

# GOWER STREET UNITED CHURCH

St. John's, Newfoundland & Labrador

## ANNUAL REPORT 2012



**Minister:** Rev. Guy Matthews  
**Congregational Designated Minister:** Keith Wiseman  
**Minister Emeritus:** The Very Rev. Dr. Marion Pardy

**Choir Director:** Dr. D. Dunsmore      **Organist:** R. Carl Goulding  
**Band Director:** Dr. Edsel Bonnell

**Office Manager:** Linda Hogan      **Caretaker:** David Noseworthy  
**Board Chair:** David Roberts

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## **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.**

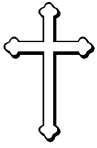
**In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.**

**We are not alone.**

**Thanks be to God.**

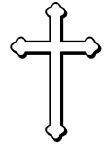
## TABLE OF CONTENTS

OFFICIAL BOARD ANNUAL REPORT.....	4
REPORT FROM THE MINISTER	
• Rev. Guy Matthews .....	6
MINISTRY & PERSONNEL .....	7
WORSHIP & SACRAMENTS .....	8
CHURCH MEMBERSHIP.....	9
BEQUESTS .....	10
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION .....	11
OUTREACH .....	13
SENIOR CHOIR .....	14
GOWER BAND PROGRAM .....	15
ORGAN RESTORATION .....	17
CHOIR DIRECTOR .....	18
PROPERTY .....	20
CEMETERY COMMITTEE .....	20
HERITAGE AND ARCHIVES .....	21
SENIORS CLUB .....	21
• Financial Report .....	22
STEWARDSHIP.....	22
GOWER STREET UNITED CHURCH WOMEN.....	23
• Financial Report .....	24
GOWER STREET MEN’S CLUB .....	25
• Financial Report .....	26
MINUTES OF 2012 CONGREGATIONAL MEETING.....	27
FINANCE COMMITTEE.....	31
FINANCIAL REPORTS Proposed Budget for 2013 .....	32
NOMINATING COMMITTEE – 2013 .....	Insert



## OFFICIAL BOARD ANNUAL REPORT

Respectfully submitted by David Roberts, Chair, Official Board



The twelve months of 2012 mark the first complete year that our new ministerial team of Reverend Guy Matthews and Keith Wiseman has been with us since being called to Gower. They have provided strong, stable, spiritual and pastoral leadership to our congregation during this period. I know you join me in extending a sincere thank you to both of them and to wish them well in their future ministry with us. I would also like to thank Chair Angeline Anstey and the Worship and Sacraments Committee for working closely and well with Guy and Keith over the past year in the design and development of Sunday Worship and other related responsibilities.

These past twelve months also saw the first complete year of the Gower Street Lunch Program, the current major project of our Outreach Committee. Designed to directly address real needs in Gower's neighbourhood community, the program to date has been very successful through the serving of 48 weekly lunches to a total of over 3,000 individuals! The Outreach Committee has recently received approval from the IceCaps Foundation for financial support to assist with the continued operation of the Lunch Program.

As you all know, the year 2015 will mark the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of our congregation, initially in the Prescott Street area and subsequently relocated to our current site. From a broader perspective, the year 2015 also marks the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the beginnings of Methodism on the Northeast Avalon area of our province. In this respect, in early June of last year, Gower invited United Churches in the Northeast Avalon to send representatives to a meeting at our church to initiate discussion towards determining whether there would be sufficient interest to develop plans for a **joint** celebration in 2015 of the 200<sup>th</sup>

anniversary of Methodism in the Northeast Avalon area. Gar Fizzard, Chair of our Heritage and Archives Committee, chaired the meeting in June at which it was clearly indicated that the churches represented were indeed enthusiastic about planning for a joint celebration. Since then, two more meetings have taken place at St. James and Wesley and planning is well underway. Parallel with this activity, our Heritage and Archives Committee will also formulate plans for our own celebrations in 2015 commemorating the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our Gower congregation.

I am pleased to report that the Ministers of the four "downtown" United Churches, Wesley, George Street, Cochrane Street and Gower continue to meet on a regular basis to discuss matters and issues of common interest and concern, and to identify possible events and venues for joint participation. Our staff and members also share information and practices where appropriate and beneficial.

In June of 2012, our congregation bid a very fond farewell to one of its most valued and cherished couples. For nearly 40 years, Shirley and Henry Andrews had served Gower in almost every capacity and position imaginable, except perhaps ministerial, and there are some among us who could effectively argue that as well. In the summer, they moved to Calgary to be with close family. Shirley and Henry have left their mark on Gower in so many good ways; they will be missed for a very long time. At a somewhat teary-eyed farewell reception in the Lecture Hall after Sunday worship in late June, we extended our thanks and best wishes to Shirley and Henry.

On behalf of the Board, I thank you all for your financial support during the past year, as demonstrated in so many forms through

attendance at fundraisers such as the Split Peas Concert and Toutons and Tea, the Spirit of Newfoundland Simon and Garfunkel evening, the many events and activities of the UCW, the Men's Club, the Senior's Club, the renowned Carl Stevenson Art Exhibition and so much more. Above all, I thank you for your regular giving's to our Operating, Organ, and Restoration Funds, and Mission and Service. Despite your financial commitment to our church, we incurred an Operating deficit last year and are projecting one in 2013. To address this adverse position, our Stewardship Committee will be playing a very active leadership role throughout this year. Please join in, participate and support the Committee in their efforts.

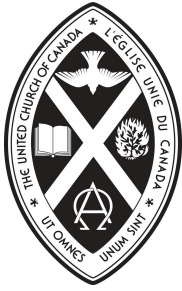
Finally, I sincerely thank all Chairs, leaders, and members of committees and groups for all your work and support during the past year. I thank the Very Rev. Dr. Marion Pardy for graciously accepting the call last September to chair our Nominations Committee. On behalf of the Official Board, I once again thank our ministers for their leadership and guidance, and all staff and volunteers for their dedication and service to our church. And on behalf of the entire Gower congregation, I congratulate Doctor Edsel Bonnell as he and the Gower Band Program enter their 40<sup>th</sup> year of service to our church, community and province. We toast the hundreds of musicians who have participated in this unique band experience over the past 40 years and we celebrate with you this outstanding milestone and legacy in 2013.

### **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.



## “OUR CHURCH”

Rev. Guy Matthews

I am always learning something new about what it means to be part of “The Church”. When I was a child and attended regularly with family, I learnt that most of our neighbours and friends went as well. I discovered that it was the social center of our small town and even responsible for my elementary school education.

As I grew, and made the personal choice to attend, I came to understand that Church was a place to form my own convictions and values. I learnt doctrine and tradition, but also came to wrestle with my own faith identity and test its relevance to my life experience. Church for me became a place of beautiful music and rich story.

I also came to realize that the Church is an organization that needs to be administered and financed, that usually has a building to be maintained and staff to be paid. I discovered that politics were alive and well in the decision making process and that it was easy to lose sight of the real goals and objectives of being the Church.

I have come to appreciate that congregation’s, and denominations, are like people in that they have their own unique narrative, personality and identity. In each congregation that I have served as a minister I have made it a point to identify these traits as early on as possible so that I could more fully understand the congregation I was serving.

I have recognized that the Church is made up of many people from all walks of life whom come bringing their uniqueness, abilities, gifts and needs. They come for various reasons, be it tradition, obligation, searching or wanting to make a difference.

I have ascertained that the Church is the local fellowship of people gathering in a rented hall, a modern facility, a historical property or in someone’s home. The Church can be three or four, a congregation of thousands, localized in a same region, even national or global in scope.

I am delighted to share in ministry with you here at Gower Street United Church. This is a congregation, a Church, with almost 200 years of history. It has made a difference in this city and in the lives of families and individuals over that time.

Times have changed! Our numbers are smaller, our beautiful building requires a lot of care and is expensive to maintain, there are fewer younger people, only a small number of our members live in the downtown area, and Outreach and community engagement will likely become more important. However, as the Church as done for 2000 years we will hopefully evolve, guided by our history and values, to be who and what God needs us to be in the years to come.

