

The KNIGHT LIGHT



Martin

Luther High School, Northrop, MN

www.martinlutherhs.com

OCTOBER 2008

A look at what makes MLHS "A Choice Worth Making!"

Celebrating 25 Years of God's Blessings

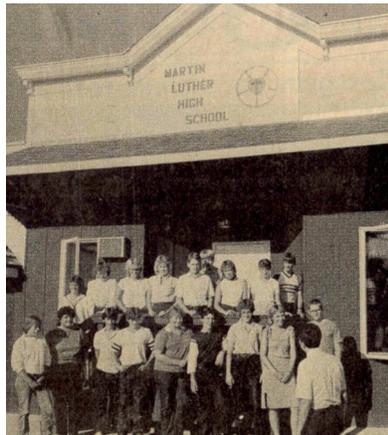
"...Helping **Young People** lead *active Christian* lives and *excel* academically through *Christian* training and nurturing."

This is the mission statement of Martin Luther High School, Northrop. For 25 years giving the most—expecting the best—and teaching God's truth—has been the standard.

For 25 years Martin Luther High has provided an exceptional Lutheran education for area teens of all denominations. 340 graduates have gone out into the world prepared for all walks of life. They have careers as pastors, teachers, doctors, nurses, lawyers, film makers, authors, business professionals, plumbers, electricians, farmers, etc. Two grads have studied abroad as recipients of prestigious Fulbright Scholarships.

In the past 25 years MLHS has become renowned as an exemplary educational institution. For several years student ACT scores have consistently been higher than state and national averages. Last year's scores were 2.6 points higher in English, 1.9 higher in Math, 2.8 higher in Reading and 2.4 points higher in Science. Nearly 98% of MLHS grads advance to post-secondary education. Eligible students may take Advance Placement and PSEO courses

on campus to graduate with several college credits. Two MLHS teachers are adjunct professors with Concordia University, St. Paul.



Nineteen students began their first day of classes in 1983. Freshmen students were Jenny Baker, Paul Engelby, Nellie Gerdes, Diane Knaak, Paul Mumme and Julie Weihe. Sophomores were Chris Becker, Yolanda Brummond, Ruth Ann Dougherty, Scott Garrison, Melissa Geistfeld, Kathy Hagen, Timothy Henning, Cheryl Krenz, Kevin Schafer, Keith Schuder, Sarah Wagner, Leann Wessel and Lori Wiederhoeft. Timothy Fabry was the first administrator.

Over the past 25 years MLHS classes have moved from a rented storefront building in Northrop to a 10,000 square foot building with gymnasium, weight room and softball and baseball fields. Students and teachers have access to state-of-the-art technology. Students learn about God's Word and His love. They are encouraged to develop in mind, body and spirit. They



are encouraged to explore and develop their talents in the classroom, on the stage and through athletic competition.

Why has MLHS improved and advanced over the last 25 years? Because of God's blessings! God has blessed MLHS with generous people and businesses throughout the community. For 25 years the unfailing support of area individuals and businesses has sustained MLHS, allowing the school to touch the lives of area teens in ways unique to a Christian school.

Thank you to everyone for their faithful support of MLHS. May we all continue to work together serving our Lord by "helping Young People lead *active Christian* lives and *excel* academically through *Christian* training and nurturing"—for many, many more generations.



Beginning the Next 25 Years

God was busy over the summer, blessing MLHS with ample students, faculty and staff to begin the school year.

Thank you to all MLHS friends and family who attended the special 2008-2009 Opening Worship Service.

Thank you to Rev. Nathan Rusert, Chairman of the Board of Directors for officiating the service.



Guest speaker and former parent, Rev. David Winter, spoke about how MLHS has been polished and refined over the past 25 years. He said that "struggles and circumstances have continually refined and polished MLHS over the past 25 years to make it the school it is today. God-willing we will continue to reflect, reassess and make adjustments and improvements as we continue to teach teens according to God's Word for many, many more years." Thank you to Rev. Winter for serving as our guest speaker.

Lori Rusert, PTL President handed out "Property of MLHS" t-shirts to all the new students. Thank you to the PTL executive committee for

servicing the picnic lunch. Following the Opening Service new parents and students were introduced to MLHS procedures at orientation with Principal Robert Patrick and Guidance Director Sharon Patrick.

**77 students
are enrolled
for 2008-09**

God has blessed MLHS with more students than projected last spring. In addition to Freshmen students coming from the three elementary feeder schools, several students transferred in from the public school or moved into the community. One student, whose parents live out of state, lives with an MLHS family during the week and commutes home on weekends. Three foreign exchange students are studying at MLHS this year. Two are from Germany and one comes from Hungary.

We welcome all new students and families and pray that their years at MLHS will be a blessing to them.



God has blessed MLHS with a dedicated custodian. Mr. Richard Behrens (former parent and current grandparent) is "serving MLHS with a smile". He can be found early in the morning or late in the day taking care of God's properties.

God blessed MLHS with dedicated and talented faculty who have returned for another year. We are grateful for their faithfulness to MLHS.

God again blessed MLHS with an exceptionally talented Music Instructor. Mr. Travis Sletta teaches elementary band and high school band and choir. Sletta returned to his hometown of Hanska to care for his parents, who are dealing with



health problems. He has taught in New Ulm and Gustavus Adolphus College.

Currently working on his Doctorate through the University of Iowa, he also has a BA from Gustavus Adolphus College in Honor Music, a BS from Minnesota State in Music Education, a MM from the University of Illinois at Urbana, Champaign in Choral Conducting and Literature.

