

LSA's Apple Bytes



Promoting Lutheran education in the metro New York area.

www.lsany.org

"And Jesus took the children in His arms, put His hands on them and blessed them." *Mark 10:16*

Winter 2015

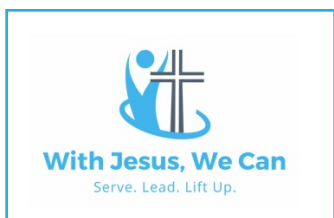
530+ Attend Annual Conference in November

LSA's Annual Conference: *With Jesus, We Can: Serve. Lead. Lift Up.* drew more than 530 educators from around the greater NYC area to Long Island Lutheran Middle & High School in Brookville. There was even representation from the Capital Region (Albany, NY)!

The day was packed with learning and featured over 50 workshops plus a keynote from Dr. Tim Elmore, founder and CEO of *Growing Leaders*. Centering on our theme for the 2015-16 school year, *With Jesus, We Can*, Mr. Tony Colangelo led the group in a kick-off worship, setting the tone for the day.



Dr. Tim Elmore during Keynote



Thank you to all who participated, presented, and supplied great energy to this day of learning! Special thanks to the Center for Urban Education Ministries for sponsoring our keynote address as this year's Kieschnick Lecture. Plans are already in the works for our 2016 conference on November 4, so save the date!

**Wishing all a
Blessed Christmas
and a most
Joyful & Healthy 2016!**

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Coming - Some Exciting Changes Online

Through a partnership with Firespring, a company committed to support of non-profit organizations, LSA is launching its new website on December 14 - it offers a one-stop location for members and others looking for information about Lutheran schools. Some new features include an embedded blog, Members Portal, and space for member schools to post position openings. The new site also has a better navigation to our member schools' websites and contact information, and will include links to sponsors and partners.

Please visit us regularly as we work to optimize the online LSA experience at www.lsany.org.

The Lutheran Schools Association is a professional organization offering conferences, services and advocacy to enrich and encourage teachers and administrators at Lutheran schools and early childhood centers in the metropolitan New York area as they share the love of Jesus with their students and families.

Curriculum Development Project Launched

Thanks to a *very* generous gift from St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Yonkers, several schools are taking part in an exciting Curriculum Development Project! Five schools, determined to improving their curriculum, have received no-cost professional development and support from LSA last summer and this school year.

Using *Curriculum Trak*, a web-based curriculum mapping program, teachers have begun the monthly diary mapping process of tracking their goals for students, activities used for classroom learning, and resources that enhance student experiences. Workshops on curriculum mapping, Essential Questions (EQs), and assessment using EQs have been offered to teachers from Astoria Lutheran School in Queens, Long Island Lutheran (Day, Middle & High School) in East Northport and Brookville, St. Mark's Lutheran School in Yonkers, and Trinity Lutheran School in Hicksville.

Curriculum development is a task that requires several years of ongoing attention and refinement. Consequently, plans are underway to secure more funding for this important work and training. It is our hope that LSA schools, preschool through grade 12, will benefit from this project as quality, top-notch curricular resources are developed and shared, association-wide! Look for more updates in future newsletters and on LSA's blog.

"I used to think I was fairly comfortable with the curriculum. Now I know that I can dive much deeper into the specifics. I also know that Essential Questions can be helpful with staying on task. Thank you Jessica!"

Future Leaders Academy in Full Swing

The first cohort of future leaders has been working together both virtually and in person since July 2015. Representing six different schools from preschool through high school, this diverse group of leaders has proven energetic and enthusiastic in exploring modules related to school administration, including leadership development, Lutheran identity, governance, and federal and state regulations and opportunities for funding.

Following a brief hiatus later in December, these future leaders will return for back-to-back modules on school design and innovation in Lutheran schools.

Advocating for Lutheran Schools

Each year, our principals look forward to receiving updates about NYS issues from Jim Cultrara, of the NYS Catholic Conference. In November, representatives from four schools heard from him at the Conference for Administrators of Independent and Religious Schools (CAIRS). in Albany. They also had the opportunity to hear from several NYSED officials about programs that impact our schools. And we are very pleased to have him kick off our January 29 Leaders Conference.

