



Lutheran Education Association

linking, equipping, and affirming educators in Lutheran ministries

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Dr. Neil Sandfort Named LEA *Christus Magister*

Neil Sandfort, LL.D., retired administrative assistant to the president of the Nebraska district LCMS in education and youth ministry is the 2008 LEA *Christus Magister* award recipient.

Dr. Sandfort earned a B.A. in elementary education from Concordia University Chicago, and an MEd in educational administration from the University of Missouri, St. Louis. He also earned a superintendent's endorsement from the University of Nebraska, Lincoln. Sandfort was previously honored as outstanding Lutheran educator by the Nebraska district teachers conference. He continues to serve as a student teaching supervisor for Concordia University Nebraska, Strengthening Schools and Congregations consultant for LCMS School Ministry, and author of weekly devotions published on the Lutheran School Portal. Prior to serving as the Nebraska district's education executive, Sandfort was principal and teacher at Lutheran schools in Missouri. He has written curriculum and other ministry materials, including two *LEA Monographs*.

In support of Sandfort's nomination, one colleague said that Dr. Sandfort "distinguished himself as an educator, a care-giving supervisor of educators, a first-rate administrator, and as a knowledgeable parish educator who counseled pastors and Directors of Christian Education in the development of parish education."

Commenting on his greatest joys of ministry, Sandfort said, "My greatest joy ... continues to be equipping God's saints for ministry. As a classroom teacher, I sought to introduce each child to Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, to assist them develop as disciples, and ... to help each discover and develop his or her God-given talents and use them to serve God and others."

Dr. Sandfort is the 50th LEA member to receive the Christus Magister. Since 1965, this most prestigious LEA award has been presented to Lutheran educators who have made significant contributions to Lutheran education. He was selected to receive this award by LEA's Board of Directors and staff.

Award standards are available at <http://www.lea.org/forms/awards/nomcm.pdf>.

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