

THE

Spiritual and Religious Life

CALENDAR

2016–2017



EMORY
UNIVERSITY



Welcome

As a top-ranked university affiliated with the United Methodist Church, Emory provides varied and rich opportunities to enhance religious and spiritual life through worship, service, education, engagement, and outreach. Undergraduate and graduate student organizations enrich the diverse religious character of the campus and welcome newcomers.

The religious life staff is committed to working with students, faculty, and staff to represent and honor the full range of religious traditions at Emory.

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August 2016

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
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Aug 25

HINDU Krishna Janmashtami

Annual celebration of the birth of the Hindu deity Krishna



*Love takes off masks that we fear we
cannot live without and know we
cannot live within.*

—JAMES BALDWIN

September 2016

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- Sep 5** **HINDU Ganesh Chaturthi**
This Hindu holiday celebrates the birth of Ganesh, God of Success
- Sep 10** **ISLAMIC Day of Arafat**
- Sep 11** **ISLAMIC Eid-al-Adha**
-14 Muslims celebrate both Allah's forgiveness and the end of the Hajj



*You can't separate peace from freedom
because no one can be at peace
unless he has his freedom.*

—MALCOLM X

October 2016

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- Oct 1** **HINDU Navaratri**
-9 A nine-day Hindu festival of the goddess of worship and dance
- Oct 2** **ISLAMIC Al-Hijira**
Islamic New Year
- Oct 3** **JEWISH Rosh Hashanah***
-4 The Jewish new year begins and marks the beginning of a 10-day period of reflection
- Oct 5** **BUDDHIST Bodhidharma Memorial**
Anniversary of the death of Bodhidharma
- Oct 11** **HINDU Dussehra**
The end of Navaratri
- Oct 12** **ISLAMIC Ashura**
Marks the martyrdom of Husayn ibn Ali and the day that Moses fasted as gratitude for the Israelites' liberation
- Oct 12** **JEWISH Yom Kippur**
Holiday beginning at sunset, in which Jews fast and ask for forgiveness
- Oct 17** **JEWISH Sukkot (first two days)**
-18 This Jewish harvest festival begins and lasts for seven days
- Oct 20** **BAHÁ'Í Birth of the Báb**
Bahai holiday celebrating the birth of one of the founders
- Oct 24** **JEWISH Shemini Atzeret**
- Oct 25** **JEWISH Simchat Torah**
Jews conclude their annual reading of the Hebrew Bible, and begin again with Genesis
- Oct 30** **HINDU Diwali**
Hindus celebrate the success of good over evil and light over darkness
- Oct 30** **SIKH Bandi Chhor Divas**
Sikhs celebrate the release of the political prisoner Guru Hargobind Ji and 52 princes

*Jewish holidays begin at sunset the day before.

November 2016

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Nov 1 **CHRISTIAN All Saints Day**

Nov 12 **BAHÁ'Í Birth of Bahá'u'lláh**
This holiday honors the birth of the religion's founder and prophet

Nov 27 **CHRISTIAN Advent**
Marks the beginning of four weeks of preparation for the birth of Jesus



*The moment I stand in reverence
before every human being and see
God in him—that moment I am free
from bondage, everything that binds
vanishes, and I am free.*

—SWAMI VIVEKENANDA

December 2016

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Dec 8 **CHRISTIAN Feast of the Immaculate Conception**

This Catholic feast day marks the conception of St. Anne with Mary, mother of Jesus

Dec 25 **CHRISTIAN Christmas**

The birth of Jesus is celebrated by Christians

Dec 25 **JEWISH Hanukkah**

–Jan 1

During this eight-day festival of lights, Jews celebrate the power of God

Dec 26 **ZORASTRIAN Death of Prophet Zarathustra**

The anniversary of the death of Zarathustra, the founder of the Zarathushti faith



*Each of us will have to make choices
that allow us to be the
largest version of ourselves.*

—JULIA ALVAREZ

January 2017

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- Jan 6** **CHRISTIAN Epiphany**
Festival marking the journey of the Magi to the infant Jesus
- Jan 7** **CHRISTIAN ORTHODOX Christmas**
- Jan 14** **HINDU Makar Sankranti**
This festival marks the transition of the sun into the zodiac sign of Makara rashi (Capricorn) on its celestial path
- Jan 15** **BAHÁ'Í World Religion Day**



*The Latina in me is an ember
that blazes forever.*

—SONIA SOTOMAYOR

February 2017

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Feb 25 **HINDU Maha Shivaratri**
Festival celebrating Lord Shiva

Feb 27 **CHRISTIAN ORTHODOX Great Lent begins**



*The creation of a single world
comes from a huge number
of fragments and chaos.*

—HAYAO MIYAZAKI

March 2017

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- Mar 1** **CHRISTIAN Ash Wednesday**
The beginning of the Christian observance of Lent
- Mar 1** **CHRISTIAN Lent**
–Apr 15 The 40-day period (excluding Sundays) of prayer, repentance, and self-denial that precedes Easter for Christians
- Mar 12** **JEWISH Purim**
This festival celebrates the escape of the Jewish people from a death plot
- Mar 13** **HINDU Holi(ka) Day**
Hindus celebrate the spring festival of colors
- Mar 13** **SIKH Hola Mohalla**
Three-day festival marking the beginning of military preparedness; now celebrated with music and festivities
- Mar 21** **BAHÁ'Í Naw-Ruz**
Bahá'ís celebrate and feast during the evening for the first month of the new year
- Mar 21** **ZOROASTRIAN Nowruz**
The Fasli New Year's Day that commemorates Zarathustra receiving his revelation, the renewal of the world, and the creation of fire



As you think, so shall you become.

