

**MINUTES FROM ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
CREEDE COMMUNITY CHURCH
FEBRUARY 4, 2024**

The Annual Congregational Meeting took place on Sunday, February 4, 2024, at Creede Community Church. Vice Moderator Lori Dooley acted as the meeting Moderator. With Lori's permission (while she dealt with technical issues) Rev. Dr. Sarah B. Linn, welcomed everyone and called the annual meeting to order. A quorum was declared with 24 members and friends attending the meeting in person, and three additional members, including Moderator Jamie McLeroy, attending via Zoom. The agenda for the meeting was as follows:

- Approval of Minutes from February 12, 2023 Annual Meeting
- 2023 Ministry Reports
- Present 2024 Budget for Congregational Approval
- Election of Officers and Incoming Deacons, Trustees and Ministry Leader
- Commissioning and Blessing of Officers/Deacons/Trustees/Ministry Leaders

Approval of Minutes from the February 12, 2023, Annual Congregational Meeting

Jamie McLeroy made a motion to approve the 2023 Annual Congregational Minutes. Michael Meals seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

2023 Ministry Reports

Moderator – Lori Dooley

Lori gave the Moderator report for Jamie McLeroy. She thanked Jamie for two years of dedicated service as the Moderator and referenced the written moderator report for details. The main point of the report is that our ministries blossomed and continue to get better every year, including outreach and adult and youth education. Thanks to Jamie for all the work in the past few years and everything she will do in the future.

Minister – Rev. Dr. Sarah B. Linn

Sarah began with a brief sermon based on Mark 1:29-39. This verse continues the theme of God moving to us and points out that only after we are made whole can we serve without negative agendas or unhealthiness.

Sarah continues her work with the conference. She is grateful for CCC's health and functionality because she could not work to improve the conference without the strength of CCC as support. The conference benefits from CCC's support even when we aren't working directly on conference issues.

Sarah is due for a three-month sabbatical during 2024, and plans to take half of it, about six-weeks, in the fall. She welcomes prayers for that planning.

Sarah gives thanks for the family of our congregation and ministry. God is at work when we don't realize it, as seen in our joy, health, hope, and love.

Clerk – Francine Moyer

Francine shared that our membership had a net increase of 1 person during 2023, including 4 deaths of member and 5 new members. In addition, there were 4 baptisms during 2023. She references her report in the meeting packet for details.

Trustees – Lori Dooley

Lori referred to the trustees' report included in the meeting packet for details on what the trustees worked on during 2023. She gives thanks for the wonderful group of 2023 trustees and looks forward to the new group. CCC remains financially sound. We dipped into savings a bit during 2023, but not as much as expected. They are projecting that some savings will be needed this year as well, but we are blessed to have that reserve to access. The new pledge drive process this year was very successful.

Deacons – Millynn Teal

Millynn highlighted some events of the year. Deacon Sundays were held every quarter, which were successful due to the congregation's support. Coffee with the Deacons were held for new members throughout the year, where we share our faith, talk about the congregation and how we can support new members. Deacons also helped with monthly pot-lucks and communion.

Thanks to all this year's deacons, Bethany Andre, Billy Fairchild, Scotty Lamb, Linda Walker, Creede Hargraves, and Carol Pierce. Scotty Lamb is slated to serve a 2nd 3-year term; Linda Walker is completing her official Deacon service, and Linda Dubbs will be joining. We are reminded that the deacons are here to support our community and congregation, and they are grateful to help.

Christian Life Education – Kate Michaels & Sarah Lynn

Kate highlighted some of the children's education programs. They have lots of 2- to 7-year olds attending Sunday School on a regular basis. They have a rotation system of about five volunteers who teach 1 or 2 Sundays a month. They would love to have more volunteers that are not parents of these kids. Volunteering requires a background check, education on the Safe Church Policy, and shadowing a teacher. The current curriculum is Celebrate Wonder, and costs about \$100/quarter. It's a good fit for the 30-45-minute timeframe but not always technically accessible for teachers. The wide range of ages are sometimes difficult to reach in the same class. Action items for 2024 include an annual meeting for the Sunday School teachers, recruiting new teachers, looking at budget for art supplies, snacks and curriculum, inventory of books, and sourcing additional snacks. Kate thanks all the education team and congregation for our support of the Sunday School and all the kids.

Sarah Linn reported that adult education for 2023 included a Lenten devotional based on *The Desert of Compassion*, a book study for *Allusive Grace*, and some ad hoc bible studies with congregants and non-church goers.

Mission Outreach/Helping Hands – Jana Wilson

Jana gave the report for Bethany André. She referenced the report included in the meeting packet for details. She gives thanks for the team, everyone that volunteers, and the congregation for supporting these causes throughout the year. For 2023, \$9,000 of aid was provided to local needs, and \$7,000 was provided to our partners. These amounts were about twice as much as in 2022. In addition to continuing mission dinners and other aid, we added aid payments for preventative dental costs and

care packages for community members that were sick or otherwise needing some joy. In 2024, we will support the Zuni middle school mission trip to Creede in May and continue growing our local community outreach.

Ladies Aid Society – Lori Dooley

Lori was elected President again after Jenny VanRy left for Zuni and Caitlin DiAntonio moved from Creede. Ladies Aid continues to be a passion for Lori, and many of the women involved in this ministry. The July rummage sale breaks records every year, and income for 2023 was \$700 more than what was needed. Over \$50,000 of aid and support was provided for 2023. Lori shared that \$4,005 of aid was requested in December and contributions of \$4,007 were received. God is doing amazing things in blessing this group and this church. We are reminded that all are welcome to join Ladies Aid.

