



TIMELY TIDINGS

2023

"WHOEVER YOU ARE AND WHEREVER YOU ARE IN LIFE'S JOURNEY, YOU ARE WELCOME IN OUR COMMUNITY."

From Rev. Sonia

Dear Friends,

As we go into the final weeks of this calendar year and of my ministry serving out, it is an appropriate time to begin reflecting on the recent past.

I have frequently said to people that I am not a leader, I am the person who happens to be in front. While in that position, my obligation to those who follow is to do my best to clear the path ahead. If there is none, it is my responsibility to pick a way through and make a new one if necessary.

Sometimes, over the past five years, the way has been clear, and the path has been smooth. At other times, we have helped each other over difficult terrain. We did not always know where we were heading, but we persevered. And now, we stand together at the threshold of a new year and new opportunities. While we do not always wish to acknowledge it, we all know that we will come to a place where our paths will diverge.

I am excited for this church. I see how far you have journeyed since that first Epiphany Communion five years ago. I pray with delight that your amazing and unique journey will continue.

Over our final weeks together, we will take the opportunity to review the evolution you have undergone and will begin the first tentative steps of expressing your answers to the age-old question, "Where do we go from here?"

Wherever that may be, I wish you joy. I wish you peace. And I wish you an abiding faith in the Jesus we love.

With extravagant blessings,

Rev. Sonia

CHURCH AND COMMUNITY MEETINGS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Looking Ahead

PCC Annual Pie Sale... Apple, Pumpkin, and Chocolate Cream - \$16.00 each.

12/2 — 5:00 pm Memory Tree Lighting and Soup and Sandwich Meal

12/2 — 10 am-2 pm PCC Food Drive

12/3 — Cycle B Liturgical Year

12/3 — Advent Begins



UPCOMING SERVICES



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12TH —REV. SONIA'S PRESENTATION ON HER TRIP TO INDIA AND NEPAL

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19TH, — A SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26TH — GUEST SPEAKER SUNDAY WITH LYNNE LAWSON

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3RD — 1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT: HOPE & OPEN TABLE COMMUNION

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10TH — 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT: LOVE & STA. LUCIA

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17TH — 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT: JOY

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24TH — 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT: PEACE & BLUE CHRISTMAS LITURGY

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24TH — EVENING CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

SUNDAY MORNING MEDITATION 8:30 AM

All are welcome to come for a half hour of quiet meditation every Sunday morning (in season) at 8:30 upstairs in Lynne and Barry Lawson's barn on Old Cemetery Road. Instruction can be available at the beginning if you tell us beforehand. For info, call Lynne or Barry 592-3632."

OUR MISSION FOR NOVEMBER & DECEMBER



CHURCH WORLD SERVICE

Thank you for your continued financial support of our Church and our missions.

Thank you for your continued financial support of the Church and our missions.

CHECK DONATION:

Please support the **Habitat for Humanity** by check donation and please write **NEK H4H** on the memo line.

Mail to: **Peacham Congregational Church,**
PO Box 205, Peacham, VT 05862

As always, we continue to encourage your contributions to the Danville Food Shelf. The donations basket is downstairs in the kitchen. We are continually grateful for your support

ONLINE DONATION:

WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO GIVE THROUGH OUR WEBSITE AT:

www.peachamchurch.org .

NOVEMBER PCC SERVICES & EVENTS

(Times and Dates are subject to change look to peachamchurch.org for calendar event details & updates)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 SABBATICAL: Rev. Sonia please contact Patty Gardner - 8:30 AM Choir Rehearsal - 9:30 AM 22nd Sunday after Pentecost: Lay Service & Nancy Fowler - 10:30 AM Church Coffee Hour	30	31 All Saints Day	1	2 - 10:00 AM SOCIAL HALL: 2nd Annual Peacham Church Thanksgiving Craft Show	3 - 10:00 AM SOCIAL HALL: 2nd Annual Peacham Church Thanksgiving Craft Show	4
5 - 9:30 AM 23rd Sunday after Pentecost & Open Table Communion - 10:30 AM Church Coffee Hour	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 - 9:30 AM 24th Sunday after Pentecost - 9:30 AM Presentation on Rev. Sonias trip to India and Nepal - 10:30 AM Church Coffee Hour	13	14	15	16	17	18
19 - 9:30 AM 25th Sunday after Pentecost - 9:30 AM Service of Thanksgiving - 10:30 AM Church Coffee Hour	20	21 - 10:00 AM PCC Annual Pie Sale PICKUP Apple, Pumpkin, and Chocolate Cream - 6:00 PM PCC Ecumenical Gratitude Service	22 - 10:00 AM PCC Annual Pie Sale PICKUP Apple, Pumpkin, and Chocolate Cream	23 Thanksgiving Day	24	25
26 - 9:00 AM LayService: Lynne Lawson, Greg Lockhart, speaker - 9:30 AM 26th Sunday after Pentecost: Reign of Christ and LayService with Lynne - 10:30 AM Church Coffee Hour	27	28	29	30 - 6:30 AM SOCIAL HALL: ChildrensCenter COFFEE SOCIAL	1 International Human Rights Month	2 - 10:00 AM SOCIAL HALL: PCC FOOD DRIVE - 5:00 PM SOCIAL HALL: Memory Tree Service and Soup & Sandwich

