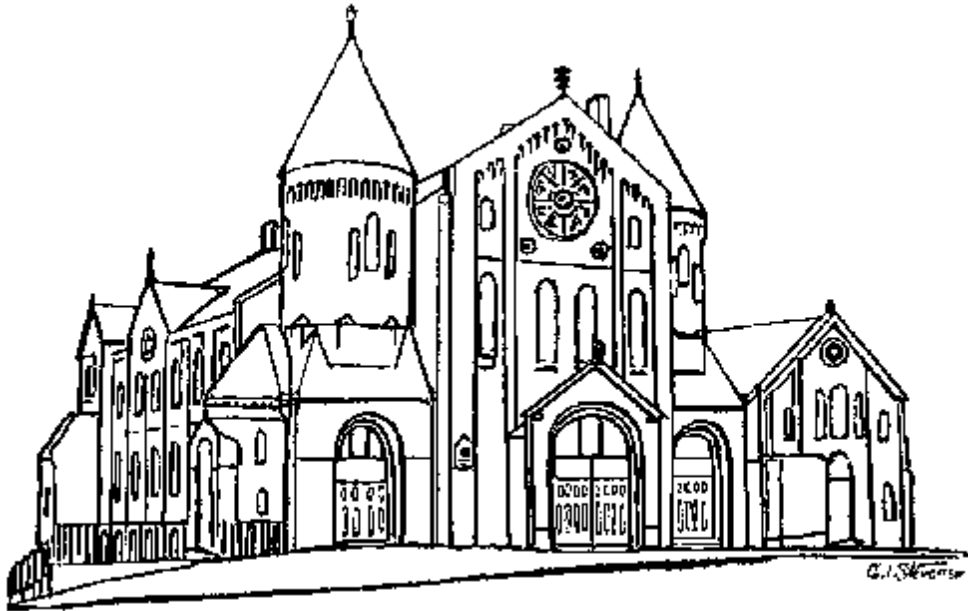


# GOWER STREET UNITED CHURCH

St. John's, Newfoundland & Labrador

## ANNUAL REPORT 2010



*“Striving to be a People of Prayer”*

**Ministers:**

Rev. Marion Davis

Rev. Dr. Kate Crawford (January – June)

Rev. Miriam Bowlby (September – December)

**Minister Emeritus:** The Very Rev. Dr. Marion Pardy

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

**Organist:** R. Carl Goulding

**Band Director:** Edsel Bonnell

**Office Manager:** Linda Hogan

**Custodian:** David Noseworthy

**Board Chair:** Dr. Pat West

## **GOWER STREET UNITED CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT**

We are a faith community within The United Church of Canada, committed to the Christian Development of all people in our midst, and the living out of that faith in our relationship with each other and in the wider community through worship, education, pastoral care and outreach.

We are committed to following Christ's example of reaching out to each other and to all peoples in the spirit of peace, compassion and justice.

We seek to interpret God's mission for us through an informed and prayerful understanding of the Bible, a belief in God's love for all people and in the Spirit of God in our lives and in our world.

We attempt to meet the spiritual, emotional, physical, social and psychological needs of all members of the congregation within the heritage of our Christian faith.

We are committed to the maintenance and development of our church building and property as a visible sign of God's presence and love, and to serve as a means by which we carry out our mission in a Christian congregation.

## **OUR CREED**

**We are not alone,  
we live in God's world.**

**We believe in God:  
who has created and is creating,  
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,  
to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit.**

**We trust in God.**

**We are called to be the Church:  
to celebrate God's presence,  
to live with respect in Creation,  
to love and serve others,  
to seek justice and resist evil,  
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.**

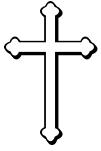
**In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.**

**We are not alone.**

**Thanks be to God.**

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## OFFICIAL BOARD ANNUAL REPORT

Gower Street United Church has had another busy year with plenty to keep us on our toes. In the Spring, everyone was sad to learn that The Reverend Dr. Kate Crawford had been called by First St Andrew's United Church, London, Ontario and after much thought had decided to accept this Call. This change in the pastoral relationship required that Gower carry out a Joint Needs Assessment and we were fortunate that the group responsible for the 2009 Joint Needs Assessment report were prepared to step up to the plate and using much of the knowledge that they had acquired in 2009 repeat the process and produce a new report in June. When the 2010 JNA Report was approved by the congregation at a Special Meeting on June 26, 2010, the congregation also elected people to serve on the Joint Search Committee and this Committee worked diligently producing our advertisement, asking for recommendations of suitable ministers for the position at Gower, and talking to recommended ministers to suggest that they apply.

Meanwhile we have been fortunate to have the Rev. Marion Davis working full-time for us since the Rev. Kate left, and to have the very able assistance of the Rev. Miriam Bowlby from September to the end of December. Rev. Marion submitted her resignation as of June 30, 2011, and the Rev. Miriam left to take up a full-time position at Cochrane Street at the end of this year. This is a challenging time in the life of Gower and should be held in our prayers.

First I would like to thank all those who contributed to Gower's outreach activities this year. Outreach service to the community is an important part of Gower's mission. Monthly services are organized and led at Cambridge Estates by the Men's Club, at Elizabeth Towers by the U.C.W. and at Hoyles Home by a group organized by the Rev. Marion Davis. Also, the Gower Community Band provided much enjoyment as it went throughout the community bringing music and happiness to seniors and others. The Seniors Club supported by the Men's Club continued to provide a meal and entertainment for seniors from across the city. The Outreach Committee held two successful evening gatherings for New Canadians and the U.C.W. provided Pottle Centre members with a Christmas Dinner. Another outreach activity involved Street Reach on Wednesday lunchtime as they use our Lecture Hall and kitchens to provide a cooked lunch for those in need. We also provide For the Love of Learning with the use of the gym for a token rent. These activities, and some I may have missed, along with our support for the Stella Burry Corporation, Bridges to Hope, and the Mission and Service Fund are important outreach activities and signs of Gower's answer to the call that Jesus Christ gave to his disciples. In addition, our ministers also provided much outreach and benevolent assistance to the community that we never hear about: activity that included looking after folk who come to Gower's office with a wide variety of problems.

I would also like to thank all those who contributed to the fundraising activities this year, the Men's Club which undertook to fund restoration projects, the U.C.W. who contributed money to the Operating Fund, and committees such as the Stewardship Committee and the Organ Fund Committee that worked to raise money for Gower. In addition we should thank all those of the Gower family who through P.A.R., or envelopes, or the loose collection donated regularly to Gower.

Thank all of you who have served Gower, through its Board and committees, and have given of your time and talents in ways too numerous to list here. The work of Gower could not go ahead successfully without you.

A particular thank you must go to all our staff:

- those who provide us with superb music, Carl Goulding, Dr. Doug Dunsmore and Edsel Bonnell;
- David Noseworthy and Linda Hogan whose work load has increased over the year due in part to our successful rental program and to other activities,
- and to our ministers: the Rev. Dr. Kate Crawford, the Rev. Marion Davis, and the Rev. Miriam Bowlby.

Thank you one and all. May God bless us with the wisdom, conviction and opportunity to serve as Jesus asked us to serve in the years ahead.

Yours in Christ's Service,  
Pat West, Chair of the Board

### **A Prayer for Reading the Annual Report**

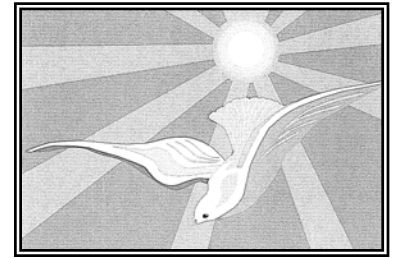
God of all our days, be with me as I read the pages of this report.  
Let my interest be a blessing to all whose labour is represented here.  
Let my concern be a sign of my own commitment.

Help me to be open to the presence of your Holy Spirit in our community,  
and to your voice calling us forward in faith.

In your name I ask it,  
In your presence I ask it,  
In your compassion I ask it. Amen.

# REPORT FROM THE MINISTER

REV. MARION DAVIS



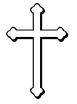
Church annual reports tend to be written in the Season of Light – Epiphany. We appreciate the brightness of each sunny day and, whatever the weather, we notice that the mornings are not quite as dark and that the light lingers longer into the evening. It’s the time of year when we appreciate every source of light that we can find. As I review the year 2010, there are many sources of light. Here are some which stand out for me:

- The continuation of a conversation with the other downtown churches, initiated by East District and the combining of George St. and Gower congregations, once in each church on July 25 and August 8;
- New members to our congregation;
- Kate’s leaving to accept a call to London, Ontario was light, tinged with darkness. While I am thankful that Kate was with us for five years and celebrate with her the challenge and excitement of this new ministry, I miss her and her daughters, Martha and Norah.
- The dedication and spiritedness of the Search Committee;
- The presence of the Rev. Miriam Bowlby, during the fall – much appreciated;
- Our Fall Celebration in Pippy Park with Sunday School members and their families;
- A Worship Leaders’ Workshop in October;
- Our outreach to those in our neighbourhood who come to the church office and For the Love of Learning who share life with us in our building;
- Community Dinner held on Armistice Day sponsored by the Outreach Committee
- The presence of the group from Canada World Youth in our building for three months;
- Epiphany Explorations January 21-25 – a feast of presentations by inspiring theologians and other speakers, excellent music, meaningful worship, connecting/reconnecting with others in the wider church;
- Intentional Interim Ministry Training, Winnipeg;
- September 2010-June 2011 the Year of Imagination.

