

What is “Emerging Spirit”?

Emerging Spirit is an initiative of The United Church of Canada focused on establishing and nurturing a relationship between the United Church and Canadians aged 30-45.

The prominent research firm, Environics found that up to 77 percent of Canadians between 30 and 45 who don't already go to church would be interested in hearing more about a church like the United Church.

“Living The Welcome” — Training events for Congregations -- were held this fall in several provinces.

November 2-3, there was a training event at Corner Brook. Alice Cater attended to represent our Memorial United.

The “Living the Welcome” workshops were designed for people to share the dream that everyone would find a welcoming faith community in a United church congregation.

Congregations are asked to take steps to strengthen their Welcoming ministries.

Emerging Spirit encourages church members to explore ways to enhance “Welcoming”, to all who come through the doors of our church.

The workshops at Corner Brook enabled all who attended to share the dreams and visions of The Emerging Spirit in the hope that it will result in:

- more people connected with the ministry of the congregation.

- more creative and vital conversations.
- more people knowing and using their gifts.
- greater positive visibility within the larger community.
- more joyful, positive, enthusiastic congregation members.
- a sense of discovery of the moral, spiritual and theological questions at the core of life issues.

An initiative of Emerging Spirit is: WonderCafe.ca

This is a website that offers a place for people to take a step in a deeper exploration of their faith and life issues. Links to “WonderCafe” and “Emerging Spirit” are on our own home page at memorialunitedgfw.com. ☺

You are encouraged to use our website every week to get the latest announcements and check out what's happening at Memorial United. A banner across the bottom of the Home page will highlight new items added to the site. The Announcements page is updated every weekend before Sunday morning's service. On the Church Life page there are links to many schedules. The Photo Galleries page is frequently updated with new pictures, and our Links page contain links that may be of great interest to you. See you at memorialunitedgfw.com

ConneXions

Sunday School White Gift Service

The **Sunday School children** will be leading the **White Gift Service** on Sunday, Dec. 9th. Congregational members are reminded to bring along a **White Gift** — a food item wrapped in white paper or a monetary donation in a white envelope. These gifts will be collected by the children during the White Gift Service on Dec. 9th. and donated to the food bank.

Schedule of services for Advent

Sunday, Dec. 2	11:00 a.m.	Family Worship — Hanging of the Greens
	7:00 p.m.	UCW Advent Vesper Service
Sunday, Dec. 9	11:00 a.m.	White Gift Service — led by Sunday School
	7:00 p.m.	Memorial United Church Men's Choir Service “A Traditional Christmas”
Sunday, Dec. 23	11:00 a.m.	Family Worship — Holy Communion
	7:00 p.m.	Memorial United Church Choir Service — “Dream a Dream”
Monday, Dec. 24	7:00 p.m.	“A Christmas Gift” Christmas Eve - Family Worship
Sunday, Dec. 30	11:00 a.m.	Service of Lessons and Carols

There will be lots to do and see this Christmas. Make sure “A Christmas Carol” is one of them. Sunday evening, Dec. 16, at 7:00 p.m. at Memorial United Church. Dramatic reading of the Charles Dickens' Christmas classic will be a treat for the whole family. An offering will be received for the “United for Peace Campaign”. (See page 11)



Reverend Howard's desk...

A Greeting From Your Minister

It is my pleasure to bring greetings to you in this Advent season. All around us there is a visible increase of activity, all of which suggests that Christmas is fast approaching. Our church office is buzzing with people coming and going as they go about their preparations for this special season. As we look around our congregation, it is clear that we have much to be thankful for. We have over 50 children enrolled in the Sunday School and leaders who are dedicated to the nurturing of Christian faith. At present, the children are busy preparing to lead us in the White Gift worship service. I encourage the parents to continue to support their children as they grow in faith. The United Church Women provide a spiritual means for women to be together, to express their faith and enjoy fellowship in our church. At present, they are busy preparing to lead us in an Advent Vesper worship service. I encourage them in their work among us. The Memorial United Church Men's Choir provides an excellent opportunity for men to come together and share fellowship with one another. The Men's Choir will be leading us in evening worship on the second Sunday of Advent. I encourage them in their work among us. We are also thankful for a wonderful Church Choir and the capable and fun leadership offered by their director, Mr. Glenn Moulard and their organist, Mr. Wally Robinson. Also, we have the UC5 Guitar group that contributes to our worship. I encourage all of you in your ministry of music which adds much to our worship experience. The work of the various committees of our church is carried out by individuals within our congregation on a regular basis. At present our Official Board has named a

Strategic Planning Committee to help us plan our future direction as a congregation. I encourage you to please read the information and complete the survey included with this delivery. We need your input! As you can see, it takes the dedication of many people to do the work of the church. I am thankful for the privilege to minister to you. I am encouraged by God's Spirit which is evident among you in so many different ways and I look forward to worshipping with you in this Advent season!

"When Christ entered our world, he didn't come to brighten our Decembers, but to transform our lives."
(Rich Miller)



Memorial United Church



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Connexions
Editor: Gloria Raines
Layout Editor: Wally Robinson

Dec. 2, 1983.

They had plans to keep on traveling and as Ruth writes "It's off to California for Easter and on to Atlanta. Then Toronto in June, Newfoundland in July and the World's Fair in Vancouver in September.

Who knows what's next? They made a trip to Newfoundland and were chauffeured around by Blanch to St. John's, Grand Falls, Corner Brook. However, their time together was all too short, with Ruth visiting her home in Tallahassee and Garland at home in Pompano Beach both preparing for their next trip, Garland collapsed and died suddenly in his apartment on September 11, 1986. His son, Lowell, learned of his father's passing from an emergency attendant who was in the apartment when Lowell phoned his father. Lowell died in his 40's a few years after his father.

Garland's life was one of service, travel and interesting experiences. His friend Jeannie of Stanford wrote

him to say that after reading his 1981 news letter telling of his travels and visitations during that year she was so exhausted she had to lie down and take a rest! In February 2007 this writer visited the First Presbyterian Church in Fort Lauderdale to find that Garland is still remembered. I spoke to his colleague Dr. Neuman who stated he remembers Garland for his great outgoing personality, his broad smile and his humour, especially his Newfoundland stories. For years Garland wrote a Christmas message to friends, family and colleagues. His concluding statement on his last message is as follows, it truly states what Garland believed and how he lived: "Live for today, dream of tomorrow, learn from yesterday"

Written by Jim Dobson from the memories of Rev. G. G. Lacey and interviews with sister Blanche Lacey who is now 100. 😊

United for Peace Campaign

Toronto: In many United Church congregations throughout Canada, November 4, 2007, will mark both Peace Sunday and the official launch of The United Church of Canada's two-year United for Peace Campaign. The campaign, which will focus on education, advocacy, and fundraising, has set a financial goal of \$2 million. Half of the monies raised will be designated to peace-building initiatives in Israel and Palestine, and the remainder will be used to support peace projects that are proposed by the United Church's partners in Canada and around the world.

On the evening of December 16 at our church, you will have an opportunity to hear a reading of "A Christmas Carol" by Charles Dickens, and to contribute to the United for Peace Campaign.

PART III — CONCLUSION

The Exploits of the Rev. Garland G. Lacey

In 1982 Garland celebrated his eleventh year on the staff of First Presbyterian Church in Fort Lauderdale, as Minister of Visitation, visiting homes and hospitals and conducting religious services in retirement homes and nursing institutions. For recreation and to “aid good health” he swam for about 30 minutes most days “at the time of the setting sun”. He continued his travels completing a cruise of the Caribbean in January, visited son and Dr. Norman Vincent Peale in New England in May.

During his brief visits with his son, Lowell, he accompanied him on a very erratic schedule of giving organ recitals, attending midnight parties in homes of his musical friends, performing in orchestras on his violas, taking in operas and plays in New York city, and even served as a page turner when Lowell accompanied a professional singer at a New York studio. In November he went to Mexico city for a week attending the Annual Thanksgiving reunion arranged by the Foundation For Christian Living, under the leadership of Dr. Norman Vincent Peale. This gathering was an annual event and Garland and his spouse went to a variety of these reunions in various places including Hawaii in 1983, and Bermuda in 1984.

