# 2025 Friends' Calendar

### TRACT ASSOCIATION OF FRIENDS 1501 Cherry Street Philadelphia, PA 19102-1403 www.tractassociation.org info@tractassociation.org

The Lord opened me, that I saw through all these troubles and temptations. My living faith was raised, that I saw all was done by Christ the life, and my belief was in him. When at any time my condition was veiled, my secret belief was staid firm, and hope underneath held me, as an anchor in the bottom of the sea, and anchored my immortal soul to its bishop, causing it to swim above the sea, the world, where all the raging waves, foul weather, tempests, and temptations are.

George Fox, 1624-1691

This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, a hope both sure and reliable and one which enters within the veil, where Jesus has entered as a forerunner for us, having become a high priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.

Hebrews 6:19-20



Quotations for the 2025 Friends Calendar are taken from Scripture (the New American Standard Bible, unless otherwise noted) and from the writings of Friends (Quakers) or those writings Friends might do well to consider. Scripture quotations can be found at www.biblegateway.com. We hope these citations will lead to further reflection and study, with consideration of spiritual and historic context.

Moon phases are set to the time in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Cover: George Fox (1624-1691), Journal, 1647. Ed. Nickalls, 1831 edition. Vol.1, p.76.

First Month: Arthur Berk (1927-2020), *Reflections on the Beatitudes*. Crossroads Friends [Worship group] Publication. Arthur's reflection originally appeared on Crossroads' website. This one is from 04-04-2007.

Second Month: William P. Taber, Jr. (1927-2005), *The Prophetic Stream*. Pendle Hill Pamphlet 256. Wallingford: Pendle Hill, 1984, p. 60.

Third Month: George Whitehead (1636-1723). The Christian Progress of George Whitehead in The Friends Library, vol VIII. William and Thomas Evans, eds. Joseph Rakestraw: Philadelphia, 1844, p. 231.

Fourth Month: Margaret Fell (1614-1702), Letter "To Friends, Brethren and Sisters," 4<sup>th</sup> Month 1700, in *Undaunted Zeal: the Letters of Margaret Fell*, ed. Elsa F. Glines. Friends United Press: Richmond, Ind., 2003, p. 469.

Fifth Month: John Butcher (n.d.), "The End of Our Preaching to you," 1693, in *The Concurrence and Unanimity of the People Called Quakers*. Andrew Sowle: London, 1694. Republished by Foundation Publications: Camp Hill, Pa., 2010, p. 213.

Sixth Month: Charles P. Morlan (1871-1964), "Living A-top the World," Ohio Yearly Representative Meeting, 1954, p. 9.

Seventh Month: Sarah Tuke Grubb (1756-1790), , Strength in Weakness: Writings by Eighteenth-Century Quaker Women. AltaMira Press, 2003, 100.

Eighth Month: L. Hugh Doncaster (1914-n.d.), 1963, in *Quaker Life and Practice of Ireland Yearly Meeting*, 2012, 1.94.

Ninth Month: Joan Vokins (n.d.-1690), 1687. University of Michigan Library Digital Collections. Early English Books Online 2. <u>https://quod.lib.umich.edu/e/eebo2/A96016.0001.001?rgn=main;view=fulltext</u>

Tenth Month: Ruth Alcock Follows (1718-1808), in ed. Gil Skidmore, *Strength in Weakness: Writings by Eighteenth-Century Quaker Women*. AltaMira Press, 2003, p. 53.

Eleventh Month: Ann Crowley (1765-1826), in ed. Gil Skidmore, *Strength in Weakness: Writings by Eighteenth-Century Quaker Women*. AltaMira Press, 2003, p. 146.

Twelfth Month: Elise Boulding (1920-2010), One Small Plot of Heaven. Wallingford, Pa.: Pendle Hill, 1989, p. 104.

# 2025 Friends' Calendar First Month

#### Twelfth Month

I	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	II	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

In this beatitude, our Lord and everlasting savior has reminded us that we are a blessed people when we are willing to accept punishment for obeying God. In those moments we experience the Kingdom in Christ's magnificent light and grace that bring much joy [to] our hearts.

#### Second Month

	I	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	II	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
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Arthur Berk, 2007

First Day	Second Day	Third Day	Fourth Day	Fifth Day	Sixth Day	Seventh Day
the sake of right kingdom of hea people insult yo	Blessed are those who have been persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when people insult you and persecute you, and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of Me. Matthew 5:10-11		1	2	3	4
5	<u>6</u>	7	8	9	10	11
12	13 °	14	15	16	17	18
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# 2025 Friends' Calendar Second Month

#### First Month

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Fox and early Friends accepted the outward work of Christ, but they insisted that it is [the] inward work which transforms us and guides us into new ways of ethical behavior, new ways of service, and new ways of fellowship. 
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William P. Taber, 1984

First Day	Second Day	Third Day	Fourth Day	Fifth Day	Sixth Day	Seventh Day		
Therefore if anyone is in Christ, this person is a new creation; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come. 2 Corinthians 5:17								
2	3	4	<b>5</b>	6	7	8		
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22		
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## 2025 Friends' Calendar Third Month