DECEMBER PCC SERVICES & EVENTS

(Times and Dates are subject to change look to peachamchurch.org for calendar event details & updates)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 - 9:00 AM LayService: Lynne Lawson, Greg Lockhart, - 9:30 AM 26th Sunday after Pentecost: Reign of Christ - 10:30 AM Church Coffee Hour	27	28	29	30 - 6:30 AM SOCIAL HALL: ChildrensCenter COFFEE SOCIAL	1 International Human Rights Month	2 - 10:00 AM SOCIAL HALL: PCC FOOD DRIVE - 5:00 PM SOCIAL HALL: Memory Tree Service and Soup & Sandwich
3 Cycle B Liturgical Year - 9:30 AM 1st Sunday of Advent & Open Table Communion - 10:30 AM Church Coffee Luncheon, Hosted by Mary	4	5 - 1:30 PM AWIP @ Peacham Library	6	7	8	9
10 2nd Sunday of Advent: Love & Sta. Lucia - 10:30 AM Church Coffee Hour	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 3rd Sunday of Advent: Joy - 10:30 AM Church Coffee Hour	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 4th Sunday of Advent: Peace & Blue Christmas Liturgy 6:30 pm Christmas Eve Service - 10:30 AM Church Coffee Hour	25	26	27	28 - 6:30 AM SOCIAL HALL: ChildrensCenter COFFEE SOCIAL	29	30
31 Lay Service Lynne Lawson & R.D. Eno from Cabot - 9:30 AM First Sunday after Christmas: Lay Service with Guest Speaker - 10:30 AM Church Coffee Hour	1	2 - 1:30 PM AWIP @ Peacham Library	3	4	5	6



Thank you to everyone who participated in as organizers, lay speakers, or singers in October services while Rev. Sonia was on sabbatical.

Thank you to everyone who helped to organize and participate in the Annual Thanksgiving Craft and Food Sale.

Thank you to our community and their increased usage of our spaces and appreciating what we have as a valuable resource in the community.

November December

Birthdays

4th—Brenda Bandy
6th—Martha Ide
16th—Norma Bermingham
17th—Tom Galinat
17th—Garrett Wright
22nd—Julia Fickes

Birthdays:

2nd - Jerry Senturia
5th - Michael Fickes
5th - Cindy White
15th - Hannah Judas
26th - Jean White
27th - Brandy Goodrich
28th - Walter Bandy
29th - Susan Chandler

Anniversaries:

19th - Mark & Karen
Fitzhugh

Rev. Sonia's Office Hours:

Tuesday & Thursday, 9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m. & Wednesday by Appointment

As always, reach Rev. Sonia outside of office hours via:

please call @ (802) 274-2928 email @ peachampastor@gmail.com

web @ www.peachamchurch.org

Please call Patty Gardner at (413) 883-2842 if you have an emergency or at times when Rev. Sonia is on vacation or not in the office.

Except in an emergency, please schedule meetings and visits during office hours. If Rev. Sonia is on a Zoom call or in a confidential discussion, she will place a "Do Not Disturb" sign on the door into the sanctuary.

We appreciate your understanding.

REMINDER: Please send Timm any announcements you would like posted by the Thursday before the next service. peachamchurchevents@gmail.com

ETCETERA & EPHEMERA

PCC Annual Pie Sale... Apple, Pumpkin, and Chocolate Cream
\$16.00 each.

