

June/July 2015

The Crusader

**MAYER
LUTHERAN
HIGH SCHOOL**



305 FIFTH STREET NE
MAYER, MN 55360
952.657.2251
www.lhsmayer.org



Congratulations MLHS Class of 2015!



Work of Art 4



Mayer Knights on a Roll 3

To submit information for publication in *The Crusader*, please contact Renae Johnson at rjohnson@lhsmayer.org or 952-657-2251. Materials due by the 14th of each month prior to publication.

It's Time to Soar!

By Joel P. Landskroener, MLHS Executive Director



Dear Friends of Mayer Lutheran High School,

Summertime greetings to you in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

As a longtime student and teacher of history, one of my favorite accounts involves two bicycle mechanics from Dayton, Ohio who first demonstrated heavier-than-air flight. Orville and Wilbur Wright were remarkable men. While they are credited with inventing the airplane, they also revealed timeless truths for us to consider today.

As keen observers of nature, they studied birds to unlock the secret of flight, moving Wilbur to comment, "No bird soars in a calm." That truth led them to find the windiest place in the United States to try their flying machine, Kitty Hawk, North Carolina on the sandy Outer Banks. It was near Kitty Hawk, on Kill Devil Hill, four miles south of town, where they successfully achieved controlled powered flight on December 17, 1903. What a remarkable achievement for two aspiring scientists with little formal training!

I'm sure that most of the 3,100 graduates of Mayer Lutheran High School have not soared in a calm. Hard things awaited them and during those times they grew in character, wisdom, and faith. College, career, family, church life, mortgages, illness, uncertain economic times all cause our kids to soar as they rise to meet the challenge that certainly will confront them. As I look back at my life, the Lord has blessed me and my family to overcome some significantly difficult days, and we are the better for them. I pray that you, too, recognize how your greatest growth as a person was the result of tumult and, through it all, you were never alone.

The next year provides an opportunity for our school to soar as we approach some major initiatives. A new web site and address will be online beginning in August (www.mayerlutheran.org). Our social media presence will increase as we are blessed to have able assistance in telling our story to the world in this most exciting and effective way. In the next couple of years, we anticipate staff changes as retirement looms on the horizon for a few of my colleagues. And, by the grace of God, we will undertake an ambitious building project that will totally change the face of our campus and enable many more people to experience the magic of Mayer Lutheran. Certainly, the next year will not be calm. It will be a challenge. We will not be alone.

Fortunately for all of us, God knows we have tough days ahead and that they are good for us. When the Children of Israel were about ready to enter the promised land and face some formidable fighters, the Lord told them, "Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them. For the LORD your God goes with you; he will never leave you or forsake you. (Deut. 31:6)" Paul echoes those words when he encouraged the early Christians facing devastating persecution: "What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? (Romans 8:31-32)" Jesus experienced the worse kind of storm when He was crucified on the cross. On Easter, though, He conquered death and forty days later soared into Heaven where He is preparing a place for us.

Few enjoy the storms of life. While we are buffeted by them, we can easily lose hope and purpose. Yet, God provides great assurance and comfort in His Word at exactly those times. He knows, like the birds he created, that we do not soar in a calm, and He's good with that. I pray you are too!

In Christ,


Joel P. Landskroener

jlandskroener@lhsmayer.org | 952-657-2251 x1007

P.S. On April 19, 1944, Orville Wright briefly took control of the Lockheed Constellation aircraft flown by Howard Hughes on a stop in Dayton. It was his last flight. For 41 years, Orville Wright flew planes—having never received a pilot's license.



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE MAYER LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2015

*The Next Generation of Christian Leaders...
God Bless You!*



Left to Right, Front Row: Josie Michalk, Andrew Wolf; Second Row: Lauren Wisch, Christina Erdmann, Maria Kuntz, Hannah Zahrt, Mackenzie Thiesfeld, Audrey Morschen, Rebecca Gaida, Emily Miller, Rilie Stender, Graham Dahlheimer; Third Row: Jacob Carlson, Jeremiah Elliot, Morgan Diedrick, Mark Zieroth, Kyle Gilland, Brenna Larsen, Belle Flucas, Klara Koch, Dain Aarrestad, Cailey Benkowski, Audy Metteer, Elizabeth Parrish; Fourth Row: Taylor Otterstatter, Jericho Norman, Canhao, Li, Matthew Landin, Eli North, Nathan Hames, Tyler Klaustermeier, Nathan Taylor; On Shoulders: Maddie Bakken, Erin Wandersee, Isaiah Saugen, Parit Keeratiyothin, Kaitlyn Bohach, Lori Zacharias; Not pictured: Joe Peterson

ADMISSIONS DEPARTMENT NEWS

By Dan Perrel, Director of Admissions | dperrel@lhsmayer.org | 952-657-2251 x1011

TRUTH, A Revolution in Education...