I want to thank the staff, Linda, David, Keith, Doug, Carl and Edsel, as well as the many volunteers and leaders who labour so selflessly to make Gower what it is. I want to thank all of you as members who attend and contribute in so many ways. For those who have been away for a while I invite you to come back to this caring, compassionate and life-giving place we love.

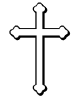
### Our Church – Gower!





## **MINISTRY & PERSONNEL**

**Respectfully submitted by - Lorne LeDrew, Chair M&P**



For the M&P Committee 2012 proved to be a relatively quiet year. Consequently it enabled us to undertake some activities that had been left wanting. The first of which was the conduct of a congregational survey entitled Speak Up! The Survey was conducted during May and June and a total of 56 surveys were completed and returned. Although there were some areas of concern we were pleased with the positive feedback and the general level of optimism that pervaded many of the responses. The survey findings are available on the Gower website [www.gowerunited.ca](http://www.gowerunited.ca). Subsequent to the Survey the findings were discussed with all staff, the Official Board and, through a presentation, with the general congregation. The Board has committed to reviewing and considering the results.

As you may recall in 2011 we had entered into a contract with Stella Burry to provide maintenance, cleaning and custodial services to the Church. Unfortunately during the Spring of 2012 it became evident that, due to circumstances beyond our control, the contract was no longer sustainable. Consequently, the Board in consultation with the Property and M&P Committees decided that the best course of action was to modify the old Custodian Job description and to once again hire a fulltime Custodian. Subsequently we re-hired David Noseworthy as Custodian.

During the Spring we applied for and were fortunate to receive funding from both the Provincial and Federal Governments to hire two Summer Students. Allison Robbins and Jillian Greening were here for approximately 8 weeks and in addition to conducting over 40 tours of the Church, they did everything from gardening, painting, developing a new Brochure and a number of other tasks. They were a wonderful help to Linda and all the staff and a “breath of fresh

air” for everyone. We will be applying for funding again this year.

Once again throughout the year our regular staff continually went beyond the call of duty. We wish to thank Doug Dunsmore, Carl Goulding and Edsel Bonnell who continue to provide inspiration to us all, and congratulate the Band as they enter their 40<sup>th</sup> year of service and look forward to enjoying them time and time again.

Our Office Manager Linda Hogan continues to keep everything on track despite an extremely busy year. To this end we are currently actively seeking Volunteers to help out, so If you have even just a couple hours a week to spare please let us know. We want to pass on a big thank you to all the volunteers that have helped out this past year and in particular Diane Hogan, Margot Evans and Grace Thornhill who have been volunteering in the office throughout the year.

David Noseworthy has returned and is working diligently to keep the buildings in top notch shape and with the volunteer help of Thomas Dunster is doing a fine job.

Keith Wiseman continues to provide leadership and coordination in Pastoral care and we are so very fortunate to have someone of his calibre in our midst. Thanks Keith!

I would also like express my sincere gratitude to the members of the M&P Committee; Roy West, Alf Anstey, Pam Snow and Roberta Gill who continue to provide faithful service.

In closing I wish to say a special thank you to Rev. Guy whose leadership and guidance continues to inspire us all.



## **WORSHIP & SACRAMENTS**

**Respectfully submitted by Angeline Anstey, Chair**

### **Mandate**

The mandate of the Worship & 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 recruit, train and organize people to assist the clergy at the service of Holy Communion, support the clergy in the organization and conduct of Baptism, and recruit and organize greeters and ushers for all services. The committee also has the responsibility to advise the clergy and Board on the use of the church sanctuary.

### **Services of Worship**

Inspirational, well-planned services of worship have been conducted faithfully each Sunday by Rev. Guy Matthews, assisted at times by our Congregational Designated Minister, Keith Wiseman and well coordinated in conjunction with our music staff- Carl Goulding, Douglas Dunsmore, Edsel Bonnell, Dana Collins and Senior and Junior Choirs and members of the Gower Community Band whose efforts have contributed so significantly to the quality of worship. We also thank committees and other clergy who have been willing to lead worship when clergy have been absent. Sermons are available on the Gower website in audio format, and hearing devices are available from the ushers.

### **Sacraments**

- Holy Communion was celebrated 6 times throughout the year at the rail, in the pew and by intinction.
- Seventeen children were baptized throughout the year.

### **Funerals**

- Forty-one funerals were registered at Gower this year.

### **Marriages:**

- Thirty-four marriages were performed or registered at Gower.

### **Committee Supporters:**

The Worship & Sacraments Committee is able to fulfill its mandate because of the support and efforts of other members of our congregation. Special thanks to:

- All who have volunteered to participate in worship by reading scripture and offering prayers, and to those who operate the sound system and who maintain the Gower website.
- All who have willingly helped in the serving of Communion throughout the year.
- The Sunday School, Outreach Committee, Men's Club and United Church Women who led worship on occasion.
- We are grateful for the many years of faithful service of Henry Andrews (who has moved) and Doug Driscoll (deceased) for coordinating ushers for services and funerals. Carl Wright has graciously agreed to take on the responsibility of Head Usher and Doug Peters who has taken on the job of coordinating ushers for funerals. Thank-you to the many individuals who serve as ushers each week.
- Gail Wideman, who continues to arrange greeters for each service, and those who have volunteered to make our congregation a welcoming one.
- Judi Somers, who continues to organize supplies for our weekly Fellowship Time, and the committees/ groups/individuals who faithfully host and provide refreshments every Sunday.
- Carl Stevenson, who gave of his time and talent to stage another art show.



The proceeds from this sale were used to supplement the expenses of the Worship & Sacraments Committee and the rest was donated to the Organ Refurbishment Fund.

- The Property Committee for their continued cooperation in maintaining a safe and well-maintained sanctuary and the Myles family for their generous gift of new carpeting for the sanctuary.

- The Bonner-Pugh family for their donation of chairs in memory of parents.
- Judy Byrne/Pat West who kept the church roll up-to date.
- Secretary, Linda Hogan, office volunteers, Thomas Dunster and Caretaker David Noseworthy for their tireless support in many ways.

**The Committee**

I wish to express my thanks to and appreciation for members of the Worship & Sacraments Committee for all their contributions and support throughout the past year. A special thank-you to ex-officio's, Judi Somers, Gail Wideman, and Carl Wright, to past members, Lynn Barter and Judy Byrne for their contributions and welcome to new member, Linda White.

A special thank-you to Rev. Guy Matthews who continues as our inspirational and dedicated clergy and to Keith Wiseman who gives such dedicated service to the Pastoral Care in our congregation.



**CHURCH MEMBERSHIP**



**RECEIVED THROUGH BAPTISM**

Camden Sawyer Boyles  
 Anderson Mark Ryan Crewe  
 Jacob Trevor Evans  
 Rebecca Harnett  
 Isaac Matthew George Moores  
 Avery Marie Noftall  
 Michael Raymond Gifford-Kilgore  
 Ryder Rodney Marsh  
 Peter Barry Stirling Tyler

Mya Gracie Burt  
 Sarah Ruth Walsh  
 Soren James Oliver Bavington  
 Alexander Tian-Cheng Wong  
 Celeste Marion Francis  
 Madison Elizabeth Bonnell  
 Vance Andrew Kenneth Vardy  
 Rosa Megan Tamara Stoodley

**FUNERALS REGISTERED AT GOWER**

Claudia O'Connor  
 Elizabeth G. Collins  
 Winston Butt  
 Martin Hogan  
 Bridget Mary Ryan  
 Marjorie Baker  
 Rosalie Burry

Daphne Kean  
 Henry Frederick Hussey  
 Leslie B. Price  
 Gurney J Hodgson  
 Mabel Vivian  
 Margaret Rachel Williams  
 Betty Mesher