During Sunday Service, the Order Form clipboard is in the sanctuary/social hall.

To Order or for more information, please contact Patty
peachamchurchinformation@gmail.com

Pickup on Tuesday or Wednesday, NOV. 21st or 22nd.

DECEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lighting of the Memory Tree December 2nd, 5pm

We will have a short service and read the list of names in memory and honor of loved ones and pets, beginning at 5:00 pm in the Sanctuary. We will then go outside to light the bulbs on the Memory Tree and sing a carol. A tomato soup and grilled cheese supper will follow in the Social Hall.

MISSIONS NEWS: REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR

Through monetary donations and special collections, we support this month's two missions: the Church World Service and the Open Door (Danville Food Shelf). In this newsletter, you will find a "Reverse Advent Calendar." Between December 1 and 24, we are urging people to donate one item a day for either collection – or both! A collection bin will be outside the Church Kitchen, and baskets will be in the narthex (lobby). We will bring the donations for that week forward during the Offering to be blessed each Sunday. These collections are how we help spread the Advent themes of hope, love, joy, and peace to others. Please be as generous as you are able. If you have any questions, please contact Rev. Sonia or a Mission Committee member.

CHRISTMAS POSTCARD FROM 1915

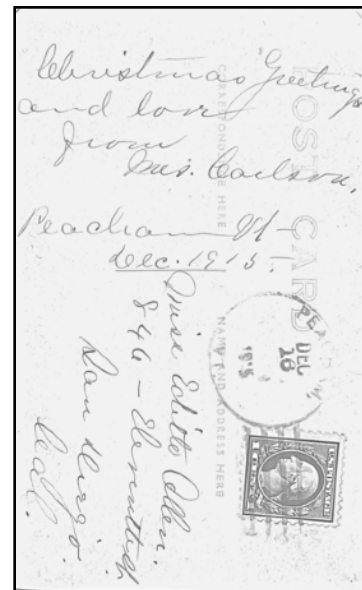
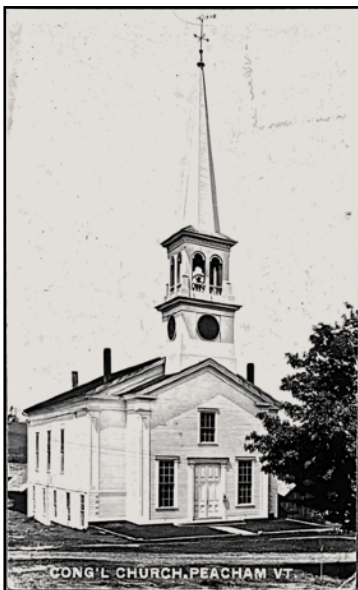
In early November, the Peacham Corner Guild held its annual Christmas Show. One of the vendors from Lyndonville brought in a postcard from the Peacham Congregational Church, and on the back was a Christmas message sent in 1915. The card was sent by Mrs. Carlson to Miss Edith Allen and sends "Christmas greetings and love." Timm Judas and Susan Chandler set out to find more information about this card. Who was the sender, and who was the recipient?

It turns out that Mrs. Carlson was the minister's wife. Her full name was Joetta Viola Carlson, and she was originally from Illinois. Her husband was Reverend Thomas Alpine Carlson. He was the son of Norwegian immigrants, and his grandfather left Norway as a young man to prospect for gold in the Klondike. He died young and left his wife with small children in the Canadian Yukon. Reverend Carlson must have had interesting stories to tell. He and his wife were both 50 years old in 1915, and active in the Peacham community.

Mrs. Carlson sent her Christmas greetings to Edith Allen in San Diego, California. Edith Harriett Allen was born in Peacham in 1892, and graduated from Peacham Academy in 1913. Her father ran a grist mill, and later a lumber and sash mill in Ewells Hollow. We don't know why Edith was in San Diego, but it is possible that she was in school or assisting with the war effort in 1915. She was just 23 years old when she received the postcard. Edith later returned to Peacham, and ran the family's shingle mill. This was a most unusual occupation for a woman at that time.

In 1915, it must have been comforting for Edith to have received the little church postcard with a warm Christmas greeting, especially since she was so far from home.

Now, with the sharing of this postcard, the Peacham Congregational Church wishes all of you Christmas greetings and love.