IRS TAX ROLLOVER

Congress recently extended the TAX IRA Rollover Provision. Individuals age 70 1/2 may again give direct gifts of up to \$100,000 from an individual retirement account (IRA) to a charity without including the distribution in income.

*See your financial consultant for more details.

Celebrating the Last 25 Years

Thank you to all alumni, current and former teachers, parents and past parents and board members who attended the All-School Reunion June 23 and 24. Thank you to all the alumni who provided posters, pictures and life-updates for the Alumni Display.

Special thanks to Rhonda Fischer, Naomi (Hintz) Ochsendorf, Lynn (Thiesse) Petrowiak, Faith (Thiesse) DeChristopher and Jason Mau for their hard work on the Reunion Committee.

Thank you to all the pastors and congregations who said special prayers on behalf of MLHS at their worship services on that Sunday. Your prayers, verbal support and gifts have sustained MLHS for the past 25 years.

“Play It Again” Golf Benefit

Tee-off was bright and early in the morning this year. Golfers had a great time on the course and in the club house when over \$1,500 in prizes were given out.



The Milow brothers Chad (90) and Josh (96) took home some great prizes!



Reed Wokasch (05) won the \$100 cold cash and wouldn't share with father, Roger.

Thank you to our \$250 Corporate Hole Sponsors:

1. Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Financial Associates:

Tim Flitter—Madelia;
Scott Fuhrman, Fairmont
Gary Oliver, Truman.

2. Peterson/Anthony Insurance, Trimont & Fairmont

3. The Hog Slat, Fairmont

4. Michael Bettin Trucking, Inc., Fairmont

5. Profinium Financial, Fairmont & Truman

6. Ralco Nutrition, Inc., Doug Lemke

7. Leimer Construction, Truman

8. McDonalds, Fairmont

9. Mel Carlson Chevrolet, Truman

10. Marco Business Products

Thank you to the following for their prize donations:

DAN BREITBARTH (01)
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RANCH RESTAURANT
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COUNTRY CLUB
SCHWANS ICE CREAM, TRUMAN
SHIPPING PLUS & DENNY'S
WHOLESALE
SUPER 8 HOTEL, ST. JAMES
THE LIGHTHOUSE GIFTS,
MANKATO
U.S. BANK, FAIRMONT
WELCOME TV
WINDOM COUNTRY CLUB

*See more golf pictures @
www.martinlutherhs.com

Thank you to everyone who made this annual fundraiser for the Music Department an ongoing success. You helped us raise \$3,158.50 to purchase Music Room upgrades.

All-School Reunion Picnic

Parents and children gathered at Gomsrud Park for an afternoon picnic. Brats and burgers and fun were the ingredients! Seventy adults and forty children enjoyed getting to know each other and sharing memories.

25 Years of Silver Memories

Nearly 150 MLHS alumni, former teachers, current teachers, alumni who are teachers, parents, past parents, past



Jeff and Leslie (Becker '88) Crissinger, Chris and Paul Engelby ('87) and Mark Kaelberer ('87) caught up on old times.

parents who are teachers, current students and significant others shared in fun, food and memories at the Dinner and Dance Reception at the Holiday Inn.

Thanks to the committee's hard work the room sparkled with blue and silver decorations. Guests reminisced over 25 years of "The Shield" yearbooks. The huge display of Alumni biographies helped bring everyone up-to-date on people's lives. (Look for these bios on the MLHS website in the future.)

The dinner and service provided by the Holiday Inn were exceptional. Topping off the meal was Nancy Jo's fabulous carrot and chocolate anniversary cakes.

Rhonda Fischer served as emcee, recognizing all of the

classes in attendance. Several prizes were given out to alumni. She recognized

alumni, Justin Olson ('00) who traveled the farthest from his home in Alaska. Jessica (Theobald '99) Biede received an MLHS *Knights* bib for having the newest baby. David

Bergt ('92) received an MLHS sweatshirt for being the first to send in his reservation.

Cheryl (Krenz) Eggold ('86) and Julie



(Weihe) Fischer ('87) shared some of their high school memories as the first classes in the old school. They remembered the day the school was moved to the new building. Students and teachers formed a caravan carrying desks and books from the old store. It was a time filled with excite-



Corby Urban ('92) shared life updates with classmate Dave Bergt and his wife Amanda, Linda Wetzel and former teachers Myron Wetzel and Norlean Berndt.

ment and hope. They expressed their appreciation for their days at MLHS and the influence Lutheran high school education had on their lives.

Kevin Dierks ('90) of New Braunfels, TX returned to MN from vacation very late Friday night. He came out bright and early to golf and was able to mix and mingle at the reception also. He went back to TX and organized a golf benefit for the Lutheran school where he is principal.

Many guests expressed their enthusiasm and appreciation for the weekend's events. Paul Engelby and his wife Chris attended the picnic, the Saturday evening reception and Sunday's Open House Pork Chop Dinner. "Thank you so much for having all of this," said Chris, "It was so nice and we had such a great time. It was fun for the whole family."

Many alumni suggested that another All-School Reunion be held again in 2013!

25 Years of Faith, Family & Friends

Pork Chop Dinner and Open House

Thank you to the MLHS Board of Directors for hosting the Pork Chop Dinner. Thank you to Duane Behrens, Larry Becker, Daryl Bartz, and Lynn Becker for grilling the chops. This was the largest turnout ever and the grillers couldn't keep up! Thank you to the Martin County Pork Producers for loaning us their grill. The generous gifts of all in attendance raised nearly \$4,000.00 for MLHS.

