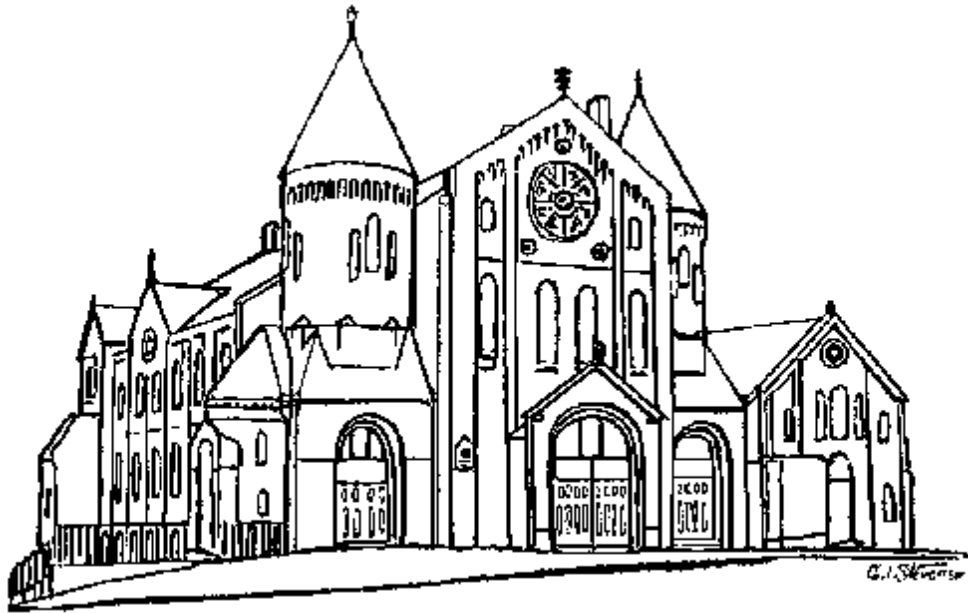


GOWER STREET UNITED CHURCH

St. John's, Newfoundland & Labrador

ANNUAL REPORT 2018



Ministers:

The Rev. Marion Davis (January – November)

Rev. Pamela Jones-Fitzgerald (November -)

Pastoral Care Minister: The Rev. Ettie Gordon-Murray

Minister Emerita: The Very Rev. Dr. Marion Pardy

Minister of Music: Dr. D. Dunsmore **Organist:** R. Carl Goulding

Band Director: Dr. Edsel Bonnell

Office Manager: Linda Hogan **Caretaker:** David Noseworthy

Board Chair: Lorne LeDrew

99 Queen's Road, St. John's, NL A1C 6M6 Telephone: 753-7286 - Fax: 753-7320

E-Mail: gsuc@nl.rogers.com Website: www.gowerunited.ca

Our Vision:

The people of Gower Street United Church are committed to doing right by Jesus' teachings: loving, serving, giving generously in our local, regional, and global communities. We envision a vibrant and evolving community where tradition is honoured, change is embraced, and injustice is challenged. We are dedicated to being welcoming and affirming, engaging participation of all, including people of any age, colour, race, ethnicity, faith, gender identity, sexual orientation, ability, marital status, family composition, and social or economic circumstances.

Our Core Values:

- Meaningful worship of God and Christian development in a sacred gathering place.
- Compassionate responsive Outreach
- Living in a Christian community that is respectful, diverse and inclusive
- Music as a cherished part of our worship, outreach and church culture.

Our Mission:

- To be a visible sign of God's love and caring in our community
- To nurture Christian Faith through Worship and in ways that are relevant to our world
- To work collaboratively with other Faith Communities.

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.

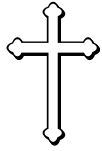
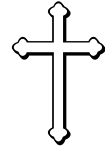


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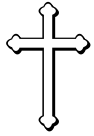
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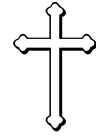
INSERTS: FINANCIAL REPORTS

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- **FINANCIAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**
- **FINANCIAL COMMITTEE Proposed Budget for 2019**

NOMINATING COMMITTEE - 2019



CHURCH BOARD ANNUAL REPORT
Respectfully submitted by Lorne LeDrew, Chair, Official Board



2018 has, in my opinion, been a significant year in the life and times of Gower Street United Church culminating with the overwhelming support for becoming an Affirming Congregation. What a welcoming gift for Rev. Pamela! So thank you all and a special thanks for the leadership of Gail Wideman, Larry Kelly and Jill Handrigan.

I also want to express a special thank you to the Search Committee lead by our dear late friend Gola Roberts. Obviously the Committee did a superb job in attracting Rev. Pamela to Gower as everybody can now attest. Gola, I know you are looking down at us now with a smile on your face. You have left quite a legacy.

This year has been certainly one of trial and error as we worked through the new organization structure. Nevertheless, overall I think it is serving us better and allowing people to expend their time and talents doing the things they “signed up for”. Which reminds me of the initiative which is being launched at the Annual Congregational Meeting to create an inventory of volunteers to help out from time to time. I encourage you to consider what time and talents you can give to Gower.

Vision 2025 remains a priority and as you can see from the Action Plan on the next page we have aligned all our priorities to it. As you can see we are making some good progress. If you recall, included in the recommendations was a Recommendation that we review our progress every 3 years. I therefore recommend that the 2019 Board lead such a review.

During the past year we have been working closely with the Street Reach Program and one of the areas we have collaborated on has been the monthly Sunday supper. Unfortunately, due to a number of reasons this has had to be halted due mainly to the demand on volunteer resources. This is a good time for us to step back and see where we are and where we are going as it relates to our overall Outreach Program. In fact Recommendation 4.1 in Vision 2025 states exactly that. Such an exercise is therefore planned for early in the new year.

You will also be hearing some discussion today around engaging a part-time Youth Minister. I fully recommend and support this initiative as we need to “put our money where our mouth is “if we want to move forward. The words of Rev. John Pentland and his “Fishing Tips” echo around in my mind!

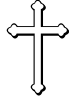
Lastly, I want to express my gratitude: to Rev. Marion Davis who lead us through most of the year and did a great job of keeping us on course; to Dr. Edsel Bonnell for concluding 45 years of giving of himself and his talents to Gower; to all the Leadership Team members and all the members of their committees and groups who stayed with it this year and lead so many wonderful initiatives; to Linda Hogan and David Noseworthy who once again have kept the place going; to Carl and Doug for the music they bring week after week; to Brady Lawrence for making the sound system work; and to the many volunteers: Bert Riggs, Diane Hogan, Gwen Alcock, Bonnie Trudel, Pat West, Paula Vaughan, Dolores Vaughan and many more who I know I have left out. Thank you all without your dedication and hard work Gower would not work!

Finally I want to say a huge thank you to Rev. Pamela for coming our way and joining us on our journey at this critical time. I know I speak for all of you when I say we look forward and cherish your leadership, your presence and your innovative ideas. Welcome!

Priority	Vision 2025	Activities	Status
1. New Board working well	Gower and Society Gower as People	1. Confirm roles of all committees and groups 2. Full Leadership team meet 3 times per year 3. Develop list of volunteers for specific projects and roles	1. Completed. 2. Semi-annual meetings deemed adequate and are being held. 3. Completed – Launched at ACM
2. Roof/furnace campaign	Gower and Sustainability	1. Launch Campaign & Report regularly to Board	1. Have reached approximately 50% of our goal of \$150,000.
3. Communications within and without	Gower as a People Gower and Sustainability Gower and Downtown Churches	1. Develop one page summary of Meetings and distribute monthly 2. Provide info on meetings and activities of Seniors Group and UCW	1. Will be commenced in 2019 2. Events info included in Weekly Congregational e-mail.
4. Digitize PAR givings and the church	Gower and Sustainability Gower and Society	1. Place Donate Now button on web site & Facebook page 2. Record Services to be web cast 3. Do complete overhaul of Gower web site.	1. Being incorporated into new web site. 2. Technology being tested 3. Preliminary design complete target launch date – March 31, 2019.
5. Pastoral care initiative	Gower as a People Gower and Sustainability Gower and Society	1. Staff Pastoral Care co-ord. Position 2. Re-establish Committee 3. Conduct Visits, calls and send cards 4. Monthly worship at Seniors Homes	1. Completed. 2. Completed 3. Ongoing visits continuing 4. Ongoing
6. Designation as an Affirming Ministry	Gower as People Gower and Sustainability Gower and Society	1. Hold information and discussion sessions and conduct vote. 2. Celebration event	1. Completed 2. Scheduled Spring 2019
7. Increase givings including M&S Fundraising	Gower and Sustainability	1. Develop Legacy Givings Program 2. Provide info re Narrative Budget and finances 3. Dinner Theatre 4. Gower's Got Talent 2 5. Donations to Community Groups 6. Pops Concerts	1. Work on this initiative will continue in 2019 2. Ongoing- to be included in 2019 budget 3. Completed 4. Completed 5. Completed 6. Completed



FROM THE MINISTER'S DESK
Respectfully submitted by the Rev. Pamela Jones-Fitzgerald



It is hard to believe my first Sunday at Gower was on November 11. In many ways time has flown by. So many of you have said that it has been a great blessing to have me here at Gower. As your minister I deeply feel that it has been God's greatest blessing to me to have been called to be with all of you in these challenging times.

I want to thank you all for your warm, friendly welcome. I really do feel at home amongst all of you.

I love this congregation, the physical and historic parts of Gower and all that lies within; worship, the dark wood of the sanctuary that hugs us all together, the life, stories and majestic, sacred nature of the stained glass, friendships, community outreach, hanging on to each other through the joy and sorrows of life.

I feel the energy among the congregation is large and vast. We have lots of work and visioning to do together.... all of us, the children, the young, the middle aged, the old and those whom we haven't met yet... We all have a voice to speak and sing, hands and hearts to love with God's goodness and grace both inside these walls of Gower and outside as we take our message of hope, love and inclusivity to the streets!!

A special thank you to Lorne LeDrew, the Chair of the Board, for his wisdom and guidance in these first few months of my call. His friendship, trust and vision for Gower will carry me into the years to come.

A warm thank you as well to the officers and members of the Gower Board. Your hard work and dedication to this ministry is exemplary and is to be commended.

While there are many challenges ahead of us and many questions to explore and answer, we are all a part of the team here at Gower. We need to listen closely to God's Spirit and God's vision for all of us; personally and communally in this community of faith and the community which surrounds us.

To all of the staff-a huge thank you for your inspiring dedication, hard work, and care of this church and its people. Your being amongst us enables us to be a warm, caring and giving place in our community, especially in the downtown core.

The music at Gower is SO wonderful. Music has always been an extremely important and vital part of worship. Personally, when presiding I look out at the stained glass while singing hymns, listening to an anthem, or meditating to music played on the organ and say to myself, "Thank you God." When the week has been so very hectic the power of music to transform and heal the soul is very powerful. Carl, Doug, Dana and the Gower Community Band, thank you!

Gower Kids-you are soooooo fun and amazing! My only regret is that I only get to spend a mere 5 to 10 minutes with you every Sunday. You bring energy, power and the love of Jesus to our community of faith. Keep being you- you have much to say and bring to the life of this church!

I want to leave you with a piece of writing from one of my colleagues during my time as Chaplain at Memorial University. Father David Schulist, a Jesuit Priest introduced me to the work of Archbishop Oscar Romero. In fact our time together cumulated in taking a group of 20 students overseas to rural Mexico on a humanitarian trip where these words were brought to LIFE. I found them again when I was moving my office from Stella's Circle to Gower. God works and moves in the most mysterious way.

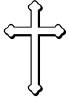
“This is what we are about: We plant seeds that one day will grow. We water seeds already planted, knowing that they hold future promise. We lay foundations that will need further development. We provide yeast that produces effects beyond our capabilities. We cannot do everything and there is a sense of liberation in realizing that. This enables us to do something, and to do it very well. It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the way, an opportunity for God's grace to enter and do the rest. We may never see the end results, but that is the difference between the master builder and the worker. We are workers, not master builders, ministers, not messiahs. We are prophets of a future not our own. Amen.”

Archbishop Oscar Romero, martyred on December 3, 1978 for his commitment to the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the people of El Salvador.

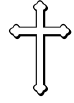
We have much to be thankful for.

Peace and blessings,
Pamela

COMMITTEE REPORTS



WORSHIP & SACRAMENTS COMMITTEE Respectfully submitted by the Committee



Because we have no Chair, we have made the decision to rotate this position amongst ourselves, and this appears to be working very well.

The Worship and Sacraments Committee is responsible for regular and special worship services, the administration of the Sacraments, developing policy with respect to the admission, transfer and removal of membership. Aspects of worship include the order of worship, the music, Confirmation, Sacraments of Baptism and Communion, weddings and funerals. It is the Worship and Sacraments Committee which approves Baptism and Confirmation.

The choirs and band enriched and continue to enrich our worship services throughout the year. Sincere thanks and appreciation are extended to Dr. Doug Dunsmore, Carl Goulding and the Senior Choir, Dana Collins and the Children's Choir, and Dr. Edsel Bonnell and the Gower Community Band. We also extend congratulations and deep appreciation to Dr. Bonnell on his recent retirement as Band Director after many years of dedicated service and direction.

The Rev. Marion Davis presided over us until October 31st. We thank Rev. Marion for her leadership and guidance during her tenure, and wish her the very best in her well-deserved retirement.

The Rev. Ettie Gordon-Murray joined us as part-time Pastoral Care minister, and this important area of congregational care is being well looked after.

On November 1st, we welcomed the Rev. Pamela Jones-Fitzgerald as our new, full-time minister. To her go our assurances of support, and we look forward to a long, happy and successful ministry with her.

Special thanks are also due to those who have shared in worship leadership over the past year - the Very Rev. Dr. Marion Pardy, the Rev. David Guzzwell, Rev. Florence Sanna, Rev. Ettie Gordon-Murray and Bert Riggs.

In 2018 we had 11 Baptisms, 20 Deaths and 5 Weddings. Holy Communion was served four times.

We continue to support Keith Wiseman in his pathway to ministry, and two members have participated in his Discernment process.

We participated in the second annual Block Party in the Fall with congregational members from the Anglican Cathedral, The Kirk and the Basilica. Attendance was increased this year, and the project deemed successful by all.

The United Community of Faith Committee have continue to meet and take action in areas of common interest. Examples include the Lenten Bible Study held at Cochrane Street United, and two joint services, one in May at Gower, and the second in October at Cowan Heights.

In the Fall, the W and S Committee revised Gower's Wedding policy to reflect Gower as an Affirming Church.

Confirmation preparation for ten registered youth began in September under the leadership of Angeline Anstey and Karen Tuck. Confirmation will take place in the Spring of 2019.

Current members of the Worship and Sacraments Committee are Angeline Anstey, Gwen Alcock, Doug Dunsmore and the Rev. Pamela Jones-Fitzgerald.

The Rev. Florence Sanna resigned from the committee in December. We will miss her wise counsel, and thank her sincerely for her valuable service.

We are indebted to Gail Wideman, who arranges Sunday greeters, to Carl Wright and his ushering teams, to Doug Peters and the funeral ushering team, to Linda Hogan and David Noseworthy for their support and assistance, and we thank all for their continued support and dedication. If we have inadvertently omitted anyone, please accept our sincere apologies.

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP AS NOTED IN THE OFFICIAL REGISTERS:

Baptisms:

Henry Marc Allen Dunsmore,
child of Emily Donatelle Dunsmore and Andrew Dunsmore
Emily Ruth Karen Misik and Thomas Brian Karl Misik,
children of Heather Joy Misik and Kurt Misik
Amelia Mae Cantwell,
child of Janet Lucas and Leon Cantwell
Audrey Rebecca Rice,
child of Jillian Abbot Rice and Glenn Rice
Jaxon Patrick Whelan,
child of Emma and John Whelan
Avery Marie Brenton,
child of Robyne Whalen and Colin W. Brenton
Lyla Scott Ulipika King,
child of Alicia King and Jessica Patey-Rumbolt
Olivia Joyce Warfield,
child of Amanda Joyce Warfield and Gerard Warfield
Julie Kate Harnett,
child of Janine Rebecca Alcock and Cory Lee Harnett
Olivia Anne Chaffey,
child of Melissa Anthony and John Chaffey.

Marriages:

Paul Raye Brown and Laure Elizabeth Bonnell
James Selby Ford Roberts and Heather Pauline Vokey
Ryan Malcolm Chaulk and Emily Claire Stamp

Joshua Augustus Reid and Lauri Marie Walsh
Daniel Anthony Loos and Maria Teresa Glavine

Deaths:

Shirley Joan (Craniford) Lundrigan
Elinor Christine Udell
Delilah Isabelle White
Delores C. Kennedy
Ralph Hudson
James Samuel Garrett
Rosemary Foley
Lillian D. Brown
Barbara Moulton
Keith James Hendry

William John Alexander Rooney
Phyllis Elizabeth Butler
Dr. David Pitt
Roberta Snow
Darren Spencer Taylor
Robert Hamlyn
Doreen Flight
Ethel Jean Adey
Harrison Noseworthy
Emily Mildred Butler



HERITAGE AND ARCHIVES COMMITTEE
Respectfully submitted by **J. K. Hiller, Chair**



The H&A committee is concerned about the state and usage of the Archives Room in the basement area of the 1895 church. The Property Committee has agreed that repairs to the window are a high priority, and that is to be welcomed. We continue to assert that the Archives Room should not be disturbed by anyone else in the Church community. The archive is a valuable and essential record of Gower since the 1892 fire.

The H&A committee has also argued that there should be a single United Church archive in this province.

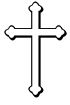
Doors Open. We caught 150 visitors on a single day. The committee has decided on opening once every two years, and our next date will be 2021.

The display cabinets in the vestibule are being altered for the better.

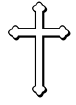
The History of Gower proceeds more slowly than we had anticipated, and the authors had indicated earlier, but there have been submissions of drafts of new chapters. When the centenary volume will be published is difficult to say. There was a public session concerning illustrations.

Gower was able to employ an excellent student assistant in 2018, Peter Moore, and we hope that applications for the 2019 season will be successful.

Robert Pitt has joined the committee. I have agreed to stay on as Chair until 2020.



MINISTRY & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE
Respectfully submitted by Daryl Pullman, Chair M&P



On behalf of the congregation, the M and P Committee wishes to express gratitude to the Rev. Marion Davis for her continuing service during the search for a new senior minister. Our search was completed when the Rev. Pamela Jones-Fitzgerald was hired in November. Rev. Davis completed her tenure in November as well, after facilitating a short orientation period for our new minister.

At the request of the Board, in July, the M&P Committee interviewed and hired a new Pastoral Care Minister, the Rev. Ettie Gordon-Murray. Both new clergy have, by now, settled into their respective ministerial roles and the congregation can finally draw a collective sigh of relief.

December 31, 2018, marked the retirement of Dr. Edsel Bonnell, who served for forty-plus years as devoted director and founder of the GYB and later as director of the GCB. Incoming director, Mr. Ron Collins, along with assistant director, Mrs. Dana Collins, have been hired to continue Dr. Bonnell's work in providing inspiring music for church services and outreach into the wider community.

In addition to our involvement in the exciting new staff appointments the M&P continued to work on staff related policy issues. In particular the Committee spent considerable time and effort in drafting a policy and procedure to ensure that all Gower personnel (staff and volunteers) who work with vulnerable people have received police checks, and that these are updated as needed.

The congregation wishes to express appreciation to our other music staff:

Dr. Douglas Dunsmore, Minister of Music

Mr. Carl Goulding, Organist

Mrs. Dana Collins, Youth Choir Director

Each in turn creates musical experiences to enrich our worship.