Peacham Congregational Church
P.O. Box 205
Peacham, Vermont 05862
802-592-3330

peachampastor@gmail.com or on the web at: www.peachamchurch.org

***Please contact us if you need or know of any who could
use our community's support.***

please call @ (802) 274-2928 email @ peachampastor@gmail.com web @ www.peachamchurch.org
Please call Patty Gardner at (413) 883-2842 if you have an emergency or at times
when Rev. Sonia is on vacation or not in the office.

LIGHTING THE STEEPLE

PCC now has 3-ways to donate to light the steeple in
memory, honor, or celebrations of your loved ones.
Go to the PCC HomePage or [ClickHERE](#) for direct access
in how to **LIGHT THE STEEPLE**.



PLEASE SEE AND USE OUR DYNAMIC PCC CALENDAR ON OUR WEBSITE

Our website now has a Calendar. Check it out to keep informed about activities or if you would like to reserve space for or add an event: birthday, anniversary, church/Meeting House/community related activity please click the button next to the calendar and email Timm.

**PLEASE SUBMIT TIMELY TIDINGS INFORMATION, ANNOUNCEMENTS, OR SHORT ARTICLES BY THE 24TH OF EACH MONTH TO:
TIMM AT PEACHAMCHURCHEVENTS@GMAIL.COM**

REV. SONIA GIFTS INDIAN RUG TO CHURCH.

On November 5th, during the worship service, Rev. Sonia presented the church with a handmade wall hanging in the style of a Kashmiri rug. The rug was purchased at an artists' cooperative in Delhi while she was on her sabbatical in India. She chose the gift for the way in which the symbolism in it represents the ideals of the Peacham Congregational Church. The design on this rug is called "Gardens of Kashmir". It was inspired by the four Mughal Gardens built or expanded by Emperor Shah Jehan along the banks of the Dal Lake. In addition to their natural beauty, these gardens are renowned for their Mughal Mongolian architecture.

According to legend, on seeing Kashmir for the first time, Shah Jehan exclaimed:

*Agar Firdaus Baroye Zam in Ast. Hamein – Asto, Hamein A s t o ,
Hamein Asto*

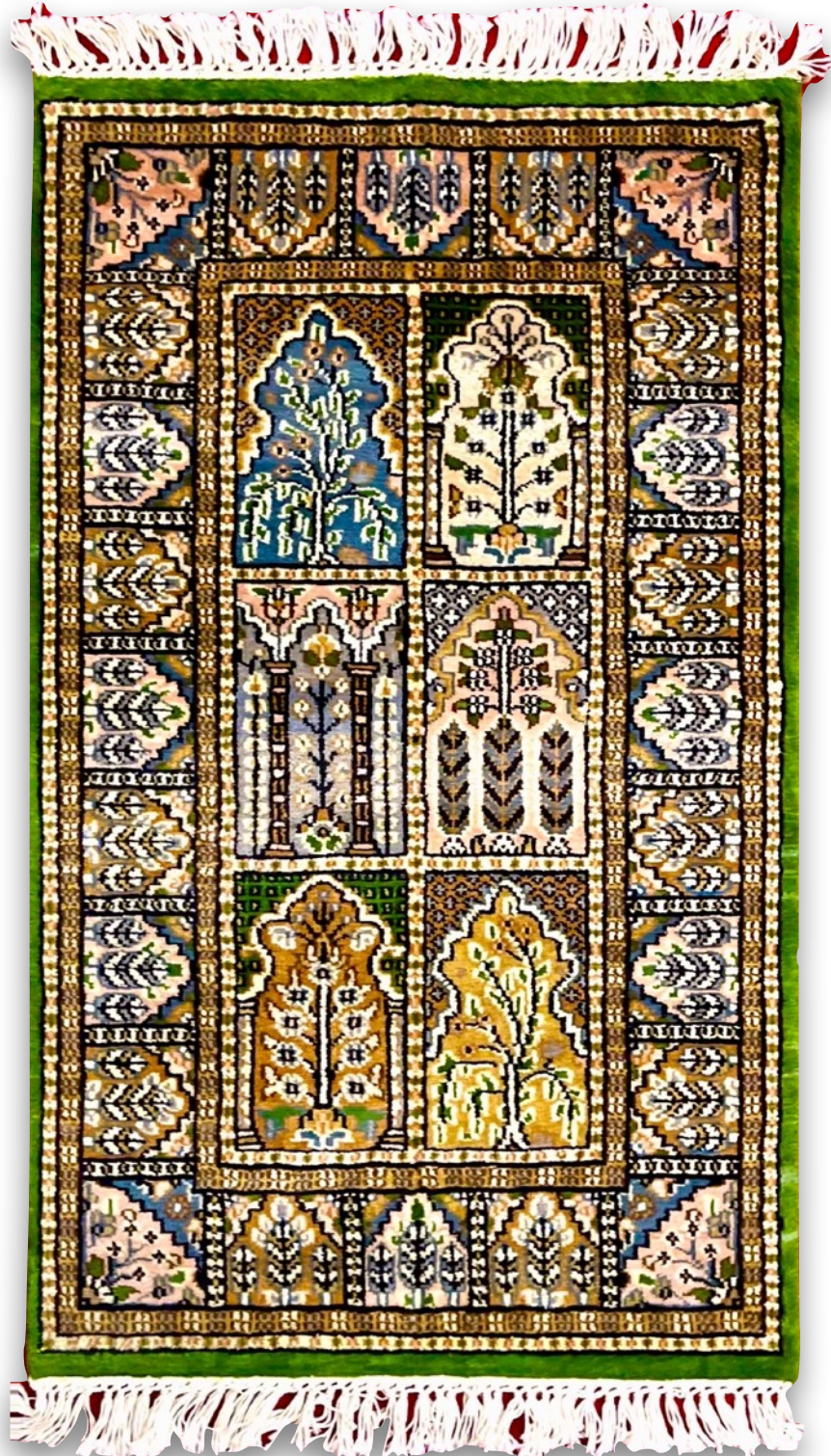
*(If there is Heaven on Earth, this is it,
that is it, that is it!)*

