

NEWS RELEASE

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E. Ray Moore Awarded First Noah Webster Education Award

October 27, 2023, Chesapeake, VA. – The Christian Education Initiative (CEI), announced the selection of E. Ray Moore, Jr., as the first recipient of the CEI Noah Webster Education Award. This award will be presented annually to recognize and honor Christian leaders who have exhibited leadership skills expressly in the area of Christian education. The Award was presented to Moore on October 27th by Richard Hawkins, CEI Chairman, at CEI's annual Summit IV Conference, at the StoneBridge School in Chesapeake, VA. Richard Hawkins spoke about the history of CEI and about Ray's diligent work over the years.

E. Ray Moore, Th.M. is an Army Reserve Chaplain (Lt. Col., Ret.), and veteran of the Gulf War 1 where he was awarded the Bronze Star Medal. Moore was co-founder and has served as president of Frontline Ministries, Inc., since 1996, a ministry focusing on promoting spiritual renewal in society and the church. Moore is creator of the Exodus Mandate Project as a subsidiary of Frontline Ministries, Inc., in 1998, to assist pastors and parents to leave government education (aka public schools) for Christian homeschooling and campus Christian schools.

Christian Education Initiative began forming in 2018 by E. Ray Moore, Dr. Max Lyons, Kevin Novak, and others from the 4th Annual Great Education Forum Summit. They originally began by recruiting like-minded organizations and ministries with appropriate specialties to effect reform in K-12 Christian education. The CEI executive board realized, from the CEI Summit III conference in 2022, that the Church was deficient in all aspects of biblical worldview discipleship, not just K-12 education. To meet this challenge, CEI has expanded its reform efforts to the whole Church, including families, churches, para-church ministries, and individuals. Moore served as CEI chairman for over four years and has retired from that position as of June 2023, and remains a member and as Chairman Emeritus.

This Award is named for Noah Webster (1758-1843), who was a lexicographer and a language reformer. He is often called the Father of American Scholarship and Education. In his lifetime he was also a lawyer, schoolmaster, author, newspaper editor and an outspoken politician.

In 1806, Noah Webster published his first dictionary, *A Compendious Dictionary of the English Language*. Then in 1807 he began working on an even more comprehensive edition, and in 1828 this was published as *An American Dictionary of the English Language*.

Noah Webster was a Christian and famously said, "*Education is useless without the Bible.*" His dictionary contains seventy thousand words and over six thousand Bible references and is one of a few dictionaries to use Bible references to demonstrate the meaning of words. His dictionary is an essential tool for anyone studying the Bible and is currently used by several Christian education scholars.

The present facsimile of the 1828 edition becomes an important resource for helping us to recover at least some of the sense in which we can understand certain words. This is a book that should be in everyone's library, as providing a fund of wisdom, knowledge, and information that few modern books can even begin to approach. Webster said, "The education of youth [is] an employment of more consequence than making laws and preaching the gospel, because it lays the foundation on which both the law and gospel rest for success."

Dr. Kevin Clauson, the new executive director for CEI has stated, “Ray Moore has been a long-time stalwart in bringing biblically based Christian worldview to bear in Christian education and all of society. His work has been cutting-edge and visionary within Christendom and influential in conservative cultural and political circles.”

Christian Education Initiative continues to grow in their vision for individuals, families, churches, and civil governments to be transformed, working through the Holy Spirit, truly carrying out the Great Commission to make disciples who are equipped with a full-orbed biblical worldview to obey all God’s commands, in all areas of life and society (Matthew 28:18-20). As Christ’s faithful ambassadors, may God be glorified, and nations of peoples blessed.

For more information regarding the Christian Education Initiative, visit www.Christedu.org.

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