At the Open House, exclamations of how the MLHS building has changed could be heard throughout the halls. People crowded around the alumni updates display and expressed regrets that some couldn't attend. Many were excited to purchase the 25th anniversary memorabilia for sale. Friendships were renewed and parents proudly "showed off" their children. Hugs and warm "hellos" and fond "good-byes" filled the lobby.

June Delegate Meeting

Elections for the Board of Directors were held. We thank Robin Ekstrom and Annette Bremer for their past service. Welcome newly elected members Chuck Groth and Chuck Lieder. Current officers are Rev. Nathan Rusert, Chairman; Rev. John Bennet, Vice-Chairman; Barb Tonn, Secretary; and John Matasovsky, Treasurer. Other members are Joel Oberdieck, Rev. Brian Thorson and Barb Wiederhoeft.



New Dugouts are in School Colors!

Several busy men were even busier making some wonderful improvements to the MLHS softball diamond this summer. Pictured are Daryl Bartz, Kevin Prafke, Chuck Patsche and Duane Behrens in front of the new dugouts.

Along with these men, Gary Peyman, Bob Traetow, Lynn Becker and many other volunteers moved the dugouts from the former baseball field in Welcome to MLHS. It took lots of manpower, big equipment and many hours to complete the project. In addition to the dugouts, they put down pea rock and lime, renovated the bleachers and installed a new backstop. Thank you to Zion Lutheran Church, Fraser for funding a portion of this huge undertaking. Thanks to the wonderful ladies who provided food to the workers.

"It was a lot of fun working together like this," said Daryl Bartz, "but this project was lots bigger than we ever thought it would be! It's a good feeling doing something like this for the kids." Daryl's granddaughter, Stephanie Senne, plays on the Lady Knights softball team.

Thank you to the city of Welcome for giving the dugouts to MLHS and to those people who spearheaded this project. Thank you to everyone involved for obtaining the unused dugouts for MLHS, taking on this big project and donating materials and the many volunteer hours needed to complete it.

The Lady Knights Softball team is very excited about their "new blue dugouts!"

Go to www.martinlutherhs.com for more pictures.

MLHS STARS



Welcome New Students

The MLHS faculty and staff have the pleasure of welcoming returning students and several new students this year. The 2008-09 enrollment is at 77 students.

Students new to MLHS are:

Class of 2010:

Florian Kaempfer
German Foreign Exch.
Dan & Lois Gahler
Jessica Krome
Dan & Lori Krome
Miriam Pucker
German Foreign Exch.
Dorie Workman
Viktoria Racz
Hungarian Foreign Exch.
Kirk & Marie Morris

Class of 2011:

Lukas Krome
Dan & Lori Krome

Class of 2012:

Brian Bach
David & Margaret Bach
Mackenzie Brummond
Thad & Heather Leiding
Jason Brummond
Taylor Freeman
Dan & Mary Freeman
Colton Hilgendorf, Jr.
John & Tammy Hilgendorf
Micah Knutson
Mark & Marj Knutson
Jakob Krome
Dan & Lori Krome
Megan Maschoff
Mark & Shirley Maschoff
Kaleb Meade
Steve & Kim Meade
Austin Morris
Ron & Lana Morris

Natalie Nelson
Mark & Lisa Nelson
Charles Nemanic
Scott & Kay Nemanic
Garrett Schock
Greg & Lori Schock
Anthony Schott
Teresa Schott
Mark Schott
Spencer Schrader
Dennis & Jodie Schrader
Austin Siefert
Josie Petersen
Jessy Spence
Steve & Terri Spence
Latisha Thomas
Mary Thomas
Katlin Williams
Jim & Amy Wintheiser

State Fair Trip for his 4H Veterinary Science project at the Martin County Fair.

Micah Knutson received The Young Naturalist Award at the Cuyuna Boy Scout Camp.

Megan Maschoff gave a piano recital for "Tuesday with the Arts" at the Red Rock Center.

Summer Activities

Class of 2011:

Grace Bertram played piano in front of a large audience at the Red Rock Center for the "Tuesday with the Arts" Luncheon.

Class of 2010:

Emily Anders attended the Minnesota Mile Leadership Conference at St. John's University in Collegeville.

Bethany Flohrs volunteered as a 4-H Camp Counselor at Lake Shetek. She also won Grand



2008-2009: Early this fall all 77 students and faculty visited the site of the first MLHS school building. Once an empty lot, the area has been landscaped and a pretty sitting area has been added. It is named the Northrop Centennial Park and is dedicated to Raymond Bales.

Class of 2012:

Katy Williams attended basketball camp at Gustavus Adolphus College this summer. Her team won the league championship.

Colton Hilgendorf won a Grand Champion Award and

Champion with her calf at the Martin County Fair and went on to win a 1st place ribbon at the State Fair

Dustin Gahler and **Matt Osborn** had a great experience attending the 2008 Car Show in Iola, WI.

MLHS STARS



Class of 2009:

Katie Bergt was named a Commended Student in the 2009 National Merit Scholarship Program. 34,000 Commended Students nationwide are being recognized for their exceptional academic promise. Commended Students placed among the top five percent of more than 1.5 million student who entered the 2009 competition by taking the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test. Congratulations to Katie on her outstanding academic achievements!

