

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 9, 2019

Jonathan Bolt named 2019 LEA Distinguished Lutheran Middle School Teacher

Jonathan Bolt was selected to receive Lutheran Education Association's 2019 Distinguished Lutheran Middle School Teacher Award. He teaches grades 6–8 science and is the technology lead teacher at Central Lutheran School in New Haven, Ind. He was selected by LEA's Middle School Teachers Network leadership team.

Mr. Bolt earned a bachelor's degree in elementary education from Concordia University, Ann Arbor, Mich. and a master's degree in educational design and technology from Concordia University Wisconsin.

One parent, in support of Jonathan's nomination, said, "Jon's influence in my children's lives was not restricted to merely his classroom. I have great appreciation for the way Jon lived out his faith in His Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, for his students to see. He was a faithful worship attendee, participating in confirmation instruction and being a member of the church choir. His students saw him as an active worshipper being a member of Living Word's congregation. This is a very powerful lesson for a teacher to show to his students. Jon lived out what he was teaching every day."

Jonathan's principal commented, "I have observed Mr. Bolt take on new challenges to engage students across all spectra. For example, he was instrumental in our adoption of a new science series which is based upon students performing actual science experiments and keeping running science journals. Mr. Bolt has also started a program which allows our students to use their talents to live stream sporting events at school or run a soundboard for student productions. As a result, students who otherwise would not have these extracurricular options have now found a niche."

His pastor described Jonathan this way, "Jon serves our Lord by chairing the Evangelism Committee, participating in the church choir, volunteering for VBS and various Bible studies. His contributions demonstrate his servant's heart and theological depth. I am sure that he is unaware that his presence at St. Paul Lutheran Church is a blessing to others. He carries out the vocation of church member, husband and father with dignity and distinction."

Jonathan says of himself, "I can honestly say that the greatest preparation I had for teaching the Christian Faith was being raised by Lutheran educators and growing up in Lutheran Schools. These gave me the solid faith foundation I needed and attending a Concordia helped build the rest. At each congregation I have served I regularly attend Bible studies, spend time in my own devotional study of the word, and lead my family in devotions."

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