

**PRAYER BOOK SOCIETY OF CANADA
Vancouver Island Branch**

NEWSLETTER, OCTOBER 2012

The next meeting of the Vancouver Island Branch of the PBSC will be held on Saturday, October 20, at the Church of St. John the Baptist, Duncan, beginning at 11 am.

The speaker will be the Ven. Dale Huston, Rector of St. John's.

St John's is located at 486 Jubilee St, which is at the corner of 1st St. and one block west of Canada Ave., which is the main north-south street through Duncan which can be accessed at the first turnoff into Duncan in the north, James St. in the middle or Trunk Rd from the south.

President Heather Herbison will be giving a report on the National PBSC AGM which she attended in May, with a Council Teleconference in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, before the AGM the next day at Stanley Mission, an Aboriginal Church north of P.A. They sang AMAZING GRACE in Cree during the service there and Heather learned how to sing it, and gave a lovely rendition of it at our meeting in Victoria on September 8.

We will also have a report of the Celebrations of the 1662 and 1962 Book of Common Prayer held at Christ Church Cathedral in Victoria on September 8-9 which were attended by Heather, Joyce Howarth and Pat Radcliffe, Bishop John and Barbara Frame, Wayne and Kathy Murphy and Ted Wilson. Bishop Cowan celebrated a 1662 Communion Service on the Saturday morning, followed by a panel discussion by three theologians, the Rev. Dr. David Neelands, Dean of Divinity at Trinity College, University of Toronto, the Rev. Dr. Richard Leggatt, formerly Associate Dean, Vancouver School of Theology, and the Rev. Canon Herbert O'Driscoll, Honorary Assistant, Christ Church Cathedral, Victoria, which was very interesting.

Our branch had a meeting in the afternoon, but as has happened so often lately, the Council members were present but few others. We need to discuss the future of the Branch, as it is going to be increasingly difficult to continue when we have so few members showing up at meetings. Bishop John Frame was the speaker and gave us an interesting talk as always.

On Sunday there was a Communion Service according to our Canadian 1962 BCP at 11 a.m. at which the Ven, Bruce Bryant-Scott was the celebrant. The final service was a Festive Choral Service of Thanksgiving at 4:30 p.m. with Readings and Music Associated with the BCP, with the St. Christopher Singers, presided over by the Very Rev. Logan McMenemy, Dean of the Cathedral. Heather attended this service and said it was a delightful experience and beautiful music.

As we were unable to have our Annual General Meeting last November due to the early snowfall, we need to have a confirmation of our Executive Council. The present members of Council were all willing to stand again except for Fred and Chris Cadman, as Chris has not been well and they planned to move to the Lower Mainland to be near their children. We would be delighted to have some new members on Council, and if anyone is interested, please let me know.

There was a National PBSC Teleconference on September 29 which Heather and I both attended. The National Newsletter will be sent out shortly. Financially the Society is still in the black, but the donations have gone down in recent years. The National Chairman, Rev. Gordon Maitland has written another article for the Anglican Journal which should be in the December issue. The Essay Contest which the Ottawa Branch has sponsored is being adjudicated at present. Preparations need to be made for the Society's presence at General Synod 2013 and a committee is looking into publishing a small booklet to be given out with information on how to use the BCP in worship.

I hope to see a good turnout to the meeting on the 20th. The branch will not survive if we do not have more members attending the meetings, and with so many clergy not having been taught to use the Book of Common Prayer, it will be used less and less as there will be fewer and fewer people who have even encountered it in worship, and thus a precious part of our Anglican Heritage will be lost. Please do all you can to come.

Yours in Christ,

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