THE
Spiritual
and
Religious
Life
CALENDAR
2017–2018

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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Aug 14  HINDU  Krishna Janmashtami  
Annual celebration of the birth of the Hindu deity Krishna

Aug 15  CHRISTIAN  Assumption of Mary  
Commemorates the assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into heaven

Aug 24  HINDU  Ganesh Chaturthi  
This Hindu holiday celebrates the birth of Ganesh, God of Success

Aug 31  ISLAMIC  Day of Arafat  
The day on which Muslim Hajj pilgrims gather on Mt. Arafat in prayer

Your duty is to treat everybody with love as a manifestation of the Lord.  
—SWAMI SIVANANDA
### September 2017

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**Sep 1**  **ISLAMIC Eid-al-Adha**  
Muslims celebrate both Allah’s forgiveness and the end of the Hajj  

**Sep 20**  **HINDU Navaratri**  
A nine-day Hindu festival of the goddess of worship and dance  

**Sep 21**  **ISLAMIC Al-Hijra**  
Islamic New Year  

**Sep 21**  **JEWISH Rosh Hashanah*  
The Jewish new year begins and marks the beginning of a 10-day period of reflection  

**Sep 29**  **ISLAMIC Ashura**  
Marks the martyrdom of Husayn ibn Ali and the day that Moses fasted as gratitude for the Israelites’ liberation  

**Sep 30**  **HINDU Dussehra**  
The end of Navaratri  

**Sep 30**  **JEWISH Yom Kippur**  
Holiday beginning at sunset, in which Jews fast and ask for forgiveness  

* Jewish holy days begin at sunset the day before.

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*Let the beauty of what you love be what you do.*  
—RUMI
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 5</td>
<td>JEWISH Sukkot (first two days)</td>
<td>This Jewish harvest festival begins and lasts for seven days</td>
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<td>Oct 8</td>
<td>BUDDHIST Bodhidharma Memorial</td>
<td>Anniversary of the death of Bodhidharma</td>
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<td>Oct 11</td>
<td>JEWISH Shemini Atzeret</td>
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<td>Oct 13</td>
<td>JEWISH Simchat Torah</td>
<td>Jews conclude their annual reading of the Hebrew Bible, and begin again with Genesis</td>
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<td>Oct 19</td>
<td>HINDU Diwali</td>
<td>Hindus celebrate the success of good over evil and light over darkness</td>
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<td>Oct 19</td>
<td>SIKH Bandi Chhor Divas</td>
<td>Sikhs celebrate the release of the political prisoner Guru Hargobind Ji and 52 princes</td>
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<td>Oct 21</td>
<td>BAHÁ’Í Birth of the Báb</td>
<td>Bahá’í holiday celebrating the birth of one of the founders</td>
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<td>Oct 22</td>
<td>BAHÁ’Í Birth of Bahá’u’lláh</td>
<td>This holiday honors the birth of the religion’s founder and prophet</td>
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*Jewish holy days begin at sunset the day before.

There are no problems, only opportunities for growth.

—REBBETZIN DENAH WEINBERG
Nov 1  Christian All Saints Day
Day dedicated to honoring persons of faith who have died

Earth is so thick with divine possibility that it is a wonder we can walk anywhere without cracking our shins on altars.

—BARBARA BROWN TAYLOR
Dec 3  CHRISTIAN Advent
Marks the beginning of four weeks of preparation for the birth of Jesus

Dec 8  CHRISTIAN Feast of the Immaculate Conception
This Catholic feast day marks the conception of St. Anne with Mary, mother of Jesus

Dec 13  JEWISH Hanukkah
–20 During this eight-day festival of lights, Jews celebrate the power of God

Dec 25  CHRISTIAN Christmas
The birth of Jesus is celebrated by Christians

Dec 26  ZOROASTRIAN Death of Prophet Zarathustra
The anniversary of the death of Zarathustra, the founder of the Zarathushti faith

A dream is the bearer of a new possibility, the enlarged horizon, the great hope.
—HOWARD THURMAN
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 21  BAHÁ’Í World Religion Day
An extension of the Bahá’í focus on the unity of religions, races, and nations

Jan 22  HINDU Vasant Panchami
Festival dedicated to Saraswati, goddess of learning

A little bit of mercy makes the world less cold and more just.
—POPE FRANCIS
February 2018

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Feb 14 **CHRISTIAN Ash Wednesday**
The beginning of the Christian observance of Lent

Feb 14 **CHRISTIAN Lent**
The 40-day period (excluding Sundays) of prayer, repentance, and self-denial that precedes Easter for Christians