Gratitude is expressed to the individuals who enable our church to run smoothly:

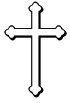
Mrs. Linda Hogan, Office Manager

Mr. David Noseworthy, Custodian

Mr. Brady Lawrence, Sound System Operator

We also acknowledge and thank the many volunteers who are leaders and members of governance and service groups, committees, ushers, counters, and greeters.

Finally we thank the members of Gower Street Congregation who encourage and support the work of our church in the downtown and wider community.



OUTREACH COMMITTEE



Respectfully submitted by Judi Somers, contact for Outreach

In 2018, Outreach activities continued without the help of two very active members, Len Busby, who moved to Ontario, and Jill Handrigan, who has been working away, but has been helpful by email. They have been missed.

Activities have been:

- Promoting Mission and Service (M&S) by monthly Minutes for Mission, to inform the congregation how M&S supports the work of the United Church of Canada; and celebrating birthdays and anniversaries by givings to World Development and Relief.

M&S givings for 2018 (actual)	\$33,702.40
From Gower congregation	\$31,750.00
World Development and Relief	\$ 852.40
UCW	\$ 1,000.00

- Preparing the White Gift Service in December, where Gower's congregation were very generous with gifts to support Stella's Circle and Street Reach.
- Supporting Bridges to Hope with donations from the congregation, and volunteering at the food pantry.
We are very pleased that Doug Moody is now Gower Streets representative on the Board of Bridges to Hope. Many thanks to Pat West for her time as Gower's Representative on that Board.
- We continue to sell Zatoun olive oil, soaps, and seasonings to support issues affecting Palestine.
- Gower Street's Feeding the Community monthly Sunday suppers were hosted by Street Reach in 2018, but they are not able to continue with the monthly meals. At a meeting of all Gower members involved with Street Reach and the monthly meals, it was decided that Gower could not continue with the monthly Sunday supper at this time. Barb Myles and her group continue to make muffins for Bridges to Hope.
- Gower Street's commitment to our Syrian family was completed in December and they are now supported by other means.

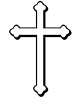
Thank you to Pat West, Pat Mercer and Jill Handrigan for their continued commitment to the Outreach work at Gower and all the others who have helped with Outreach activities in 2018.

Financial Summary for Outreach Committee, Gower Street United Church January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017

2018 contributions to outreach programs	\$3,544.00
Expenses: Gower, Feeding the Community	\$1,639.00
Zatoun	\$3,894.00



PASTORAL VISITATION
Respectfully submitted by
The Rev. Ettie Gordon-Murray, Minister of Pastoral Care



On behalf of the Pastoral Care Committee I submit the following report.

Since my appointment as Minister of Pastoral Care and coordinator of the Pastoral Care Committee I continue to appreciate the various aspects of pastoral care here at Gower Street United Church. That is the practical side of pastoral care – the rejuvenation of the Pastoral Care Committee and to working with all its wonderfully dedicated members. Side-by-side the practical side of pastoral care is pastoral presence – the spiritual aspect of Pastoral Care described as the passionate care of persons.

In addition to the dedication of committee members, one outstanding observation that I have experienced during my time at Gower is the healthy sense of passionate care amongst congregation members for each other – particularly demonstrated through support and visitation by Men’s Club and the UCW members and generally by many through a word in the ear or a phone call to Rev. Pam or myself. Thank you for your support.

While the core group of pastoral care providers are loyal and devoted there is a place for more hands to support this aspect of Gower’s overall ministry through pastoral care. If you feel called to this ministry please join the committee – we are always open to welcoming new members. Our Committee is also currently without a Chair. If you are inclined toward pastoral care and the role of chair please let Nominations know of your interest.

On the practical side of pastoral care it has been a very satisfying experience getting to know members of the committee and beginning our work together. No time was more gratifying than the time spent preparing and delivering the Christmas Baskets. Thank you to all who gave time for this very worthy task – it was fun and rewarding.

Thank you so much to Maude Peach for updating the Christmas basket list and arranging drivers. Thanks too to Delores and Paula Vaughan for the purchasing the gifts and baskets, and to all committee members for their individual contribution of time and talents.

On the non-physical aspect of pastoral care let me express gratitude to the committee members who tirelessly visit persons in their homes, in hospital rooms, by an email, or through a phone call – all the ways we stay connected.

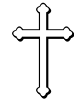
I thank you, too, for inviting me into your story - sitting in your living rooms, beside you in a hospital room or one of our Long Term Care facilities, journeying with you as you grieve the loss of a loved one, listening to your story in my office, over tea, and in the sharing of Holy Communion in the home – indeed, wherever the occasion arises for pastoral intervention. Currently our committee members include Max Beckett, the Rev. Veronica Brett- Williams, Patricia Mercer, Lorraine Moores, the Rev. Ralph Moores, Maude Peach, Anne Saunders, Delores Vaughan, Paula Vaughan, and Keith Wiseman

I believe I can say on behalf of the whole committee, together, we look forward to journeying with you throughout 2019.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION REPORT

Respectfully submitted by Patrick, Chair

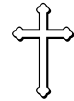


Christian Education had a transitional year as a large cohort of children and volunteer parents generally aged out of the Sunday School time, though still remain active through other venues such as the choir. Overall it's a positive story, as Gower is showing an ability to keep children and families engaged from very young to still young. A second part of Christian Education's work was collaborating with the Communication Committee on potential ways to record the service at minimal effort and that work will continue in 2019. That work is ongoing, but the end goal is bringing our service to people not attending church. Looking forward, the Christian Education Committee is expected to take on new energy and some new direction under a broader theme of 'Children and Families'. With leadership from Rev. Pamela and potentially other new supports at Gower, the work of the committee will evolve to look at more ways to service and engage families that includes, but is no longer limited to, Sunday morning worship. This work will also include clearer security policies around police and background checks for all volunteers that will have some interaction with children.



PROPERTY COMMITTEE

Respectfully submitted by Ed Moores, Chair



It has been a relatively busy period for the Property Committee. Major projects were completed and/or commenced and those of lesser stature undertaken or entered into an advanced planning stage.

Specifically, the substantial re-roof was concluded and appears to have been a thoroughly successful undertaking, albeit at significant cost. Additionally, the unforeseen demise of the furnace led to its replacement, again at a significant price tag.

Other projects substantially or fully concluded:

- New audio-visual system in the Lecture Hall. The project was under the guidance of Bruce Nickerson and funded by the Men's Club.
- A replacement of the flooring on the Lecture Hall stage. Again, many thanks to the Men's Club.
- New exterior lights and signage in the parking area.
- Change tables for washrooms by the Lecture Hall and behind the pulpit. (These are on order and expect to be in place in the next couple of weeks.)
- Miscellaneous routine maintenance items.

There are other needy projects under consideration for attention. Some of these include but are not limited to:

- Window replacement in the Archives Room. (Quotes in progress)

- Window replacement in the Common Room. (Quotes in progress)
- Window rehabilitation in the Band Room.
- Plaster and painting in the rear stairwell of the Memorial Building.
- Renovations to the Office.
- Changes to the parking area at the Queens Road East entrance.
- Improvements to the handicap accessibility.

Some of these projects are in the planning stage and will only be undertaken after the funding has been secured.

Many thanks to those mentioned above and all others for their input and support, especially the congregation. The forthcoming year promises to be busy.



STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE
Respectfully submitted by JoAnna Bennett, Chair



The following highlights the activities of the Stewardship Committee for 2018 up to September. At that time I stepped down as Chair of the Committee for the remainder of the year following which the Committee became inactive.

Committee Membership

JoAnna Bennett – Chair	Carl Stevenson – Dinner Theatre Co-ordinator
Cheryl Hanlon,	Ruth Francis

Fund Raising Activities

Dinner Theatre

In June 2018 The Spirit of Newfoundland Dinner Theatre, the major fundraiser for the Stewardship Committee, provided another evening of entertainment for a sold out audience. Under the expert coordination of Carl Stevenson and support from the Committee, the event raised \$2,680. It is hoped this event will continue as an annual fund raiser for the Stewardship Committee. Thanks to Carl and all who participated to helped make the event such a success.

Narrative Budget

Following presentation of the Narrative Budget at the 2017 Annual Congregational Meeting, feedback was requested from members of the congregation regarding whether or not this approach was helpful to increasing their understanding the annual budget. Regretfully, there was little feedback on whether this initiative provided any additional insight into how funds are used to operate and maintain services at Gower. The Committee discussed alternate approaches to continue the Narrative however this did not continue past September.

Committee Goals for 2019

The following plans were developed in September which can provide a direction and focus of activities for Stewardship to move forward into 2019:

- Continue to more clearly articulate the committee mandate further to Gower Board’s restructuring over the past year;
- Support and promote PAR contributions;

- Continue the annual Dinner Theatre fund raising event;
- Review the focus of the Narrative Budget initiative into the coming year.
- Review the process of Legacy Givings in consultation with Roger Janes and in keeping with Gower policies.

Conclusion

I would like to express my sincere and heartfelt thanks to Carl Stevenson, Cheryl Hanlon and Ruth Francis for your ongoing efforts and support over the past year and look forward to working with you in the future.

Called to Be the Church, a guide to increasing generosity and giving to support God's mission, highlights Stewardship as "an Integral Part of Faith" reflecting our New Creed that says "we are not alone, we live in God's world". This provides food for thought as we move forward with Stewardship activities in partnership with our Gower faith community and beyond.



COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

Respectfully submitted by Lorne LeDrew



The Communications Committee had been working hard on a number of initiatives including developing a Communications Strategy when the Chair, Lynette Hillier, took ill and had to step down. Nevertheless Lynette, who was also looking after the Facebook page along with Pat Mercer maintained our page with regular postings throughout the entire year. Special thanks to Lynette and we are so glad to see her recovery. During this time the Committee was not very active. However, in the Fall they re-convened and decided to move ahead on a project by project basis at least for the short term. The people working on these projects are/were: Ken Butt, Dave Robbins, Jill Handrigan, Suzanne Orsborn, Bert Riggs, Dave Robbins, Patrick Griffin, Lorne LeDrew and Rev. Pamela. The projects we have decided to undertake are:

1. Commence a weekly email to all the congregation
2. Maintaining and increasing our presence on Facebook
3. Doing a complete makeover of the Gower website
4. Develop a process for ensuring getting messages out (advertising events, announcements etc. (Traditional media, social media, Bulletins and Newsletter)
5. Developing process for recording services and or sermons and streaming on line.

Work on the first three were started immediately while work on the others, although happening in the background, won't commence until after the first three are completed.

The weekly email has started and Linda is sending it out each Thursday. Its format and content will evolve and please if you know of anyone not on our email list please pass on their info to Linda.

Our presence on Facebook has increased dramatically this year thanks to Lynette Hillier and Pat Mercer. Our number of followers and "Likes" are steadily increasing.

Under the technical guidance of Ken Butt we are currently completely overhauling the website. The main purpose of the website is to attract non church goers to Gower and to attract people looking for a spiritual home. With these goals in mind the website will focus on this theme.

Note it will still be a place for you to get information about what's happening and access current and archival information. The website will feature a new "logo", align with our new Vision and be an inviting, informative and interesting site. Stay tuned for the scheduled launch at the end of March.

Patrick Griffin has been testing some equipment to determine what would be involved in getting a quality recording of our services and this work continues.

The Committee will be looking for volunteers to help in various aspects on these and other projects so if you have a talent in this area please let us know.

You will be seeing and hearing more from us in 2019!

GROUPS AND OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS



GOWER COMMUNITY BAND 2018

Vision, Vigor, and a last "V"

Respectfully submitted by Edsel Bonnell, Director, Gower Community Band



VISION: The Band added important milestones to its colorful 45-year history in 2018 with major expansion to its community outreach and education programs, and the development of a five-year Strategic Plan which will add exciting new community service initiatives, especially in the ever-expanding seniors' demographic outreach activities and programs. We are very grateful for the benefaction of Ms. Betty Badcock, who established a fund in memory of her late husband, Dr. Peter Roberts, to provide the means of carrying out the vision of the GCB Strategic Plan over the five years from 2018 to 2023. We also acknowledge the foundational support of Ev and Marlo Kearley of Saskatoon, Newfoundlanders who learned of our efforts to establish a "GCB Downtown 'Pops' Concerts Program" and were inspired to provide the funds required to launch this initiative and to ensure its continuation during 2019.

In addition, we expanded the unique GCB Terra Nova Program (now in its 12th year at MUN Music) with the addition of a new category for "Arrangements" in the competition, and celebrated our first winner in that category. We increased scholarship awards for both categories of creative works, "Original Compositions" and "Arrangements". We acknowledge the vital support of Mrs. Trudy Green in the establishment and maintenance of the Jack Green Memorial Fund which provides the scholarships for the Arrangements category, and of donors to the Anthea Bonnell Memorial Fund which provided award increases in Original Compositions

VIGOR (#1 ACTIVITIES): The year began with challenges for all of the visionary activities of the Band, mainly because of the fateful loss of the heating system at Gower! Not only did we have to reschedule all plans for the exciting Downtown Concerts program, but the Band had to miss many regular rehearsals because of icy conditions in the Band Room! Nevertheless, with the "vigor" noted in the headline of this Report, and like the Ministers, Choir,

Board, Staff, Committees, and indeed all the congregation of Gower, the GCB members soldiered on and were able to be ready with music for the traditional (albeit considerably reduced in the Lecture Hall!) GCB Musicale and Service on March 25.

Once the new furnace began heating the church complex, we renewed our planning activity, and the Strategic Plan was happily confirmed on June 22. Liaison with various Downtown social action groups continued, the (very!) supportive Gower Board made performance space available through pew-removal in the Sanctuary, and the first Downtown “Pops” Concert was held on Sunday afternoon, November 25. Special guests were The Inclusion Choir from Stella’s Circle, and the celebrated Karl Wells was Master of Ceremonies. The GCB Downtown initiative was featured in a full-page photo-story in the Telegram on Dec. 21 headlined “The Warmth of Music”, and a video of the show was aired eight times over Christmas week as a special presentation of Channel 9. Other Band activities included Seniors’ Shows at Meadow Creek on May 10 and Tiffany Village on May 17, the annual U.C. Anniversary Service at Gower on Sunday, June 10, the Gower wedding of former GCB Member (and beloved Granddaughter!) Laura Bonnell to Paul Brown on July 12, the annual Terra Nova Program Gala Concert at MUN Music on October 28 (our own Liam Robbins was an award winning composer for 2018!), and Christmas performances at the Shrine Club (the 32nd such event!) on Sunday, Dec. 16, the GCB Christmas Musicale and Service at Gower on Sunday, Dec. 23 (45 years to the day since the first performance by the fledgling Gower Youth Band on Dec. 23, 1973!), and the annual Christmas Eve Seniors’ Visits to Pleasant View Towers (44 years since the first such outreach performances in 1974!). A year of memorable events indeed!

VIGOR (#2 FINANCES): Total operating income (current account) for the Band in 2018 was \$13,508.32 comprised of \$5,380 in gifts from GCB supporters, \$1,530 in concert proceeds, \$854.01 in earned interest from reserves for Scholarships & Awards and Instrument & Equipment funds, \$4,855 from Band members through personal donations and fund-raising events, and a transfer of \$889.31 from the Downtown Concerts Program Reserve Fund for initial expenses in that community initiative during the 2018 financial year. Total operating (current account) expenditure for 2018 was \$13,482.16, comprised of \$1,500 Scholarships & Awards (*), \$1,593.31 in performance expenses, \$328.74 in new music, \$4,508.80 in members’ events and projects, and \$5,551.31 in general operating expenses and rentals, including an annual grant of \$4,800 to Gower to help compensate for any potential loss of outside rental income which may result from the GCB’s sole use of the Band Room facilities in the Memorial Building. The surplus of Operating Income over Operating Expenditure is \$26.16, to be retained in our Reserve Funds for Scholarships and Awards. (*)It should be noted that the amount of \$1,500 shown above for Scholarships & Awards in 2018 does NOT include the award of \$1,200 paid by MUN Music from our fully endowed Gower Youth Band Legacy Entrance Scholarship. It should also be noted that our Reserve Funds for Scholarships and Awards, Instruments and Equipment, and now the Downtown Concerts Program and GCB Strategic Plan all result from treasured gifts from benefactors to be held in trust for their specific purposes, and are not included in annual operating (current account) income and expenditure. As always, however, additional details of finances are available upon request from the Band.

A FINAL “V” (APPRECIATION, as always, and ANOTHER MILESTONE): In Annual Reports during the past 45 years, I have always expressed gratitude to the Gower church family (Board, Committees, Groups, Ministers and Staff, and Congregation), our supporters, and the Band members themselves. I have also, rightly, eulogized the spirit and example of “the heart

and soul of Gower Bands”, our beloved Anthea, and our four sons in the formative years. And I have paid tribute to the GCB Executive Committee led by General Manager David Robbins.

Now, at the time of writing in January, 2019, I am no longer Director of this unique and truly amazing musical and community service experience. The “passing of the torch” (I’m keeping my baton!) was inevitable at some point, but aging and a number of accidents/incidents made it an imperative in mid-

November, 2018. So we activated our GCB Succession Plan, and I retired from leadership as of December 31, 2018. It was the right thing to do, for the Band and for the Church and the community it serves. But of course it also marks another milestone in

Gower Band history. I am thrilled and proud that the process has been so painless and seamless for all concerned, and the Band is continuing (and will grow!) under the musical leadership of Ron Collins, B.Mus., B.Mus.Ed, M.Ed (who has served so well as Associate Director for the past 21 years), and our new Associate Director, Dana (Abbott) Collins, B. Mus., B. Mus. Ed, B.A., M.I.T., with over 27 years’ service with the GYB and GCB (no stranger to the folks at Gower!), as well as continuity of administrative leadership by the outstanding Executive Committee.

For me, personally, there are no words to express the depth of gratitude and love which I have for Gower Street United Church and all its Ministers, Boards, Committees, musical colleagues, staff, supporters, and the congregation at large for the past 45 years of life for me (42 for Anthea). You have been both family and friends. We have made history together.

Now I just add one more “V” to the headline of this report. To all 550 members of Gower Bands past and present, and to the thousands of Gower folk who have shared and supported our **Vision** over the years, I wish you continued **Vigor** and the blessing: “**Vaya con Dios!**”

Edsel Bonnell, Director, November 1 1973 - December 31 2018



GOWER STREET UNITED CHURCH WOMEN

Respectfully submitted by Karen Tuck, President



Over the past year our UCW unit has sustained an active membership of ten to fifteen members per meeting.

Two major fundraisers were held, those being our Spring Tea and Sale and our Christmas Tea and Sale. Both were supported well by the congregation and the local community. Many friends of the UCW assisted with serving, contributed baked goods or hand made products for which we are always thankful. The income from our efforts allows us to contribute to the support of the church, the Mission and Service Fund as well as to community agencies.

Inclement weather caused us to postpone our February meeting. We held our Annual General Meeting in February where the existing slate of Officers was affirmed.

We held a successful Bring and Buy evening in March.

Periodically through the year we have had discussions about ways in which to reinvigorate our group and to do things a little differently from how we have done them in the past. We continue to look for ways to include women of the congregation and to be as attentive as possible to those in our group who have difficulty getting to meetings especially in winter months.

In November we were invited to join the Men's Club for a supper which, as always, was an enjoyable event. After our supper Judy Cramm led us in a Christmas craft making session which brought much laughter for the rest of the evening.

We continue to provide a monthly worship service at Tiffany Village which amounts to 9 per year. During the Easter season we assisted Reverend Robert Tuck in conducting a Communion Service. Additionally we were able in December to host a Christmas party for the participants of the Pottle Center.

