

December 2015

The Crusader

**MAYER
LUTHERAN
HIGH SCHOOL**



305 FIFTH STREET NE
MAYER, MN 55360
952-657-2251
www.mayerlutheran.org

You Name It!

By Joel Landskroener, MLHS Executive Director



Dear Friends of Mayer Lutheran High School,

Advent greetings to you in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, Immanuel!

I find names fascinating. Who can't but be intrigued with a town named Bad Axe, Michigan? How about Truth or Consequences, New Mexico? I'd certainly drive carefully in Accident, Maryland. I wonder if there are any churches in Hell, Michigan? Could you find a decent meal in Sandwich, Massachusetts, Cheddar, South Carolina, or Pie, West Virginia and then wash it down in Coke, Virginia?

People's names can be just as intriguing. Prince, whose studio is right here in Carver County, once changed his name to a symbol. Since folks had a hard time pronouncing his new name, he was known simply as "the artist formerly known as Prince." NBA great, Lloyd Free, officially changed his name to World B. Free. In a keeping-up-with-the-Jones' moment, Los Angeles Laker Ron Artest decided he liked Meta World Peace better and made the name change official in 2011.

When it comes to names, one of the most confusing situations is right here at our school. The official name "Lutheran High School Association of Carver County" was recorded with the State of Minnesota back in 1959 when we were incorporated. Later, it was officially changed to Lutheran High School Association in Mayer. Of course, short cuts ensued. You can find plenty of vintage uniforms and spirit wear that says "LHS" for Lutheran High School. Naturally, with at least three Lutheran high schools in the metro area, "LHS" could lead to some confusion. In the sports world, we are often referred to simply as "Mayer." In fact, some would argue that the town of Mayer would be almost unknown if it wasn't for the school being located here.

As a result of our strategic and marketing plan approved earlier this year, we are now called "Mayer Lutheran High School" or "Mayer Lutheran" for short. Dear old "LHS" is no longer used, officially. "Mayer" is simply a town located at 44.8850° North latitude and 93.8878° West longitude. Our fabulous marketing committee encourage all of us to use "Mayer Lutheran High School" or "Mayer Lutheran" whenever we write or speak about this place that has been preparing the next generation of Christian leaders since 1961. For newcomers, this is probably not such a big deal. For those who have been around Mayer Lutheran for a while, the temptation to refer to us as "LHS" or "Mayer" will continue. For the sake of consistency and marketing effectiveness, please resist the temptation.

Scripture is full of naming confusion as well. When the white, honey-flavored flakes the Lord sent to the starving Children of Israel needed a name, they called it "manna," which means "what is it?" Quite original! When Zechariah and Elizabeth were expecting a baby in their old age, everyone thought he, too, would be named "Zechariah." But, as is recorded in Luke 1:60-63, when the relatives asked for the boy's name, Zechariah wrote on a wax tablet: *His name is John*. When it comes to the name of John's cousin, the boy born to Mary and Joseph, Jesus of Nazareth, many names arose. Scripture records more than seventy names referring to Jesus. All of them are accurate and descriptive of the person and work of true God and true man sent to save us from our sins.

At this time of year, the one name of Jesus which seems to be heard most often is "Immanuel," meaning "God with us." We sing Advent and Christmas carols using this amazing name. The fact that God would choose to live among mankind is a bit zany and even more unbelievable. Despite the many predictions of the prophets, the people of Jesus' day were surprised and perplexed when Immanuel finally arrived. What joy it is to know that God dwelt with man! What surpassing joy it is to confess that Jesus died for our sins and rose victorious from the grave! What amazing, incredible joy it is to know that one day, we too, will see Him face to face! And, He will call us by our name as He welcomes us to eternal life with Him, Jesus Christ, Immanuel!

Have a blessed Advent and Christmas and a joyful New Year!

In the Name of Jesus,

Joel P. Landskroener
joel.landskroener@mayerlutheran.org | 952-657-2251 x1007



MLHS OPEN HOUSE, December 3



Celebrate His Birth 3



Mission Team: Ready, Set, GO! 2

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.

ACTIVITIES DEPARTMENT NEWS

By Dave Lane, Director of Spiritual Life | david.lane@mayerlutheran.org | 952-657-2251 x1209



Building Relationships in Anapra

Planning is nearly complete for our 11th Mission Trip to Ysleta Lutheran Mission in El Paso, TX, Tuesday, December 29 to Thursday, January 7. We are fully expecting that God will accomplish incredible things again this coming year. Our plan is to take 44 Mayer Lutheran students over the last portion of Christmas break through J-Term, to help build homes, build relationships with the children and families in Anapra (an especially impoverish area of Juarez, MX), and have their faith challenged and stretched during the week-plus experience. As always, we ask for the prayers of our MLHS community, that God would use us to encourage and to be encouraged, as these young people step out of their nice, neat, comfortable world, to share the love of Jesus in Anapra.



2015 MLHS Mission Trip Team, left to right: (front row) Garrett Tjernagel, Brandon Holmes; (second row) Lauren Wandersee, Nicole Klaustermeier, Mya Chmielewski, Danielle Mahlum, Lynnea Marlatt, Sam Klatt, Nora Henricksen, Kate Esser, Ellie Martin; (third row) Branden Carlson, Jack Chmielewski, Charlie Menke, Amanda Wade, Jimmy Switch, Kiah Bakken, Michaela Wilaby, Clara Snow, Katie Schroeder, Olivia Hendel, DeNae Henning, Esther Kelzer, Sarah Parrish; (fourth row) Tyler Wilaby, Gunnar Berg, Nick Huinker, Jack Buttenhoff, McHayl Diedrick, Josh Marlatt, Jon Chapa, Alex Telford, Riley Thomas, Jon Trost, Carly Stramer, Makenna Taylor, Mr. Dave Lane, Sophie Flucas, Lucy Koch, Addie Luehrs

MLHS Hosts Veterans

On November 11, Mayer Lutheran High School hosted its 5th annual Veterans' Day celebration. This community-wide event included a speech by MLHS alum Taylor Jasper, music by MLHS choirs, and a luncheon for the veterans and their families.

