



EQUIPPING  
**CHRISTIAN**  
WITNESSES







Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary



Northwestern College



Dr. Martin Luther College



Martin Luther College

# *Martin Luther College*

## The WELS College of Ministry



*Thanking the Lord of the Church for the legacy of WELS ministry training*

**Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary**  
1863 – present

**Northwestern College**  
1865 – 1995

**Dr. Martin Luther College**  
1884 – 1995

**Martin Luther College**  
1995 – present



Past To Present  
- Connections



Watch Video

***Martin Luther College Mission:***  
To train a corps of Christian witnesses who are qualified to meet the ministry needs of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod.





## From President Rich Gurgel

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Jesus said it simply and powerfully: “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field” (Matthew 9:37-38).

In our WELS family, one key way God answers that prayer is through Martin Luther College. Here we prepare a new generation of well-equipped and faithful staff ministers, teachers, and pastors for that harvest. As we celebrate 25 years of God’s blessings on MLC, we ask our whole synod to reinvigorate this partnership in the task of **EQUIPPING CHRISTIAN WITNESSES**.

In this booklet’s pages you will find why we urge you to partner with us in **STUDENT RECRUITMENT**, to help us increase **FINANCIAL AID**, and to help us make our campus even more welcoming and well-equipped through new **FACILITIES**.

Enjoy the tour you are about to take!

**STUDENT RECRUITMENT**



**900-1,000 STUDENTS**

Eager to Train for Gospel Ministry

**STUDENT FINANCIAL AID**



Congregational Partner Grant Matching Fund

**\$3-5 M**

**STUDENT FACILITIES**



Residence Hall **\$12 M**

Athletic Center **FUNDED!**





## We Are the WELS College of Ministry

Martin Luther College, along with Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, prepares and provides pastors, teachers, and staff ministers for . . .

- 349,014 WELS members
- 1,269 WELS congregations
- 369 WELS preschools
- 281 WELS grade schools
- 28 WELS high schools



“So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up.”

Ephesians 4:11-12



## What Does MLC Have to Do with Me?

Though Martin Luther College may be tucked away in a little town in southern Minnesota, we would humbly submit that this college is central to the ministry of your congregation and your Lutheran school—and, by extension, the spiritual nurture of your family and your own life of faith.

The pastors and teachers who share the Word of Christ with you were almost certainly educated at Martin Luther College or its predecessor colleges, NWC and DMLC. When your church or school needs to call a new pastor, teacher, or staff minister, they will have received their ministry training at MLC too.



The Importance  
of MLC to WELS



Watch Video



# MLC Graduates

By the Spirit's grace, MLC graduates know Scripture, love Jesus, and want to share Jesus' love and forgiveness with you, your children, and your grandchildren. They are ...



**Preseminary graduates** who have been immersed in the biblical languages and the liberal arts, and who are prepared to enroll at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary. There they'll dive even deeper into Scripture, mature in their faith, and practice the skills of a loving pastor.



**Teachers** who create classrooms where Christ is the center, where the latest educational research is harnessed, and where children are loved and challenged so that they'll grow into their God-given potential and purpose.



**Staff ministers** who fill congregational calls in evangelism, music, family and youth ministry, administration, and so much more.



## Ready to Serve

Our graduates are ready and eager to use their gifts to LEAD, TEACH, and SERVE:

- Administer the Sacraments
- Teach Bible Stories
- Plan Worship Services
- Lead Adult Bible Study
- Lead Youth Group
- Direct Church Choir
- Counsel Families
- Coordinate Sunday School
- Provide Worship Music
- Lead a School as Principal
- Open a Preschool
- Teach Children to Read
- Serve as Athletic Director
- Teach High School STEM
- Direct Band and Choir
- Teach the Humanities
- Open a Mission Start
- Teach English Abroad
- SO MUCH MORE



The Holy Spirit forms servant hearts in MLC students even before they enter the full-time ministry. After Hurricane Michael hit Florida in October 2018, MLC Daylight Program students helped with cleanup at Grace Lutheran Church in Panama City. One Daylight team stayed for the church's first worship service after the storm and joined the congregation in singing, "What Is the World to Me."



# ENROLLMENT

Fall 2020

**714** Undergraduates on campus

51% Female 49% Male

**99%** Traditional age students

## MINISTRY PROGRAMS

Part-time and full-time students

## EDUCATION

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

---

**530** Total

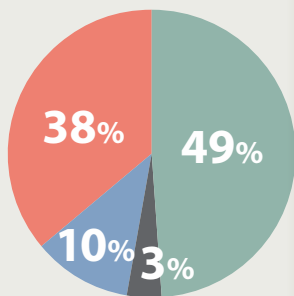
## PRESEMINARY

Year of graduation

**55** 2023-24  
**38** 2022-23  
**57** 2021-22  
**34** 2020-21

---

**184** Total



### Undergrad Students by High School

Area Lutheran High Schools 49%  
WELS Prep Schools 38%  
Public 10%  
Other 3%

## STUDENT RECRUITMENT

900-1,000 STUDENTS  
EAGER TO TRAIN FOR  
GOSPEL MINISTRY

## Encouraging Future Christian Witnesses

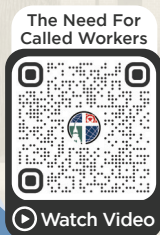
This pillar of our campaign depends on the spiritual gift of encouragement.