A light which has shone brightly through this year is you, the people of Gower St. United Church. I have been very aware of your tremendous support as we move through this “in-between” time. Thank you love and concern for my welfare expressed in conversations, notes, emails, phone calls, food and prayer. “You are the light of the world,” (Matt.5:14) said Jesus to those around him. You are the ones who have, through your volunteer time, your presence at worship services, your financial support served God, this congregation, the community and the world. May you continue to be the light that God calls you to be and to discover new ways to be “the light of the world”.



## TRUSTEES



The primary responsibility of the Trustee is the control and administration of the Real and Personal property held in Trust for the benefit of the Congregation. These Properties include all church buildings, furniture and other related assets included in the Endowment and Manse Funds.

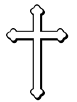
During 2010 the Insurance Committee reviewed our Insurance Policy relative to our Property and Liability coverage. They were also involved in our property damage claim resulting from the hurricane and rain storm during September.

The Stock Market decline in 2008 had a significant effect on the Market Value of our Endowment and Manse Funds in that they lost approximately 9% of their value. During 2009 and 2010 the Market had a slow steady recovery with the result that the Market Value of our Funds is now only ½ of 1% or \$4300.00 below their Book Value. Continued recovery of the Market is anticipated.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sheridan Parsons



## GENERAL PROTESTANT CEMETERY COMMITTEE



The General Protestant Cemetery Committee has experienced a successful year, having operated both cemeteries and still having a small credit balance at year end. This means that the funds collected for burials was sufficient to cover off the operation and maintenance of both cemeteries.

There have been very few capital works projects done this past year as we are moving to our new cemetery in less than two years. At that time we will have to borrow a substantial amount of money to prepare the cemetery for use. In order to make annual payments on our loan we will require additional funds. To accommodate this, it was decided at our annual meeting that each church representative remind their church of the regulation stating that an amount of five dollars per Church paying member be given annually to the cemetery fund. While this is currently being paid by some of the nineteen churches, there are others who have paid only a portion and still others who have paid nothing. Since we have no other way of raising additional funds to cover the loan the Committee is hoping all of the Churches will meet their obligations in the future.

The Committee experienced a successful operating year in 2010. The two annual flower services cost less than previous years but were still considered successful. There were no Major expenses such as a breakdown of equipment etc. or any other unexpected expenses.

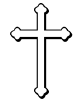
There were a total of 244 burials of which 95 were cremations.

In the coming year a columbarium will be established in Mount Pleasant cemetery for cremation burials. Also in 2011, some major work will be done on 'Memorial Gardens' cemetery consisting of building a new road, clearing and seeding 10 acres of land, fencing, and putting in drainage. The two flower services in 2011 will be held at Mount Pleasant Cemetery on July 4<sup>th</sup> and at the General Protestant Cemetery on July 25<sup>th</sup>.

Respectfully submitted,  
Vernon Simmons, Executive Member



## REPORT FROM THE EAST DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE



On May 28 - 30, 2010, the Spring East District Meeting, Newfoundland and Labrador Conference was held at Burry Heights Camp and Retreat Centre.

The theme of the meeting was **“All Things New.”** There are many new changes happening in our churches in Newfoundland and Labrador such as amalgamation of churches, declining members of our congregations, and added responsibility put on lay ministry to carry on the spiritual and outreach mandates of our church.

One of the highlights of the meeting was the Milestones in Ministry Banquet that was held on the evening of May 29<sup>th</sup>. The banquet was held to thank and recognize the ministers who were retiring and celebrated anniversaries in Newfoundland and Labrador. This year The Rev. Lewis E. Crewe, The Rev. John R. Davis, Ms. Lorraine E. Moores, DLM, The Rev. Lisa Potter and The Rev. Russell L. Small retired as ministers in the Newfoundland and Labrador Conference.

An inspirational covenanting service was held at Gower Street United Church on Sunday, May 30<sup>th</sup> to ordain Stephen Jesse Barbour, Peggy Joan Johnson and Robert G. Tuck as Ministers of the United Church of Canada.

On October 15 - 17, 2010, the Fall East District Meeting, Newfoundland and Labrador Conference was held at Burry Heights Camp and Retreat Centre.

The theme of the Meeting was **“Seek, Look, Become.”** The guest speaker at the fall meeting was Rev. Bruce Sanguin, Minister at Canadian Memorial United Church in Vancouver, British Columbia and author of “The Emerging Church.” He shared his experience of change at Canadian Memorial United Church and in his address he outlined some ways to bring about change in congregations. His presentation inspired lots of discussion and gave the delegates attending the meeting new ways of looking at our church.

The following new Ministers were welcomed to the East District of the Newfoundland and Labrador Conference: Rev. Chris Andrews, Brigus-Cupids; Rev. Donna Lovelace, Burin; Rev. Brian Colbourne, Carbonear; Ms. Jocelyn Cook, Elliston, English Harbour; Rev. Joan Conrad, Hants Harbour; Rev. Linda Burt, Harbour Grace; Rev. Robert Tulk, Little Hearts Ease; Rev. Heather Sandford, Norman’s Cove; Rev. Grant Stuckless, Pouch Cove-Bauline; Rev. Peggy Johnson, Whitbourne, Rev. James Von Reison, Retired from the Saskatchewan Conference. In the past year Gower Street United Church has taken on the challenges that are present itself in times of transformation in the United Church of Canada. Our Ministers, Lay members of the congregation, Church Committees, The United Church Women, The Men’s Club, Choirs and Sunday School Teachers are working diligently to ensure that the spiritual, operational and outreach mandates of the church are met.

I look forward to another term of representing Gower Street United Church as one of its East District Delegates. It is a wonderful experience interacting, worshipping and enjoying the fellowship of the people who attend these meeting.

Respectfully submitted,  
Elinor Udell





## MINISTRY & PERSONNEL



2010 was certainly an active year for the M&P Committee. We endeavoured to continue to provide the required support and guidance to all staff and at the same time putting measures in place to ensure that with the departure of Rev. Dr. Kate Crawford that adequate ministerial support to the congregation would continue. Upon receiving notification of Rev. Kate's departure we immediately asked Rev. Marion to move up to full time as of July 1 and we started looking for an interim supply Minister to assist Rev. Marion for the interim period, on a part time basis, until a new minister is called. We were successful and on August 23, 2010, Rev. Miriam Bowlby started with us focusing primarily on pastoral care and worship leadership. Unfortunately for us, but certainly fortunately for Rev. Miriam, she received a call to a fulltime ministry position at Cochrane Street United commencing January 2011. Based upon a number of factors including the fact we hope to have a full time minister called by July, Rev. Marion's willingness to take on the full responsibility and that a number of lay and ordained members of the congregation have stepped forward to assist, we have decided not to seek out another supply Minister.

Just prior to her departure the M&P Committee conducted an exit interview with Rev. Kate to gain some insight and recommendations to help us through the transition and beyond. When asked what her final words of advice or encouragement would be for the Congregation she replied "continue to be disciples of Jesus Christ and we will NOT fail!"

Throughout the year our regular staff continually went beyond the call of duty to ensure that things went as smoothly as possible. The Choir under the Leadership of Dr. Doug Dunsmore and Organist Carl Goulding continued to provide inspiration to us all. Doug has also taken an increased role in service leadership and thereby providing somewhat of an anchor as we have different people leading service throughout this time of transition. The Gower Community Band under the leadership of Edsel Bonnell continued to provide an opportunity for the musically inclined members of our congregation and the community at large to perform and contribute to services during the year and entertain many audiences throughout the City.

Our Office Manager Linda Hogan and Custodian, David Noseworthy, continue to provide yeoman service as we moved through this past year. With the increased activity in the church including the many Rentals of facilities there has been increased demands on both Dave and Linda to deal with the associated administration activities as well as the set up before and the clean up after. But somehow Dave and Linda seem to pull it off. Having said that this is an area we need to look at to provide them with additional support in the future.

Volunteers continue to make a great difference in our church. There are just too many to list here but I would like to make particular notice of Bonnie Trudel, Margot Evans, and Diane Hogan.

Finally I wish to recognize Rev. Marion whose dedication, patience and cooperative spirit has been nothing short of remarkable throughout this past year and in particular this past 6 months. We are truly blessed to have Marion leading us at this critical time.

I would also like express my sincere gratitude to the members of the M&P Committee who have not only guided me through my first year as Chair of the Committee but also provide the one on one support to our staff. Thanks to Alf Anstey, Barbara Moulton, Pam Snow and Roberta Gill.

I know we can continue to count on your support and patience as we move through this transitional period. If you have any comments or questions please feel free to contact any member of our Committee.

