



Lutheran Education Association

linking, equipping, and affirming educators in Lutheran ministries

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 1, 2008

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Esther Jow Named LEA 2008 Distinguished Lutheran Early Childhood Administrator

Esther C. Jow, Early Childhood Development Center Director at St. Paul's Early Childhood Development Center in Orange, California, is the 2008 Distinguished Lutheran Early Childhood Administrator.

Ms. Jow earned a B.A. in Psychology and Social Welfare from the University of California in Berkeley and an M.A. in Education from California State University in Los Angeles. Prior to her work at St. Paul's, Ms. Jow served at Emmaus Lutheran School, Alhambra, California. Previous honors include the Honor Graduate Student Award from California State University and the 14th Annual Best of Orange County Peoples Choice—Best Child-Care Center 2007. She was instrumental in developing the National Lutheran School Accreditation early childhood accreditation process and is active in community service.

The nomination of Ms. Jow read, in part, "Esther is a true servant leader, one who exhibits a passion for children and a passion for sharing Jesus with children (and with their families). Esther leads her school with excellence in every aspect of the education of young children. She's looked upon as an expert and a mentor to many. Esther lives out her faith with joy, vision, and enthusiasm!"

In support of her nomination, one colleague said, "She brought a new level of professionalism to our infant center. She encourages our staff to strive to be all that God has created them to be. By setting high standards for our program and staff, she has definitely taken us to a new level of ministry."

Ms. Jow states, "The greatest joys in Lutheran ministries are the opportunity to share the Good News of Jesus and strengthening each other's faith through classroom experiences, worship, and personal interactions with students, parents, teachers, and others." She sees her personal mission as "... to work cooperatively with the congregation and all stakeholders to educate children, nurture their faith, and equip students to serve our Lord."

Esther C. Jow was selected to receive this honor by LEA's Leadership Network leadership team, LCMS leadership, and LEA staff. Award standards are available at <http://www.lea.org/forms/awards/nomecadmin.pdf>.

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