Engineering an award winning marketing campaign is a feat professional ad makers dream about. A few marketing wizards have, over the years, made this dream a reality. It's likely that you're familiar with some of the top-rated marketing campaigns of all time—UNICEF's Tap Project: it was engineered during a lunch meeting. Dave Droga of Droga5 Marketing created an award winning campaign by "branding" water. His idea received a three page spread in *Esquire* magazine. The result—it raised over \$2 million dollars for UNICEF's project to provide safe drinking water for people in need.

Another example—Prior to 2006 no one asked if they were a Mac or a PC person, but that all changed when marketing firm TBWA launched what would eventually become 66 commercials that each creatively asked this little question. The campaign, called "Get a Mac," was a bit of a comedy featuring a rather boring looking Bill Gates (PC) look-alike who was no match for the Steve Jobs (Mac) hipster dude. The skit was so popular it found its way into a South Park episode.

Recognized as a marketing campaign that's a cut above all the rest, Dove's *Campaign for Real Beauty*, set the marketing world on its ear by breaking the promotion stereotype of beauty. Instead of the super slim, plastic surgery constructed "beauty" of the fast-track super model, Dove set out to tell a real story of beauty. It touched a nerve around the world. Marketing campaign

evaluator Sergio Alcocer quipped, "I still remember the first time I saw Dove's 'Real Beauty Campaign.' So inspiring. It brought truth to advertising." Hummm, it was groundbreaking simply because it told the truth. Finally.

At Mayer Lutheran High School, we live by the Truth. So, when we think about "marketing" we think first, foremost, and finally about speaking the truth in every pledge we make. When we say WE WILL help young people aspire to reach great goals, then we will. When we say that your son or daughter will receive personal, nurturing attention from their instructors, then they will. When we say WE WILL prepare our students to make a positive impact in the world, then we will. It's the truth. *Teach me your way, O Lord, that I may walk in your truth; unite my heart to fear your name* (Psalm 86:11 ESV).

If you haven't registered for the 2015-16 school year, we invite you to do so today. WE WILL show you the truth in our advertising as we work to prepare the next generation of Christian leaders through the transformational power of God's Word in education. Registration forms are available online at www.mayerlutheran.org. Or, call my cell at 952-452-2351 for a meeting or tour. We can't wait to show you around!



MAYER KNIGHTS

SUMMER '15 CAMPS!

KNIGHTS TACKLE FOOTBALL 2015 (starts in late August)

SIGN UP TODAY!

Knights Tackle Football is taking the ball and running! This year we plan to have two teams—5th & 6th and 7th & 8th! Please let me know if your son is interested in playing. The rosters are growing in numbers but we still have some spots open. Pre-registration is essential in order to schedule games and practices for both teams.

A few openings remain in the Knights Summer Activity and Crusader Coaches Sports Camps. Please check our website at www.mayerlutheran.org, click on Knights for more camp information. Please contact Barb Christopherson, Knights Coordinator, to inquire about camp openings, questions, suggestions, or to help with the program. Phone me at 952-657-2251 x1010 or email bchristopherson@lhsmayer.org.

Thank you for supporting the Mayer Knights. **Go Knights!**



ART DEPARTMENT NEWS

By Heidi Gesch | hgesch@lhsmayer.org | 952-657-2251 x1201

This Spring the art students at Mayer Lutheran High School were invited to participate in the Lutheran High School Invitational Exhibition at Bethany Lutheran College. The Art Exhibition was held February 22–March 27 in the Ylvisaker Fine Arts Center in Mankato. The following schools participated in the exhibit this year:

Mayer Lutheran High–Mayer	Concordia Academy–Roseville
St. Croix Lutheran–West St. Paul	West Lutheran–Plymouth
Minnesota Valley Lutheran–New Ulm	Luther High School–Onalaska, Wisconsin



Nine Mayer Lutheran High students participated.

