



The Canadian *Lord's Day* Association

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

Fall 2023

Vol: 36 No. 2

“for 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.

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Note: All unsigned articles are written by the editor or assistant editor.
Cover photo: Maranatha Free Reformed Church, Hamilton, ON

WAYS TO DONATE:

Church collections: We encourage churches to hold a special collection annually.

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The Canadian *Lord's Day* Association
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MEDITATION



This meditation is taken from a tract written by the Rev. R. M'Cheyne (19th century Scottish pastor) to all his fellow countrymen. It was written in response to railway companies attempting to run trains on the Lord's Day in his area. As Convener of the Sabbath Observance Committee he fervently protested for the sanctity of the Christian Sabbath.

I Love the Lord's Day

*by Robert Murray M'Cheyne
December 18, 1841*

Dear Fellow-Countrymen,
As a servant of God in this dark and cloudy day, I feel constrained to lift up my voice in behalf of the entire sanctification of the Lord's Day... I commend to your dispassionate consideration the following

Reasons Why We Love the Lord's Day

1. Because it is the Lord's day. "This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice, and be glad in it" (Ps. 118.24). "I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day" (Rev. 1.10). It is His, by example. It is the day on which He rested from His amazing work of redemption. Just as God rested on the seventh day from all His works, wherefore God blessed the Sabbath day, and hallowed it; so the Lord Jesus rested this day from all His agony, and pain, and humiliation. "There remaineth therefore the keeping of a Sabbath to the people of God" (Heb. 4.9). The Lord's day is His property, just as the Lord's Supper is the supper belonging to Christ. It is His table. He is the bread. He is the wine. He invites the guests. He fills them with joy and with the Holy Ghost. So it is with the Lord's day. All days of the year are Christ's, but He hath marked out one in seven as peculiarly His own. "He hath made it", or marked it out. Just as He planted a garden in Eden, so He hath fenced about this day and made it His own. This is the reason why we love it, and would keep it entire. We love everything that is Christ's.

- We love His Word. It is better to us than thousands of gold and silver. "O how we love His law! it is our study all the day."
- We love His house. It is our meeting-place with Christ, where He meets with us and communes with us from off the mercy-seat.
- We love His table. It is His banqueting-house, where His banner over us is love—where He looses our bonds, and anoints our eyes, and makes our hearts burn with holy joy.
- We love His people, because they are His, members of His body, washed in His blood, filled with His Spirit, our brothers and sisters for eternity.
- And we love the Lord's day, because it is His. Every hour of it is dear to us—sweeter than honey, more precious than gold. It is the day He rose for our justification. It reminds us of His love, and His finished work, and His rest. And we may boldly say that that man does not love the Lord Jesus Christ who does not love the entire Lord's day.

*"The Sabbath
was made for
man"*



Oh, Sabbath-breaker, whoever you be, you are a sacrilegious robber! When you steal the hours of the Lord's day for business or for pleasure, you are robbing Christ of the precious hours which He claims as his own. Would you not be shocked if a plan were deliberately proposed for breaking through the fence of the Lord's table, and turning it into a common meal, or a feast for the profligate and the drunkard? Would not your best feelings be harrowed to see the silver cup of communion made a cup of revelry in the hand of the drunkard? And yet what better is the proposal of our railway directors? "The Lord's day" is as much His day as "the Lord's table" is His table. Surely we may well say, in the words of Dr. Love, that eminent servant of Christ, now gone to the Sabbath above: "Cursed is that gain, cursed is that recreation, cursed is that health, which is gained by criminal encroachments on this sacred day."

2. Because it is a relic of Paradise and type of Heaven. The first Sabbath dawned on a sinless paradise. When Adam was created in the image of his Maker, he was put into the garden to dress it and to keep it. No doubt this called forth all his energies. To train the luxuriant vine, to gather the fruit of the fig-tree and palm, to conduct the water to the fruit-trees and flowers, required all his time and all his skill. Man was never made to be idle. Still when the Sabbath-day came round, his rural implements were all laid aside; the garden no longer was his care. His calm, pure mind looked beyond things seen into the world of eternal realities. He walked with God in the garden, seeking deeper knowledge of Jehovah and His ways, his heart burning more and more with holy love, and his lips overflowing with seraphic praise. Even in Paradise man needed a Sabbath. Without it Eden itself would have been incomplete. How little they know the joys of Eden, the delight of a close and holy walk with God, who would wrest from Scotland this relic of a sinless world! It is also the type of heaven:



- When a believer lays aside his pen or loom, brushes aside his worldly cares, leaving them behind him with his week-day clothes, and comes up to the house of God, it is like the morning of the resurrection, the day when we shall come out of great tribulation into the presence of God and the Lamb.
- When he sits under the preached word, and hears the voice of the shepherd leading and feeding his soul, it reminds him of the day when the Lamb that is in the midst of the throne shall feed him and lead him to living fountains of waters.
- When he joins in the psalm of praise, it reminds him of the day when his hands shall strike the harp of God - Where congregations ne'er break up, And Sabbaths have no end.
- When he retires, and meets with God in secret in his closet, or, like Isaac, in some favourite spot near his dwelling, it reminds him of the day when "he shall be a pillar in the house of our God, and go no more out".

This is the reason why we love the Lord's day. This is the reason why we "call the Sabbath a delight". A well-spent Sabbath we feel to be a day of heaven upon earth. For this reason we wish our Sabbaths to be wholly given to God. We love to spend the whole time in the public and private exercises of God's worship, except so much as is taken up in the works of necessity and mercy. We love to rise early on that morning, and to sit up late, that we may have a long day with God. How many may know from this that they will never be in heaven! A straw on the surface can tell which way the stream is flowing. Do you abhor a holy Sabbath? Is it a kind of hell to

you to be with those who are strict in keeping the Lord's day? The writer of these lines once felt as you do. You are restless and uneasy. You say, "Behold what a weariness is it", "When will the Sabbath be gone, that we may sell corn?" Ah! soon, very soon, and you will be in hell. Hell is the only place for you. Heaven is one long, never-ending, holy Sabbath-day. There are no Sabbaths in hell.

3. Because it is a day of blessings. When God instituted the Sabbath in Paradise, it is said, "God blessed the Sabbath day and sanctified it" (Gen. 2. 3). He not only set it apart as a sacred day, but made it a day of blessing.

- When the Lord Jesus rose from the dead on the first day of the week before dawn, He revealed Himself the same day to two disciples going to Emmaus, and made their hearts burn within them (Luke 24. 13).
- The same evening He came and stood in the midst of the disciples, and said, "Peace be unto you"; and He breathed on them and said, "receive ye the Holy Ghost" (John 20. 19).
- Again, after eight days, that is, the next Lord's day, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and revealed Himself with unspeakable grace to unbelieving Thomas (John 20. 26).
- It was on the Lord's day also that the Holy Spirit was poured out at Pentecost (Acts 2. 1; compare Lev. 23. 15, 16). That beginning of all spiritual blessings, that first revival of the Christian Church, was on the Lord's day.
- It was on the same day that the beloved John, an exile on the sea-girt isle of Patmos, far away from the assembly of the saints, was filled with the Holy Spirit, and received his heavenly revelation.

So that in all ages, from the beginning of the world, and in every place where there is a believer, the Sabbath has been a day of double blessing. It is so still, and will be, though all God's enemies should gnash their teeth at it. True, God is a God of free grace, and confines His working to no time or place; but it is equally true that it pleases Him to bless His Word most on the Lord's day. All God's faithful ministers in every land can bear witness that sinners are converted most frequently on the Lord's day—that Jesus comes in and shows Himself through the lattice of ordinances oftenest on His own day. Saints, like John, are filled with the Spirit on the Lord's day, and enjoy their calmest, deepest views into the eternal world. Unhappy men, who are striving to rob our beloved Scotland of this day of double blessing, "ye know not what you do". You would wrest from our dear countrymen the day when God opens the windows of heaven and pours down a blessing. Have your own withered souls no need of a drop from heaven? May it not be the case that some of you are blaspheming the very day on which your own soul might have been saved? Is it not possible that some of you may remember, with tears of anguish in hell, the exertions which you are now making, against light and against warning, to bring down a withering blight on your own souls and on the religion of your country?