Hayley Koeritz spent a week at *Girls State* learning how the government and the election process works. She learned about the functions of specific government offices. Attendees toured the MN Capitol and held a mock trial in the Supreme Court Building. She was nominated City Clerk of Sah-Kay-Tay. The Northrop Legion Auxiliary funded Hayley's trip.

Daric Sitzman was a Camp Counselor at the Camp Cuyuna Boy Scout Camp. He taught others how to row a boat and how to sail a boat. He enjoyed learning how to be a leader.

Chris Matasovsky received his Boy Scout Troop #55 Eagle Award which is the highest award a Boy Scout can receive. For his project Chris decided to help beautify the Truman Campgrounds.

He got the idea from his grandparents who often stay there. They commented that the area is exposed to high winds

and the noise from Hwy 15 traffic is unpleasant.

Chris decided to plant 40 trees to act as a wind and sound barrier. The trees were donated by the Soil and Water Conservations Department. He also painted the picnic tables. This project required Chris' organizational and leadership abilities. He researched which species to plant, organized people to help with the project and completed the follow-up care throughout the summer.

2008 Yearbooks Are Here

The MLHS yearbook staff members were busy over the summer, working many hours to finish the 2008 full-color yearbook. Copies of *The Shield 2008* are available for purchase at \$45 each. 2008 Alumni may pick up their copy at the school office.

The 2009 yearbook staff is very excited about producing a special 25th Anniversary 2009 Edition. Copies are \$50 each and must be ordered by January 1st.

Senior Editors are **Katie Bergt, Hayley Koeritz** and **Chris Matsofsky**. Junior Editors are **Emily Anders, Katherine Morris, Morgan Moeller, Kacee Urban** and **Kat Wolle**. Sophomore staffers are **Bowdie Bentz, Sydney Krenz, Haley Geistfeld, Aaron Riewe, Stephanie Senne** and **Trevor Wiederhoeft**. Freshmen staffers are **Megan Maschoff** and **Latisha Thomas**.

National Honor Society



Row1, L-R: Garrett Wolle, Jon Rusert, Mark Meyer*, Cody Zarn, Jason Maloney*. Row 2: Hayley Koeritz*, President; Katie Bergt*, Secretary; CJ Riewe; Matt Knutson; Adviser Sharon Patrick. Row 3: Abbie Kietzer, Emily Anders, Kathryn Wolle, Kacee Urban, Brielle Thate, Bethany Flohrs. *2nd year

On Monday, October 6th at the Grandparents Day celebration 11 students were honored as new members of the National Honor Society. This prestigious organization, founded in 1921, recognizes and encourages not only academic achievement, but also ideals of character, service and leadership. More than 75 years later, membership in this organization continues to signify a standard of excellence recognized by administrators, faculty, students, parents, and community members. The Martin Luther High School chapter was chartered in 1997. Through chapter and school activities, members maintain and extend the qualities that won them selection. Membership is thus, both an honor and a commitment. The NHS will participate in several service events throughout the year, and two seniors will be recognized with nominations for a national scholarship.

Get Smart **Drama Production**

Friday, November 7th & Saturday, November 8th
at the
Fairmont Opera House

Cast of 30 Under the direction of Mrs. Amanda Bergt

Tickets: \$5 at the door



Joyful Thanks Fall Benefit Dinner

Over the years the Benefit Dinner has provided invaluable funds for MLHS. For many years Marty Krause coordinated this event bringing in some remarkable guests such as Dr. Oswald Hoffman, Dr. Dale Meyer, Rev. Dr. Wallace Schulz and the Harmony Junction Chorus. Since it began 23 years ago the ticket prices were \$50.

On our 25th Anniversary MLHS hopes to join many Lutherans together to give to several worthy ministries. Using this event as an opportunity to spearhead a new outlook on giving, the ticket prices are now \$100 per person.

On November 15th the audience will be treated to the wit, wisdom and insight of amazing speaker Rev. Ken Klaus and the humor, flair and musical talents of Dr. Jeffrey Burkhart. Come prepared to laugh, reflect, sing and be inspired.

In honor of these two remarkably talented guests, a portion of the ticket proceeds will be given to The Lutheran Hour, The Orphan Grain Train and Concordia University, St. Paul.

The main purpose of "The Joyful Thanks" Fall Benefit Dinner continues to be to

strengthen the ministry of Martin Luther High School.

Doors open at 5:00 p.m. Hors d'oeuvres will be served and guests can visit with Rev. Klaus and Dr. Burkart up close and personal. A delicious dinner of boneless pork loin, baby red potatoes, candied glazed carrots, broccoli salad, homemade bread and pumpkin dessert will be served at 6:00 p.m.

All Lutherans, near and far, are invited to join in "Joyful Thanks" for the freedom to serve our Lord by supporting Lutheran education and missions worldwide.

You are invited!

Joyful Thanks Fall Benefit Dinner

Featuring: A Dynamic Duo



Rev. Ken Klaus
of
The Lutheran Hour
Vibrant Speaker

- ◆ Laugh with them
- ◆ Sing with them
- ◆ Reflect with them
- ◆ Meet them up close & personal!



Dr. Jeffrey Burkart
of
Concordia University
Amazing Musician

Saturday, November 15th

Doors Open 5:00 p.m. ~ Dinner Served 6:00 p.m. ~ Boneless Roast Pork Loin



Lutherans joining together to strengthen God's ministries!

Your \$100 ticket donation will benefit the ministry of Martin Luther High School with a portion of the proceeds going to Lutheran Hour Ministries, Orphan Grain Train and Concordia University, St. Paul.

