *KnightWatch* magazine (pp 4-5).