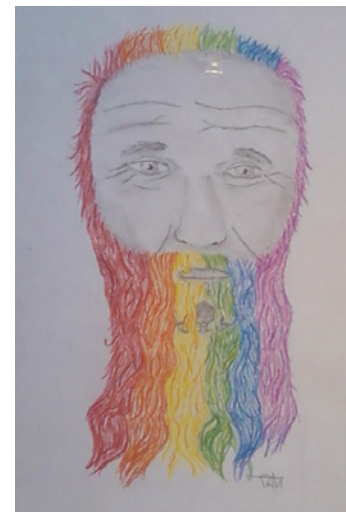
- Dain Arrestad (senior)—colored pencil drawing titled *Cool Beard, Man*
- Cailey Benkowski (senior)—two acrylic paintings titled *Spiced Tea* and *Life&Color*, and a watercolor painting titled *A Reproduction*
- Maria Kuntz (senior)—acrylic painting titled *Shoe Gogh* and an ink drawing titled *All Star*
- Audry Morschen (senior)—three ink and colored pencil drawings
- Kate Esser (junior)—three ink drawings titled: *Roadster*, *Uncle Larry*, and one which was untitled
- Nora Henriksen (junior)—watercolor and ink drawing
- Hailey Jackson (junior)—wooden sculpture titled *Fury's Altar*, a ceramic mask titled *Majora's Mask*, and a ceramic ocarina
- Sarah Johnson (junior)—ceramic sculpture titled *Imperfection* and an acrylic painting titled *Visions of Color*
- Lauren Zellmann (junior)—wooden sculpture titled *Disoriented*

A reception and awards ceremony was held on Saturday, February 28. Cailey Benkowski received a Special Merit award for her watercolor painting, *A Reproduction*. Hailey Jackson also received a Special Merit award for her ceramic mask, *Majora's Mask*. Those who attended the reception enjoyed seeing what other Lutheran high schools are doing in their art programs and getting ideas for future projects. It was a great experience for everyone who participated and we are looking forward to participating in the next Bethany Invitational Art Exhibit.

God has blessed Mayer Lutheran High School with very talented student artists who continue to use and develop their God-given artistic abilities in the classroom, on campus creating sets for the plays and musicals, and throughout the community. To God all Praise and Glory.



Hailey Jackson—*Majora's Mask*



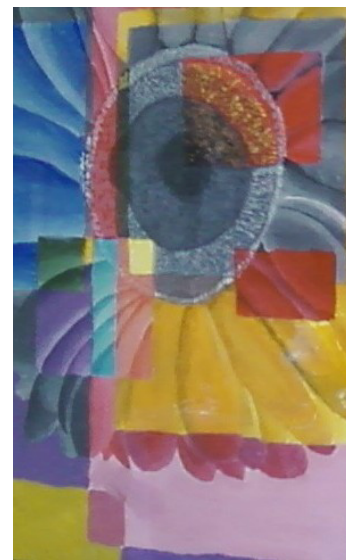
Dain Arrestad—*Cool Beard, Man*



Cailey Benkowski—*A Reproduction*



Maria Kuntz—*Shoe Gogh*



Sarah Johnson—*Visions of Color*

Student Spotlight On...

Academic Students of the Month: Kenson Boelke, Cyril Canhao Li,

Kenson has been a wonderful student in my physical science class this semester. He continues to be an excellent example to his peers. His work in my Physical Science class is of the highest quality. He takes the time to prepare and complete homework papers neatly and on time. This superior quality of work provides evidence for his study skills and self-determination. God has truly blessed Kenson with academic talents and more, as he also participates in a number of extracurricular activities. He serves as a great example for others in his class and a great aid to those who ask for his help.

—Mr. Loontjer



Kenson is an excellent student in Geometry, having one of the top grades in the class. His attention to detail is outstanding and he is able to grasp new concepts and apply them to previous material. He learns the material well, and is able to recall topics from previous chapters as we extend those topics into new ideas. —Mrs. Hoback

Cyril continues to impress me with his work in our AP Physics class. His attention to detail, and his desire to do the best he can motivates him to do great work. His continued top-notch work provides evidence of his study skills and self-determination. He is not satisfied with an incomplete answer to a question and strives to understand fully.

God has truly blessed Cyril with academic talent. I am confident that he will continue to do good work in future academics. He also serves as a great example for others in his class and a great help to those who ask. —Mr. Loontjer



Service Students of the Month: Riley Stender and Kiah Bakken & Michaela Wilaby

If all turns out as planned, **Riley** will reach a goal that she has worked on for some time. Riley is working on becoming an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT). She has been testing and going through hours of training to achieve this goal. Riley's servant heart is once again evident. I think it is wonderful when we have a student that will give up personal time to help out others. I pray God's richest blessings on Riley's efforts and on her future service to us, her friends, and neighbors. —Mr. Loontjer



Where you see one you typically see the other. These two good friends are also awesome role models with servant hearts. They are, as it seems, ready and willing

to help out when their help is needed. I was looking for some help in de-cluttering my chemical storage room and called for student help and was willing to pay for it since it was not a glamorous job. These two young ladies not only signed up for the job but insisted that I not pay them for it. The job was well done and my life and storage room more organized. Thank you, Kiah and Michaela, your help was deeply appreciated.

(I can also attest that they are good babysitters, my grandkids just loved them!)

