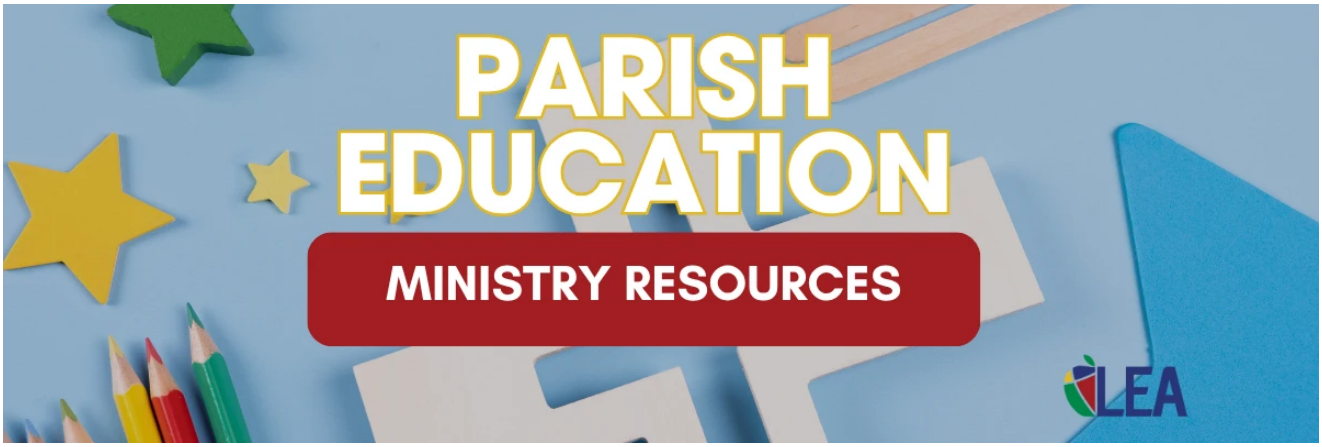
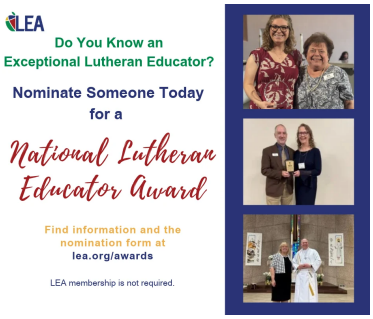


November 2, 2026 For Members of LEA's Parish Educators Network

Nominations for the 2027 LEA Awards are officially OPEN! It's time to celebrate the incredible educators, administrators, and ministers who pour their hearts into Lutheran education every day. If you work alongside a colleague who goes above and beyond to meet the spiritual, emotional, and cognitive needs of children and families, please nominate them by **Friday, November 20, 2026**! Criteria for each award can be found on the LEA website at https://www.lea.org/awards/



New This Year: If you are nominating your pastor for the *LEA Distinguished Lutheran School Team Pastor* award, you are now responsible for collecting three letters of recommendation (from an administrator/board chair, a teacher, and a parent) and emailing them to Denise Rice by January 22, 2027. Check out the award criteria at lea.org/awards and submit your nomination today at tinyurl.com/LEANominations2027!

Research suggests the strongest predictor of a teenager's faith is not youth group attendance. It is how seriously their parents take their own faith. Michael Keller of *The Gospel Coalition* examines two common approaches to raising children in this culture and offers a third worth considering. Read his article, 2 Ways to Fail Your Child.

Slightly more than half of U.S. Protestant pastors report at least 4% growth in attendance since 2023. *Lifeway Research* also found that in the average church, only 20% of new attendees had not attended church before, down from 27% a decade ago. See Aaron Earls's article Pastors Report Growing Attendance, but Fewer Unchurched Newcomers.

Calling All Lutheran Education Leaders! Registration is open for the 2027 Lutheran School Administrators Conference, happening March 8–10, 2027, in Concord, North Carolina. Whether you lead an early childhood center, elementary school, high school, or a parish with a school, this is your premier opportunity to network nationally, collaborate in Christ, and grow professionally.

- Register HERE
- Don't miss this collaborative event by ALSS, LEA, and LCMS School Ministry.
- Details & updates: Check out the 2027 Administrators Conference Page to stay informed!

Looking for a way to help children who sometimes struggle in a large classroom or church setting? Try a sensory room for your ministry! Learn more at How to Create a Sensory Room for Your Ministry. (Elle Stumbo in *Children'sMinistry.com*)

Our new LEA book review is:

The Heart That Found You

Written by Anna Schocket

Illustrated by Carole Chevalier

Young children will enjoy a heartwarming, rhyming picture-book adventure about adoption, belonging, and the joys of being in a family. Through this rhyming picture book, one will embark on a heartwarming quest for love, especially regarding adoption, belonging, and the joy of being in a family.

Don't miss these weekly LEA resources…

WOW Video

Weekly Devotion by Ed Grube

The LEArning Curve

What Works For Me Podcast

Disclaimer: LEA shares resources from various sources; we encourage you to review them through a Lutheran perspective for use in your ministry.
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Linking, Equipping, and Affirming