

BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE MESSAGE: We are now nearing the major events in our Bicentennial celebrations which will commemorate 200 years in the life and work of the Methodist Church and its successor, the United Church of Canada, in the Northeast Avalon. The erection of the first Methodist chapel in St. John's in 1815 marked the formal foundation of all 12 United Church congregations in the area today. A special joint congregational service will be held on Sunday, April 26 at 3 p.m. at Gower Street United Church with our Moderator, the Right Rev. Dr. Gary Paterson, as guest preacher. He will be coming especially for this service and our banquet. Another event in the service will be his dedication of a bronze commemorative plaque which will be later erected near the downtown site of the first Methodist chapel. A reception with the Moderator will follow the service. On Saturday, April 25, preceding the service, a Bicentennial Banquet will be held at the Pleasantville Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion at 7 p.m. for 7: 30 p.m. with our Moderator attending. Our guest speaker, the Rev. Russell Small, will speak on the post 1925 legacy of the Methodist Church in The United Church of Canada. Some tickets are still available for this event and can be purchased by Wednesday, April 15 by contacting L. Dean at 753-3994. We are pleased to have received permission for worshippers attending the joint service to use the large private parking lot on Long's Hill. There are also many parking lots along certain sidewalks near Gower Street United Church.