



# Lutheran Education Association

linking, equipping, and affirming educators in Lutheran ministries

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
January 26, 2012

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## Julie Faulkner Named LEA 2012 Distinguished Lutheran Early Childhood Teacher

Julie Faulkner, 4K teacher at Trinity Lutheran School in Wausau, Wisconsin is Lutheran Education Association's 2012 Distinguished Early Childhood Teacher. She was selected for this award by LEA's Early Childhood Network leadership team and LEA staff.

Ms. Faulkner earned a B.S. in elementary education from Valparaiso University and a Master of Education in curriculum design and instruction from Indiana Wesleyan. She received her Colloquy from CUEnet and is currently working on a Master of Education in educational design and technology at Concordia University Wisconsin. Prior to her ministry at Trinity, Ms. Faulkner served schools in Easton, Wisconsin, Webster Groves, Missouri, Columbus, Indiana, and Whiting, Indiana.

Technology is one of Ms. Faulkner's passions. She was selected to the Sweet Sixteen Cohort at Concordia University Wisconsin. As one of sixteen students, she is being trained to become a leader in technology at Trinity and other regional schools.

Supporting Ms. Faulkner's nomination, her principal said, "Julie is a best-practice classroom teacher that powerfully connects not just children, but families, to the redeeming love of Christ. Julie's greatest strength is her ability to connect with her classroom parents."

A co-worker said, "Simply by being around Julie, you are blessed. Her bubbly personality is contagious, and her 'Sure, we can do that!' attitude is infectious." One parent commented, "Julie will go out of her way to ensure that each student knows, learns, and loves the Lord. She takes time...to individually meet the needs of each student by developing activities for various learning levels. She ensures that each child gets the attention they need to develop and grow mentally and spiritually."

Ms. Faulkner, commenting on her greatest joys in ministry, said, "Incorporating Christ into all learning experiences in 4K is...a joy. Talking about God becomes a natural rhythm of our day. To watch and encourage students as their faith grows is truly joy filled!"

Ms. Faulkner's mission statement is "With the help of the Lord, I will encourage students, parents, and colleagues in Christ with a joyful heart."

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