As Advocate, LSA is involved in continuing advocacy for the Education Investment Tax Credit which would help non-public schools provide further scholarships for students in need, and would be a great benefit to our schools. You may follow the progress of these efforts at www.investined.org - and consider letting your voice be heard by contacting your local legislators. (The website makes this very easy and a matter of just a few clicks!)

Look for more information and updates in future newsletters and on our website, www.lsanys.org.

We feel grateful for LSA! The staff is always responsive and supportive, providing guidance and great resources. As we look to diversify our teaching methods and to become more comfortable with the technology available, the professional development workshops by LSA were essential in bolstering our confidence to take on new challenges.

LSA Member Schools and Early Childhood Centers

As of December 11, 2015

Abiding Presence Preschool, Fort Salonga
 Astoria Lutheran School, Astoria
 Bright Horizons Preschool, Floral Park
 The Chapel School, Bronxville
 Christ Child Care Center, Woodside
 Christian Pre-School, Dobbs Ferry
 The Christian Nursery School, Wantagh
 Cross of Christ Preschool, Babylon
 Eltingville Lutheran School, Staten Island
 Emanuel Lutheran School, Patchogue
 Faith Nursery School, Syosset
 Gloria Dei Nursery & Pre-K, New Hyde Park
 Good Shepherd Creative Play, Pearl River
 Good Shepherd Lutheran School, Plainview
 Grace Lutheran School, Malverne
 Holy Trinity Early Childhood Center, Rockville Centre
 Leif Ericson Day School, Brooklyn
 The Life Day School, Old Westbury
 Little Lights Christian Preschool and Early Childhood Center, East Northport
 Little Saints Preschool of St Andrew's, West Hempstead
 Long Island Lutheran Day School, East Northport
 Long Island Lutheran Middle & High School, Brookville
 Martin Luther School, Maspeth
 Open Arms Preschool, Manhattan
 Our Redeemer Nursery School, Seaford
 Our Savior New American School, Centereach

Our Saviour Lutheran Preschool, Jamaica
 Our Saviour Lutheran School, Bronx
 Rainbow Christian Day School, Woodside
 Redeemer Nursery School, Queens Village
 Redeemer Lutheran School, Glendale
 Resurrection Lutheran Preschool, Garden City
 St. David's Christian Preschool, Massapequa Park
 St. John's Early Childhood Center, Merrick
 St. John's Lutheran Nursery School, Lindenhurst
 *St. Luke's Preschool, Dix Hills
 St. Mark's Lutheran School, Yonkers
 St. Paul's Child Care Center, Rye Brook
 St. Paul's Christian Childhood Center, Saratoga Springs
 St. Paul's Christian Day School, New City
 St. Peter's Nursery Preschool, Huntington Station
 Trinity Lutheran Nursery School, Rocky Point
 Trinity Lutheran School, Hicksville
 *Trinity Lutheran Preschool, Islip
 Zion Lutheran Early Childhood Center, Westwood NJ

** New members*

Did you know LSA has members in all 5 boroughs of New York City? Guess which school made this claim possible!

Annual Outing Raises over \$23K

August 10, 2015 brought nearly 80 golfers from the Metro-NY area to North Shore Towers Golf Club in Floral Park, to hit the links in support of Lutheran Schools Association. Honoree Eric Bilger, Lead Financial Consultant with Thrivent Financial, rallied the crowd's support, having attended 24 of the 28 golf outings in LSA's history! It was a great day, bringing together many friends and raising over \$23,000 in support of LSA's programming. Thanks to all who golfed, donated prizes, and volunteered!

SAVE THE DATE: The 29th Outing will be held Monday, August 8, 2016 when we honor Gregory Matalon, Esq., partner at Capell Barnett Matalon & Schoenfeld LLP! We look forward to thanking him for his support of and commitment to Lutheran Schools Association. Details coming - please plan to join us!

Not an LSA member yet?

Here are some benefits your school is missing:

- Representation at city, state, and federal levels;
- Support in use of federal dollars;
- Support with licensing and UPK efforts;
- Support for various testing programs;
- Cost-savings programs;
- High-quality professional development at a low cost;
- Exposure to families seeking Lutheran schools online;
- Consultation as needed;
- Coming in 2016, a new benefit: **Virtual HR Support!**

Starting January 1, 2016, member schools will have access to a hotline to receive advice and support from an HR professional.

