



Lutheran Education Association

linking, equipping, and affirming educators in Lutheran ministries

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Alaina Kleinbeck Named 2008 LEA Outstanding New Director of Christian Education (DCE)

Alaina Kleinbeck, DCE at Immanuel Lutheran Church, St. Charles, Missouri is Lutheran Education Association's (LEA) 2008 Outstanding New DCE.

Ms. Kleinbeck is a 2006 graduate of Concordia University Nebraska, having earned DCE certification and degree with emphasis in theology. She graduated from Concordia with High Honor recognition. Ms. Kleinbeck's current areas of service at Immanuel include junior high ministries, children's ministries, and small group ministries.

One individual who nominated Alaina wrote, "Her leadership style and organization are huge assets to helping Immanuel reinvent ... ministries. Alaina also provided ... inspiration for our mission statement, which is 'Everyone, everyway, everywhere sharing Christ's love.' Alaina exemplifies this statement with her attitude, desire, administrative skills, and, most important, her love for God's ministries at Immanuel." A colleague added, " She radiates the love of Jesus and lights up the room whenever she is present. She is a leader both in her words and in her actions."

Ms. Kleinbeck's personal mission statement is "I am called through Christ's mercy and forgiveness to be part of the compassionate and demonstrable evidence of His love to my neighbors in life. This call is made manifest through the encouragement and equipping of both stranger and friend in their journey in Christ's call in their lives."

Among her greatest joys in ministry, Alaina says, "My heart is filled with a deep peace when I pray alongside my junior high students. I smile for days when I can share with a leader how they are making a difference in the lives of children. My joy comes not from a ministry of extravagance, but in the sharing of lives lived together for Christ."

Alaina Kleinbeck was selected to receive this award by LEA's Directors of Christian Network Leadership and LEA staff.

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

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