2026
Friends' Calendar

TRACT ASSOCIATION OF FRIENDS
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We do earnestly desire and wait, that, by the Word of God's power, and its effectual operation in the hearts of men . . . that thereby all people, out of every profession, may be brought into love and unity with God, and one with another; and that they may all come to witness the prophet's words, who said, 'Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.'

George Fox, 1624-1691

And He will judge between the nations,
And will mediate for many peoples;
And they will beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into
pruning knives.
Nation will not lift up a sword against nation,
And never again will they learn war.

Isaiah 2:4

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 historical context.

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

Cover: George Fox (1624-1691), and others, "A Declaration from the Harmless and Innocent People of God, called Quakers, against all sedition, plotters, and fighters in the world," 1660. http://www.qhpress.org/quakerpages/qwhp/dec1660.htm

First Month: George Whitehead (1636-1723), *The Christian Progress of George Whitehead*, in William and Thomas Evans, eds., *The Friends Library,* Vol. VIII. Philadelphia, 1844, 230. The original text was published in 1725.

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

Third Month: Virginia Schurman (1941-2020), "Prayer." Tract Association of Friends. Philadelphia, 1994. Reprinted 1998.

Fourth Month: Henry Tuke (1755-1814), "Obedience and patience," Tract Association of Friends, date unknown. From *The Works of Henry Tuke to which is prefixed, a biographical sketch of the author, by Lindley Murray, Volume 4*. York, England, 1815, p.77-78.

Fifth Month: *The Book of Discipline of Ohio Yearly Meeting*, 2022. Advice #22, 33.

Sixth Month: Margaret Fell (1614-1702), Letter 77, "To Brethren and Sisters," 1658, in *Undaunted Zeal: The Letters of Margaret Fell*. Ed. Elsa Glines. Richmond, Ind.: Friends United Press, 2003, 259. Modern spelling was used for the purposes of the calendar.

Seventh Month: William Penn (1644-1718), *Some Fruits of Solitude*. Scottdale, Pa.: Herald Press, 2003, 105. This was originally published in 1693.

Eighth Month: Isaac Penington (1616-1679), "Some Directions to the Panting Soul," 1661. From *The Works of the Long Mournful and Sorely Distressed Isaac Penington*, vol. 1. London: Benjamin Clark , 1681, 345. Online text from Quaker Heritage Press. http://www.qhpress.org/texts/penington/panting.html

Ninth Month: Paul Cuffe (1759-1817), undated letter. In Harold D. Weaver, Paul Kriese, and Stephen Angell, eds., *Black Fire: African American Quakers on Spirituality and Human Rights*. Philadelphia: Friends General Conference Press, 2011, 16-17. Spelling and punctuation have been updated for the purpose of the calendar.

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

Eleventh Month: Frances Irene Taber (b. 1930) in ed. Catherine Whitmire, *Plain Living: A Quaker Path to Simplicity*. Notre Dame, Ind: Sorin Books, 2001, 21.

Twelfth Month: Arthur Berk (1927-2020), *Reflections on the Beatitudes*. Crossroads Friends [Worship group] Publication, n.d. Arthur's reflection originally appeared at michiganquakers.org, 07-12-2007.

2026 Friends' Calendar
First Month

Twelfth 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			

I knew a real necessity of the work of sanctification, inward cleansing from sin, and being born again. That is the new birth that is born from above, which is only entitled to the kingdom of Christ and God. . . . In waiting upon God, and sincerely seeking after him with my mind inwardly retired, and my soul desiring and breathing after his name and power, he was graciously pleased often to renew his merciful visitations to my poor soul. George Whitehead, 1636-1723

Second Month

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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22	23	24	25	26	27	28

First Day	Second Day	Third Day	Fourth Day	Fifth Day	Sixth Day	Seventh Day
That which has been born of the flesh is flesh, and that which has been born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be amazed that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it is coming from and where it is going; so is everyone who has been born of the Spirit." John 3:6-8				1	2	○ 3
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2026 Friends' Calendar
Second Month

First Month

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18	19	20	21	22	23	24
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Building a home that is a center for spiritual nourishment for our families and all others who enter it is not easy in our day, living as we do under all kinds of pressure. Yet homes that can provide the bread of heaven as well as earthly bread may be our salvation.

