



SOLA News

MARTIN LUTHER COLLEGE



MLC

MARTIN LUTHER COLLEGE

ISSUE 6



SOLA Members Enjoy Evening on the Town



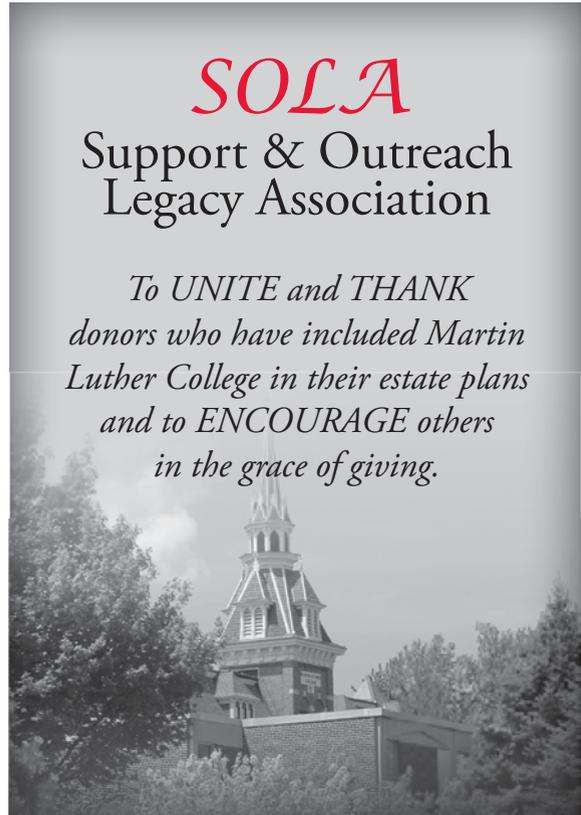
SOLA, MLC's Support and Outreach Legacy Association, sponsored a Wine and Tapas Tasting in June. Thirty SOLA members gathered at New Ulm's Grand Kabaret to learn about wine tasting from Chef Tophur (Chris Jacobsen). The wines, many of them local, were paired with delicious tapas (appetizers) like pear and blue cheese flatbread, and spicy ahi tuna with avocado. After the wine tasting, guests enjoyed mini cheesecakes and coffee. Thrivent Financial for Lutherans helped fund the event.



SOLA

Support & Outreach Legacy Association

*To UNITE and THANK
donors who have included Martin
Luther College in their estate plans
and to ENCOURAGE others
in the grace of giving.*



To join SOLA, either by making a deferred gift or letting us know that you already have, please contact your WELS Christian giving counselor (800.827.5482) or MLC Mission Advancement staff member:

Jon Scharlemann
877.MLC.1995
scharljj@mlc-wels.edu

Kate Tohal
877.MLC.1995
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Choosing a *Financial Planner*

By MLC Resource Development Counselor
Jim Hahn DMLC '80

As a former financial planner, I witnessed firsthand the joys of charitable gifting through estate planning. I also witnessed the obstacles encountered in such planning, especially cases where the advantages of charitable giving were not discussed with clients.

One financial planner who swims against this tide is Phil Petersen of Green Bay, Wisconsin. A Certified Financial Planner and former Stewardship Committee Chairman at his congregation, St. Paul-Green Bay, Phil actively encourages charitable gifting. He works on a regular basis with WELS Christian Giving Counselor Pastor Dave Waege to help fellow Christians intentionalize their desires to praise God with their gifts.

I recently had the opportunity to speak with Phil regarding his thoughts on charitable gifting through estate planning.

Phil, do you have a personal philosophy that guides you in this work?

Phil: *Nothing is more personal than money, and just as there are different ways to serve the Lord, there are different ways to use your financial blessings to serve the kingdom. A current gift, a deferred gift, an estate gift—all are options allowed by our Christian liberty.*

Briefly explain what you do when a client asks for

assistance in handling their estate.

It takes time to get the full story through listening. Seldom does a client feel comfortable opening up their inner desires of how they want to use their savings. Over time the client and I can get a good sense of the form in which gifts should be made.

