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*"...that they may be
encouraged in heart
and united in love..."*

Colossians 2.2 (NIV)

NOVEMBER 2021 PRESIDENT'S LETTER

I am filled with gratitude as I begin my term as the President of the Christian Education Network. First of all, I want to thank Juli Lejman-Guy for her years of faithful and dedicated service as President. Second, I want to thank Terri Robertson, Teresa Kaldor, Julie Hestermann, Janet Renick, and Judy Twist for their continuing service. We welcome two new Board members, Holly Shipley and Ellen Lundie.

I learn and grow so much from being in a network. I am blessed to be a part of several networks. The Christian Education Network is one of them. I am also a part of the Treasure Valley Cluster of the ELCA in the Northwest Intermountain Synod. In addition, I am a deacon, serving on the Word and Service Roster of the ELCA. There is a team I work with in my call – Coordinator of Learning Peace - A Camp for Kids in Nampa, Idaho. There is the congregation where I am a member – Hope Lutheran in Eagle, Idaho. And there are other networks that I am part of, some new ones, and some that I've been in for years. I think of a network as a web of relationships.

A web of relationships benefits us in so many ways. We can create safe places where we can share the ups and downs of ministry. We can participate in discussions and idea sharing that strengthen our perspectives. We can help each other adapt to an ever-changing landscape of faith formation. The pandemic changed the church in ways we are just beginning to define. How do we respond to all the changes that are going on around us? Where do we go for ongoing support and affirmation?

It is my hope that we will be here for each other, forming and reforming a network of relationships that continues to grow. We are reformation people. As we build new insights and share our learnings, we will grow in ways we cannot imagine. We will discuss, reflect, share and pray in new and old ways. There is so much we can learn from each other.

I look forward to this process. Blessings on our Network as it continues to grow and serve.

Diane McGeoch, President
Christian Education Network of the ELCA