A Word of Exhortation

1. Prize the Lord's Day. The more that others despise and trample on it, love you it all the more. The louder the storm of blasphemy howls around you, sit the closer at the feet of Jesus. "He must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet." Diligently improve all holy time. It should be the busiest day of the seven; but only in the business of eternity. Avoid sin on that holy day. God's children should avoid sin every day, but most of all on the Lord's day. It is a day of double cursing as well as of double blessing. The world will have to answer dreadfully for sins committed in holy time. Spend the Lord's day in the Lord's presence. Spend it as a day in heaven. Spend much of it in praise and in works of mercy, as Jesus did.

2. Defend the Lord's Day. Lift up a calm, undaunted testimony against all the profanations of the Lord's day. Use all your influence, whether as a statesman, a magistrate, a master, a father, or a friend, both publicly and privately, to defend the entire Lord's day. This duty is laid upon you in the Fourth Commandment. Never see the Sabbath broken without reproving the breaker of it. Always remember God and the Bible are on your side.

Praying that these words of truth and soberness may be owned of God, and carried home to your hearts with divine power—I remain, dear fellow-countrymen, your soul's well-wisher, etc.

Scriptures for Meditation

1. Sabbath commanded—Exodus 16. 22-30; 20. 8-11; 35. 1-3. Leviticus 19. 3-30. Deuteronomy 5. 12-15. Nehemiah 9. 14.

2. A sign of God's people—Exodus 31. 12-17. 2 Kings 4. 23. Ezekiel 20. 12. Lamentations 1. 7. Hebrews 4. 9.

3. Sabbath-breaking punished—Numbers 15. 32-36. Leviticus 26. 33-35. 2 Chronicles 36. 21. Jeremiah 17. 19-end. Lamentations 2. 6. Ezekiel 20. 12-26. Amos. 8. 4-14.

4. Day of blessing—Genesis 2. 2, 3. Exodus 16. 24. Leviticus 24. 8. Numbers 28. 9, 10. Isaiah 56. 1-8; 58. 13-14. John 20. 1, 19, 26. Acts 2. 1, with Leviticus 23. 15. Revelation 1. 10.

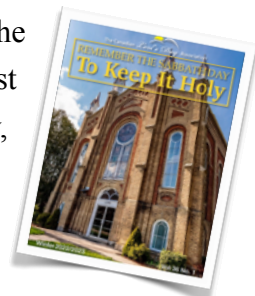
5. Rulers should guard the Sabbath—Exodus 20. 10. Nehemiah 13. 15-22.

6. Sabbath in gospel times—Psalm 118. 24. Isaiah 66. 23. Ezekiel 46. 1. Mark 2. 27, 28. Acts 2. 1; 20. 6, 7. 1 Corinthians 16. 2. Revelation 1. 10.



EDITORIAL

This autumn issue again sets before our readers the efforts being made to promote the sanctity of the Lord's Day and the extension of His kingdom. After publication of our last issue (Winter 2022-2023) some readers recognized the United Church building in Troy, Ontario, on the front cover, and informed us that this church has recently been transformed into a Mosque. Clearly this speaks to us about the sad decline of many churches in Canada. Let us not think ourselves better than those dwindling churches that end in closure or of those who do not know Christ as King of Kings and Lord of Lords. The command comes to us all: Remember the Sabbath Day to keep it holy.



Daily Diary Update

We are thankful to report that 100% of our 2023 diaries have been distributed to Canadian prisons. As we write, just over 140,000 copies of the 2024 Diary are printed and have begun their shipping journey to prisons. 40,000 have again been ordered by our partners at US Prison Ministry. The remaining 97,000 English and 3000 French Diaries are on their way to destinations across Canada.

Annual Meetings

Despite very wintry weather conditions during the Annual Meetings in both Alberta and Ontario, both were well attended. In the full auditorium at Calvin Christian School in February, Rev. Adams began with a meditation on the sign of the Sabbath day in Exodus and then gave an extensive collection of pertinent anecdotes relating to how the Lord's Day was regarded and observed in North America in the past. Perhaps one day he can repeat his topic in Ontario. While fewer than one hundred were able to attend the Ontario meeting due to a winter storm, more than 200 households listened along. A link to Rev. Vergunst's address can be found on our website (clda.ca).

