

*Gower Street United Church*  
*Fall Newsletter 2018*



Georgina Stirling (1867-1935)

## On Our Cover

Georgina Stirling was born in Twillingate on April 03, 1867, one of seven daughters and four sons of Ann Peyton and William Stirling. Her mother was a granddaughter of Magistrate John Peyton of Exploits and her father was a medical doctor, originally from Harbour Grace. Upon completing her schooling in Twillingate, Stirling studied music, both instrumental and voice, in Toronto, then studied voice in Paris. She performed in opera houses all over Europe and in the United States, as well as in Newfoundland, where she was the guest soloist at the official opening of Gower Street Methodist Church on October 04, 1896. At the morning service she sang “Hear Ye, O Israel” and at the evening service, “The Holy City”. Her career took a downward turn after 1900, resulting, it has been claimed, from problems with her voice. She lived with one of her sisters in England until 1929, when she returned to Twillingate, where she remained until her death on April 23, 1935. An account of her life, *The Nightingale of the North* (1983), has been written by Amy Peyton of Gander, who is related to Stirling by marriage. Newfoundland-born opera soprano Tonia Cianciulli is currently working on a concert tour of Stirling’s work, as well as an album of her songs and a new book on her life. Cianciulli, together with her accompanist, Jason Locke, performed several pieces from Stirling’s repertoire at Gower on Sunday, August 19, with her grandfather, the Rev. Calvin Evans, providing spoken commentary.

\*\*\*\*\*

### ***EDITORS: Bert Riggs & Linda Hogan***

**Minister:** The Rev. Marion Davis

**Minister Designate:** The Rev. Pamela Jones-Fitzgerald

**Minister of Pastoral Care:** The Rev. Ettie Gordon-Murray

**Choir Director:** Dr. D. Dunsmore

**Band Director:** Dr. Edsel Bonnell

**Custodian:** David Noseworthy

**Organist:** R. Carl Goulding

**Office Manager:** Linda Hogan

**Board Chair:** Lorne LeDrew

99 Queen’s Road – A1C 6M6 Tel: 753-7286 - Fax: 383-0145

E-Mail: [gsuc@nl.rogers.com](mailto:gsuc@nl.rogers.com) Website: [www.gowerunited.ca](http://www.gowerunited.ca)

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

On Our Cover	2
Find Us On Facebook	3
From The Minister's Desk	4-5
From the Chair of the Board	6
Action Plan Update	7-8
Worship Schedule	9-11
Ushers Schedule	12
Counters Schedule	12
Baptisms, Birthdays, Marriages, Deaths	13-14
Personnel Changes at Gower	14
Worth Noting	15-16
The Wendy Stevenson Choral Bursary	17-18
Karl Wells Point 2 Point	19
The Nightingale of the North Returns	19-20
For Kids of all Ages	21-22
Davidian Humour	23
Poetry Corner	24
Gower Affirm	25
From the Archives	26
Gower's Got Talent II	27
PAR Information	28
Upcoming Events at Gower	Insert



**Get Updates on News, Events and Other Important Information on Gower Street United Church!**

**Search "Gower Street United Church" and Join Our Online Community.**

## FROM THE MINISTER'S DESK

If I were to ask you who, other than parents and other family members, has been a positive influence in your life, what would you say? Would it be a teacher, a sports coach, a neighbour, a minister .....?

Stella Burry was one such person in my life. As long as I can remember, Stella was someone with whom I was acquainted. My mother died when I was nine months old and I lived with my grandparents along with my father. I remember Stella being a frequent visitor in my grandparents' home and, of course, there was always a cup of tea. My dad remarried and we moved to a new house in the Churchill Square area. Again, Stella (always Miss Burry to me), was a frequent visitor. On one occasion, I remember answering the door and there she was. As I listened I realized that Stella was canvassing various homes looking for used clothing

for women who were in need. Her statement to my step-mother was, "Choose some of your nice things, not ones you would not wear any more yourself." In the early 1950s Stella approached my father telling him that she wanted to build a camp for children and youth. Stella was a person to whom no one I know of said "no". Dad, wanting to help, found a piece of land which Stella deemed suitable. It was at Shoe Cove (near Pouch Cove) then about a forty-minute drive from St. John's. I was ten years old the first time I attended camp and there, again, was Miss Burry.

Stella Burry was an imposing figure, close to six feet tall with extraordinarily large feet and although, we all knew she was not one with whom to argue, we also knew the deep kindness within. She sat at the end of one of the long wooden tables, teapot by her right hand and presided over each meal as she did with every element of the camp program. I loved it all, except maybe rest period for an hour after lunch when Miss Burry would come around to each cabin to make sure that we were all quiet, lying on our bunks, where we were supposed to be. Morning worship, lots of physical activity, including swimming in the nearby pond, setting tables, washing dishes, Bible study, campfire and vespers were all part of the day.



Stella Burry died in 1991 and I often wonder what she would think of what has become her legacy. It started at Emmanuel House as a home-away-from-home for young women coming to St. John's to find employment or for further education. Again, Stella was there to ensure the good behaviour and safety of these girls. Every time I go to the Hungry Heart Café, I think of her and how pleased she would be to see people enjoying each others' company, the good food prepared and served by persons who have been trained in one of the numerous programmes offered by Stella's Circle. The Inclusion Choir, also, would also give her joy.

Stella Burry lives on in those of us who were fortunate enough to have met and spent time with her. We are all richer by that connection as is the wider community. Stella gave us a sense of what is now called Social Justice based on a deep faith in God through Jesus. I'm sure that Stella would have resonated with these words: *"He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you, but to do justice, and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God?"* Micah 6:8

Thank God for Stella Burry, for who she was and the lives she has influenced for good.