Respectfully submitted  
Lorne LeDrew, Chair



## WORSHIP & SACRAMENTS

### Mandate

The mandate of the Worship and Sacraments Committee includes providing for regular and special worship services, the administration of the sacraments, developing policy with respect to the admission, transfer and removal of membership. The Committee has the responsibility to advise ministry personnel and the Board on the use of the church sanctuary.

### Worship Services

The aim in worship is to point to the One whom we serve as we gather with a sense of belonging to God and to each other. Our worship services in 2010 included the *Jesus at the Movies* series during Lent; sermons in the *Illumine* series which focus on the stained glass windows in our sanctuary; the playing of rhythm instruments by our Sunday school during a hymn at the beginning of the service.

A very special worship service was held on Sunday Nov. 21<sup>st</sup> celebrating the 195<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Gower St. Church. At that time we were fortunate to have a former minister and now member of Gower, The Rev. Dr. George LeDrew, preach the sermon. The recently renewed Children's Choir, the Senior Choir and the Gower Community Band added much joy and inspiration to the celebration.

Gower St. Church and good music are synonymous. We give thanks for the vital role of music in our worship services. We thank the Senior Choir, Dr. Doug Dunsmore, Grace Dunsmore and Carl Goulding for their faithful, weekly presence in leading and carrying us through each service. The Children's Choir directed by Dana Abbott Collins is a delight whenever they sing for us. Thanks to the Gower Community and Edsel Bonnell for their enduring presence which continues to be an important part of the music at Gower.

The five-year stay of The Rev. Dr. Kate Crawford among us came to an end June 30<sup>th</sup> when Kate accepted a call to First St. Andrews United Church. We were blessed with Kate's gifts for ministry and her leadership in worship since 2005. While we wished she could have stayed longer with us, we willingly gave our blessing and good wishes for her new pastorate. In September we welcomed the Rev. Miriam Bowlby who was with us in a half-time position until the end of December when she left to become the full-time minister of Cochrane St. United Church.

### Sacraments

- Holy Communion was celebrated six times during the year. It was decided at the April 27<sup>th</sup> meeting to continue serving communion by intinction with stations at the front of the church.
- Baptism was celebrated on a regular basis.

### Accessibility

- Through a generous donation we now offer hearing devices for use during worship services so that those who are hearing impaired have a better opportunity to participate fully in the time of worship. The response to these devices has been gratifyingly favourable. We provide the printed text of the sermon each week for those who request it as well as large print bulletins for those visually impaired.
- Sermons and bulletins are on the website and are viewed or listened to weekly. These are much appreciated.

It is with the help of many others that the Worship and Sacraments Committee lives out its responsibility as mandated in the Constitution. We thank:

- The Men's Club, Outreach Committee, for conducting worship services when ministry personnel were away;
- All who have given leadership in worship through reading scripture and offering the Prayers of the People;
- Children who have participated in lighting the Christ candle;
- The Sunday School for its part in the White Gift service and the play they presented with direction of Carolyn Moore, Sunday School coordinator, and all the teachers and leaders of the Sunday School; the Outreach Committee for organizing and distributing the gifts given at the White Gift service;
- All who have prepared the elements, set up for communion, and then done the cleanup following the service, including after midnight on Christmas Eve;
- Ken Butt and Andy Fisher for maintaining our website, ensuring that the bulletins and sermons are available on the internet.
- Linda Hogan, office manager, and David Noseworthy, caretaker, for all the ways in which they offer support.

### **Greeters, Ushers and Hosts for Fellowship Time**

We wish to be a place that extends a warm welcome to each person who comes our way. We are grateful to those who assist the Worship and Sacraments Committee to offer hospitality. Our thanks especially to:

- Henry Andrews for coordinating the ushers and Doug Driscoll for coordinating ushers for funerals;
- Lima Spurrell (January –June) and Gail Wideman for coordinating the greeters;
- Georgie for taking responsibility for replenishing the supplies of tea, coffee and other necessities for the fellowship time;
- All who served as hosts and provided refreshments for fellowship time.

### **Membership**

- Two persons became members through confirmation. One other person did the preparation but decided that the time was not right for confirmation.
- Thank you to Felicie Young, Lynn Barter and Sue Wilton for their role as mentors for those preparing for confirmation.
- Three persons became members through transfer of membership
- Keeping the membership list up to date is an important task. This work has been shared in 2010 by Linda Braine and Pat West.

### **Funerals**

31 funeral services were conducted by Gower clergy.

### **Marriages**

- 21 marriages were celebrated.
- Many thanks to the Revs. Miriam Bowlby, Kelly Hudson-Lewis, Scott Parsons and Florence Sanna

### **Baptisms**

We welcomed 22 children into the church through the sacrament of baptism.

### **Ordination**

This year's East District Celebration of Ministries service took place at Gower on Sunday May 30<sup>th</sup> at 2p.m. At that time we were able to celebrate with our candidate for ministry, Robert Tuck,

on the day of his ordination. The Rev. Robert Tuck is now serving the Little Heart's Ease Pastoral Charge. We offer our prayers and congratulations to Robert and his family.

### **Fund Raising**

- A Hymn Sing with the theme of "Love" was held on Sunday February 13<sup>th</sup> as our morning worship service. We encouraged everyone in the congregation and also those away who have a connection with Gower to name a hymn and make a donation in memory or in honour of someone. The names of those being honoured or remembered were printed in the bulletin. Our Senior Choir and the Gower Community Band were in attendance and contributed immeasurably to the occasion as we raised our voices in song and listened as the choir sang or the band or the organ played. It was a time of blessing in every sense.
- Carl Stevenson has, for the fourth time, given us the gift of his considerable talent as a visual artist. Carl displayed some of his etchings, mezzotints, dry point as well as other one-of-kind works. We thank Carl for his generous donation of pieces for the enjoyment of all and the good of our church. The proceeds from the event were divided between the Worship and Sacraments budget and the Organ Restoration Fund.

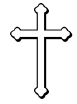
### **The Committee**

Thank you to those who have served on the committee in 2010. Linda Braine had served as a member for three years before becoming chair. We thank Linda for her generous gift of time, energy and wisdom in chairing the committee for four years. Thanks to the Rev. Florence Sanna, who was co-chair along with Linda, for the last year of Linda's tenure. Worship and Sacraments was without a chair until October when Lynn Barter accepted the position. Lynn, although ready for the role of chair, found after a couple of months that, because of other commitments, she was unable to continue in that capacity. Lynn, will however, remain on the committee as secretary and we thank her for that. Thank you to Gwen Alcock, Cal Best, who joined us as a new member in the fall, Judy Byrne, Grace Dunsmore and Jill Howlett, who has been our secretary. Each one of these along the ministerial support has been dedicated to the work of the committee and given unfailingly of their time and interest. Your work is much appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,  
Marion Davis (Rev.)  
Staff Support



# CHURCH MEMBERSHIP



## RECEIVED THROUGH INFANT BAPTISM

Jessica Ruth Lawrence  
 Wallace Hayden Auchinleck-Benoit  
 Fiona Dawn Olwen Young  
 Anna Deanne Peters MacNeill  
 Payton Lilly Whalen Kirkpatrick  
 Merisa Helen Abbott  
 Landon Patrick Crane  
 Jordan Olivia Lye  
 Jacob Matthew Lye  
 Samuel Reginald Williams  
 Piper Jane Evans

Madison Patricia Randell-Nelson  
 Brooklyn Deborah Randell-Nelson  
 Molly Laurel Williams  
 Paige Madison Seward  
 Ally Laura Marie Williams  
 Henry John Robert Pearson  
 Blake David Dalton  
 Jacob Clyde David Dalton  
 Isla Rose Walsh  
 Holly Dudley  
 Millie Dudley

## RECEIVED THROUGH INFANT CONFIRMATION

Carissa Abbott

Elise Parsons

## RECEIVED THROUGH TRANSFER OF MEMBERSHIP

Georgina Andrews

Rev. Dr. George LeDrew

Linda Ledrew

## MARRIAGES

Rebecca Adema & Liam Fitzgerald  
 Lillian Bussey & Philip Sheppard  
 Penney-Lynn Robbins & William Barbour  
 Rosalyn Cho & Joost Bakker  
 Heidi Vatcher & Roger Stoodley  
 Amanda Jones & Maurice Bruce III  
 Katherine Murphy & Stephen French  
 Suzannah King & Levin Mejia  
 Stephanie Pennell & Blair Squires  
 Deborah Maher & Derrick Kilfoy

Suzanne Adams & Blair Reid  
 Kelly Hudson & John Lewis  
 Larry Kelly & Karl Wells  
 Lorraine Thorne & Antonio Pepe  
 Kimberly Molloy & Gary Dyer  
 Keelin Thorburn & Steven Penney  
 Karen Furneaux & Gerald Baird  
 Lisa Coombs & Kristian Long  
 Suzanne Brown & Kurt Martin  
 Dawn Griffiths & James Duane French

## FUNERALS

Jean Belbin  
 Olive Boone  
 Marston Cameron  
 Frances Clarke  
 Ben Ford  
 Irene Gray  
 Ina Green  
 Florence Hiscock  
 Dorothy Mills  
 Louise Montgomery  
 Marjorie O'Reilly

John Pittman  
 Edna Robbins  
 James Roberts  
 Nataline Sellars  
 Reginald W.L. Soper  
 Robert Stone  
 Megan Stoodley  
 Ed Thornhill  
 Violet Vaughn  
 Sheila Williams

## **BEQUESTS**

### **TO THE ENDOWMENT FUND:**

The Endowment Fund consists of bequests left by individuals in their wills to Gower St. United Church. The money in the fund is held in trust with the interest used in accord with the instructions in the wills. Where no direction is given in the will, the interest is applied to the Operating Fund. Before the establishment of the Endowment Fund in 1996, unless the wills instructed that the funds be kept in trust, generally the bequests were used as revenue by the church in the year they were received or shortly thereafter.