In 1983 Garland became an Octogenarian - for the first time as he says. He attended the 30th anniversary of Wilshire Presbyterian

Church in Santa Ana, California, the church he helped establish in 1953 and was recognized by having the Christian Education center named “Lacey Hall” in his honour. He also renewed acquaintances with Robert Schuller and attended worship at the Crystal Cathedral. He continued his travels, cruising on the Mediterranean and meeting his sisters Blanch and Joyce in Toronto.

By 1984 Garland was on contract three days a week to the First Presbyterian Church in Fort Lauderdale, however he served many extra days and calls. This being his 50th anniversary of his ordination he attended a reunion in New York Seminary from whence he graduated. He received congratulatory letters from Norman Vincent Peale and Robert Schuller. Again on the move he went on another cruise in May.

In July joined his sisters in Montreal for a family reunion

Garland retired again in 1985 completing 60 years of ministry. He returned to Newfoundland for the last time in August visiting family, brother Bill and sister Blanche. It was also a significant year in that he remarried. On October 25th he married Ruth Morris, a widow who lived in Tallahassee, Florida. Ruth was an educator by profession and her dentist husband died in 1981. They were married in New York city with Lowell being best man and giving an organ recital. They first met on a cruise ship in Hawaii on

THE CHURCH

It is now almost 12 years since Steven Dalley came on staff at Memorial United Church as its caretaker. How fortunate for the members of our congregation to have availed of the services of such

**Steven Dalley**

a caring and dedicated individual as Steve. Steve and his wife Janice both grew up in Twillingate. They have two sons — 20-year-old Travis who is in his third year at Memorial University in St. John’s; and 15-year-old Alex now in Grade 10.

Steve is that very pleasant gentleman that you may meet almost any day of the week when you enter our church premises. He takes great pride in every task that he completes at Memorial United Church. This is very evident when you enter the sanctuary for our Sunday morning services -- the spotless floors and seats, the polished woodwork and brass, the appropriate seasonal scarves in place, the lighting and everything that gives the sanctuary that wonderful welcoming feeling

when we enter. The same care and dedication can be seen throughout the rest of the building. Our church is a very busy place at all times — Sunday morning services, Sunday school, weddings, funerals, dinners, special functions, meetings, rentals, etc. Steve is there for almost every function setting up tables and chairs, helping to decorate, organizing, cleaning up or doing whatever is asked of him. He is accommodating in every aspect of his work. All church groups find him most obliging. Our church grounds are always kept in immaculate order. Steve works far beyond the time and tasks designated. He operates the sound system for many of our Sunday morning services and for many special functions. He is seen passing out the Sunday morning bulletins and even delivering bulletins to shut-ins on Sunday. He is the ‘Mr. Fix-It’ for anything that may go wrong around the church or the C.E. Center.

(Continued on page 4)

Sunday School News

Hi everyone! Sunday School is up and running for the year. We have over fifty children registered this year. We had our Registration Party on September 23rd. and started classes on September 30th. Many of the children are returning for another year of fun and worship and we have some new faces to welcome. The next important activity for us is our White Gift Service on December 9th. We will be very busy over the next few weeks practicing to make this an enjoyable service for all. We have

managed to include all the children in our service either through singing, reading or acting!! It was an awesome task because we have so many wonderful children in our church!! We are certainly looking forward to performing for the congregation. Don't forget to bring along a non-perishable food item wrapped in white paper for the children to collect during the service.

Christina Osmond
Sunday School Superintendent



Caretaker Steve Dalley *(Continued from page 3)*

Steve also gives a lot to his community especially through his involvement in Minor Hockey. He loves fishing and is an ardent gardener, growing many of his own vegetables.

Steve, you are held in very high

esteem by the entire church family. We do appreciate the tremendous effort you put into your work here at Memorial United, your patience with each and everyone of us, and your caring nature.

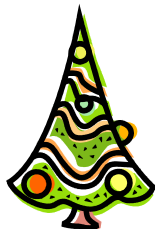


Breakfast With Santa and Christmas Tree Sale

Have breakfast with **Santa** in the C E Centre of Memorial United Church and purchase a **Christmas Tree** from

Noel's Tree Farm in Memorial United Church parking lot on **Saturday Dec. 8, 2007.**

Breakfast 9:00 a.m. — \$5.00 per family
Christmas Tree Sale 10:00 a.m.



