



The Prayer Book Society of Canada – Toronto Branch
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Dear members and friends of the PBSC Toronto Branch,

This letter is going out to you without the usual accompanying copy of *The Lamp*. Our last mailing was sent relatively recently, and there has not been enough news to fill a complete issue; also, I was very busy over the latter half of Lent. In addition, this is a cost-saving measure, since as you know we have major expenses looming with the production of Volume III of “Discovering the Book of Common Prayer: A Hands-On Approach”. We will resume publication of *The Lamp* in the fall.

The main news item for this letter is our upcoming **Annual General Meeting**. Our branch constitution requires us to hold this before the end of May, and customarily we have scheduled it on a Saturday or Sunday afternoon. However, next month is such a busy one for me, what with several business trips and various other commitments, that it turned out to be impossible to find a single weekend date that would work. Consequently, the branch executive has decided to try something new, and hold the AGM on a weekday night instead. The date that we have selected is Thursday, May 21st (Ascension Day), and the location will be St. Olave’s Church, Toronto. We made this choice in order to take advantage of an Ascension Day event that St. Olave’s is already organizing. This will consist of a service of Evensong starting at 6:00 PM, followed by a dinner and guest speaker. The speaker will be Sue Careless, who will be talking about her work on Volume III of “Discovering the BCP”. The AGM will follow, at 8:00 PM. (I promise it will be brief – no more than half an hour!) Please see the accompanying flyer for full details. Also, please let me know if you will be attending, by leaving me a phone message at my work number (416-739-4422), on or before the Sunday preceding, May 17th, so that I can tell the organizers at St. Olave’s how many extra dinners to prepare. A voluntary donation to cover the cost of the meal would be appreciated by the parish. Please attach the flyer to your fridge as a reminder, and I hope to see many of you there!

(Please clip this coupon and enclose it with your donation in the envelope provided.)

THE PRAYER BOOK SOCIETY OF CANADA – TORONTO BRANCH

The work of the PBSC Toronto Branch is important to me! In support of it through the summer of 2009, I enclose a cheque made out to the “Prayer Book Society of Canada – Toronto Branch”, for:

\$25 \$50 \$75 \$100 Other: _____

Name: _____

*Tax receipts will be issued
for donations of \$10 or more.*

Address: _____

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(Return to: 171 Boardwalk Dr., Toronto, M4L 3X9.)

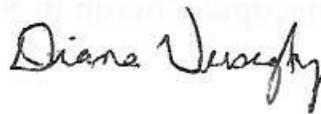
On the global Anglican scene, the most important recent development has been the release of the third draft of the proposed Anglican Covenant. To refresh your memory, the first, or “Nassau” draft, was completed in February 2007, and discussed by the Primates at their meeting in Dar es Salaam shortly afterwards; the second, or “St. Andrew’s” draft was completed in February 2008, and discussed by the bishops at the Lambeth Conference last summer; and the third, or “Ridley Cambridge” draft, was completed a few weeks ago and will be discussed by the Anglican Consultative Council in early May. Numerous submissions have been received from Anglican provinces, bishops and organizations worldwide, and the Covenant Design Group has worked hard to take them all into account. It is very heartening to see that the Prayer Book continues to be recognized as having a central place in defining Anglicanism.

Perhaps the most eye-opening aspect of this draft of the Covenant is that it specifically does not limit signing on to it to the provinces of the global Anglican Communion as it is currently constituted. It declares, “It shall be open to other Churches to adopt the Covenant ... adoption of the Covenant by a Church may be accompanied by a formal request to the Instruments for recognition and membership.” Intriguingly, this leaves the door open for the new North American parallel jurisdiction, the Anglican Church in North America, to follow this route and apply for membership in due course; so if the American Episcopal Church and/or the Anglican Church of Canada refuse to adopt the Covenant and the ACNA does, it will be firmly on track to become the bona fide Anglican presence in North America.

Turning back to branch matters, again, a hearty “thank you” to those who have contributed to Volume III of “Discovering the BCP”. Please continue to support this work; we still have several thousand dollars to raise in order to bring it to completion! And don’t forget the St. Michael’s Youth Conference coming up this August, to which the Toronto Branch typically contributes about \$3,000. Your assistance is most gratefully appreciated!

With best wishes for a happy Eastertide,

Yours faithfully,



Diana Versegby.

We welcome your comments!