Feb 14 **HINDU Maha Shivaratri**
Festival celebrating Lord Shiva

Feb 15 **BUDDHIST Parinirvana Day**
Day commemorating Buddha’s death and entry into Nirvana

Feb 16 **BUDDHIST Losar**
Tibetan New Year festival

Feb 19 **CHRISTIAN ORTHODOX Great Lent begins**
The period of preparation leading up to Holy Week and Pascha

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*You must love in such a way that the person you love feels free.*

—THICH NHAT HANH
Mar 1  JEWISH  Purim
This festival celebrates the escape of the Jewish people from a death plot

Mar 2  HINDU  Hol(ka) Day
Hindus celebrate the spring festival of colors

Mar 2  SIKH  Hola Mohalla
Three-day festival marking the beginning of military preparedness; now celebrated with music and festivities

Mar 21  BAHÁ’I  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

Mar 25  HINDU  Ram Navami
Hindus celebrate the birth of Rama

Mar 25  CHRISTIAN  Palm Sunday
The final Sunday of Lent and beginning of Holy Week that commemorates the triumphant arrival of Christ in Jerusalem

Mar 30  CHRISTIAN (ALL)  Good/Holy Friday
Christians mark the crucifixion and death of Jesus

Mar 30  –Apr 1  JEWISH  Passover (first two days)
This holiday celebrates the Jews’ escape from an Egyptian pharaoh

Where can we go to find God if we cannot see Him in our own hearts and in every living being?

—SWAMI VIVEKANANDA
CHRISTIAN Easter
Christians celebrate the resurrection of Jesus

JEWISH Passover (last two days)
Celebrates the Jews’ escape from an Egyptian pharaoh

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN Pascha (Easter)

SIKH Vaisakhi
Anniversary of the birth of the Khalsa

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

BAHÁ’Í Ninth Day of Ridván

Each person must live their life as a model for others.

—ROSA PARKS
May 2  BAHÁ’Í Twelfth Day of Ridván
May 3  JEWISH Lag B’Omer
Jewish day of celebration during the Counting of the Omer
May 10  CHRISTIAN Ascension of the Lord
The day in which Christians celebrate the ascension of Jesus into heaven
May 15  ISLAMIC Ramadan
–Jun 14 A monthlong holiday celebrated by Muslims through fasting, prayer, and reading of the Qu’ran
May 20  CHRISTIAN Pentacost
An observance 50 days after Easter commemorating the descent of the Holy Spirit upon Jesus’s disciples
May 20  JEWISH Shavuot
–21 Commemorates the Israelites receiving the Torah
May 23  BAHÁ’Í Declaration of the Báb
Bahá’í commemorate when the Bab announced his identity, heralding the new age
May 29  BAHÁ’Í Ascension of Bahá’u’lláh
The anniversary of the death of Bahá’u’lláh, founder of the faith
May 29  BUDDHIST Vesak
This day commemorates the birth, awakening, and passing away of the historical Buddha

Remember that the most precious thing you own in this world is your heart. So don’t let anything taint your heart.
— IMAM ABU HAMID AL-GHAZALI
May 15

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

Jun 2

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN All Saint’s Day
Orthodox Christians celebrate and honor the saints

Jun 14

ISLAMIC Eid-al-Fitr
Marks the end of the fasting month of Ramadan

My religion is very simple. My religion is kindness.
—THE 14TH DALAI LAMA
The Martyrdom memorializes the death of the Báb.

Peacemaking is a full-time vocation that includes each member of God’s people.

—HENRI NOUWEN
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Religious Holidays
2017–2018

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 21
Birth of Bahá’u’lláh, Oct 22
First Day of Ridván, Apr 20

Christian
Christmas, Dec 25
Orthodox Christian Christmas, Jan 7
Ash Wednesday, Feb 14
Orthodox Christian Great Lent begins1, Feb 19
Good Friday/Holy Friday, Mar 30
Easter, Apr 1
Orthodox Christian Pascha (Easter), Apr 8

Hindu
Navaratri, Sep 20–28
Dussehra, Sep 30
Diwali, Oct 19

Islam2
Eid-al-Adha, Sep 1–5

Jewish3
Rosh Hashanah, Sep 21–22
Yom Kippur, Sep 30
Sukkot, first two days, Oct 5–6
Shemini Atzeret, Oct 11
Simchat Torah, Oct 13
Hanukkah, Dec 13–20
Purim, Mar 1
Passover, first two days, Mar 30–Apr 1
Passover, last two days, Apr 6–7

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 holy days begin at sunset on the evening before the date given.
Most of the 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.
We may have different religions, different languages, different colored skin, but we all belong to one human race.

—KOFI ANNAN