—Mr. Loontjer



Fifth Annual HOOP IT UP for AL 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament



The 5th annual 3 on 3 tournament was held on the MLHS outdoor courts on Saturday, May 16 under fair-weather conditions. Sixteen teams participated, supported by many parents and friends cheering them on! The MLHS Mission Team members served concessions while Rolling Hearth Pizza served great pizzas. It was a wonderful time of fellowship and basketball! Thank you to all the members of the MLHS National Honor Society that helped keep score and referee. \$1,000 was raised by the Kramer Sports Endowment Fund which benefits sports programs at Mayer Lutheran High School.



12 Year-Old Champions:
Flight Elite West—
Halle Ross, Jeana Sorensen,
Maddy Nybakke, and Ellie
Poradish

Adult Male Champions:
Team Mocha Monkey



The Kramer Sports Endowment Fund is held in memory of Allan Kramer whose life was positively impacted by caring, Christian coaches. This fund benefits Mayer Lutheran sports programs.

MLHS Junior Receives Football Honor

MLHS junior, Sam Schlueter, was named first team to the 2014 Lutheran High School All-American Football Team compiled by Concordia Ann Arbor. Twenty-five players from Lutheran High Schools across the nation were named first team or honorable mention. Only six Juniors were on the list. Way to go Sam!



Great Opportunities to Host 2015-16 International Students

Keonwoo (9th, male)—Nicknamed Kevin. Compassionate and adaptive, this laid-back student would like to be a movie producer when he grows up. He is not so outgoing as to lead or step out, but he is cooperative and helpful to those around him. His favorite subject is PE, and loves to play soccer and piano. His favorite foods are chicken, rice, and salad, but is not picky about food. He is honest and openly admits to his mistakes. Kevin attended MLHS during the spring semester and would love to return for the 2015-16.

Jiayu (12th, male)—Nicknamed James. Motivated and organized, James is focused on getting prepared for his transition to an American university. He enjoys movies and having time to be by himself. James loves math and science. He has attended MLHS since his freshman year and has adapted to the academic rigors of school.

Gifty (10th, female)—Gifty is a kind and compassionate person who loves music and dance. She is a very good singer and is looking forward to being part of the Concert Choir next year. Gifty's personality allows her to work well in many social and family settings. Initially Gifty may seem shy but warms up quickly in social settings.



For more information about these hosting opportunities, contact Kevin Wilaby at kwilaby@lhsmayer.org or 952-657-2251 x1008 (O); 952-426-8496 (C)

Watch a moving first-hand experience as told by international student and MLHS 2015 graduate, Parit K., and his host family. Go to: <https://vimeo.com/129266624>

Meet the New 2015-16 MLHS Board of Directors

MLHS would like to welcome three new board members:

Todd Bentz, Emanuel Lutheran School, Hamburg, MN

I am a 1986 graduate of Mayer Lutheran High School. I have been a Lutheran teacher for most of the past 25 years and currently serving as principal and teacher at Emanuel Lutheran School in Hamburg. My years at MLHS helped develop my passion for Lutheran education, and I hope that I have passed those same things on to my students. It is my desire to see MLHS minister to students for many years into the future. I pray that the mission, "Preparing the next generation of Christian leaders" never becomes just words. As a member of the board, I want to help make those words reality in the lives of Mayer Lutheran students.

Jodi Quiram, New Germany, MN

I am a current Mayer Lutheran school parent of Olivia, a freshman, and Ben, junior. Our family began our Lutheran education at Redeemer, Wayzata, and moved to New Germany when Ben enrolled in high school at MLHS. Olivia spent two years at Zion, Mayer, which was an easy transition. I am a graduate of Augsburg College in Minneapolis. I spent 18 years in the corporate world and I'm most recently enjoying being a full time stay-at-home Mom. I am looking forward to serving the students and staff at MLHS.

Jeff Boehlke, St. Paul's Church, Watertown, MN

My name is Jeff Boehlke, I am a new Board of Director member representing St. Paul's Church in Watertown. I currently serve as Principal and teacher at Christ Community Lutheran School in Watertown. My wife Michele also teaches at CCLS. We have three children, Meghan (Class of 2011), Seth (Class of 2016), and Delaney who will be an 8th grader at CCLS this fall.

I had served several terms, previously, on the MLHS Board as the Teacher Representative. I chose to return to the Board because I believe that Lutheran schools are a priceless commodity, particularly in these changing times. They fulfill the Great Commission by preparing our children to serve Jesus as Lord and Savior in a variety of ways. Mayer Lutheran is a special place which needs and deserves our time, talents and energies.

