



THE NORTHERN LIGHT

from the
NIAGARA NORTH BRANCH OF THE PRAYER BOOK
SOCIETY OF CANADA

Issue Number 14

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EVENTS

St. Luke's Youth BBQ for St. Mike's Conference

Come support the youth as they raise funds to send kids to camp!

August 6th - 11.00 to 2:00
at SOBEY's in Ancaster

Port Days of Hamilton

A service hosted by the Prayer Book Society, Niagara North Branch, at the **Mission to Seafarers** to mark the ending of Port Days in Hamilton.

Evening Prayer and Reception following.

August 28th, 2005 4:00 PM

All are invited to the Seafarer's Mission at the bottom of Ferguson St.

Evensong at St Paul's Dunnville

We have been invited to join St Paul's

25th of September 7:00 PM

233 Lock Street West
Dunnville, Ontario.

The "All Ontario" Prayer Book Society Wine Tour

The newly reconstructed **Greater Niagara Branch** of the PBSC is hosting the biggest ever search for that elusive commodity "The Perfect Communion Wine" (or actually anything else we think drinkable) on **October 22, 2005** in celebration of their new amalgamation. All other branches and their members are invited to this most worthy quest. Details will be forth coming in our next newsletter.

ST. MICHAEL'S PREP DAY A GREAT SUCCESS!

When asked to support the St Michaels' Youth Conference Prep day in Hamilton the executive of the branch had some idea of what was in the offing, but the results were more than ever expected.



Photo by Boris Nusko

Diana Verseghe teaches the first class of the day during the preparatory

The stifling hot day with near 90% humidity ratings began with a communion service at little St Luke's Hamilton. Not just any communion service but one of St Luke's festival services (it was St Barnabas day) with all their formality and pomp racked up to the maximum and with the St Luke's Youth Group, who were hosting the day, going all out as servers, cantors and acolytes. They gave the Conference a taste of what high churchmanship could be when high-jacked by youthful enthusiasm. It led, later in the parish hall, to many shy newcomers enjoined in happy conversation about the service's sights and smells as the registration and "Second Breakfast" continued whilst friendships were made and old ones strengthened.

The whole Preparatory had a wide representation of students, staff and observers as diverse Anglican wise as St Luke's Hamilton and St George's West Hamilton and from as far away as St Luke's Brantford to the West, and St John's Nassagaweya to the North and St Thomas's Toronto to the East. There were also students with no affiliation to any denomination but were there to find out what all was going on with "church". (Yes, St Mike's is a "Seeker Friendly" organization!

Cont'd on page 4 . . .

NIAGARA NORTH BRANCH NEWSLETTER

... St Mike's Prep Cont'd



Photo by Boris Nusko

Seeing the rapt attention given to the morning's keynote speaker, Dr Diana Verseghe, gave assurance that the Preparatory was going to be a hit. A hit it was as the day continued on with never-ending food and drinks for the hardworking and playing young people. After the "First and Second Luncheons" the assembly retreated as per schedule to the wonderfully air-conditioned Seafarer's Mission down by the Hamilton docks. There the day continued on with "chilling time" as recreation ensued on the games tables that are part of the Mission's accoutrements for the visiting sailors. The happy company then split up into three groups who rotated through the program.

The program ranged from a fascinating dissertation about the Mission and its outreach and function by Fr Bob Hudson the mission chaplain, an absorbing talk by Chris van Donkelaar in the ecumenical chapel on the icons there and the making of them and their raison-etre, to the very hands-on and hottest class, held in the immense dockyard shed on Pier 15. In the Styx like gloom eleven thuribles, (many lent to the Prep by diocesan churches and private collections) and a full complement of paraphernalia were on display as Josh Hudson explained the care and feeding of this unique and with a few of them, extremely expensive, holy hardware. It must be said that to have the first "Prep" at a "High Church" was fortuitous to the day as the slant on liturgy etc. certainly gave the faculty a wealth of rare material to delve into.



Photo by Boris Nusko

... St Mike's Prep Cont'd

After the concluding thanksgiving there was an enthusiastic spontaneous round of happy thanks to the organizers from the young people who all enjoyed the "Prep" immensely and who can't wait to take in the main event in August in Durham. It was very gratifying.

We are a happy bunch here at Niagara North having seen the results of the "Prep" in interesting more young people towards going to the camp in August and think our efforts in helping it all happen were very worthwhile.

To conclude, the St Michael's Youth Conference of Ontario is growing steadily as more people look to send their young people to a solidly Christian based camp where they know they will receive the Anglican teaching and doctrine of their own youth and they have found in this community a safe haven for the minds and faith of their teenaged children. Parents and churches will attest that having managed to send their young people to this "old fashioned religion" camp, they have been blessed with a more than high rate of seeing their teenagers remaining with the faith and continuing church going into adult life.



