



Dear Parents, Students of LVW member schools, and other potential members,

Welcome to the 2012 season of **Lutheran Vanguard of Wisconsin!** 2011 is now only a fond memory. In Traverse City we bid an emotional farewell to our seniors, some of whom were five-year members. In 2011, LVW continued its tradition of excellence in performance. The staff and members had many opportunities for fun and fellowship on our MACBDA tour. Thanks in large part to the attitude, work ethic, and determination of the marching members, the year was very successful! LVW celebrated its 34<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2011! It is easy to look back over the past 34 seasons to see how the Lord has so richly blessed our efforts. LVW has provided a great summer activity within which hundreds of youth have enjoyed each other's Christian fellowship. Not only that, but the performance level that LVW has been able to reach every single year is a testament to the wonderful character of the students involved, as well as the staff and other parent volunteers. LVW has also remained one of the premier marching units in the entire Midwest, while at the same time keeping focused on doing all to God's glory.

This year will see the band performing in parades and field shows across Eastern and Southern Wisconsin, Illinois, and Michigan. Wisconsin parades will include Brillion and Appleton (for the 35<sup>th</sup> consecutive year!), Chilton, Oregon, and Sun Prairie. We will be returning to the "Windy City" of Chicago for three parades on July 4, with some free time spent on Navy Pier for food, fun, and FIREWORKS! As of this writing, LVW will build its schedule around the dates listed – the show locations/times will be added when known. When the season is completed, the band will have marched in ten parades. Several of the parades are competitive parades or give out awards.

LVW will also be entering field competition for the third year in 2012! LVW is a member of MACBDA (Mid-American Competing Band Director's Association) as a parade and field band. In 2012 LVW will again be competing on the field in Open Class. MACBDA does not have its 2012 schedule finalized yet, but we expect to perform in several shows, including Fort Atkinson, Oregon, Janesville, Whitewater, Greendale, Sun Prairie, Racine, and Traverse City. In addition, LVW will be hosting our show at Hart Park in Wauwatosa! Some of the dates are listed on the calendar as "TBD" and some are listed with a city and time for the show. At this time these are our best estimates.

There will be a special LVW 2012 Preview Day intended for all new members, returning members, and parents on **Saturday, November 19 at FVL. The event will be from 1:30 – 4:30 PM.** If you would like to learn more about the group, plan on joining us that day for an exciting intro to what life is like in Lutheran Vanguard of Wisconsin!

For those who are unfamiliar with our group, **Lutheran Vanguard of Wisconsin** is a competitive marching band made up of students from nine WELS high schools:

Fox Valley LHS - Appleton	Manitowoc LHS - Manitowoc
Kettle Moraine LHS - Jackson	Northland LHS - Wausau
Luther HS - Onalaska	Shoreland LHS - Somers
Luther Preparatory School - Watertown	Winnebago Lutheran Academy - Fond du Lac
	Wisconsin Lutheran HS - Milwaukee

LVW functions to provide a Christ-centered activity within which you can experience growth, both as an individual and as a member of a group. In the process, you will improve your musical and visual skills, work hard, and have a very enjoyable summer.

**Lutheran Vanguard of Wisconsin** has always been one of the finest parade marching bands in the Midwest, and has displayed its excellence on the street with many award-winning performances:

Sun Prairie, WI	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	1990-1996, 2001, 2008, <b>2011</b>
Oregon, WI	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	1990- 1996, 2001, 2004, 2008
National Cherry Festival, Traverse City, MI	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	1990, 1991, 1993, 1997, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2008, 2010, <b>2011</b>
Calgary Stampede	Grand Champion	1992
VP Fair, St. Louis, MO	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	1994
Windsor, Ontario	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	1995
	Grand Champion	
Pittsfield, MA	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	1995, 2001
	Grand Champion, Best Color Guard, Best Drum Majors	
Fort Wayne, IN	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	1995
Aquatennial Parade, Minneapolis, MN	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	1995
	Grand Champion, Best Color Guard, Best Percussion	
Northbrook, IL	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	1996
Casper, WY	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	1998
	Best Color Guard, Best Percussion, Best Drum Majors	
South Bend, IN	Grand Champion	2000, 2002
	Best Musical Unit, Color Guard, Percussion, Drum Majors	
Fairfax, VA and Severna Park MD July 4	Best Unit in Parade, 1 <sup>st</sup> Place Marching Band	2004
Racine, WI Fourth of July Parade	Best Marching Band, 2008, 2009, <b>2011</b>	

The **tentative** performance and highlight schedule for the 2012 season can be found on the 2012 Calendar. There are several shows listed as “MACBDA Show TBD” etc. The locations of these shows have not been set as of this writing. They will be updated on the calendar as soon as they are scheduled. Please remember that the calendar at this point is tentative.

Please note that some times for the performances may change slightly, since this information is coming out before all of the field shows and festivals have sent their materials for 2012. The complete finalized schedule will be sent out after January. As of this writing, LVW will build its schedule around the dates listed – the show locations/times will be added when known. We will be done by July 15. The “flavor” of the season will remain the same, as will the cost.

Over the past thirty-four years, **LVW** has performed or appeared in Wisconsin, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Virginia, Washington, D.C., Wyoming, Alberta, and Ontario. All our success, however, is governed by one basic philosophy:

*All that we do is done to the glory of God!*

The following pages contain a brief overview of **LVW** and a tentative calendar for the upcoming 2012 season. The Board of Directors knows you will find the events challenging, exciting, and a whole lot of fun! Please read this material carefully, and then share it with your parents.

We invite you to share the experience and be a part of the 2012 edition of **LVW**. Is it worth the effort and the expense? The best way is to ask the people who have marched with **LVW**! Ask the parents who have chaperoned. You will no doubt get a variety of answers. However, one thing is certain. All of them will tell you that there are many ways in which young people like you can "Let your light shine!"

Sincerely,  
James R. Neujahr, Randy Kramer  
LVW Executive Directors

Jim Wilsman  
Chairman, LVW Board of Directors

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