Elise Boulding, 1989

Third Month

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First Day	Second Day	Third Day	Fourth Day	Fifth Day	Sixth Day	Seventh Day
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Then they said to Him, "Lord, give us this bread always."

And Jesus said to them,"I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst."

John 6:34-35

2025 Friends' Calendar
Third Month

Second Month

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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Just as prayer was central to the life of the early church, it is central to Friends today. Prayer has many facets—love, adoration, thanksgiving, surrender, confession, transformation, guidance, supplication, intercession, cleansing, purification, healing, forgiveness, praise, and the quiet joy of being in the presence of God. Prayer is daily communion with God, in which we come to know Jesus as Friend, Teacher, and Lord. Virginia Schurman, 1994

Fourth Month

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First Day	Second Day	Third Day	Fourth Day	Fifth Day	Sixth Day	Seventh Day
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29	30	31	But the news about Him was spreading even farther, and large crowds were gathering to hear Him and to be healed of their sicknesses. But Jesus Himself would often slip away to the wilderness and pray. Luke 5:15-16			

2026 Friends' Calendar
Fourth Month

Third Month

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Obedience and patience, or to do and suffer the whole will of God, may be said to comprehend the whole of these duties which religion and virtue require. Patience, therefore, holds an important place among the duties of a Christian.

Henry Tuke, 1755-1814

Fifth Month

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First Day	Second Day	Third Day	Fourth Day	Fifth Day	Sixth Day	Seventh Day
My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience.			1	○ 2	3	4
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12	13	14	15	16	● 17	18
19	20	21	22	☾ 23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing. James 1:2-4, KJV	

2026 Friends' Calendar
Fifth Month

Fourth Month

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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
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We would urge Friends, when away from home, to attend a meeting for worship, if such is within reach. Such attendance may well strengthen the meeting, and may bring Friends who were hitherto strangers into fellowship with one another.

Ohio Yearly Meeting's *Book of Discipline*, 2022

Sixth Month

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First Day	Second Day	Third Day	Fourth Day	Fifth Day	Sixth Day	Seventh Day
Let's not become discouraged in doing good, for in due time we will reap, if we do not become weary. So then, while we have opportunity, let's do good to all people, and especially to those who are of the household of the faith. Galatians 6:9-10					○ 1	2
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2026 Friends' Calendar
Sixth Month

Fifth Month

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The word is very nigh in your hearts . . . Friends, cleave to this word, keep close to it . . . this is not a dead word, this is quick and powerful, and a living word . . . by this word you stand and are preserved in time of trial and temptations.

Margaret Fell, 1658

Seventh Month

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First Day	Second Day	Third Day	Fourth Day	Fifth Day	Sixth Day	Seventh Day
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● 14	15	16	17	18	19	20
☾ 21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	○ 29	30	For the word of God is living and active, and sharper than any two-edged sword, even penetrating as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. Hebrews 4:12			

2026 Friends' Calendar
Seventh Month

Sixth Month

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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
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Christ was holy, humble, harmless, meek, merciful, and the like when among us, to teach us what we should be when he was gone. And yet, he is among us still, and in us too, a living and perpetual preacher of the same grace, by his spirit in our consciences.

William Penn, 1693

Eighth Month

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30	31					

First Day	Second Day	Third Day	Fourth Day	Fifth Day	Sixth Day	Seventh Day
But the Helper, the Holy Spirit whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and remind you of all that I said to you. John 14:26			1	2	3	4
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12	13	● 14	15	16	17	18
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2026 Friends' Calendar
Eighth Month

Seventh Month

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26	27	28	29	30	31	

Sink down to the seed which God sows in the heart, and let that grow in thee, and be in thee, and breathe in thee, and act in thee, and thou shalt find by sweet experience that the Lord knows that, and loves and owns that, and will lead it to the inheritance of life, which is his portion. And as thou takest up the cross to thyself, and sufferest that to overspread and become a yoke over thee, thou shalt become renewed, and enjoy life, and the everlasting inheritance in that.