The profound effect of the country's beauty upon him inspired Shah Jehan to build the gardens.

Shah Jehan, or Jahan, was born on January 5th, 1592, in Lahore, Pakistan, and died on January 22nd, 1666, at the Agra Fort in India. He was the 5th ruler of the (Muslim) Mughal Empire and is best known as the ruler who commissioned the building of the Taj Mahal for his beloved Hindu wife, Arjuman Banu Begum.

The original design for this rug was rendered in the 18th century by Abdul Qayoom, who took nearly a year to execute the design as a 5'x7' silk rug in the Persian Qum (or Qom) style. (This rug is rendered in Kashmiri wool).

The Garden's of Kashmir design consists of rectangular panels containing a variety of summer garden motifs: grape vines, stylized flowers, and cypress (weeping willows). There are three rows of arches (called Mehrabs or Mihrabs) in the design, each of which has a distinct symbolism. Mehrabs are arches found in Muslim mosques that point toward Mecca. The first row of mehrab in the rug represents **peace, prosperity, and love**. The second symbolizes offering **a hearty welcome** to all who visit. The third represents the **showering of blessings from Heaven**.



2023 Thanksgiving Pies - PreOrder Order Form

You can also access and electronic fillable form or downloadable hard-copy at our website
<https://www.peachamchurch.org/>

PreOrder by Noon on Thursday, November 17th

Return your order through Mail, eMail, or hand-deliver to church

Peacham Congregational Church, PO Box 205, Peacham, VT 05862,

Pickup & Pay **Tuesday & Wednesday, November 21st & 22nd between 4 pm-6 pm**

@ Church parking area, Peacham, Vermont



Email address: _____

YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION

Your Name _____

Your Phone Number _____ Good Time To Call _____

Would you like to be on our emailing list for events and announcements? YES or NO

Please note: We do not share our information with other organizations.

Would you like to receive our Newsletter Timely Tidings? YES or NO

What is your delivery preference for the Newsletter? eMail Digital PDF or Mailed Hard Copy

If Mailed Hard-Copy, please include your mailing address below.

PIES - \$16 EACH (each pie serves 8)

- Apple Pie - # of pies? _____
- Pumpkin Pie - # of pies? _____
- Chocolate Cream Pie - # of pies? _____

PLEASE NOTE:

Please let us know of any other questions you might have and we will get right back to you. Contact Patty at peachamchurchinformation@gmail.com with more questions or inquires about special orders.

COMMENTS:

PEACHAM COMMUNITY MEMORY TREE 2023

To order bulb(s) for the tree, complete this form and return it to Peacham Congregational Church, P.O. Box 205 Peacham, VT 05862 by November 30th. You may also email the information to peachamchurchinformation@gmail.com and mail your check.