Thank you to all of the veterans who attended the celebration. We so appreciate your service and dedication. Thank you to the students at Zion Mayer Lutheran School and Christ Community Lutheran School for taking part in our celebration commemorating those who served our nation in the armed forces.



MLHS 9th grade student Grant Cohrs and his Grandpa, Rich Cohrs.



Photo L to R: Stan Heldt, Roger Sauerbrey, Rodger Kirchhoff, Lowell Wasser, Gary Paulson, Rich Cohrs, Larry White, Taylor Jasper (Speaker, MLHS Class of 2008)

ACTIVITIES DEPARTMENT NEWS

By Kris Gustin, Activities Director | kris.gustin@mayerlutheran.org | 952-657-2251 x1217



Yes, We Recruit

Over the years I have often had coaches or parents from other schools give me a hard time about the fact that Mayer Lutheran High

School is competitive in sports because of our ability to recruit athletes. There seems to be

this perception out there that private schools are always doing sly stuff under the table to get athletes in the doors. Rumors circulate about athletes being given cars, purchased houses to be able to move without a transfer penalty, or given full ride scholarships to attend a private school. While these shady dealings may occur at other schools, I proudly tell people who insinuate that Mayer Lutheran High School recruits athletes that we do, in fact, recruit.

Wait a second. We do recruit? The answer to that question is a simple one: Yes, we do, in fact, recruit. At Mayer Lutheran High School we recruit good students from good families who love their Lord. Our desire is that every student who wants to

attend Mayer Lutheran can do so. While we have never purchased cars or houses, or even given a full ride scholarship, we do have financial aid available for all students who need assistance. This aid comes from the gifts of generous people who have a strong desire to see students get the opportunity to attend Mayer Lutheran.

If we recruit students and not athletes or scholars, why are our programs so successful? The answer is simple. We have highly qualified coaches who equip our students with the proper skills, aspire them to greater goals, and nurture them with encouragement and compassion, all in a Christ-centered environment. This is why activities at Mayer Lutheran High School, from dance to drama, from baseball to robotics, are so successful. The next time you are involved in a conversation about private schools who recruit, say proudly that Mayer Lutheran recruits great students who desire to be equipped and nurtured in a Christ-centered setting.



Christmas Concert

**Monday, December 14
Fine Arts Center | 7 PM**

Instrumentalists and vocalists from the Mayer Lutheran music department will be celebrating the birth of our Savior by performing a concert on Monday, December 14, 2015. The Concert Choir, Wind Ensemble, Jazz Band, Grade School Concert Band, and Knights of Jazz will perform sacred and secular Christmas favorites.

A few highlights of evening include: the Wind Ensemble performing "Past the Equinox" by Jack Stamp. As the title suggests, the equinox occurs when the length of day and night are equal, and "past the equinox" refers to the day being slightly longer than the night. The night, or dark, is represented by a chromatic and very angular theme which is heard immediately following the opening bell tolls. Several times through the course of the work, the day theme attempts to emerge but is engulfed by the night theme. The entire work is based upon the conflict of the night theme and day theme, or more specifically, evil and good. Eventually, the night theme succumbs to the day theme which is finally revealed as the Advent hymn, "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus." It is at this point that the metaphor is realized. Past the equinox; light over dark; good over evil, is accomplished musically though the prophetic hymn which announces the coming of "the light of the world."

The choir is performing "Festivals of Lessons and Carols" by John Leavitt. Volunteer vocalists are encouraged to join the choir for this inspiring celebration of Christ's birth. (See inset right.)

Parents, Alums and Singers of All Ages!

The choir is performing "Festivals of Lessons and Carols" by John Leavitt for the Christmas Concert on December 14. If you would like to join the choir you can order the book at J.W. Pepper (www.jwpepper.com/Festival-of-Lessons-and-Carols/3259850.item#.Vjtt1vnF-So Singer's version) or contact Mr. Strehlke at Mayer Lutheran (952-657-2251 x 1304).

Two Sunday afternoon rehearsals will also take place on December 6 & 13 at 5 PM in the Fine Arts Center. Please lift your voices with us as we celebrate the birth of the King. Go to the link below for the rehearsal track for Lessons and Carols. With choir and without.

https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B4B_Om29zoUPLU0yeGRfbXRiSkU



Mayer Lutheran New Website Answers and Tips! mayerlutheran.org

**Thank you for your comments and suggestions on the new MLHS website!
We have some answers to your questions below...**

Could there be a tab/special page for newsletter archives?

Yes! This is at the top of our list. Soon you will find a link to archived newsletters right under the "Get to Know MLHS" tab.

The academic calendar and lunch menus are grainy and hard to read

The images used for many of the forms online are small image icons for quick reference. The full resolution file that is clear and crisp is available by simply clicking on the image. A new window will open and the file may be printed or downloaded.

The new website is less convenient, as many items now require more clicks.

We have eliminated some of the "middleman" pages that required a second click to get to the information you want quickly, such as the lunch menu and the Minnesota River Conference site. Some of the information, such as the Daily Blast were determined to be "not homepage worthy" as we work hard to make our website both functional for MLHS families as well as informational and attractive to prospective students.

Daily Blast is a day behind.

The Daily Announcements (*Daily Blast*) is not generated until mid-morning when read to students during 3rd hour. However, based on your feedback, we understand that these announcements are valuable to parents as well. We are attempting a new workflow to have the daily announcements posted before the school day begins. Look for that change in the very near future.

Thanks and keep those comments coming! (visit <http://www.mayerlutheran.org/parents/> and scroll to bottom of page)

WEBSITE CALENDAR

All MLHS Minnesota Conference activities and practices are now on our website calendar (<http://www.mayerlutheran.org/events/>). Mayer Knights, open gym times, and other non-high school activities are ONLY listed at <http://www.mnriverconference.org/>. As mentioned in previous newsletters, we are still in the process of fine-tuning the calendar. It's a great idea to visit the MLHS page on [mnriverconference.org](http://www.mnriverconference.org/) and scroll through the list of activities, checking each box for items you want to "subscribe" to. After clicking "view" you are given the option to receive notifications and to import those calendar feeds to your own calendar. This site is not part of the MLHS website, however it is a very useful tool.

WEBSITE TIPS

Submit a Photo

At the very bottom of the MLHS homepage, you will find a gallery of photos. On the left side there is an option to "submit a photo." Simply click on that link and include the information requested. Upload your photo and check back in a day or so to see your photo in the gallery. Photos may be used in MLHS social media and promotional materials.

Want to post a photo or score to MLHS Facebook, Instagram or Twitter feed? Here's how!

FACEBOOK: First, you need to be friends with us! Search and friend us @mayerlutheran. Then put a photo on your own timeline and tag us (@mayerlutheran)

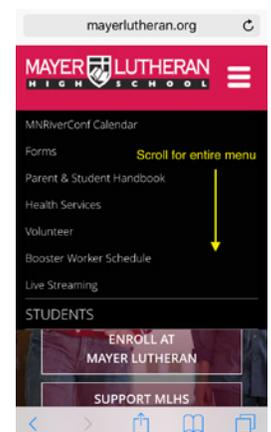
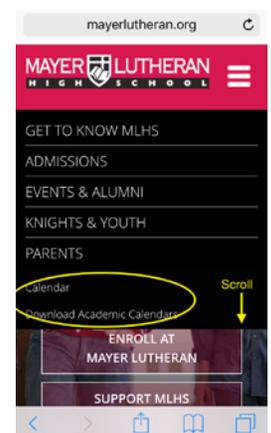
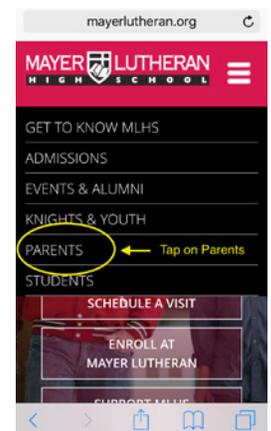
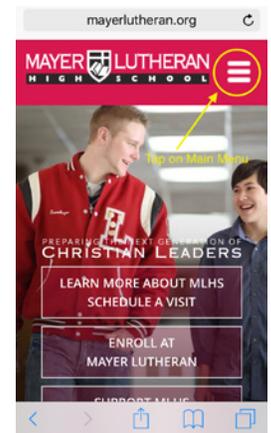
TWITTER: Update the score and tag us: @mayerlutheran — Make sure that you don't start the tweet with the tag!

INSTAGRAM: Tag us: @mayerlutheranmn

Upload a photo to the website and we will post it for you if you give us the info.

Remember to SCROLL!

Lots of users have been frustrated to not find what they are looking for when viewing the website from a mobile device. Just remember to scroll! The 3 horizontal lines indicate the main menu. Tap and tap again to make a selection. Be sure to scroll down to see the entire menu!



Student Spotlight On...

Service Student of the Month Joel Wacker



Twice **Joel Wacker** has “bailed” me out with a technology issue. The most recent was the evening I was to host the College Night seminar for MLHS parents. I started to panic when the two venue options for my seminar were no longer available! (Fine Arts auditorium was being used for play practice and the Media Center had a meeting scheduled.) The only place my Power Point Presentation for the evening had been loaded was onto the computer in the Technology Room.

Joel, who was sitting on a bench in the lobby, picked up on my nervousness and automatically asked if he could help. I told him my dilemma and he immediately went into action. He found a flash drive in his backpack then went into the Tech Room and downloaded the file. He then asked me where I wanted to host the meeting. Mr. Strehlke’s Room was available and had a smartboard. Even though there was no computer in there at the time, Joel was able to figure out how to load the flash drive onto what was available and pull up presentation. He even stayed long enough to make sure that everything was up and running the way it should be. What a life-saver! Joel really stepped up to the plate, without hesitation, and completed a task that was over-whelming for me, due to my confusion and frustration. Many thanks, Joel!! —Mrs. Kelzer

Academic Students of the Month Danielle Mahlum, Katelyn Cooper, Grant Cohrs

Danielle is off to a great start in chemistry this school year! Her continued excellent work is a standard that other students can wish to attain. Her class record of on-time work and work completely done are a testament to her study skills and self-discipline. I look forward to her continued good work as the school year progresses and I pray for God’s richest blessings on her academic year and all of her other endeavors. —Mr. Loontjer



Hats off to **Katelyn** and the great start she has had to this school year. Her work in chemistry has been quite good and her cheerful and helpful attitude

makes her an excellent lab partner and guide to others. The fact that work is done on time and done completely speaks volumes about her study skills and self-discipline. I pray that God would continue to richly bless her this school year and beyond. —Mr. Loontjer