These new members join our outstanding team of current Board of Directors: Kim Bones—Chairperson, John Trocke—Vice-Chair, Michael Binstock—Treasurer, Jennifer Erdmann—Secretary, Todd Bentz—Teacher Rep., Brian Biermann—Alumni Rep., Jeff Boehlke, Michael Orth, Brad Quass, Jodi Quiram, Rev. Eric Zacharias—Pastor Rep., Ann Marie Janke

National Honor Society Speech on "Scholarship"

By Taylor Otterstatter



The NHS views education as a total product measured by four dimensions of life: Character, Leadership, Scholarship, and Service. Taylor presented the following speech at the 2015 MLHS NHS Awards Banquet with his focus on scholarship.

Scholarship, it's not the favorite of these [Character, Leadership, Scholarship, Service]. It's not the easiest, but it's the quality that seems to be noticed the most today. So much emphasis has been placed upon how a student's grades are or how high their ACT score is. Being on the honor roll, getting straight A's, and being accepted into a good college all place more weight on scholarship. There was enough pressure to be academically excellent just to be accepted into the National Honor Society, and I'd like to congratulate all of you for handling that pressure and flourishing under it, but with all of the pressure that comes with scholarship, it can be easy to feel like you're alone and have to do all of the work involved in scholarship by yourself. This is certainly not the case, as Proverbs 3:5-6 says, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight." How comforting and reassuring, to know that we can lean on the Lord in our academic endeavors.

We are not alone, our God is with us and guides us in everything we do. When you're staying up late studying for the big test, stressing over every small detail for the final paper you have due at the end of the week, or sitting in class trying to soak in every detail the teacher shares, God is with you. He is supplying you with His wisdom and directing you to receive the most from each academic exercise you take part in. So as you go forward in life, let the words of Proverbs 3:5-6 reverberate as you walk with God day by day. "Trust in the Lord with all your heart," place every worry you have at his feet and believe that He will take care of it. "Lean not on your own understanding," don't feel as though you are alone in life, especially with school work. You don't have all wisdom, but the One who does is your ultimate teacher, so trust in Him. "In all your ways submit to Him, and He will make your paths straight," let God take the reins of your life, and He will guide you down His path. So continue to grow in wisdom, guided by the Lord, and always trust in Him as you continue your excellence in the area of scholarship.

A Year in the Making

The 2014-15 school year at MLHS was filled with special achievements by our student body. We would like to share the recognition these students received in their various areas of success and giftedness.

2015 AWARDS ASSEMBLY

DRAMA – Maddie Bakken, Mark Zieroth
 INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC –
 John Sousa Award – Audrey Morschen
 Patrick Gilmore Award – Rebecca Gaida
 Louis Armstrong Award – Eric Telford
 Woody Herman Award – Matt Landin
 CHORAL – Maddie Bakken
 MINNESOTA RIVER CONFERENCE – (See next page)
 TRIPLE A AWARD – Christina Erdmann
 SPRENGELER ATHLETE OF THE YEAR AWARD –
 Taylor Otterstatter, Maria Kuntz
 VOICE OF DEMOCRACY – Ben Quiram
 STRIVE – Tyler Klaustermeier, Eli North, Riley Stender
 SPEECH – Katelyn Stanley, Samantha Kadle, Elli Marin
 MATH – Nathan Taylor, Ben Quiram, Canhao Li,
 Christina Erdmann, Morgan Diedrick
 LUTHERANS FOR LIFE – Erin Wandersee, Jessica Peterson
 CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP – Jacob Carlson, Elizabeth
 Parrish, Tyler Klaustermeier, Christina Erdmann
 VALEDICTORIAN – Christina Erdmann
 SALUTATORIAN – Morgan Diedrick
 SCRIPTURE READERS – Taylor Otterstatter, Hannah Zahrte

SERVICE STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Christina Erdmann	Kate Esser
Taylor Otterstatter	Lynnea Marlatt
Dain Aarrestad	Josh Marlatt
Jacob Carlson	Michaela Wilaby
Andrew Wolf	Elizabeth Parrish
Mark Zieroth	Belle Flucas
Min Lee	Morgan Diedrick
Tyler Klaustermeier	Brenna Larsen
Isaiah Saugen	Klara Koch
Tyler Wilaby	Claire Kelzer
Brandon Holmes	Cailey Benkowski

ACADEMIC SCHOLARS OF THE MONTH

Boyoon Kim	Ben Quiram
Eric Telford	Carly Stramer
Christina Erdmann	Josh Marlatt
Morgan Diedrick	Garrett Tjernagel
Kiah Bakken	Min Lee
Parker Esterberg	Cailey Benkowski
Lucy Koch	Nathan Taylor
Charlie Menke	

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

2014-15 Inductees:

Karrington Boelke
 Jonathan Chapa
 Kate Esser
 Nora Henriksen
 Brandon Holmes
 Brenna Larsen
 Lynnea Marlatt
 Charles Menke
 Benjamin Quiram
 Eric Telford
 Danielle Vetsch
 Amanda Wade

NHS Members: Morgan Diedrick, Christina Erdmann,
 Rebecca Gaida, Maria Kuntz, Josephine Michalk, Audrey
 Morschen, Taylor Otterstatter, Erin Wandersee, Andrew
 Wolf, Hannah Zahrte



Christian Leadership Scholarship recipients: Elizabeth Parrish, Jacob Carlson, Christina Erdmann, Tyler Klaustermeier

MINNESOTA RIVER CONFERENCE (MRC) ACADEMIC AWARDS

All-Conference Academic Awards

	GPA	VARSITY LETTERS
Christina Erdmann	4.07	6
Taylor Otterstatter	3.97	9
Maria Kuntz	3.90	8
Rebecca Manteuffel	3.75	4
Brenna Larsen	3.65	4
Andrew Wolf	3.63	5

A Year in the Making

MINNESOTA RIVER CONFERENCE (MRC) ATHLETIC HONORS

All-Conference Boys Basketball

Sam Schlueter, Junior, Center

Honorable Mention

Taylor Otterstatter, Senior Forward

All-Conference Football

Sam Schlueter, Junior, OG/DE

Taylor Otterstatter, Senior, TE/LB

Honorable Mention

Jack Chmielewski, Junior, QB/Safety

Andrew Wolf, Senior, RB/LB

All-Conference Volleyball

Marie Kuntz, Senior, MH

Maddy Hucky, Freshman, Setter/OH

Honorable Mention

Maddy Miller, Junior, Outside Hitter

All-Conference Track

Rebecca Manteuffel, Sophomore, Discuss

Honorable Mention

Dain Aarrestad, Senior, Misc. Events

All-Conference Softball

Mya Chmielewski, Freshman, Catcher

Honorable Mention

Sophie Flucas, Sophomore, 3B/SS

All-Conference Baseball

Jack Chmielewski, Junior, P/IF

Honorable Mention

Zach Thole, Junior, IF/P

All-Conference Girls Basketball

Maria Kuntz, Senior, Post

Mya Chmielewski, Freshman, Guard

Brenna Larsen, Senior, Guard

Honorable Mention

Emilee Gustin

All-Conference Dance

Maddie Bakken, Senior, Jazz

Amanda Wade, Junior, High Kick

Erin Wandersee, Senior, High Kick

Honorable Mention

Kaitlyn Bohach, Senior, Jazz

Honorable Mention—Golf

Andrew Wolf, Senior

Addie Luehrs, Junior

Honorable Mention—Cross Country

Ben Quiram, Junior

Emilie Berry, Freshman

Honorable Mention—Speech

Katelyn Stanley, Sophomore, Informative

STATE TRACK PARTICIPANTS

Rebecca Manteuffel, Shot Put and Discus

Jacob Carlson, Pole Vault



Why?

By Katelyn Cooper, MLHS Freshman

Why do we write? Why do we do anything? Is it to please someone? Is it to make someone happy or give them a sense of joy? People often

say that there is something immortalizing about seeing your name in print. That is true. You feel a sense of gratitude and even power knowing that your words will live on, even when you are long gone. It gives you the sense that you can do anything if you can write. Those words can achieve fame, change the world, and make a difference with words.

But why do we do it? Why do we write? I suppose there are many different reasons for it besides ones that I just mentioned. I mean is writing demanded of people? A job perhaps? Are people forced to write words with meanings they do not know and phrases they do not agree with? Statements that aren't their own, or speeches that only serve to make people feel better about themselves. It is an awful world when words have no meaning, or they are misused. Language is a gift, and the ability to wield a language is one of the greatest gifts of all. People do not see this, but it is true. This may be one reason that people write. They may write for pleasure, but not many people have time for it. People write for money; for the monetary value that they get for their words. They prove their worth through words. It is not a bad system, but it strips the words of all meaning, of passion, and of wit.

Where are the great writers of this generation? Why have they not come? Why do we pride ourselves on the garbage that we sometimes call books? They are produced in mass with profane meanings, grotesque images and awful characters. We need the writers of the past. Those who upheld the noble cause of story telling. Who filled our minds with images of hope and a future. Who wielded their pens to make change and save people.