Name (person ordering the bulb(s)) _____

Email Address: _____

Address: _____ State.: _____ Zip: _____

\$7.50 per bulb

In memory/honor of _____

In memory/honor of _____

In memory/honor of _____

It was suggested that we also honor our pets past and present with a memory display. A display with the blue bulbs will be placed on the lawn at the church with bulbs, too.

Pet Memory Tree:

\$1.00 per bulb

In memory/honor of _____

In memory/honor of _____

In memory/honor of _____

☐ Check here if you would like a copy of the Memory Tree Booklet mailed to you.

☐ Check here if you are making a donation to help the church with winter costs.

Please make checks payable to Peacham Congregational Church.

All donations are tax deductible.

We will hold a community soup and sandwich dinner on Sunday, December 3, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. We will read the list of names while in the social hall and then we will go outside to light the bulbs on the memory tree and sing a Carol.



REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR

EACH DAY ADD AN ITEM TO A BOX.
ON CHRISTMAS EVE DONATE THE CONTENTS TO A
FOOD BANK.

- December 1 - box of cereal
- December 2 - peanut butter
- December 3 - stuffing mix
- December 4 - boxed potatoes
- December 5 - macaroni and cheese
- December 6 - canned fruit
- December 7 - canned tomatoes
- December 8 - canned tuna
- December 9 - dessert mix
- December 10 - jar of applesauce
- December 11 - canned sweet potatoes
- December 12 - cranberry sauce
- December 13 - canned beans
- December 14 - box of crackers
- December 15 - package of rice
- December 16 - package of oatmeal
- December 17 - package pasta
- December 18 - spaghetti sauce
- December 19 - chicken noodle soup
- December 20 - tomato soup
- December 21 - can corn
- December 22 - can mixed vegetables
- December 23 - can carrots
- December 24 - can green beans

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SELECTED INTERFAITH AND SECULAR HOLIDAYS 2023

NOVEMBER IS NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

11/4 World Community Day (USA)	11/11 Remembrance Day (Canada)	11/20 Addictions Awareness Week (Canada)
11/6 World Day to Protect the Environment in War (UN)	11/13 Remembrance Sunday (UK)	11/20 Universal Children's Day (UN)
11/6 Daylight Savings Time Ends	11/13 International Restorative Justice Week	11/23 New Moon
11/8 Total Lunar Eclipse	11/13 World Kindness Day	11/24 Thanksgiving Day (USA)
11/8 Full Moon	11/16 International Day for Tolerance (UN)	11/25 Native American Heritage Day (USA)
11/10 World Science Day (UNESCO)		11/25 International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women (UN)
11/11 Veteran's Day (USA)		

DECEMBER IS INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS MONTH

Interfaith			
12/08 Bodhi Day	Buddhism	12/21 Yule	Christian
Buddhist celebration of the time when Prince Gautama took his place under the Bodhi tree, vowing to remain there until he attained supreme enlightenment.		A Christian celebration of the light dawning in Jesus. Also, a Norse pagan celebration of the winter-born king, symbolized by the sun's rebirth. A present-day Wicca event.	
12/13 Santa Lucia Day	Christian	12/21 Yule	Wicca
Honors St. Lucy and widely celebrated in Scandinavia with candlelight and traditional candle-lit processions.		Marks the New Year in the Anglo-Saxon and northern traditions of Wicca; it is the celebration of the birth of the God as the Winter-born King, symbolized by the rebirth of the life-generating and life-sustaining sun. It is a time for ritually shedding the impurities of the past year, and for contemplating avenues of spiritual development in the year ahead.	
12/19-26 Hanukkah	Judaism		
The Festival of Lights (and Feast of Dedication), commemorates the victory of Judah and Maccabee, religious freedom, and the rededication of the Holy Temple in 165 BCE.			
			12/28-01/01 Kwanzaa
			Kwanzaa
			An African-American and Pan-African holiday celebrating family, community, and culture, Kwanzaa is a secular observance with some religious participation. Seven life virtues are presented. The dates are always December 26 - January 1.
			Secular Commemorations
			12/01 World AIDS Day (UN)
			12/02 International Day for the Abolition of Slavery (UN)
			12/03 International Day of Persons with Disabilities (UN)
			12/10 Human Rights Day (UN)
			12/18 International Migrants Day

