

November 5, 2026 For Participants in LEA's Retired Ministries Network

Nominations for the 2027 LEA Awards are officially OPEN! It's time to celebrate the incredible educators, administrators, retired workers, 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!

Looking for an interesting podcast? Go behind the scenes at the Smithsonian to discover unexpected stories about historical objects, scientific breakthroughs, and fascinating people. Recent episodes explore everything from American history to remarkable discoveries in nature. Go to Sidedoor — Smithsonian Institution to listen.

Participating in the Arts Creates Paths to Healthy Aging discusses ongoing research into the benefits of music, theater, singing, and visual arts as people age. (*National Institute on Aging*)

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, readers embark on a heartwarming quest for love, especially around 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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