We hold in grateful memory the following individuals who, through their final act of stewardship, have provided for continued financial support of the church they loved.

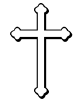
**Clarence & Ruth Badcock  
Daphne House  
Kay Grouchy  
Leslie LeDrew  
John & Blanche Taylor  
Marjorie Peters  
Velda Richards  
Marion Soper  
Frances Lench  
Grace & Wilfred Barbour  
Willis Benson  
Thomas & Helene House  
Walter Grouchy  
Rev. Walter H Macabe  
Carrie Martin  
Alma Pittman  
Gladys Roberts  
Dr. Thomas Stentaford  
Margaret Whelan  
Beatrice Day**

**John & Maude Leamon  
Audrey March  
Kevin Osmond  
Dr. Herbert Pottle  
Elinor M. Soper  
Edna Stephenson  
Zeta Butt  
Peggy Snelgrove  
Doug Osmond  
Frances Wells  
Dr. Harry Roberts  
Hilda White  
James Nurse  
Gordon Butler  
Ethel Janes  
Frank Leamon  
Gertrude Barbour  
Harold Lake  
Uriah (Hughie) Alcock**

**We would also like to thank all those who have made offering to the different funds and to the Church in memory of their friends and loved ones.**



## PASTORAL CARE



The work of the Pastoral Care Committee involves coordinating pastoral care for all of the people of Gower. As in the past our activities have included:

- Visits with our people in eighteen nursing and personal care homes. This number reflects the increasing number of Long Term Care facilities.
- Visits with families who have recently had a child baptized
- Visits with those celebrating 90<sup>th</sup> birthdays and beyond
- Visits with those celebrating 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversaries and beyond
- Phone and home visits with shut-ins
- Visiting bereaved families at funeral homes
- Recording visits made by individuals and groups within the congregation
- Leading monthly worship at Hillcrest Estates
- Supporting monthly worship at Cambridge Estates and Elizabeth Towers led respectively by the Men's Club and the UCW.
- Leading monthly worship at the Hoyles Home
- Assembling and distributing baskets for shut-ins at Christmastime

Our sincere thanks to all who are involved in the ministry of pastoral care. Your work is valued and much needed. A particular thank you to Carrie Lethbridge for her faithfulness in offering her gift of music for more than a dozen years at the Hoyles Home monthly worship services. The need for more volunteer visitors is ongoing. On May 31, a second Pastoral Care workshop was given by The Revs. Scott Parsons, Florence Sanna, Marion Davis.

As we move into the next phase in the life of Gower St. Church we are indeed grateful for all who serve and all who are the beneficiaries of the love and care that is offered. With God's help may we continue to give our best.

Members of the committee are Max Beckett, Elva Fizzard, Barbara Moulton, Maude Peach, Rev. Veronica Brett-Williams, Rev. Marion Davis (Staff support)

Respectfully submitted,  
Marion Davis (Rev.)  
Staff Support



## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE



Committee members: Carolyn Anstey-Moore, Sue Wilton, Kelly Hudson-Lewis, Karen Tuck

The committee has been ably supported by Rev. Marion Davis and Rev. Miriam Bowlby

The past year progressed similar to other years. The committee met on a monthly basis except for July and August. Our tasks centered primarily around engaging young children in Sunday School activities.

During Lent we hosted the Lenten Garden event. On Palm Sunday the children were involved in adorning the chancel with palms during the processional hymn.

Volunteers from the congregation were present for Junior Congregation over the summer months when regular classes were suspended.

Once again in September we held a family event at Northbank Lodge in Pippy Park as a time for regrouping after the summer break. It was well attended and enjoyed by all. Activities such as a scavenger hunt, spoon and egg races, potato races, and relay races made it an active evening, topped off by a chili and hot dog supper.

Our committee made a decision to continue with the team teaching model for 2010. Many thanks go to Leah Nash, Sharon Monahan-Nash, Dana Collins, Nicole Peters, Margot Noseworthy, and the CE committee members for planning and delivering thoughtful, interesting and relevant lessons each week.

In December the children and Youth of the congregation were involved in delivering the message during White Gift Sunday. The drama "The Shepherd's Child" was well received, judging by the positive comments which came back to the children and youth.

Respectfully submitted,  
Karen Tuck



## OUTREACH COMMITTEE



*We are committed to following Christ's example of reaching out to each other and to other peoples in the spirit of peace, compassion and justice" (from Gower's Mission Statement)*

Throughout the year the Outreach Committee has strived to fulfill this mission by finding opportunities to reach out to others locally, nationally and internationally, and have had willing participation by many members of the congregation.

### **Our local initiatives have included:**

- Collecting food/donations for our local Food Aid Centre- Bridges to Hope and volunteering at the Centre.
- Continuing our support of Stella Burry Community Services and other local shelters with packaging and delivering donations of household items, toiletries, clothing and toys donated by our congregation during the annual White Gift Service in December.
- Hosting two congregational events with our friends at the Assoc. of New Canadians.
- Hosting a "Newcomers to Gower" reception combined with the welcome to the new Confirmants/Transfer of Membership individuals in May.
- Leading in a service of worship to highlight the work of Stella Burry.
- Joining with For the Love of Learning group to clean up the church garden/grounds in the Spring and to host a BBQ for participants.
- Hosting a Community Outreach supper in November for clients of Street Reach and For The Love of Learning in our continuing efforts to explore ways of being more supportive for community support groups.

### **To promote national and inter-national concerns:**

- We continued to promote the work of the Mission & Service Fund through regular "Minutes for Mission".
- We coordinated the collection of Birthday money for the World Development and Relief fund. WDR & M&S donations for 2010 totaled \$44,144.07



- We continued our partnership with “Dorcas Widows Ministry” by selling jewelry homemade by Ugandan women in aid of orphaned children.
- One member attended preliminary meeting to explore possibility of establishment of L’Arche community.

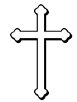
In June we sadly had to say “Good-bye’ to our clergy representative, Rev. Kate who encouraged our involvement in so many initiatives, but welcomed Rev. Marion’s willingness to meet with us regularly and continue with clergy support.

Committee members want to thank both clergy and the congregation for their continued support throughout the year. ‘Outreach’ is the focus of all the committees in our church as we strive together to fulfill our mission. We are looking for new members to join us either for a particular project or as a member of our group.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Members of the Outreach Committee



## SENIOR CHOIR



The Senior Choir under the direction of Dr. Douglas Dunsmore had another busy year. Our membership is now at 37, down from the 40 we had last year. In the Fall, Chris Wright took a teaching position in Nunavut and could only be with us for the Christmas music. Jeff Humber has decided not to continue because of other commitments and Dr. Bill Marshall has, unfortunately, had to drop out because of health concerns. We have not added to our numbers so there is lots of room for new members!

Our additional activities during the past year were:

- On Jan 20<sup>th</sup> we joined with several other choirs from our area in a “Festival of Music” at St. James United Church to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the establishing of the Week of Prayer.
- February was our month to look after the post-service coffee/reception in the Taite/Osmond room.
- On Feb13<sup>th</sup> we were present for the funeral of Mrs. Lillian Clarke, a long time member of our congregation.
- The choir provided several appropriate anthems at the 8:00 am communion and the 11:00 am services on April 4<sup>th</sup>, Easter Sunday. Between these two services we enjoyed a fellowship breakfast in the lecture hall organized by the choir executive and several additional choir members.
- Our pre-summer Bar-B-Q was held at Karen & Ken Butt’s on June 25<sup>th</sup> and then we were off for the Summer but did sit in on an ad hoc basis for some of the summer services.
- Mid-Sept saw us back from our summer break revitalized and eager to sing again.
- On Oct 11<sup>th</sup> we were present for the funeral service of Mrs. Irene E. Grey, a much loved and respected member of our congregation.
- We had tentatively planned a fall fund-raising event in aid of the Organ Restoration Fund but because of time constraints we decided to postpone until this early Spring.
- We provided musical support for the funeral of Nataline Sellars on Oct 30<sup>th</sup>. As many know, “Nat” was the sister of the late Douglas Osmond and a very strong supporter of the church and the choir in particular.
- Our annual Christmas party was held at the Stevenson’s on Dec 3<sup>rd</sup>.

