



ENGLISH DISTRICT-LCMS

LUMEN CHRISTI AWARD RECIPIENTS

2026	District Educator of the Year: Professional Staff Teacher	Kathleen Vaughn First Ev. Lutheran Church El Cajon, California
	District Educator of the Year: Volunteer Staff	Darrel Hopkins Redeemer Lutheran Church Lincoln, Nebraska
2025	District Educator of the Year: Professional Staff DCE/Teacher	Katie Brech Mt. Olive Lutheran Church Faith Lutheran School Tucson, Arizona
	District Educator of the Year: Volunteer Staff	Barbara Kolb Grace Lutheran Church Wyoming, Michigan
Lifetime Ministry Service Award		Janet Stechholz Zion Ev. Lutheran Church Detroit, Michigan
2024	District Educator of the Year: Professional Staff Teacher	Lois Doods Advent Ev. Lutheran Church & School Zionsville, Indiana
	District Educator of the Year: Professional Staff Director	Sara Miller Peace Lutheran Church Fremont, Indiana
	District Educator of the Year: Volunteer Staff	Janet Flessa Lutheran Church of the Shepherd King West Bloomfield, Michigan
2023	District Educator of the Year: Professional Staff Director of Children's Ministry	Bethany Dillon Hales Corners Lutheran School Hales Corners, Wisconsin
	District Educator of the Year: Volunteer Staff	Dawn Hawk Catalina Lutheran Church

2022	District Educator of the Year: Professional Staff Teacher	Tucson, Arizona Krissy Adcock St. John's Lutheran School Hannibal, Missouri
	District Educator of the Year: Volunteer Staff	Julie Kreizel Redeemer Lutheran Church Lincoln, Nebraska
2021	District Educator of the Year: Professional Staff Teacher	Larry Arnold Our Savior Ev. Lutheran School Hartland, Michigan
	District Educator of the Year: Professional Staff Assistant Headmaster	Katherine Kramer Immanuel Lutheran School Alexandria, Virginia
2020	District Educator of the Year: Volunteer Staff	Dorothy Battenhouse Ascension Lutheran Church North Olmsted, Ohio
	District Educator of the Year: Professional Staff Youth Director	Judy Bruschuk Trinity Lutheran Church Villa Park, Illinois
	District Educator of the Year: Professional Staff Assistant Principal	Christina Peterson Hales Corners Lutheran School Hales Corners, Wisconsin
2019	District Educator of the Year: Professional Staff Principal	Janet Ropes Christ the King Lutheran Church & PS Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan
	District Educator of the Year: Volunteer Staff	Judi Hoeppner Faith Lutheran Church Watertown, Wisconsin
	District Educator of the Year: Volunteer Staff	Sandra Brown The Church of St. Mark – Lutheran Mississauga, Ontario, Canada
	District Educator of the Year: Volunteer Staff	Kim Bremer Hales Corners Lutheran Church Hales Corners, Wisconsin
	Lifetime Ministry Service Award	Stephanie Stubenbort Redeemer Lutheran School Verona, Pennsylvania

2018	District Educator of the Year: Professional Staff Director	Kim Sperry Christ the Shepherd Lutheran Church Alpharetta, Georgia
	District Educator of the Year: Volunteer Staff	Terry Leu Prince of Peace Ev. Lutheran Church Medina, Ohio
	Lifetime Ministry Service Award	Mr. Les Morris West Portal Lutheran School San Francisco, California
2016	District Educator of the Year: Professional Staff Director	Mrs. Joanne Webb Little Lambs Academy New Berlin, Wisconsin
	District Educator of the Year: Volunteer Staff Sunday School Teacher/Superintendent	Ms. Jill Giannotta Concordia Lutheran Church Berwyn, Illinois
	District Educator of the Year: Volunteer Staff Sunday School Teacher, VBS, Education Chair	Mr. Kenneth Freeman St. Mark Lutheran Church Mississauga, Ontario Canada
	District Educator of the Year: Volunteer Staff Sunday School Teacher	Ms. Barbara Taylor Peace Lutheran Church McMurray, Pennsylvania
	District Educator of the Year: Volunteer Staff Sunday School Coordinator	Ms. Julia MacGowan Lutheran Church of the Risen Savior Green Valley, Arizona
2015	District Educator of the Year: Professional Staff Assistant Principal	Mrs. Christy Wood West Portal Lutheran Church San Francisco, California
	District Educator of the Year: Volunteer Staff Sunday School Teacher	Mr. Phillip Sawhill Redeemer Lutheran Church Lincoln, Nebraska
	Lifetime Ministry Service Award	Rev. Dr. David P Stechholz English District –LCMS Farmington, Michigan
2014	District Educator of the Year: Professional Staff Teacher	Mrs. Diane Olmstead Redeemer Lutheran Church Oakmont, Pennsylvania
	District Educator of the Year: Volunteer Staff Sunday School Teacher	Mrs. Amy Staubus Concordia Lutheran Church Berwyn, Illinois