And that is why we write. We write to impact change. To move people to action. To make them believe in something beside themselves. To inspire them to believe in people. To help those people. To give those people a chance to do better and live life. We write to encourage people to believe in God. To bring them to faith in the ONE TRUE GOD. To do what is right in His eyes and to believe in Him. This is our call as writers. We must be the voice of reason; the people who can change others with the stroke of a pen or pencil. We need to do this. "Why?" you ask. Why do we need to do all of this? Why must we be the ones? I'll tell you why. We are the ones who are heard. Our opinions are read and regarded. Not just the few famous authors, but also the ones who are local. All of our opinions matter. They can all change the world. Everything matters. That is why we do things the things we do. Everyone can make a difference and a change in the world. The key is too be heard. Get out there and share your voice.



LCEF Scholarship Award Winner

2015 MLHS graduate, Elizabeth Parrish, is the fourth and final 2015 Minnesota South District Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) \$1,000 scholarship award winner. Congratulations Elizabeth!

SPIRITUAL LIFE DEPARTMENT NEWS

By Dave Lane | dlane@lhsmayer.org | 952-657-2251 x1209

We Love, We Serve, Because He First Loved, He First Served Us

Wow, another year has flown by, and as the one who coordinates school service events, it has been a joy to watch the students at Mayer Lutheran High School live out their faith in so many ways. Many of our service activities have their origins in a class called Christian Leadership. Each student in the class is responsible to help with the organization of a school-wide service project. This past year, students held fall and spring blood drives, two trips to Feed My Starving Children, and a fundraising appeal for our school-sponsored Compassion child named Fernando. The drive resulted in raising enough money to sponsor him for an entire year! A Remedy Drive concert helped support Ysleta Lutheran Mission's "Stay in School Scholarship." This program works to keep children in Anapra, Mexico, in school after sixth grade.

Our annual mission trip to the El Paso/Juarez area saw over a quarter of our students serving across the border in Anapra. A

group of nearly 50 students and 25 adults developed relationships and encouraged the people of that community while building five small homes and spending time with the children we have grown to love. We have over 40 students already signed up for next year.

Other opportunities to serve happened through the fall "Senior Give Back Day," where groups of MLHS seniors went to schools, homes of the elderly, local food shelves, or stayed right here at school, serving their neighbors in a variety of ways. Our National Honor Society also joined the effort with some service activities of their own, including the "mini library" efforts, and ditch cleanup. Many of our students are also involved in their own service efforts at the congregational level, where the love that they have received from God through His Son Jesus, shines through in many tangibles ways. It's been a good year!



2015 Trapshooting Team

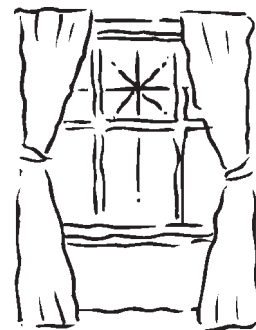
The Crusader Claybreakers Trapshooting Team had a great competition season. The team consists of 27 boys and girls from MLHS and from neighboring schools. The team finished their season in FIRST PLACE in their conference! The team had three shooters that shot perfect 25 for 25 rounds: Jeremiah Elliot (two), Monte Monchamp, and Kate Esser. Jeremiah also went 49 for 50 for the team's high score for a night's shooting. Twenty-four shooters participated in the State Competition held in Alexandria, MN, June 12—ten students shooting at the varsity level (average scores of 19–25) and 14 shooting at the junior varsity level (average scores of 15–18). Monte Monchamp and Jeremiah Elliot ended the season on the top 100 individual shooters in the state and both have qualified for the MSHSL State Championships. Elli Marten tied for 3rd place as the female high scorer at the state meet with 84 out of 100.

Thank you to Chris Thole and Gary Loontjer for coaching the team again this year. We thank our range safety officers, Allen Oakes and Kermit Terlinden for their tutelage. A special thank you to parents for their support and help at our shooting nights.



Parents and friends of the Crusader Claybreakers gathered together with the team at end of our season for a "Fun Shoot."

I CAN SEE
CLEARLY NOW!



The MLHS Mission Trip Team is, once again, offering a window washing service this summer and fall.

We will send a team to your house or place of business to wash windows in exchange for a donation to our mission trip.

If you have questions, or would like to set up a window washing time, please contact Dave Lane at dlane@lhsmayer.org.



Christian Missionary Shares Work Among Muslims

With the growing influence of Islam among the nations, it is key that we understand the world of Islam and the people who claim to be followers of the religion.

On April 24, Cynthia Khan, Director of Community Engagement at POBLO International, spoke to Mayer Lutheran students about the rise of Islam, the teachings of Islam, and how Christians can witness to people who follow the teachings of Muhammad. POBLO is a mission outreach to Muslims based in Clinton Township, Michigan.

Ms. Khan's presentation was part of Mayer Lutheran's ongoing Christian Leadership Summit Series.