- On Dec 13<sup>th</sup> we supported the Roberts family at the funeral of James Roberts Sr.
- Kim, James Jr. and Daphne Newhook (their aunt) are all members of our choir.

During the advent season we again provided appropriate anthems at each service and for the Candlelight Communion Service on Christmas Eve. Additional instrumental music for this service was provided by Grace Dunsmore on flute accompanied by Carl Goulding. It is quite obvious that our numbers have increased for this service since we usually have former members who are home for the Christmas season join us.

**SENIOR CHOIR  
FINANCIAL REPORT  
JANUARY 1, 2010 - DECEMBER 31, 2010**

The choir has two bank accounts in its name:

1. Special Projects Account - funded by monies from the sale of our “ Christmas at Gower” CDs, a bequest from the estate of the late Seaward Green and other bequests during the year.
2. Our Social Account – funded entirely by the choir itself from our Thursday rehearsal contributions.

Special Projects Account

Opening balance, Jan 1, 2010	\$3787.80
Closing balance, Dec 31, 2010	4188.31

Social Account

Opening balance, Jan 1, 2010	\$ 500.70
Closing balance, Dec 31, 2010	442.31

**Our executive committee:**

**Carl Stevenson - President**  
 Roberta Gill - Vice-President  
 Judy Byrne - Secretary/Treasurer  
 Ruth Churchill and Joan O’Grady - Gown Conveners  
 Eric Hodder and Tom Sparkes - Librarians.

Choir Members Emeritus: Jean and Cam Adey

The choir would like to thank Dr. Douglas Dunsmore, Carl Goulding and Grace Dunsmore for their help and leadership during the past year and we hope that our musical endeavours have been favourably received and have added positively to worship at Gower.

Respectfully submitted,  
 Carl Stevenson - President



## GOWER BAND PROGRAM

The Gower Community Band continued to excel in quality of performance and service to community as a non-denominational outreach program of Gower Street United Church during 2010. The Band performed on a total of 17 occasions during the year, including the Feb. 14 Memorial Hymn Sing, the Mar. 28 Palm Sunday Musicale and service, the Nov. 21 celebration of the congregation's 195<sup>th</sup>

Anniversary, and the Dec. 19 Christmas Musicale and service at Gower; the GCB annual "Terra Nova" scholarship concert for young composers at MUN Music; the 2010 "Festival of Remembrance" for Newfoundland and Labrador veterans held at the Basilica of St. John the Baptist on Nov. 7; the treasured traditional annual Christmas Tree Lighting at Masonic Park on Dec. 1 and the Shiners' Carol Service and Concert on Dec. 19; and seniors' shows at the Veterans' Pavilion of the Miller Centre (2), Meadow Creek Retirement Home in Topsail, St. Patrick's Mercy Home, Glenbrook Lodge (2), Cambridge Estates, Hoyles' Home, and Escasoni. The Band was honoured to be cited in Memorial University's Strategic Plan as a potential research partner of the MUN School of Music in composition and conducting. During the past three years, 15 exciting and innovative works have been created by young composers in the GCB's "Terra Nova" scholarship competition, and successful entrants have had the opportunity to work with the band in a dynamic interface to further develop and "fine-tune" their compositions. Meanwhile, the GCB continues to attract and welcome new members in a vibrant intergenerational musical community ranging in age from 10 to 76.

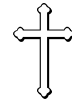
**Finances:** Income amounted to \$9,492.01, comprised of \$6,445 in donations, \$2,045 in revenue from concerts and sales, and \$602.01 in members' funds and bank interest, and \$400 interest from the Gladys L. Roberts Memorial Scholarship Endowment. Expenditure amounted to \$8,243.88, comprised of \$3,652.07 in Music, Equipment & Instrument Maintenance, \$2,562.34 in Performance Expenses, \$1,156.50 in Scholarships & Training(\*), and \$872.97 in Operating Expenses. This resulted in an operating surplus of \$1,248.13 for 2010, which was added to \$2,990.03 brought forward from 2009 for a total surplus of \$4,238.16 to be brought forward to the 2011 Operating Fund. (*\*It should be noted that the current account expenditure on Scholarships and Training does not include the annual award of the Gower Youth Band Entrance Scholarship of \$1,000 at Memorial University's School of Music, which has been fully endowed and will continue in perpetuity without requiring further contributions*). The surplus will allow the Band to implement its commitment to increased scholarship and training in 2011. There were no capital expenditures from the Instrument & Equipment Reserve Fund in 2010.

**Appreciation:** The mission and ministry of the Gower Community Band, the inheritor of the 38-year-old tradition of the nationally-recognized Gower Band Program, was founded and is firmly rooted in community service. Members of the GCB are dedicated to, and inspired by, the Band's commitment to music scholarship, development and maintenance of individual skills, creativity in composition, and service through music in its performances for church and civic events and especially in its focus on the growing Senior Citizens sector with "concerts for people who can't get out to concerts". As we have acknowledged over the years, none of this would be possible without the support of friends and benefactors at Gower and in the wider community. We can only offer sincere thanks to the Ministers, Official Board, staff, and congregation of Gower Street United Church for the vision, support, commitment, and friendship which has created and maintained this unique gift to community over 38 years. Thank you all!

Edsel Bonnell,  
Director, Gower Community Band



## ORGAN RESTORATION FUND COMMITTEE



2010 was a year of continued progress in our campaign to finance the restoration of Gower's historic Casavant Pipe Organ, Opus 1386. During the year we received cash donations of some \$61,700. These gifts, combined with the donations and tax recoveries of prior years result in total contributions of approximately \$310,000 since the campaign was launched in November of 2007. In addition, we have commitments totaling \$19,000 to be received over the next two years. This brings the overall total of donations and commitments to date, to \$329,000.

In September, we confronted an unexpected challenge when the organ was damaged by water as a result of storm damage sustained to the Church building by hurricane Igor. The damage to the organ has since been repaired by the organ manufacturer, Casavant. Apart from the deductible of \$5,000, the organ repair costs were essentially covered by insurance. In the course of the repair, steps were taken to the extent possible, to protect the organ against the potential for further damage of this nature. In addition, the larger question of necessary remedial measures to enable the Church building to withstand severe storm pressures is being addressed by the Property Committee. Most significantly perhaps after the events of last fall, Carl Goulding assures us the organ is again functioning "as good as new" - a fact that is clearly reinforced each Sunday with Carl's organ postludes.

As of December 31, 2010, after meeting our interest obligations as well as the initial funding of the hurricane damage costs, the principal on the organ restoration loan had been reduced to \$244,432. In due course, the recovery of the majority of the hurricane costs under our insurance policy will provide for a further principal payment which will reduce the loan to less than \$230,000. Clearly we have come a long way since 2007 when the congregation approved the organ restoration project at a capital cost of \$500,000.

In many respects, our success to date is attributable to the ongoing support of the Gower Congregation. This comes to us both in the form of regular direct donations, special donations in memory of family and friends, as well as continuing support for, and attendance at, various functions and activities sponsored by; the Men's Club, the UCW, the Choir, the Band, the MUN Festival and Chamber Choirs, the Philharmonic Choir of the NSO and of course the Art Exhibitions and Sales by Carl Stevenson. We also reiterate that the unwavering leadership and dedication of Gower's musical triumvirate of Doug Dunsmore, Carl Goulding and Edsel Bonnell have proven to be invaluable to us.

There is also an important additional dimension to be emphasized. Our progress is also due in no small measure to the support of the broader community - to the various other "friends of Gower", to the foundations, to the charitable funds, to various members of the music community, and to the organizations and individuals previously highlighted over the last three years. More recently, we had a prime example in December - "The Once" graciously turned their most successful concerts at Gower into a gesture of financial support for the Organ Restoration Campaign. These gestures, individually and collectively are all so important and so greatly appreciated.

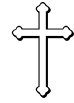
We express our sincerest appreciation to every individual, group and organization that has supported the Organ Restoration Campaign to this point. We are also very gratified to learn that we may expect further initiatives in the months ahead.

**We are more than half way there!** As we continue the campaign in 2011, we invite and welcome your ongoing support to help us achieve our most worthy objective.

Respectfully submitted,  
David Norris, Chair



## HERITAGE AND ARCHIVES



The primary mandate of the Heritage and Archives Committee is to preserve documents and memorabilia that pertain to Gower's buildings and congregation. It is also expected to help inform the congregation of our heritage.

This year the Committee participated in the celebration of Gower's 195<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the founding of the congregation.

The celebrations commenced with an Anniversary Luncheon on January 24, coordinated by the Stewardship Committee. For its part at the luncheon, the Heritage and Archives Committee exhibited a display of various documents and other items from Gower's past.

On May 18, the Committee sponsored a lecture by Calvin Hollett, based on his recently published and well-received book, "Shouting, Embracing, and Dancing with Ecstasy: The Growth of Methodism in Newfoundland, 1774-1874." This was a follow-up from the lecture Dr. Hollett had given at Gower last year.