25th Anniversary Celebration of



Martin

Luther **H**igh **S**chool, Northrop



A Choice Worth Making...

• Phone: 507-436-5249

General seating tickets are \$100.00 each—a portion is a tax-deductible donation

Please purchase before November 10th

Available from MLHS parents and office; church offices of Immanuel & St. Paul, Fairmont; St. Paul's, Truman; St. James, Northrop;

Good News Bookstore, Fairmont; Faith & Hope Gifts & Floral, Madelia and The Lighthouse, Mankato

Alum-Knights Updates

1989:

Christopher Wendt was named a 2008 Minnesota Lawyer Up & Coming Attorney. He is an immigration lawyer for the Mayo Clinic, Rochester where he assists employees in obtaining their US citizenship. He also serves as Mayo's pro bono coordinator, donating his time as a volunteer attorney with Southern MN Regional Legal Services on citizenship and immigration matters.

Lonny & Lynn Becker and Lynn Becker (91) and wife, Julie; along with parents Larry and Linda Becker were named the "2008 Farm Family of the Year" by the University of MN. They were also recognized at the Martin County Fair.

1992:

Dan Knaak and his wife Shannon live in Spencer, IA. They have two children Ellepe is in 3rd grade at Iowa Great Lakes Lutheran School. Avarie is pre0schooler at First English Lutheran in Spencer. Dan is a grain marketing broker in Ruthon, IA.

1993:

Lisa (Bergeman) Vischer and her husband Ryan have moved to Madelia. They have opened "Hope and Faith Gifts and Floral" in downtown Madelia. They also have a large web-based business @ www.houseoffontanini.com.

Dr. Dan Leiding married Dr. Jennifer Woodard on April 5th in St. Petersburg, FL. They live in St. Petersburg where Dan is an emergency room physician.

1995:

James Zinke married Janet Miller on May 10th at First Lutheran Church, in Fargo. He is Director of Sales and Marketing for Spirit Properties in Fargo.

1997:

Joni (Hartman) and Kurt Dagei were blessed with a son on August 13th. August Joseph weighed 8 pounds, 8 ounces. He has a sister, Claire, age 2.

Eric Schaefer is engaged to Jenna Miller. They will be married November 15th in Los Cabos San Lucas, Mexico.

1998:

Derek Graplar is engaged to Kelly Whitacre. They plan to marry on August 1, 2009 at Camp Okoboji. He works at Maurer Manufacturing, Inc.

Jayne (Wolf) and her husband Daniel Nawrocki have another son. Cole Daniel was born on March 28. He weighed 6 pounds, 14 ounces. He has a brother, Ty.

Tanya (Surdick) and her husband Rob Stern are the new parents of a boy, Luke Roland weighed 6 pounds 9 ounces.

1999:

Jessica (Theobald) and Matt Biede are the proud parents of a little girl. Alyssa Jo was born April 18th. She has a brother, Caden Tru.

Brian Borkenhagen and his wife, Magen had a son, Bryce August Dean born on August 21st. He weighed 8 pounds 8 ounces.

Melissa (Rossow) and her husband John Bady have a new daughter. Lauren Johanna was born July 14th. She weighed 7 pounds, 7 ounces.

Lucas Schultze married Sherry Sell on March 22 at Hosanna Lutheran Church, Mankato. Luke is employed at Taylor Corporation.

2000:

Jessica Haack and Mark Toiland were married August 30th at Valley View Golf Course in

Belle Plaine. She manages Subway in North Mankato.

2001:

Tom Leimer married Kristine Sanders on August 2nd at St Paul's Lutheran, Fairmont. They live in Rochester where Tom is Project Manager at Knutson Construction.

2002: Sally Chirpich married Kevin Schmitz on October 10th at St. Paul, Fairmont. They live in Fairmont.

2003:

Jordan and Jennifer (Morris) Luhmann have a new son. Jackson Jordan was born May 14th and weighed 7 pounds, 12 ounces.

Nicole (Osborn) and her husband Dan Hector have a new son. Brandon Dale was born March 18th. He weighed 8 pounds.

Jessica Speer graduated from Bemidji State University with a BA in Fine Arts in creative and professional writing.

Isaac Wallace is working as an Operations Assistant at Profinium Financial in Fairmont.

2004:

Leslie Bremer graduated from Bethany Lutheran College with a degree in Business Finance. She is now working on her Master's degree in Sports Management at Minnesota State, Mankato. While at Bethany, Leslie was name to the UMAC Volleyball All-Conference Team and 2007 MVP. She was also named to the UMAC Basketball All-Conference Team and All-Defensive Team. She is varsity volleyball coach at Waseca High School.

Alum-Knights Updates

Gina Schulz married Blake Myers on July 26 at St. John's Willow Creek. They live in Madison, WI.

Laura Reinke was featured on the spring cover of the *Concordian*, a publication of Concordia University, Mequon.

2005:
Becky Breitbarth worked on the communications staff at the Republican National Con-

vention. In September she moved to Richmond, VA where she is a field staff member of the Republican campaign.

Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Jeremiah Wiederheoft participated in a community relations project while making a port visit to Victoria, Seychelles Islands. Sailors from the USS Halsey painted the interior of the chapel

and gave out toys and food to children at the St. Elizabeth's Orphanage.

2006: Caitlin Gronewold had a memorable experience on her mission trip to Ghana this past summer. This semester she is studying in Manchester, England.

Go to www.martinlutherhs.com to hear the MLHS Knights' school song!

25th Anniversary Memorabilia for Sale



Cast Pewter Christmas Ornament
2 1/2" high
\$12.00 each



Cast Pewter Key Ring
1 1/2" high
\$8.00 each



Blue Crystal & Sterling Silver Beaded "MLHS" Bracelet
\$25.00 each

Give 25th Anniversary items for gifts this Christmas. The Christmas Ornaments and Key Rings are genuine cast pewter with the **original MLHS Knight design**. The sterling silver MLHS Bracelets have royal blue Swarovski crystals and come in a gift bag. They are available at the MLHS office. Call 436-5249 or e-mail postmaster@mlhs.com. Add \$5 for shipping. Order by Dec 1st for Christmas delivery.

.....Keeping MLHS Strong.....Now You Can Give Online.....

Giving to MLHS has just gotten easier! MLHS has signed on with Vanco Services to process online gifts. They handle all EFT gifts for Thrivent Financial for Lutherans.

Now you can give memorial and honorary gifts, join the 25/25/25, Alumni Campaign, Faith for the Future Annual Fund Membership and purchase tickets for The "Joyful

Thanks" Fall Benefit Dinner. You can give by electronic fund transfer, debit or credit. *MLHS is charged a fee for debit and credit transfers but not EFTs. **Thank you!**

MLHS Academia



Alumni Teaching Teachers

Naomi (Hintz) Ochsendorf ('90) led the "Back-to-School" in-service for MLHS faculty. She is a Rule 25 Chemical Dependency Assessor for the Chemical Health Department at Martin County Human Services. She shared statistics from a study conducted by the Minnesota Department of Human Services which indicated that substance abuse is higher in Martin County than in any of the surrounding counties. Methamphetamine usage is decreasing while abuse of prescription drugs is on the increase. Teachers were alerted to the signs of substance abuse.

Bible Studies

Student Bible Studies this year are focusing on giving. The first study included the movie *"The Ultimate Gift"*. Now they are studying *"Discovering God's Way of Handling Money"* published by Crown Financial Ministries. Each student also received a bank. The studies and banks were provided by the **Partners with Purpose Program**.

Teachers Attend STEM Seminar

Math and Science instructors Mr. David Bergt, Mr. Tom Taylor, and Mrs. Jodi Geistfeld attended a continuing education seminar at the University of St. Thomas recently. The Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) Conference is hosted by the Minnesota Independent School Forum (MISF).

Conference presenters were from the University of MN, St. Thomas University and the MN Science Museum. A variety of information was offered, such as *"Technology and the Classroom of the Future- Schools on the Leading Edge/Just How Did They Get There?"*

Teachers had the opportunity to interact with other science and math teachers at a "working lunch" to share ideas for lesson plans and interactive teaching methods. A Google network for STEM instructors was established which allows for on-going idea exchange. Workshops on integrating technology in the classroom were held.

MLHS recently received a \$3,429.00 STEM grant which was written by MISF on behalf of member schools. Grant funding was provided by 3M, Beckman Coulter Foundation and McCarthy Bjorklund Foundation. This year another interactive whiteboard will be purchased through this grant. It will be used in Room 106 to enhance learning opportunities in math and computer classes.

LEA Conference

The full time faculty at MLHS attended the Minnesota Lutheran Education Conference on October 16th and 17th in Mankato.

The event had several highlights including keynote addresses by Ben Glenn, "The Chalkguy," and Jeff Smith, Director of Salt & Light Ministries. The address by Jeff Smith included interactive storytelling with music and rhythm as tools to promote enthusiasm and understanding God's Word. "The Chalkguy" began his presentation by theatrically drawing a large mural onstage, and then adding detail to the mural throughout his personal story of overcoming educational challenges on his way to adult vocational success. His message of encouragement to teachers, and the impact we have on student lives closed the conference on Friday afternoon.

Small group sectional topics included mental health, secondary curriculum, literacy issues and classroom management strategies.

Principal Robert Patrick participated as a sectional leader for the secondary history teachers' forum. Tom Taylor was recognized for 15 years of service, and freshmen religion teacher Marv Erdman celebrated 50 years serving God in the classroom.

Note: Due to space limitations in this issue, a special *KnightLight* recognizing donations will be published in the next few weeks.

MLHS Academia

Patrick Awarded Study Scholarships

This past summer Martin Luther High School principal and history teacher Robert Patrick traveled to Philadelphia and Carlisle, PA to attend two Landmarks of American History and Culture Seminars. Villanova University was the host for the seminar *Benjamin Franklin and the*



Principal Robert Patrick received two history study scholarships again for summer 2008.

Invention of America and Dickinson College hosted the seminar *Landmarks of the Underground Railroad*.

The competitive application seminars are sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities. These seminars are designed to strengthen educators' commitment to high quality history teaching. The weeklong seminars provide intellectual stimulation and a collaborative context for developing practical resources and strategies to take back to the classroom. Each educator receives reading materials, room and board, transportation for tours and a stipend.

Library Receives Subscriptions

Bethany Lutheran College in Mankato, Minnesota, once again has generously donated nine two-year subscriptions for magazine to the MLHS library. Titles include *Cycle World*, *Midwest Outdoors*, *Four-Wheeler*, *Cabela's*, *Ignite Your Faith*, *Peterson's Hunting*, *Teen Vogue*, *Wired*, and *Fitness*. This program has been in place for over 20 years, providing some much-needed resources along with some "extra" magazines purely for students' enjoyment. Along with the magazines, BLC provides sturdy vinyl protective covers. Don Westphal of BLC works with Kathy Kramer of EBSCO Professional Partnership Group to provide this service.