Blessings,  
Marion





# FROM THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD

Hi All and welcome to a busy and exciting Fall, the most exciting event of which will be the much anticipated arrival of our new Minister, the Rev. Pamela Jones-Fitzgerald. She is scheduled to start on November 5 and her first Sunday behind the Pulpit will be on November 11. Please make a special effort to attend so we can give her a Gower welcome!

As you are also probably aware, the Rev. Ettie Gordon-Murray has joined us on a contractual basis as Pastoral Care Co-ordinator. She has already started revitalizing and co-ordinating our Pastoral Care program. Welcome Rev. Ettie!

As I mentioned in the Summer Newsletter, we have incorporated our 2018 Priorities into an Action Plan which relates directly to Vision 2025. On the opposite page I have included that Action Plan for your information so you can keep track of how well we are doing.

Throughout the Summer, the Affirming Church Committee lead by Gail Wideman has been very busy in doing the background work to prepare our way to becoming an Affirming Congregation. A Congregational meeting is being scheduled for late November and it is our hope that our goal of becoming an Affirming Congregation will be complete with your vote of approval.

Back in May, Gower hosted a combined service of all St. John's churches, which was an initiative of the United Community of Faith Committee (formerly Downtown Churches Committee). There will be two such services each year and the second for this year is scheduled for Sunday evening, October 21, 2018, at 7:00 p.m. at Cowan Heights United Church. Please mark it on your calendar!

Plans are also coming together for the Gowers Got Talent II, a variety concert scheduled for Sunday evening, November 4, 2018. JoAnna Bennett and her committee consisting of Doug Dunsmore, Karen Butt and Bert Riggs have been busy putting together the show and are inviting anyone in the congregation to step forward and reveal your talents! They hope to make it as much fun as the first one was a few years ago.

In closing I want to say, that as excited as we are with the arrival of our permanent Minister, I know I speak for all of you in expressing my sincere appreciation to Rev. Marion who has guided us through the last 15 months and kept things moving at Gower. Her presence has been a true blessing for Gower!

Lorne LeDrew  
Chair of the Board

**Gower Street United Church  
Action Plan 2018 – Update as of September 20, 2018**

<b>Priority</b>	<b>Vision 2025</b>	<b>Activities</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Due Date</b>	<b>Status</b>
1. New Board working well	Gower and Society Gower as People	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Confirm roles of all committees and groups</li> <li>2. Full Leadership Team meet 3 times per year</li> <li>3. Develop list of volunteers for specific projects and roles</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Board members</li> <li>2. Board</li> <li>3. Nominations C'ttee (Chair to ask Nom's to take on this role)</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Oct</li> <li>2. Oct</li> <li>3. Oct</li> </ol>	Committees are currently reviewing roles. Next meeting is October 18. Campaign to identify volunteers for "work" is being initiated.
2. Roof/Furnace campaign	Gower and Sustainability	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Launch Campaign</li> <li>2. Report regularly to Board</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Warm and Dry Campaign C'ttee</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 2023</li> </ol>	Have reached 45% of our goal of \$150,000.
3. Communications within and without	Gower as a People Gower and Sustainability Gower and Downtown Churches	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Develop one page summary of meetings and distribute monthly</li> <li>2. Provide info on meetings and activities of Seniors' Club and UCW</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Secretary &amp; Communication C'ttee</li> <li>2. Seniors' Club &amp; UCW</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Sept</li> <li>2. Feb</li> </ol>	Under development.
4. Pastoral Care initiative	Gower as a People Gower and Sustainability Gower and Society	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Staff Pastoral Care co-ord. Position</li> <li>2. Re-establish Committee</li> <li>3. Conduct Visits, calls and send cards</li> <li>4. Lead Monthly worship at Seniors' Homes</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. M&amp;P</li> <li>2. Pastoral Care Co-ordinator</li> <li>3. Seniors Gp, UCW and Men's Club</li> <li>4. UCW &amp; Men's Club</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. June</li> <li>2. August</li> <li>3. Ongoing</li> <li>4. Ongoing</li> </ol>	Rev. Ettie Gordon-Murray hired on contract. Underway.
5. Digitize PAR givings and the church	Gower and Sustainability Gower and Society	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Place <i>Donate Now</i> button on web site &amp; Facebook page</li> <li>2. Record Services to be web cast</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Stewardship/ Finance</li> <li>2. Patrick Griffin</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. July</li> <li>2. Sept.</li> </ol>	October  Under development
6. Designation as an Affirming Ministry	Gower as People Gower and Sustainability Gower and Society	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Hold information and discussion sessions</li> <li>2. Celebration event in Fall</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Affirming Church C'ttee plus UCW</li> <li>2. Congregation</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Oct.</li> <li>2. Nov.</li> </ol>	Underway. Revised Vision statement approved by Board. Congregational meeting in November to approve becoming an Affirming Church





**Gower Street United Church  
Action Plan 2018 – Update as of September 20, 2018**


7. Increase givings including M&S (Fundraising)	Gower and Sustainability	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Develop Legacy Givings Program</li> <li>2. Provide info re Narrative Budget and finances</li> <li>3. Dinner Theatre</li> <li>4. Gower's Got Talent II 2018</li> <li>5. Donations to Community Groups, eg. Bridges to Hope, Stella Burry and M&amp;S</li> <li>6. Pops Concerts</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Stewardship</li> <li>2. Stewardship &amp; Finance</li> <li>3. Stewardship</li> <li>4. Stewardship et al</li> <li>5. UCW, Men's Club &amp; Seniors' Club</li> <li>6. Gower Band</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Sept.</li> <li>2. Quarterly</li> <li>3. June</li> <li>4. Oct.</li> <li>5. Ongoing</li> <li>6. Sept (start)</li> </ol>	<p>Underway</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Completed \$2681 profit. Scheduled for Nov. 4</p> <p>Completed</p> <p>First performance September 30.</p>
---	--------------------------	--	---	---	---



# WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR SEPTEMBER 02 – NOVEMBER 25, 2018

<p>September 09</p>	<p>16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</p> <p><b>Birthdays &amp; Anniversaries</b></p>	<p>Proverbs 22: 1-2, 8-9, 22-23 Psalm 123 James 2: 1-17 Mark 7: 24-37</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Gower Remembers</b></p>
<p>September 16</p>	<p>17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</p>	<p>Proverbs 1: 20-33 Psalm 19 James 3: 1-12 Mark 8: 27-38</p>	
<p>September 23</p>	<p>18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</p>	<p>Proverbs 31: 10-31 Psalm 1 James 3: 3 - 4: 3, 7-8a Mark 9: 30-37</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Gower Remembers</b></p>
<p>September 30</p>	<p>19<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</p>	<p>Esther 7: 1-6, 9-10, Esther 9: 20-22 Psalm 124 James 5: 13-20 Mark 9: 38-50</p>	
<p>October 07</p>	<p><b>Birthdays &amp; Anniversaries</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Gower Remembers</b></p>	<p>Job 1: 1; 2: 1-10 Psalm 26 Hebrews 1: 1-4; 2: 5-12 Mark 10: 2-16</p>	

October 07	World Communion Sunday and Thanksgiving Sunday	Joel 2: 21-27 Psalm 126 1 Timothy 2: 1-7 Matthew 6: 25-33	
October 14	21 <sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	Job 23: 1-9, 16-17 Psalm 22: 1-15 Hebrews 4: 12-16 Mark 10: 17-31	<b>Gower Remembers</b>
October 21	22 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	Job 38: 1-7, 34-41 Psalm 104: 1-9, 24, 35c Hebrews 5: 1-10 Mark 10: 35-45	
October 28	23 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	Job 42: 1-6, 10-17 Psalm 34: 1-8, 19-22 Hebrews 7: 23-28 Mark 10: 46-52	<b>Baptism</b> <b>Gower Remembers</b>
November 01	All Saints' Day	Isaiah 25: 6-9 Psalm 24 Revelation 21: 1-6a John 11: 32-44	
November 04	24 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	Ruth 1: 1-18 Psalm 146 Hebrews 9: 11-14 Mark 12: 28-34	<b>Birthdays &amp; Anniversaries</b> <b>Gower Remembers</b>
November 11	Remembrance Day 25 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	Ruth 3: 1-5; 4: 13-17 Psalm 127 Hebrews 9: 24-28 Mark 12: 38-44	 <b>Gower Remembers</b>

November 18	26 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	1 Samuel 1: 4-20 1 Samuel 2: 1-10 Hebrews 10: 11-25 Mark 13: 1-8	<b>Gower Remembers</b>
November 25	Reign of Christ Sunday  <b>Baptism</b>	2 Samuel 23: 1-7 Psalm 132: 1-18 Revelation 1: 4b-8 John 18: 33-37	

## GOWER STREET UNITED CHURCH WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**September 23 to December 30, 2018**

<b>September 30</b>	11:00 a.m.	Regular Service, VOWR, Baptism
<b>October 7</b>	11:00 a.m.	World Communion & Thanksgiving
<b>October 14</b>	11:00 a.m.	Regular service
<b>October 21</b>	11:00 a.m.	World Food Sunday- Highlight “Bridges to Hope”
<b>October 21</b>	7:00 p.m.	United Community of Faith, Joint Service, Cowan Heights United Church
<b>October 28</b>	11:00 a.m.	Reformation Sunday
<b>November 4</b>	11:00 a.m.	Regular Service
<b>November 11</b>	11:00 a.m.	Remembrance Sunday with Gower Community Band
<b>November 18</b>	11:00 a.m.	Children’s Sunday
<b>November 25</b>	11:00 a.m.	Reign of Christ
<b>December 2</b>	11:00 a.m.	Advent 1
<b>December 9</b>	11:00 a.m.	Advent 2     White Gift Service
<b>December 16</b>	11:00 a.m.	Advent 3     Gower Community Band
<b>December 23</b>	11:00 a.m.	Advent 4     Choir Sunday
<b>December 24</b>	4:00 p.m.	Family Service with Children’s Choir
	10:30 p.m.	Candlelight Service
<b>December 30</b>	7:00 p.m.	United Community of Faith, Joint Service, TBA

## USHERS FOR SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER 2018

### September 2018- *Team 3:*

Joan & John Lane (Captains), Ethan Luedee, Noah Luedee, Henry Whalen, Fred & Aune Colbourne, Lester Barbour, Chris Moulton, Linda Giannou.



### October 2018 – *Team 4:*

Ed Williams (Captain), John Williams, Betty Anne Williams, Ed Moores, Chris Moulton, Andrew Moody, Doug Moody, Linda Giannou, Lester Barbour

### November 2018 - *Team 5:*

Bruce Evans (Captain), Mark Peters, Ray Anthony, Marie Anthony, Chris Moulton, Linda Giannou, Lester Barbour

It was the thing every temple greeter dreaded. Although he recognized the worshipper as a regular, when it came to introducing him, the obvious name, Jehoida ben Azmoveth ben Meshelemiah the Hushathite, suddenly slipped his mind.

