

November 18, 2026 For Participants in LEA's Early Childhood Network

Great Educators Deserve Recognition — Nominate Someone Today! The deadline for 2027 LEA Award nominations is Friday, November 20! Every day, dedicated educators, administrators, and pastors make a lasting difference in the lives of children and families through Lutheran education. Do you know someone whose exceptional service, leadership, and commitment deserve to be celebrated? Now is your opportunity to recognize them! Nominate a deserving colleague for a 2027 Lutheran Education Association award. Don't let their outstanding contributions go unnoticed! Explore the award categories and criteria at lea.org/awards, and submit your nomination by November 20! Important Reminder for Distinguished Lutheran School Team Pastor Nominations: Nominators are responsible for collecting three letters of recommendation—one each from an administrator or board chair, a teacher, and a parent—and emailing them to Denise Rice by January 22, 2027. Take a moment to honor someone who makes a difference. Nominate them today!



Marvelous Explorations Through Science and Stories (MESS) has an extensive collection of field-tested science lessons covering animals, insects, plants, water, motion, magnets, light, and sound. This also combines investigations with children's literature and suggestions for extending learning. (*Head Start*)

Holiday Ideas for December 2026
December 25–Christmas: Christmas Sunday School Lessons by *Kids Bible Daily* offers eight free lessons covering the prophecies of Jesus' birth, the Nativity, the shepherds, the wise men, and more. Each includes Scripture, discussion questions, a memory verse, prayer, and printable activities.

Leadership comes with challenges, but you don't have to navigate them alone! Join fellow Lutheran school administrators at the 2027 Lutheran School Administrators Conference for three days of encouragement, collaboration, and practical ideas to strengthen your leadership and your school community. March 8–10, 2027, in Charlotte, North Carolina NEW THIS YEAR! Take your learning even further with the Pre-Conference Bootcamp on Fundraising and Philanthropy, presented by Concordia University Nebraska. Add this valuable opportunity when you register! Come ready to connect, learn, and leave inspired! 👉 **Register today:** https://tinyurl.com/LSAC2027REG

This week, LEA is highlighting the book:

Saint Nicholas
By Julie Stiegemeyer

Concordia Publishing House
2003
This is the story of the real St. Nicholas, a Christian bishop who modeled how Christmas gift-giving reflects the sacrificial gift of Jesus, God's Son.

Happy Thanksgiving from LEA! In observance of the Thanksgiving holiday, Ministry Resources will not be published the week of November 23. As we pause to give thanks for God's many blessings, we are especially grateful for you and your faithful service to Lutheran education. May your Thanksgiving be filled with worship, joy, gratitude, rest, and time with those you love. Wishing you and your family a blessed Thanksgiving!

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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