For many of our students, it was just one person's encouragement that motivated their decision to become a pastor or teacher. That person may have been another pastor or teacher, a spiritually mature member of their congregation, a grandparent they admire, their loving parents, or a trusted friend.

We humbly ask you to encourage prospective students as well. Why? Because we need many more Christian witnesses. We are facing both ...

- a concerning number of **CURRENT VACANCIES** in our congregations and schools and
- an exciting and almost unimaginable number of **OPEN DOORS** to new ministries.

MLC enrolls about 700 on-campus undergraduate students. Could that number grow to 900? To 1,000? Perhaps. What we know for certain is that higher enrollment numbers are required to meet the numbers in need: the thousands of souls in existing WELS congregations who are needing a new pastor or teacher and cannot get one ... the hundreds of thousands across the world who are asking for biblical instruction ... and the multitudes who do not even realize that they are lost.

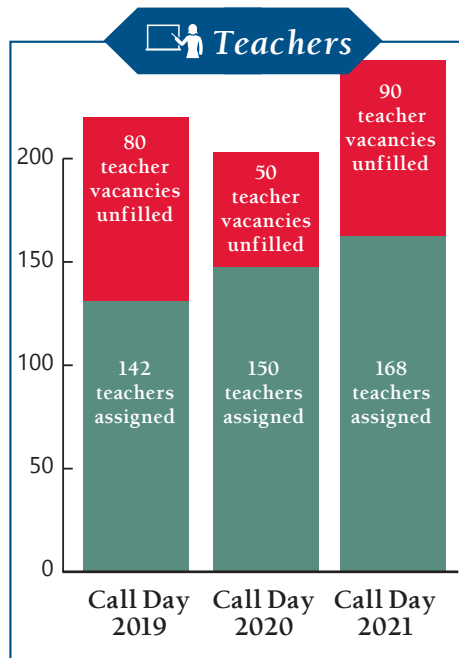
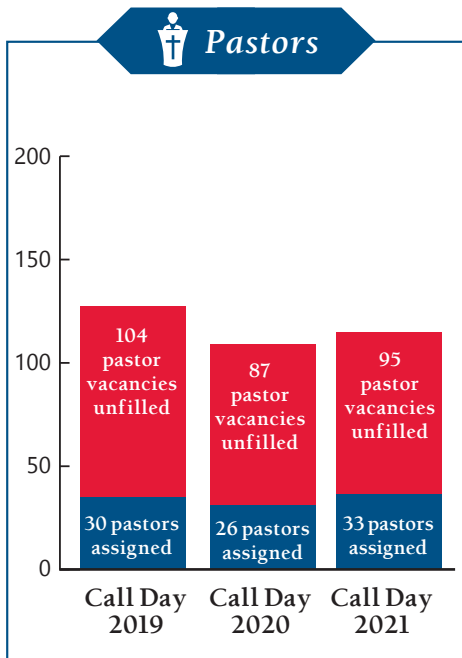




## Current Vacancies

For several years, we've had an increasing demand for more pastors and teachers. Large numbers of baby boomers are retiring, and we simply don't have enough candidates to replace them.

After new pastors and teachers were assigned in May, many congregational vacancies remained. If your congregation is one that's been waiting for a new pastor or teacher, you understand the need firsthand.



“Throughout high school, my teachers and professors encouraged me and my classmates to consider the public ministry. One of my tutors, Matt Rothe, really encouraged me to give MLC a chance. My parents were supportive, and my mother prayed for me and encouraged me along the way. I don't think I was one hundred percent sure even when I stepped onto campus, but I am now.”

**Matt Zeng** MLC '19  
Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary student



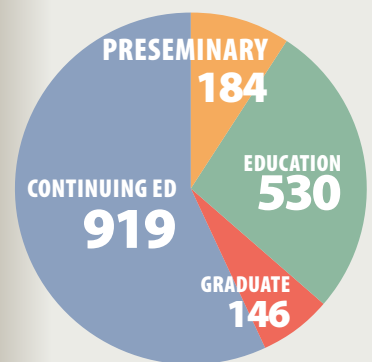
## The “Other” Enrollment

MLC's total enrollment includes hundreds of students taking courses in graduate studies and continuing education (GSCE). In fact, these GSCE students outnumber our on-campus undergrads.

GSCE students may be finishing a master's degree in education, educational administration, or theological studies. They may be studying Hebrew on our campus every summer. Or they may be taking workshops and webinars to meet the current needs of their ministries.

Whatever professional and spiritual growth options they choose, we are here to serve them as they humbly strive to become even better equipped for their ministries.

**TOTAL ENROLLMENT:  
1,779 STUDENTS**





## The World Is Calling

In addition to the wide-open door in Vietnam, God has presented us with many other opportunities, all of which require more called workers than we have right now! Here are just a few examples:

In **East and Southeast Asia**, dozens of MLC graduates have served, teaching English and Bible and practicing friendship evangelism. We've also started a school with a current enrollment of 100+.

**Africa** has about 275 congregations served by about a dozen WELS missionaries and many national pastors. We also operate several seminaries.

In **Latin America** tens of thousands of souls are learning about their Savior through the online site and social media presence of *Academia Cristo*, and then welcoming our missionaries who are training people to start their own churches. Ecuador, Paraguay, and Argentina are especially wide open now.

The **Apache** mission with its two schools, East Fork and Peridot-Our Savior's, is growing substantially in enrollment. More teachers and pastors will be needed.

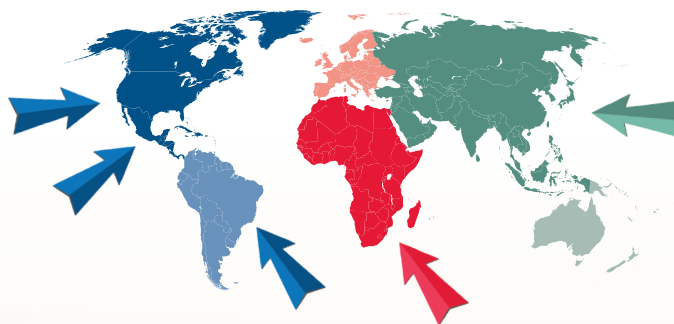
**STUDENT  
RECRUITMENT**

**900-1,000 STUDENTS  
EAGER TO TRAIN FOR  
GOSPEL MINISTRY**

## Open Doors

Never before in our synod's history have so many people from so many countries approached our synod for instruction in the Word and for help in reaching the lost. Never before have we had the technology to teach the gospel in countless homes and many different countries. The Spirit is working through both 'net and jet—technology and transportation—to make the world smaller and God's kingdom bigger.

The Holy Spirit has opened huge doors for us in Asia, Africa, and the Americas. Most recently, the Hmong Fellowship Church in Vietnam—more than 100,000 souls—asked that we provide them with ministerial training. At the invitation of the communist government of Vietnam, we are building a theological training facility in Hanoi.



The Spirit has also opened more doors in our country:

- WELS approves home missions every year, some with preschools. These ministries need workers.
- WELS urban schools, spurred by Parental Choice laws, are outgrowing their facilities and their faculties. Milwaukee alone has capacity for an additional 150 teachers.
- WELS preschools—almost 400 of them!—are proving wonderful seeding grounds for the gospel.
- Four campuses of Divine Savior Academy in Florida and Texas enroll 1,000+ students and are still growing. These schools could field 100 teachers or more over the next few years.

We need more Christian witnesses! We need trained pastors, teachers, and staff ministers to seize these new opportunities to impact the world with the Word.



## Did you know?

In the last dozen years, more than 150 MLC graduates have opted for international service in 13 countries. Our young Christians are travelers, unafraid to step outside boundaries and comfort zones to share the love of the Savior.





## What Can You Do?

How can you help recruit students eager to pursue gospel ministry at MLC—students who might become *your* next pastor, teacher, or staff minister?

You probably can identify a couple students right now in your own mind. Tap them on the shoulder! Be the encourager they need:

- *I really enjoyed the devotion you gave at school. I think you should be a pastor!*
- *You're a magnet for little children! I bet you'd be an excellent preschool teacher.*
- *Have I ever told you about my student days at MLC?*
- *I've noticed the way others follow your lead—would you want to lead a church one day?*
- *God has really given you a gift for [music, athletics, speaking, etc.]. I can see you using that talent in the church!*

Use this QR code to submit a name to MLC electronically. Or go to [mlc-wels.edu/go/recommend](http://mlc-wels.edu/go/recommend). Or use the form on page 23 to submit it to us on paper. We will reach out and ask permission to send the student information about MLC so they can consider ministerial training for their future.



## A Prayer for More Christian Witnesses

The Church is yours, Lord Jesus, and all gospel servants are gifts of your grace. We thank you for them, and we ask you to please send more! Kindle a fire in the hearts of your people—a fire of humility and faith, of courage and compassion—that they might eagerly pursue full-time service to you and your Church. Amen.



“Though not a pastor himself, my Grandpa Rupnow was my inspiration. His selfless attitude of service and faithful love were great motivators, and I wanted that to be the hallmark of everything I did in my life as well.”

**Christian Willick** MLC '19  
Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary student



“In high school many teachers encouraged me to consider MLC. So I came on a Focus on Ministry trip and fell in love with the campus and the idea of being a teacher.”

**Danielle Hall** MLC '18  
Teacher, Zion-Rhineland WI

## Second-Career Students Needed as Well

A police detective . . . a U.S. Marine . . . a bank teller . . . a Fortune 200 management consultant—these are just some of the first careers that our second-career students have left to pursue ministry training at MLC.

Second-career students often bring with them a lifetime of experience that blesses us on campus and serves them well in their kingdom work.



**Adam Lambrecht**, for instance, a 2019 seminary grad (pictured), is now a 40-year-old rookie pastor. He says: “I hope my experiences among the Navajo, or having my wife diagnosed with cancer or having a miscarriage, or wrestling with the adjustments that come from being a ‘nontraditional’ student have helped me develop a broad understanding of how life is sometimes different and difficult and even weird for people. I hope I’m able to encourage others in a very personal and meaningful way what it means when God promises, ‘Never will I leave you, never will I forsake you.’”

Do you know someone who may not have chosen ministry during their college years, but might be uniquely positioned for it now? Perhaps God will use your word of encouragement to point their feet toward a new calling, beginning at Martin Luther College.