Grant has done exceptional work this year in Geometry. He is quick to understand new material and is able to relate the lessons to one another. He remembers terms and information from previous chapters, and uses them in new situations. Grant is willing to participate in class and assisting his peers. —Mrs. Hoback

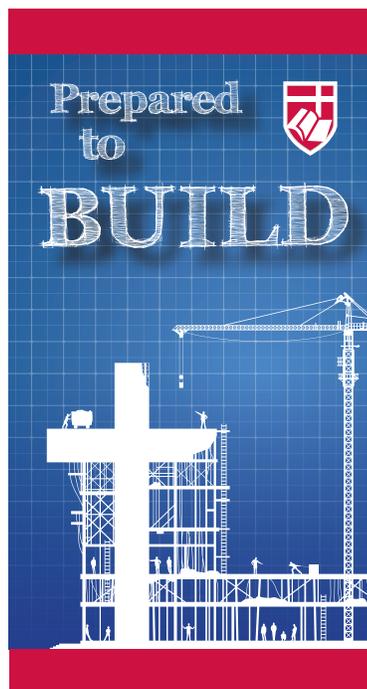


Mayer Lutheran OPEN HOUSE

Thursday
December 3
7-8:30 PM

–Tours 7 & 7:15 PM
–Student, Alumni, and Parent Panels

Parents with children in grades 5–8 or anyone interested in first-class Christian education are encouraged to attend!



UNLESS THE LORD
BUILDS THE HOUSE,
THOSE WHO BUILD IT
LABOR IN VAIN.
PSALM 127:1, NIV

SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT NEWS

By Tim Masters | tim.masters@mayerlutheran.org | 952-657-2251 x1107

“Does History Matter?”

It is not uncommon for students to ask if the study of history matters. Certainly, there are times when the significance of a particular era is difficult to understand. It can be difficult to see how whether the center of an ancient empire like Baghdad or Chiang Mai is going to have an impact in a person’s life now. And yet, if history is unimportant, why is there such a concerted effort to change or modify our understanding of the past to affect the present?

Karl Marx said that “The first battlefield is the rewriting of history.” We certainly see this battlefield in our culture today. What is your reaction when I claim that more people have been slaughtered in the 20th century by Secular/Atheists/Humanists than in all religious wars put together? Probably disbelief.

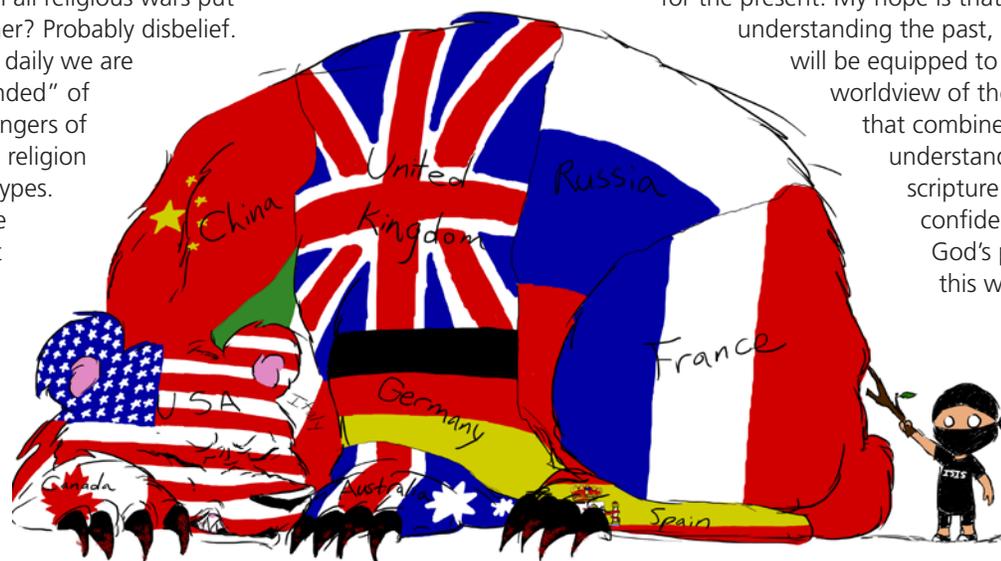
Nearly daily we are “reminded” of the dangers of radical religion of all types. We are taught wildly

inaccurate facts about events like the Crusades. Contrast this with the active efforts to portray Islam in only a positive light. These are a few examples of what I call the general slander of all things religious. We are surrounded by an intentional and orchestrated battle to achieve victory on Marx’s first battlefield.

So, yes—to answer the student—history does matter. The world actively works to tear away at our understanding of what *has* happened so that we will be blind to what is happening. We teach history to help our students understand that there are competing world views and that the way these world views shape the past have practical consequences for the present. My hope is that by understanding the past, students will be equipped to express a worldview of the present that combines an understanding of scripture with a confidence in God’s plan for this world!



My hope is that by understanding the past, students will be equipped to express a worldview of the present that combines an understanding of scripture with a confidence in God’s plan for this world!



“ISIS is a mean kid”

Editorial cartoon created by MLHS senior, Hailey Jackson

Hailey
θαχκσον ©

Phonathoners Make it Happen!

Calling strangers can be a bit stressful. Calling unfamiliar alumni to ask for information and a gift can be even more intimidating. Three nights in November, between volleyball and football games, play practice, and homework, a group of eighteen MLHS students helped lead our annual Alumni Phonathon to raise money for the Alumni Honor Fund.

