



The Canadian *Lord's Day* Association

REMEMBER THE SABBATH DAY **To Keep It Holy**

Winter 2022/2023

Vol: 36 No. 1

“Preserving the Sanctity of the Lord’s Day and for the Extension of His Kingdom”

“Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: But the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God; in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day, and hallowed it.”

Exodus 20:8–11

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STATEMENTS OF BELIEFS

Belief in the triune God whose grace is manifested in the love and righteousness of God the Father, the redeeming work of God the Son, and the quickening power of God the Holy Ghost.

Belief in the essential Deity of the Lord Jesus Christ, His Incarnation and Virgin Birth, the truthfulness of all His words, His all sufficient atoning vicarious death upon Calvary for sin, His bodily Resurrection, Ascension, and Coming Again.

Belief in the whole Bible consisting of the 39 Books of the Old Testament and the 27 Books of the New Testament as the inspired Word of God, and therefore true and Divinely authoritative and as God’s sufficient revelation in all matters of doctrine and practice. The Authorized or King James Version is to be employed for all work and activities of the CLDA.

Belief that all men have sinned and come short of the glory of God: and in the necessity of the New Birth by the Holy Spirit in those who become children of God through faith in Jesus Christ.

Belief in the Divine Authority and perpetual obligation of the Christian Sabbath or Lord’s Day and conviction of the necessity that all effectual assertion, observance and defence of the Lord’s Day rest, must be on this basis.

Belief that in asserting the obligation of the Lord’s Day the Gospel of the grace of God through Jesus Christ should be proclaimed.

Note: All unsigned articles are written by the editor or assistant editor.
Cover picture: Mount Carmel United Church, Troy, Ontario

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The Canadian  Association

Editorial

As we begin the year of our Lord 2023, it is our desire that the Lord would bless our families, churches, and nation with renewed regard for the Lord of the Sabbath and for His special day. Let us seek repentance from our backslidings and pray that the Lord, His Word and His Day would become increasingly precious to us.

Annual Meetings

At our Annual Meeting in April last year, Rev. Ian MacLeod delivered a topic on “The Sabbath and Redemption”, which is inserted in this magazine. (The complete audio recording of Rev. Ian MacLeod’s message is available on our website at www.clda.ca.) As Rev. MacLeod clearly explains, the Old Testament is full of pointing to the eighth day, the day of deliverance and redemption from sin, which came after the demands of the law had been fulfilled. Now we live in the New Testament dispensation, and the eighth day has become the new first day of the week. Every week we are pointed back to what the Lord has fully accomplished in His death and resurrection. This holy day is also a calling to prepare for the day when Christ will come again to receive His Church to their everlasting rest.



Two meetings are scheduled this year, one in Ontario and one in Alberta.

Alberta Annual Meeting Tuesday, February 21, 2023 7:30 p.m.



Calvin Christian School
100036 Range Road
232, AB T0L 0V0



The Lord willing
Rev. E. Adams is scheduled to speak

All are warmly invited to attend.

Ontario Annual Meeting Friday, March 3, 2023 7:30 p.m.



Ebenezer Free
Reformed Church
243 Weir's Lane,
Dundas, ON



The Lord willing
Rev. A. Vergunst is scheduled to speak

All are warmly invited to attend.

Editorial (continued)

Daily Diary Update

Thousands of 2023 Daily Diaries have been distributed to institutions across Canada: 95,000 English and 3,000 French. (In addition, the US Prison Diary Ministry has distributed 40,000 in the States.)

Throughout the Fall of 2022, several CLDA volunteers delivered thousands of diaries directly to prisons. This reduced shipping costs but, more importantly, it gave opportunities to connect with chaplains who distribute the diaries within the institutions. It is very encouraging to see how appreciated these Scripture resources are when many others have little regard or respect for His Word.



Our new electronic order form for chaplains included the option to order our correspondence courses as well as diaries. This year more than 2,500 Bible Correspondence Courses were requested, compared to 1,200 last year. What a wonder it would be if the Scripture readings and instruction would lead inmates to turn to the Lord and desire to worship and serve Him. Several recent letters give us hope that the Lord is working through these means.