On June 6, the Committee sponsored in the Lecture Hall a session entitled "Growing Up at Gower". A panel of Gower members recalled their memories of being children at the church, as did a number of the audience in the 'open mike' phase of the session.

The usual behind-the-scenes activities at the Archives continued throughout year, including the sorting and filing of items, such as the church bulletins, and minutes and correspondence of the Official Board and our church groups and committees. As well, numbers of donations of items related to Gower were gratefully received and processed. The Committee continues to urge anyone who has anything with Gower connections – photographs, committee minutes, correspondence, newspaper clippings, and so on - to consider donating them to the Archives.

Members of the Committee: Linda White (Archivist), Linda Hogan, James Hiller, Louise Dawe, Rev. Marion Davis (staff) and Garfield Fizzard (chair).

Respectfully submitted,  
Garfield Fizzard



## PROPERTY COMMITTEE



This year the Property Committee has been very conservative in repairs to the building in efforts to achieve a positive bottom line to the financial statements. We have had troubles due to Hurricane Igor. We sustained damage to the roof above the organ, damage to the area where the organ components are and damage to the organ itself. We are very positive that the insurance will cover these expenses.

With tremendous help from The Men's Club, we renovated the Lecture Hall with fresh paint and done repairs to the windows. Also, we have replaced the windows in the two towers on the north side of the Church.

Many of you are aware that we have a number of leaks in the building which range from minor to major, one major leak being in the windows in the Clock Tower resulting in the elevator not working. We are working closely with the Finance Committee to repair all of the leaks as

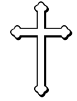
quickly as finances allow. We are fortunate that rentals are busy and there is a lot of interest which we hope will flourish.

Thank you to committee members, Mark Peters, Peter Nell, Diane Hogan, Edgar Elliott, Marion Davis, Vern Simmons, Linda Hogan and David Noseworthy for their continued support in 2010.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bruce G. Evans, Chair



## SENIORS CLUB



The Seniors Club enjoyed a great year, averaging monthly gatherings of approximately 95-100 in attendance. The Men's Club prepared a Christmas turkey dinner for 200 people. The event was an overwhelming success, much Christmas spirit was generated through musical entertainment, delicious food, and sharing with those in need, by giving non-perishable food items, along with a monetary donation of \$250.00 to Bridges to Hope.

The Seniors Club is now able to fulfill our monetary commitment previously made to the Property Committee. It is planned to forward \$500.00 in 2011. It is also the intent to give a monetary donation to the Men's Club in the near future. The Seniors Club appreciates the continuous support of the Men's Club through monthly driving and bimonthly meal preparations.

A special thank you to the various groups who willingly give of their time and musical talents. Their presence certainly enhanced the enjoyment during the evenings.

Much appreciation is extended to Rev. Marion Davis for her caring and support throughout the past year. Rev. Marion was always willing to provide spiritual and musical enrichment.

Many other individuals helped us throughout the past year, especially volunteers who helped as phone-callers; set-up; served meals; Linda Hogan and other office volunteers who sold tickets for special events, and David Noseworthy for setting up the tables and other support rendered.

Many thanks to Carrie Lethbridge who gave her time and dedication for several years as Treasurer/Secretary. Carrie still exercised other help to the club and for this we are truly appreciative.

A warm welcome was extended this past year to Sharon Nash who is now our Treasurer/Secretary. Sharon has been a strong support in all aspects of the club's activities. We are very fortunate to have her with us.

A special thank you to our long time member, Joyce Power, who has always managed to keep the kitchen tidy, clean, and organized.

Lastly please consider our ongoing request for volunteers. The reward will be heart warming.

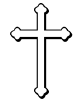
Respectfully submitted,  
Gola Roberts, Coordinator

SENIORS CLUB  
FINANCIAL REPORT  
JANUARY 1, 2010 - DECEMBER 31, 2010

Bank Balance brought forward January 1, 2010		\$ 559.67
Income:		
Dinners	\$5739.92	
Other Collection/Donations	<u>\$ 335.00</u>	
Total Income	<u>\$6074.92</u>	\$6634.59
Expenses:		
Dinners	\$4183.58	
Hired Help (Clean-up)	\$ 800.00	
UPS (Printing)	\$ 42.94	
Cards, Gifts, Christmas Supplies, etc.	\$ 240.00	
Bank Fees	<u>\$ 59.40</u>	
	<u>\$ 5325.92</u>	
Donations:		
Dorcas Widows of Uganda	\$ 25.00	
Gower Organ Fund	\$ 30.00	
Bridges to Hope	<u>\$ 250.00</u>	
	<u>\$ 305.00</u>	
Bank Balance December 31, 2010		\$5630.92



## STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE



2010 was the 195th Anniversary of our congregation and your Stewardship Committee had a busy year as we led in arranging the celebrations.

This was our main focus in 2010 as we felt highlighting our past would bring a greater awareness of the contributions made by past members and would hopefully bring a new spirit to us all which we hope would reflect in increased revenue.

It was important that all members be kept informed about church activities and throughout the year we had Pulpit speakers bringing us “seconds for stewardship” with emphasis on youth and adult groups and PAR (pre-authorized remittance).

In May we held another 8 Track Favourites Concert and though it wasn't as successful as the previous year, we did break even. Even though we didn't generate any profit on the venture, we did raise awareness of Gower as a good concert venue and it should auger well for the future.

This is the second year for the Gower Fundscrip Project administered by stewardship member Garfield Fizzard. It raises money for the Gower Operating Fund by enabling members of Gower to buy through the church a selection of gift cards which can be used at participating retailers in the St John's area. These are the same gift cards that are issued by many retailers and are essentially used as cash. By processing the purchase of the cards, Gower gets a rebate. During 2010 the participants in the Project raised \$1,000 for the Gower Operating Fund. New members are welcome.

On Sunday November 21<sup>st</sup> we had a successful Anniversary service with the President of Conference as our Guest Preacher. We plan to host a 195th Anniversary Dinner in January 2011.

In December your committee assisted with the “The Once” concert as we provided and sold ginger cookies, cider and hot chocolate during intermission and realized over \$1,000 for our Operating Fund. I would like to thank all who helped with this venture and to those who assisted us during the year a Big Thank you.

During 2011 your committee will work hard to make our congregation more aware of electronic remittance through PAR and its benefits to the giver and receiver. We continue to struggle with costs associated with operating an older Historic Building and it will be only through the generosity of members and friends that we will continue to move forward.

With Gods help, WE WILL DO IT.

Respectfully submitted,  
Geoffrey Peters, Chair





## MEETINGS OF THE DOWNTOWN CHURCHES



A year or so ago East District set up a joint committee consisting of a number of East District members and members of the four downtown churches to talk about their visions for the future and how the four downtown churches could work more closely together.

So far there have been eight meetings led by the Rev. Roger Janes of the Newfoundland and Labrador Conference. The first four meetings were of an educational nature around visioning and collaboration. More recently the meetings have moved on to discuss practical ways in which the churches can collaborate and get to know each other better.

A whole range of possibilities were discussed:

- looking for bulk-buying opportunities;
- having joint groups: perhaps a joint youth group or young families group;
- joint services where one church arranges the service which is then attended by all four congregations;
- having the four Board Chairs meet regularly together so that they are aware of what is happening at the other churches;
- having a central place where members can go to find out what fundraising events are planned by each church and when they are happening;
- having the four churches enter an arrangement to become a four point pastoral charge,
- considering combining the four churches into one congregation;
- building a new more energy efficient church downtown;
- having conference take out an option on a suitable piece of land.

This group has no real authority. Anything that the downtown church group decides might be good, will be taken back to the Boards of each church before any action will be taken. Reports of the meetings go to the East District Executive.

These meetings are open to members of the four churches and so far 4-5 Gower members have attended each meeting, although who attends from Gower changes somewhat at each meeting. The meetings follow supper which is usually around 6:00 p.m. If you would like to attend, look for the date of the next meeting (probably in March) in the Gower Bulletin and let the Gower office know that you will be attending.

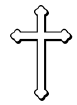
What has happened so far? The Board Chairs have been meeting together, a list of fund-raising events is being prepared to go on the V.O.W.R. website, and one Sunday last Summer Gower was closed and the congregation went to George Street and on another Sunday the reverse happened. In November, members of the Gower Board agreed that the four ministers should organize similar joint services from time to time in 2011 and that four joint services in July and August would be especially helpful.

New activities can be scary. Please be assured no changes will be instituted unless it is the will of the Gower congregation.

Respectfully submitted,  
Pat West



## GOWER STREET UNITED CHURCH WOMEN



As members of the United Church Women of Gower Street United Church, we fall under the wider umbrella of the Women's Ministries Network of the United Church of Canada.

**“Our mission is to love God; to foster Christian faithfulness, spirituality, commitment and devotion, and to promote love and respect by living generously and giving joyfully to all God's people; and to affirm and strengthen ourselves creatively.”**

We met regularly each month from September to June with an average attendance of 22 members. Executive meetings were held as required to plan monthly meetings and coordinate fundraising and social events. We welcomed some new members this year, but sadly had to say farewell to a very faithful and active member, Irene Gray along with three other retired members. We have attempted to provide meaningful programmes/activities for our active members, and at the same time, remember our less active and shut-in members.