**MARTIN LUTHER  
COLLEGE**  
*National  
Recognition*

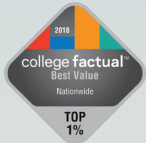


**STUDENT  
FINANCIAL AID**

CONGREGATIONAL  
PARTNER GRANT  
MATCHING FUND \$3-5 M

**Bachelor of  
ARTS & SCIENCE**

**#3 in AMERICA**  
*Best Value*



**Chosen based on**

- Graduate earnings
- Student loan repayment
- Graduation & retention rates

**Also: Top 1%  
in Nation**

“Best Value” for international students

## The Reality of Student Debt

Our second pillar addresses student financial aid.

College debt is a concern across our nation. We at MLC are especially concerned, because we know that our graduates are not entering positions that will allow them to pay off college loans quickly.

Here is the data: 76% of our class of 2021 graduated with debt, and that debt averaged \$26,000.



## MLC Student Debt

HOW MANY STUDENTS  
GRADUATE WITH DEBT? **76%**

WHAT IS THEIR  
AVERAGE DEBT? **\$26,000**

**Master of Science  
IN EDUCATION**

**#1 in AMERICA**  
*Best Value*



**Chosen based on**

- Cost
- Program Quality
- Student Success

**#3 IN AMERICA**  
*Most Affordable*



**Chosen based on**

- Tuition
- High rankings by others

We are driven to keep costs low and quality high, and we are grateful for the synod subsidy that supports approximately fifteen percent of our operating budget. By God's grace, our tuition, room & board is about half that of other private institutions, and our efforts at affordability have been recognized nationally. Several national rankings have placed us at or near the top of their “Best Value” lists.

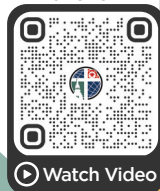
Because we cannot offer as much financial aid as other private colleges, however, the final cost to our students—and their subsequent debt load—is still too high.

We want our students to graduate with as little debt as possible, and we never want cost to deter a prospective student from pursuing their dream of ministry training.

One avenue to help alleviate that debt is the **Congregational Partner Grant Program (CPGP)**. In this pillar of the campaign, we'd like to establish a solid foundation for the CPGP, fully funding MLC's CPGP Matching Fund for years to come.



The Impact  
of CPGP



Watch Video

## Here's How CPGP Works

Through CPGP, MLC matches dollar for dollar, up to \$1,000, the gift a congregation gathers to apply to the tuition of their student at MLC.

As a renewable effort, CPGP can provide four or five years of financial aid support—up to \$10,000 to each student—in addition to the other financial aid the student receives. We're so grateful to God for blessing this program with strong congregational participation.

<b>2021-22 PARTNER CONGREGATIONS</b>	269
<b>STUDENTS RECEIVING GRANTS</b>	569 (87%)
<b>CONGREGATIONAL GRANTS</b>	\$537,000
<b>MLC MATCHING FUNDS</b>	\$537,000
<b>TOTAL GRANT MONIES AWARDED TO STUDENTS</b>	\$1,074,000

In EQUIPPING CHRISTIAN WITNESSES, we are asking you to consider a financial partnership with MLC on behalf of all our sons and daughters. Your gift will help provide the **MLC MATCHING FUNDS** for these congregational gifts.

## How Much Do MLC Students Actually Pay?

<b>2020-21 TUITION, ROOM &amp; BOARD:</b>	<b>\$22,900</b>
<b>AVERAGE GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS:</b>	<b>\$9,806</b>
<b>AVERAGE COST TO STUDENTS/FAMILY:</b>	<b>\$13,094</b>

## Financial Literacy for Students

Financial Literacy Coordinator JoElyn Krohn meets one on one with students at pivotal times in their college careers—as first-year or transfer students, and again as graduating students—to discuss their financial situation.

First-year students review their loans and estimate their post-graduation payments. Graduating seniors review their accumulated debt, make an online account with the loan servicer, and examine repayment options. They also create personalized budgets, learn how to manage their tax status as ministers of the gospel, and review the importance of emergency funds, retirement plans, and simply living within their means.

In addition to these valuable one-on-one meetings, Mrs. Krohn, an Accredited Financial Counselor (AFCPE), also facilitates group sessions and online activities through a program called CashCourse.

One student said, “I thought this was most beneficial in preparing for my financial future with my husband and in taking the necessary and appropriate steps for healthy financial living.”

Benefits of Financial Literacy



Watch Video





## MLC Students Support Themselves Too

Our students and their families take their financial responsibilities very seriously. Many parents help pay for their students' college education—assistance that's much needed and deeply appreciated.

And the vast majority of students work during their breaks to earn money for college.

Many students work on campus during the school year too. In 2020-2021, 250 students worked on campus in 450 jobs—in admissions, alumni, athletics, custodial, music, the Student Success Center, the library, the cafeteria, and so on. Some even work as campus photographers, as pictured below.

Others work off campus during the school year as well, coaching, cleaning, tutoring, babysitting, refereeing, clerking, waiting tables, even milking cows.



We're proud of how hard our students work, but we don't want them to work so many hours that it negatively affects their study habits. Their #1 job is ministry training!

