

Christian Education Commission Report  
Submitted by Kristy Leaseburg, Chair

Right Reverend Sir, Clergy and Delegates of the Diocese of Fort Worth:

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

The CEC has had a good year rebuilding and planning for the future. We've added two new commissioners, Laura West and Fr. KC Lopez. The Commission's first order of business was to check in with all the parishes of our diocese. We called parishes and asked both priests and education leaders about their programs. We listened to triumphs and trials and offered advice, resources, and/or referrals wherever we could. It was great to connect with everyone and get an idea of what we could offer in the future to help.

Our initial plan was to have a conference much in the vein of what we have done in the past, but in talking with educators, we thought everyone might benefit from a simpler assembly. We hosted an Educators' Gathering in October with over 20 leaders present. Bishop Reed came to pray with us and offered some encouraging words. We followed that with introductions, and then just let people talk about their programs, resources, questions, etc. It was wonderful to gather together as a community. When we asked these leaders what they would like to see at future CEC events, they enthusiastically said, "More of this!" I think we can say the event was a success and that future networking is a must!

Two things were born from this gathering. The CEC created a GroupMe account with everyone included. We'll be able to communicate with each other directly to keep our new community connected and to keep sharing the way we did at the gathering. Second, we created a Facebook page for Children's Ministry. Here we can post parish events and other things we'd like to share across the diocese. These two modes of communication and advertising will be a great way to connect our educators and parishes with what's going on.

While the scope of the CEC's mission is cradle to grave, our work often zones in on children's and youth ministry because those are the areas that are often lay led and in which the most people will participate in support opportunities. We do continue to be ready to serve educators of all audiences. If you have any Christian education needs, please do contact the CEC for help. We are happy to serve you. I can be contacted at [kleaseburg@fwepiscopal.org](mailto:kleaseburg@fwepiscopal.org).

Respectfully submitted by

Kristy Leaseburg