“Masterpieces in the Making”
School Theme for 2017-18

Luther Memorial is looking to build masterpieces this school year. These “masterpieces” won’t be made in art class but will be formed in the many moments during a school day when students are loved and disciplined, encouraged and built up in the Word of God. Our students are Masterpieces in the Making.

Through weekly memory verses and study, this year-long theme will show our students that though they may not always feel or look or behave like masterpieces, God is present in their lives now and for eternity. Our theme verse Philippians 1:6 says it simply, “And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.”

“We want our students and families to know that their past doesn’t define them. Neither do their present challenges,” says Missy Beckman, 5th grade homeroom teacher and upper grade Religion teacher. “God has already worked out their salvation. Now he’s working to transform their lives as they trust, serve and obey him. He has something beautiful in mind for each of them.”

We ask God’s blessings on our 2017-18 school year and look forward to celebrating each brushstroke in our student’s academic and spiritual development.

Fence Will Create Outdoor Play Space for New Campus

West Campus Principal Marty Beckman knows something about the value of fresh air and exercise for young people. As a defensive end for Concordia University Chicago, he helped lead the Cougars to the NCAA Division III playoffs in 2012.

Being fit has always been part of his life. Now as principal, he wants the same for the 83 students in his building, which is why he is proposing the installation of a 6-foot fence and gate around the parking lot to create a safe outdoor recreation space at the Lorain Avenue campus.

“The parking lot is right next to Lorain Avenue, which is a very busy road. Also, this neighborhood is not the safest. A fence would bring some peace of mind,” he says.

Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church will pay half of the estimated $10,000 cost of the fence. LMS is looking to donors to cover the other half. Donors were generous two years ago when we asked for funds to renovate the gymnasium at West Campus, putting in a new floor, painting the walls and adding new lighting.

“The gym looks great and will continue to be used for gym classes, as well as recess during the winter months and rainy days,” says Mr. Beckman. “A fenced parking lot will enable us to get outside for recess in good weather. Classroom teachers may also decide to do a lesson or project outside. The lot will give us a few more options with space.”

If you would like to contribute towards the cost of the fence, please use the enclosed envelope or give online at luthermemorialschool.org.

“A fenced parking lot will enable us to get outside for recess in good weather.”
New Furniture Arrives
Better Late Than Never

Though they didn’t arrive until three weeks after classes started, the school’s new desks and chairs were greeted with enthusiasm. This furniture and the soon to be completed office renovation on the Main Campus were possible through the generosity of donors this past spring as part of our 2017 Fund-A-Need. About $10,000 was collected from donors unable to attend our Gala in April and another $11,000 was collected at the Gala itself. An additional $1,000 was given this summer by a generous donor.

A thousand thanks to the many who contributed! You’ve made the year brighter already.

Partnership Provides Support for Struggling Students

Luther Memorial is partnering with OhioGuidestone to provide counseling and mental health support services to our students.

Ms. Haley De Leon, a social worker from OhioGuidestone, will be available on-site to meet with students who are struggling with a behavioral or mental health issue. Her goal is to work out a step-by-step plan with each student so that they learn positive skills for dealing with their emotions.

“It is evident that the staff at Luther Memorial values not only the academic growth of their students, but also their social and emotional growth,” says Ms. De Leon. “The fact that OhioGuidestone services are present in the school shows that LMS is committed to the overall wellbeing and development of their students.”

Ms. De Leon will make home visits when appropriate, providing her with additional insight into a child’s situation beyond sessions at school. She also works with children in the classroom so that problems can be quickly identified and practical strategies worked out.

There is no cost to the school for this service, as services are billed through the student’s health insurance. OhioGuidestone is affiliated with the United Methodist Association.

New Classroom Software Engages While It Teaches

Don’t tell our students, but the new classroom software they’re using is rigorous and targeted instruction that’s increasing their literacy and math fluency. Our students just think it’s fun.

The software, called Imagine Learning, is like an extra teacher in the classroom. For 20 minutes a day, students receive individualized instruction through engaging activities that teach critical language and literacy concepts such as basic vocabulary, grammar, listening comprehension, and phonics. The math component teaches fluency, the critical foundation of algebra.

With visually compelling graphics, imaginative characters and built-in challenges and rewards, kids learn at their own pace, building confidence as they go.

“Many of our students enter our buildings two or even three grade levels behind,” explains Nicole Levy, executive director. “We feel Imagine Learning will be an effective classroom tool that will help our students, especially our non-native English speakers, progress at a faster rate.”
School Supplies Pour In
Thank you to the many individuals who dropped off supplies at the school or sent in donations. We were thrilled with the response and so appreciative of having our shelves stocked at the beginning of the school year. We’re especially grateful to the churches that held supply drives – Gloria Dei Lutheran, Hudson; Faith Lutheran, Mentor; Prince of Peace Lutheran, Medina; Our Redeemer, Solon; St. James Lutheran, Cleveland; and Valley Lutheran, Chagrin Falls. Having these supplies on hand takes the burden off our teachers of having to purchase classroom supplies themselves.

New Face Added to LMS Board
Luther Memorial is pleased to announce that Mrs. Lisa Cotten joins our Board this fall. She is the Chief Commercial Appraisal Officer for Chemical Bank in Youngstown. A graduate of Walsh University with a finance degree, Lisa has worked in commercial real estate for over 17 years. She is the former board president of the Old Stone Education Center, now part of the YWCA of Cleveland, which works with disadvantaged young women on getting their GED and helping them grow personally and professionally. Lisa attends Grace Church-Ellet Campus.

LMS first graders got a chance to interact with actors from the Windy City Players, a professional tour that makes the rounds of schools around the country performing classic children’s stories. This year’s production—Robin Hood—had lots of laughs and drama. Generous contributions through the Annual Fund make special arts programs like this possible.

5 Easy Ways to Help LMS
Did you know that Amazon, Giant Eagle and Heinen’s will make a donation to Luther Memorial each time you make a purchase? It’s easy to sign up:

- Go to smile.amazon.com and designate Luther Memorial as your preferred charity.
- Go to GiantEagle.com/afts and enter your Giant Eagle Advantage Card number and Luther Memorial’s code: 2503
- Register your Tasteful Rewards card at heinensrewards.com and select Luther Memorial.
- We’ll happily redeem your Box Tops for cash! Thank you for sending them to the school.
- If you are an eligible Thrivent member, you may have Choice Dollars that you can designate to nonprofit organizations like Luther Memorial. Log onto thrive.com/thriventchoice for more information.
Giving Back

Fifth Graders walked from the Main Campus to the fire station in Old Brooklyn September 11 with homemade treats in hand. The class read about the events of 9/11 and wanted to show their appreciation of first responders. Students then got to spend some time checking out the trucks and equipment up close.

CONTACT US AT 216.749.5300
Nicole Levy, executive director, nlevy@lmslancers.org
Peggy Sexton, development director development@lmslancers.org