We pray that many students will follow our courses through to completion in 2023, with the Lord's help and blessing.

In conclusion, whether bound or free, we are all given one day of seven to dedicate to our spiritual wellbeing. We know the Lord delights to give blessings on this day, and we pray that many would experience:

"One thing have I desired of the LORD, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to enquire in his temple." Psalm 27:4

DONATIONS

We acknowledge all who supported the work last year. As a registered charity we have so far been provided with the financial resources to meet the growing number of requests for Scripture diaries and Bible courses. We remind our readers that in addition to donating to this work through local church collections or mailed cheque we are now receiving donations via e-transfer and credit card. Donors will receive charitable tax receipts.

e-transfer: donations@clda.ca

Mail cheque to: CLDA, P.O. Box 450, Otterville, ON, N0J 1R0

By credit card through the website: clda.ca/donations

Thank You for your support

Potatoes on Sunday



An event that I experienced years ago comes to mind. I was staying with a farmer in a very religious village. The man lived on a road that went right to the sea. In his front yard stood a sign with “Potatoes For Sale” on it. But when Saturday evening came, he covered the board with an empty sack. One Sunday morning a vacationer stood on his doorstep wondering whether he could buy potatoes. He had memorized the farmer’s house number when he had driven by the day before on his way to his vacation home. He hadn’t had time to buy any potatoes that day, so he thought he would come the next morning.

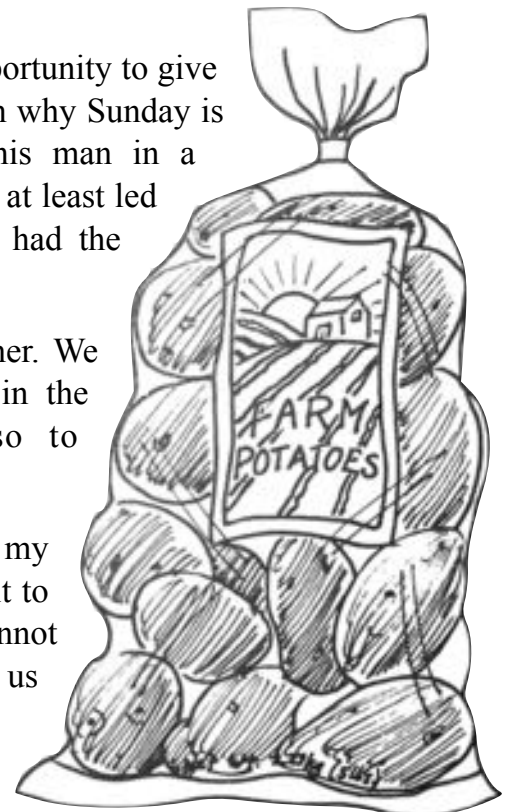
The farmer abruptly told him that he could be the first one to buy potatoes on Monday morning, but that on Sunday he did not sell potatoes. His customer made clear that he didn’t have a single potato in his vacation home. Couldn’t an exception be made? The farmer did not answer, but turned around and shut the door, leaving the perplexed buyer behind him.

What an opportunity this farmer had missed! Wasn’t this an ideal opportunity to give this vacationer a free meal of potatoes for the day and explain to him why Sunday is not a day for buying and selling? Wouldn’t he have helped this man in a responsible way? Along with a witness? Such an approach may have at least led the man to reflect on the Lord’s Day. But the farmer’s approach had the opposite effect.

Let us be careful about standing above this vacationer or this farmer. We have opportunities enough to testify what a sweetness is found in the keeping of God’s commands, and to be an example also to our neighbours and those around us.

If something of the Psalmist’s desire, “O how love I thy law! it is my meditation all the day”, truly lives within in us, then it is not difficult to be salt and light in the midst of our secularizing society. Then we cannot be content to desire to sanctify the Lord’s day alone, but sing: “Let us go up to God’s own house and bow before him there.”

