2027
Friends' Calendar

TRACT ASSOCIATION OF FRIENDS
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The first that enters into the place of our meeting ... turn in thy mind to the light, and wait upon God singly, as if none were present but the Lord; and here thou art strong. Then the next that comes in, let them in simplicity of heart sit down and turn in to the same light, and wait in the spirit; and so all the rest coming in, in the fear of the Lord, sit down in pure stillness and silence of all flesh, and wait in the light. Those who are brought to a pure, still waiting upon God in the Spirit are come nearer to the Lord than words are. In such a meeting, where the presence and power of God is felt, there will be an unwillingness to part asunder, being ready to say in yourselves, it is good to be here. And this is the end of all words and writings, to bring people to the eternal living word.

Alexander Parker, 1660

On the contrary, the word is very near you, in your mouth and in your heart, that you may follow it.

Deuteronomy 30:14

Quotations for the 2027 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: Alexander Parker (1628-1689). This quotation is from a 1660 letter. The quotation appears at "Inward Light: an online library about Quakerism." https://inwardlight.org/faith/worship/alexander-parker-advice-on-entering-worship/

First Month: James Park (1636-1696), "Did We Ever Know God Aright Till We Received Him And Knew Him To Be In Us?," in *The Concurrence and Unanimity of the People Called Quakers, as As Evidenced by Some of their Sermons*. London: Andrew Sowle, 1694. Republished by eds. Patrick Burns and T.H.S. Wallace. Camp Hill, Pa.: Foundation Publications, 2010, page 242. The message was given 4th Month 19, 1694, at Ratcliff, which is in today's greater London.

Second Month: Theophila Ṫownsend (1656-1692), "An Epistle of Love to Friends in the Women's Meetings in London," 1686, in eds. Mary Garman, Judith Applegate, Margaret Benefiel, and Dortha Meredith, *Hidden in Plain Sight: Quaker women's writings 1650-1700*. Wallingford, Pa.: Pendle Hill Publications, 1996, page 522.

Third Month: Mary Waite, "A Warning to all Friends who professeth the everlasting truth of God," in eds. Mary Garman, Judith Applegate, Margaret Benefiel, and Dortha Meredith, *Hidden in Plain Sight: Quaker women's writings 1650-1700*. Wallingford, Pa.: Pendle Hill Publications, 1996, page 487.

Fourth Month: Gladys Kang'ahi (1947-2021), "Practical Discipleship," in eds. Margery Post Abbott and Peggy Senger Parsons, *Walk Worthy of Your Calling: Quakers and the Traveling Ministry*. Richmond, Ind.: Friends United Press, 2004, page 5.

Fifth Month: Ramon A. Gonzalez Longoria Escalonia (d. 2020), "Instruments of Peace and Love in the Hands of God," in eds. Margery Post Abbott and Peggy Senger Parsons, *Walk Worthy of Your Calling: Quakers and the Traveling Ministry*. Richmond, Ind.: Friends United Press, 2004, page 245.

Sixth Month: Thomas R. Kelly (1893-1941), *A Testament of Devotion*. New York: Harper and Brothers, 1941, page 38.

Seventh Month: Florence Kimball, "In the Name of Jesus," Lewis Benson Memorial Lecture, 6th Month 18, 1994, in ed. Arthur Berk, *Sound, Sound Abroad, You Faithful Servants*. Camp Hill, Pa.: New Foundation Publication, 1999, page 48.

Eighth Month: John Burnyeat (ca. 1630-1690), *The Truth Exalted in the Writings of that Eminent and Faithful Servant of Christ, John Burnyeat*. London: Thomas Northcott, 1691, pages 16-17.

Ninth Month: Elizabeth Webb (1663-1726), "A Short Memorial of the Dealings of God with me in the days of my Youth," in eds. Rachel Cope and Zachary McLeod Hutchins, *The Writings of Elizabeth Webb*. University Park, Pa.: Pennsylvania State University Press, 2019, pages 202-203.

Tenth Month: "On Worship," Tract Association of Friends. Philadelphia, 1886, pages 5-6.