—BRUCE LEE

April 2017

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- Apr 5** **HINDU Ram Navami**
Hindus celebrate the birth of Rama
- Apr 9** **CHRISTIAN Palm Sunday**
- Apr 11** **JEWISH Passover (first two days)**
–12 This holiday celebrates the Jews' escape from an Egyptian pharaoh
- Apr 14** **CHRISTIAN (ALL) Good/Holy Friday**
Christians mark the crucifixion and death of Jesus
- Apr 14** **SIKH Vaisakhi**
Anniversary of the birth of the Khalsa
- Apr 16** **CHRISTIAN Easter**
Christians celebrate the resurrection of Jesus
- Apr 16** **ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN Pascha (Easter)**
- Apr 17** **JEWISH Passover (last two days)**
–18
- Apr 21** **BAHÁ'Í Ridván**
Bahá'ís commemorate the 12 days Bahá'u'lláh spent in the garden of Ridván during his exile in Baghdad
- Apr 29** **BAHÁ'Í Ninth Day of Ridván**



One thing is certain. When you come out of the storm, you won't be the same person who walked in. That's what this storm's all about.

—HARUKI MURAKAMI

May 2017

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- May 2** **BAHÁ'Í Twelfth Day of Ridván**
- May 10** **BUDDHIST Vesak**
This day commemorates the birth, awakening, and passing away of the historical Buddha
- May 14** **JEWISH Lag B'Omer**
Jewish day of celebration during the Counting of the Omer
- May 23** **BAHÁ'Í Declaration of the Báb**
Bahai's commemorate when the Bab announced his identity, heralding the new age
- May 25** **CHRISTIAN Ascension of the Lord**
The day in which Christians celebrate the ascension of Jesus into heaven
- May 27** **ISLAMIC Ramadan**
–Jun 25
A monthlong holiday celebrated by Muslims through fasting, prayer, and reading of the Qu'ran
- May 29** **BAHÁ'Í Ascension of Bahá'u'lláh**
The anniversary of the death of Bahá'u'lláh, founder of the faith
- May 31** **JEWISH Shavuot**
–Jun 1
Commemorates the Israelites receiving the Torah



*When the whole world is silent,
even one voice becomes powerful.*

– MALALA YOUSAFZAI

June 2017

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Jun 4

CHRISTIAN Pentacost

An observance 50 days after Easter commemorating the descent of the Holy Spirit upon Jesus's disciples

Jun 25

ISLAMIC Eid-al-Fitr



We meet God in and through the world, if we are ever to meet God. God is not out there or back there or yet to be, but hidden in the most ordinary things of our ordinary lives.

—SALLIE MCFAGUE

July 2017

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- Jul 9** **BAHÁ'Í Martyrdom of the Báb**
The Martyrdom memorializes the death of the Báb.
- Jul 11** **ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN All Saint's Day**
Orthodox Christians celebrate and honor the saints



What is important is that one utilizes one's intellect and not to be 100 percent sure about one's convictions. One should always leave room for doubt.

—SHIRIN EBADI

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Religious Holidays

2016–2017

These dates are religious holidays that occur during the academic year for which students may request an excused absence from class. Faculty are advised of these dates. It is the responsibility of observant students of the tradition to negotiate with professors their needs concerning religious practices.

Bahá'í

Birth of the Báb, Oct 20
Birth of Bahá'u'lláh, Nov 12
First Day of Ridván, Apr 21

Christian

Christmas, Dec 25
Orthodox Christian Christmas, Jan 7
Orthodox Christian Great Lent begins¹, Feb 27
Ash Wednesday, Mar 1
Good Friday/Holy Friday, Apr 14
Easter, Apr 16
Orthodox Christian Pascha (Easter), Apr 16

Hindu

Navaratri, Oct 1–9
Dussehra, Oct 11
Diwali, Oct 30

Islam²

Eid-al-Adha, Sep 11–14

Jewish³

Rosh Hashanah, Oct 3–4
Yom Kippur, Oct 12
Sukkot, first two days, Oct 17–18
Shemini Atzeret, Oct 24
Simchat Torah, Oct 25
Hanukkah, Dec 25–Jan 1
Purim, Mar 12
Passover, first two days, Apr 11–12
Passover, last two days, Apr 17–18

¹ Orthodox Christian holidays begin at sunset on the evening before the date given.

² Islamic holidays begin at sunset on the evening before the date given. Islamic holidays are based on a lunar calendar, and the actual dates are determined by direct observation of the moon and announced by the mosque. (The most observant Muslims will observe all days; others may observe the first two days of Eid-al-Fitr and Eid-al-Ahda.)

³ Jewish holidays begin at sunset on the evening before the date given.

**Artwork used throughout this calendar
is by Steve Erspamer, SM**

Steve Erspamer is a Marianist brother who makes his home in a Benedictine community. He is a multifaceted artist who works in clay, stone, fresco, art glass, silk-screened fabrics, block prints, and cut paper. Several of his stained glass windows are at the Emory Catholic Center.

This calendar is printed on paper made from recycled products and alternative fibers, reflecting the Office of Spiritual and Religious Life's commitment to sustainability and responsible protection of the Earth.

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*The most common way people give up
their power is by thinking
they don't have any.*

—ALICE WALKER



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