Dorothy Trenchard  
 Hector Mercer  
 Muriel G. Rabbitts  
 Robert Joseph Brodowski  
 Sheila P Lane  
 Henry Edward Foster

## **FUNERALS REGISTERED AT GOWER cont'd**

Yit Won Au	Matthew Joseph Brake	Catherine Chaulk
Jean Sparks	Minnie Edwards	Cecil Allan Goulding
Mary B Hudson	Myrtle Vardy	Douglas Driscoll
Judith Marie Strang	Eva Jones	David Youden
John Winston Crocker	Raymond Butler	Sarah Drinkwater
Brenda Josephine Johnson	Ida Duder	Edna Green
Ruth Rabbitts	Marshall Herbert Bursey	Bruce Austin

## **MARRIAGES PERFORMED OR REGISTERED AT GOWER**

Michael Dillon & Jillian Ping	Richard Clarke & Allan Young
Ruth Ann Burton & Clyde Thomas	Adrian Dower & Michele Oliver
Walter O'Brien & Gail Price	Christopher Murphy & Alma Street
William Hawco & Kathryn Williams	Jillian Glenn & Bernard Rice
David Loder & Erin Raynard	Yvonne Flynn & James Gibbons
Christopher Butler & Jillian Carter	Kara Brown & Matthew Carter
Christopher McDonald & Melissa Stag	Vicki Colbourne & Andrew Young
Paul Bradley & Colleen Braun	Rodney Fraize & Suzanne Jerrett
Jordan Wright & Ashley Henderson	April Chipman & Thomas Dunster
Trevor Carew & Ashley Knee	Andrew Cameron & Lana Combden
Boyd Constantine Jr & Elizabeth Lane	Robert Hiscock & Tanya Mercer
Donna McGrath & Trent Templeman	Brian Walsh & Koren Young
Mary DeBoer & Michael Lake	Robert Johnston & Judi Kelland
Donald Newell & Vickky Noftall	Leonard Collins & Ruby Hiscock
Matthew Druken & Wendy White	Trevor Evans & Rhonda Nicholl
Melissa Green & Jason Noftall	Wayne Osmond & Adolphus Seymour
Sarah Moylan & Roby Murphy	Neal Thorne & Lori Brett

## **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.

<b>Clarence &amp; Ruth Badcock</b>	<b>Velda Richards</b>	<b>Thomas &amp; Helene House</b>
<b>Daphne House</b>	<b>Marion Soper</b>	<b>Walter Grouchy</b>
<b>Kay Grouchy</b>	<b>Frances Lench</b>	<b>Rev. Walter H Macabe</b>
<b>Leslie LeDrew</b>	<b>Grace &amp; Wilfred Barbour</b>	<b>Carrie Martin</b>
<b>John &amp; Blanche Taylor</b>	<b>Willis Benson</b>	<b>Alma Pittman</b>
<b>Marjorie Peters</b>		

## BEQUESTS cont'd

Gladys Roberts  
Dr. Thomas Stentafor  
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  
Olga Anderson  
John F. Pittman  
Harold Butler

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.



### CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE



Respectfully submitted by Carolyn Anstey-Moore, Chair, CE Committee, and  
Sunday School Coordinator

#### **Committee Membership:**

Carolyn Anstey-Moore has agreed to stay on as Chair of the committee in 2013. The Committee membership is currently: Carolyn Anstey-Moore (Chair), Kelly Hudson-Lewis, Sue Wilton, and Dana Collins

The CE Committee held monthly meetings in the Church Office on the first Wednesday of each month during the year, with discussion focused on the committee's work, in particular in the areas of youth ministry and the Sunday School program.

We are always looking for new committee members! If you are interested in serving on this vital committee or helping with Sunday School, please contact Carolyn Anstey-Moore (by phone 754-6922 (evenings) or email [carolynansteymoore@nl.rogers.com](mailto:carolynansteymoore@nl.rogers.com))

#### **Update on Sunday School Program:**

A total of 17 children ranging from 3 to 10 years of age registered for Sunday School, and were divided into two classes, including eight (8) children in the Pre-Kindergarten to Gr. 2 class, and nine (9) children in the Gr. 3 to Gr. 6 class. The Season's of the Spirit

curriculum was used as teaching material for all age groups, and followed the revised common lectionary year. Regular Sunday School classes were held during the first three Sundays of each month; while the fourth Sunday of the month was typically reserved for junior congregation, where all the Sunday School children came together to share in worship. Eight (8) members of the congregation volunteered as teachers. Six teachers were split between the two classes with a teaching commitment of one Sunday per month, and two teachers (Kelly Hudson-Lewis and Carolyn Anstey-Moore) responsible for junior congregation and special sessions.

In March 2012, the Sunday School children took part in a special multi-week session focusing on "Lent and Good Things to Take Up" lead by Kelly Hudson-Lewis. On Palm Sunday, the children prepared their own miniature Lenten Gardens, and learnt the meaning of the various Christian Easter symbols.

The Sunday School program finished on June 17, 2012 with a farewell party. Junior

Congregation, for ages 3 and up, was held throughout the summer months.

The 2012-2013 Sunday School program commenced on Sept. 9, 2012 with a welcome back party and registration.

The Sunday school children participated in a number of special worships over the 2012 Advent season, commencing on November 25 with "Advent Fun Day", where they spent the full hour downstairs learning about the wonderful season of Advent through music, crafts, and worship. Parents were invited downstairs after the service for a lunch of mac & cheese, hotdogs and sweets before heading to the Downtown Santa Claus Parade held later that day. The response to this event was very positive, and will likely become an annual event. The following Sunday, (December 2), the children continued to learn and prepare themselves for Advent and Christmas by participating in the "Hanging of the Greens". This year, while the "Hanging of the Greens" worship was carried out in the sanctuary, the children participated in a "kid-oriented" version downstairs, and enjoyed learning about the religious significance of various Christmas traditions and decorations. On Sunday, Dec. 16, the Sunday School children performed their Christmas Pageant "TWO TRAVELLERS". This was lead by Dana Collins and included musical support by the junior choir. By modifying the script, all of the children were able to participate and enjoyed performing their play for the congregation

Over the past year, the Sunday School children have also participated in a number of worship services, including the Palm Sunday Service, and the White Gift Service.

In addition, most of the Sunday School children were also members of the junior choir, which was directed by Dana Collins. This past year, the junior choir performed at a number of special worship services, including the Family Sunday, Thanksgiving, White Gift, and Christmas Eve services.

We thank all the Sunday School teachers for their continued commitment and enthusiasm, as well as the parents and rest of the congregation for their support throughout the year. Also, many thanks to Susan Wilton for her continued dedicated work in organizing and maintaining a clean and safe church nursery, and to our many nursery volunteers for their support.

#### **Follow up to "Speak Up Survey":**

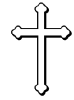
The May 2012 Congregation Survey identified a desire to see increased involvement/engagement of Youth in our church. This has become a major focus this year, and the committee has been seeking opportunities to involve youth in worship services & offer activities/programs meaningful to that age group. During Advent, several of the youth-aged children assisted Rev. Guy in leading the White Gift Service. In addition, to prepare for the White Gift Service, a special pizza gathering was planned for the youth to practice for the service and make cookies for Street Reach. However, due to busy schedules that time of year, interest was low and the event was cancelled.

Youth events planned during the upcoming months include a youth group session led by St. James Youth leaders, a Street Reach Walkabout lead by Kelly Hudson, and youth Confirmation (>Gr. 8).



## **OUTREACH COMMITTEE**

**Respectfully submitted by Barb Myles, Outreach Chair**



The Gower Street Lunch Program continues to operate weekly each Wednesday, in the Lecture Hall. Lunch is served from 12:00 to 1:00 to anyone who comes to our doors needing food and friendship.

Many thanks to members of the congregation for your many forms of help with the lunch program, including gifts of time and money: UCW, Men's Club, Senior's Club, Pastoral Care and individuals too numerous to name.

You will be glad to hear that new community sponsors continue to join us, often following conversation with a Gower supporter. Please consider volunteering individually or as part of a group of family or friends some Wednesday in 2013. We especially need volunteers for the summer months and would like to plan our schedule for the balance of 2013.

We would like to recognize the support of our many external sponsors and volunteers including Curtis Dawe, Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW), Gonzaga High School, Bell Aliant Pioneers, Dept of Education Special Services, St. James United Church Youth, The GO Project, Legal Aid, MUN Chaplains, St. David's Presbyterian Church and St Andrew's Presbyterian, St. Thomas' Anglican Church,

Committee Members: Len Busby, Jill Howlett, Rev. Guy Matthews, Pat Mercer, Jennifer Morgan, Judi Somers, and Barb Myles (Chair - 754-5342)

Marie's Mini Mart, Coffee Matters, Country Ribbon Chicken, Jill Howlett and coworkers, Alice and Gerry Lynch and friends, Pat Mercer and friends, Jennifer Morgan and friends, Keith Wiseman and friends, and Bridges To Hope.

Wonderful news! The IceCaps Care Advisory Board has approved our application for funding to assist with the operation of the lunch program. Details regarding the amount of funding and the details for cheque presentation for our program will come in the near future.

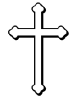
Over the next few months, Outreach is planning to initiate a survey among community groups who provide services and resources to people in our neighbourhood. We would like to become better informed about what is currently available, and identify any overlaps or gaps in assistance. This will help us determine how to be most helpful to those needing a hand up.

If you would like to know more about what happens in Outreach, would like a tour of Bridges To Hope, would like to volunteer either at the Food Pantry or in the lunch program or would like to join our committee, please contact us. Every small bit helps.



## SENIOR CHOIR

Respectfully submitted by Carl Stevenson, President



Your Senior Choir under the direction of Dr. Douglas Dunsmore has had another busy year. Our membership now stands at 38. We have had a number of changes during 2012: Jill Howlett joined the alto section in September, Tom Sparkes has decided not to continue due to health concerns and Judy Byrne has retired to NS to be closer to family, in particular the grand children. We are always looking for new members and as one can see there are many spaces that could be filled.

Our additional activities during the past year were:

- A long time former choir member, Claudia O'Connor, passed away in early January and we were there to support her family at the funeral at Gower on January 4<sup>th</sup>.
- February was our month to look after the post-service coffee/reception in the Taite/Osmond room.
- The choir provided several appropriate anthems at the 8:00 am communion and the 11:00 am services on April 8<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.
- On April 23<sup>rd</sup> we were present for the Gower funeral of Dr. Martin (Ben) Hogan, husband of alto Diane Hogan, and a long time supporter of our choir who will be sadly missed at our activities.
- Our pre-summer Bar-B-Q was held at Karen and Ken Butt's on June 8<sup>th</sup> and at this gathering we bestowed on Joan O'Grady and Tom Sparkes the

status of Choir Member Emeritus. We were then off for the summer but did sit in on an ad hoc basis for some of the summer services.

- This year we WILL have our fund-raising event in aid of the organ restoration. This has been postponed a number of times now, mainly due to the organ not been fully back in proper playing condition.
- Our annual Christmas party could not be held at the Stevenson's this past December due to health reasons in the Stevenson family. However Karen and Ken Butt again came to the rescue and the party took place at their place on December 7<sup>th</sup>.
- 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 choir numbers have increased for this service (by some 8 or so) since we usually have former members and family members who are home for the Christmas season join us.

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 weekly rehearsal contributions.

## CHOIR FINANCIAL REPORT

### Special Projects Account

Opening balance, January 1, 2012	\$3815.28
Closing balance, December 31, 2012	3790.64

### Social Account

Opening balance, January 1, 2012	\$ 463.25
Closing balance, December 31, 2012	213.48

**Our executive committee:** Carl Stevenson - President  
Roberta Gill - Vice-President  
Marilyn Peters - Secretary/Treasurer  
Ruth Churchill and Sandra Davis - Gown Conveners

Choir Members Emeritus: Jean and Cam Adey, Joan O'Grady, Tom Sparkes

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.



## GOWER BAND PROGRAM GOWER COMMUNITY BAND

Respectfully submitted by Edsel Bonnell, Director, Gower Community Band

The Gower Community Band celebrated its heritage of music and service in 2012 by observing the 39<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the Gower Youth Band and the beginning of a special 40<sup>th</sup> year of events and initiatives to culminate in November 2013. The Band maintained its demanding level of musical activity, with 15 performances during the year: 4 services at Gower, which included the traditional Palm Sunday Band Musicale and Service on April 1<sup>st</sup> featuring the congregational singing of the "Hallelujah" Chorus led by the Choir, a special Musicale on the theme "A Heritage of Hymns" at the United Church Anniversary Service on June 10<sup>th</sup>,

a Remembrance Day Musicale and Service on November 11<sup>th</sup>, and "Noel!", the 40<sup>th</sup> Christmas Band Musicale and Service on December 23<sup>rd</sup> which launched the 40<sup>th</sup> year observance; the annual GCB Terra Nova Gala celebrating young composers in Newfoundland and Labrador; the wedding of long-time Band member Shawn Butler and Natasha Hall at St. Patrick's Church; and 9 seniors' concerts at Tiffany Village (2), Masonic Park, the Veterans' Pavilion at the Miller Centre, Cambridge Estates, Glenbrook Lodge, Hoyles' Home, Escasoni, and the Shrine Club.

**Music Education:** The Band's commitment to music education is stronger than ever. The GCB Terra Nova Program expanded remarkably during the year with a record number of submissions to its annual Composition Competition at MUN Music. The works were of very high quality, making the judges' decisions more difficult than ever. Three composers shared the \$1,000 prize, and the Band decided to increase its budget to allow for the purchase of three other compositions which deserved Honourable Mention. Since the Terra Nova Program was initiated by the Band in 2007, a total of 17 exciting new works have won awards. In addition, the GCB maintains the annual \$1,000 Gower Youth Band entrance scholarship established at MUN Music in 1986 honouring the service of the GYB and particularly the 67 band members who have become music educators and professional performers over the years. One of the special initiatives of the 40th Year celebrations will be to ensure the perpetuity of this award, now re-named the Gower Youth Band Legacy Scholarship, by a major contribution to the endowment necessitated by low interest rates. The Band continues to provide internal scholarships, training programs, master classes and workshops through the Gladys L. Roberts Memorial Fund, the Jack Green Memorial Fund, and individual donations to our scholarship program from Band members and supporters. We are very grateful for these gifts.

**Membership:** The GCB created a new web site during the year through the efforts of "web-master" trumpeter Aaron Natsheh. It serves to create greater community awareness of the Band and its services, as well as providing a link for the more than 400 people around the world who have passed through the Gower band program over the years (there's great interest in the possibility of some reunion activity during year 40!). It is also attracting new members, especially newcomers to the Province who

are studying at MUN or working with national companies who find an immediate opportunity to continue the joy of musicianship as well as an instant "family" for fun, fellowship, and support. The growth of membership will make possible additional outreach activity, especially in our Seniors' Program of "concerts for people who can't get out to concerts", and both Associate Director Ron Collins and I are looking forward to adding a third conductor to share the leadership demands during 2013. Many hands make light work! We invite readers to visit our web site periodically to keep in touch with GCB activities: [www.gowercommunityband.com](http://www.gowercommunityband.com)

**Finances:** Income in 2012 amounted to \$10,893.72, comprised of \$8,150 in donations and honoraria; \$1,360 in revenue from concerts and sales; and \$1,383.72 from members' funds, bank interest, and a Gift in Kind of instruments donated. Expenditure amounted to \$8,410.48, comprised of \$1,810.51 in Music, Equipment & Instrument Maintenance; \$3,200.85 in Scholarships & Training (not including the \$1,000 GYB Legacy Scholarship endowment as noted above); \$1,220.23 in Performance & Promotion costs; and \$2,178.89 in Operating Expenses and bank charges. The excess of Income over Expenditure amounting to \$2,483.24 was added to the accumulated 2012 reserve of \$6,574.04 for a total operating reserve of \$9,057.28 brought forward to 2013 for the 40<sup>th</sup> year activities and community service initiatives. There were no capital expenditures from the Instrument & Equipment Reserve Fund in 2012. However, aging equipment (especially 40-year old instruments!) demand replacement, and the 40<sup>th</sup> Year program may well include a major refurbishment element that would dissipate the reserves and require fund-raising activity.