Education Streaming

One-half of the schools in the U.S. utilize Discovery Education Streaming technology. For the past two years MLHS has subscribed to this service which engages students with rich video and online teaching resources. It is a digital video-on-demand and online teaching service to help improve students' retention and test scores and is aligned to U.S. state and provincial standards. It not only makes learning (and teaching) easier, it instantaneously brings a whole world of information and resources right into the MLHS classroom.

History & English Trip

Bon Voyage! Next June, six students and three adult chaperones will travel abroad to study the culture of Europe. On the itinerary are stops in the historic cities of London, Paris, Versailles, and Normandy. We will have a fundraiser at the *Pizza Ranch on Monday, Nov. 17 and Monday, Dec. 15* starting at 5:00 p.m. Eat at the *Pizza Ranch* on these dates to help us raise some money to offset some of the costs of the trip. By bussing tables, we will make 10% of the nights' profits plus tips. Thanks for your support. *Merci!*

Grant Received for Spanish Department

A \$500 grant has been given to the Spanish Department by the Allen C. Berndt Foundation. This will fund the purchase of Rosetta Stone software to assist the teacher in incorporating conversational competency to the Spanish curriculum.

School Awarded 2008 *Picturing America*

MLHS has received the National Endowment for the Humanities 2008 *Picturing America* Award. This gift includes 40 large, high-quality color reproductions of masterpiece art which illustrate American history. A Teachers Resource Book provides ideas on how to incorporate *Picturing America* into the classroom.



GENERATION to Generation BENEFIT ANTIQUE AUCTION



Wanted: Do you have “things” sitting around that others might consider to be antiques, primitives or collectibles? We are looking for furniture, dishes, toys, machinery, cars, tools, clothing, jewelry, Indian artifacts, books, household items, trunks, outhouses, barn cupolas and interesting items that were made before 1960.

Who: Anyone can donate or consign. Suggested donation of your profits to MLHS:
30%—40%—50%—75%—100%—you decide!

When: One-day auction—Saturday, January 3rd, 2008-9:45 a.m.

How: Call 436-5249 for more info.

Auctioneer: Mr. Allen Kahler, of Auctioneer Alley, Sherburn, gratis auctioneer.

Now your “trash” can be a “treasure” for the teenagers at Martin Luther High School!

A Benefit for the Student Tuition Aid Funds!

Rummage Sale Highlights

Thank you to all the wonderful volunteers who helped to make the Fall Rummage Sale a great one! Thank you to everyone who donated rummage and bake sale items also!

The total profit raised was \$10,764.58. This money will be

used to purchase extra items for the students. It will pay for bussing to special events, athletic uniforms and special projects, etc.

This sale provides all of us with a chance to give back to

the community. Leftover clothing was boxed up for Orphan Grain Train for future distribution. An area family, who recently lost everything in a house fire, was invited to shop the sale—courtesy of the MLHS PTL! **Thank you to the friends and family of MLHS!**



These faithful volunteers “made music” while taking a lunch break from sorting rummage items.



Many new friendships are made around the kitchen table while working at the sale. (Thank goodness that a table was on the sale!)



Dozens of hardworking volunteers and piles and piles of clothing makes it the MLHS Mega Mall Rummage Sale.

25/25/25 Anniversary Campaign

Southern Minnesota has been blessed to have a Lutheran High School in our midst for the past 25 years.

MLHS was begun through the vision and determination of several advocates for parochial education when the Lutheran Education Association



was formed in 1947.

In 1961 members of the LEA signed the articles of incorporation. Charter members were: Herbert Schroeder, Rev. O.F. Hinrichs, Rev. Arnold Cloeter, Mr. Ruthenbeck; Elmore Ziemann and Arthur Nibbe.

Twenty-two years later the first day of classes began. In August, 1983 courageous parents enrolled their students in grades 9-10. Nineteen students attended classes in a rented storefront in downtown Northrop.



This building was torn down in 2002.

Over the years the cost of educating a child continues

to increase. The cost of educating a child at MLHS is \$9,500.00.

The Martin Lutheran High School administration and Board of Directors are very conscious of the increasing cost of education. They work hard at keeping a bare bones budget while providing a top-notch education, which is second-to-none. They work hard at maintaining a tuition that can be affordable for our families.

Church contributions cover 16% of the cost. Tuition and tuition aid pays for 39% of the cost. This leaves 45% of the budget to be covered by fund raising and individual contributions.

A special 25th anniversary fund drive has been established to strengthen MLHS for the future. **It is called The 25/25/25 Campaign.**

Qualifications are:
 \$25.00 Donation.....
 for 25 months.....
 payable on the 25th of the month

Our goal is to sign up 250 individuals during this school year. *Currently there are 29 members who have signed on.*

The 25/25/25 Campaign will help fund:

- Student Tuition aid.
- Religious material i.e. textbooks, devotional material, bible studies
- Class room equipment i.e. projectors, computers, maps, lab equipment.

You are asked to "sign-on" for MLHS just like the charter members did!

Curriculum material i.e. curriculum software, educational web sites. Continuing faculty education i.e. college classes, seminars, online courses, educational conferences. Facility maintenance and improvements i.e. roof repairs, flooring, student/teacher desks. Library materials

How does it work?

