

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Hanah Singer Named 2021 LEA Outstanding New Lutheran Early Childhood Teacher

Hanah Singer was selected to receive Lutheran Education Association's 2021 Outstanding New Lutheran Early Childhood Teacher Award. She is in her first year of teaching first grade at Salem Lutheran School in Tomball, Texas. In addition to teaching, Hanah co-coached the school's volleyball team and helped with worship on Sundays. She also served with Salem Lutheran High School's youth group.

Ms. Singer earned a B.A. in elementary education and Lutheran Teaching Diploma from Concordia University Texas. Hanah was awarded the Keith and Margie Loomans Excellence in Education Award Scholarship, the Schjerven Scholarship Award, admission to the Alpha Chi National College Honor Society, was on the dean's list all four years, and graduated *summa cum laude*. Hanah was Faith Chaplain on the volleyball team and was voted hardest worker by her teammates.

Hanah found joy in her first year of teaching. She said, "My greatest joy is watching students discover who God has created them to be each day. Some days, I get to see lightbulbs flash as students learn and begin to understand. Other days, I see them give generously to others in need or dance for joy in chapel."

Ms. Singer did not escape challenges. "My greatest challenge...is committing to the areas I am most passionate to serve in without burning myself out." As the daughter of a pastor and children's ministry director, Hanah understands the need for balance in busy ministries.

Hanah's supervisor and nominator, said, "Hanah is a talented and skilled first grade teacher of excellence. From her interactions with students, emails to parents, and lesson plans, Christ is the center of all she does. She actively serves our church on our worship team, using her gift of song to spread the Gospel. She meets and exceeds the expectations of a called teacher and has wisdom beyond that of a first-year teacher."

One colleague and parent, also a nominator said, "I can't even put into words what an incredible blessing Hanah has been in her first year of teaching. It is evident every day that Christ's light shines through her as she witnesses and teaches. My son is in her class, and it is amazing how excited and motivated he is to learn, grow, and talk about his faith with Hanah. I thank God every day that my son has her as a teacher, and I know God has great things in store for Hanah in her teaching career."

Hanah's personal mission statement is "to shine the light of Christ to all whom I encounter, to foster fellowship and unity by challenging and inspiring others to further pursue God's unconditional love, and to live out the gospel joyfully through selfless acts of kindness, humble service, encouragement, and ultimately, by loving others well."

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