2013	District Co-Educator of the Year: Volunteer Staff Sunday School Teacher/Coordinator	Mrs. Nancy Akins Redeemer Lutheran Church Lincoln, Nebraska
	District Co-Educator of the Year: Volunteer Staff Volunteer Educator	Mrs. Sheila Bailey Faith Lutheran Church and School Watertown, Wisconsin
	District Educator of the Year: Professional Staff Teacher	Ms. Tracy Skoog Christ Church-Lutheran Phoenix, Arizona
2012	District Co-Educator of the Year: Professional Staff Director	Mrs. Alicia Levitt Little Praiser's Preschool/Child Care Fort Wayne, Indiana
	District Co-Educator of the Year: Professional Staff Teacher	Mrs. Janet Begley St. John's Lutheran School Hannibal, Missouri
2011	District Educator of the Year: Professional Staff Principal	Ms. Cheryl Ehlers Christ Lutheran School & Preschool Phoenix, Arizona
	District Co-Educator of the Year: Congregational Volunteer Educator Sunday School Teacher	Mrs. Arlene Koprivnik Our Savior Lutheran Church Chicago, Illinois
	District Co-Educator of the Year: Congregational Volunteer Educator Sunday School Teacher	Mrs. Lynda Ellis Redeemer Lutheran Church Sarnia, Ontario, Canada
2010	District Co-Educator of the Year: Professional Staff Principal/Director	Mrs. Katherine Holden Ascension Lutheran PS & Elementary School Tucson, Arizona
	District Co-Educator of the Year: Professional Staff Teacher	Mr. Leslie Morris West Portal Lutheran School San Francisco, California
	District Educator of the Year: Congregational Volunteer Educator Sunday School Teacher	Mrs. Patricia Baals Peace Lutheran Church Fremont, Indiana
2009	District Educator of the Year: Professional Staff Teacher	Mrs. Karen Herz Hales Corners Lutheran Elementary School Hales Corners, Wisconsin
	District Educator of the Year: Congregational Volunteer Educator Sunday School Superintendent	Mrs. Marilyn Provost St. John's Lutheran Church Pembroke, Ontario
2008	District Educator of the Year: Professional Staff Teacher	Mrs. Mary A. Gehring Christ Church – Lutheran & School Phoenix, Arizona

District Educator of the Year:
Congregational Volunteer Educator
Sunday School Teacher, Tutor,
VBS Leader, Musician

2007

District Educator of the Year:
Professional Staff
Principal

District Educator of the Year:
Professional Staff
Director

District Educator of the Year:
Congregational Volunteer Educator
Sunday School Teacher

2006

District Educator of the Year:
Professional Staff
Director

District Educator of the Year:
Congregational Volunteer Educator
Sunday School Teacher

Lifetime Ministry Award

2005

District Educator of the Year:
Professional Staff
Teacher

District Educator of the Year:
Congregational Volunteer Educator
Parish Education

2004

District Educator of the Year:
Professional Staff
Principal

District Educator of the Year:
Congregational Volunteer Educator
Sunday School/Youth Ministry

2003

District Educator of the Year:
Professional Staff
Principal

District Educator of the Year:
Congregational Volunteer Educator
Parish Education

2002

District Educator of the Year:

Ms. Lois Ladage

Jefferson Park Lutheran Church
Chicago, Illinois

Mrs. Gail Holzer

Redeemer Lutheran Church/School
Oakmont, Pennsylvania

Mrs. Shari DeMayo

Open Arms/Shepherd of the Coast Lutheran Church
Palm Coast, Florida

Mrs. Susan Petersen

Chapel of the Cross Lutheran Church/Preschool
St. Louis, Missouri

Mrs. Heidi Szczupakiewicz

Little Lambs of Peace Preschool
New Berlin, Wisconsin

Ms. Judy Ridders

Grace Lutheran Church
Wyoming, Michigan

Dorothy Tetro

Nazareth Lutheran School
Buffalo, New York

Mrs. Donna Hay

Child of Christ Lutheran School
Hartland, Michigan

Ms. Ruth Stresow

West Portal Lutheran Church/School
San Francisco, California

Mr. Charles Novak

Grace English Lutheran School
Chicago, Illinois

Mr. David Riedemann

Mrs. Elizabeth Riedemann

Chapel of the Cross Lutheran Church
St. Peters, Missouri

Mrs. Eva Fronk

Hales Corners Lutheran Elem. School
Hales Corners, Wisconsin

Ms. Deborah Pinto

Sherman Oaks Lutheran Church
Sherman Oaks, California

Mr. William Hodgson

	Professional Staff Teacher	Christ Lutheran School Phoenix, Arizona
	District Educator of the Year: Congregational Volunteer Educator Youth Ministry	Mr. Craig Shever and Mrs. Kathy Shever Faith Lutheran Church Butler, Pennsylvania
2001	District Educator of the Year: Professional Staff Teacher	Mrs. Rebecca Williams Martin Luther Christian School Pennsauken, New Jersey
	District Educator of the Year: Congregational Volunteer Educator Sunday School/Parish Education	Ms. Marian Unrah Faith Lutheran Church Tucson, Arizona
2000	District Educator of the Year: Professional Staff Teacher	Mrs. Kay Matthews Concordia Little Lambs Preschool Berwyn, Illinois
	District Educator of the Year: Congregational Volunteer Educator Sunday School	Ms. Cheryl Wintland Immanuel Lutheran Church Howell, Michigan
1999	District Educator of the Year: Professional Staff Teacher	Ms. Donna Gruendler Christ English Lutheran School Chicago, Illinois
	District Educator of the Year: Congregational Volunteer Educator Sunday School	Ms. Marilyn Provost St. John Lutheran Church Pembroke, Ontario Canada
1998	District Educator of the Year: Professional Staff Assistant Principal	Mrs. Margaret Finley West Portal Lutheran San Francisco, California
	District Educator of the Year: Congregational Volunteer Educator Sunday School Superintendent/Teacher	Mr. Harold Doerr Nazareth Lutheran Church Buffalo, New York
1997	District Educator of the Year: Professional Staff District Education Executive	Mr. Erv Henkelmann English District Farmington, Michigan
	District Educator of the Year: Congregational Volunteer Educator Sunday School Superintendent	Mrs. Cinda Rice St. Michael Lutheran Church Fort Wayne, Indiana
1996	District Educator of the Year: Professional Staff Teacher	Mrs. Gwen Sonestrom Hales Corners Lutheran Hales Corners, Wisconsin
	District Educator of the Year:	Mrs. Pat Weber

Congregational Volunteer Educator
Sunday School Superintendent

Redeemer Lutheran Church
Sarnia, Ontario, Canada

1995

District Educator of the Year:
Professional Staff
Principal

Mrs. Dorothy Tetro
Nazareth Lutheran School
Buffalo, New York

District Educator of the Year:
Congregational Volunteer Educator
Sunday School Superintendent

Mrs. Nancy Marshall
Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church
Lititz, Pennsylvania

1994

District Educator of the Year:
Professional Staff
Principal

Mr. Paul Miller
Hope Lutheran School
Chicago, Illinois

District Educator of the Year:
Congregational Volunteer Educator
Sunday School Superintendent

Mr. Ed Johnson
Faith Lutheran Church
Butler, Pennsylvania

1993

District Educator of the Year:
Professional Staff
Principal
Teacher

Mr. Ken Precht
Mrs. Ruth Precht
Child of Christ Lutheran School
Hartland, Michigan

District Educator of the Year:
Congregational Volunteer Educator
Jr. Youth Ministry, Music Ministry,
VBS, Sunday School

Mrs. Judy Scharpenburg
St. Michael Lutheran School
Fort Wayne, Indiana

1992

District Educator of the Year:
Professional Staff
Preschool Director

Mrs. Donna Vanick
Christ the King
Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan