

MICHIGAN LUTHERAN SEMINARY
A MINISTERIAL PREP SCHOOL OF THE WELS

SNAPSHOT

Winter 2024



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



"Come follow me." It was a simple invitation that had eternal implications. With those three words Jesus was calling these fishermen into a ministry that would alter the trajectory of their own lives and the lives of the people that they would meet with the gospel. They would experience things that no one else would experience. They would be taught by Jesus himself and empowered by Jesus to perform miracles of healing and hope. But they would also be persecuted because of Jesus, martyred for the gospel they believed and proclaimed. There was simply no way for these men to be prepared for the life to which Jesus was calling them.

Our goal at MLS is to encourage and equip high school students for lives of service, Lord willing, in the public ministry of the gospel. As the first level of our synod's ministerial education system, we are privileged to give each student a hands-on ministry experience every year of their high school education. In this way we pray that the Spirit will work in these young people both a desire to serve God's people as pastors, teachers, or staff ministers, and an ability to see themselves in that ministry context.

However, as experienced called workers, you know that no training can prepare you for every ministry context. Like those disciples called by Jesus, their ministry will be filled with undeserved rewards and epic frustrations. They will be loved and hated because of the word they preach and teach, possibly on the same day. It's hard to prepare someone for that!

And so we encourage them with the gospel every single day in chapel and a curriculum that is Christ-centered. We model a real representation of ministry that has undeserved rewards and epic frustrations. And we pray that our students see and appreciate the purpose of the ministry and have a heart to serve our Savior in that way.

Thank you for your prayers, your encouragement of your young people, and the opportunity to serve so many with the gospel in this blessed ministry.

Loving and serving Him,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Luetzow".

Rev. Mark Luetzow, President

TASTE OF MINISTRY 2023

This past October, MLS seniors took part in our annual Taste of Ministry week. About 2/3 of the class learned what it means to be a WELS teacher. The rest of the class joined mission congregations across our synod to get a taste of church planting ministry.



PROF. STEVE THIESFELDT - 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



The 2023-24 school year marks the 50th anniversary of the teaching ministry of Prof. Steven Thiesfeldt. Through those 50 years, Prof. Thiesfeldt has been privileged to serve at St. Paul's Lutheran School in Tomah, WI; Salem, Stillwater, MN; St. Matthew's, Winona, MN; and four of our WELS Ministerial Education schools: Martin Luther Preparatory School, Prairie du Chien, WI; Luther Preparatory School, Watertown, WI; Martin Luther College, New Ulm, MN; and finally, here, at Michigan Lutheran Seminary.

A special service of thanksgiving to the Lord for those 50 years of ministry is being planned for Sunday, April 28th in the MLS chapel. Former students, co-workers, family and friends of the Thiesfeldt family are invited to attend the service. If you wish to send a card, please send it to MLS attn: Pres. Mark Luetzow.

NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP AWARD WINNERS



Congratulations to MLS seniors **Garrett Robinson (Bethany, Saginaw)** and **Gabby Kim (Canaan, Seoul, South Korea)** for being recognized as National Merit Scholarship award winners. As a "commended" student, Garrett is in the top 3% of students who took the PSAT nationwide. Gabby moved on as a semi-finalist placing her in the top 1% of students nationwide. Gabby will be notified in February if she is named a finalist for one or more of the 7,500 scholarships awarded to the top students in the US. Congratulations!

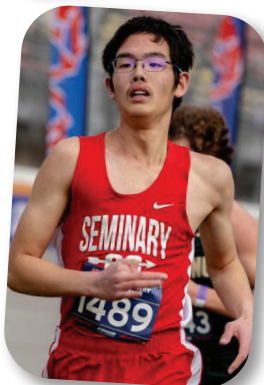
FOOTBALL EARNS ACADEMIC ALL STATE RECOGNITION

The Seminary football team was recently named by the Michigan High School Football Coaches Association (MHSFCA) to be first-team Academic All-State for Division 8 high schools. This honor is won by compiling the team grade point average. MLS finished in the top four in our division and will receive a banner to hang at our field. This is the second year in a row that the team has received this honor.



CROSS COUNTRY COMPETES IN STATE MEET

The boys' cross country team finished a successful season by sending 7 runners to the state finals meet held Saturday, November 4 at Michigan International Speedway. The boys finished 24th as a team. The Cardinals were lead by senior **Jeffery Harden (Bethany, Saginaw)** and junior **Camden Fager (Zion, Monroe)**, who was the team MVP.



CALL NEWS



Mr. Nolan Valus has accepted the call to serve as Academic Dean at MLS, a position that has been partially vacant for 3 years. Nolan is a 2007 graduate of MLS, and a 2011 graduate of MLC. He was awarded a Master's Degree in Educational Technology from MLC in 2018. We welcome him, his wife, Courtney (nee Schultz) and their 2 daughters to MLS.

MICHIGAN LUTHERAN SEMINARY

CONCERT CHOIR

◆◆◆ SPRING TOUR ◆◆◆

April 3 - 6:30 pm

Beautiful Savior, Grove City, OH

April 4 - 7:00 pm

Divine Peace, Upper Marlboro, MD

April 5 - TBD

Grace, Falls Church, VA

April 6 - 4:00 pm

St. Paul's, Columbus, OH

April 7 - 8:00 & 10:30 am

Trinity, Jenera, OH

2024-25 APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN

MLS is now accepting applications for the 2024-25 school year. Parents/Guardians may complete an application at www.mslem.org or by scanning the QR code. Applying is free and there is no obligation to enroll. Generous Financial Aid is available!

APPLY TODAY



Small School Advantage, Big School Opportunities



WELS
Christ's Love, Our Calling.

MICHIGAN LUTHERAN SEMINARY

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