J. Mastenbroek, *De Zondag Gods Dag* (Barendrecht: Lectori Salutem, 1996)



Diary Deliveries

One Saturday morning in December 2022, a CLDA volunteer and his two young children delivered diaries to three institutions and three churches. He shares some of this experience with us:

“The reception at the detention centres was quite rewarding... You come in front of a locked door and a Correction Officer

asks you through a speaker what you are coming to do. When my answer was, ‘Delivering 2023 Daily Diaries for the Canadian Lord’s Day Association,’ the response was, ‘Oh, come on in!’

At one facility, three officers came to the door, and I was asked, ‘So are you delivering those small blue diaries? They are very appreciated here.’ At another, two officers came to the door and helped us with the twelve heavy boxes. One of them said to my daughter, ‘So you are helping to spread the Gospel of Jesus, that’s good.’ So even the staff are aware of the content of the diaries.

It was very rewarding to see that the diaries are not going unseen and unused in the prisons and that they are appreciated, even by the officers.”

Another volunteer was delighted to have a pleasant meeting with a chaplain while he was delivering boxes of diaries. This chaplain explained that sometimes the diaries would arrive in the mail and spend weeks in a storage area before he could get his hands on them and distribute them. Many inmates are eager to receive a diary for the new year, so he was thrilled to have them already in his hands, ready to share. He also appreciated making a personal connection with the association through this in-person delivery.



Quotes from Chaplains who ordered Diaries and/or Bible study courses...

May God continue to bless you in your ministry! Thank you for helping us Chaplains and our inmates.

Thank you for your faithful service.

Your Diary is much sought-after by people in our addiction recovery program. Thank you for providing this valuable resource.

I admire the work you do. The diaries are the most asked for item at the institution. We have had some uptake on the Bible studies. Again, Thank you!

I personally really appreciate all the work you do and the inmates love the diaries and the courses, it gives them something positive to do while incarcerated, keep up the good work, and God bless the work you continue to do for the less fortunate members of our shared society.

The Daily Diaries are one of our most requested items. The inmates have the opportunity to read Bible verses as they write or journal on the pages. I have not used your courses very much up to this present time, but hope to promote them this new year.

Thank you for these wonderful resources. They continue to be very popular with the residents of our centre and provides us with many opportunities for conversations.

I have been handing out the 2022 daily diaries for the past 9 months now and the inmates love being able to write things down in them and be able to keep track of things. I believe they are reading the scriptures and they do request them from me.

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The Daily Diary is now becoming more familiar to inmates and taken slowly until I'm left with nothing. 15 copies are left and are all in French. Thank you for your partnership for this prison ministry.

Our brothers incarcerated at our institution really appreciate the Diaries and request them all the time. Thank you very much for all your commitment.

Grieving Mother Finds Scripture: The CLDA received a short email: "Please send to:" followed by an address. The correspondence that followed is shown on the right. She is now also working through our correspondence courses! Let us be encouraged to see how God's Word is impacting even beyond our prisons. Please pray for this mother and all who receive the diaries and follow the courses.

It's the daily diary from jail
My son was doing some time
He passed away in oct
When I got his belongings he had it in his stuff so
I began reading it.
I would like another one please for 2023. This
little book only goes till the end of December.

Also
What's this magazine your talking about? If
possible can u send that as well thank you

Sent from my iPhone

> On Dec 17, 2022, at 2:15 PM, <john@clda.ca>
<john@clda.ca> wrote:
>
> Hello [REDACTED]
> Can you specify if it is a diary, prison course of
To Keep It Holy magazine
> that you are requesting? Thank you for
reaching out to us.
> Regards,
> The Canadian Lord's Day Association

FOR THE LORD'S DAY MORNING

ISAAC WATTS



*This is the day when Christ arose
So early from the dead;
Why should I keep my eyelids closed,
And waste my hours in bed?*

*This is the day when Jesus broke
The powers of death and hell;
And shall I wear Satan's yoke,
And love my sins so well?*

*Today with pleasure Christians meet,
To pray and hear thy Word;
And I would go with cheerful feet,
To learn thy will, O Lord.*

*I'll leave my sport to read and pray,
And so prepare for heaven;
Oh, may I love this blessed day
The best of all the seven!*

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