Do you know of a Lutheran school that might benefit from LSA membership? Please consider sharing our newsletter and encourage them to contact LSA. Together we are better.

Upcoming Leadership Conferences to Support Administrators

SAVE THE DATE
2016 LEADERS CONFERENCE
FRIDAY, JANUARY 29, 2016

WEB PRESENCE

WHAT DOES IT SAY ABOUT YOUR SCHOOL?

Martin Luther School
* 8 a - 2p * registration coming soon *

~ Updates from Albany ~
~ Guided Audit of Web Presence ~
Guided Workshops on topics including: Google Apps for
Education, blogging, Facebook, Twitter, email management, online
reviews, websites

K-8 schools - a testing conversation will follow our conference

LUTHERAN SCHOOLS ASSOCIATION
www.lsanys.org

The first half of 2016 offers some great opportunities for leaders in LSA schools:

On Friday, January 29, 2016, Leaders will gather at Martin Luther School (Maspeth) to learn best practices related to maximizing web presence to draw people to their school. Workshops will be offered on blogging, Facebook, Twitter, email marketing, and Google Apps for Education to help leaders develop skills necessary for ensuring that schools stick out online! See flyer to the left.

Then on Friday, April 22, 2016, Leaders will gather again - this time under the guidance of Mindy Stern SPHR, Human Resources professional at AIM Resource Group Inc. This conference will educate and inform leaders about employment matters that impact schools. Some areas to be discussed include hiring practices, getting the best out of your staff, progressive discipline, defining and understanding harassment and discrimination, employee handbooks, and more! Watch for further details!

CUEM and LSA Collaborate in Blended Learning

In collaboration with the Center for Urban Education Ministries (CUEM), Lutheran Schools Association has supported two LSA member schools preparing to implement a blended approach to student learning. What's Blended Learning, you ask? Teachers use a combination of learning environments: face-to-face and virtual (online) in their classrooms.

Astoria Lutheran School and Long Island Lutheran have sent representatives to trainings and been involved in virtual meetings, where they brainstorm, share successes and challenges, and plan for the future of their innovative approaches. We are thrilled that the group will gather again this February following the annual conference of ELCA Schools and Learning Centers in Chicago. The group will also share their work in a workshop facilitated by LSA and CUEM.

Look for more updates on this endeavor in future newsletters and on LSA's blog. You'll want to learn more about this exciting way to learn!

