

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## IMMANUEL TEACHER, MARIEL OLP, WINS TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD

NAMED RECIPIENT OF THE LCMS SOUTH WISCONSIN DISTRICT TEACHER OF THE YEAR FOR GRADES 4TH-8TH

Brookfield, WI – December 18, 2024 – Immanuel Lutheran Church, School, and Child Care is proud to announce that Mariel Olp, Middle School Teacher, and Team Lead, has been named the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod (LCMS) South Wisconsin District Teacher of the Year for 4th-8th grades. This prestigious honor recognizes Mariel's outstanding contributions to her students, school, and the broader community.

Mariel Olp is in her fifth year of teaching at Immanuel Lutheran School, where she has consistently demonstrated her passion for education, faith, and leadership. Her innovative teaching methods, dedication to student success, and unwavering commitment to sharing the love of Christ in her classroom have earned her the admiration of colleagues, parents, and students alike. Mariel says, "I have been so blessed to work at a place that feels more like a family and a home than just a job. When my family moved up here from Lincoln, NE in 2020, I had no idea what to expect. But, as He always does, God worked in amazing ways. Immanuel is a place where people genuinely care about each other; where people do life together.."

"Mariel Olp is an outstanding Lutheran teacher because she sees every person as a precious child of God", said Principal Jen Comfort. "She easily calls upon scripture in all circumstances. Mariel serves as the middle school department lead. She holds team meetings and meets individually with the middle school teachers to pray with them and assist them. Mariel is a great communicator with parents. She prays with parents and builds up the students even when holding them accountable for their choices. Mariel is respected and loved by students and staff of Immanuel. Mariel deserves to be recognized as an outstanding Lutheran educator."

Mariel's leadership, paired with her enthusiasm for helping each student grow academically and spiritually, makes her an invaluable asset to the Immanuel community.

Located one mile west of Milwaukee, Immanuel Lutheran Church, School, and Childcare serves more than 485 children from six weeks old through eighth grade and was founded along with the congregation in 1912. Immanuel remains steadfast in its commitment to serve a diverse student body, training future leaders for excellence while leading Christ-centered, purpose-filled lives.

For more information about Immanuel Lutheran School and its programs, please visit ImmanuelBrookfield.org or contact the school office at 262-781-7140.