**Appreciation:** Few people are given the opportunity -- and very real privilege -- of working in a leadership role of a vibrant, dynamic organization through 40 years of musical achievement, community service, friendship, and great fun. Anthea and I have been truly blessed, and we are humbled and grateful. There are so many “moments to remember”, as the song says, and so many wonderful friends and colleagues. It would be too selfish to wish for more personally, and the laws of nature dictate that we can't have another 40 years like the decades past! But we look to the future of the GCB with great excitement and assurance. The Band has a superb Executive Group headed by General Manager David Robbins, and an outstanding team of volunteers working through various committees to not only keep the GCB program operating smoothly and successfully, but also to plan and implement exciting new initiatives in musical development and service to community. I appreciate and treasure the talent, loyalty, commitment, and enthusiasm of all GCB members. Special thanks to my valued

colleague and friend, Associate Director Ron Collins; a very busy high school music educator, professional performer and creative composer/arranger who is dedicated to the GCB and its mission, and works tirelessly to ensure its success.

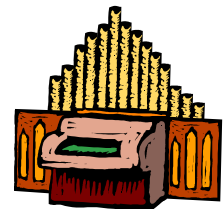
As always in these Annual Reports over the years, my final words are for our friends and supporters. The ministry of service by the Gower Community Band would not be possible without the encouragement and practical assistance of benefactors at Gower and in the wider community. From Dr. Harry Roberts and his friends in the congregation of 40 years ago who caught the vision of a non-denominational community outreach program as a church initiative, to the present-day Ministers, Official Board, Committees, service groups, staff and congregation ... and especially our musical colleagues and friends, Dr. Doug Dunsmore, Carl Goulding, Dana Collins, and the choirs.... thank you all! We invite you to share our 40<sup>th</sup> year celebration as we make new memories for the years to come.

## **ORGAN RESTORATION FUND COMMITTEE**

**Respectfully submitted by David Norris, Chair**

During 2012 we received cash donations of \$43,951. As of December 31, 2012, after meeting our interest obligations, and financing additional measures to protect the organ from potential future damage, the principal on the organ restoration loan had been reduced to \$177,760. It should be noted that the fund had a cash balance of \$7,918 at yearend, reflecting cash receipts late in the year. This balance, combined with the collection of \$17,121 in outstanding accounts receivable due to us at yearend, along with early donations in 2013, means we now have the capability to reduce the organ loan to \$150,000. In other words, we are 70% of the way toward funding the

initial \$500,000 capital cost of the restoration of the organ.



Through the course of 2012, it again became apparent that the successive repairs made to the building following the ravages of Hurricane Igor in 2010 were still inadequate. A severe storm in 2012 led to further leaks and some water damage to the organ. These matters were fully scrutinized and addressed by the property committee, along with the insurance company, to ensure that the necessary and appropriate remedial action would finally be taken, and that there would be no recurrence of water damage. As an additional precaution, a plexiglas shield

was installed to protect the organ should unforeseen circumstances ever result in water entering the vicinity of the organ again. These measures were completed by November at a total cost of \$7,397. Casavant, and most importantly, Carl Goulding have confirmed that the organ is now in tip top shape in every respect!

Our success to date in the Organ Restoration financial campaign is of course attributable, in a multitude of ways, to the commitment and ongoing support of the Gower Congregation. This comes to us 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, and the Band, and of course the Art Exhibitions and Sales by Carl Stevenson. In addition, it must be emphasized that our success is also very much attributable to support from the broader community – the various “friends of Gower”; the foundations, the charitable funds, and various members of the music community (including “The

Once” again at their December 2012 concert).

Earlier this month, the Gower Community Band under the direction of Edsel Bonnell, and in company with Carl Goulding at the organ, lead off the 2013 campaign with a wonderful Festival of Organ and Band music. This concert in early February, not only enhanced the fund in a very meaningful way, but also provided an enriching cultural dividend to all those in attendance. Other events in the works for 2013 include a musical initiative by the Choir in the spring, and a Carl Stevenson Art Exhibition in November. These gestures, individually and collectively, continue to be vitally important to advancing the campaign and are so greatly appreciated.

The Organ Restoration Committee wishes to express our sincerest appreciation to every individual, group and organization that has supported the Organ Restoration Campaign to this point. As we continue the campaign in 2013 and tackle the final 30%, we invite and welcome your ongoing support to help us to finish the job.



## **CHOIR DIRECTOR**

**Respectfully submitted by Doug Dunsmore**



This report does not fall under the heading of “Choir Director” as much as it represents my personal view on our significant progress in successfully reducing the outstanding organ fund.

It has always been my premise that this whole project and the activities that surround it have really been more than merely repairing the organ, but rather, galvanizing the congregation to forge ahead with some meaningful community revitalization on many fronts. Edsel Bonnell asked me to speak about this at our recent

organ/band recital (February 10) and I submit it for your information.

“Thank you being part of this celebration featuring our refurbished Casavant organ, our fine organist, Carl Goulding and our own Gower Community Band.

Of course one only needs to hear this magnificent instrument as we have today to realize that it represents excellence in so many ways.

Edsel Bonnell asked me to rise to speak to the importance of such a jewel in the community at large.

If one was not a member of this congregation and a bit cynical, one **could** say ... “so ... Gower has a fine instrument ... So what?!” The “so what” is this ... Not only does this wonderful organ send sound waves into this sanctuary and into our ears and hearts, it also creates waves that magically ripple and make their presence known in the community at large.

For example, Gower has been a principal host for FESTIVAL500 since 1997, and the organ, especially of late has been a drawing card for choirs who want to perform sacred music with organ in their evening “World of Music” concerts. At an average of 500 audience members per concert, Gower has welcomed something in excess of fourteen thousand people to hear those events ... Many of whom might never have otherwise darkened our door. That is impressive.

Many other substantial musical events have chosen Gower as a venue. The Once, and their yearly concerts, the CBC Christmas reading of Scrooge and the splendid Lessons and Carol services by Mt. Pearl Jr. and Sr. high schools and alumni are but three in a long list of others.

Since the restoration, the MUN School of Music has chosen Gower to host many of its concerts when a fine organ is required ... In fact there will be a significant event of that sort on Palm Sunday March 24th featuring the Rutter Gloria with Organ, Brass, percussion and the voices of 150 MUN student plus a large group of Alumni singers... And one will need to get their seats early for that event ... A little bird told me that we may see a completely sold out hall.

People have chosen Gower as a venue because of this intimate setting where

the audience and performers are close to one another, but they have also chosen Gower because not long ago, our congregation stood up and undertook the daunting process of the organ restoration as a sign that they chose to continue to make music a pillar in the life of this congregation and its environs ... and the community and people have responded in kind.

I don't mind telling you that during the decision stage, there was a lot of concern. When trying to define the scope of the project, it was expressed among some, that this was about rebuilding the whole church ... if we did not commit to restoring the elements of the organ, the church and its programmes and the community with passionate zeal, we might as well turn the building into condos!

Well, thanks to you, and many more like you, Gower is **not** being outfitted for condo living. Instead, we are alive and well and through the innovation and passion of people like Carl Goulding, Edsel Bonnell and the Gower Community Band, the Gower congregation and countless others, like you ... we will be here to lead this community musically and in many other ways for decades to come.

Thank you for being part of this snapshot of our organ restoration project. We strongly feel that it has helped us to link hands with our neighbours in the revitalizing our whole community ... A true gift to us ALL!

