October 3, 2024

MLC Alumni Association 1995 Luther Court New Ulm, MN 56073

Dear Members of the MLC Alumni Association,

I'm writing to you to express the full extent of my gratitude for your donation. I'm Juan Carrasquero. I've been at Martin Luther College for one year and there is a lot I've picked up during my time on campus. In retrospect, I find myself to be very blessed to be where I am today.

I came to this country when I was only five years old. I don't remember much from Venezuela, except my family, the majority of which have made their way to the United States but some are still back there. I have adopted as much of the culture as it has adopted me. I went through public school before I ended up in Divine Savior Academy where I began to grow more in faith and became closer to Christ. Despite being raised Catholic, Lutheran



doctrine quickly grew on me, and since the tenth grade, I've been a confirmed WELS Lutheran, along with my family who also converted to Lutheranism.

I wish I could say that it's been easy getting here, but no. However, the struggles that have led me here are all parts of God's plan for me. Much of the reason I'm pursuing the ministry is Christ is the only help I have ever had. I look back at myself and realize that all of the struggles in my life have brought me to where I am, and His love moves me to go out into the world. While I still expect there to be struggles in my life, I rest in knowing that God's in control of it all. Because of that, I want to share this gift with others. So, thank you, for even though we don't know each other, you were moved by the same amazing grace as I was. I aspire to do the same someday.

Sincerely,

Juan A. Carrasquero