These “scholar callers” raised more than \$9000 for tuition assistance at MLHS. We appreciate their efforts and the hospitality of Carla Struble and Sue Meyer and their team at Electrical Production Services in Chanhassen for their willingness to let us take over their offices after hours and for the delicious dinners provided for our kids.

We are also extremely thankful for the many alumni who graciously took time to answer their phone and share words of encouragement and kindness with our future alumni!

A friendly reminder to all alumni! Please go to mayerlutheran.org and update your contact information. While you are there, you can provide a gift as well. Thanks!



Front row L to R: Kate Esser, Nora Henriksen; (second row) Monte Monchamp, Jack Chmielewski, Kenzie Boozikee, DeNae Henning, Clara Snow, Sophie Flucas; (back row) Gunnar Berg, Sam Schlueter, Rhett Kovar, Addie Luehrs, Rebecca Manteuffel, Jack Buttenhoff, Luke McCarty. Not pictured: Ellie Martin, Zach Thole, Katie Schroeder



@MAYER LUTHERAN
#YOUWILL
 mayerlutheran.org

- 1 Boys Basketball–C Squad** 4:15 PM
Boys Basketball–B Squad 5:45 PM
Boys Basketball–Varsity 7:30 PM
 Away at Watertown-Mayer High School
Girls Basketball–B Squad 4:15 PM
Girls Basketball–Varsity 6 PM
 Away at Watertown-Mayer High School
Boys Hockey 7 PM
 Home (Mound Westonka) vs Blake
- 3 Girls Basketball–B Squad** 5:30 PM
Girls Basketball–Varsity 7 PM
 Away at Mound Westonka High School
Boys Hockey 7 PM
 Away at Rochester Lourdes
MLHS OPEN HOUSE 7-8:30 PM
- 4 Dance Team Invitational** TBD
 Rogers High School
Quiz Bowl/Knowledge Bowl Meet
 Chaska
- 5 Boys Hockey** 3 PM
 (Mound Westonka) vs Minnehaha Acad.
- 8 Boys Basketball–C Squad** 6:15 PM
Boys Basketball–B Squad 6 PM
Boys Basketball–Varsity 7:30 PM
 Away at NYA
Girls Basketball–B Squad 6 PM
Girls Basketball–Varsity 7:30 PM
 Home vs Howard Lake-Waverly-Winsted
Boys Hockey 7 PM
 Home (Mound Westonka) vs Chaska
- 10 Girls Basketball–B Squad** 6 PM
Girls Basketball–Varsity 7:30 PM
 Home vs Medford
Boys Hockey 7 PM
 Away at St. Louis Park
- 11 Boys Basketball–C Squad** 4:45 PM
Boys Basketball–B Squad 6 PM
Boys Basketball–Varsity 7:30 PM
 Home vs Tri-City United
- 12 Boys Basketball–C Squad** 12 PM
Boys Basketball–B Squad 1 PM
Boys Basketball–Varsity 3 PM
 Home vs Madelia
Girls Basketball–B Squad 1:30 PM
Girls Basketball–Varsity 3:30 PM
 Away at Nicollet High School
Boys Hockey 7 PM
 Home (Mound Westonka) vs Mpls. Boys
Dance Team Invitational TBD
 Albany High School
- 14 MLHS Board Meeting** 6 PM
MLHS Christmas Concert 7 PM
- 15 Boys Basketball–C Squad** 5:30 PM
Boys Basketball–B Squad 5:30 PM
Boys Basketball–Varsity 7 PM
 Away at Howard Lake-Waverly-Winsted
Girls Basketball–B Squad 6 PM
Girls Basketball–Varsity 7:30 PM
 Home vs Glencoe-Silver Lake
Boys Hockey 7 PM
 Home (Mound Westonka) vs Hutchinson
- 17 Boys Basketball Tournament** TBD
 Away at Maple Lake High School
Girls Basketball Tournament
Girls Basketball–Varsity 6 PM
Girls Basketball–B Squad 8 PM
 Away at Eden Valley-Watkins High School
Boys Hockey 7 PM
 Home (Mound Westonka) vs Waconia
Dance Team Invitational 7 PM
 At Mayer Lutheran High School
- 18 Boys Basketball Tournament** TBD
 Away at Maple Lake High School
Girls Basketball Tournament
Girls Basketball–Varsity TBD
Girls Basketball–B Squad TBD
 Away at Eden Valley-Watkins High School
- 19 Quiz Bowl/Knowledge Bowl Meet**
 Buffalo
Boys Hockey 5 PM
 Home (Mound Westonka) vs Litch-Dassel
- 21 MLHS FINAL EXAMS**
Boys Basketball–C Squad 4:45 PM
Boys Basketball–B Squad 6 PM
Boys Basketball–Varsity 7:30 PM
 Home vs Le Sueur-Henderson
Girls Basketball–B Squad 6 PM
Girls Basketball–Varsity 7:30 PM
 Away at Le Sueur-Henderson
- 22 MLHS FINAL EXAMS**
Boys Hockey 7 PM
 Away at Bloomington Kennedy
- 23 MLHS FINAL EXAMS**
- 24 No SCHOOL, Christmas Break**
- 25 No SCHOOL, Christmas Break**
- 28 No SCHOOL, Christmas Break**
Girls Basketball–Varsity 1:30 PM
 At St. Olaf College vs NRHEG
- 29 No SCHOOL, Christmas Break**
Boys Basketball–Varsity TBD
 Away at Annandale
Girls Basketball–Varsity 5 PM
 At St. Olaf College vs Northfield
- 30 No SCHOOL, Christmas Break**
Boys Basketball–Varsity TBD
 Away at Annandale
Girls Basketball–Varsity 10 AM
 At St. Olaf College vs Eagan
MLHS Mission Team leaves

MLHS ACTIVITIES EXCLUSIVELY ONLINE!