Photo by Boris Nusko

The organizers are looking to move to another locale next spring to hold the "Prep" so as to spread the word and are looking for ideas. Let us know at the Branch if you have any suggestions for them or let them know through the St Michael's Youth Conference Web site,

www.geocities.com/stmikesontario

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Thank you for the copy of your Branch's newsletter. It was wonderful reading and a reminder of the great work that a powerful branch can do. I especially agree with the retired English teacher's comments on page two. As a teacher of grade seven, I often lapse into using 'thou', 'thee', and the old verb endings. Dost thou remember them? My darlings are able to pick up on them after a few minutes. All is, indeed, not lost – yet!

NIAGARA NORTH BRANCH NEWSLETTER

ST. GEORGE'S YOUTH GROUP CAR WASH



Photo by Walter Raybould

It's **St George's West Hamilton, Youth Group** car wash to raise money to go to the St Michael's Youth Conference on Sat July 9th. A total of eleven teenagers from this **BCP parish** are going to be attending the conference this year. Pictured above is a visit by two St Luke's Youth Group kids, Jacqueline and David Nusko, and the President of Niagara North Branch (who was soaked along with his little black car). The day was going great guns with up to 5 cars being washed at a time at the Barn food store in Westdale. They made \$468 and had to turn customers away! They were all a happy gang at the BBQ at the Palmers later that afternoon.

Way to go St George's!

SIX NATIONS RESERVATION CHURCH CRAWL

The Grand Valley Branch of the PBSC will be hosting their 11th annual church crawl on August 6th, at 1:30 PM, starting at St. Peter's Church, Ohsweken. Price is \$12.00 per person to cover the meal, etc. Evensong (for Transfiguration) and supper to be arranged.

Contact Brian Munro at (519) 756-3053

or Emily Molewyk at (519) 583-1901

Maps and directions to Ohsweken will be provided.

NIAGARA NORTH BRANCH NEWSLETTER



Sandra Copland with Michael Edward

MICHAEL EDWARD AT ST. PETER'S

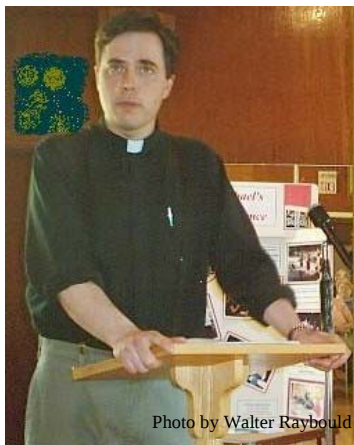
St Peter's Hamilton hosted the Essentials Niagara's evening on April 15, 2005 to hear Canon Charlie Master's, the National Director of Essentials Canada, and Mr. Michael Edward, the new General Secretary of Essentials Canada and former National President of the Prayer Book Society of Canada. With the St Peter's 'Music Group' providing the music the evening began with a joyful noise as the big church reverberated to the near capacity audience of over two hundred people singing. The Rev. Sandra Copland began the meeting / service with a meditation on the psalm for that Sunday, Psalm 31:1-6 and it continued on with the new President of Essentials Niagara, John Pennvlegion, welcoming the crowd.

After introductions, the two speaker's discourses were very well received. Canon Masters came at it from a scriptural angle and as usual in his moving evangelistic style left no doubts about what we are facing but kept his emphasis on hope. Michael Edward took the "door" that Canon Masters had opened and wedged it firmly wide open with his scholarly address on "Anglican history" and "Anglican authority". He differentiated between political authority that means power and moral authority. He quickly traced from 1549 to 1998, the debate that has been going on in the global Anglican Church and concluded that it would seem that the moral authority of the church resides with the primates.

The evening continued with a service of Compline led by Canon Mark McDermott. The unexpected high turn out meant that there were not nearly enough Books of Common Prayer available. Not to be held back by such a wonderful hitch in the proceedings, the service of Compline was projected onto the overhead screen by a Power Point projector, a probable first in the annals of the PBSC.

The evening closed with the equally famous hospitality of St Peter's and the milling crowd took every pamphlet and news letter etc that Essentials Niagara had available. Many signed on to attend the National Essentials conference "AN OPEN DOOR" in Toronto in June.

NEW PRESIDENT FOR NATIONAL PBSC



The new President of the Prayer Book Society of Canada, Fr David Harris, as he makes a presentation at the Toronto Branch AGM

COMPLINE EXPLAINED

Psalm 119:164 "Seven times a day do I praise thee, / because of thy righteous judgements"

In the early centuries of the Church, devout Christians banded together to practice their faith in a regular manner. These monasteries (later, convents for women) began observing the daily office i.e. singing God's praise with psalms and hymns, seven times a day.

In the Roman Empire, our 6:00 AM was the *First Hour*. So, the first office was called **Prime**. The second office at our 9:00 AM was called **Terce**, (at the *Third Hour*). Then there was **Sext** and **None** through the day. Continuing on the *Ninth Hour* called **Vespers** followed on towards evening and the last of these canonical hours called **Compline** came as a final time of praise before returning to their cells in silence. (In the Benedictine tradition, some of these cells or bedrooms contained a coffin as a gentle reminder that earthly life comes to an end.)

The name Compline comes from the Latin word "compleo" to fill. Time was measured by the hour-glass, so when the time for saying Compline arrived, the large hour-glass for the day was full of sand.

Submitted by Rev'd Dorothy Thorpe