## A Walk Through God's Holy Day Season in 2023

## We rejoice in the Holy Days that Jesus Christ observed when He was on earth! (Deuteronomy 16:16)

## In 2023 they are

• The New Testament Passover on April 4<sup>th</sup> in 2023....just before sunset we will assemble quietly for a sobering ceremony:

The Foot-washing takes place as Jesus did with His disciples. The men gather in pairs and the women gather separately in pairs to wash each other's' feet (we each bring a basin and towel). All attendees are welcome to participate in the foot-washing. John 13:1-17; Leviticus 23:4)

Then we gather for Scripture readings for the taking of the unleavened bread and then for the wine. This is a renewal of our covenant at baptism so only baptized members would participate as this is a Renewal of our Covenant at Baptism.

Then the Scriptures of Christ's death, His enormous love and sacrifice are read and the ceremony closes with singing of a hymn. We go home quietly because this was the night of Jesus' suffering. (Matthew 26:17-30, Mark 14:12-26, Luke 22:7-22, 1 Corinthians 11:17-23). Note that the sacrificial system was abolished because Jesus Christ shed His blood. (2 John 1:4-6)

- The next evening April 5, we will assemble for the Night To Be Much Remembered again beginning at sunset. This is a meal of rejoicing in the deliverance of God for Israel from Egypt but most importantly for our delivery from sin by the Death of Jesus Christ. References (Exodus 12)
- Next come the Days of Unleavened Bread April 6-12 in 2023

We remove all products for leavening food like yeast, baking soda, baking powder etc from our homes and prepare unleavened bread and other foods without leaven for the next 7 days. (Leviticus 23:6-9; 2 Chronicles 30:21; Acts 20:6)

- We will assemble On April 6<sup>th</sup> on the First Day of Unleavened Bread starting at 1:00 for a Worship Service. An offering is collected at this service.
- The Last Day of Unleavened Bread on April 12 in 2023 we will assemble at 1:00 for a Worship Service and an offering is collected.
- The Feast of Pentecost on Sunday May 28<sup>th</sup> we assemble at 1:00 for a Worship Service of praise and worship. We give thanks for the Giving of the Holy Spirit when the Church was established at the first Pentecost! References: Acts 2
- The Feast of Trumpets September 16<sup>th</sup> we will assemble at 1:00 for a worship service as this day symbolizes the Return of Jesus Christ for His Church and the feet of Jesus coming to the Mount of Olives in Jerusalem. The service is usually followed by a meal together. (Leviticus 23:23-25; Zecharaiah 14:4; Revelation 11:15-19; 19:11-16;)
- The Day of Atonement on September 25<sup>th</sup> we assemble for a worship service though we have begun our 24 hour fast from food and water at sunset the evening before and will end the fast at sunset... a 24 hour period. (Leviticus 23:26-32; Numbers 29:7)

• **The Feast of Tabernacles** is a 7 day period starting on September 30<sup>th</sup> until October 6<sup>th</sup> – when we meet at a central location with all our brethren for worship services daily with additional activities including meals, activities for children, youth, seniors, the whole congregation. Our central location is in Collingwood, Ontario and the Holiday Inn in Orleans is a satellite feast site so that the disabled and elderly and others who wish may celebrate God's Holy Days. Leviticus 23.

\* The first day of the Feast of Tabernacles is a Holy Day from sunset to sunset. The Worship Service begins at 11:00 am and is streamed in to the Ottawa feast site from the Collingwood Feast Site. An offering is collected at this service. We usually gather for a meal together either pot luck, take away or in a nearby restaurant after the service. (Leviticus 23:33-37.)

\* Every day during the Feast of Tabernacles, we gather daily at 11:00 am to 1:00 pm for a Worship Service again streamed from Collingwood.

\* The rest of those days are open but at the Ottawa site, we arrange our own meals and we suggest activities of interest for the afternoons either in the Avalon Room OR we do an interesting field trip suggested by participants well before the Feast. There is a schedule of activities that are totally optional depending on health and energy levels. Evening events in the Avalon Room focus on fellowship, sharing, learning and various craft activities... All totally optional.

• **The Last Great Day** comes right on the heels of the Feast of Tabernacles on October 7, 2023! This is a Holy Day from sunset to sunset! The Worship Service begins at 11:00 am and comes to us from Collingwood. An offering is taken up at this service. John 7:37

God's Holy Days do involve personal, family and sometimes professional sacrifices but we keep them in faith that God will protect and provide so they are a privilege and a blessing! Many of our members have kept them for over 50 years and can testify to the truth of God's blessings! Romans 12:1-2

You may enjoy reading the booklet entitled "<u>God's Seasonal Plan</u>" where you will find all the Bible Scripture references explaining why we as New Covenant Christians observe God's Holy days. They are inspiring and 'learning experiences' when we actually act out God's Plan of Salvation!

The Church of God International Holy Day Calendar				
Roman Year	New Testament Passover (at sundown)	Feast of Unleavened Bread	Feast of Pentecost	Feast of Trumpets
2023	Apr 4	Apr 6-12	May 28	Sept 16
2024	Apr 21	Apr 23-29	June 16	Oct 3
2025	Apr 11	Apr 13-19	June 1	Sept 23
Roman Year	Day of Atonement	Feast of Tabernacles	Last Great Day	
2023	Sept 25	Sept 30-Oct 6	Oct 7	
2024	Oct 12	Oct 17-23	Oct 24	
2025	Oct 2	Oct 7-13	Oct 14	

Holy Day Calendar for 2023-2025 is available here: