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Kenneth Palmreuter Selected for 2021 Distinguished Retired Lutheran Educator "EncourAGING" Award

Kenneth Palmreuter, a 56-year veteran serving through Lutheran education, was selected to receive LEA's Distinguished Retired Lutheran Educator EncourAGING Award. Mr. Palmreuter lives in Rapid City, South Dakota. He officially retired in 2002, having most recently served as executive director/principal for the Colorado Lutheran High School Association. Since that time, he has served as interim principal in various locations.

Dr. Palmreuter graduated with a B.S. in education from Concordia University Chicago and an M.A. in elementary school administration and supervision from the University of Michigan. Ken was previously honored with a Doctor of Laws (LLD) from Concordia University Nebraska and named Administrator of the Year in the LCMS Rocky Mountain District. He was also involved with U.S. National Exemplary Schools and Christus Awards at several Lutheran high schools.

Ken served and continues to serve in a variety of ways. One of his nominators, a pastor, wrote, "Ken has served on the Board of Lay Ministry... including a stint as chairman. Ken has also served as the consultant for Zion's NLSA Accreditation. For many years, Ken served on the Board of Education for the Black Hills Lutheran Schools and was chairman of that board. Perhaps greatest of all, Ken has served as Administrator of Bethesda Lutheran School in Hot Springs, South Dakota during a time of vacancy and transition the school's ministry."

One of Ken's colleagues sums up the case for his selection. "He is a true leader and a man who is always looking for ways to support the mission of our Lord and improve the work being done in the church.... Ken is a faithful and loving man of God who continues to teach and encourage in Bible study and in worship. He is a Christian man of the highest quality and is a blessing to the church of Jesus Christ in his faithfulness, capabilities, love, and zeal."

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