## COUNTERS FOR THE SUNDAYS FROM SEPTEMBER 02 TO NOVEMBER 25, 2018

September 02	Carl Wright & Lester Barbour
September 09	Albert Spurrell & Richard Pike
September 16	Diane Hogan & Bert Riggs
September 23	Kenneth Peters & Linda Nickerson
September 30	Lorne LeDrew & Doug Peters
October 07	Jordan Wright & Mark Peters
October 14	Karen Butt & JoAnna Bennett
October 21	Bruce Nickerson & Peter Nell
October 28	Carl Wright & Lester Barbour
November 04	Albert Spurrell & Richard Pike
November 11	Diane Hogan & Bert Riggs
November 18	Kenneth Peters & Linda Nickerson
November 25	Lorne LeDrew & Doug Peters



## BAPTISMS

Henry Marc Allen Dunsmore	July 29
Emily Ruth Karen Misik	July 29
Thomas Brian Karl Misik	July 29
Amelia Mae Cantwell	August 26
Jaxon Patrick Whelan	September 09
Audrey Rebecca Rice	September 09



The baptism of Henry Marc Allen Dunsmore, Emily Ruth Karen Misik and Thomas Brian Karl Misik on July 29, 2018.

## BIRTHDAYS

Chesley Lambert	90 <sup>th</sup> on August 20
Blanche Byrne	93 <sup>rd</sup> on November 10

## MARRIAGES

Paul Raye Brown & Laura Elizabeth Bonnell	July 12
James Selby Ford Roberts & Heather Pauline Vokey	July 27
Ryan Malcolm Chaulk & Emily Clair Stamp	August 04
Joshua Augustus Reid & Lauri Marie Walsh	August 25
Daniel Anthony Loos & Maria Teresa Glavine	September 01







Robert Hamlyn

## DEATHS

James Samuel Garrett  
Ralph Hudson  
Darren Spencer Taylor  
Doreen Flight  
Rita Veley  
Robert Hamlyn

June 03, age 71  
July 02, age 93  
July 02, age 53  
July 21, age 86  
Sept. 15, age 94  
Sept. 19, age 96



Rita Veley

## PERSONNEL CHANGES AT GOWER

The Fall season ushered in personnel changes at Gower. First, the Rev. Ettie Gordon-Murray was hired on contract as our Pastoral Care Minister. She began work in late August on a part-time basis and has already begun contacting and visiting members of the congregation who are incapacitated in some way. She has also met with individuals who are regularly visit sick and shut-in members.

Then, on September 16, a Congregational meeting approved the recommendation of the Ministerial Search Committee that the Rev. Pamela Jones-Fitzgerald be our minister designate, pending approval from the Newfoundland and Labrador Conference. She is scheduled to begin her ministry with us on November 05.

In the next issue of the Newsletter, we will have interviews with both of our new ministers. Stay tuned!



The Rev. Pamela  
Jones-Fitzgerald

The Rev. Ettie  
Gordon-Murray



## WORTH NOTING

On July 22, after the morning service, during Coffee Time in the Lecture Hall, there was a special recognition of **Lorraine and Len Busby**. Four days later, on July 26, after almost 11 years living in Newfoundland and worshipping at Gower, Lorraine and Len moved to Ottawa. During their time at Gower, both played active roles within the life and work of the church. Lorraine served as a member at large on the Board for several years and chaired the Vision 2025 Implementation Committee. Len was a long-time member of the Outreach Committee. He also played a lead role in getting the tower clock working and wound it regularly. They both were very involved in arranging for accommodations and orientation for the Alsalamas, the refugee family from Syria that Gower sponsored into Canada. And, every week they picked up donations of food in the box in the main foyer and delivered them to Bridges to Hope. At Coffee Time, Board Chair Lorne LeDrew expressed our heartfelt gratitude for their contributions to Gower and presented them with a small gift, a wall hanging made from Gower stained glass by Linda Hogan. And there was a cake, which everyone present enjoyed.



**Lorne, Lorraine and Len**



**Helen Milley**, formerly of Grand Bank, one-time resident of the Methodist College Home and for many years a resident of and teacher in St. Lambert, Quebec, is now enjoying retirement in St. John's. She first attended Gower while living at the College Home in the 1940s, and has made it her church home since returning to St. John's in 2013. She's been a subscriber of *The Newfoundland Quarterly* for many years; it is a magazine she says she "can't live without." Recently she named the winner of a Jean-Claude Roy painting: her name was selected in a random draw from all new and renewing subscribers to the magazine during the previous year. Roy is an avid supporter of *The Newfoundland Quarterly* and has been contributing his art work as prizes in the yearly subscription campaign for some time. Congratulations Helen!



**Chesley Lambert**, who has been a member of the Gower congregation for the past 90 years, recently celebrated a Gower milestone. September 12, 2018 was the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his baptism here at Gower. Born on August 20, 1928 to Mildred Roberts and George Lambert at the family home at 103 Merrymeeting Road, he was baptized by the Rev. Dr. Wylie C. Clarke, and has been attending Gower ever since. Many happy returns!

**The Rev. Calvin D. Evans**, a retired United Church minister and university librarian, took part in the service at Gower on August 19. He provided contextual commentary on the musical pieces that his granddaughter, Tonia Evans Cianciulli, sang during the service. He pointed out that he had been a regular attendee of Gower during the late 1940s while attending Memorial University College. At that time, he had read scripture, was a Sunday School teacher and a member of the Young Peoples Union.