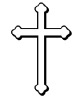
We encourage you to tell others about your time with us this afternoon and tell them to come to other events we have planned for the future.

Oh yes ... One other thing ... Encourage people to be part of this continuing celebration by **donating generously!!!**  
**That would be BRILLIANT!!!**

Thank you!”



**PROPERTY COMMITTEE**  
Respectfully submitted by **Bruce Evans, Chair**



The property committee has had another busy year. We completed repairs to the pipe organ caused by hurricane Leslie. With many thanks to Barb Myles we had the much needed carpet replaced in the sanctuary along with the Taite Osmond room. The Men's club have committed to the repairs to the roof \ windows over the elevator which we as well thank them very much for. We have had our on going repairs to the furnace which seems to be a never ending battle.

We also welcome David Noseworthy back as an employee of Gower, with his knowledge of the building along with the skills he possesses.

In 2013, we plan to replace the floor and the stairway tiles in the hallway adjoining the Memorial building along with the tiles in the Sunday school room and nursery. We also plan to finish repairs to the roof above the Sunday school and nursery.

The rental committee a sub committee of property has done a wonderful job organizing the rentals of the property and has addressed some key points as to how we can improve our rental structure or process. Many thanks to the members of the rental committee, Robert Tipple, Peter Nell and Wilson Hiscock.

I would like to express many thanks to the members of the property committee, Linda Hogan, Diane Hogan, Peter Nell, Wilson Hiscock, Robert Tipple, David Noseworthy, Verne Simmons, Guy Matthews and Pat West.



**GENERAL PROTESTANT CEMETERY COMMITTEE**  
Respectfully submitted by **Cochrane St. United Church,**  
on behalf of **Vernon Simmons**



Gower's donations to the Cemetery Fund were in the amount of \$2035.00 for 2012.

**Mount Pleasant Cemetery Update**

The new Columbarium has 32 of the 80 niches sold during the first year. The purchase of a second one is being considered within the next year.

**Memorial Gardens Update**

The Cemetery has 10 acres hydro-seeded and ready for burials. An entrance gate, 400 feet of fencing and a Memorial Gardens Cemetery sign are in place.

Before any move can take place, a new building has to be constructed to store equipment, a new backhoe for digging and snow clearing, an artesian well, septic system and hydro power brought to the site. Estimated cost for these projects will be \$450,000.00. The Cemetery Board is preparing a brochure for all congregations looking for donations towards these costs.

A date will be forthcoming for a Consecration Service.



## **HERITAGE AND ARCHIVES**

**Respectfully submitted by Garfield Fizzard, Chair**



Most of the Committee's work this year had to do with the future, to 2015 when Gower will celebrate the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of a small group of Methodists building a chapel in 1815 and welcoming their first minister, Rev. John Pickavant. It was, however, more than the start of a single Methodist church; it was the formal beginnings of Methodism in St. John's and region. All the present United Churches in the area can trace their history, directly or indirectly, back to the Methodists of 1815.

Early this year the Committee asked the Official Board to invite the other United Churches to send representatives to an exploratory meeting on the possibility of collaborating to celebrate the anniversary. The Board concurred, and the outcome of the

exploratory meeting was highly successful. A Bicentenary Celebration Committee has been established, with Garfield Fizzard as Chair and Linda White as Secretary. To date, the Committee has planned for a special joint service to be held at Gower, hopefully with the Moderator, who has been invited. Other events are being planned, and these will be reported in the new year.

As has been the practice over a number of years, Gower will celebrate its anniversary in 2013 and 2014. In 2015, it will participate with the other United Churches in the joint events, and will have some internal events, for which the Official Board has asked the Heritage and Archives Committee to be responsible



## **SENIORS CLUB**

**Respectfully submitted by Gola Roberts, Coordinator, Gower Seniors Club**



The Seniors Club experienced another enjoyable year. The monthly attendance averaged 85-95 with the exception of the Christmas Gala of approximately 140.

The Seniors Club continues to reach out into the wider community with the majority of attendance from the St. John's and surrounding areas. The Seniors Club contributed to community needs, for example, each year at Christmas, food items and a cash donation are forwarded to Bridges To Hope; turkey frames are given for soup, towards the Wednesday Lunch Program. Also, this year a donation of \$50.00 was given to the Wednesday Lunch Program.

Once again, a special thank-you to the Men's Club for their devoted service in the bi-monthly preparation of meals, the Christmas dinner and

for driving some individuals, (approx. 50) to and from the gatherings. This year the Seniors Club donated \$500.00 to the Men's Club, in appreciation of their kind and generous efforts over the many years.

In closing, The Seniors Club would like to extend their thanks to various members of the congregation who help support the club. A special thank-you to Alva Fizzard, Bernice Soper and Karen Smith for their constant help. Thank you to Rev. Guy Matthews, Keith Wiseman, Congregational Designated Minister, and Linda Hogan, Office Manager for their support.

Thank you to Sharon Monahan, Secretary-Treasurer, Joyce Power and Carrie Lethbridge for their continued support

**FINANCIAL REPORT**  
**Respectfully submitted by Sharon Monahan, Treasurer**

Bank Balance brought forward January 1, 2012		\$ 631.39
Income:		
Dinners	\$3193.00	
Other Collection/Donations	<u>\$ 110.00</u>	
Total Income	<u>\$3303.00</u>	\$3934.39
Less Expenses:		
Dinners	\$2284.47	
Hired Help (Clean-up)	\$ 630.00	
Gift.	\$ 29.00	
Bank Fees	<u>\$ 59.30</u>	
Total Expenses	<u>\$3002.77</u>	\$ 931.62
Less Donations:		
In Memoriam-Operating Fund	\$ 50.00	
Lunch Program (refrigerator)	\$ 50.00	
Bridges to Hope	\$ 100.00	
Gower Men's Club	<u>\$ 500.00</u>	
Total Donations	<u>\$ 700.00</u>	\$ 231.62
Bank Balance as of December 31, 2012		\$ 231.39



**STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE**

**Respectfully submitted by Geoffrey Peters, Chair, Stewardship Committee**



As we see it, the role of a Stewardship Committee is to provide the opportunity and environment to enable our members to contribute willingly to our church for many things locally, nationally and internationally through the United Church of Canada.

During the past year we have provided information on PAR (Pre-Authorized Remittance) and we are glad to report that we now have over 70 of our members using this method to support our church.

In the early spring of 2012, we hosted a dinner theatre in association with Spirit of Newfoundland and realized a profit of close to \$3000 for our operating fund.

We will be working hard this year to fund raise with all proceeds going directly to

Gower's operating fund as we have to overcome the projected deficit as shown in our 2013 budget. I wish to now highlight plans for 2013.

During this year we will have a "Moment for Stewardship" from the pulpit one Sunday a month when a member of our committee will bring information on this important subject.

We are excited to announce an initiative on planned giving and legacy contributions which we hope can provide Gower with significant funds to maintain our beautiful building for many, many years. We will be working with Clyde Flight who is the new Financial Development Officer of the Newfoundland Conference. We are planning a legacy and planned giving seminar in the

spring to give more information particularly with regard to tax implications.

We also wish to announce that another dinner theatre is planned for April 11<sup>th</sup> 2013 and tickets will be available March 1<sup>st</sup>. We seek your support as this project is important to our financial wellbeing.

We feel 2013 will be a busy year and we pray that it will be a successful one also.

Last but by no means least, a big thank you to my committee: Judi Somers, Pat West, Gar Fizzard, Carl Stevenson and Albert Nofall. Your support is appreciated.



## **GOWER STREET UNITED CHURCH WOMEN**

**Respectfully submitted by Ruth Francis, President**



We meet once a month for our general meeting where we worship and plan how we can be of service to our Church and the community. There are usually 22-25 members present. We understand that our members are getting older and it is sometimes difficult to get out especially during the winter months, but when called upon to bake or make crafts or preserves for various functions and sales, the response is always positive. When we need extra help there are members of Gower that we can call on and they always respond gladly. For this we are so thankful.