This will be the last issue the Crusader Newsletter will publish an "Activities Calendar." Dates and times often change throughout the month so going online will give you the most up-to-date information on MLHS activities. See the helpful tips below to keep you in the loop!

- All MLHS Minnesota Conference activities and practices are now on our website calendar: www.mayerlutheran.org/events/
- Mayer Knights, open gym times, and other non-high school activities are ONLY listed at: www.mnriverconference.org/.
- It's a great idea to visit the MLHS page on mnriverconference.org and scroll through the list of activities, checking each box for items you want to "subscribe" to. After clicking "view" you are given the option to receive notifications and to import those calendar feeds to your own calendar. This site is not part of the MLHS website, however it is a very useful tool.
- Many home games will be streamed live! Check out our website to sign up for LiveStream and to see if your game will be featured.



2015-16 MLHS STAFF DIRECTORY

Dial 952-657-2251, wait for the prompt, then dial the telephone extension for the desired room.

NOTE: All email addresses for reaching MLHS staff have changed. To email a particular staff member, use their full first name, followed by a period, then last name @mayerlutheran.org (example: joel.landskroener@mayerlutheran.org) or go to mayerlutheran.org, click on Get to Know MLHS, then click on Faculty and Staff directory for a full list of contact information.

	EXT.	OFFICE/ROOM
ADMINISTRATION		
Jopp, Paulette	1001	Office Manager
Wilaby, Kevin	1008	Principal
Christopherson, Barb	1010	Mayer Knights
McCalla, Corrine	1014	School Nurse
Gustin, Kris	1217	Athletic Office
Attendance Line	1501	
Activities Line	1502	
ASSOCIATION OFFICE		
Loehrs, Karen	1003	Business Assistant
Johnson, Renae	1002	Communications Assist.
Landskroener, Joel	1007	Executive Director
Perrel, Dan	1011	Recruitment
Kelzer, Debra	1012	Counselor
FOOD SERVICE		
Schurmann, Lori	1013	Kitchen
BUILDING MAINTENANCE		
Johnson, Bob	1015	
TRANSPORTATION DIRECTOR		
Loontjer, Gary	1104	
	952-836-6025	
FACULTY		
Alvarez, Adela	1109	109
Aurich, Dean	1102	102
Baker, Kristen	1103	103
Baumann/Burdick	1402	Media Center
Dulas, James	1205	205
Gesch, Heidi	1201	201
Grimsley, Joelle	1215	215
Gustin, Kris	1217	105
Hoback, Barbara	1203	203
Lane, David	1209	209
Lemke, Heidi	1303	303
Loontjer, Gary	1104	104
Martin, Kathy	1404	Media Center
Masters, Tim	1107	107
McClintock, Matthew	1305	305
Polzin, Megan	1105	105
Strehlke, James	1304	304
Thomas, Gerald	1650	305
Wismar, Stefan	1101	101
Faculty Workroom	1050	
Wood Shop	1213	213
Room 211	1211	211
Server Room	1406	

Counselor's Corner

By Debra Kelzer, Guidance Counselor
 debra.kelzer@mayerlutheran.org
 952-657-2251 x1012



Seniors, you are all on track for graduation! Yeah! The challenge is to continue with your academics and finish strong the rest of the school year. Make sure that you have applied to several colleges and don't forget to ask for letters of recommendation from teachers, pastors, or employers. Shortly after Christmas, the FAFSA will need to be filled out after you have gathered all of your tax information. Continue to look for scholarships posted on Moodle and *Email Extra*. See me if things start to get too stressful.

I will be meeting with juniors before Christmas break to discuss any schedule changes, credits needed for graduation, college choices and visits. The PSAT results will be shared with the juniors once they are in. Here are a few action steps parents can take with their junior:

- help them plan for taking their ACT in the spring
- begin the college search and/or visiting colleges
- make sure they are taking college prep courses
- begin scholarship searches for their senior year
- help them set some goals about their future
- periodically check in to see how they are progressing forward with those goals.

It's never too late to begin this search as their time at high school flies by. Let me know how I can be of assistance in the future planning.

I have visited the freshmen and sophomore English classes, as well as the Freshmen Seminar class to help students understand their PLAN and EXPLORE results, as well as working on their 4-year plan. Students received their own copy of the test results and have been encouraged to share them with parents. Freshmen explored two different careers and wrote a paper on one of those careers for an English credit. Sophomores researched three colleges, universities, or military to learn more about what it takes to be accepted into those organizations. Students then presented their research in a paper submitted for a grade. It's never too early to begin the process of post-secondary education and careers.

MLHS will be hosting a College Financial Aid meeting on Monday, January 25 at 7 PM. If you need any further assistance from me, regarding any type of counseling issue, testing, scholarship information or other, please feel free to contact me. Have a wonderful Christmas, celebrating the birth of our King...Jesus Christ!

Upcoming ACT Dates:

February 6 (register by Jan. 8); **April 9** (register by March 4); **June 11** on MLHS campus (register by May 6). If you have registered for the new option of taking the ACT at MLHS on **Tuesday, March 15**, you are all set.