**Emma Noseworthy, Brady Lawrence and Peter Moore** were all employed at Gower this Summer on various government-funded student grants. Emma did general office work, transcription of vital statistics registers and bulletin collation. Brady assisted David Noseworthy in various projects that he was working on around the church and filled in for him part-time when he was on vacation. Peter, who also worked with us last summer, created a new display for the foyer, did work in the Archives and photo restoration and research for the *Gower Remembers* project. From July 21 to 27, Brady attended the 45<sup>th</sup> General Conference of the United Church of Canada in Oshawa, Ontario, as a youth delegate.



well as training others to be coaches and referees.

**Margaret (Muggs) Tibbo** is the newest member of the Newfoundland and Labrador Volunteer Hall of Fame. Her selection for membership in the Hall was announced on September 13 and she will be inducted on November 15. Muggs has been recognized for almost four decades of commitment to volunteerism, in particular with the Avalon Woodturners Guild, the Mission Staff for several Winter Paralympics, the Canadian Association for Disabled Skiing, the Rainbow Riders Therapeutic Riding, the Pearlgate Track and Field Club, Para Ice Hockey and Para Nordic Skiing with Cross Country. Her volunteerism includes such diverse activities as co-writing instruction manuals, modifying equipment, coaching and refereeing in a number of sports for persons with disabilities as

**Andrew Dunsmore and Douglas Angel** were two members of Gower who were featured in an article by Peter Jackson that appeared on CBC television on August 6. Andrew and Doug, along with Jessa Vokey, are all graduates of Memorial University's School of Music, who are now enrolled in Memorial's Faculty of Medicine. In the article, Andrew stated that "It was a family event that eventually brought him and his wife home. His father, beloved choral director Doug Dunsmore, was diagnosed with non-Hodgkins lymphoma. Andrew, now 36, says he was inspired by the excellent medical care his father received. The senior Dunsmore was able to continue his career and is now retired." (Peter Jackson Photo)



# **THE WENDY STEVENSON CHORAL BURSARY**

by  
Doug Dunsmore

Here we are at the beginning of another year at Gower. We have a lot to look forward to ... the building of a meaningful relationship with a new minister, new possibilities in outreach within the church, our local community and the United Church at large, and from our own point of view, a new year in which to lead the congregation through music.

It is always exciting to look at the many seasons of our church year with an eye to pairing meaningful music to enhance the worship experience.

The last few years have been especially satisfying thanks to the presence of our Choral Bursary recipients. An idea first made possible by the successful application to receive a one-time-grant from the Bruneau Centre of Excellence in Choral Music, we offered four Memorial University of Newfoundland Music students an opportunity to become part of the Gower Senior Choir. These singers served as section leaders and soloists and have successfully added a noticeable depth to our ability to prepare and lead beautiful music for our Sunday worship. As young people involved in the process of becoming professional musicians, they have helped breathe new life into the choir, rekindling much of the energy that can dissipate in a group over time.

So successful was this experiment, the choir began to work at ways to encourage funding for the continuation of the bursaries beyond the first year, through extra concerts and activities.

The whole project took on new life during the past two years when Carl Stevenson and his family made a concerted effort to fund the program substantially in loving memory of his wife, Wendy, one of our most stalwart sopranos. Since that time, the fund has received similar generous donations from the Hodder and Johnson families in memory of loved ones. Members of the congregation have also taken the opportunity to support the bursary program, now in its fourth year of existence.

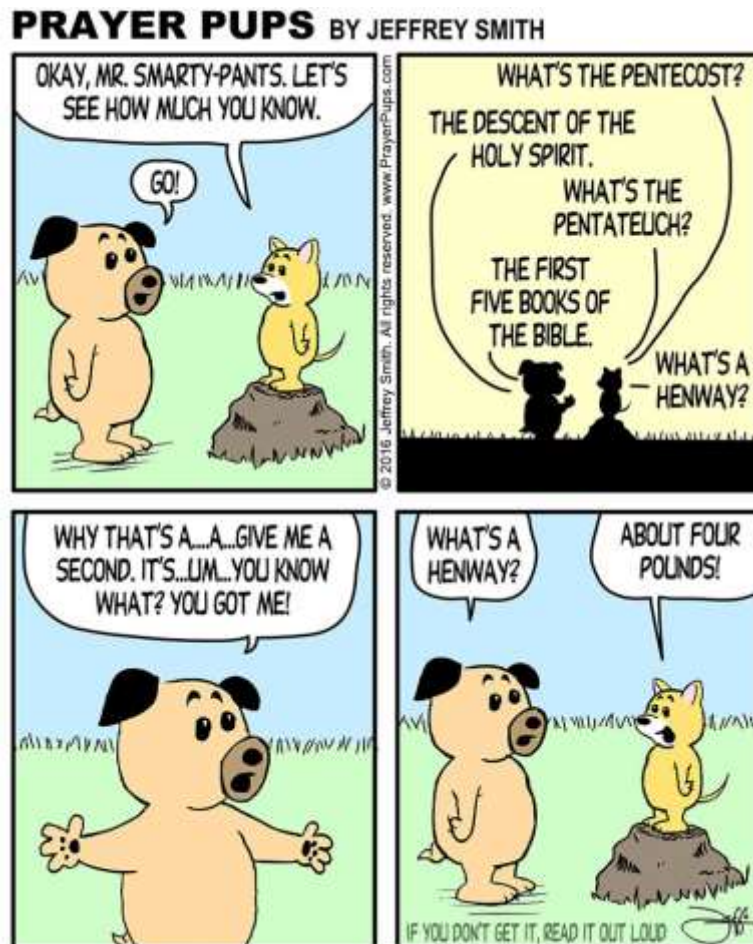
It is a win-win situation! Music students get the opportunity to hone their craft performing significant music in a church setting while subsidizing some of their university expenses. Gower gets to reach out and help local musicians realize their potential. Gower members are also the recipients of an invigorated choir that will be able to provide effective choral leadership for many years to come.