  
**STUDENT  
FINANCIAL AID**

CONGREGATIONAL  
PARTNER GRANT  
MATCHING FUND \$3-5 M

## *The Congregational Partner Grant Program* **MAKES A DIFFERENCE!**



We don't have any students at Martin Luther College at this time, but we do support the Congregational Partner Grant Program. Supporting MLC is an important way to keep the blessing of our ministry college before our members. We were blessed to have the MLC choir give a concert at our congregation on their recent tour, and that put faces to our donations to the CPGP. It is such a blessing for our congregation to help ease the financial burden of students.

**Pastor Duane Schmeichel**  
**Lamb of God-Madison AL**  
*Matching Congregation*

“My church doesn't have any students at MLC this year, but I donate because it's the right thing to do to ensure the next generation of Christian school teachers and pastors.”

**An MLC Donor from Ohio**  
*Matching Congregation*



“I am so grateful that my home church participates in the CPGP. Knowing they support my studies both financially and through prayers makes me all the more inspired to prepare for ministry. Then, to know that MLC can match these gifts through generous donor support is just amazing.”

**Jacob Price '22**  
**St. Peter-Schofield WI**





“MLC is the best place I can be to gain tools and knowledge in sharing God’s Word with the world. It’s so encouraging knowing that people care so much about ministry that they are willing to support us here at school. Thank you so much!”

**Abigail Buege '23**  
**Victory of the Lamb-Katy TX**



“The CPGP means that I’m not in this alone, that there are others out there that I might not even know rooting for me. One day I’ll be able to serve the congregations that supported me.”

**Caleb Heckendorf '24**  
**Light of the Valleys-Reno NV**



## Other Scholarships & Grants

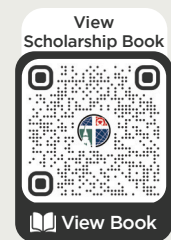
In addition to the Congregational Partner Grant Program, Martin Luther College awards merit scholarships and need-based grants totaling more than \$2 million every year.

Students receive scholarships based on different categories of merit: their grade point average, mastery of Greek, musical talents, or service to the campus, for example.

Students receive grants based on their financial need.

As opposed to loans, all scholarships and grants are “free” money that never needs to be paid back.

We’re grateful to the donors who have established many of these scholarships and grants. And we are actively seeking to establish more!





## Current MLC Residence Halls



**Summit Hall**  
*Built 1911*



**Centennial Hall**  
*Built 1950*



**Augustana & Concord Halls**  
(formerly Hillview and Highland)  
*Built 1964/1970*



**STUDENT  
FACILITIES**

LUTHER HEIGHTS \$12 M

## *A Strategic Plan for Housing*

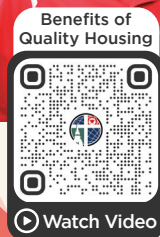
As a centerpiece of this campaign, we want to build a new residence hall and renovate our current dormitories to meet the needs of the next generation.

Admissions counselors report that the campus visit is the most important factor in the prospective student's college decision-making process. Generally, our visitors love the Christ-centered culture of MLC, the beautiful chapel, the well-tended grounds, the welcoming faculty, and the friendly and dedicated students.

Some of our campus facilities, however, are in need of an update! Almost all our buildings are more than 50 years old. We are grateful to the Christians of past generations who gave so generously to make them a reality. Unfortunately, buildings are not timeless, even if the Word spoken within them is.

Now it is our generation's turn. With the input of two consulting firms—and keeping in mind good stewardship of the synod's resources—we are planning to build a new residence hall.

This facility we are currently calling Luther Heights will allow all students to live on campus. It will provide rooms for the prospective students who visit us, sometimes in groups of several hundred. And, if God so blesses, it will provide a home away from home for the expanding enrollment we are anticipating.



## Residence Hall

This beautiful facility is modest but high-quality, providing our students both more personal space and more shared space for collaboration.

Overlooking Summit Avenue, at the main entrance of our college, it will be a beautiful new focal point of the campus and a wonderful place for our students to call home—a place where they'll live, learn, and grow together as a Christian community.



The architectural design of the residence hall respects the historic aesthetic of our campus, but also tips its hat to the future, especially with the striking glass Skyline Studies on the ends of each floor.



## Campus Living Then and Now

When students came to DMLC many decades ago, living conditions at college were just like home: shared bedrooms, shared bathrooms, no air conditioning.

Today's students are not looking for anything fancy, but they are accustomed to air conditioning and a little more privacy and personal space.

An updated residence hall will make the daily lives of our students more comfortable, ease the transition of new students from home to college, and perhaps sway undecided students to give MLC a try.



“A conversation over a shared love of the caf’s guacamole can start off a great friendship, but knowing that someday

we’ll all be coworkers in Christ makes for deeper relationships. MLC is different. Not only is it an awesome place for making friends, but it’s also a phenomenal place to strengthen our relationship with our best friend forever, Jesus.”