Present 2024 Budget for Congregational Approval

Lori Dooley presented the 2024 Budget on behalf of the Trustees. Please see Attachment 1 to the minutes. The trustees worked closely with retiring bookkeeper Debbie Whitmore to set the budget reflecting pledges and expenses. The new pledge process has made budgeting much more precise. Although we budget for more expenses than income, we live in faith that God will provide what is needed. Historically actual giving has exceeded pledges, and we have savings available for any shortfall.

Carol Pierce motioned to approve the budget, and Millynn Teal seconded. There was no further discussion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Election of Officers and Incoming Deacons, Trustees, and Ministry Leaders

Sarah Linn detailed that officers are elected to a one-year term for up to three years total. Deacons and Trustees are elected for 3-year terms for up to two consecutive terms. She expressed appreciation to those leaving their service, those continuing to serve, and the new people being elected to serve.

The slate of officers, deacons, trustees, and ministry leaders for 2024 was presented (see Attachment 2). Debbie Whitmore made a motion to accept the slate of 2024 nominees with one vote, and Jenni Harbour seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioning and Blessing Officers/Deacons/Trustees/Ministry Leaders

Officers, deacons, trustees and ministry leaders were commissioned.

Tom Schrandt made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Michael Meals, to close the meeting at 12:17 pm. Sarah closed in prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Francine Moyer, Clerk

Attachments: 1. Proposed 2024 Budget
2. Slate of Officers, Trustees, Deacons and Ministry Teams for 2024

ATTACHMENT 1

Creede Community Church
Income Statement, Proposed Budget and Balance Sheet
For the Twelve Months Ending December 31, 2023

	YTD Actual	2023 Annual Budget	2024 Proposed Budget
Revenues			
Pledges & Open Plate Offering	\$ 131,211.00	\$ 129,000.00	\$ 140,000.00
Memorial Contributions	1,100.00	100.00	800.00
Bazaar/Ladies Aids Projects	13,800.00	12,000.00	13,000.00
Other Donations and Income	3,885.81	4,800.00	10,000.00
Total Revenues	149,996.81	145,900.00	163,800.00
Expenditures			
Mission and Outreach Expenses	16,469.64	16,365.00	20,700.00
Pastoral Expenses	85,215.22	84,877.20	94,554.90
Ministry Expenses	1,039.77	1,800.00	2,850.00
Church Facilities Expense	21,784.96	25,070.00	27,378.00
Parsonage Facilities Expense	8,856.28	8,200.00	6,400.00
Insurance Expense	7,048.70	7,700.00	7,700.00
Administrative Expense	23,785.19	23,560.45	26,664.86
Total Expenditures	164,199.76	167,572.65	186,247.76
Revenue Over/Under Expenditures	(14,202.95)	(21,672.65)	(22,447.76)
Non-Operating Income/Expenditures			
Carryforward from Prior Years	0.00	21,672.65	31,647.76
Non-Operating Expenditures: Parsonage Electrical Upgrades			(9,200.00)
Net Non-Operating Income/Expend	0.00	21,672.65	21,672.65
Net Income	(\$ 14,202.95)	\$ 0.00	0.00

2024 Officers, Trustees, Deacons & Ministry Teams Nominations for Congregational Vote in Red

Officers: Moderator: Lori Dooley (1st yr)
1-year terms Vice Moderator: Charlene Ameel (1st yr)
Clerk: Francine Moyer (2nd yr)
Treasurer: Tom Schrandt (3rd yr)

Pastor Relations: Charlene Ameel, Officer
reports to Officers Billy Fairchild, Deacon
Jake & Jenni Harbour, Trustee

Deacons: Carol Pierce (2025)
6 members Millynn Teal (2025)
3-year terms Bethany Andre (2026)
Billy Fairchild (2026)
Linda Dubbs (2027)
Scott Lamb (2027)

Seasonal Deacons may be appointed by the Board.

Worship Committee: Johanna Gray
reports to Deacons Megan Marino
open to more participants Millynn Teal
Debbie Whitmore

Trustees: Michael Meals, chair (2026)
6 members Michele Schrandt (2025)
3-year terms Jana Wilson (2025)
Jake & Jenni Harbour (2026) – serving jointly/one vote
Michael Dubbs (2027)
Bill Jenkins & Barb Roughton (2027) – serving jointly/one vote

House Committee: Jana Wilson
reports to Trustees and friends

Ministry Teams, continued

Mission & Outreach/ Helping Hands

reports to the Board
at least 5 members
serving 2-year terms
open to more participants

Bethany Andre, Co-chair, HH (2026)
Jana Wilson, Co-chair, M/O (2026)
Linda Walker (2025)
Carol Pierce (2025)
Linda Dubbs (2026)
Michael Dubbs (2026)
Jamie McLeroy, Helping Hands

Ladies Aid Society:

reports to the Board
officers serve 2-year terms

Lori Dooley, president (Sept. 2024)
Terri Ricketts & Millynn Teal, secretary (2024)
Linda Walker, treasurer (2024)

Sewing Sisters:

reports to Ladies Aid

Sherrie Hosselkus
and friends

Christian Life Education:

reports to Deacons
at least 4 members
serving 2-year terms
open to more participants

Kate Michaels, chair (Sunday School coordinator) (2026)
Michelle Meals (2025)
Michael Meals (2025)
Linda Walker (2026)
Debbie Whitmore
Michael Meals
Brooke Ophoff

Safe Church Team:

works with CLE
reports to Moderator

Michele Schrandt, Trustee Representative
Debbie Whitmore, Member-at-Large
Kate Michaels, Christian Ed Representative