Our students this year are: Chanel Rolle (Soprano), a third-year voice major from the Bahamas; Duncan Stenhouse (Bass), a third-year voice/composition major from Alberta; Suzanna McKenzie (Alto), a fourth-year violin major from Nova Scotia; Grace Rose (Soprano), a first-year voice major from Clarendville; Brandon Mollon (Tenor), a masters student in choral and instrumental conducting, also from Nova Scotia

As the director of choral music at Gower, I wish to express the warmest possible thanks to Carl Stevenson and his family for establishing and committing their efforts for maintaining the Wendy Stevenson Choral Bursary. Thanks also to all the people who have chosen to support this effort. The singers who join our choir family enrich our lives and we, hopefully, will enrich theirs as well.

I look forward to making music with and for all of you in the coming seasons.

**Note: Both the Men’s Club and the United Church Women were on hiatus over the summer months. We will resume covering their activities in our next issue.**





## *KARL WELLS POINT 2 POINT*



On September 25, a new TV program, *Karl Wells Point 2 Point*, was launched on Rogers Television Channel 9. The program will air at 8:00 p.m. on Tuesdays, and will eventually be available for viewing online. Two of his early guests will be prominent members of the Gower family: Edward M. Roberts, former Lieutenant Governor of Newfoundland and Labrador, and the Very Rev. Dr.

Marion Pardy, Minister Emerita at Gower and former Moderator of the United Church of Canada. The Roberts episode will air on October 02 (repeated November 13), while the Pardy episode will air on October 30 (repeated December 11). Rogers Television has described the new series thus: "Karl sits with a friend, an acquaintance or someone he's admired from afar and uncovers the story of their life. You won't want to miss it!"

## *The Nightingale of the North Returns*

On Sunday, August 19, Tonia Evans Cianciulli returned to Gower Street United Church in the persona of Georgina Stirling. (Stirling had sung at both the morning and evening services of dedication for Gower Street Methodist Church on October 04, 1896.) Tonia first sang at Gower on Sunday, May 28, 2017, prior to the 11:00 a.m. service. At that time she performed pieces from Georgina's repertoire. This year she, along with her accompanist, pianist Jason Locke, and her grandfather, the Rev. Calvin D. Evans, as commentator, he delivered a musical sermon that reflected the depth and breadth of both Georgina's and Tonia's musical range and abilities. Prior to



the service, Tonia sang “O Mio Babbino Caro” by Puccinni, “Ombra Mai Fu” by Handel and “How Can I Keep from Singing” by Robert Lowry. Her musical sermon consisted of “Green Isle of Erin” by Clifton Bingham; “Rule Britannia”, words by James Thomson and music by Thomas Arne; “Lead Kindly Light” by John Henry Newman; and “O Divine Redeemer” by Charles Gounod. She also provided a vocal postlude: “O Holy City”, lyrics by Frederic Weatherly and music by Stephen Adams (Michael Maybrick).



### **Tonia Evans Cianciulli and Jason Locke, August 19, 2018**

Tonia’s voice made that August service one of the highlights of our year: it rang out clear and strong, filling the acoustically-friendly confines of Gower with an incredibly joyous sound. Jason Locke’s piano provided the perfect degree of accompaniment for Tonia’s pure and haunting voice and Calvin’s erudite commentary on Georgina’s life brought a unity that blended effortlessly with the rest of the service. The spontaneous applause after each of the numbers and a standing ovation at the end were indicative of the delight and inspiration that Tonia and her Georgina Stirling persona brought to the Gower congregation and the many guests who attended the service.

# For Kids of All Ages



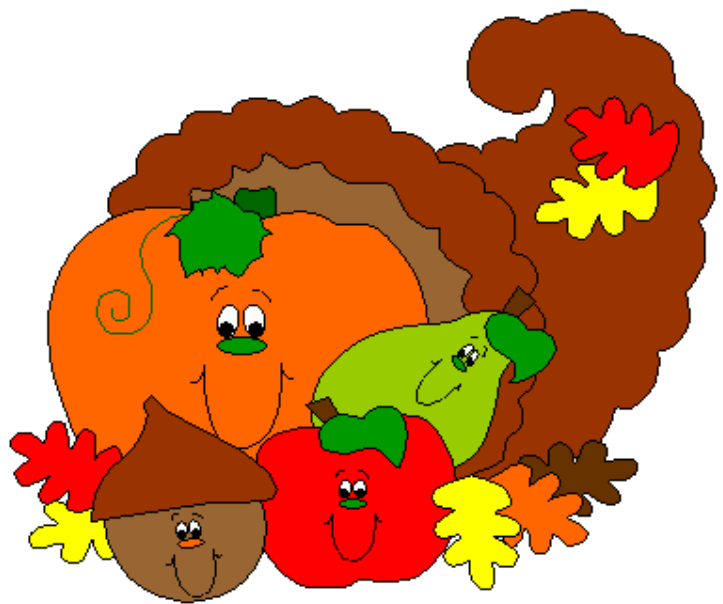


# Thanksgiving Word Search

R E L A T I V E S T I F S M F  
P N R E U K S S N C H A O E A  
X I E F B O B E T I L A A O S  
O B L Z Y O L T U R K S N T D  
W R Y G I C E T R E T P U K Y  
T S E V R A H L K N Y F M L S  
Y V A R G I M E E N F T I U N  
S Q U A S H M R Y I W M A R P  
F A L L P R A S N D A L O B A  
R M H T N B A G C F A C E K I

cook  
corn  
dinner  
fall  
family  
feast  
food  
gravy  
harvest

maize  
pilgrims  
pumpkin  
relatives  
settlers  
squash  
stuffing  
thanks  
turkey