**Julia Schibbelhut '22**  
St. Paul-Onalaska WI



## Residence Hall

152 beds  
42,678 square feet  
4 floors

### ALL LEVELS

4-Bed Suites  
Study Lounge  
2 Skyline Studies  
Large energy-efficient windows

### MAIN LEVEL

Gathering space for families and visitors  
Office  
Director's apartment

### LOWER LEVEL

Kitchen  
Exercise Room  
Restroom / Locker Room  
Laundry  
Outdoor Patio

### GREEN SPACE

### 153 PARKING SPACES

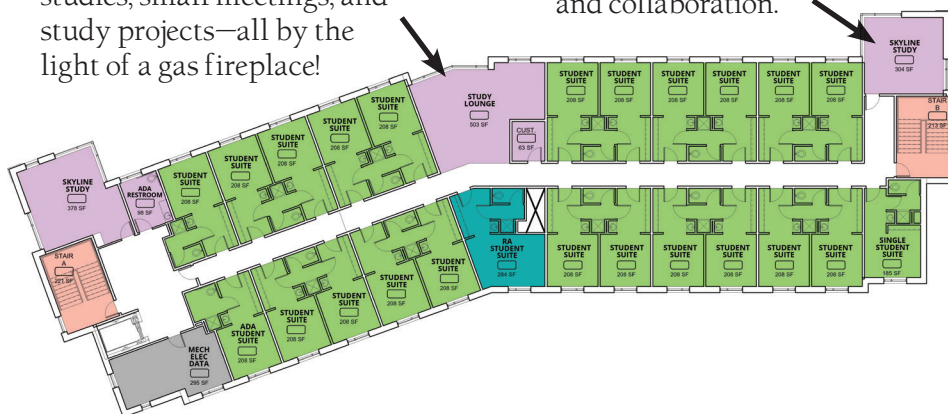


## STUDENT FACILITIES

LUTHER HEIGHTS \$12 M

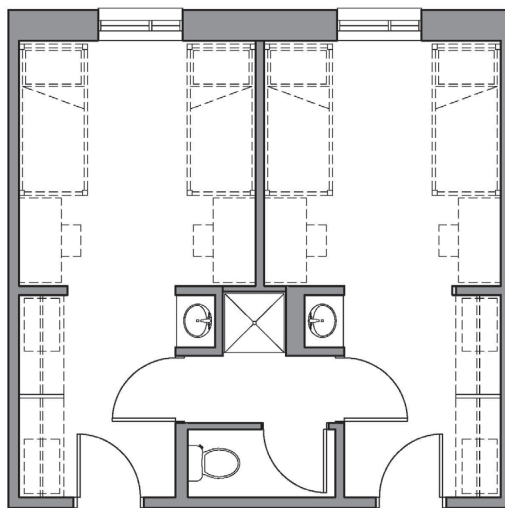
Two all-glass, sunlit **SKYLINE STUDIES** on each floor will provide panoramic views of New Ulm's picturesque river valley. These study spaces will be open to all students, not only those who live in this hall, for coursework and collaboration.

A **STUDY LOUNGE** on each floor can be used for Bible studies, small meetings, and study projects—all by the light of a gas fireplace!



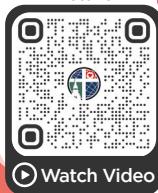
A large **GATHERING SPACE** inside the entrance, with coffee and other amenities, will provide much-needed social space for students, family, and other visitors.

A **PATIO** will take advantage of the beautiful view of New Ulm from Summit Avenue.



Four students will live in each two-bedroom **SUITE**. Each room will have two beds, two desks, two closets, and one sink. The four students will share the bathroom and shower.

Residence Hall  
Details



Watch Video



## Did you know?

In a 2015 survey, MLC students listed a new residence hall and student gathering spaces as the top needs on campus. This new residence hall will provide both!

## Life on the Hill

Martin Luther College is a residential college, as opposed to a commuter college. Our students don't go home for the weekend; they make their home here on the hill.



Living and learning together 24/7 allows for greater maturing and individuation, relationship building, and lots of fun.

Residence halls like this are the places where much of this living and learning together occurs. They're the places of Bible studies and collaborative ministry projects, of late-night conversations about faith and the future, of personal growth and lifelong friendships.

## Summertime Possibilities

We're excited about the summertime possibilities that a new residence hall opens up for us.

During the hot summer months, the comfortable accommodations of this facility—with its air-conditioning and semi-private bathrooms—would allow us to comfortably host larger events for the greater synod:

- OWLS National Rally
- WELS Worship Conference
- LWMS Convention
- Minnesota District Convention
- WELS Biennial Synod Convention

We would also be wonderfully positioned to host youth camps, which not only develop the God-given gifts of our children and young people, but also serve as a natural recruitment arm.

- Athletic Camps
- Music Camps
- STEM Camps

We're excited about the possibilities!



"This residence hall will be great for recruitment because it will be an attractive, new building of brick and glass, a comfortable place for recruits to envision themselves living."

"A huge blessing of being at MLC is the faith all the students and faculty share. Professor Nass once said in chapel that Jesus brings us not only perfect peace with God, but also a degree of peace with fellow believers. Friendship between believers is a great blessing."

"This residence hall seems like a place that will promote that Christian friendship and will prepare MLC for more students."

**Jared Lindemann '19**  
Member, Residence Hall  
Building Committee



"Life on the hill is a great blessing for students. We are daily encouraged in our faith through classes,

chapels, professors, and friendships. The life we lead on the hill gives us a great foundation on which to build. It's a great college experience to prepare us for serving Jesus."

