

ENROLLMENT

714 Undergraduates on campus

51% Female **49% Male**

Representing **34** states and **5** countries

MINISTRY PROGRAMS

Part-time and full-time students

EDUCATION

Includes Staff Ministry

143 First-year
132 Sophomore
104 Junior
116 Senior
31 Fifth-year
4 Other

530 Total

PRESEMINARY

Year of graduation

55 2023-24
38 2022-23
56 2021-22
35 2020-21

184 Total

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

98 ECE program students

EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING CENTER

83 Children
4 Lead teachers
14 Student teachers
1 Director
6 Staff



CONTINUING ED / GRADUATE STUDIES

919 Continuing Education students

146 Graduate Studies students

13 MA Theological Studies
53 MS Educational Admin
41 Principal
12 ECE Director

80 MS Education
28 Instruction
17 Leadership
16 Special Ed
19 Ed Tech



CALL DAY 2020 GRADUATES



99 Education
39 Preseminary
23 Master of Science

150 Assignments on Call Day

Commission on Lutheran Schools reported **82** teacher vacancies in May.

NEW TEACHER INDUCTION

199 Beginning Teachers

142 Schools

131 Mentors



ECW CAMPAIGN GIVING UPDATE

\$1,806,586 Donated or Pledged to ECW

2,966 Total Gifts

1,829 Donors



EQUIPPING
CHRISTIAN
 WITNESSES

CONGREGATIONAL PARTNER GRANT PROGRAM

601 Students supported

272 Congregations participating

\$538,367 Given by congregations



NEW FACES ON CAMPUS

These servants of Christ were installed or ordained at our opening service. We pray for God's blessings on their work among us. *L to R:*

Mr. Martín Santos - Admissions Counselor

Rev. Rich Gurgel - MLC President

Ms. Erin Keese - Early Childhood Learning Center Lead Teacher

Rev. Jordan Uhlhorn - Dormitory Supervisor and Instructor

Mr. Dave Biedenbender - Admissions Counselor

MLC RESPONSE TO COVID-19

Under God's grace, we have reopened our New Ulm campus, including our residence halls. We are delivering our classes face to face with all the necessary precautions in place for the safety of our campus and our community.



In making this decision, we continue to draw upon the best resources and information available. We continue to be guided by the Center for Disease Control and the Minnesota Department of Health. We are also communicating and collaborating with Brown County Public Health and local medical centers as we consider the health needs of our students, faculty, and staff—especially those at increased risk for the COVID-19 virus. **By God's grace, at the time of this reporting, our number of positive cases has been in the single digits, and those needing to be quarantined have been relatively few.**

Through all the changing conditions in our society, we trust a Savior who holds our lives in his nailed-marked hands. In careful stewardship of his gifts of health and strength, we will work to keep our campus family safe, from dormitory to classroom to athletic venue. We will show love to our neighbors in the New Ulm community by hosting only essential, safe, on-campus events, and providing virtual events whenever possible. To view our updated plans, visit the MLC website and click on our updated plans for COVID-19.



**CAMPAIGN
DELAYED**

Our promotion of the EQUIPPING CHRISTIAN WITNESSES (ECW) campaign has been hindered by COVID-19 restrictions. Also, during recent months we have paused our campaign appeals to show consideration for congregations and individuals who may be challenged by any associated financial restrictions. However, the needs for ministry recruitment, increased student financial assistance, and campus facility enhancements are still very real. We are thankful for so many who have kept ECW in their prayers and their donations. An extension of the campaign until June 30, 2022, has been approved by the Conference of Presidents, and requests for presentations and materials have already increased through the fall months. Watch for more updates and reports as we re-energize our efforts to celebrate the silver anniversary of MLC!

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

"God willing." (*Deo volente* for lovers of Latin!) To whatever extent we had thoughtlessly dropped that phrase from our vocabulary, 2020 has been powerfully at work to restore that thinking to our everyday conversations. God is no doubt using the current global pandemic to teach us many things, but is it possible that more than anything, he has taught us the conditional nature of all human plans? Did you enjoy the Summer Olympics? Sorry! Canceled. That long-awaited trip overseas? Maybe next year. The large extended family reunion? Can you say, "Zoom"?



Of course, it is sad if it took a pandemic to drive that home to my heart! Chapter 4 of James' letter long ago pointed out the arrogance of human presumption. "Now listen, you who say, 'Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money.' Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. Instead, you ought to say, 'If it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that'" (James 4:13-15).

But as much as this is a call to repentance, to remember that we live *deo volente*, isn't it most of all an invitation to delight in grace? God's plans and thoughts are not only far higher than ours (Isaiah 55:8-9), his plans for us in Jesus are far more glorious than we could ever have imagined (1 Corinthians 2:9). Planning and living each day under the theme *deo volente* isn't a burden God imposes on us. In Jesus it is a blessing God bids us to enjoy.

As you look in this report at what the 2020-2021 school year looks like at MLC, and what may (or may not) be coming our way the rest of this year, this much is certain: God's plans may or may not surprise us, but they will most certainly bless our college of ministry and those who call this hill their home. These early weeks of our semester have already shown us that in multiple ways we'd never have anticipated just a year ago.

Who knew? Our Savior did! Such is his good and gracious will!

In Him,

Rich Gurgel - President, Martin Luther College

If you have any questions related to this report or other matters related to our ministry, contact us at mlcinfo@mlc-wels.edu.

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