

Lessons from the Golf Course

Disclaimer: Ok, the timing of this is a little bit of a conspiracy as our MLHS golf outing is happening in June (it may also make Phil Schult happy as well). FYI, this is not written from a professional's experience.

Golf is one hard game. Allow me to share a couple of thoughts as it pertains to life and school and Biblical Truths.

Par: Designing golf courses is a very cool career. Each hole in golf is designed to take a desired number of shots to complete the hole, i.e. par. Well seldom do i shoot par. It often takes me more strokes to complete the hole (that's why i no longer carry a score card). i'm definitely a bogie+ golfer. In life things seldom go according to plan. But there is always another "hole" to play. It definitely helps one put a "No Give Up" attitude into practice – Gal 6:9.

Birdies: In the midst of ordinary life, blessings can be found. Birdies, shooting less than par, are not random. They are the result of proper execution and experience with the proper motivation. In order to shoot consistently below par, one must practice, practice, practice; with purpose mind you. It is a wonderful application of 1 Corinthians 9:24-27.

Each shot matters. Each hole generally requires more than one shot. So the norm is that your overall score on each hole and each round—each shot—is predicated on the success of the prior shot. As we each get the privilege to carry out our vocational commission, each person we meet matters. We cannot overlook an opportunity, no matter the circumstance (in the rough, on the fairway, in the sand trap). We have an opportunity to be fruitful and grow the Kingdom. Our success is driven on steps of faith and the maturity of faith development. There are a million Biblical applications here. Here are several: Gen 1:28, Gen 9:1, Gal 5:22, Eph 4:29, James 1:22, James 2:17, Mark 10:23-25.

It is a blessing to teach these principles in the classroom and on the course. Up your game! Prep your kids to be successful! These opportunities sit right in front of us – Luke 16:19ff. Our Lutheran schools stand ready to help! Come Lord Jesus, Amen!

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Paul Steinhaus, Principal

On Christ, the Solid Rock Parking Lot Project

Martin Luther Jr/Sr High School will be celebrating its 40th Anniversary beginning July 1, 2023. Your Lutheran high school has come a long way since August 1983 when the first classes were held in a rented storefront in downtown Northrop. Nineteen students took the plunge. On August 19, 1984 a ground breaking was held for the present school. Because of the nurturing, Christian atmosphere, 541 graduates have walked out the doors prepared to be strong Christian leaders. What does God have planned for all of us? We do know that if we stand on Christ, the Solid Rock, He will take us through storms and we will be with Him at the throne someday. MLHS has weathered many storms in the past 40 years. Budgets constraints are all-to-often at the forefront of those storms. Raising funds for daily operations and student tuition aid gets harder and harder each year. Special projects get put on the "wish list" and are shelved indefinitely. Nevertheless, it is clear that our Lord wants this ministry to succeed. Countless miracles have happened over the years assuring us of God's presence in our world.

An interesting scenario has unfolded before us....

- 2015-an anonymous donor paid to concrete the driveway because he felt first impressions are very important.
- 2. March 1, 2023-In view of the icy winter and muddy spring, Principal Paul Steinhaus requested that bids be gathered to concrete the parking lot.
- 3. March 10, 2023, 9:00 a.m.-Contractors were contacted and given general square footage.
- 4. March 10, 2023, 11:00 a.m.-A \$27,000 check arrived from the donor who paid for the 2015 concrete driveway.
- 5. March 23, 2023-The NLSA Accreditation gave us their final report. They said that the one thing that students and parents said they would like to see improved on is....
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THE PARKING LOT. (This year was especially difficult with lots of snow; sneets of ice; and deep, muddy ruts which caused problems with the busing.)

- 6. April 1, 2023-Notification was received of a \$29,830 estate gift coming later in the year which must be used for school needs *other than* general operating.
- 7. April 10, 2023-Using the two gifts mentioned above as seed money, the Board of Directors voted to launch the "Christ, the Solid Rock" Parking Lot project.

Just as Noah started building the ark by God's instructions when not one drop of rain had fallen, Martin Luther is stepping forward with this project with utter, blind faith. The donor of the first strip of concrete said in 2015, "You only get one chance to make a good first impression." It is our prayer that instead of seeing a rutted, muddy parking lot with gravel dust gathered at our front door, guests will see an expanse of PRISTINE, SOLID CONCRETE and think "Martin Luther really is a flourishing school."

Goal: \$280,466.00 Funding deadline: July 1, 2023. Pour date: First two weeks in August

All donations are gratefully accepted.

Gifts of \$500 or more will be recognized on signage in the parking lot.

Regular updates on the donations received can be seen at www.martinlutherhs.com.