Financial Needs

The financial needs of the CLDA were also presented at our annual meetings. While revenue has increased, during the past few years expenses have increased even more quickly. Both printing and shipping costs have increased significantly, while demand for scripture diaries and correspondence courses has also increased. In 2017 the Lord inclined supporting churches and individuals to respond generously to our call for help. Until this time we have been able to use these extra funds but more funds will be needed for this work to go forward. As demand grows across Canada we are asking once again for increased support and prayer from churches and individuals.

| The Canadian Lord's Day Association Summary Statement of Operations | | |
|---|--------------------|--------------------|
| Year Ended December 31, 2022 | | |
| | 2022 | 2021 |
| REVENUES | 95,022 | 81,817 |
| EXPENDITURES | | |
| Advertising and promotion | 7,238 | 11654 |
| Bank charges | 183 | 177 |
| Donations/unpaid US Diaries | 1500 | 12323 |
| Meeting and conventions | 523 | 250 |
| Office | 1223 | 2055 |
| Postage expense | 34295 | 22452 |
| Printing expense | 65161 | 45165 |
| Prison ministry expense | 9969 | 4375 |
| Professional fees | 3673 | 3773 |
| Travel | 1297 | |
| | 125,062 | 102,224 |
| DEFICIENCY OF R/E FROM OPERATIONS | (30,040) | (20,407) |
| OTHER INCOME (interest/HST rebate) | 5160 | 3814 |
| DEFICIENCY OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES | \$ (24,880) | \$ (16,593) |

Message from the CLDA Council's Adhoc Planning and Hiring Committee

by Herman Visscher



During the past year our board has been reflecting on the work and direction of the CLDA. The association was founded in 1986 for the purpose of seeking the sanctity of the Lord's Day and the extension of His kingdom. Over the years a large portion of the resources have increasingly gone toward prison ministry. We now print and distribute tens of thousands of Daily Diaries and thousands of Bible courses to prisons across the country. This raised the question as to whether the association is still working within its founding constitution and objectives. The Board has consulted with Mr. Bernie Pennings of Building Stones Ministry and Mr. Adrian Stoutjesdyk of the Trinitarian Bible Society for suggestions about structure and functionality of the association. The consensus among the board members was strengthened after these informative meetings and it was confirmed that the prison

ministry is still within the scope of our founding purpose. The Lord has opened doors where we least expected them, and now thousands of inmates have daily access to the Word of God. While looking on God's promise that His Word shall not return unto Him void and that after many days we shall find the bread that was cast onto the water, likewise we pray that these simple means may be blessed for many. Following several helpful meetings with Mr. Pennings the board found it necessary to update and revitalize our use of a committee structure. To share the work load and to streamline activities, it was recommended we hire a part-time administrative assistant. The board then appointed an adhoc committee—made up of Roland Verhey, Rev. Mulder, John Overbeek and Herman Visscher—to draft a job description and act as a hiring committee. Next to the Lord we thank all members and supporting churches for their past support. We kindly ask for your continued prayerful and financial support as we seek to go forward with this important work which the Lord in His providence has laid upon us. May these efforts truly be blessed for the extension of His kingdom and the hallowing of His day.



As of October 2023, new 2024 Diaries ready for shipment

JOB ADVERTISEMENT

The CLDA is actively looking to fill a part-time Administrative Assistant position of approximately 10 hours per week. Please call **1-888-573-2878** or email contact@clda.ca for more information. Job responsibilities include:

- Manage and respond to incoming correspondence
- Assist with prison ministry communication and maintain database
- Assist with creating, printing, and distribution of publications
- Maintain contact with supporting churches and organizations and maintain supporter mailing list
- Logistics/Shipping coordination
- Report to the CLDA board and provide regular update reports

Restore the Lord's Day Act

Desire for a day of rest should find allies amongst labour, Christians

This article was written by Jonathon Van Maren, published in February 2022, and is reprinted here by kind permission.

On April 24, 1985, the Supreme Court of Canada struck down the Lord's Day Act in *R v Big M Drug Mart Ltd*, nullifying centuries of tradition on the ironic basis that the Act

contravened freedom of religion for the irreligious. According to Chief Justice Brian Dickson: "To the extent that it binds all to a sectarian Christian ideal, the Lord's Day Act works a form of coercion inimical to the spirit of the Charter and the dignity of all non-Christians. It takes religious values rooted in Christian morality and, using the force of the state, translates them into a positive law binding on believers and non-believers alike."