Eleventh Month: *Traditional Quaker Christianity*, eds. Terry H. Wallace, Susan S. Smith, John C. Smith, andArthur Berk. Barnesville, Ohio: Ohio Yearly Meeting, 2014, 166.

Twelfth Month: George Amoss Jr., "A Quaker's Christmas Reflection," 12-24-2017. https://postmodernquaker.wordpress.com/2017/12/24/a-quakers-christmas-reflection

2027 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
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27	28	29	30	31		

Friends, happy are you, if the Lord shall be pleased to try your faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, and to try your love and your patience. Verily, I say unto you in the name of the Lord, we have all need of it in our spiritual travel and progress, and heavenly journey.

James Park, 1694

Second Month

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First Day	Second Day	Third Day	Fourth Day	Fifth Day	Sixth Day	Seventh Day
Consider it all joy, my brothers and sisters, when you encounter various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. And let endurance have its perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing. James 1:3-4					1	2
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2027 Friends' Calendar
Second Month

First Month

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[God] will give you wisdom and strength, as you wait upon him; therefore be encouraged in the blessed work of the Lord, unto which you are called, and be bold and valiant for the truth, to withstand all the false pretenders to love and unity, and are in a dividing spirit, and secretly endeavouring, to disturb the Church[']s peace.

Theophila Townsend, 1686

Third Month

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First Day	Second Day	Third Day	Fourth Day	Fifth Day	Sixth Day	Seventh Day
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Therefore I, the prisoner of the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, being diligent to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Ephesians 4:1-3

2027 Friends' Calendar
Third Month

Second Month

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For every one that will be a disciple of Christ Jesus, must come into the self-denying life (you cannot have two kingdoms). So my advice to you all is, stoop to Christ's appearance in you, he who invites all to come and learn of him, who is meek and lowly and you shall find rest to your souls.

Mary Waite, 1679

Fourth Month

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First Day	Second Day	Third Day	Fourth Day	Fifth Day	Sixth Day	Seventh Day
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28	☽ 29	30	31	Come to Me, all who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Matthew 11:28		

2027 Friends' Calendar
Fourth Month

Third Month

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When you hear the voice calling out for service in the ministry, you need to stop and check thoroughly, and be sure you are the one being called, and that it is really God calling you to serve. Examine yourself to be sure you are ready for God's service. . . . Do you have the wisdom to repent of all the things that might obstruct your service? Do you have the heart to forgive even the unforgivable?

Gladys Kang'ahi, 2004

Fifth Month

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First Day	Second Day	Third Day	Fourth Day	Fifth Day	Sixth Day	Seventh Day
Then I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?" Then I said, "Here am I. Send me!" Isaiah 6:8				1	2	3
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2027 Friends' Calendar
Fifth Month

Fourth Month

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When I travel in the ministry, prayer becomes an absolute necessity, because intimate communion with the Holy Spirit is required to give His message. If we aren't in dialogue with Him, how will we know what message He wants us to give?

Ramon A. Gonzalez Longoria Escalonia, 2004

Sixth Month

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First Day	Second Day	Third Day	Fourth Day	Fifth Day	Sixth Day	Seventh Day
After He had sent the crowds away, He went up on the mountain by Himself to pray; and when it was evening, He was there alone. Matthew 14:23 But Jesus Himself would often slip away to the wilderness and pray. Luke 5:16						1
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2027 Friends' Calendar
Sixth Month

Fifth Month

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How, then, shall we lay hold of that Life and Power, and live the life of prayer without ceasing? By quiet, persistent practice in turning of all our being, day and night, in prayer and inward worship and surrender, toward Him who calls in the deeps of our souls.

Thomas R. Kelly, 1941

Seventh Month

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First Day	Second Day	Third Day	Fourth Day	Fifth Day	Sixth Day	Seventh Day
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27	28	29	30	Rejoice always; pray without ceasing; in everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus to you-ward. 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18		

2027 Friends' Calendar
Seventh Month

Sixth Month

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When we speak of gathering in a meeting for worship in the name of Jesus, we're engaging in a corporate act of listening and following. To be sure, we must listen initially as individuals. However, the listening goes beyond the individual to the corporate community. This corporate listening is crucial to our being a community of disciples rather than a collection of individuals, each following his/her own way.

