



The Prayer Book Society of Canada – Toronto Branch
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February 10, 2016

Dear members and friends of the PBSC Toronto Branch,

I hope you have been enjoying our mild winter! Although Christmas certainly felt strange to me, with the unusually balmy temperatures. Today it is already Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent. We have a very stimulating Lenten Quiet Day to look forward to on Saturday, March 5th. In my last letter I mentioned that we already had the speaker lined up, the Revd. Peter Molloy, the editor of the *Anglican Planet*. Disappointingly, he had to bow out quite suddenly, but we have been fortunate enough to secure the Revd. Dr. David Smith in his stead. David is a long-time member of the PBSC, a classical scholar and an authority on the structure and origins of the Book of Common Prayer. Full details are provided on the front page of this issue of *The Lamp*. Also, don't forget the Lenten study series on the Prayer Book, publicized in our last mailing, which is taking place at St. Olave's Church on Wednesday evenings in Lent, ending on March 16th. It has been organized by our branch vice-president, Dr. Bill Cooke, and he can be contacted at 416-760-7445 for further details.

A reminder that since we have now moved from four mailings per year to three, our Annual General Meeting, which used to be held in May, is now being held in conjunction with the Quiet Day. The business of the AGM will be brief, and will be conducted during the Quiet Day lunch break. The annual president's report will be given, the financial statement for 2015 will be reviewed and election of branch officers will take place. A slate of proposed officers is listed at the bottom of the reverse of this page. We have room for several more members at large, especially since the Revd. David Burrows retired last year. If you are interested in contributing your energy and your talents to the PBSC, you are very welcome to stand for election. You need only be a PBSC member, nominated and seconded by two other PBSC members. If you would like further information, please feel free to contact me.

Since there will not be another branch mailing until late in the summer, I would like to take this opportunity to remind you of the St. Michael's Youth Conference that is being

(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 spring of 2016, I enclose a cheque made out to the "Prayer Book Society of Canada – Toronto Branch", for:

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

Name: _____

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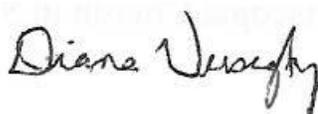
organized this August as usual. Full details and a downloadable registration form will be available shortly on the conference website, www.stmikesontario.com. If you know of any teens who might be interested in attending, please do encourage them to come. Word of mouth is still our best advertising!

Those of you who have been following international events in the Anglican Communion will be aware that a great sea-change came about last month, with the meeting of the Primates of the global Anglican provinces. For the last several years it had seemed that what with the deep divisions between provinces (centring on issues of human sexuality), the Communion must inevitably either unravel or become merely a loose federation of provinces with polite historical ties to Canterbury. However, two important developments occurred: all of the Primates committed themselves to remaining in the Communion; and traditional Anglican doctrine was firmly upheld with the suspension of the Episcopal Church of the U.S. over its official approval of same-sex marriage last year. Another significant milestone was the invitation of the Primate of the Anglican Church in North America (representing Anglicans who have split from the American and Canadian Churches in recent years), who was accorded both voice and vote. These will have important repercussions for our own General Synod, meeting in Richmond Hill this July. Much of the credit for this new dawn must go to Archbishop Justin Welby, who took the time to meet individually with every Primate prior to organizing the meeting, and who by all accounts took great pains to make sure that every Primate's voice was respectfully heard. We must now hope and pray that he keeps faith with the Primates and demonstrates his good will by following through with their decisions.

To conclude, as always, please remember that we rely on your financial contributions to carry on our work of upholding the Prayer Book and classical Anglicanism. We hope that we can continue to count on your support and prayers through the first half of 2016.

With best wishes for a blessed Lent and a happy Easter,

Yours faithfully,



Diana Versegby.

PROPOSED BRANCH EXECUTIVE OFFICERS FOR 2016-2017:

President:	Dr. Diana Versegby	Treasurer:	Marilyn Ramsingh
Vice-President:	Dr. William Cooke	Recording Secretary:	Jelana Duncan
Members at Large:	Brian Stapley, Susan Henry		
Past President:	Desmond Scotchmer		