



**The Prayer Book Society of Canada – Toronto Branch**  
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November 2, 2009

Dear members and friends of the PBSC Toronto Branch,

First and foremost, my sincere apologies for not having sent out a mailing in September as per my normal practice. I was away for large parts of the past few months on trips associated with my daytime job at Environment Canada, and as a result I fell behind in my work for the PBSC. Also, I have been spending many extra hours through September and October overseeing the final editing and layout of volume III of *Discovering the Book of Common Prayer – A Hands-On Approach*, by Sue Careless. However, I am happy to say that this work is now complete, and the book has gone to press at last!

As with the first two volumes, to mark the appearance of this third volume the Toronto Branch will be holding a **book launch**. A flyer is enclosed – please post it on your fridge door as a reminder, or on your parish bulletin board to help publicize it. The event will take place on Saturday, November 28 at Wycliffe College (5 Hoskin Avenue, just west of Queen’s Park, Toronto), in the Soward Reading Room (an attractive room to the right off the main entrance foyer). It will run from 2:00 to 4:00 PM, and will be quite informal and unstructured, providing an opportunity for our friends to drop in and pick up one or more copies of the book, get them signed by Sue, chat and enjoy some light refreshments which will be provided. It is planned that the book will ordinarily retail for \$24.95, but as a special promotion at this event we will be offering it for sale at just \$20. We will also be offering the full three-volume set at a cost of \$60 (discounted from the regular price of \$67.90). I think they will make great Christmas gifts! Please do come out and support this project – I believe that readers may well find this volume in some ways the most interesting of the three, dealing as it does with the lesser-known, and not as well understood, services in the Prayer Book. Like the first two volumes, the book has received critical acclaim: among the endorsers are internationally-known theologian Dr. Ephraim Radner (now on the staff of Wycliffe College), and our own Primate, Archbishop Fred Hiltz!

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

\$25     \$50     \$100     \$200     Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

The PBSC-Toronto Branch is a registered  
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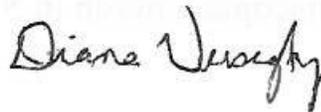
(Return to: 171 Boardwalk Dr., Toronto, M4L 3X9.)

Now, a quick commentary on current events in global Anglicanism since my last letter. The draft “Anglican Covenant” was duly presented to the Anglican Consultative Council in early May, but was not approved in its entirety; some additional revision was called for in the final section, which addresses criteria for membership in the Anglican Communion and sets out procedures for dealing with provinces that either explicitly, or as a result of their actions, opt out of the Covenant and therefore out of the Communion. This work is expected to be completed in December, at which point the Covenant will be ready for adoption by individual provinces.

Among those provinces that opt out of the Anglican Communion, it seems increasingly likely that the Episcopal Church in the U.S. will be one. At its General Convention this past summer, it passed motions that have the effect of ending its compliance with the moratoria on same-sex blessings and the consecration of bishops in same-sex relationships. The Archbishop of Canterbury wrote a public response to these actions, carefully analyzing their significance, which although courteously worded made it clear that the Episcopal Church had elected to “walk apart” from the rest of the Communion. Dr. George Sumner, Principal of Wycliffe College, has written a thoughtful commentary which will appear in the upcoming national PBSC Newsletter.

To conclude: as with my last mailing, you will have noticed that this one is coming to you without the usual issue of *The Lamp*. Once again, I simply have not had time to put one together; and also, the Toronto Branch is currently in very rough financial shape what with the large expenses associated with the production of this last volume of *Discovering the BCP*. I am confident that once book sales get underway, we will comfortably be able to pay the last of our bills, which is the final instalment of Sue Careless’ writer’s fee (amounting to several thousand dollars). However, in the meantime we have next to nothing in our bank account, and will have to rely on your generosity to tide us over the next few months. Remember that our operating costs are extremely low; practically all of your donations go towards our programme expenses, of promoting and raising consciousness of the Prayer Book, especially among the young. Nor do we have any paid employees; I myself did not take a cent from the PBSC for the many long hours that I spent shepherding each of the three volumes of *Discovering the BCP* through the planning, review, revisions, editing, layout and printing stages. So I do hope that you will express your support for this work by helping the branch to get back on track financially!

With best wishes for a blessed Advent and Christmas,



Diana Versegby.

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***We welcome your comments!***

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