



# THE NIAGARA LIGHT

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

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## Events

### Greater Niagara AGM

Jan. 27, 2007 at 4:00 pm

At St Luke's Parish Hall,  
454 John St. N., Hamilton  
Details in the next newsletter.

### Young People's Worship Service

Nov 12 at 4:00 pm

At St. John, Elora

A "Book of Common Prayer  
Evensong" aimed at the youth of  
the parish with modern music and  
some new prayers. (Ought to be  
something else! ....and a tip of the  
hat to St John's for trying this)

## Past Events



Some of the attendees to the St. Mike's Youth Conference unwinding one evening with a Salsa Dance!



Above is a photo during the planning meeting for St. Michael's Youth Conference.



Some of the Cranmerites at St John's Cayuga

## Cranmer Conference Report

God moves in mysterious ways! What we thought was going to be a quiet little gathering of local young adults who appreciated traditional Anglicanism turned out to be an energetic event with overflow. As you will or have read elsewhere the Cranmer Conference was a great success despite all the roadblocks. What is most amazing is that it went after the scarcest of Anglicans to be found in most churches these days. It was purposely aimed at that demographic of 19-29 year olds who are so conspicuous by their absence. And yes it was to give these wonderful young people a chance to learn and connect and become aware that they are not alone in their traditional outlook as Anglicans. But as many of you may have twigged, it has become a political cudgel of immense significance for our mandate. We have now shown to the world that when our church in its ill conceived program of changing its liturgy and theology in an attempt to give value to the myth that the Book of Common Prayer, and the theology that goes with all that was anathema to young people etc, it 'threw the baby out with the bath water' and has lost its energetic young people.

We as Canadian Anglicans do not have much time left. Most of our church members are gray headed, no white headed, and the kiddies in Sunday school all seem to disappear after confirmation if we even hold them that long. The age group that the Cranmer Conference attracted are the real future leaders of Anglicanism. If we are to have them, we had better give them what they seek. (The Anglican Church of Canada take note: it's not the 'sixties' or even 1985 anymore, and the 'baby' has grown up and wants the Book of Common Prayer and what it stands for, back!) What was in that bath water was what we had at the ... *cont'd on page 2*

### President's Report

Where have we been you might ask? Well the answer is we have been busy with happy events and unfortunately others not so happy and we are only now coming up for breath. We will tell of the happy though. As you will read here and elsewhere, we had an incredible Cranmer Conference. Despite slim resources, it was proven that this is very doable. Not only doable but also very wanted by what is left of that age group in the Anglican Church. We do hope to make it happen again next spring. The connections these young people make with Book of Common Prayer clergy, and each other, is an extremely important aspect of the conference, and is setting the foundation for the future of our denomination.

Onward and upward, The Saint Michael's Youth Conference in August, which is aimed at the teenagers, was deemed the 'best one yet'.

The 'Saint Mike's Prep' in June was held at Saint George's and we had Sue Careless as the main speaker where she was well received as she always is with her delightful commentary on her new book.

Our next foray into battle is our Annual General Meeting, which is set for January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2007, at St. Luke's in Hamilton. We certainly hope many of you can come out for this meeting. We are setting our sights on having the Reverend Father Robert Hudson of Saint Luke's Hamilton speak to us about his visit to Britain for the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Seafarer's Mission.

Then we intend to lick our wounds and take ourselves off on a "Wine Tour" later in the year. More about this and other delightful matters are promised in the Xmas newsletter.

Yours in Christ, Walter Raybould



Fr. Haynes Hubbard and Dr. Gary Thorne at the Cranmer Conference

### Cranmer Conference *cont'd...*



Cranmer Conference. Our numbers kept swelling even though many could not attend the whole weekend, till finally, we found we had to keep setting up more and more chairs for the main banquet where Dr Sumner was speaking. In all we seemed to float around forty people for main events and, we had to bunk the ladies into the Knox Presbyterian Church next door!

And it must also be called '**The International Cranmer Conference**'! Yes, much to our surprise, we had young people from as far away as Newfoundland. But what made it really international was the unexpected joy of having young Lawi Kasio from Kenya, whose father is an Anglican priest there.

Too, the beautiful town and countryside of Dunnville was looking its best in the springtime green and Saint Paul's was just perfect as the setting for many of the services and activities of the Conference. There was a serene candle-lit Compline one hour, and a swaying Salsa dance another, which meant things were extraordinarily unlike the usual Church fare.

Also having the unique opportunity of singing the 1552 BCP service of Evensong in the beautiful historic Saint John's South Cayuga under the tutelage of Dr William Renwick, was a never to be forgotten experience. If all this was not enough, we were thrilled to worship with Saint John the Evangelist's Plainsong Choir of Hamilton and the Gregorian Institute of Canada as they sang an ethereal Evensong on the Friday night.

Being able also to hear and connect with Dr Randall Ingalls, Ms. Sue Careless, Dr George Sumner and Dr Gary Thorne, all in one weekend made the conference a crash course in Christianity, Anglicanism, and Cranmer's Book of Common Prayer. We all learned much and we all gained so much.

Everyone who came to the Conference or helped in any way has become part of the new wave of Anglicanism, as we no longer just defend the traditional, but have become reawakened, renewed, and reenergized.

*"'Trends' in the Church are ...serious, especially to those accustomed to find in it a solace and a 'pax' in times of temporal trouble, and not just another arena of strife and change." --J.R.R. Tolkien*