“Keep Those Grocery Tapes Coming!”

As the coordinator for the handling of the tapes on behalf of our men's choir, I present this brief report outlining the procedures and benefits.

We wish to thank all of you who save the tapes and bring them to church. Without your participation, this program wouldn't be successful. So far this year we have received \$1,380.00 from the stores and estimate receiving another \$700.00 to \$800.00 before year-end.

We wish to point out that we can process tapes from any Dominion or Sobeys stores in Canada. So tell relatives and friends near and far to save the tapes for you.

A big thank-you is extended to my predecessor, Fred Lawrence. Fred handled this work for years and in that time brought a lot of funds into the church through this project. After being in this posi-

tion for a short time, I can attest to the volume of work in sorting and preparing the tapes for presentation to the stores.

Before the tapes can be delivered to the stores for redemption, they first are sorted by store and amounts \$10 and over are compiled in \$1,000 lots. Tapes under \$10 are sorted by dollar amounts and compiled by numbers. The lots are then brought to the stores in bundles of \$50,000 value. We then receive payment on the basis of \$2 for each \$1,000 presented.

In closing, I would like to personally thank the men who collected and sorted the tapes during my absence of 12 weeks. Their work made my job much easier upon my return.

Please keep the tapes coming and keep me busy.

Bob Hedges
Coordinator

Wall of Celebration

What a wonderful way to remember significant milestones, events or even the life of a departed loved one! Have the event, individual's name, date, etc. engraved on a plaque to be placed on the vestibule wall of Memorial United Church. To order a plaque, you may get an order form from the Church office or from the vestibule of the Church. Fill out the order form with the required information and submit it to the Church office along with a \$50.00 contribution.

Strategic Planning

Strategic Planning is an exciting project.

If you have some free time on the second Thursday of each month you are welcome to meet with us. These meetings are for sharing ideas only.

Our next meeting is Thursday December 13 at 7:30 P.M.

A "Tools Committee" is working on developing strategies to hear from all ages and all groups in Memorial United.

A "Research Team" is working on finding out what is happening in Christian churches in North America.

To dream and plan for the future of our ministry as a faithful Christian Church family renews a sense of possibility and joy for all.

Please check out our Questionnaire. We look forward to hearing from you.

Proposed Strategic Planning Process 2007-2008

- Introduction to Concept and Sharing of Ideas (September 2007)
- Determine Data Collection Process (October 2007)
- Develop/Approve Data Collection Tools (November 2007)
- Collect Data (November 2007-February 2008)
- Review Data, Develop a Vision and Review the Mission (February 2008)
- Share the Vision and Mission and Obtain Feedback/Approval (February 2008)
- Develop Objectives, Strategies and Actions (March 2008)
- Share Draft Strategic Plan (April 2008)
- Check Progress and review Feedback (May 2008)
- Finalize Strategic Plan and Develop Communication Strategy (June 2008)

Bible Society's 31st annual Festival of Praise

The Exploits Valley Branch of The Canadian Bible Society is presently making plans for our **31st Annual Festival of Praise** to be held on **Tuesday, Feb. 5, 2008**, at **Holy Trinity Anglican Church at 7:30p.m.** Keep this time available to join us in a wonderful evening of music!

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Have you ever wondered where some of our former Memorial United Church members have gone? Here is a partial list . . . more to come later.

Verbena and Gerald Philips are now living in Lewisporte, NL.

Inez and Eric Penney are now living in Moreton's Hr., NL.

Raymond and Myrtle Maloney are now living in Clarke's Beach, NL.

Olive (Parsons) Dahlinger is now living in Mississauga, Ontario.

Jocelyn (Thomas) Bukich, daughter of Cec & Gwen Thomas, is living in St. Thomas, Ontario with her husband, Mark and their two boys.

Pastoral Care Committee

It is the wish of the **Pastoral Care Committee** to make contact with all **United Church families** in the Grand Falls-Windsor area; Become aware of all moves by **United Church families** into our community, out of our community and around our community; And to appropriately welcome new families into our congregation and make them aware of the programs

within our **Church**.

It is with our **Church Zone System**, known as **Wards** that we hope to maintain an '**up to date**' congregational list and an awareness of individual needs.