When a client wants to designate a church or charity as a beneficiary, how might your response be different from that of some other financial planners?

I draw back on my experience as a church council member in dealing with some significant estates our church received. I think I can help a client talk through the specifics so that their gift might be used in a God-pleasing manner.

I think it is important to remember that the assets in question are not mine, but are entrusted to me by my client and, in turn, are not the client's but are entrusted to them by God. I feel I have

a responsibility to encourage my client to give back, out of joy, to the Lord's work.

What should the criteria be for selecting a financial advisor?

The advisor should be comfortable with a wide variety of products, including mutual funds, annuities, and life insurance. Additionally, I think it is important to ask about the track record of an advisor. If they do not have an ongoing track record of clients engaged in charitable giving, chances are they aren't going to change.

Any other advice?

Take joy in giving. We are not paying a bill; we are doing God's work out of love for him.



Cartoon by Rev. Jeff Bovee

Support in *Many Forms*

No matter where Norman and Duveen Buelow have lived and worked during their 56 years of marriage, they have always been active in their home congregation. In 1997 they retired and moved from Bemidji, Minnesota, to Prescott, Arizona, where they not only worship and volunteer at Christ-Prescott Valley, but they are active and creative supporters of Martin Luther College as well.

It started with a campus visit. “On our first visit to MLC,” Duveen says, “we were given a tour of the college, and we were so impressed with the way we were treated and so inspired by the many friendly young people going to class there, and we realized that they had committed the rest of their lives to working to further God’s kingdom. We knew then that it was something we wanted to support.”

The Buelows have also been impressed with MLC’s ambassadors. They said, “It was truly a moving experience when the MLC choir performed at our church in Prescott Valley. We, along with many members, had a chance to get to know them when they stayed overnight. We know several pastors who have graduated from MLC, and we know two students who are presently attending MLC.



Norman and Duveen Buelow are active supporters of MLC in Prescott, Arizona.

We have also spent time with President Zarling, and we feel the college couldn’t have a better president.”

The Buelows are creative in their support for MLC. They’ve organized an MLC event at a retirement community. They have promoted the college at OWLS (Organization of WELS Lutheran Seniors) meetings. They make sure that MLC publicity materials are disseminated to area churches. They support the college financially with regular gifts, and they’ve included a legacy gift to the college in their estate plan, which makes

them members of SOLA, the Support and Outreach Legacy Association.

Like many SOLA members, the Buelows’ support of Martin Luther College takes many different forms. For that—for every effort, every gift, every prayer—the college is deeply grateful.

SOLA

MLC Support & Outreach Legacy Association Membership Form



SOLA

The **MLC Support & Outreach Legacy Association** consists of individuals who have invested in preparing and encouraging future pastors, teachers, and staff ministers through a **deferred gift** to Martin Luther College.

I/We have made a provision for Martin Luther College in my/our estate plan and wish to be included in MLC's Support & Outreach Legacy Association (SOLA). My/Our gift for the Lord's work at MLC is made in the following manner:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bequest—through will or trust | <input type="checkbox"/> Charitable remainder trust |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Retirement plan beneficiary designation | <input type="checkbox"/> Charitable lead trust |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Life insurance beneficiary designation | <input type="checkbox"/> Real estate |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Charitable gift annuity | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

I/We wish to be contacted to further discuss estate planning benefits and options.

Name(s): _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

E-mail address: _____ Birthdates: _____

I/We are pleased to be included in published listings (name only) of the MLC SOLA as an encouragement to others. My/Our name(s) should appear as follows:

I/We prefer to be listed anonymously.

MLC offers these benefits to SOLA members. Check all you would like to receive:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> MLC pin | <input type="checkbox"/> Invitation to annual on-campus SOLA reception |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>MLC Update</i> e-newsletter | <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of plays and concerts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>InFocus</i> magazine subscription | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Completing My Will</i> booklet |

Signature

Signature

Date

Please return your confidential response to



Office of Mission Advancement
Martin Luther College
1995 Luther Court
New Ulm MN 56073

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich. (2 Corinthians 8:9)