

November 4, 2026 For Participants in LEA's Early Childhood 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!

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!

15 Science Activities for Preschool Fun offers hands-on investigations, including walking water, melting ice, making craters, and experimenting with bubbles. Each activity links to instructions and materials. A particularly useful collection for classroom science centers. (Amy Cowen in *Science Buddies*)

Beginning with a child's question about changing leaf colors, Let's Talk: Linking Science and Language Learning in the Preschool Classroom demonstrates how teachers can turn everyday fall observations into scientific investigations and meaningful conversations. It offers practical examples of questioning techniques that develop children's scientific thinking and vocabulary. (Lucia Mendez, Tammy Lee, Archana Hegde, Valerie McMillan, Jocelyn Dixon, Suzanne Goodell, and Virginia Stage in *NAEYC*)

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 Blog

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