Leaving aside for a moment the fact that the values of Western civilization itself are "rooted in Christian morality," this decision did not merely have an impact on religious people, but on everyone. Canadian workers lost the right to a day of rest and gained the right to a day of work or consumption; large shopping chains could open on Sunday and call low-paid employees in for work while small businesses unable to afford it slowly bled revenue; people gained the freedom to buy and eat out and purchase entertainment while those serving them, in many cases, lost the freedom to a mandatory, once-a-week day off with their families.

In our hectic, "24/7" economy, even most Christians have accepted Sunday as a day of shopping and entertainment—there are few that realize this is the norm of decades over against centuries. My maternal grandfather ran a small bakery in Chilliwack, B.C., resolutely remained closed on Sundays, and joined the Canadian Lord's Day Association. He did his best to patronize the shopping centres that chose to remain closed on Sunday even if it was inconvenient (getting groceries at the IGA instead of Safeway), but few others did the same. He lost customers to those who chose the convenience of the baking section in the grocery stores over his own (much better) bakery.

It is safe to say that the debate over Sabbatarianism is, in our libertine society that sees any restriction as stifling, dead. That is, until Sohrab Ahmari resurrected the discussion on "blue laws" in his essential 2021



book *The Unbroken Thread: Discovering the Wisdom of Tradition in an Age of Chaos*, which contains a chapter making the powerful case for the Sabbath being a day set apart. In a Twitter exchange last month, I noted that blue laws are very pro-worker and pro-family, and that unions should back them—people don't exist to serve markets.

Ahmari responded by buttressing the point: “For much of the 19th century, the one arena of Sunday business U.S. Protestants couldn't shutter was mail delivery. But they finally succeeded—in alliance with the nascent labor movement. You can't get a better post-liberal realignment issue than: Give Us Our Weekend Back.”

Ahmari makes an essential point. There exists, in both the United States and Canada, the opportunity for an agenda that is socially conservative and pro-worker. Many will protest that they like shopping on Sundays, or eating out, or even working some hours. But I would argue that restricting these activities is a minor inconvenience to give workers, many of them making minimum wage, the guaranteed opportunity to spend a day with their family, at worship, or simply resting.



The inconvenient truth about “choice” is that it only exists for some people. The Walmart greeter at the door first thing Sunday morning likely doesn't have much choice about when she works. She, like most people, is assigned her hours. Would she rather be there making meagre but necessary earnings rather than spending her time with her family or loved ones? Maybe, but I doubt it. To large corporations, Sundays are simply another day in which revenue must be accumulated, and thus people must show up for work. They do not have the same options as those who like to spend a Sunday afternoon browsing the aisles.

Ahmari made this point in *The American Conservative*, observing that Sunday shopping laws were “abolished in the name of freedom, but it turned out to be freedom for Jeff Bezos and other large employers. Not freedom for workers or families.” In short: It is not a radical proposal to suggest that Sunday should be a day of rest for all, Christians and non-Christians alike. As Jesus said in Mark 2:27: “The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath.”

I recognize that there is an understandable cynicism about the ability of politicians to pass any legislation that overtly reflects religious values—despite all three major monotheistic religions holding to a day of rest, and no other major religion having any objection to it. I agree with Paul Tuns' Twitter response to this: “Everyone said that it was not realistic to return to Sabbatarianism. It cannot be achieved if Christians are silent.” And that is especially true if Christians have forgotten their own traditions.

ACROSS CANADA



New Brunswick

A Powerful Illustration of Why this Outreach needs Support

The Word of God in the Daily Diary has been used to completely transform a man's life; a man who for 20 years was, in his own words, "a full-blown addict of every drug and every way possible that you could do the drug in every province". For years he was in and out of prison, stealing to feed his addictions, and often homeless. He is now married and working and also volunteers with an outreach group helping the homeless. He has distributed hundreds of CLDA Scripture diaries and TBS pocket Bibles.