Florence Kimball, 1994

Eighth Month

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First Day	Second Day	Third Day	Fourth Day	Fifth Day	Sixth Day	Seventh Day
For just as the body is one and yet has many parts, and all the parts of the body, though they are many, are one body, so also is Christ. 1 Corinthians 12:12				1	2	● 3
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2027 Friends' Calendar
Eighth Month

Seventh Month

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I was very diligent to keep our Meetings, being given up in my heart thereunto, for I found great delight therein, and many times, when one Meeting was over, and I at my outward labor, in which I was very diligent also, I did in my spirit long for the next Meeting-day, that I might get to the Meeting to wait upon the Lord with the rest of his people.

John Burnyeat, 1691

Ninth Month

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First Day	Second Day	Third Day	Fourth Day	Fifth Day	Sixth Day	Seventh Day
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22	23	☽ 24	25	26	27	28
29	30	● 31	My God, You are my God; I shall be watching for You; My soul thirsts for You, my flesh yearns for You, In a dry and exhausted land where there is no water. Psalm 63:1			

2027 Friends' Calendar
Ninth Month

Eighth Month

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It is good to trust in the Lord and to give up in simplicity to his requirings. And this I can say by experience, that the more simple or childlike my soul [has] been and free from care of pleasing or fear of displeasing man, even wholly resigned up into the hand and will of God, the more it hath been fitted and furnished by the Lord alone and laid hold on as his instrument. . . . So I exhort you my surviving Friends, to live in pure obedience and perfect resignation to the divine will in all its requirings, for herein in our peace. Elizabeth Webb, undated

Tenth Month

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First Day	Second Day	Third Day	Fourth Day	Fifth Day	Sixth Day	Seventh Day
And this is love, that we walk according to His commandments. This is the commandment, just as you have heard from the beginning, that you are to walk in it. 2 John 1:6			1	2	3	4
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19	20	21	22	☽ 23	24	25
26	27	28	● 29	30		

2027 Friends' Calendar
Tenth Month

Ninth Month

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Every thinking person, who is in any degree sensible of the love and fear of God, must esteem it awful [awe-full] to present himself to the especial notice of the Infinite . . . Being; . . . it is our duty to approach Him with the greatest reverence.

"On Worship," Tract Association of Friends, 1886

Eleventh Month

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First Day	Second Day	Third Day	Fourth Day	Fifth Day	Sixth Day	Seventh Day
Do not be quick with your mouth or impulsive in thought to bring up a matter in the presence of God. For God is in heaven and you are on the earth; therefore let your words be few. Ecclesiastes 5:2					1	2
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24 / 31	25	26	27	28	● 29	30

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2027 Friends' Calendar
Eleventh Month

Tenth Month

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The basis of our peace testimony . . . is not . . . of a secular, humanist belief in the inherent goodness of humans. Nor is it a political objective. Neither do we believe in the idea of a just war. . . . Rather, as followers of Jesus Christ, we feel called to obedience to our Master who commanded His disciple to put up his sword.

Traditional Quaker Christianity, 2014

Twelfth Month

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First Day	Second Day	Third Day	Fourth Day	Fifth Day	Sixth Day	Seventh Day
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28	29	30	Then Jesus said to him, "Put your sword back into its place; for all those who take up the sword will perish by the sword." Matthew 26:52			

2027 Friends' Calendar
Twelfth Month

Eleventh Month

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An angel tells the young Mary that God has elected her to be the means whereby divine love will be enfleshed in the human world. . . . This is my wish and hope: may the Holy Spirit overtake us, and the power of God-who-is-love overshadow us, that, blessedly broken open and insignificant, we may be used by love for its coming into the human world through our surrender. George Amoss Jr., 2017

First Month

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First Day	Second Day	Third Day	Fourth Day	Fifth Day	Sixth Day	Seventh Day
The angel answered and said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; for that reason also the holy Child will be called the Son of God." Luke 1:35			1	2	3	4
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2027

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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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	

2028

First 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					

Second 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					

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	

Fourth 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						

Fifth 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			

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.

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