To be an effective network, we need **your help**. Any changes or needs that **you** are aware of please bring to the attention of your contact person or the Church office.

Calling all men...

The Social Activity Committee of Memorial United (offshoot of the church's Centennial Committee for 2006) wants to see the formation of a Men's Fellowship Group for our church.

At the Official Board meeting held Nov. 27, the committee was given the go-ahead for the

project. Plans are already in the making to hold the first meeting on January 17 in the new year. The meeting will take the form of a Fellowship Supper with special guest, and should prove entertaining and fun.

All men of all ages of the congregation are invited to attend.

Memorial United Church U C W



Another successful year for the United Church Women, under the capable leadership of Eileen Butt, will soon be coming to a close. We are in the process of recruiting a new executive to serve for the next two years. We had six new members join our UCW this year and hopefully with new ideas, we will continue to grow in 2008.

We will be having our **Vesper Service** on Dec. 2nd at 7:00 p.m. We hope to see you there! Our **Christmas Turkey Dinner** will be held on Dec. 6th at 6:30 p.m. Women from the congregation are welcome to attend. Tickets cost \$10.00 each and are available from the UCW or the Church office. Catering will be done by the Men's Choir. This is an evening of fun and fellowship and thoroughly

enjoyed by all.

Many thanks to Rev. Crooks, Cindy, and Steve who continue to be there for us whenever we need advice and encouragement. Also, thanks to the Men's Choir and the Congregation who supported us in our endeavors.

Our **Fall Sale** this year was a huge success and a profit of \$5,042.00 was realized.

As this is our last newsletter for this year, on behalf of the United Church Women, I would like to wish you peace, happiness and every joy for Christmas and the New Year.

Take care and God Bless,
Betty Budgell
Corresponding Secretary
UCW

Recognition Pins

In 2006, our Centennial Committee initiated the establishment of Recognition Pins. This came about as a result of congregational members, committees and groups expressing a desire to appropriately recognize individuals for their work in the church, which often extends to the community. The criteria for recognition and presentation is based on a nomination from a church group or individual to the Official Board. Receiving the pin in 2006 was Glenn Mouland. In 2007 the following people received pins: Graham Harris, Evelyn Windsor, Roy Stoodley, Fred Lawrence, George Morris, Hazel Giles, Ernie Newhook, Gloria Raines and John Moore.

“Learn to pause
or nothing worthwhile will catch up to you.”
—Doug King

Coffee Sunday



The session has designated the first Sunday of every month as ‘**Coffee Sunday**’. You are invited to the C.E. Center after worship for coffee and a chat with friends. Hope to see you there!!

WE NEED YOU!

If **you** are interested in helping out at Memorial United Church; becoming a Scripture Reader or Minute For Mission Reader; joining Memorial United Church Choir or the Men's Choir; becoming a member of the UCW; helping with the many functions at our church or serving on a committee, please come and join or call the church office to say you are willing to help.

Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box

Again this year was a great success. Boxes filled with toys, treats, hygienic supplies, school supplies, and articles of clothing will soon be on their way to children in far away lands. You can only imagine what the reaction of the recipients will be as they open these boxes. Thank you to everyone who found it in their hearts to do something special for a child they will never meet in a land far away.



Grand Falls-Windsor, Bishop's Falls Community Food Bank Inc.

The **Food Bank** will be distributing **Christmas Hampers** on December 22, 2007. If you would like to donate items for the hampers please drop off your items to the food box in the church or to the Food Bank by Dec. 10, 2007.

The items required for each hamper are: (Non-Perishable Items)

1 can Beans	1 can Pasta	2 cans Soup
2 cans Vegetables	2 cans Milk	2 pkgs. Kraft Dinner
1 pkg. Tea Bags (small)	1 bag sugar	1 pkg. Cereal (reg.size)
1 lb. Margarine	1 tin juice	1 tin Fruit
1 pkg. Rice	1 pkg. Biscuits	1 pkg. Macaroni or other dry pasta
3 tins Lunch Food, i.e. Meatballs, Stew, Corned Beef, Flakes of Ham or Turkey, Tuna, etc.		

All Hampers will be standard and these are the items required. If individuals or groups wish to make a complete hamper, please use this list .