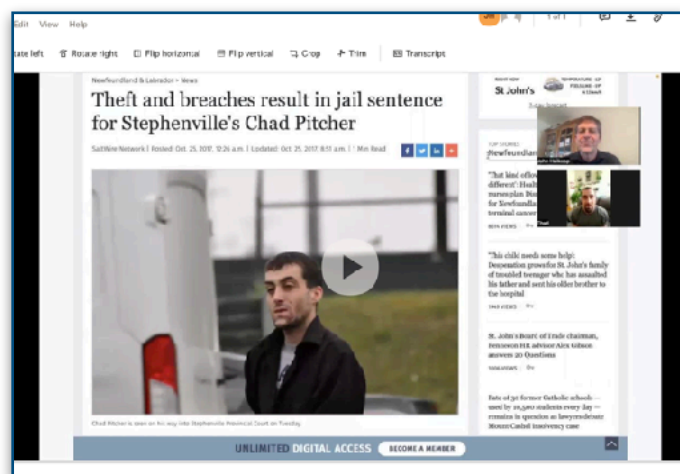
We initially received the following email:

Date: Saturday, February 11, 2023 at 1:40 PM

To: Clda <contact@clda.ca>

Subject: In need of Daily Diaries

Hello , ... I have ordered your calendars previously for the Village of Hope in New Brunswick! I am part of an outreach group now in Saint John New Brunswick that works with and feeds the homeless in our area. We are short of and in need of Bibles. This calendar would be a great blessing to those who do not know God and waiting to be saved; homeless on the streets and trapped in addiction. If possible I would love to be able to get as many as possible for us to give out at our meals and care packages when prompted. These calendars and confirmation from them helped save my life in prison in Newfoundland! The scriptures, and the living word of God spoke to my heart through this calendar and helped me come to Christ at 32 years old; I am now clean, free of addiction and doing street ministry 3 years later. Thank you so much.



A video interview with this former inmate can also be found on our website www.clda.ca.

The following is an extract from his written testimony which he shared with us, hoping that others may be blessed.



"I received a monthly calendar that had a daily scripture verse. The verses came alive and spoke to me in a way I cannot describe in words. I had an encounter with God through His Word which became alive and active and started defeating the enemy of my soul. Today, I have surrendered and came to believe in the reality of Jesus Christ. The Lord has completely changed my life and has done miracles in my life that I could never do on my own strength. I have a peace that I have never had.

I am also a member of Saturday Night Outreach who helps feed, house and show the love of God to those who do not know him or need to come home to him and find rest. We offer prayer, Bibles, material [including the Daily Diaries], and clothing.

I have hope, when everyone else said I was hopeless. The police and prison guards said it was just a matter of time until they saw me again. This is all thanks to knowing God's Truth, His Way and His Life. From my favourite scripture, John 14:6, "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No man comes to the Father, but by me."



Alberta

Standing up for the Sanctity of the Lord's Day
by Aris Slingerland

In the middle of March 2023 the local auxiliary of the Lord's Day Association was made aware that the United Farmers of Alberta (UFA) which has farm supply stores in many Alberta towns, had announced that the Lethbridge store would begin to open on Sundays, starting on April 16, 2023.

This saddened the local auxiliary, since for many years we have been promoting the sanctity of the Lord's Day. Knowing that many grocery stores have been closed on Sunday for many years, we asked ourselves "What do we do?" Since we had about 30 days before it would go into effect, the auxiliary felt called to object to this development, since many UFA members observe Sunday as a day for worship.

After some discussion, it was decided to send out a request via community email and WhatsApp for support for a petition to let the UFA know that we cannot support the store if they opened on Sunday. We also sent the following letter to the UFA:

To Whom it may concern:

The Canadian Lord's Day Association promoted the sanctity of the Lord's Day (Sunday) for many years. It is to our disappointment to discover that UFA is wanting to open the Lethbridge farm store on Sunday starting on April 16th. UFA is supported by many members and customers who honour the Lord's command to "Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy" and would now be supporting an organization that, without good reason, breaks that command. By asking employees to work on Sunday, UFA is also forcing others to break the 4th commandment. We respectfully submit this petition of opposition to Sunday opening, and humbly ask that you rescind your decision.

At the same time we requested a meeting with the management of the store, which was graciously granted. By the time of this meeting we had gathered over 200 names of people opposed to the opening on Sunday. The local auxiliary members met with the local and the regional managers, and had polite discussion about our concerns. The regional manager informed us that for them it is basically a decision based on profit. We replied that the Lord promises His blessing to those who honour His command, and that if the Lord does not bless there will not be any profit.

