

Dear Saints,

I hope you have noticed that I put a quarterly journal and donation forms for Luther Classical College on the narthex table. I have a personal connection to the church and district involved, so I hesitated to share their information with you. I finally decided to share this information because, regardless of my personal involvement, it is a most worthy endeavor. But even if you choose not to support Luther Classical College, the journal is well worth your time.

Grace Lutheran Church does a wonderful job of supporting with our tithe a local and national institutions. I also think it is important for us individually to support both local and national institutions. After giving to Grace, you have total Christian freedom to give to any worthwhile cause. Erin and I support both local and national groups.

So why do I support giving to Luther Classical College?

They are doing it right!

Luther Classical College is authentically Lutheran and dedicated to God's Holy Word and our faithful Lutheran Confessions. None of our current Concordia Universities have remained true to their original mandate to train pastors and teachers for the church. They have all added secular elements to attract students that will not be pastors or teachers. They have all accepted government funding. They have all added staff and faculty who are not Lutheran. Naturally, this has caused all of them to drift from being solidly Lutheran. Whether they are worth saving, I do not know. I do know I have a hard time recommending a young man or woman to go to any of our Concordia Universities. Luther Classical College will not be based on the secular model of colleges, will never accept government funding, and will never hire anyone who is not solidly Lutheran. I will encourage every young man or woman to apply to Luther Classical College.

Luther Classical College is classical. Since the early 1900's, John Dewey revolutionized education at all levels into the current form of "progressive" education. The results have been downright scary. Classical education was the standard education model before progressive education took over. Not only is there a difference in method, which is not really the point of education, but there is a difference in content. In the Western world, we have a rich heritage that most people who were raised in public education know nothing about, including myself. I learned about classical education by serving as the chair of a classical Lutheran school. My research, experience, and learning classical languages has convinced me that the only type of education that will serve the church and the United States well is classical education. If you have any questions, please let me know. We will grab a coffee and I will talk your ears off! I love this subject. Luther Classical College is a classical college offering only one degree! With that one degree, you will have the capacity to pursue and excel in any career.

Luther Classical College will remain small. They will accept only so many students each year. Keeping the classes small will help keep quality high, costs low, and the intangibles of education manageable. When demand outpaces the number of students allowed, there are other sites available in the country to start the next Luther Classical College.

I do have a personal connection to this college. However, my daughter, and God-willing, grandchildren, will not benefit from Luther Classical College directly. So why am I supporting it personally and suggesting that you consider supporting it?

So many institutions are broken in our country and, not in the least, the education institution. They are broken so badly that the only real option is to let them die and build brand new ones on their ashes. I encourage all of us to find quality institutions that are doing it right to share our resources with them. That might mean that no one in your family is directly affected by that institution, but the institution's affect on society will have a positive impact on you and your family. Luther Classical College is such an institution. It will build quality individuals and families who are authentically Lutheran and that are a positive impact on their communities, states, and country. Ultimately, that will benefit all of us.

I am asking you to *consider* supporting Luther Classical College. I am *not expecting* you to support it. I *do expect* you to find quality institutions to support with the abundance that God has blessed you with. Regardless, I hope that you will look at "Christian Culture: A Magazine for Lutherans" to see if you like it. And I hope that you will hit me up for a coffee so we can talk about education or anything else you may have on your mind!

With love in Christ,
Pastor Maggard