Our Afternoon Teas/Sales, annual Fashion Show, Flea Market and, for the first time this year, a city-wide True Crafters' Fair enabled us to continue to contribute to Gower's Operating Fund, Organ Fund and the Mission and Service Fund, as well as to Community Outreach Organizations thanks to the cooperation and hard work of our members, but also to our other supporters in the congregation who continue to help and contribute to our various events, and to our dedicated staff at Gower who help with preparation and set-up for our various meetings/events.

Community Outreach is also an important part of our mandate. We continued to hold monthly Services of Worship at Elizabeth Towers where we have been warmly welcomed and where we were pleased to present one of our long term members, Daphne Kean, with her Life Membership during our June service. As well, some of our members helped to serve at the Battery's "Raise the Roof" Pancake breakfast in support of affordable housing. In December we hosted our annual Christmas Dinner for clients of the Pottle Centre.

Our service to our church this year also included providing coffee after church in May and providing desserts for congregational gatherings. As part of a provincial/national Church group we made an effort to keep in touch with the wider church through financial contributions and through attendance at regional/city-wide services, Rallies and Retreats. In the spring we had an enjoyable evening with the women of the Home League at the St. John's Citadel of the Salvation Army and returned for a service of collection for "The Least Coin Fund" used to support women's projects around the world. We also joined with other city churches for the annual World Day of Prayer service at St. Paul's Roman Catholic Church.

We sadly had to say 'Goodbye' to Rev. Kate and her family in June. She and Rev. Marion were so supportive throughout the year in our various initiatives.

As I end my term as President, I sincerely want to thank the Executive and members of our UCW who have been willing workers and supporters over the last two years and we will continue to be supportive of Ruth Francis as she begins her term as President. God bless you all!

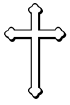
Respectfully submitted,  
Angeline Anstey, President

**GOWER STREET UNITED CHURCH WOMEN  
FINANCIAL REPORT  
JANUARY 1, 2010 – DECEMBER 31, 2010**

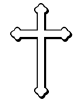
Balance brought forward January 1, 2010		<b>\$352.64</b>
INCOME:		
Membership monthly offering	\$1625.50	
Donations	\$1048.60	
Bring & Buy Fundraiser	\$326.50	
Spring Sale	\$2226.00	
Flea Market	\$1037.00	
Fashion Show	\$4195.00	
Craft Fair	\$2100.21*	
Fall Sale	\$3688.45	
Christmas Stockings	\$243.60	
Catering (funeral)	\$270.00	
Least Coin	\$64.00	
Bank Interest	\$00.08	
 Total Income:	 \$16824.94	 <b>\$17177.58</b>
EXPENSES:		
Gower Street United Church		
Operating Fund	\$8000.00	
Mission & Service	\$2000.00	
Organ Fund	\$1000.00	
Operational:		
Donations, gifts.	\$404.20	
Kitchen Supplies	\$155.00	
Spring Sale	\$137.87	
Life membership	\$51.29	
Fashion Show	\$1022.09	
Christmas Sale	\$82.59	
Craft Fair	\$122.42	
Bank charges	\$188.40	
East District Presbytery	\$792.00	
Outreach:     United Church	\$763.50	
Community	\$789.97	
 Total Expenses:	 \$15509.33	
Net balance		<b>\$1668.25</b>

\* Reflects income (deposits) for 2011 Craft Fair

Linda Nickerson  
Treasurer



## GOWER STREET MEN'S CLUB



In 2010 Gower's Men's Club once again tried to fulfill its mandate of service to the Church and Community as well as promoting Christian fellowship, and again we did this with a great deal of hard work, fun and camaraderie. The following were our activities for the past year:

- Held regular dinner meetings.
- Prepared and delivered approximately 2000 take out teas.
- Provided soup for the annual congregational meeting.
- Conducted Sunday morning worship in May.
- Hosted morning coffee after worship for the month of March.
- Held fundraiser and donated \$2000 to the organ restoration fund.
- Provided transportation of seniors to their monthly meetings.
- Catered to Seniors Club monthly dinners.
- Conducted monthly worship service at Cambridge Estates. (Special thanks to Lloyd Gill for coordinating, Jim Churchill for music and all those who come for singing and support.)
- Made donations to nine charities/groups as a result of our annual Flipper Dinner.
- Held our annual bean supper and auction in November.
- Decorated the sanctuary for Christmas.
- Held our annual Christmas Dinner in December.

I would like to express my thanks and appreciation to the entire Club for making 2010 such a successful one, and once again during this year even though our membership declined, proceeds from our different projects exceeded those of last year! 2010 also saw us make a payment of \$10,000 towards a commitment of \$20,000 to the Window loan. I want to express special thanks to the executive for its extra work and dedication.

Our Club would like to extend our sincere thanks to the Rev. Dr. Kate and Rev. Marion for their ongoing support of the club and we would also like to thank the entire congregation for its continued support of our various projects.

Once again I quote from St. Paul's letter to the Corinthians where he compared the church to the human body where each part plays an equally important role. We as a Club are proud to perform our role to help where needed within our church community and also to make this church a visible presence in our community.

Respectfully submitted,  
Henry Andrews, President

**GOWER ST. UNITED CHURCH MEN'S CLUB  
FINANCIAL REPORT  
DECEMBER 31, 2010**

	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>
Cash Balance Jan. 1/10	9,005	4,920
<u>REVENUE:</u>		
Dinner Meeting	1,545	1,361
Donations	50	100
Auction	5,247	5,233
Ladies Night	2,667	2,060
Take Out Teas	20,050	16,340
Flipper Dinner	4,240	3,992
Fundraiser	2,810	2,855
Other	0	0
	36,609	31,941
<u>EXPENSES:</u>		
Dinner Meeting	1,714	1,561
Donations	4,700	3,200
Auction	533	493
Ladies Night	1,266	1,257
Take Out Teas	8,981	8,121
Flipper Dinner	2,004	1,588
Fundraiser	1,293	1,420
Accessibility Loan	0	8,667
Accessibility Interest	0	345
Window Loan	10,000	0
Window Interest	0	0
Lecture Hall	2,238	0
Bank Charges	82	85
Kitchen	1,047	514
Luncheons	164	605
Misc.	177	0
	34,199	27856
NET	2,410	4,085
Cash Balance Dec. 31/10	11,415	9,005

**Gower Street United Church**  
**Minutes of the Annual Congregational Meeting**  
**February 28, 2010**

**1. Welcome and Opening Prayer**

David Roberts, Chair of the Official Board opened the meeting and welcomed those present. He thanked Board members and members of the congregation who brought along cookies and sandwiches and helped with the setting up and serving of lunch. Then he led us with a prayer. About 70 members of the congregation were in attendance.

**2. Appointment of the Chair and Secretary for the Meeting**

Moved by Pat West and seconded by Ken Butt that David Roberts chair the meeting and Karen Butt act as secretary.

Approved.

**3. Adoption of Agenda**

Moved by Linda Hogan, seconded by Roy West, that the Agenda as circulated be adopted.

Approved.

**4. Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the last Annual Congregational Meeting held March 8, 2009 were moved for acceptance by Linda Hogan and seconded by Jim Churchill.

Approved.

**5. Message from the Chair of the Official Board**

The Chair, David Roberts referenced his report on pages 4-5 in the 2009 Annual Report. From a financial point of view it has been a very rewarding year; the Finance Committee had budgeted a deficit for Operations, but the Income Statement for Operations shows a surplus. The financial goal for Mission and Service was exceeded and the Organ Restoration Fund has reached the halfway mark.

David expressed sincere thanks to the dedicated staff who worked so hard in 2009: Linda Hogan, office manager; David Noseworthy, caretaker; Carl Goulding, organist; Doug Dunsmore, choir director; Edsel Bonnell, band director; and Rev. Dr. Kate Crawford and Rev. Marion Davis, ministers. Mr. Bonnell sent his regrets; Jill Howlett, band manager represented the Gower Band. David also extended thanks to the many volunteers who helped in so many ways; especially the Committee Chairs and members, the Men's Club and UCW.

The Chair, stepping down after four years of service, concluded that it has been challenging yet rewarding. He extended thanks to everyone who has helped him during his service as Chair of the Board.

## **6. Message from the Ministers**

Rev. Marion Davis referenced the individual reports from Rev. Dr. Kate Crawford and herself in the Annual Report on pages 6-8. She stated that it has been a year with challenges amid many, many joys. Rev. Marion reported that there is a great working relationship among the staff.

## **7. In Memoriam**

Rev. Dr. Kate referenced page 16 in the Annual Report which lists Baptisms, Marriages and Funerals. The Funerals were performed by either herself, Rev. Marion, Rev. Florence Sanna or Scott Parsons. She read aloud the names of loved ones listed in Funerals as we remembered them prayerfully.