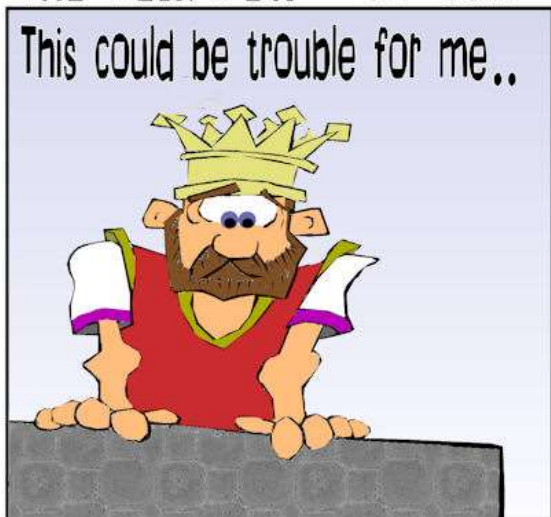




# Davidian Humour

*During the past summer, we learned a lot about King David through scripture readings, psalms and sermons. Here are some more things about David you probably were not aware of.*

The Back Pew - Jeff Larson



King David from the roof of the palace notices Bathsheba, and the fall of the kingdom begins. **2 Sam 11:2**

The Back Pew - Jeff Larson



Saul shopped at the big & tall men's shop, but David?? NOT SO MUCH. **1 Samuel 17:38-39**

Would the woman who took a bath on her balcony one warm night last week please contact me? I am tall, of good appearance, well-established, enjoy poetry, music, and on special occasions, dancing. I will treat you like a queen! Discretion expected and assured. Write to Box 100, Jerusalem.

Why was Goliath so surprised when David hit him with a slingshot?

A. The thought had never entered his head before.

How do Biblical scholars know that King David rode a motorcycle?

A. Because in the Bible, it says that David's Triumph could be heard throughout the land.



# POETRY CORNER

## “Newfoundland Memorial” by John Oxenham (1852-1941)

*Tread softly here! Go reverently and slow!  
Yea, let your soul go down upon its knees,  
And with bowed head and heart abased strive hard  
To grasp the future gain in this sore loss!  
For not one foot of this dank sod but drank  
Its surfeit of the blood of gallant men.  
Who, for their faith, their hope,—for Life and Liberty,  
Here made the sacrifice,—here gave their lives.  
And gave right willingly—for you and me.*

*From this vast altar—pile the souls of men  
Sped up to God in countless multitudes:  
On this grim cratered ridge they gave their all.  
And, giving, won  
The peace of Heaven and Immortality.  
Our hearts go out to them in boundless gratitude:  
If ours—then God's: for His vast charity  
All sees, all knows, all comprehends—save bounds.  
He has repaid their sacrifice:—and we—?  
God help us if we fail to pay our debt  
In fullest full and unstintingly!*



William Arthur Dunkerley was an English novelist and poet. He was born in Manchester, eventually moving to Ealing, near London, where he was a deacon and teacher at the Ealing Congregational Church. He later relocated to Worthing in Sussex, where he became the town's mayor. He used the pen name John Oxenham for some of his poetry, hymn-writing, and novels. His best known hymn is probably “In Christ there is no East or West”, number 606 in *Voices United*. The poem printed above is at the entrance to the Newfoundland Memorial at Beaumont Hamel Park in France.



# Gower Affirm Update



Over the past months, the Gower Affirm Committee (Gail Wideman, Jill Handrigan, Larry Kelly) along with an advisory group (Daryl Pullman, Ken Peters, Barb Myles, the Rev. Florence Sanna, and Gola Roberts) have worked toward finalizing the steps outlined by the United Church of Canada toward becoming an Affirming Ministry.

These steps included:

- *a revision of the vision statement to reflect our commitment to inclusion and full participation of people of all sexual orientations and gender identities – to be prepared and brought to the congregation*  
***Update: with input from the April 29 meeting this was completed August 7, 2018 to be brought to the Board September 20, 2018***
- *an action plan that outlines our steps toward becoming an Affirming Ministry*  
***Update: completed September 10, 2018 and sent for review by Affirm United, the action plan includes an education/awareness tool to be circulated to groups and committees for their ideas about ways in which their work can ensure inclusive practices, policies and programs; the action plan is a living document that will evolve under the guidance of an ongoing Gower Affirm committee***
- *the submission of documentation on completion of the above steps*  
***Update: as required by Affirm United the revised marriage policy, vision statement, and action plan have been submitted for their review; pending approval of Affirm United, a congregational vote has been tentatively planned for late September 2018***
- *a public celebration of our membership as an Affirming Ministry*  
***Update: to be planned for November 2018***

We appreciate the opportunity to work with the Gower Street United Church community in the continuation of this journey honoring the diversity of God's creation and enabling each of us to bring our whole and authentic selves to our faith community. We continue to invite your input at every stage. – Gail Wideman

# FROM THE ARCHIVES

## DO YOU KNOW...

*...who is in this picture?*



**If you know any or all of the people in this picture, please write the names on a piece of paper and put it in the collection plate.**

