



# LUTHER PREPARATORY SCHOOL

# SUMMER UPDATE

## *A message from President Crass*

When I was in high school almost 50 years ago it was an odd thing from society's viewpoint for a boy to want to be a pastor. Yet, there was still a general respect, if not an appreciation from society for the gospel ministry. "There's no money in that profession!" was the primary argument for a boy to not consider being a pastor. (Turns out that wasn't true. A gracious God provides for the needs—and more!—of all of his people, including called workers.)



Fast forward five decades. People say we live in a post-modern world in which secularism's foothold has become stronger as each year passes. "There's no money in ministry" has turned into scorn and derision for the gospel ministry. If ministry pursuit was odd 50 years ago, it is downright extremely weird and utter nonsense in the eyes of a post-modernist.

Once again a little more than **half of this year's Luther Prep graduating class will enroll at Martin Luther College** this fall to continue their preparations for ministry—**20% in the pastor track** and **30% in the teacher track**. That's in line with Prep's 30 year historical average of 55% of graduates continuing on at MLC.

As with all institutions and groupings, Luther Prep students have their own culture. Some of it is unique. Some of it is fun and clever. Some of it is even quirky.

**The Word of God permeates Prep's culture.** We thank God for the parents who have instilled in their children the high importance of gathering around the Word. Twice each day, morning and evening, Prep students attend chapel. On Saturday evening or Sunday morning they attend worship at a local church. They don't ask, "Should we go? Do we have to go?" It's simply what they do. It's Prep's culture. In those places they always hear the Christ proclaimed, the message of full and free salvation. That glorious gospel, far more than anything else, holds before the eyes of Prep students the dignity, the blessedness, and the privilege of serving Christ in his public gospel ministry.

Every Prep student asks himself/herself, "How can I serve my Savior with my life?" No matter what they ultimately decide upon graduation, they know: "Here is a trustworthy saying: Whoever aspires to be an overseer desires a noble task." (1 Timothy 3:1)



## WELCOME DAMION GLISPER

### DIRECTOR OF URBAN OUTREACH

We are excited to welcome Damion Glisper (NPS '91) and his family, Amy (NPS '92), Isaiah (LPS '17) and Ana (LPS '20) to campus this summer! Damion accepted a call to serve as the Director of Urban Outreach at LPS.

Recognizing an opportunity to reach out to more minority grade school students to consider Luther Prep and ultimately the WELS ministerium, Luther Prep's urban outreach efforts began in 2018. Urban outreach focuses on recruiting from the 11 schools across 14 campuses in urban Milwaukee, supporting efforts for a multicultural campus and cross-cultural ministry through experiences and educational opportunities for all LPS students.

Damion is currently serving as a staff minister at Atonement Lutheran Church and at Lighthouse Youth Center, both in Milwaukee. Damion is also taking classes in Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary's Pastoral Studies Institute (PSI). Damion plans to continue those classes.

Damion will continue to visit the urban school campuses throughout the school year, meet with dozens of prospective families, encourage current LPS students to consider ministry, and support several multicultural efforts across campus. We look forward to seeing how the Lord blesses the church through Damion's work! We also thank Professor David Dodge for laying the groundwork of urban outreach these past 7 years. Professor Dodge will assume responsibilities as Academic Dean in the 2024-25 school year.

For more about Damion's background, work at Atonement and studies through the Pastoral Studies Institute, visit <https://forwardinchrist.net/damion-glisper>.

## VISIT LUTHER PREP

Think about the young people in your congregation or school. Are they willing to be encouraged toward ministry? If so, Luther Prep is the school for them!

As you plan for this school year, join us for an open house, attend one of our drama productions, schedule a field trip to visit campus (and consider visiting Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary and WELS Center for Mission and Ministry too!), or shadow an LPS student during an overnight stay and school day.

2024-25

- Sunday, Aug. 18** Opening Service @ 1:30pm
- Friday, Sept. 27** Homecoming
- Sunday, Dec. 15** Christmas Concert @ 3:00pm
- Thursday, Dec. 19** Christmas Concert @ 10:00am
- Sunday, Mar. 9** Sacred Concert @ 2:00pm
- Friday, May 23** Commencement Concert @ 7:00pm
- Saturday, May 24** Graduation



Use the QR code to find out more about visiting Luther Prep.