This year we were able to participate in the East District AGM, World Day of Prayer and the Gathering at Burry Heights.

Early in 2018 Elinor Udell passed away. We remember her and her contributions to the work of the UCW and to the life and work of the church. She has a long history of active participation at Gower and is remembered fondly and with pride. We give thanks for her life of service.

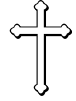
FINANCIAL REPORT
JANUARY 1, 2018 – DECEMBER 31, 2018

Balance brought forward January 1, 2017	\$ 698.77
INCOME:	
Membership monthly offering	\$ 925.20
Donations	\$ 625.00
Bring & Buy Fundraiser	\$ 390.00
Spring Sale	\$ 1978.88
Fall Sale	\$ 3235.00
Tiffany Village	\$ 190.50
 Total Income:	 \$ 7344.58
EXPENSES:	
Gower Street United Church	
Operating Fund	\$ 4500.00
Mission & Service	\$ 1000.00
In Memoriam	\$ 100.00
Operational:	
Donations, gifts .	\$ 509.00
Spring Sale	\$ 119.37
Fall Sale	\$ 256.07
Pottle Centre Luncheon	\$ 170.60
East District Dues	\$ 190.00
Outreach: United Church	\$ 350.00
Community	\$ 500.00
 Total Expenses:	 \$ 7695.04
Net balance	\$ 348.31

Anne Lambert, Treasurer



GOWER STREET MEN'S CLUB
Respectfully submitted by Peter Nell, President



The Men's Club continues to receive wonderful support from the Gower Street congregation. This support allowed us to have another successful year in 2018. Thank you! Our monthly meetings provide a time of fun, fellowship and good food for those attending the Men's Club while enabling us to plan our projects and fund-raising activities. These activities allow us to contribute to our church and outreach help to organizations and individuals in the wider community. As usual we held our Take-out Teas fundraiser in March, Flipper Dinner in May, Auction in November and Christmas Dinner in December. All four events were strongly supported.

Speakers and topics at our meetings included: Lincoln Addison covering his research projects involving migrant workers in South Africa and workers' experiences in Zimbabwe (January); Philip Hiscock on the topic of Shrove Tuesday, Ash Wednesday and Lenten traditions and customs in Newfoundland Folklore (February Invitational meeting with guests from Cochrane Street United Church Men's Club); James Hiller on our Church Architect (April Appreciation Dinner); Lloyd Gill presenting experiences during Roberta's and his recent six-month long Australian trip; Albert Spurrell speaking on the topic of the role of the Men's Club and with musical entertainment provided by David Robbins; and the Venerable Roger Whalen, Dean of the Anglican Cathedral enthraling the audience with an illustrated talk about the role of our churches in the downtown community, followed with a short rhyming sermonette on the true meaning of Christmas, to the rhythm of "The night before Christmas" (Christmas Dinner). There was no speaker at our annual June Restaurant Outing held at the Phoenix Restaurant.

Our activities included: on November 6, catering the Gower Community Band Banquet, celebrating 45 years since founding of its precursor, the Gower Youth Band; serving cookies and coffee at the "Gower's Got Talent" fund raiser in November; providing cider and cookies at intermission of the December 14 concert by "The Once"; and sanctuary decoration for the Christmas season.

The club funded sealing of the North-East door and closing access to the exterior platform from the adjacent sidewalk. A start was made on providing an Audio-Visual system in the Lecture Hall, comprising a new audio system and the addition of an overhead projection system. This project was substantially complete by year end.

The Club supports the Seniors' Club program by driving participants and cooking some of the dinners.

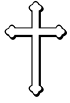
We welcomed a few new members in 2018. We hope more congregation members will join us in 2019.

I would like to offer my thanks to the executive and to club members for all of their contributions of time and talents which make these activities possible.

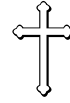
Also, once again, our thanks for the ongoing support of the congregation, and to others outside the congregation, who support and assist us in our endeavors. We look forward to another year of service, fellowship and good dining in 2019.

GOWER ST. UNITED CHURCH MEN'S CLUB
 FINANCIAL REPORT
 December 31, 2018

	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
<u>REVENUE:</u>		
Dinner Meeting	2,294	2,480
Donations	1,050	550
Auction	7,491	5,372
Ladies Night	3,150	2,535
Take Out Teas	19,856	21,635
Flipper Dinner	6,296	6,164
Other	<u>1,120</u>	<u>1,335</u>
	<u>41,257</u>	<u>40,071</u>
 <u>EXPENSES:</u>		
Dinner Meeting	3,007	3,757
Donations	3,550	5,270
Auction	593	614
Ladies Night	1,509	1,324
Take Out Teas	8,367	9,148
Flipper Dinner	2,549	2,528
Sound System, (Sanctuary)	0	23,575
Bank Charges	124	98
Kitchen	401	612
Luncheons	206	145
Misc.	<u>1,513</u>	<u>941</u>
	<u>21,819</u>	<u>48,012</u>
 NET: Surplus/(Deficit)	 <u>19,438</u>	 <u>(7,941)</u>
 Cash Balance Jan. 1/17	 15,464	 23,405
Surplus/(Deficit)	<u>19,438</u>	<u>(7,941)</u>
Cash Balance Dec 31/17	<u>34,902</u>	<u>15,464</u>



SENIOR CHOIR
Respectfully submitted by Roberta Gill, President



Under the leadership of Dr. Douglas Dunsmore and accompanied by organist, Mr. Carl Goulding, Gower Street Senior Choir continues to provide meaningful musical experiences to enhance Sunday worship services. The choir presently has 34 members on the roster with approximately 25 singers participating regularly. In January the choir welcomed to the loft 4 choral scholars whose voices help enrich our sound. In addition to regular Sunday morning rehearsals, members gather on specified Wednesday afternoons for an hour of anthem practice. Executive members are Sandra Davis and Ruth Churchill (gown conveners), Marilyn Peters (secretary-treasurer), Karen Butt (vice-president), and Roberta Gill (president).

In January a choral workshop facilitated by Robert Filion honed our singing skills. February is the month assigned to the Senior Choir to host Sunday morning coffee hour. During March, due to a furnace malfunction, the venue for worship changed to the Lecture Hall where choir, director and organist continued to make a joyful noise unto the Lord! March also saw our choir participate in the “Week of Prayer” service. In April, neighbouring church, Cochrane United, invited us to worship with them on Easter Sunday morning where a joint choir raised the rafters in joyful alleluias.

In June, Carl Stevenson, supported by the Choir, presented an art exhibition, the proceeds of which were generously apportioned to the Wendy L. Stevenson Choral Bursary Fund and the Warm and Dry Fund. Also in June our year-end BBQ was graciously hosted by Linda and Sean Hogan.

Following a 2 month break the Senior Choir resumed in September when we again welcomed 5 choral scholars. In October the Choir sang at the funerals of two faithful choir members: Jean Adey and Barbara Moulton. Throughout the year the choir has also been invited to sing at the funerals of several congregational members.

In November the Choir participated in “Gower’s Got Talent II”, and presented special Remembrance Day music as we welcomed our new Minister, the Rev. Pamela Jones-Fitzgerald.

The Senior Choir began the Advent Season on Dec. 1 with our annual Christmas Party, hosted by Rosanne Lake at her condo Clubhouse. At this event we presented certificates of appreciation to former choir members James Churchill, Frederick Davis, and Douglas Peters.

Our year ended with the Christmas Eve Candlelight service, the highlight of our year, when alumni and family members joined us in the loft as we provided musical leadership for Christmas Communion.

The Choir maintains two bank accounts:

1. Special Projects Account

Opening balance, Jan., 2018	\$3631.13
Closing balance, Dec. 2018	\$3551.13

2. Social Account (funded by weekly contributions)

Opening balance, Jan., 2018	\$137.69
Closing balance, Dec. 2018	\$459.45

Thank you to Dr. Douglas Dunsmore, Mr. Carl Goulding, and Mrs. Grace Dunsmore for their leadership, and to choir members and the congregation who faithfully support the music program.



WARM AND DRY FUND
Respectfully submitted by Ken Peters



This past year we embarked on the roof repairs in an attempt to bring an end to the unsightly water and plaster damage as well as the countless buckets that littered the area between the sanctuary and the memorial building. In the Spring we suffered another setback with the loss of our furnace and as a result we enjoyed the cozy confines of the Lecture Hall for Sunday services. These two property issues resulted in the formation of our Warm and Dry committee and the appeal to the Warm and Dry Fund followed.

The total value of this project was approximately \$200,000. We applied to Heritage NL for one of their Heritage Grants valued at 50,000. We were approved for the grant and are going through the process of satisfying Heritage NL's request for documents. We are hopeful that this process is in its final stages and we will soon have the 50,000 to apply against our loan. We then initiated an appeal to the congregation and friends of Gower to help pay off the remaining 150,000. The committee asked people to consider either a onetime annual donation or a monthly commitment toward a piece of the loan. As a result of this appeal we have received approximately 72,000 towards the fund in donations and commitments. We still have approximately 78,000 to go plus some interest charges but this is certainly a great start. We will be continuing the appeals for help in the future and we would like to thank you all for your continued support.

The members of your Warm and Dry Committee are Angeline Anstey, Lorne LeDrew, Rev. Marion Pardy and Ken Peters



SENIORS CLUB
Respectfully submitted by Sharon Monahan, Treasurer



It was with heartfelt sadness that we said goodbye to Gola Roberts, Coordinator of the Seniors' Club on January 18, 2019. Our thoughts and prayers go out to her children James and Kimberly and their families, and to Gola's sister Daphne. Gola's passing has left a tremendous void in the functioning of the Seniors' Club and many other areas of our church community to which she dedicated her time and service.

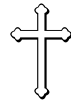
With great energy and commitment Gola oversaw another successful year of seniors outreach in the form of delicious dinners, musical entertainment and fundraising for Bridges To Hope and the Benevolent Fund.