Your gifts will be transferred by Electronic Fund Transfer from your bank account to the MLHS account.

Fill out a *paper* Thrivent Financial for Lutherans *Simply Giving: Member Enrollment and Authorization Form* and give it to the MLHS office. ***You must include a cancelled check with the form.***

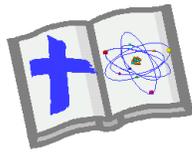
OR

Go on-line to www.martinlutherhs.com Go to "Keeping MLHS Strong" and follow the simple, secure instructions to set-up your 25/25/25 gifts.

Your first deduction will be on the 25th of the first available month.

Deductions will continue for the next 25 months.

For the cost of one pop a day, you can help support the ministry of MLHS...keeping it strong for the next 25 years.



Martin

Luther **H**igh **S**chool

Celebrating 25 Years
of God's Blessings!

A choice worth making...

Sunday

December

7th

Praying for
Martin Luther High School
in our Association Congregations



The Joy of Christmas

Friday, December 12th, 7:00 p.m.

*Come
Celebrate the birth
of the Christ-child*



*At the
Fairmont Opera House*

Free will offering

*Presented by the MLHS Music Department
under the direction of Mr. Travis Sletta*

Will You be a Guardian Angel Sponsor?



“Tommy” transferred into a Lutheran elementary school in 4th grade. He thrived there and Religion was his favorite class. From then on he wanted to attend Martin Luther High School. As a freshman he was excited about starting school; but then he saw the tuition papers that his single Mom left lying on the table. The payment amount worried him. So Tommy decided to tell his Mom he didn’t like going to MLHS and wanted to transfer out. He thought this would solve all of their problems...

♥ *Tommy needs a*

Guardian Angel...

♥ *Lots of teens at MLHS need a*

Guardian Angel.

♥ *Let us match their name with your heart!*

Tuition should never stop a student from hearing God’s Word every day.

† Because MLHS teaches God’s Word, the school must charge tuition. In order to receive tuition aid, families must apply for tuition assis-

tance through a company called “Tuition Aid Data Services.” (TADS) This company makes an impartial assessment of the applicants’ financial situation and recommends the amount of tuition aid each family should receive. Upon TADS’ recommendation, MLHS has awarded \$40,000.00 in tuition aid to qualifying families this school year. This \$40,000 is not “real money” and has to be raised through gifts and fundraisers.



† As a Guardian Angel *you* can help a teen hear that Jesus is their Savior and that God loves them—every day.

♥ Your gifts to the Guardian Angel Program provide tremendous “intangible religious benefits” to MLHS students.

♥ Your gifts of \$250 or more will be recorded as a tax-deductible donation.

♥ Your Guardian Angel donation will be matched to a worthy applicant by the school office.



- ♥ You will be notified which student receives your help after your first gift is recorded.
- ♥ Your gift(s) can be made at any time during the school year. They can be made in one lump sum, quarterly or monthly via cash, check or electronic fund transfer.
- ♥ You will know that you have helped someone in a very special way and made a difference in their lives!

To receive a sponsorship application, please contact the MLHS office at 507-436-5249

*Become a
Guardian Angel
today!*



Martin

Luther High School

PO Box 228 County Highway 38
Northrop, MN 56075

**A choice
worth making...**

Phone: 507-436-5249
Fax: 507-436-5240

**Find us on the web @
www.martinlutherhs.com**

The
Martin Luther High School Association

Full Member Churches:

Immanuel Lutheran, Fairmont
St. James Lutheran, Northrop
St. John's Lutheran, Rapidan
St. John's Lutheran, South Branch
St. John's Lutheran, Willow Creek
St. Paul's Lutheran, Fairmont
St. Paul's Lutheran, Truman
St. Paul's Lutheran, Wilbert
Trinity Lutheran, Fieldon
Zion Lutheran, Fraser

Associate Member Churches:

Immanuel Lutheran, Galena
Our Saviors Lutheran, Winnebago
Salem Lutheran, Madelia
St. John's Lutheran, Antrim
St. John's Lutheran,
Good Thunder
Trinity Lutheran, Lake Crystal
Trinity Lutheran, Trimont
Zion Lutheran, Lewisville

All member congregations are committed to providing spiritual support. Congregations are represented by delegates which comprise the governing body. All members are to encourage student enrollment and promote MLHS as an extension of their congregational ministry. Full Member support is 6% of annual budget in monthly payments from the congregational treasury.

Martin Luther High School welcomes full or part-time students in grades 9-12 without regard to religion, race, color or national origin.

Address Service Requested

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 290
Fairmont, MN
56031

Have you remembered your Lutheran church and school in your will?

QUICK CALENDAR

Parent/Teacher Conf. 5-7 p.m. Post Prom Meeting 6:30 p.m. PTL Meeting 7 p.m.	Monday Nov 3
Get Smart Drama Performance 7 p.m.	Friday Nov 7
Get Smart Drama Performance 7 p.m.	Saturday Nov 8
Fall Sports Banquet 6 p.m. w BB Meetings after	Monday Nov 10
"Joyful Thanks" Fall Benefit Dinner 5 p.m. Dinner 6 p.m.	Saturday Nov 15
Thanksgiving Vacation	Nov 26 to 30
MLHS Sunday in all Association Churches	Sunday Dec 7
Christmas Concert	Friday Dec 12
"Generation to Generation Antique Auction	Saturday Jan 3
Christmas Vacation	Dec 20 to Jan 4