

2024-2025 Annual Report of the Western Association
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A few highlights from our work this year have included:

- We said a fond adios (temporary) to Pastor Jane Kramer McCune as she began her well-deserved retirement after serving the Hayden Congregation for many productive years.
- We welcomed and Installed Rev. Dr. Jesse Ophoff as the called Pastor to Hayden Congregational Church.
- Another highpoint was the Western Association folks really stepped up to serve in many new positions with RMC committees! 11 folks are representing the WA on RMC Boards and Committees.
- The WA consists of 11 churches total. 7 of which are ordained clergy led, 1 licensed clergy led, and 3 lay led. One church is multi-denominational. A total of 4 of our churches are being served by two ordained clergy. All are serving their respective communities with great relevance!
- Like everywhere else (probably), some churches are struggling with declining memberships (for a multitude of reasons) and are finding ways to re-invent themselves. A few are definitely growing in membership as communities look for a beacon of hope and light in today's political environment.

In 2025-2026, we're looking forward to:

- One project that is still underway, is the re-writing of our Association Bylaws as they pertain to what was our Church and Ministry Committee. It's still a work in progress.
- One goal the WA has is to repurpose our Church and Ministry Committee now that the CWCOM is up and running. Still in progress.
- The WA continues to grapple with large geographic distances between our churches as we attempt to keep relationships viable. Another work in progress.

We'd love to include you in our work if you:

- We've discovered we have some very talented individuals in financial matters, project management, political science, and more. We can always find room for more gifts!

And finally, we'd like to thank our team for their work this year:

- Karen Caton, Moderator, First Cong. UCC - GJ and WE Rep. to the RMC BOD
- Pastor Anne Djokic, Moderator Elect, Collbran Cong. Church - Collbran
- Rev. Tim Clark, Past Moderator, Union Cong. Church - Crested Butte
- Mark Long, Treasurer, First Cong. - GJ
- Barth Hague, Member-At-Large, Gunnison Cong. Church - Gunnison
- Rev. Dr. Paul Ashby, Member-At-Large, First Cong. UCC, GJ