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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Love and compassion are necessities, not luxuries. Without them, humanity cannot survive.

—THE XIV DALAI LAMA
September 2015

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**Sep 5**  
**HINDU Krishna Janmashtami**  
Annual celebration of the birth of the Hindu deity Krishna

**Sep 14**  
**JEWH Rosh Hashanah**
-15  
The Jewish new year begins and marks the beginning of a 10-day period of reflection

**Sep 17**  
**HINDU Ganesh Chaturthi**  
This Hindu holiday celebrates the birth of Ganesh, God of Success

**Sep 22**  
**ISLAMIC Day of Arafat**

**Sep 23**  
**JEWH Yom Kippur**  
Holiday beginning at sunset, in which Jews fast and ask for forgiveness

**Sep 23**  
**ISLAMIC Eid-al-Adha**
-24  
Muslims celebrate both Allah’s forgiveness and the end of the Hajj

**Sep 28**  
**JEWH Sukkot (first two days)**
-29  
This Jewish harvest festival begins and lasts for seven days

*Jewish holidays begin at sunset the day before.

Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success.

—HENRY FORD
### October 2015

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#### Oct 5
**JEWISH** Shemini Atzeret

#### Oct 5
**BUDDHIST** Bodhidharma Memorial
-6

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Oct 6
**JEWISH** Simchat Torah

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Oct 13
**HINDU** Navaratri
-22

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Oct 14
**ISLAMIC** Al-Hijira

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Oct 20
**BAHÁ’Í** Birth of the Báb

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Oct 22
**HINDU** Dussehra

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Oct 24
**ISLAMIC** Ashura

---

*Yesterday I was clever, so I wanted to change the world. Today I am wise, so I am changing myself.*

—RUMI
We accept it because we have seen the vision. We know that we cannot reap the harvest, but we hope that we may so well prepare the land and so diligently sow the seed that our successors may gather the ripened grain.

—LIBERTY HYDE BAILEY
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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| Dec 7 | **JEWISH Hanukkah**  
-14 | During this eight-day festival of lights, Jews celebrate the power of God |
| 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 26 | **ZORASTRIAN Death of Prophet Zarathustra**  
|      | The anniversary of the death of Zarathustra, the founder of the Zarathushti faith |

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In the depths of winter,  
I finally learned that within me there lay an invincible summer.  
—ALBERT CAMUS
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 17  BAHÁ’Í World Religion Day

Imagination is the beginning of creation. You imagine what you desire, you will what you imagine, and at last you create what you will.

—GEORGE BERNARD SHAW
February 2016

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Feb 10  **CHRISTIAN Ash Wednesday**
The beginning of the Christian observance of Lent

Feb 10  **CHRISTIAN Lent**
The 40-day period (excluding Sundays) of prayer, repentance, and self-denial that precedes Easter for Christians

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If you really want to make a friend, go to someone’s house and eat with him . . . the people who give you their food give you their heart.

—CESAR CHAVEZ
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Festival</th>
<th>Information</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mar 8</td>
<td>HINDU Maha Shivaratri</td>
<td>Festival celebrating Lord Shiva</td>
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<td>Mar 14</td>
<td>CHRISTIAN ORTHODOX Great Lent</td>
<td>begins</td>
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<td>Mar 20</td>
<td>CHRISTIAN Palm Sunday</td>
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<td>Mar 20</td>
<td>BAHÁ’Í Naw Ruz</td>
<td>Bahá’í’s celebrate and feast during the evening for the first month of the</td>
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<td>new year</td>
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<td>Mar 21</td>
<td>ZOROASTRIAN Nowruz</td>
<td>The Fasli New Year’s Day that commemorates Zarathustra receiving his</td>
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<td>revelation, the renewal of the world, and the creation of fire</td>
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<td>Mar 23</td>
<td>HINDU Holi(ka) Day</td>
<td>Hindus celebrate the spring festival of colors</td>
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<td>Mar 24</td>
<td>JEWISH Purim</td>
<td>This festival celebrates the escape of the Jewish people from a death plot</td>
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<td>Mar 24</td>
<td>SIKH Hola Mohalla</td>
<td>Three-day festival marking the beginning of military preparedness; now</td>
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<td>celebrated with music and festivities</td>
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<td>Mar 25</td>
<td>CHRISTIAN Good Friday</td>
<td>Christians mark the crucifixion and death of Jesus</td>
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<td>Mar 27</td>
<td>CHRISTIAN Easter</td>
<td>Christians celebrate the resurrection of Jesus</td>
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Reality is wrong. Dreams are for real.