Many thanks to Reverend Davis, Reverend Jones-Fitzgerald, the office staff, the Men's Club and the volunteers and musicians who gave their time, support and talent to make our dinners so very enjoyable for the seniors.

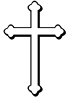
Lastly, please consider our ongoing request for volunteers. The rewards will be heartwarming.



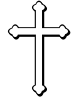
SENIORS CLUB FINANCIAL REPORT
JANUARY 1, 2017 - DECEMBER 31, 2018
Respectfully submitted by Sharon Monahan, Treasurer



SENIORS CLUB FINANCIAL REPORT	
JANUARY 1, 2018 - DECEMBER 31, 2018	
Bank Balance brought forward January 1, 2018	<u>\$ 349.34</u>
Income:	
Dinners	\$4863.00
Other Collection/Donations	<u>\$ 50.00</u>
Sub-total	\$4913.00
Total Revenue	<u>\$ 5262.34</u>
Less Expenses:	
Dinners	\$3285.41
Hired Help (clean-up)	\$ 500.00
Gifts (entertainment, birthdays)	\$ 165.00
Bank Fees	<u>\$ 59.40</u>
Sub-total	\$4009.81
Less Donations:	
Bridges to Hope	\$ 150.00
Gower Benevolent Fund	\$ 250.00
Other	<u>\$ 275.00</u>
Total Donations	\$ 675.00
Less Total Expenses	<u>\$ 4684.81</u>
Balance	\$ 577.53
Bank Balance as of December 31, 2018	\$ 577.53
Outstanding Cheques	\$300.00
Revised balance	<u>\$ 277.53</u>



GOWER AFFIRM
Respectfully submitted by Gail Wideman



In January of 2018, at the request of the Vision 2025 committee, an initiative was undertaken to complete the steps required for Gower Street United Church to become formally recognized as an Affirming Ministry by The United Church of Canada (UCC). The Gower Affirm Committee (Gail Wideman, Jill Handrigan, Larry Kelly) along with an advisory group (Ken Peters, Barb Myles, Rev. Florence Sanna, Rev. Marion Davis and Gola Roberts) were tasked with guiding the congregation through the next phase. In consultation with the Membership Coordinators of Affirm United the following requirements were undertaken:

1. *A revision of the vision statement to reflect our commitment to inclusion and full participation of people of all sexual orientations and gender identities.*

Completion: We began work on this task at the April 29th, 2018 workshop where participants reviewed samples of vision statements from United Church congregations across Canada and provided feedback and suggested wording for our revised vision statement. On August 7th, 2018 the Gower Affirm Committee and Advisory Group along with Board Chair Lorne LeDrew met to integrate this feedback in the development of a revised statement that more explicitly reflected inclusion. The revised vision statement was submitted to Affirm United on September 4th, 2018 and brought to the Board for approval on September 20th, 2018.

2. *Assurance of an inclusive marriage policy*

Completion: This work was undertaken and completed in consultation with the worship and sacraments committee. The revised inclusive marriage policy was submitted to Affirm United on September 4th, 2018 and approved on September 12th, 2018.

3. *The development of an action plan that outlines our steps toward becoming an Affirming Ministry*

Completion: On September 10th, 2018 an action plan was completed and sent for review by Affirm United and approved on September 20th, 2018. The action plan included an education/awareness tool to be circulated to groups and committees with ideas about ways in which their work can ensure inclusive practices, policies and programs; the action plan is a living document that will evolve under the guidance of a standing Gower Affirm committee.

4. *The congregational vote*

Completion: As directed by Affirm United approval was then sought from the congregation. On January 27th, 2019 a vote was held on the following motion:

...that Gower Street United Church become a member of Affirm United – meaning that as a congregation, our policies and practices will be intentional, specific, and explicit in the affirmation of same sex love and marriage and other experiences that continue to marginalize individuals or groups in society; and, to accept the revised vision statement that reflects this intention.

Revised Vision Statement:

The people of Gower Street United Church are committed to doing right by Jesus' teachings: loving, serving, giving generously in our local, regional, and global communities. We envision a vibrant and evolving community where tradition is honoured, change is embraced, and injustice is challenged. We are dedicated to being welcoming and affirming, engaging participation of all, including people of any age, colour, race, ethnicity, faith, gender identity, sexual orientation, ability, marital status, family composition, and social or economic circumstances.

A total of 126 ballots were cast with 98% in favour of the motion.

Next Steps:

- 1. The results of the vote were communicated to the Membership Coordinators for Affirm United on January 28th, 2019 with acknowledgement and approval received on January 29th, 2019. Still to be submitted are the membership form and institutional registration fee¹. A public celebration will be planned for **Spring 2019** where Gower Street United Church will be officially declared an Affirming Ministry and will be added to the national list on the Affirm United website.*
- 2. A call will be put out to the congregation for interested members to create a standing Gower Affirm committee to provide oversight and development of affirming activities and polices such as: an ongoing review and update of policies to ensure inclusive language; the creation and maintenance of a multi-focused resource center i.e. web-based, books etc; the establishment of an ongoing speaker series; the development of a justice action plan including justice education; collaboration with Gower church groups and Board to create inclusivity awareness and advise/assist with identified initiatives; networking with other churches and external groups on common issues.*

On behalf of Gower Affirm, I would like to acknowledge that the work completed over the past few months was built on the combined efforts of many others leading up to, and following from, the Year of Conversation of 2007. At Gower, together as upstanders and allies, we are moving ever closer toward the community that God calls us to be. It has been a blessed privilege to be on this journey with the people of Gower Street United Church.



GENERAL PROTESTANT CEMETERY COMMITTEE



**The General Protestant Cemetery Trustee Board Inc.
Report of the Chairman of the Board
To the Annual General Meeting
Tuesday, January 29, 2019**

We continue to make improvements to our cemeteries each year. In addition to our regular maintenance at Mount Pleasant, we filled, leveled and re-sodded a large number of graves and leveled up a number of headstones. We used several thousand square feet of sods this year.

¹ There is an annual institutional membership fee of \$100 to assist in advocacy and support of the Affirming Ministry Program

During the year we had 218 burials, a decrease of 8 over the previous year; of these 62.40% were cremations, a decrease over the previous year. The following breakdown may be of interest:

Burials in:	<u>2015-16</u>	<u>2016-17</u>	<u>2017-18</u>
The General Protestant Cemetery	6.97%	6.97%	4.13%
Mount Pleasant Cemetery	79.50%	79.50%	82.11%
The Field of Honor	11.48%	11.48%	8.26%
Memorials Gardens Cemetery	<u>2.05%</u>	<u>5.75%</u>	<u>5.50%</u>
	<u>100%</u>	<u>100%</u>	<u>100%</u>
Total Burials	257	226	218
Cremations Included	58.75%	65.92%	62.40%

Your Board met nine times during the past year.

Our Trust Fund for Perpetual Care last year was \$337,248.00. This year we added \$23,752.00. The fund now totals \$361,000.00. This is invested in GICs to earn an average rate of approximately 2.13%.

Since 2012, we have taken \$290,000.00 from our trust fund to complete Memorial Gardens. We have paid \$112,752.00 back into the trust fund. We will eventually pay back the full amount.

There have been 34 burials in Memorial Gardens.

All maintenance at Memorial Gardens such as grass cutting, snow clearing etc. is done by our own staff.

The chain link fence at Memorial Gardens was extended by 1127 feet at a cost of \$23,759.00 and two rows of concrete headstone foundation were installed at a cost of \$9,200.00. We had planned on paving a section of the parking lot at a cost of \$150,000.00, but the City of St. John's has not yet approved our application to do this work.

We have sold 103 of the 120 niches in the Columbarium installed at Mount Pleasant in 2015. We have ordered another one to be installed in the spring of 2019.

We received a donation of \$30,000.00 for Memorial Gardens. A portion of this money will be used to plant some trees and shrubs in the spring. The individual wished to remain anonymous.

Despite rain showers on Saturday and Sunday, the Memorial Service at Mount Pleasant went well on Monday. However, while attendance was very good, the offering was down from last year. Likewise, the service at the General Protestant Cemetery went well but had smaller attendance, and the offering was down from the previous year.

Rev. Bill Mercer of Wesley United Church took it upon himself to hold a Memorial Service at Memorial Gardens. He made all arrangements and held the service with a large crowd in attendance. We had planned to begin holding a service at Memorial Gardens in 2019, which means we will be arranging three Memorial Services this coming year.

We appreciate those member churches that support the cemeteries financially and otherwise and thank them most sincerely. However we are still not receiving financial support from some of our 18 member churches. Each representative should make sure that their church's assessment is paid each year.

I am pleased to place on record thanks to our cemetery staff. We have a dedicated staff, and the feedback from the public is excellent. We appreciate the work done by Bill, Vince and Graham. We operate six days a week, sometimes through difficult and challenging situations, especially during the winter season.

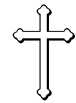
A special thanks to the members of the board who have given me their full support during the past year. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

Harold Chubbs
Chairman of the Board



BRIDGES TO HOPE
Report to our Partner Churches for 2018



Vision

A community where each person has access to sufficient and wholesome food

Mission

Inspired by values of dignity, respect and hospitality, Bridges to Hope supports people in need through direct food assistance, instructional cooking programs, and food security advocacy in metropolitan St. John's. Fundraising, food donation, volunteer participation, and a healthy workplace are essential elements in sustaining these activities. In association with the United and Presbyterian churches, Bridges to Hope is a non-profit society committed to accountable stewardship, good governance, open communication, and justice in all our relations.

Bridges To Hope is a unique partnership of Presbyterian and United Churches operating a food pantry and other programs. Please visit our website, <http://www.bridgestohope.ca> and Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com> to become more familiar with our services.