We were promised they would inform us of their decision. After the 16th of April had passed, we contacted the regional manager, and were told they are running a trial period. We were hoping and praying that the Lord who has all things in His power would incline hearts in this matter. However, now that the management has decided to continue doing business on the Lord's Day, may coop members and employees remain faithful to God in this time of backsliding.





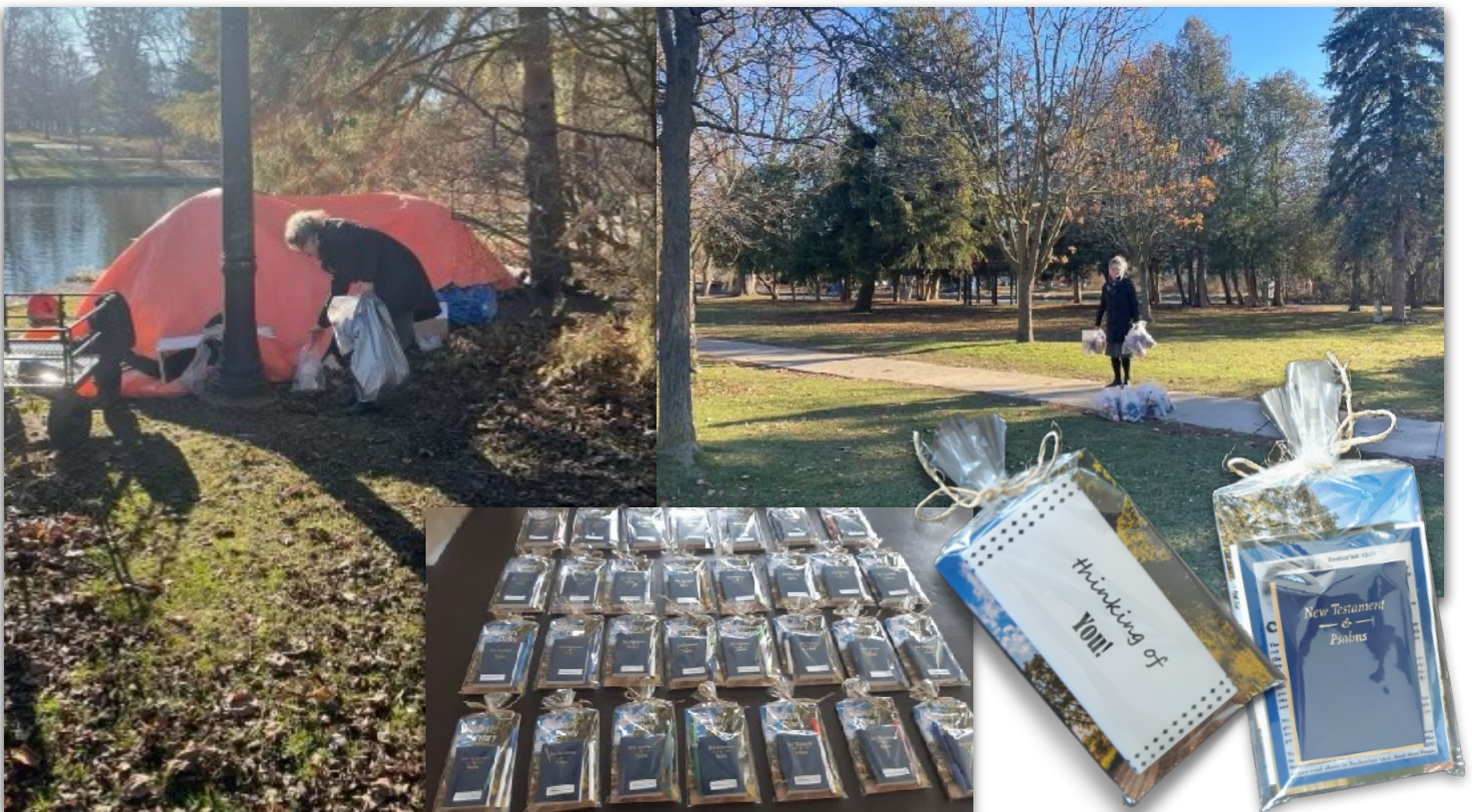
British Columbia

In British Columbia, the local auxiliary funded billboards (pictured here) organized by the Trinitarian Bible Society.