## **8. Reports of Groups and Committees**

- 8.1. **Finance** (pg. 40-47): John Evans, Chair of Finance reported that it has been an absolutely great year and we should be proud of the work done. A deficit for Operations had been budgeted, but at the end of the year, we realized a surplus. Next year's budget still shows an operating loss because this year the increase in envelope givings is only 1%; we received many donations in memory of people who have passed away. John extended thanks to everyone for their great support; especially to the clergy who performed wonderfully, and rose to the challenge of coping with the reduction from 2 to 1 3/4 positions.

The year end statement shows a significant amount of cash because a major portion of the givings occurs in December; loan payments are due in January. Accessibility loan balance is \$19,000; Organ Loan balance is \$278,000 with part two involving some restoration and other deficit accumulation amounts to a further \$52,000. A loan of \$100,000 had been approved for this of which \$60,000 has been applied as above. The balance of the approved loan will be drawn on in the next few months to repair leaking windows. The Men's Club intends to help. There is a total debt of \$350,000 and payment plans to address this are in place.

Kate inquired about the Restoration Fund. Last year we collected \$39,000 in envelopes directed towards Restoration; on the direction of the Board, \$25,000 was put towards facility repairs and the remainder was applied to the Organ Loan. Plans to spend \$20,000 to repair the Towers are not in the budget, but are covered by Restoration and the Men's Club.

### **Motion**

**John Evans/Ken Butt**

That the Financial Statements for the year 2009 and the 2010 Budget be hereby approved.

CARRIED

- 8.2. **Organ Refurbishment Committee** (pg. 26 - 27): Dave Norris sent his regrets. Dave Roberts referenced the report which outlines details and figures. In August 2007, the organ was dismantled and shipped to Quebec for restoration and returned to Gower in the spring, 2008; in October 2008 it was rededicated. As of December 2009 we are halfway towards paying off the loan since the launch of the campaign in November 2007.

**Motion**

**Henry Andrews/Lloyd Gill**

A vote of thanks be extended to Dave Norris and the Organ Restoration Fund Committee.

CARRIED

- 8.3. **Outreach** (pg. 20-21): In Susan Green's absence, Barb Myles referenced the report. The goal of \$44,000 for Mission and Service was exceeded by over \$5,000. People have continued to give generously to this fund. The World Development and Relief Fund received \$2,140 as a result of the Birthday Money received.

**Motion**

**Barbara Myles/Florence Sanna**

That \$45,000 be the target for Mission and Service in 2010.

CARRIED

- 8.4. **Nominations**: Dave Roberts thanked Shirley Andrews, Chair of Nominations for her hard work this year. Shirley noted that there should be a name change on the report; Tracy Butler should read Tracy Sullivan. She also acknowledged and thanked Judi Somers and Dave Roberts for their help.

The following Members resigned their positions on the Board this year:

David Roberts - Chair

Maude Peach – Chair, Pastoral Committee

Linda Braine – Co-Chair, Worship & Sacraments Committee

Florence Sanna - Co-Chair, Worship & Sacraments Committee

Gail Wideman – Chair, Ministry & Personnel Committee

Darryl Pullman – Acting Chair, Ministry & Personnel Committee

**Motion**

**Shirley Andrews/Mary Taylor-Ash**

To elect the following Board Members to vacant Positions on the Official Board:

1. Pat West be elected as Chair

2. Lorne LeDrew be elected as Chair of Ministry & Personnel Committee

CARRIED

**Motion**

**Carl Stevenson/Judi Somers**

To extend the Terms of the following Board Members:

1. That Mary Taylor Ash continue as Vice- Chair (2011)



2. That Karen Butt continue as Secretary (2011)
3. That John Evans continue as Chair of the Finance Committee (2011)
4. That Bruce Evans continue as Chair of the Property Committee (2011)
5. That Karen Tuck continue as Chair of the Christian Education Committee (2011)
6. That Susan Green continue as Chair of the Outreach Committee (2012)
7. That Geoff Peters continue as Chair of the Stewardship Committee (2012)
8. That Gar Fizzard continue as Chair of the Heritage & Archives Committee (2013)
9. That Shirley Andrews continue as Chair of the Nominations Committee (2012)
10. That the following continue as East District Representatives:  
Elinor Udell (2012), Pat West (2011), Leah Nash (2011)
11. That the following continue as members at large:  
Sharon Monahan Nash (2012)     Suzanne Orsborn (2102)     Albert Noftall (2012)  
Tracy Sullivan (2013)     Kenneth Peters (2012)     Darryl Pullman (2013)  
Geoff Wright (2012)

**Motion** **Shirley Andrews/John Evans**

That Verne Somers continue as Acting Treasurer

CARRIED

John Evans reported that Verne Somers is to be commended for the tremendous work he has done in the past three years.

Shirley reported that there are two vacant positions: Chair of Worship & Sacraments Committee and Chair of Pastoral Care Committee. She called for nominations from the floor and there were none. There will be meetings with the clergy and each committee for further input to fill these positions.

**Motion** **Shirley Andrews/Roy West**

That a vote of thanks be accorded to the following for their contribution to the Official Board during their respective terms of office:

David Roberts, Maude Peach, Linda Braine, Gail Wideman, Florence Sanna and Darryl Pullman

CARRIED

**Motion** **Shirley Andrews/Ken Butt**

That a vote of thanks be accorded to all those who have agreed to serve in the coming year.

CARRIED

**9. Other Committee and Group Reports as presented in the Annual Report**

**Motion** **Carl Stevenson/John Evans**

That all Committee and Group Reports contained in the circulated 2009 Annual Report (listed as items 9.1 through 9.16 of the Agenda), being Reports of the Trustees, JNAC,

General Protestant Cemetery Committee, East District, Ministry and Personnel, Worship and Sacraments, Pastoral Care, Christian Education, Seniors Club, Senior Choir, Gower Band Program, Property Committee, Heritage and Archives, Gower Street United Church Women, Gower Street Men's Club, and Stewardship be adopted in their respective forms as set forth in the 2009 Annual Report.

CARRIED

Linda Braine of Worship & Sacraments reported that Robert Tuck has successfully completed his interview and will be ordained in May. Linda and Florence thanked the members of the committee for their help and support during their term as co-chairs.

#### **10. Other Business**

Ken Butt noted that this is the last AGM of the congregation before Rev. Kate leaves. There will be a special congregational meeting and other events to acknowledge her time with us.

#### **11. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned by the Chair at 1:45 pm.

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David Roberts, Chair

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Karen Butt, Secretary

**GOWER STREET UNITED CHURCH**

**SUMMARY FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

**YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31 2010**

**WITH**

**BUDGET FOR YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31 2011**

## FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

The Finance Committee would like to express a sincere ‘Thanks’ to everyone in helping to meet our 2010 financial objectives, whether through donations or by exercising cost control measures.

We finished the year with a small operating deficit of about \$2,000 while making over \$60,000 in payments on the interest and principal on our organ loan, contributing a province leading \$44,000 to M&S and reducing the balance on two other loans.

This past year the Men’s Club undertook the financing of the \$20,000 restoration which the Property Committee did to the north church towers. By year end they had \$10,000 of this repaid and repaid an additional \$5,000 early in 2011. Their continued support is very valuable and much appreciated.

The ladies continued their strong support of our operating fund with an \$8,000 donation.

As we enter 2011 we have the following outstanding loans:

Accessibility	\$5,200
Organ	\$228,000
Other Loan	\$46,000

Additionally, the Property Committee has indicated that facility restoration (from leaks, etc.) will cost in excess of \$150,000.

We have applied for a small Heritage Grant and are attempting to ‘top-up’ the ‘Other Loan’, which was initially approved for \$100,000, to make a start on this much needed work,

Unfortunately, as our congregation ages our offerings directed towards our day-to-day operations continue to decline. This is a source of concern, and we are pleased to see stewardship take on the challenge to address this in 2011.

Again, many thanks, and we look forward to your continued support in 2011.

Respectfully submitted,  
J. G. Evans, Chair

**Gower Street United Church  
Budget 2011**

	2011 Budget	2010 Budget
<b>INCOME</b>		
Offerings	225,000	234,000
Investment	56,000	60,000
Fundraising	4,000	7,000
UCW	6,000	8,000
Rentals	15,000	14,000
Other	-	-
	<b>306,000</b>	<b>323,000</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Remuneration	190,000	224,000
Utilities	55,000	50,000
Property - R&M	15,000	15,000
Office	20,000	12,000
Insurance	11,000	9,300
Assessments	9,500	9,300
Committees	-	7,000
Search	15,000	-
CE	1,900	-
Other	3,100	-
Finance	4,000	5,000
Professional fees	3,500	3,000
	<b>328,000</b>	<b>334,600</b>
Gain/(Loss)	- 22,000	- 11,600

**Other Income**

**Note:**

The Stewardship Committee has indicated a willingness to undertake Special Fundraising to offset this deficit.

**Other Cash Requirements**

Other loans (from operating)

Loan #2	10,000
Accessibility loan	5,250
	<b>15,250</b>

Organ Restoration Loan

Organ principal	33,000
Organ Interest	7,000
	<b>40,000</b>