#### Second Month 1

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Thus keeping silence before the Lord, and drawing near to him in a true silent frame of spirit, to hear first what the Lord speaks to us, before we speak to others, whether it be of judgment or mercy, is the way for renewing our strength, and to be his ministers, to speak to others only what he first speaks to us. George Whitehead, 1636-1723

#### Fourth Month

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First Day	Second Day	Third Day	Fourth Day	Fifth Day	Sixth Day	Seventh Day
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9	10	11	12	13	• <b>14</b>	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 30	24 31	25	26	27	28	29 •

# 2025 Friends' Calendar Fourth Month

# THIRD MONTH I 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29

30 31

Let us all beware of limiting the holy one of Israel, of tampering with anything contrary to this holy spirit, for the grace of God is sufficient to teach us, to deny all ungodliness & unrighteousness. . . . And let us beware of meddling with the things of God, otherwise than his spirit leads and guides. FIFTH MONTH

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18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Margaret Fel	ll, 1700
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27	28	29	30	Yes, again and a limited the Holy	gain they tempto One of Israel.	ed God, and
					Psalm 78:	41, NKJV

# 2025 Friends' Calendar Fifth Month

#### Fourth Month

		I	2	3	4	5	
6	7	8	9	10	II	12	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
27	28	29	30				

My friends, walk in the light more and more, that by the spirit of the Lord, you may become acquainted with the divine operation of the power of Christ, which will bring you from under the bondage of sin and corruption, into the glorious liberty of the children of God. Wait to know this power in your hearts. John Butcher, 1693 Sixth Month

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8	9	IO	II	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	2I
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

First Day	Second Day	Third Day	Fourth Day	Fifth Day	Sixth Day	Seventh Day
[T]he creation itself also will be set free from its slavery to corruption into the freedom of the glory of the children of God. Romans 8:21				1	2	3
<b>4</b>	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	°	13	14	15	16	17
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## 2025 Friends' Calendar Sixth Month

#### Fifth Month

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The power of God can work in us, change us into new persons and send us out to demonstrate our hopes in unseen powers by the way we live and talk and associate with our fellows.

Charles P. Morlan, 1954

#### Seventh Month

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6	7	8	9	IO	II	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

First Day	Second Day	Third Day	Fourth Day	Fifth Day	Sixth Day	Seventh Day
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8	9	10	<b>11</b> ∘	12	13	14
15	16	17	J. 18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 •	26	27	28
29	30	Your light must shine before people in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven. Matthew 5:16				

## 2025 Friends' Calendar Seventh Month

#### Sixth Month

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If children are to be instructed in the ground work of true religion, ought they not to discover in those placed above them, a lively example thereof? Eighth Month 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

Sarah Tuke Grubb, 1756-1790

First Day	Second Day	Third Day	Fourth Day	Fifth Day	Sixth Day	Seventh Day
But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him. James 1:5		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	°	12
13	14	15	16	» 17	18	19
20	21	22	23	• 24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	Above everything else, those who have the care of children should set a good example To be enabled to accomplish this, they should seek Divine aid. Tract Association, n.d.	

# 2025 Friends' Calendar Eighth Month

#### Seventh Month

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The Bible is a rich treasury of such experiences and insight, and is supremely important as the source of our knowledge of Jesus Christ. It is therefore unthinkable for Quakerism to be divorced from the Bible. In fact, because of the danger of individualism, Friends need biblical knowledge even more than do other Christians.

#### Ninth Month

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7	8	9	10	II	12	13
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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

L. Hugh Doncaster, 1963

L. Hugh Doneaster, 1965							
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## 2025 Friends' Calendar Ninth Month

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Oh! let all that want it, hearken unto the true Shepherd of the little Flock, for whom the Kingdom is prepared, who encourages them, and bids them fear not though the wolfish Destroyer is nigh unto them; yet he is the Overseer, and in all trials and exercises he is their Preservation.

Joan Vokins, 1687

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First Day	Second Day	Third Day	Fourth Day	Fifth Day	Sixth Day	Seventh Day	
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<b>14</b>	15	16	17	18	19	20	
• 21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
28	29	30	Do not be afraid, little flock, because your Father has chosen to give you the kingdom. Luke 12:32				

# 2025 Friends' Calendar Tenth Month

#### Ninth Month

I am sensible that these stripping seasons have been very teaching to me: and when we look like fools to those who are foolish indeed, it is at such times magnificent light and grace that bring much joy [to] our hearts. We learn true wisdom; for in true silence we have the best teaching, even the Lord himself is our instructor. Elevente Nonte 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30

Ruth Alcock Follows, 1718-1808

First Day	Second Day	Third Day	Fourth Day	Fifth Day	Sixth Day	Seventh Day
The LORD is good to those who await Him, To the person who seeks Him. It is good that he waits silently For the salvation of the LORD. Lamentations 3:25-26		1	2	3	4	
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
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# 2025 Friends' Calendar Eleventh Month

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Though this was a season of severe trial, yet upon serious retrospect, I can enroll it among those afflictions which have proved to me to be blessings in disguise.... My soul can now, in tracing the wonderful dealings of an all-wise Providence, lean upon the staff of faith.

Twelfth Month

	I	2	3	4	5	6
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Ann Crowley, 1765-1826

First Day	Second Day	Third Day	Fourth Day	Fifth Day	Sixth Day	Seventh Day	
And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose. Romans 8:28							
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## 2025 Friends' Calendar Twelfth Month

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If we accept the act of worship as having central significance in our lives, a weekly experience of corporate worship is not enough.... Those who consider worship important enough to make a specific plan for it are most apt to succeed in having a daily period of inward retirement.

Elise Boulding, 1989

#### First Month

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28	29	30	31	Therefore we do not lose heart, but though our		
				outer person is decaying, yet our inner person is being renewed day by day.		
				2 Corinthians 4:16		

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First Month	Second Month	Third Month	Fourth Month
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Fifth Month	Sixth Month	Seventh Month	Еіднтн Молтн
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Ninth Month	Tenth Month	Eleventh Month	Twelfth Month
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First Month I 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

FIFTH MONTH I 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

Ninth Month							
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#### Tenth Month

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# THIRD MONTH 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

#### Seventh Month

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#### Eleventh Month

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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

#### Eighth Month

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#### Twelfth Month

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### Names of the Months and of the Days of the Week

From the practice of the Jews before the Babylonian Captivity, it seems probable that at first the months were simply numbered, not named. This is a clear and rational procedure and is found in the early Scriptures, so the Society of Friends felt called upon to use the Scriptural names of the days of the week and of the months instead of those names which are in common use and which are, for the most part, derived from the names of pagan gods.

Other religions (Christians, Jews and Muslims) as well as Friends have similar views on this subject. Richard Baxter, the English non-conformist of the Seventeenth Century, said: "It were to be wished that the custom were changed of using the names of week-days which idolators honored their idols with – as Saturday, Monday, and the rest. So for the months."

Friends did not object to the names "September," "October," "November," and "December," but objected to their use since the months they name are no longer the seventh, eighth, ninth, and tenth months.

January was named for Janus, an old Roman god.

February was named from the *Februa*, the expiatory ceremonies which the Romans held in honor of their dead in this month.

March was named for the Roman god Mars, who, at the time of the naming of the month, was primarily a god of agriculture, the symbol of spring-time and youth. It was only after the artificial identification of Roman gods with Greek gods that Mars became the god of war, the counterpart of Ares.

April is derived from the same root as the Latin *aperire*, which means "to open". Thus April is the month of opening buds and flowers.

May is of uncertain origin, perhaps from the Roman goddess Maia, or from maiores (the older).

June may have been named for the Roman goddess Juno, or from *iuniores* (the younger).

July, originally Quinctilis, was renamed for Julius Caesar, who was born in that month.

August, originally Sextilis, was chosen by the Roman emperor Augustus to be renamed in his honor because of the many fortunate events in his life that had occurred in that month.

The practice of naming the days of the week is derived from Egyptian astronomy. It did not become firmly established in our civilization until the time of Theodosius at the end of the Fourth Century C.E. Curiously enough, it was the Roman custom of lettering the successive days of a *nundinum* (a period of eight days, in addition to the current day) which gave rise to the modern custom in some Christian groups whereby the dominical letter is determined. The days of the week are lettered from A to G, just as the Romans lettered the days of a *nundinum* from A to H.

According to the Egyptian astronomers the sun and moon were planets and the order of the planets in terms of their distance from the earth was as follows: Saturn, Jupiter, Mars, sun, Venus, Mercury, moon. One hour of each day, beginning with the first, was consecrated to each of these "planets". The whole day was consecrated to the planet to which belonged the first hour. If the first day be consecrated to the sun, to which belongs the first hour, then the first hour of the next day will belong to the moon and the day will be the moon's day (Monday) and so on. After the cycle has been completed, the first hour of the eighth day will belong to the sun again, and it will again be the sun's day (Sunday).

Our names of the days of the week are derived from Anglo-Saxon names and these in turn are named for the Saxon gods who approximate to the Roman gods for whom the days were named. The Roman names have survived, to an extent, in Spanish, French, Italian and other languages derived from or greatly influenced by Latin.

The day of Mars was called the day of Tiw, the god of war (Tuesday).

The day of Mercury was called the day of Woden, chief of the gods, whose attributes corresponded more nearly to those of the Roman Mercury than to those of Jupiter, chief of the Roman gods (Wednesday).

The day of Jupiter, who was believed to hurl thunderbolts, was called the day of Thor, the god of thunder (Thursday).

The day of Venus was called the day of Frigg, queen of the gods, who was sometimes confused or identified with Freyia the goddess of love (Friday).

The seventh day was still called the day of Saturn, the sower of seed (Saturday).

No doubt most Christians unthinkingly use these names, or else they use them merely in conformity to the general custom. Although general custom can, in the long run, determine the correctness of language and vocabulary, it cannot pass upon right and wrong. And so, some Christians still feel that the use of these names for months and days, derived as they are from non-Christian sources, is inconsistent with the tenets of the Christian faith.