150th CELEBRATION CONCERT

**Thursday, July 23 | Featuring Jenn Bostic
6:30-8:30 pm | Carver County Fairgrounds**

The local JazzHounds, a 17 piece jazz band, and Jenn Bostic, Waconia native and Nashville recording artist, will help Trinity Lutheran Church & School celebrate their 150th Anniversary with a free concert at the Carver County Fairgrounds. The community is invited to attend.

Musicians Needed

I have been asked to put together a band of musicians to perform pre-service, postlude, and hymns at the 150th Anniversary service at St. John's Lutheran Church-Hollywood, MN (just outside of New Germany on Hwy 7). This outdoor service would be a part of a mass celebration at 2:00 PM on July 19, 2015. Would you be available to share your talents with the congregation at this anniversary service? We would have one rehearsal Wednesday, July 15 at 7 PM at Mayer Lutheran High School as well as rehearsal prior to the service on that Sunday.

Please contact James Dulas at jdulas@lhsmayer.org or 952-220-9680 (text or mobile) if you are able to share your musical gifts at this special event.

Peace,

James Dulas, MLHS Director of Instrumental Music

THE LAST WORD

By Kevin Wilaby, Principal | kwilaby@lhsmayer.org | 952-657-2251 x1008

Don't Take A Vacation



Have you ever heard the phrase "use it or lose it?" Use it or lose it has been spoken to athletes and students in various ways. Acquired skills or knowledge will fade away without repetition and use. Consider the student who crams for an exam. They may remember enough to earn an acceptable grade, but ask them to take the test a week later and the results are likely to be considerably worse. Athletes are pushed to be involved in skill development in and out of season

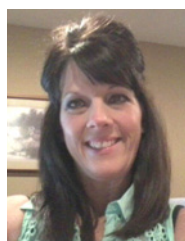
and this is, in part, caused by the desire to not have skills decline due to lack of repetition.

Some who have studied what it takes to truly master a skill or excel at it have determined that it can take 6-10 years of working at it to obtain true mastery of that skill or genuine expertise in an area. Another study suggests that it takes 10,000 focused hours (1,250 eight hour work days) to get to this level.

Teachers see the skill and knowledge atrophy that occurs in their students after time away from the classroom. Summer break, though a great reprieve from the rigors of school, do cause students to lose skills and knowledge. This is why some school districts across the country have changed to year-round school. These districts cite that more academic progress gets made because there is less re-teaching that needs to occur.

Summer, for some, will also cause spiritual atrophy. People will find themselves distracted from being in the Word, keeping up personal and family devotion schedules, and attending worship. Although, for those who believe in Christ as their Savior, this is not a salvation issue it is a spiritual growth stagnation issue. When we are not in contact with God and in communion with His saints we are not being fed by Word and Sacrament.

Being fed spiritually is important because we are called to ...*always be prepared to give and answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have* (1 Peter 3:15, NIV). The world and our sinful flesh attempt to make us feel that we are inadequate to give an answer. But we are not. By being spiritually fed and in shape, we find that we are more than equipped to share that salvation that can only be found in Christ because He paid the price for our sin and rose to give us the certainty of eternal life. When we articulate this hope, the Holy Spirit does miraculous things in the lives of people, whether they are wavering in their faith or hearing the Gospel for the first time.



NEW DANCE COACH NAMED

Mayer Lutheran High school would like to welcome Kristie Nelson as our new Head Dance Coach. She has experience as a high school dancer and has started two Community Education Dance programs in the area. She will head up our first year as a co-operative sport with Watertown-Mayer. The administrations at

Mayer Lutheran and Watertown-Mayer are very excited to see where this joint venture takes the team!



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Mayer Lutheran High School admits students of any race, color, national or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin in the administration of its policies, financial aid program or other school-administered programs.

Mayer Lutheran High School

18th Annual Crusader Charity Golf Classic

Saturday, September 12, 2015

Island View Golf Course, Waconia

Plan on playing in the MLHS Crusader Classic Charity Golf Tournament!

The Crusader Charity Classic begins with a light lunch and a 1pm shotgun start. End a great day of golf with a delicious steak dinner. Register as a team or as an individual. A four-person "scramble" format plus plenty of contests and prizes gets everyone into the game.

TOURNAMENT SPONSORSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE. Your business will be featured in the golf program, on t-shirts, on the course as a hole sponsorship, banquet tables, and at the awards ceremony. Golf participants make it a point to patronize our sponsors.

The success of the tournament has also been made possible by **PRIZE DONATIONS.** Donations may be given out as a prize for various events during the tournament or as a drawing. Special recognition is given to prize donators at the event and in tournament promotional materials.

For more details, call Renae Johnson at 952-657-2251 x1002 or golf committee chairman Craig Anderson at 763-315-0746.

Thank you for your support...we look forward to seeing you at Island View on September 12!