Isaac Penington, 1661

Ninth Month

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27	28	29	30			

First Day	Second Day	Third Day	Fourth Day	Fifth Day	Sixth Day	Seventh Day
Then Jesus said to His disciples,"If anyone wants to come after Me, he must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow Me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it; but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. For what good will it do a person if he gains the whole world, but forfeits his soul?" Matthew 16:24-25						1
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9	10	11	● 12	13	14	15
16	17	18	☾ 19	20	21	22
23 / ☾ 30	24 / 31	25	26	27	○ 28	29

2026 Friends' Calendar
Ninth Month

Eighth Month

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Come my African brethren and fellow countrymen[,] let us walk in the light of the Lord[,] this pure light which bringeth salvation into the world hath appeared to all men to profit withal. I would recommend to the saints[,] elders and all sober people in the colony of Sierra Leone to unite together and adopt the mode of meeting together once a month and at this meeting converse with each other for your mutual good, but above all things, let your meeting be owned of the Lord.

Paul Cuffe, 1759-1817

Tenth Month

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First Day	Second Day	Third Day	Fourth Day	Fifth Day	Sixth Day	Seventh Day
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13	14	15	16	17	☾ 18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	○ 26
27	28	29	30	For where two or three have gathered together in My name, I am there in their midst. Matthew 18:20		

2026 Friends' Calendar
Tenth Month

Ninth Month

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6	7	8	9	10	11	12
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O that we, as a people beloved to God, were but truly obedient to his law; then we should be far from being weary of true silence but should rejoice to be favoured with it; for when are minds are thus gathered to God, in pure stillness and nothingness of self, the tempter hath no place, he hates quietude, and I am glad I have been helped to starve that restless spirit, and been made an example of silence.

Ruth Alcock Follows, 1763

Eleventh Month

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29	30					

First Day	Second Day	Third Day	Fourth Day	Fifth Day	Sixth Day	Seventh Day
For thus the Lord God, the Holy One of Israel, has said, "In repentance and rest you will be saved, In quietness and trust is your strength." Isaiah 30:15				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

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2026 Friends' Calendar
Eleventh Month

Tenth Month

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It may surprise some of us to hear the first generation of Friends did not have a testimony for simplicity. They came upon a faith which cut to the root of the way they saw life, radically reorienting it....They stripped away anything which seemed to get in the way. They called those things superfluities, and it is this radical process of stripping for clear-seeing which we now term simplicity.

Frances Taber, 1985

Twelfth Month

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First Day	Second Day	Third Day	Fourth Day	Fifth Day	Sixth Day	Seventh Day
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8	● 9	10	11	12	13	14
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29	30	But godliness actually is a means of great gain when accompanied by contentment. For we have brought nothing into the world, so we cannot take anything out of it either. 1 Timothy 6:6-7				

2026 Friends' Calendar
Twelfth Month

Eleventh Month

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The meek are cognizant of their limitations and accept their dependency on God's grace and display their willingness to seek Jesus' guidance. May we welcome our meekness.

Arthur Berk, 2007

First Month

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First Day	Second Day	Third Day	Fourth Day	Fifth Day	Sixth Day	Seventh Day
Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth. Matthew 5:5, KJV		☽ 1	2	3	4	5
6	7	● 8	9	10	11	12
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27	28	29	☽ 30	31	But the meek shall inherit the earth; and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace. Psalm 37:11, KJV	

2026

First Month

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Second Month

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Third Month

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Fourth Month

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Fifth Month

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Sixth Month

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Seventh Month

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Eighth Month

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Ninth Month

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Tenth Month

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Eleventh Month

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Twelfth Month

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2027

First Month

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Second Month

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Third Month

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Fifth Month

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9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Sixth 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			

Seventh 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

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				

Ninth 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		

Tenth 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						

Eleventh 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				

Twelfth 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	

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.

Published by the Tract Association of Friends, 1501 Cherry Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19102-1403
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