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November 3, 2009

Dear Friends of Canterbury Cathedral,

I remember seeing the stark headline earlier this summer: "This is an economic recovery only a statistician would love." That has been an apt description for many of us and, regrettably, also for many of the countless causes each of us holds dear.

As Friends, our chief cause in common is support for Canterbury Cathedral, a place of Christian worship for almost 1700 years. The current buildings have their origin in the Benedictine Monastery founded in the Eleventh Century. Over the generations, these buildings have come and gone, been built and rebuilt, each modification reflecting the needs of ministry at the time.

Today's ministries are particularly demanding, and support is needed not only for repair of ancient walls and windows, but also for the International Study Centre and its scholars who come from around the world to draw inspiration and strength from their surroundings and from one another.

As we look toward the end of yet another tax year, and if you have not done so already, I hope you will join me in giving generously to FOCCUS. As Canterbury's Friends in the U.S., we are a major source of support for the Cathedral and its programs.

Canterbury tangibly and spiritually reaches out across the whole Anglican world to bring us all together. It needs us as much as we need it. Your support is critical to the future of the Cathedral.

Faithfully yours,



Peter James Lee
Chairman