



The Network of Camps and Retreat Centers
Affiliated with The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Education Committee Annual Report

LOM Conference 2024

Baltimore, Maryland

Education Committee Members: Jessica Pina Jackson (Chair), Judy Smith, Jesse Klosterboer, Kaitlyn Blend, Abby Vander Laan, Laney Herauf (Board Representative), and Don Johnson (Executive Director)

The LOM Education Committee aims to meet quarterly. Since the 2023 LOM Conference, the Education Committee scheduled four meetings—February, May, August, and October.

The Education Committee serves to review, support, evaluate, and recommend educational opportunities for and through out the LOM organization including but not limited to Compass Points and LTE. It also serves to recommend and endorse educational opportunities available to the LOM network that are being hosted outside of the organization.

The Education Committee is also committed to serving alongside the the LOM Board to work through elements of the strategic plan.

Highlights from this year's meetings include:

- Inviting new Education Committee Members after three long time members of the committee rolled off this past year. Thank you to Gretchen Bachman, Dana Isaacson, Collin Grooms for their many years of service and support!
- Compass Points and plans to be able to work toward a higher enrollment into the program with a schedule of classes that feels more manageable to work toward completion. See Judy Smith for more information and questions.
- Compass Points updates highlighting two LOM colleagues presenting on their capstone projects at this year's conference
- Participated in a presentation and discussion from admissions staff—Jen Gruendler and Jessi LeClear Vachta at Luther Seminary where they presented on beginning an outdoor ministry cohort that enrolled students could participate in while working through their certificate, Masters of Arts, and Master of Divinity programs. This would be different than other educational opportunities within LOM due to this being aimed for those interested in contextual theology and who are working through graduate level work at Luther Seminary.

The Education Committee is excited to continue working alongside the board to support and work through the strategic plan in the coming year. The next Education Committee meeting is set for January 9, 2025.