**We find items for our Gower Archives in the strangest places. During the summer, David Noseworthy, our caretaker, was doing some work on one of the closets that are on either side of the stage in the Lecture Hall. He removed a wall covering and found an unopened bottle of Harvey's Communion Wine (probably from the 1950s); under a piece of flooring was a five centime French coin, with an image of Emperor Louis Napoleon III on one side and the date 1863 on the other; and when he removed the doorframe, written on the lintel in a bold hand, in pencil, was "William Roberts carpenter 29 July 1896". This was just a few months before the church opened on October 04, 1896. Each of these items is on display in one of the cabinets in the front lobby, but will eventually find a permanent home in the Gower Archives.**



# GOWER'S GOT TALENT II

Back in the Spring of 2014, Gower held an evening of entertainment in which we were able to showcase some of the incredibly talented people who are part of our faith community. Many of these performers displayed a side of themselves that most of us had not seen before. It was considered to be a tremendous success both as a way to recognize the many talented people that call Gower home and as a fundraising endeavor. Therefore, we have decided to have an encore.

Gower's Got Talent II will take place in the Lecture Hall on Sunday, November 04, beginning at 7:00 p.m. This will be another opportunity to showcase the wide range of song, music, dance, recitation and other talents that we know you have and may be willing to share on stage with your faith family and friends. Extended family or friends you'd like to recruit are also invited to participate! Some of you have already indicated your interest. Those who may be thinking of participating, please let Linda (at [gsuc@nl.rogers.com](mailto:gsuc@nl.rogers.com) or at 753-7286) know at the office by October 19. Don't be shy; your talents are most welcome!

Tickets for the event will cost \$15.00 for adults, \$10.00 for children or \$25.00 for a family. It will include a fancy cake auction, a sealed auction of a print of the Gower Sanctuary, a door prize and refreshments as part a full evening of entertainment, all the while contributing to Gower's financial wellbeing. The planning committee of JoAnna Bennett, Karen Butt, Doug Dunsmore and Bert Riggs welcome your contact to further discuss this event. Mark the date in your calendar now and be on the lookout for more details over the weeks ahead! **NOVEMBER 04! Don't miss it!**

# PAR

## For Your Information and Thoughtful Consideration

On behalf of Gower, the Stewardship Committee extends a sincere thank you to all who contribute regularly through PAR (Pre-Authorized Remittance). Your consistent offerings help ensure that Gower continues to meet its ongoing commitment and services to our Gower family and to our greater United Church family.

PAR givers confirm the convenience of having their regular church offerings taken care of. Once PAR is set up to make monthly donations from your bank account, you avoid the hassle of trying to find money each Sunday and then decide how much that offering will be. However, PAR also allows you to make special offerings for events such as Thanksgiving, Advent and others by providing special envelopes for these occasions. Any time you'd like to add more to your offerings you can do so with the envelopes provided. Plus, for those who want to contribute to the offertory at Sunday Service, you can put your PAR Card in the collection plate indicating your offering has already been given.

PAR offerings are managed through the church office and are completely confidential while being readily accessible for any changes or information you might need.

If you aren't already on PAR, the annual distribution of envelopes is an opportunity for you to consider it. Your annual contribution envelopes are ready to be picked up soon. There will be a package for current contributors and for those who decide to join PAR this year. Many of us use direct deposit in our personal lives...why not consider it for your church family this year.

**PAR information is readily available at the church office or by contacting any member of the Stewardship Committee.**

## UPCOMING EVENTS AT OR INVOLVING GOWER

WHAT	WHEN	WHERE	START TIME	COST
United Church Women lead worship	October 10	Tiffany Village	2:30 p.m.	No charge
Feeding Our Community Dinner	October 14	Kitchen & Lecture Hall	2:00 p.m.	No charge
Men's Club Fathers & Sons & Friends Special Dinner Meeting	October 16	Kitchen & Lecture Hall	6:00 p.m.	\$10.00 Members Guests no charge
Men's Club Worship Service	October 18	Cambridge Estates	10:00 a.m.	No charge
Church Board Meeting	October 18	Council Room	7:00 p.m.	No charge
Confirmation Classes	October 20	at the Church	4:00 p.m.	No charge
Gower morning service broadcast	October 21	VOWR	7:00 p.m.	No charge
United Community of Faith Joint Service	October 21	Cowan Heights United Church	7:00 p.m.	No charge
Seniors' Club Dinner	October 30	Kitchen & Lecture Hall	6:00 p.m.	\$8.00
Gower's Got Talent II	November 04	Lecture Hall	7:00 p.m.	\$15.00 Adults \$10.00 Children \$25.00 Families



## UPCOMING EVENTS AT OR INVOLVING GOWER

Gower Community Band Dinner	November 06	Kitchen & Lecture Hall	7:00 p.m.	Band Members Only
Feeding Our Community Dinner	November 11	Kitchen & Lecture Hall	2:00 p.m.	No charge
Men's Club Dinner Meeting	November 13	Kitchen & Lecture Hall	6:00 p.m.	\$10.00
Men's Club Worship Service	November 15	Cambridge Estates	10:00 a.m.	No charge
Church Board Meeting	November 15	Council Room	7:00 p.m.	No charge
Men's Club Ham & Beans Supper & Auction	November 20	Kitchen & Lecture Hall	6:00 p.m.	\$10.00 per person
United Church Women Afternoon Tea & Sale	November 24	Kitchen & Lecture Hall	2:00 p.m.	\$7.00
Gower Community Band Concert	November 25	Sanctuary	3:00 p.m.	TBA
Seniors' Club Dinner	October 30	Kitchen & Lecture Hall	6:00 p.m.	\$8.00
Men's Club Congregational Christmas Dinner	December 04	Kitchen & Lecture Hall	6:00 p.m.	\$15.00 per person