**Jamie Spaude '19**  
Member, Residence Hall  
Building Committee





**STUDENT  
FACILITIES**

**ATHLETIC CENTER  
FULLY FUNDED**

This **funded** athletic center will be a valuable practice space for our spring sports teams.

## An Athletic Center to Meet Student Needs

Athletics are a vital part of life at MLC. Lessons learned on the athletic field or court often translate into growth in resiliency and leadership that yields blessings for decades of ministry. Especially for those students training to be PE teachers and coaches in WELS schools, interscholastic and intramural sports are an integral part of their development as future called workers.

One of our basketball players said it well. He said he was thankful MLC provided him the opportunity to use all his gifts to the fullest and to “grow into the Christian man I want to be.”

For many years, however, we have not had adequate athletic space—for our student body, our teams, or visiting teams.

Thanks to a generous donor, the Betty Kohn Fieldhouse will answer many of these pressing needs of today and help us offer expanded opportunities tomorrow. Specifically, the new fieldhouse will . . .

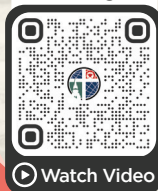
- Expand the PE curriculum to year-round
- Allow all spring sports to practice regularly
- Provide additional locker rooms for home and visiting teams
- Multiply opportunities for health and wellness
- Increase intramural offerings
- Create community connections
- Save money currently spent on facility rental for spring practices



### ★ Did you know?

Intramural sports are a huge part of student life at Martin Luther College. While the average intramural participation rate at other NCAA Division III colleges is 19%, MLC boasts a 63% participation rate. Two out of every three students play intramurals!

Spring Sports Challenge



Watch Video

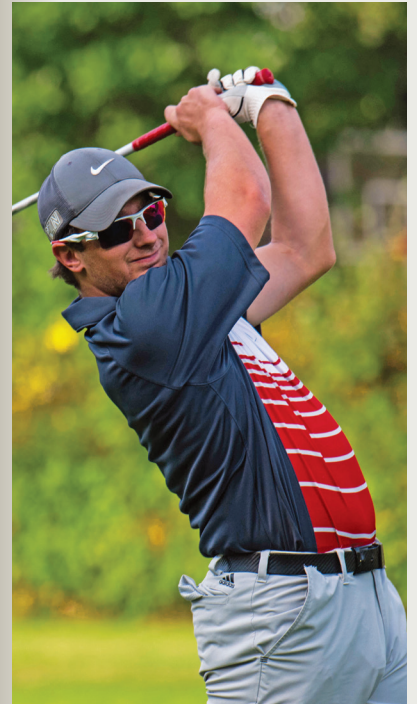


# Betty Kohn Fieldhouse

This 36,000-square-foot facility will provide for many of our athletic department's needs: locker rooms, batting cages, golf simulators, and yards and yards of artificial turf.



The Betty Kohn Fieldhouse will be ready for use by **January 2022!**





## Two Additional Benefits of the Betty Kohn Fieldhouse

- **Positive Budgetary Impact:** Right now our athletic department pays rental fees to facilities all over southern Minnesota, some more than 100 miles away, so that our spring teams can practice. These fees place a heavy demand on our athletic budget. The new fieldhouse will allow us to practice in our own facility and stop spending money on rental fees and excessive travel.
- **Community Connections:** When our students are not on campus, we will welcome community teams, organizations, and individuals to use our facility—the turf field, batting cages, golf simulators, etc.—for an appropriate usage fee. We enjoy an excellent relationship with our community. The city is supportive of the college, and MLC students work and volunteer throughout the area. The Betty Kohn Fieldhouse will provide more opportunities for us to be a good neighbor.



### STUDENT FACILITIES

ATHLETIC CENTER  
FULLY FUNDED

Large turf field for track & field, softball, baseball, soccer, football, golf practices, intramurals, student life activities, recreation, and fitness



This **funded** athletic center will be a welcome resource for the New Ulm community.

Locker rooms and showers for home and visiting teams



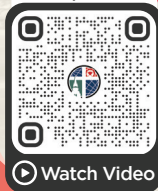
Batting cages for baseball and softball



Golf simulators for golfers of all ages.



Student Athlete's Perspective



Watch Video

## ★ Did you know?

At MLC, we stress the “scholar” in scholar-athlete, and it shows. In the most recent full athletic season, MLC teams earned top GPA awards in 4 of 8 UMAC sports. Individually, 85 MLC athletes made the Academic All-Conference list.



# The Recruitment Connection

The Betty Kohn Fieldhouse will also enhance recruitment and retention.

MLC exists in a competitive marketplace. Many, perhaps most, 18-year-olds are not certain they want to be a pastor, teacher, or staff minister. They will often choose a Christian college that will help them continue to discover and develop their gifts while they make their vocational decisions.

We would like that college to be MLC. We would like to show them that we care about the full development of all their God-given gifts, including their athletic gifts, and we will supply the facilities that support that development.

One graduate recently admitted that when he enrolled at MLC, he hadn't intended on being a teacher; he just wanted to continue competing in the sports he loved. Today he is a happy and successful WELS middle school teacher. Based on his teaching and leadership skills, he was nominated to join the WELS 21st-Century Principal Cohort, which includes the completion of his second master's degree.

For him—and for many other undecided students—athletics and MLC campus life were the door to ministry.