We lost several faithful members of our group this past year and the loss is felt by all. We will always remember them.

With money from our annual Morning Coffee, Afternoon Tea, sales, Fashion Show, Craft Fair and Flea Market we continue to contribute to Gower's Operating fund, Organ fund and to Mission and Service. We also contribute to many community outreach organizations.

We also provide a Christmas dinner to the clients of the Pottle Centre. This year we provided and served a pancake and sausage lunch to the Wednesday Lunch Program. We also catered several funeral receptions.

One of our Stewardship programs is conducting a monthly church service at Tiffany Village. We are always warmly welcomed and the service is well attended. We are also happy to see many members of Gower who reside there and attend our service.

This past May we hosted the AGM of the East District UCW. We conducted the morning worship at Gower also in May. We took part in several retreats and rallies where we enjoyed fellowship with UCW members from other churches. We joined with many city church members to take part in the World Day of Prayer service held annually in March.

As my term as President comes to an end, I think back on the past two years with gratitude and pride; gratitude for all the women who have been such willing helpers and good friends to me as I tried to do my part in the service of God and to the community; pride in remembering all that we as a group, accomplished this past year. I am sure we will support the incoming President, Linda Nickerson, as I have been supported these past two years.

**GOWER STREET UNITED CHURCH WOMEN  
FINANCIAL REPORT  
JANUARY 1, 2012 – DECEMBER 31, 2012**

Balance brought forward January 1, 2011		<b>\$1011.93</b>
<b>INCOME:</b>		
Membership monthly offering	\$ 1291.20	
Donations	\$ 1460.00	
Bring & Buy Fundraiser	\$ 387.50	
St. Patrick's Tea & Sale	\$ 2109.00	
Fashion Show	\$ 4472.00	
Craft Fair	\$ 1456.25*	
Fall Sale	\$ 4432.65	
Christmas Stockings	\$ 172.60	
Catering (funeral)	\$ 528.80	
Least Coin	\$ 47.33	
Bank Interest	\$ 4.28	
Tiffany Village	\$ 297.40	
Hosting UCW AGM	\$ 1200.00	
Flea Market	\$ 1353.54	
 Total Income:	 \$19212.55	 <b>\$20224.48</b>
<b>EXPENSES:</b>		
Gower Street United Church		
Operating Fund	\$8000.00	
Mission & Service	\$2000.00	
Organ Fund	\$2500.00	
Restoration Fund	\$1000.00	
Operational:		
Donations, gifts	\$ 849.49	
AGM	\$ 382.67	
St Patrick's Tea	\$ 150.00	
Fashion Show	\$1010.24	
Fall Sale	\$ 175.21	
Craft Fair	\$ 121.99	
Bank charges	\$ 17.06	
East District Presbytery	\$ 562.00	
Outreach:     United Church	\$ 985.86	
Community	\$1658.35	
 Total Expenses:	 \$19,412.87	
Net balance		<b>\$ 811.61</b>
* Reflects income (deposits) for 2013 Craft Fair		

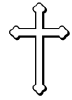
Anne Tuck  
Treasurer





## **GOWER STREET MEN'S CLUB**

**Respectfully submitted by Roy West, President**



The Men's Club has received strong support from the Gower Street congregation for its activities again during 2012. This support has given the Club the opportunity to have another successful year and reach out in service to our church and the local community. Equally it has allowed the members of the Club to enjoy great fellowship both at our monthly meetings and while undertaking our various fund-raising activities.

The year commenced with the completion of our project to renovate the Lecture Hall and Common Room. In February we invited Cochrane Street United Church Men's Club to join us for our monthly meeting and dinner. March saw us hosting a fund-raising dinner which resulted in the Men's Club donating \$2,000 to the Organ Restoration Fund. In addition in March we held our annual Take Out Teas, and installed a new garburator and undertook other renovations in the kitchen. The income from the flipper dinner held at the beginning of May allowed us to make donations to several community based organizations, including Emmanuel House, VOWR, the Pottle Centre, Burry Heights Camp, the Agnes Pratt Chaplaincy Fund and the Mission and Service Fund.

In June The Men's Club bade a fond, but sad, farewell to its President Henry Andrews, as Henry and Shirley moved to be near their family in Calgary. Henry had been

one of the pillars of strength in the Men's Club for many years, and had been our President since September 2006 We wish Henry and his family every success in the future.

During the Fall we held our Annual Auction and in December our Christmas Dinner. As you can see from the attached financial report, these activities left the Men's Club in a strong position to continue its work within our church and community.

A major focus of the Men's Club is in serving and helping others. This year our activities have included supporting the Gower Senior's Club by both driving people to meetings and preparing some of the meals; conducting monthly services for people living in Cambridge Estates; giving assistance to the Wednesday Street Outreach lunch program and by serving toutons and tea at the Split Peas concert.

Near the end of 2012 one of our long time members Doug Driscoll died. We are especially thankful for his loving contribution over the years and we join with Sybil, the family and the congregation in mourning his passing and giving thanks for having him enrich our lives.

We look forward in 2013 to another year of faith, fellowship and service.



**GOWER ST. UNITED CHURCH MEN'S CLUB  
FINANCIAL REPORT  
DECEMBER 31, 2012**



	<u>2012</u>	<u>2011</u>
Cash Balance Jan. 1	<u>19,334</u>	<u>11,415</u>
<b><u>REVENUE:</u></b>		
Dinner Meeting	1,547	1,477
Donations	1,000	250
Auction	4,492	5,849
Ladies Night	3,015	3,135
Take Out Teas	20,087	20,631
Flipper Dinner	5,020	5,226
Fundraiser	2,480	2,255
Other	0	0
	<hr/> <u>37,641</u>	<hr/> <u>38,823</u>
<b><u>EXPENSES:</u></b>		
Dinner Meeting	2,053	1,534
Donations	3,625	3,130
Auction	495	567
Ladies Night	1,572	1,265
Take Out Teas	8,455	9,249
Flipper Dinner	1,964	2,019
Fundraiser	1,104	1,025
Window Loan	0	10,000
Lecture Hall	5,194	255
Bank Charges	97	85
Kitchen	5,277	562
Luncheons	1,177	345
Misc.	425	868
	<hr/> <u>31,438</u>	<hr/> <u>30,904</u>
NET	<hr/> <u>6,203</u>	<hr/> <u>7,919</u>
Cash Balance Dec. 31/11	<hr/> <u>25,537</u>	<hr/> <u>19,334</u>

# **GOWER STREET UNITED CHURCH**

Minutes of the Annual Congregational Meeting

February 26, 2012

Lecture Hall, following morning service.

1. Welcome  
Pat West welcomed those gathered to the meeting and extended a warm welcome to Rev. Guy Matthews, Order of Minister Personnel, Keith Wiseman, the Designated Congregational Minister and Toby Pollet a Sunday morning helper. She extended thanks to the UCW and the Men's Club for providing the meal and also to those who helped set up the tables, serve and clear up after the meeting.
2. Opening Prayer - The Rev. Guy Matthews  
Rev. Guy Matthews opened the meeting at 1:15 p.m. and led us in prayer. There were approximately 65 members of the congregation in attendance.
3. Appointment of the Chair and Secretary for the Meeting  
Moved by Dave Roberts and seconded by Gar Fizzard that Pat West act as chair. Carried.  
In the absence of the Secretary Karen Butt, it was moved by Dave Roberts and seconded by Gar Fizzard that Florence Sanna act as secretary. Carried.
4. Adoption of the Agenda  
Moved by Henry Andrews and seconded by Lorne LeDrew that the Agenda as circulated be adopted. Carried.
5. Approval of the Minutes of the 2010 AGM and Meeting to Call Rev. Guy Matthews  
Moved by Ed Roberts and seconded by Linda Hogan that the minutes of the last Annual Congregational Meeting held February 27, 2011 be accepted. Carried.  
Moved by Dave Roberts and seconded by Bruce Evans that the minutes of the Special Congregational meeting to call a new minister, held March 20, 2011, be accepted. Carried.
6. Message from the Chair of the Board  
The Chair, Dr. Pat West referenced her report on pages 4 and 5, in the 2011 Annual Report. She highlighted the importance of volunteers in the church community. She encouraged each of us to be involved and ended her report by thanking all those who volunteer.
7. Message from the Ministers  
Rev. Guy Matthews referenced his report on pages 5 and 6, in the 2011 Annual Report. He expressed thanks to those who work within the Church. He named the strong heritage of the congregation and the pride which is evident. He encouraged the congregation to continue being a

relevant presence in St. John's. Rev. Matthews expressed appreciation for the welcome which he received and for the caring community of faith.

