



From the Director of Educational Resources Two of LEA's Newest Resources

On September 1, LEA debuted a new feature for its members. **LEAconnects** (<https://leaconnects.lea.org>) houses more than 650 resources, and eventually, it will provide thousands of resources designed for educators in Lutheran schools and congregations. If you haven't been to the site, be sure to take a peek and spend some time there. You'll find a wealth of information and more is added weekly.



Here are some tips to help you explore **LEAconnects**:

- Key Word Search—this is the easiest way to find materials on the site. Type in a Bible reference, author's name, or topic, and see what you find. Example: If you type in *Genesis*, you will find eighteen devotions and two webinars that mention *Genesis*. If you search *Kim Marxhausen*, you find one *Shaping the Future* article and 19 webinars! If your key word search is *Special Education*, you will find six pages of items, including *Shaping the Future* articles, monographs, and devotions.
- The Resource Library reveals the wealth of assets at your fingertips according to our assigned categories. Two of those categories are *LEAnews* and *Networks*. The category *LEAnews* has weekly articles and information to help in your ministry. *Networks* has the "Tips of the Week" for each of LEA's networks. While you may receive these through email, you can also search for network topics outside your area of ministry. For example, as an elementary teacher, you may wish to see the Secondary Tips of the Week, and you can find them under *Networks* in the Resource Library.
- You can also find the most recent issues of *Shaping the Future*, LEA's online magazine, at *LEAconnects*. (Eventually all will be there.) The magazine contains timely and timeless articles designed for every aspect of Lutheran education ministry. There is something for everyone whether you teach, are an administrator, or even are retired from ministry. Topics range from outreach to pedagogy to mental health. The keyword search always yields results, but also just try clicking on the resource library category and see all of the articles that pop up on your screen.
- Webinars are another resource that LEA offers its members. LEA has more than 150 archived webinars on a variety of topics for your use. Are you a writing teacher? There are five webinars for you by various people. Do you work in early childhood? There are at least nine webinars that might interest you. These webinars are just like going to a short sectional at a conference and are chock full of information.



The other new resource from LEA that has its elements and resources described on **LEAconnects** is the **Lutheran Junior Honor Association**.

About a year ago, there was conversation on ETnet and LEADnet about a desire to create a distinctly Lutheran honor society for middle school students. LEA created a task force in January to explore the possibility. Members Shirley Geiss (Fla.), Keith GeRue (Wis.), Suzan Winkelman (Texas), and Ann Ryherd (Mo.) worked with me to create an organization that emphasizes discipleship, service, leadership, and academics. We realized that small schools had different needs than large ones, so we tried to understand everyone's needs. The exciting part of this venture is that we have schools from Tennessee, Indiana, Illinois, Florida, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, Missouri, Texas, and Hawaii that have joined. You can find all the information that you need to join at the **Lutheran Junior Honor Association** tab on *LEAconnects* or at the LEA website. We are still accepting new chapters, and we will be adding a store soon as well as additional resources.



LEA seeks ways to equip its members as they perform their various ministries. Stay tuned for more exciting resources coming to LEA soon as we seek to serve you.



Denise Rice
Director of Educational Resources



ShapingtheFuture is published three times a year by Lutheran Education Association and distributed to members of LEA.
 All material included in **ShapingtheFuture** is the property of Lutheran Education Association and may not be reproduced without permission.

Copyright © 2021 Lutheran Education Association.
Lutheran Education Association 7400 Augusta Street, River Forest, IL 60305-1499
 Phone: 708-209-3343 **Web site:** www.lea.org **E-mail:** lea@lea.org



Executive Director: Jonathan C. Laabs, Ed.D.
Director of Publications and Communications: Ed Grube, LL.D.
Editorial Team: Ed Grube, Sharon Stadtwald
Art Director: Kathryn Brewer

To submit copy, letters to the editor, or media for review, contact Ed Grube
 For **ShapingtheFuture** advertising rates and schedule, contact Jonathan Laabs