—TUPAC SHAKUR
April 2016

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Apr 14  SIKH  Vaisakhi
Anniversary of the birth of the Khalsa

Apr 15  HINDU  Ram Navami
Hindus celebrate the birth of Rama

Apr 20  BAHÁ’Í  Ridván
Bahá’ís commemorate the 12 days
Bahá’u’lláh spent in the garden of
Ridván during his exile in Baghdad

Apr 23  JEWISH  Passover (first two days)
This holiday celebrates the Jews’
escape from an Egyptian pharaoh

Apr 23–24  JEWISH  Passover (first two days)

Apr 29  BAHÁ’Í  Ninth Day of Ridván

Apr 29  ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN  Holy Friday

Apr 29–30  JEWISH  Passover (last two days)

Together we can face any challenges
as deep as the ocean
and as high as the sky.

—SONIA GANDHI
May 2016

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**May 1**  
**ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN** Pascha (Easter)

**May 2**  
**BAHÁ’Í** Twelfth Day of Ridván

**May 5**  
**CHRISTIAN** Ascension of the Lord  
The day in which Christians celebrate the ascension of Jesus into heaven

**May 20**  
**BUDDHIST** Vesak  
This day commemorates the birth, awakening, and passing away of the historical Buddha

**May 23**  
**BAHÁ’Í** Declaration of the Báb  
Bahai’s commemorate when the Bab announced his identity, heralding the new age

**May 26**  
**JEWISH** Lag B’Omer  
Jewish day of celebration during the Counting of the Omer

**May 29**  
**BAHÁ’Í** Ascension of Bahá’u’lláh  
The anniversary of the death of Bahá’u’lláh, founder of the faith

*Reflection is the lamp of the heart. If it departs, the heart will have no light.*

—‘ABD ALLAH IBN ‘ALAWI AL-HADDAD
### June 2016

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**Jun 6 – Jul 5**

**ISLAMIC Ramadan**

A monthlong holiday celebrated by Muslims through fasting, prayer, and reading of the Qu’ran

**Jun 11 – 13**

**JEWISH Shavuot**

Commemorates the Israelites receiving the Torah

**Jun 26**

**ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN All Saint’s Day**

Orthodox Christians celebrate and honor the saints

---

You are the sum total of everything you’ve ever seen, heard, eaten, smelled, been told, forgot—it’s all there. Everything influences each of us, and because of that I try to make sure that my experiences are positive.

—Maya Angelou
I’m for truth no matter who tells it.
I’m for justice no matter who it is
for or against. I’m a human being,
first and foremost, and as such I am
for whoever and whatever benefits
humanity as a whole.

—MALCOLM X.
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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 20

Christian
Christmas, Dec 25
Orthodox Christian Christmas, Jan 7
Ash Wednesday, Feb 10
Orthodox Christian Great Lent begins¹, Mar 14
Good Friday, Mar 25
Easter, Mar 27
Orthodox Christian Holy Friday, Apr 29
Orthodox Christian Pascha (Easter), May 1

Hindu
Navaratri, Oct 13–22
Dussehra, Oct 22
Diwali, Nov 11

Islam²
Eid-al-Adha, Sep 23–24

Jewish³
Rosh Hashanah, Sep 14–15
Yom Kippur, Sep 23
Sukkot, first two days, Sep 28–29
Shemini Atzeret, Oct 5
Simchat Torah, Oct 6
Hanukkah, Dec 7–14
Purim, Mar 24
Passover, first two days, Apr 23–24
Passover, last two days, Apr 29–30

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.

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Office of Spiritual and Religious Life

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