The Betty Kohn Fieldhouse will be used extensively by our intramural programs.



“The MLC Admissions Office functions in an extremely competitive atmosphere as they help potential students consider MLC and full-time ministry. We need to offer what other schools consider normal facilities for college students. The new fieldhouse should not be considered a luxury but a necessity for students perusing the landscape of post-secondary education options.”

**Athletic Director Jim Unke**



“I pray that sports will be a part of my ministry someday. My dream would be to get a call as a high school phy ed teacher or athletic director. I love sports. What better way to serve the Lord than by doing what you love every day?”

**Luke Meihack '22**  
**Redeemer-Fond du Lac WI**  
Elementary ed,  
secondary PE, coaching



“I was so thankful for the opportunity to keep playing sports when I was at MLC! I know how much my coaches influenced me throughout my life, so I was hoping coaching could be part of my ministry someday. And today it is! Today I get to love sports from the coach's perspective as I coach soccer and basketball at my school.”

**Becky Pruss '20**  
**Lord of Life-Thornton CO**  
Teacher



**STUDENT  
RECRUITMENT**



**900-1,000  
STUDENTS**

**Eager to Train  
for Gospel Ministry**

**STUDENT  
FINANCIAL AID**



**Congregational  
Partner Grant  
Matching Fund**

**\$3-5 M**

**STUDENT  
FACILITIES**



**Residence Hall  
\$12 M**

**Athletic Center  
FUNDED!**



## *From President* **Rich Gurgel**

Welcome back! I hope you enjoyed the tour of what's going on at MLC and the wonderful opportunities this presents for us together to raise a new generation of faithful and well-equipped gospel servants.

While God can answer our prayer for workers without us, he delights to answer this prayer through us.

May we boldly ask you for your partnership with us in one (or more) of three ways? For the sake of the souls here and around the world for whom Jesus lived, died, and rose, please join us in working toward these goals:

**RECRUITMENT:** Look for future MLC students in your family, your church family, or our synod whom you can encourage and pray for. Share names with us so we can partner in your encouragement and prayer.

**FINANCIAL AID:** As God has blessed you, consider a gift to our Congregational Partner Grant Program. Join us in encouraging congregations to invest in their daughters and sons preparing for ministry.

**FACILITIES:** As God has blessed you, consider a gift for facilities that are needed to continue to provide a welcoming and well-equipped campus that is attractive to students considering public ministry.

"Now may the God of peace . . . equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen." (Hebrews 13:20-21)

## *From a Donor*

"I heard firsthand from [retired] President Zarling at MLC Auxiliary meetings and elsewhere of the urgent needs at Martin Luther College, our pastor/teacher training facility. The need for more teachers is urgent, especially with school choice becoming available in many states. A WELS school may be the first place a child ever hears of a Savior that gained heaven for him/her. Recruitment for more pastors is also urgent as seen in the many vacancies in our churches.

"God has blessed our synod with a beautiful college in New Ulm, but he uses willing donors to make those blessings happen. I would encourage others to take an interest in MLC and learn of the specific needs, realizing that you and/or your church/school will be the ultimate beneficiary of any gift you give."

**Neola Raasch, friend of MLC  
Christ Lutheran Church-Baxter MN**

# Please accept my gift to EQUIPPING CHRISTIAN WITNESSES

## RECRUITMENT



I'd like to recommend \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ (church/school) \_\_\_\_\_ as a prospective student at Martin Luther College. I will continue to pray that the Lord of the Church inspire more men and women to dedicate their lives to full-time gospel ministry.



[mlc-wels.edu/go/recommend](http://mlc-wels.edu/go/recommend)

## GIFT DESIGNATION



**Campaign Gift:** A general gift for all aspects of the campaign

**Student Assistance:** Financial aid for students through the Congregational Partner Grant Program



**Student Facilities:** New residence hall and current dorm renovation

## AMOUNT

**One-Time or Initial Gift \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**Recurring Gift \$** \_\_\_\_\_ made  
 Monthly  Quarterly  Annually

**Pledge \$** \_\_\_\_\_ given according to the following schedule:  
Beginning date: \_\_\_\_\_ Ending date: \_\_\_\_\_  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_ made  Monthly  Quarterly  Annually  
 I will pay automatically by EFT or credit card (see below).  
 I will pay by check or other asset. Please send me reminders.  
Or pledge online at [mlc-wels.edu/pledge](http://mlc-wels.edu/pledge).

## PAYMENT METHOD

- Check made payable to Martin Luther College.
- Electronic funds transfer *Please enclose a voided check. Taken on the 15th.*
- Credit card *For security, make credit card gifts*
  - Online: [mlc-wels.edu/donate](http://mlc-wels.edu/donate)
  - By phone: 507.354.8221 ext 295
  - By text: Text CAMPAIGN to 507.223.4344

Appreciated assets (stocks, IRA distributions)

*For assistance, please contact MLC (507.354.8221) or WELSMinistry of Christian Giving (800.827.5482).*

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Church: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Martin Luther College 1995 Luther Court, New Ulm, MN 56073







MARTIN LUTHER COLLEGE

[mlc-wels.edu/mlc-campaign](http://mlc-wels.edu/mlc-campaign)



**WELS**  
Christ's Love, Our Calling.