Food Pantry

Our core activity is the operation of the food pantry from our location on Cookstown Road. This program is organized by staff and is performed by a dedicated team of volunteers. In summer months we also benefit from students who help us maintain a regular service through the vacation season. Demand for hampers continues to rise. In 2018 we served 10,336, an increase of 4.5% over 2017, and exceeding 10,000 for the first time. Food donations of staple

food product come from several sources including: our church partners; corporate and school food drives; Community Food Sharing Association; purchases; baking on site. Volunteer bakers cook bread daily for hampers and we also purchase fresh vegetables and fruit as much as we can. The rate of supply of food product varies considerably throughout the year. We are grateful for food donations at any time and encourage donors to remember us in the 'lower' summer months. We are able to maintain our hamper standards throughout the year by careful management of available product, supplemented by purchases.

Christmas Hampers

Again this year we provided Christmas hampers and again Rotary was the prime organizer and sponsor. Their continuing interest and involvement in this project is very much appreciated. This year we registered 360 families. All these families received a complete hamper from turkey to fixin's and more besides. St. Andrew's church generously made the Kirk Hall available to us again this year for several days in mid-December as home base for the preparation and then delivery of these hampers. It is a significant team effort and the support of individual volunteers and of HMCS Cabot personnel contributed greatly to satisfactory completion of the project.

Bags To School

This year we provided 602 kits of school bags and supplies to registered children and youth in all grades. This is a new high and is 9% higher than 2017. We appreciate the generous support again this year of our sponsor, Exxon Mobil, and the involvement of VOCM Cares, Pipers, and other partners and donors. The project culminates in a massive assembly process and again this year we were very thankful to have the facilities at St. David's church to perform this work.

Marketing

During 2018 we conducted an aggressive initiative to raise our profile and community awareness through use of social media, primarily Facebook. Our manager also took advantage of many opportunities to be available to news media for interviews and reports. We have already seen the tangible results of this profile in the community through increased traffic on Facebook, especially when people volunteer to push the Donate button which we conveniently provide on our website, using Canada Helps.

Special Financial Campaigns

The increased public profile has contributed to an increase in public financial support. In the spring we had a special "Generous Helping, backyard BBQ" fundraiser, continuing a program begun in 2017. This was a significant event, involving a lot of dedicated volunteer organizing effort which, while successful, suffered from an unfortunate cold weather event. During the summer we were profiled in a new project "Smart Snacks" for school kits which exceeded objectives and enabled us to fill a food gap in a positive way. We also engaged in a successful "Healthy Hamper" campaign. Late in the fall, in the important pre-Christmas period, we organized a "Miracle on Cookstown Road" fundraiser which achieved our objectives.

Thank You

There are many other programs and initiatives we could mention. All are important and contributed to overall success. In summary, we simply observe that there are many, many individuals and organizations that voluntarily choose to support us and what we do. We also acknowledge that in 2018 the financial support from our partner churches increased by 19.6%

to \$22,200. We are humbled by your confidence and trust, and we seek to be worthy of your support as we work together to improve the lives of those who come to us for support.

Once again, we extend a sincere THANK YOU to you all for your continued support. We invite you to attend our annual meeting later this spring.

Roger Angel

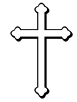
Chair

On behalf of the Board, staff and our many volunteers



GOWER STREET UNITED CHURCH BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Respectfully submitted by Edward Roberts, Chair



1. Gower Street Church's Trustees are responsible for the safe keeping and management of the Congregation's real property and its endowment and other funds. This Report describes the activities of the Trustees during 2018.
2. The Board of Trustees, to use the official title, was created by statute law, and specifically – in the context of Newfoundland and Labrador – the United Church of Canada (Newfoundland) Act. [Statutes of Newfoundland, 1926, c. 5; as amended by Statutes of Newfoundland, 1961, c. 8 and 1982, c. 36.] The Trustees are also governed by the detailed provisions of the United Church Manual, which require that they be elected by the Congregation and that they report to the Official Board as is necessary and appropriate. Eleven Trustees were elected at the 2018 Annual General Meeting and served with our Minister, who is a Trustee by virtue of her office, on the Board in 2018.

The only change in the Board's membership during the past year came about when the Rev. Pamela Jones-Fitzgerald became Gower's Minister. She succeeded the Rev. Marion Davis, who relinquished her position as a Trustee accordingly. I speak for all the Trustees when we thank Ms. Davis most warmly for her support during her term as a Trustee. Fred Earle, Eric Hodder, Diane Hogan, David Norris, Suzanne Orsborn, Ken Peters, David Roberts, Dan Simmons, Carl Stevenson, and Roy West also served with me as Trustees during 2018.

3. The Trustees hold legal title to all of the property – whether real or personal – owned by Gower Street's Congregation. This includes the buildings on Queen's Road and all their furnishings and equipment, as well as all funds held by Gower Street in its different accounts, and specifically the Endowment Fund. That said, I must go on to say that while the Trustees are the legal owners of Gower's property, they are responsible primarily for the management of the Endowment Fund, which holds the money accumulated by our Congregation over many years. The Official Board deals with matters affecting the day-to-day finances of the Congregation and the maintenance and operation of our buildings. The Official Board is also responsible for personnel issues.
4. Gower's Endowment Fund has been built up over many years. It comes mainly from

bequests and gifts. As of 31 December 2018, the Fund was valued at \$752,128. Over and above that, the Trustees are responsible for our Congregation's dealings with two Estates – those of the late Gordon L. Butler and the late Audrey March. Mr. Butler and Ms. March each left funds in trust, with instructions to make annual payments to Gower Street. We receive this money in behalf of the Congregation.

5. The assets held by the Trustees in Gower's Endowment Fund earned \$30,741 (4.1%) during 2018. The assets held by Scotia Wealth Management valued at \$335,886 as of 31 December, earned \$15,252 (4.5%) and those held by CIBC/Wood Gundy were valued at \$248,898 and earned \$10,792 (4.3%). Those at the Newfoundland and Labrador Credit Union, valued at \$167,344 earned \$4,697 (2.8%). All of this income is transferred regularly to the Official Board, which uses them for operational purposes.

Monies earned by the Endowment Fund are transferred regularly to the Congregation's treasurer (Fred Earle). Both Mr. Earle and the Congregation's finance chair, Ken Peters, are members of the Board of Trustees.

Both the Butler and March Estates made substantial donations to Gower Street during 2018. \$27,370 came from the Butler Estate and \$14,179 from the March Estate. These payments do not become part of the Endowment Fund, but are immediately transferred to the Official Board, which uses them to support Gower.

6. The only substantial change in the Endowment Fund during 2018, over and beyond that caused by market fluctuations, was that the administration of the Gladys L. Roberts Fund was transferred to the Trustees. The Fund, valued at \$20,540, was established some years ago by gifts made to the Church in memory of Ms. Roberts, a life-long member of our congregation. The income it earns each year is divided equally between the Gower Community Band (as the successor to the Gower Youth Band) and the Minister's Discretionary Fund.
7. Our continuing obligation, as Trustees, is to manage the Endowment Fund. The Trustees' investment policy is governed by two principles – income and security. Our aim is to generate as much income as can reasonably be expected from publicly-traded sources which offer a high degree of security. That is why our holdings are invested mostly in common and preferred shares of major Canadian corporations. We realize there is no guaranteed income from such securities; the only way to secure such guaranteed income is to purchase so-called "Fixed Income" instruments, which yield a much lower rate of return. (We hold \$265,000, about one-third of our assets, in them.)

Market conditions, as is widely known, have led to lower values for the shares of banks and utilities in recent months. We are long-term investors, and so we are not affected by this. But it is important to note that none of the corporations whose shares we own have decreased dividends; indeed, almost all of them have increased their payments substantially. (And, because of lower market prices, the dividends for individual companies are an even greater percentage of the value of the shares). The advice we have received from our advisors – at both SWM and CIBC/Wood Gundy – is to maintain a "steady as she goes" course, and to make no substantive changes in our holdings. The mutual fund which we hold through CIBC/Wood Gundy has also been affected by market

conditions, of course, but again the advice we have received is to continue to hold it. We propose to do so.

The Endowment Fund holds shares in three of the Canadian chartered banks, as well as two utilities, Fortis and Emera, and one Canadian insurance company. All of these yield substantial dividends. We also own “Reset Preferred” shares which were bought several years ago because they yielded a substantially higher rate than that otherwise available at the time. These Reset Shares yield interest at a fixed rate, rather than in the form of dividends. The rates are reset every five years, according to a formula based on the Bank of Canada. The reset rate is several points above the Bank of Canada rate.

During 2018, we did sell some of the shares held in our behalf by Scotia Wealth Management, and used the funds to buy additional shares in Canadian banks. We also sold shares in the CIBC Monthly Income Fund, held for us by CIBC/Wood Gundy, and used the proceeds to purchase an equivalent value of shares issued by the Fidelity Canadian Fixed Income Balance Fund. These shares, too, are held for us by CIBC/Wood Gundy.

As noted above, a substantial portion of the Endowment Fund is held in “fixed income” securities. All of Gower’s funds at the NLCU are in Certificates of Deposit, almost all of them earning 2.875%, issued by the Newfoundland and Labrador Credit Union, which are guaranteed by the Province. The greater part of these CDs mature during 2019. The Trustees intend to reinvest them at the then-current rates, which are expected to be greater than those occurring at the time they were purchased. We also hold CDs worth \$50,000 (yielding 2.75%) at Scotia Wealth Management and \$50,000 at CIBC/Wood Gundy (yielding 2.78%). Each of these deposits is guaranteed by the Canada Deposit Insurance Corporation.

8. Gower Street United Church is fortunate to possess a substantial Endowment Fund. Our assets have been accumulated over many years. The Fund earns a substantial amount of income for Gower Street each year, all of which is paid over to the Official Board. The Fund is a legacy from those who have gone before, and today’s Trustees are as equally dedicated to preserving the fund as all of those who have served as Trustees over many years.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

MINUTES OF 2018 CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Gower Street United Church Annual Congregational Meeting March 4, 2018

Welcome and Opening Prayer

The meeting was called to order by Lorne LeDrew, the Chair of the Board who expressed thanks to the Men's Club for providing the soup for lunch and to the UCW for the desserts.