With Gratitude for You

December 11, 2014 to December 11, 2015

Andrian Raschdorf-Nelson	Dr. James Burkee, LSA Board	Next Generation Fundraising Inc
Anita Fox	James Gereghty	Nicole Smith
AriSon Records	James Regan	Patricia A Tucker
Astoria Lutheran School, Astoria	Jane and John Lottes, LSA Board	Paul and Krista Hensch
Atlantic District—LCMS	Jane Kramer	Paul and Kristen Schulz
Barry Davis	Jason Rogoff	Paula Rosen
Ben and Jeanette Herbrich	Jennifer Cook	Peter Labenberg, LSA Board
Betty Ann Coffin	Jessica and Doug Raba, Staff	Phyllis Hyacinthe
Bob and Karol Wollenburg	Joanne Zuclich	Pia Haselbach
Brett Harrison Jewelers	John Fitzgerald	Rainbow Christian Preschool, Woodside
Capell Barnett Matalon and Schoenfeld, LLP	John Krahn	Redeemer Lutheran School, Glendale
Carmelo and Suzanne Maldonado	Joseph Edden	Reid Otto
Carol and Ronald Pastore	Joseph Gagliardi	Renato Matos, LSA Board
Carriage Trade Insurance, Inc	Joyce Rausch	Resurrection Lutheran Church, Garden City
Center for Urban Education Ministries	The Rev. Dr. David and Judy Benke	The Rev. David Kane
Century Elevator, Inc.	Judy and John Hensch	The Rev. Dr. Jonathan Linman, LSA Board
Charles and Sandra Peters	Julie Taylor	The Rev. Dr. Rudolph P.F. Rasmeyer
Chris Reno	Kara Martone	Robert Boehler, LSA Board
Colleen McGuigan	Karen Hallock	Rita Pihra-Majurinen
Concordia College—New York	Kathy Cherson	Robert J. Vissichelli
Corinne Di Stephan	Kevin Fitze	Rosaria V. Mignone
Craig Dix	Koinonia, Martin Luther Camp Corporation	Ruth Chisholm
David Schultz	Krista Purnell	Sadlier
Deanne Schultz	Laura D'Angelo	Sandy Haggerty-Russo
Debbie and Kevin Cook, Staff	Laura O'Gorman	School Specialty
Debra Masiello	LCEF/Atlantic District	St. David's Christian Preschool, Massapequa Park
DellAnn and Tom Benson, LSA Board	Lee Ann and Robert Jacobsen	St. John's Early Childhood Center, Merrick
Denise Norman	Leif Ericson Day School, Brooklyn	St. Luke Lutheran Church, Farmingdale
Derek and Jean Strothmann	Lianne Dugan	St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Yonkers
Diane D	Linda and Bill Zambelli	St. Mark's Lutheran School, Yonkers
Dora M. and Roland J. Fesel	Linda Mitchell	St. Paul's Christian Day School, New City
Dorothy and Ralph Schultz	Long Island Lutheran, Brookville	St. Stephen's Nursery School, Hicksville
Dorothy Hull	Lorraine Tuccillo	Steven and Margaret Hocevar
Eileen Dost, LSA Board	Louis P. Solferino	The Chapel School, Bronxville
Elevate, Inc.	Dr. LuJuana and Col Melvin Butts	Theodore and Constance J. Marohn
Elizabeth M. Crowe	Lutheran Church of Our Savior, Patchogue	Thomas A. Palkovich
Emanuel Lutheran School, Patchogue	Lutheran Counseling Center	Thrivent Financial
The Rev. Eric Olsen, LSA Board	Lutheran Crusader Fund	Thrivent Financial Foundation
Eric W Bilger	Lutheran School of Flushing & Bayside, Bayside	Thrivent Regional, Jim Beland
Frank Dambra	Lutheran Social Services of NY	Tim and Kerri Rasmeyer
Frank Uhlendorf	Marie Rampino, LSA Board	Dr. Andrew and Tracey Gove, LSA Board
Fred J. Carillo	Mark Chin-Shong	Tara Daniels
Fred Leich, LSA Board	Marlene Lund	Tracy Rosa
Gail Hayman	Martin Lindblad	Trinity Lutheran School, Hicksville
Gena Gilbertson	Martin Luther School, Maspeth	US Gas & Electric, Inc.
Gloria Bonanno	Mary Elizabeth Mulligan	Victor H. Nelson
Good Shepherd Lutheran School, Plainview	Matthew Cook	Dr. Wally D. Borgen
Grace Lutheran Church, Queens Village	Media Logic, Inc.	Wanda Walters, LSA Board
Grace Lutheran School, Malverne	Dr. Melvin Kieschnick	Wartburg, Mount Vernon
Greg Matalon, LSA Board	Metropolitan New York Synod – ELCA	Wilhelm and MaryAnn Bilger
Greg Tanno	Michael Jakob	Willie and Gail Endorf
Heidi Robles	Michael Schultz	Zion Lutheran Church and Early Childhood Center, Westwood NJ
Hotchalk	Mindy Stern	
Houghton Mifflin Harcourt	Molly Blancke	
Howard Capell	Mt. Tremper Outdoor Ministries	
James and Lisa Bilger		

Upcoming Activities in 2016...

January - LSA Spelling Bee

January 24-29 - LCMS Lutheran Schools Week

January 29 - Leaders Conference (Web Presence) at Martin Luther School (Maspeth)

February 28-March 4 - ELCA Lutheran Schools Week

March 11 - Regional Workshop Day for Westchester / Rockland / NJ at St. Paul's Christian Day School (New City)

April 22 - Leaders Conference (Human Resources), location TBD

May 11 - Annual Dinner and Recognition at LuHi

Spring 2016 - Baseball Family Outings
LSA @ Mets on May 21 and @ Yankees TBD

August 2016 - Annual Golf Outing at North Shore Towers Country Club in Floral Park.

Then the angels sang:

“Glory to God in the highest,
And on earth



Board and Staff of
Lutheran Schools Association