Ontario

One of our supporters in Ontario has been distributing the Daily Diary with TBS Pocket Bibles along with food and care packages to homeless people. She has already distributed well over 500 diaries.



The Blind Man and his Wife

A pious man came into the western part of New York State from one of the New England States. He was then completely blind, and a close relative advised him to leave or sell his farm and come and live with him to be taken care of. His wife was of a similarly religious character. They accepted this proposal. The society which they were leaving behind was one of good manners and morality, so they were not prepared to encounter the disadvantages and evils of a society altogether different. Their first Sabbath in New York state, the pious man declared, would never be forgotten. As soon as dawn broke, shooting and other recreations commenced in the immediate vicinity of where his relative lived. This relative was a business trader and dealt out whiskey to all who asked for it. The day was trampled on, and its hallowed hours were spent in overindulgence.

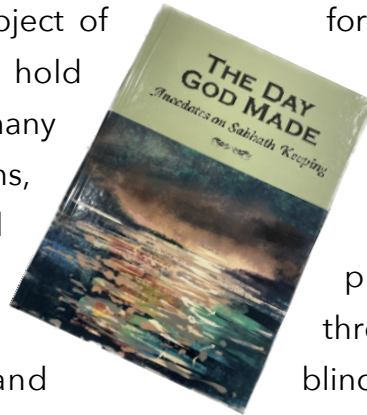
Before breakfast, which was delayed to receive visitors from another town, the pious man and his wife resolved to seek some escape from the noise and profaneness. They fled into a nearby forest, where they spent the first Sabbath in their new location fasting, praying, and reading the Word of God. After the Sabbath was past, they informed their relative that they could not live with him if his manner of spending the Sabbath was in amusements and overindulgence, and that

they must move into a house of their own. He replied that this would not achieve anything as people would try to visit them on the Sabbath. The godly man firmly replied that he would take the risk of facing their attempts to visit him.



Accordingly, a house was provided for them. On the first Sabbath in their new residence, two of their neighbours called to see them, one of whom was a judge. The wife was reading the Bible at that very time. After greeting the visitors in the usual way, she provided seats for them, and then she proceeded to read aloud. Before the first chapter was finished, one of the visitors left, and before she reached the end of the second, the other left too. Afterwards, they were not troubled with visitors anymore.

The blind man, led by his wife, began visiting some of his ungodly neighbours, and conversing with them on the subject of religion. Soon they began to hold meetings on the Sabbath, and many attended. The wife read sermons, and the husband prayed and exhorted. One wicked man, whose shop was opposite the meeting, opened his door, and worked in order to disturb them. The next Sabbath, this same man came into the meeting, fell on his knees, confessed his sins,



and asked forgiveness. The Lord came down by His Spirit on that neighbourhood, and forty people were the fruits of a revival.

They became the members of a church which was afterwards formed in that place. There was no regular preaching in the place previously, but it was introduced through the instrumentality of this blind man and his wife.

Taken from the book pictured above: The Day God Made: Anecdotes on Sabbath Keeping

FOUR WAYS TO DONATE

- 1. Church collections:** Please encourage your church to hold a special collection annually.
- 2. E-transfer:** donations@clda.ca
- 3. Cheque:** CLDA c/o Mary Byl, 600 Lynden Road, Brantford, ON, N3T 5M1
- 4. Credit card:** Follow link on our website clda.ca/donations or through Canadahelps.org

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Did you know...

that for every dollar donated to CLDA last year a diary was put in the hands of a prisoner or homeless person in Canada.

As the Lord enables, please help this work to continue.



FOR THE LORD'S DAY EVENING

by ISAAC WATTS

*Lord, how delightful 'tis to see
A whole assembly worship Thee!
At once they sing, at once they pray;
They hear of heaven, and learn the way.*

*I have been there, and still would go:
'Tis like a little heaven below!
Not all my pleasure and my play
Shall tempt me to forget this day.*

*O write upon my memory, Lord,
The text and doctrines of Thy Word;
That I may break Thy laws no more,
But love Thee better than before.*

*With thoughts of Christ and things divine
Fill up this foolish heart of mine;
That, hoping pardon through His blood,
I may lie down, and wake with God.*