ADMISSIONS DEPARTMENT NEWS

By Dan Perrel, Director of Admissions | dan.perrel@mayerlutheran.org | 952-657-2251 x1011

Parents Trump Cards

While I may not be of the Shakespearean or Wodehouseian caliber in the use of wordplay, I am nonetheless a fan of turns-of-phrase that make use of words, and especially words that create humorous images, to draw greater attention to what would otherwise be a mundane reality.

Here's a good example from P.G. Wodehouse: "She's got brains enough for two, which is the exact quantity the girl who marries you will need." —*Mostly Sally*

Or, "I could see that, if not actually disgruntled, he was far from being grunted." —*The Code of the Woosters*

If you're not already chuckling a bit to yourself, then maybe this isn't the right newsletter article for you. You're probably looking for something a bit more straightforward, less curved. BUT, if you did find yourself giving a tiny snort under your breath, then you probably already gave pause to my title: *Parents Trump Cards*.

You see, every year institutions of academic learning plan, promote, and ponder an event they call OPEN HOUSE. And every year, they wonder why the chief stock and trade of Open House marketing, postcards, doesn't draw-in 100's, if not 1000's, of clamoring hordes to their event. Wringing hands and furrowed brows accompany the frustration that postcards are not reaching the masses with an impact warranting their rather steep expense.

Frustration gives way to furtive insight. Drat and double drat—they're forced to admit they've spent precious resources on an enterprise that stands nowhere near the power, persuasion, or influence that comes from person-to-person pronouncements. In sales, it is axiomatic that where there is no "ask" there is no

"sale."

Knowing that, here is our "ask"— Please invite (and bring) a family or two to the **Mayer Lutheran Open House**, December 3. It is a Thursday evening, 7-8:30 PM and *open* to anyone, but is especially for parents that have children in grades 5–8. The evening will be led by alumni, current students, and parents. Guests will have an opportunity to hear first-hand accounts of what Mayer Lutheran has to offer, and ask questions of past and present MLHS members. Campus tours are available at 7 PM and 7:15 PM.

Sly as I may be at writing extra meaning into each sentence, I'm certain the "and bring" part of the last paragraph didn't slip by you unnoticed. It's a lot like inviting the neighbors to worship with you on Sunday. As long as you "just" invite them, there remains a pretty low probability that they'll join you, but the tables really turn when you add "let's ride together" or "my wife and I will pick you up."

So, you see, we know your invitation is magnitudes more powerful than postcards. The reason is as simple as it is obvious: People Trump Cards!

But, notice the wordplay: Your *invitation* is better than a card, and *you* are the winning piece (card) that when played beats all other attempts to win. And what's the win? It is spreading the message and impact of God's work through Mayer Lutheran High School to people in great need of that Good News.

So, invite your neighbor! We'll see you December 3 in the Fine Arts Center.



Open Your Home, Open Your Heart



Open your home and open your heart to a Korean exchange student by becoming a KoAm host family. In doing so, your family will be able to share America with a young Korean student in a very personal way.

"Our family has been changed forever. I've gotten used to saying that I have four kids [not 3], and our hearts have stretched to include a friendly, brilliant little [exchange student] in our family."

Host Family
Northland Christian School, MO

Our students range from 4th through 12th grade and come for a semester up to an academic year. These young Korean ambassadors arrive ready to learn and to share their own culture. Please contact your local area coordinator, Nicole Park, at 952-217-5510, or 800-521-6640 (O). Or email us at administrator@koameduall.org. To apply online, we invite you to visit the KoAm website at <http://www.koameduall.org> and click "Becoming a Host Family". © 2012 KoAm Education Alliance. All rights reserved.



KOAM EDUCATION ALLIANCE

1-800-521-6640 | administrator@koameduall.org | www.koameduall.org

Please contact
Kevin Wilaby at
952-657-2251
x1008, or
kevin.wilaby@mayerlutheran.org
for more
information on
hosting an
international
student. We have
students looking
for a home!



Youth Activities Outreach of Mayer Lutheran High School

Mayer Knights School Year Activities in Full Swing!

The Knights School Year programs are filling the halls, gym, band room, science room, and stage with lots of activity! Robotics, Knights of Jazz, Travel Basketball and Opening Knights Drama are very busy with competitions, games, and performances!

Currently we are taking registrations for JUNIOR KNIGHTS BASKETBALL! This club for 1st–3rd graders will be coached by Coach Gustin and Coach Perrel, and several varsity basketball players! Come join us every Saturday in December and January! Our JUNIOR KNIGHTS basketball players will scrimmage at several of our Mayer Lutheran varsity basketball home games! Register online at www.mayerlutheran.org and click on Knights registration. Pay online or send a check for the \$60 fee!

Register NOW...yes...NOW for BASEBALL! You don't have to submit the fee until this spring, but we need to know if you plan to participate so that we can register our teams with the Crow River League in January.

We are currently accepting registrations for KNIGHTS OF THE ARROW! Our archery club will meet Sundays at Cabin Fever in Victoria and end the season with a state shoot the end of March. We are blessed again to have Jeff Byrne coach us!

As always, if you have any questions, please call Barb Christopherson, Mayer Knights Coordinator, at 952-657-2251 x1010.



The Mayer Knights 8th grade girls basketball team recently participated in the Spirit of the North basketball tournament in Duluth. The girls brought home the Championship trophy! Congratulations!

Photo: (front center) Emma Bjurstrom; (second row) Paige Stahlke, Riley Corrigan, Anna Karels; (third row) Claudia Stahlke, Anna Wachholz, Brooke Paulsrud; (back row) Olivia Tjernagel, Lauren Osborn, Lexi Schermann; Coach Jon Schermann (in black), Coach Craig Wachholz (in red); Not pictured: Hannah Zellmann



MLHS Fall 2015 Trap Shooting Team, L to R: Minhyeong Lee, Mickey Venero, Kate Esser, Monte Monchamp, Zach Thole, John Bones. Not pictured: Mason Monchamp

FALL TRAP TEAM SUCCESS!