Keith Wiseman, Designated Congregational Minister expressed appreciation for the opportunity to serve the congregation. Keith named the vital ministry of the Pastoral Care Committee and encouraged people to be involved.

8. In Memoriam

Rev. Matthews read aloud the names of loved ones listed on page 12 in the 2011 Annual Report and offered a moment of silence for them and their families.

9. Reports of Committees and Groups for Approval

Finance - Ken Peters reported in the absence of the Chair of Finance and the Treasurer. Ken highlighted the report entitled Gower Street United Church Summary Financial Information Year Ended December 31, 2011 with Budget for Year Ended December 31, 2012.

Moved by Ed Roberts and seconded by Sheridan Parsons that the Proposed Budget for 2012 be approved. Carried.

It was noted that the Men's Club take on projects each year in addition to financial contributions. The Common Room has been a project this year. Thanks was extended to the Men's Club for their significant and numerous contributions.

Outreach Committee - Barb Myles reported that the donations for the Mission and Service Fund of \$38,091 include \$688 raised for World Development and Relief through contributions on birthday Sundays. Motions by Barb Myles and seconded by Linda Nickerson that the goal for the Mission and Service Fund for the year 2012 be \$40,000. Carried.

Nominations - Shirley Andrews

Motion: Election of Members to the Official Board

Moved by Shirley Andrews and seconded by Linda Braine:

1. That David Roberts be elected as Chair of the Board.
2. That Verne Somers be elected as Treasurer.
3. That Dan Simmons, Cheryl Trask, Tom Strong and Diane Hogan be elected members at large.
4. That Keith Wiseman be elected as East District delegate.

Carried.

Motion: Term extension of Board Members:

Moved by Shirley Andrews and seconded by Roy West:

1. That Mary Taylor Ash continue as Vice Chair.
2. That Karen Butt continue as Secretary.
3. That John Evans continue as Chair of the Finance Committee.
4. That Lorne LeDrew continue as Chair of the Ministry & Personnel Committee.
5. That Bruce Evans continue as Chair of the Property Committee.

6. That Geoff Peters continue as Chair of the Stewardship Committee.
  7. That Gar Fizzard continue as Chair of the Heritage & Archives Committee.
  8. That Shirley Andrews continue as Chair of the Nominations Committee.
  9. That Pat West and Robyn Drodge continue as East District Representatives.
  10. That Darryl Pullman and Geoff Wright continue as members at large.
- Carried.

Position still vacant: Chair - Pastoral Care

Motion: Vote of Thanks

Moved by Shirley Andrews and seconded by Henry Andrews, that a vote of thanks be accorded to the following for their contribution to the Official Board during their respective terms of office: Pat West, Andrew Orsborn, Sharon Nash, Albert Noftall, Kenneth Peters, Suzanne Orsborn, and Elinor Udell.

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

Moved by Bruce Evans and seconded by Barb Myles that all Committee and Group Reports contained in the circulated 2011 Annual Report be received. Carried.

Organ Restoration Fund - David Norris highlighted the Amended report thanking people for their contributions and indicating that there is approximately \$190,000 left owing. Commitments have been honored. Thanks was extended to all who have and continue to contribute to the Organ Restoration Fund.

Moved by Roy West and seconded by Verne Simmons that the Organ Restoration Fund Committee Amended Report be adopted. Carried.

10. Proposal from the Trustees for Approval - Sheridan Parsons and Ed Roberts  
Refer to pages 29 to 31 of the 2011 Annual Report.  
Moved by Sheridan Parsons and seconded by Ed Roberts that the Resolution re Deed of Trust, as presented on pages 29 to 31 of the 2011 Annual Report be forwarded to the East District of the Newfoundland and Labrador Conference of The United Church of Canada. Carried.
11. Other Business  
Moved by Lorne LeDrew and seconded by Bruce Evans that thanks be extended to Pat West for serving as Chair of the Board. Carried.
12. Adjournment  
The meeting was adjourned by a motion of Henry Andrews at 2:40 p.m.

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Dr. Pat West  
Chair

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Florence Sanna (Rev.)  
Recording Secretary

# **GOWER STREET UNITED CHURCH**

## **SUMMARY FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

**YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31 2012**

**WITH BUDGET FOR YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31 2013**

## **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**Respectfully submitted by John Evans, Chair**

My sincere THANK to everyone! To the congregation for supporting our church financially on so many fronts. To my Finance Committee (which includes our very able Treasurer) and the church employees for their personal commitment and support.

On a consolidated basis after making the required minimum payments on our loan principle we had a surplus of over \$20,000.00 in 2012. The balance on the principle of our two loans totaled \$243,500.00 at year end. If we continue to make the minimum payments we should have these loans retired within 6 years. Hopefully (and I think) we will do better! As the Property Committee has advised there is a lot of work required on this beautiful, but old, facility as soon as we are financially able to do so.

On a strictly Operating basis (“Support of the Church” on our Envelopes) we ended the

year with a loss of approximately \$10,000.00. We all need to consider our commitment to financial stewardship in the coming year as without increased revenue this loss will be greater in 2013.

The Finance Committee was very pleased that a member of the congregation stepped forward to pay for the much needed replacement of the Sanctuary carpet. I am certain that the Property Committee has many more such projects if other members of the congregation feel inclined to follow this excellent example.

My apologies for being away at the time of the Annual Congregational Meeting but I am certain that Ken Peters of the Finance Committee will ably handle your queries. My THANK for the opportunity to serve Gower in this way and my best wishes to the Board, Finance Committee and congregation for 2013.

**INCOME STATEMENT- FUND ACCOUNTS**  
**12 MONTHS ENDED DECEMBER 31**

**OPERATING FUND**

	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>
	Actual	Actual	Budget
<b>Income</b>			
Offerings	219,568	231,053	230,000
Investment income	55,189	56,768	55,000
Fundraising (net)	10,514	10,080	10,000
UCW	7,630	8,625	8,000
Special	598	14,650	0
Rentals	<u>27,580</u>	<u>24,288</u>	<u>27,000</u>
<b>Total income</b>	<b><u>321,079</u></b>	<b><u>345,464</u></b>	<b><u>330,000</u></b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Remuneration	174,646	186,819	213,000
Utilities	62,313	57,203	65,000
Property- R & M	27,431	62,529	27,000
Office	14,563	14,379	16,000
Insurance	10,896	11,182	11,500
Assessments	9,241	10,403	10,500
Committees (Note 1.)	15,578	5,948	4,850
Finance	4,861	5,821	4,500
Professional fees	<u>3,728</u>	<u>3,506</u>	<u>3,500</u>
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b><u>323,257</u></b>	<b><u>357,790</u></b>	<b><u>355,850</u></b>
<b>Net Operating (loss)</b>	<b><u><u>-2,178</u></u></b>	<b><u><u>-12,326</u></u></b>	<b><u><u>-25,850</u></u></b>

Note 1. Committees	Worship & Sacraments	2,400
	Christian Education	800
	Outreach	600
	Heritage & Archives	200
	Pastoral Care	250
	Official Board	500
	Stewardship	<u>100</u>
		<u>4,850</u>

February 14,2013