Rev. Marion Davis opened the meeting with a prayer.

Appointment of Chair and Secretary, Approval of Agenda and Minutes

- On a motion by Judi Somers seconded by Darryl Pullman, Lorne LeDrew was appointed to chair the meeting and Linda Hogan to act as secretary.
- Lorne added an item to the agenda under 10 c., the furnace.
- The agenda was approved on a motion by Ken Peters, seconded by Ken Butt.
- The minutes of the 2017 annual congregational meeting were approved on a motion by Carl Stevenson, seconded by Wilson Hiscock.
- The minutes of the Special Congregational Meeting held on February 25, 2018 were approved on a motion by Ed Moores, seconded by Carl Wright.

Message from the Chair of the Official Board

Lorne LeDrew referred to his written report submitted to the meeting.

- As a result of the Remit vote, Newfoundland and Labrador has been retained as one of the 16 divisions under the new model of governance.
- A new Constitution for Gower Street Church has been proposed as the old one had become unwieldy.
- New Board structure is being proposed, because people are not volunteering like they did. The new one will require a lower obligatory attendance, although all are welcome to attend any meeting.
- Among the other things that happened in the last year were the Block Party with neighbouring churches last summer, the renaming the downtown church affiliation to be the Community of Faith, and the establishment of a cozy church.
- He also referred to the furnace problem and the need to raise funds for its replacement on the cusp of consideration of a fundraiser for the roof of the Memorial Building.

Lorne thanked all those who had worked hard during the year.

Message from the Minister

Rev. Davis presented a written report. She added what a joy and a challenge it was to return to Gower. She thanked all for the support and for keeping things running making it the wonderful place it is. We are a family and we do the best we can. She is prepared to stay until we get a new minister.

In Memoriam

The names of members of the congregation listed on page 10 of the Annual Report who had died during the year were read out by Rev. Davis and followed with a prayer.

Reports of Committees and Groups

Finance Reports

Treasurer Fred Earle presented the reports referring to:

- the written narrative report of Finances prepared by Lorraine Busby which relates the income and expenses to the four Core Values of the Church as seen by Vision 2025 as another way to look at the finances;
- the written report of the Finance Committee that had been prepared by Ken Peters;
- the financial statements for 2017;
- the budget for 2018;
- and the report of the Financial Review Committee.

Fred gave detailed explanations of the Statement of Financial Position, the Statement of Operations and Changes in Fund Balances, the Statement of Revenues and Expenditures for the Operating Fund, the Restoration Fund, the Endowment Fund, the Organ Fund and Other Funds.

Fred reviewed the 2018 budget, which projects a deficit of \$ 24,004, explaining how revenue estimates were made and how expenditure amounts were determined. Generally, expenses, such as the price increase for fuel, can be predicted with greater accuracy than revenues, which are dependent on congregational contributions, fundraising and investment income. He said that additional fundraising efforts and more rentals in 2018 could offset the projected deficit.

Fred concluded that there had been positive financial results for 2017 with a smaller than budgeted deficit.

The 2017 Financial Statements were approved on a motion by Fred Earle, seconded by Karen Butt.

The 2017 Budget was approved on a motion by JoAnna Bennett, seconded by Carl Wright.

Other Reports

Written reports were presented by Lorne LeDrew including the Worship and Sacraments Committee, the Heritage and Archives Committee, the Ministry and Personnel Committee, the Outreach Committee, the Pastoral Care Committee, the Property Committee, the Stewardship Committee, the Vision 2025 Implementation Committee and the Communications Committee. The Chair opened the floor for questions or additional comments.

- Barb Myles suggested a vote of thanks to the Vision 2025 Committee for their work over the year.
- Lorne LeDrew thanked the UCW and the Men's Club for their contributions, including today's luncheon.
- Rev. Sanna noted that the report from Christian Education was conspicuous in its absence and requested that a report possibly be emailed to congregation, posted on our website or even prepared for the Newsletter.
- Jill Handrigan of the Outreach Committee requested the approval of a Mission and Service funding goal for 2018. The goal was set as \$38,000.00 on a motion by Jill Handrigan, seconded by Roy West.

Groups and Other Committee Reports

Written reports were presented from the Gower Community Band, the Gower Street Men's Club, the Senior Choir, the Seniors Club, the Gower United Church Women, the Organ Restoration Committee, the Trustees and Bridges to Hope.

It was noted that the organ refurbishment loan has been paid off.

Reverend Parly requested that Nominations be deferred until the new Constitution had been dealt with.

Other Business

1. Constitution

It was moved by Jim Hiller, seconded by Ed Roberts, that the new Constitution as circulated be approved. Barb Myles asked about the size of committees and their responsibilities. Ed Roberts reported that the mandate of the committee was to change the Constitution to reduce the size of the Board to a more workable, practical number. As it is relatively easy to make constitutional changes, why not try it and see. Judi Somers felt the concept was good, but that liaison was needed in the next few months to see how it was working. Lorne said a meeting would be held to discuss relationships and responsibilities. Roy West noted that there was no provision for a Board executive in the new document. Lorne Ledrew moved to accept. Approved.

2. Search Committee

Five people expressed a desire to be part of the search committee and it was proposed that Gola Roberts, Tracy Sullivan, Ed Roberts, Jim Hiller and Doug Moody be appointed in addition to the two representatives from East District. It was noted that there was no need for a separate youth representative. Moved by Barb Myles and seconded by Ken Butt.

3. Furnace

Ed Moores reported that the furnace was dead – seven of the cells were found to be rusted and corroded and some were leaking; interim repairs were not feasible. On Friday past, ServiceNL ordered it shut down. According to SNL, the list of repairs needed to get it going even temporarily was too long. SNL is sensitive to our situation.

Pat West suggested that this might be a good time to look at all possibilities, especially with an eye to future costs and budgets. Ed remarked that other heating options were looked at but found to be beyond budget. Patches to the system would cost \$5 – 6,000 and may not work. Bruce Nickerson suggested that heat pumps for the lecture hall be installed but they would cost at least \$5,000 each. The contractor has proposed to provide electric heaters for the lecture hall until the repairs completed.

The same model of boiler is still being manufactured and, based on using the current infrastructure, a quote of \$43,000 was given, with a new pump costing an additional \$3,950, with a delivery time of 6 to 8 weeks. It is possible that the new furnace may be more efficient and less expensive to operate. We need the specifications for the furnace.

There are three zones in the heating system – the sanctuary, the Memorial Building and the lecture hall. According to Carl Goulding the organ will be okay, as the main problem is constant changes of temperature, rather than cold. There is electric heating in the office, allowing work to continue, but this is not possible for the sanctuary.

Another company will be approached for a quote and/or suggestions on Monday. The Chair will meet with the finance and property committees on Tuesday.

Doug Moody asked about any possible insurance implications. Ecclesiastical Insurance will be informed of the problem.

Nominations Committee

Rev. Dr. Marion Parly prepared a written report. On a motion by Rev. Parly, seconded by Judi Somers, the meeting extended deep appreciation to, and acknowledged the contributions of, Bruce Evans Chair of Property, David Guzzwell, Chair of Outreach and Lorraine Busby, implementation coordinator of the Vision 2025 committee and member at large.

On a motion by Rev. Pardy, seconded by Judi Somers, the meeting extended the terms of the following Board members who agreed to acting chair of Outreach and Property respectively until this meeting: Jill Handrigan and Ed Moores.

On a motion by Rev. Pardy, seconded by Judi Somers, the meeting extended deep appreciation to, and acknowledged the contributions of, the following Board members whose term of office has ended: Dan Simmons, Secretary, Angeline Anstey, Worship & Sacraments and Diane Hogan, member at large and to Kyle Massey, whose work with the refugee family has been completed.

On a motion by Rev. Pardy, seconded by Judi Somers, the meeting extended deep appreciation to, and acknowledged the contributions of, the following Board members whose term of office has ended, as per the new constitution: Joanna Bennett, Jim Hiller, Lynette Hillier, Marion Pardy, Karen Tuck, Roy West, Linda Giannou, Ed Williams, Larry Kelly, Gwen Alcock and Edward Roberts.

On a motion by Rev. Pardy, seconded by Judi Somers, the meeting extended deep appreciation to, and acknowledged the contributions of, the following Board of Trustees members whose term of office has ended: Guy Taylor, Sheridan Parsons, Richard Pike, Betty Ann Williams, Linda Nickerson and Mark Peters.

On a motion by Rev. Pardy, seconded by Judi Somers, the meeting elect Ruth Francis as Secretary of the Board.

On a motion by Rev. Pardy, seconded by Judi Somers, the meeting elect Ken Peters as Leader of Property and Finance and as Chair of the Finance Committee.

On a motion by Rev. Pardy, seconded by Judi Somers, the meeting elect Angeline Anstey as Leader of Church Groups.

On a motion by Rev. Pardy, seconded by Judi Somers, the meeting elect Patrick Griffin as Leader of Worship and Ministry.

On a motion by Rev. Pardy, seconded by Judi Somers, the meeting re-elect David Robbins as Member At Large.

On a motion by Rev. Pardy, seconded by Rev. Sanna, the meeting re-elected Edward Roberts(Chair), Fred Earle, Eric Hodder, Diane Hogan, David Norris, Dan Simmons, Carl Stevenson and Roy West to the Board of Trustees.

On a motion by Rev. Pardy, seconded by Judi Somers, the meeting expressed deep appreciation to Lorne LeDrew, Chair of the Board, all the Officers, and all other continuing and new Board members for their leadership and contribution to Gower Street United Church in this way.

Rev. Pardy expressed thanks to committee members Judi Somers, David Roberts and ex officio member Lorne LeDrew for their collegial commitment of time and thought to this important task or Gower Street United Church.

Lorne LeDrew thanked the Nominations Committee for their hard work. They will be available to assist the coordinators. He also thanked Linda Hogan on behalf of Dan Simmons.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:35 p.m..