After a successful Spring season, trap shooting coaches Gary Loontjer and Chris Thole presented the option of entering a Fall Trap Team in the Minnesota Clay Target League. Seven shooters signed up and they finished the season with a bang! Thank you to the shooters and families who participated.

RESULTS:

- Mayer Lutheran finished first in Class A Conference 1
- Zach Thole finished highest average for the entire conference, 23.5 out of 25
- Zach also finished highest male average for the conference, which placed him 7th in State in the top 100 shooters.
- Kate Esser finished highest female average for the conference with 18.7 out of 25.
- Mason Monchamp, highest male average in the conference with 21.3 out of 25.
- All score-able shooters for Mayer Lutheran finished top 25 in the conference.

THE LAST WORD

By Kevin Wilaby, Principal | kevin.wilaby@mayerlutheran.org | 952-657-2251 x1008

Aspire to be More

As a child I watched *Star Trek*. The premise of this science fiction drama was encapsulated in the phrase, "To boldly go where no man has gone before." The crew of the starship *Enterprise* traveled from galaxy to galaxy, encountering new worlds, new races, and new challenges. The creators of the show had an imagination that went beyond what they knew and anything they had experienced. Transporters, phasers, warp speed, and communicators were amazing concepts. I remember thinking that these ideas were really cool and totally unrealistic.

Although I don't recall the exact year, I think it was the mid to late 1990's when I got my first communicator, a wireless communication device that connected me with anyone who had my number. My cell phone was compact enough to fit into my pocket. Though it wouldn't be used to contact the bridge of the *Enterprise*, it could be used to connect me to my wife, family, and friends. When I got that cell phone I remember thinking about the *Star Trek* communicators that had intrigued me as a child. In my hand I was holding a communicator (cell phone), not all that different in size, shape, and function from that which I had thought impossible twenty, or so, years prior.

Someone had to think of mainstreaming this idea of a communication device for the masses. A device that would be more like a *Star Trek* communicator than a CB radio. Someone had to aspire to make the dream a reality, to boldly go where personal communication had not gone before. The cell phone

has revolutionized how people connect with each other. Cell phones keep evolving as engineers dream of ways to improve the experience, personalize communication, and for the benefit of the cell phone industry, draw people into a relationship with their phone. Telecommunication is an example of an industry in which inventors and visionaries aspired to change the world of communication and they have done it.

At Mayer Lutheran we desire for our students to think in aspirational ways; for students to be brave enough to take creative risks that move their ideas from concept to accomplishment. As a school community we are ready to support students who demonstrate initiative, passion, and perseverance for a project or idea. It is our desire to see students aspiring to accomplish challenging and meaningful things.

There is nothing more meaningful than to be used in our heavenly Father's plan for the salvation of others. Our school community is focused on sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ with each other and with total strangers. This is a calling that

demands courage and humility. Courage to speak of God's love as demonstrated by Jesus and humble in directing all praise, glory, and credit to our redeeming God who brings people out of darkness and into the light of His salvation. So pray for our students, faculty, staff, and Christians everywhere, that we may aspire to be bold proclaimers of the Gospel.



Mayer Lutheran Essential Value-- Aspiring

There is a quality to Mayer Lutheran that is inspired, bold and creative, where plans are both made and implemented and where students have the freedom to dream, explore, do learn from mistakes and achieve. As such, it motivates the best impulses in its staff and students, inspiring all who join the Mayer Lutheran journey to make real progress while acting with Christian courage.

Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Romans 12:1

Our school gets a donation every time you search.

You Search | They Pay | We Receive

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iGive.com®
Change online shopping for good.

Another way of helping to prepare the next generation of Christian leaders is a click away. When you shop online, go to igive.com and shop your favorite online retailers from there. A portion of each purchase is given to Mayer Lutheran when you begin your shopping at igive.com. What a simple, effective way to raise funds for our movement! Call Renae Johnson at 952-657-2251 x1002 for more details or email her at renae.johnson@mayerlutheran.org.

Invite a Friend!

MLHS OPEN HOUSE
Thursday, December 3 7-8:30 PM

MLHS will waive the application fee (\$100 value)
for all new 2016-17 students who submit an
application by December 31, 2015.



MAYERLUTHERAN.ORG | TWITTER.COM/MAYERLUTHERAN | FACEBOOK.COM/MAYERLUTHERAN | INSTAGRAM.COM/MAYERLUTHERANMN

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.

Merry
Christmas

Evermore
and evermore...

MAYER LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL



Of the Father's Love Begotten

*Of the Father's love begotten
Ere the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega,
He the Source, the Ending He,
Of the things that are, that have been,
And that future years shall see
Evermore and evermore.*

*Oh, that birth forever blessed
When the Virgin, full of grace,
By the Holy Ghost conceiving,
Bare the Savior of our race,
And the Babe, the world's Redeemer,
First revealed His sacred face
Evermore and evermore.*

*From the entire staff at
Mayer Lutheran High School,
we wish you a blessed,
Christ-filled Christmas!*

The Lutheran Hymnal | Hymn #98 | Text: 1 Tim. 3:16
Author: Aurelius C. Prudentius, 413, cento
Translated by: John. M. Neale, 1854 and Henry W. Baker, 1861
Titled: "Corde natus ex Parentis"
Tune: "Divinum mysterium," Plain-song tune, 12th century