



Master Religious Calendar

2015 Date	2016 Date	2017 Date	2018 Date	Holy Day	Faith Group(s)	Work Prohibited?	Dietary Considerations(General Population only)	Religious Services, Items Required & Other Information. (General Population only)
1/8/15	1/8/16	1/8/17	1/8/18	Drew Ali's Birthday	Moorish Science Temple	Yes	Celebratory meal authorized from the regular menu day or evening; no pork products.	Special meeting or service may be held in conjunction with or separate from meal.
2/26/15	2/26/16	2/26/17	2/26/18	Savior's Day	Nation of Islam	Yes	Celebratory meal authorized from the regular menu day or evening; no pork products.	Special meeting or observance authorized. Institutions (if requested by Nation of Islam Volunteer) may change the date of this observance in order for the volunteer to provide information from the National Meeting.
3/4/15	3/23/16	3/9/17	2/28/18	Fast of Esther (begins at sundown on the day preceding)	Judaism/Messianic Judaism/	Yes	Breakfast meal to be provided before astronomical twilight. Dinner meal and bag meal (to be taken back to the cell or living area) to be provided after sundown. No pork. The fast is from sunrise to sunset.	Jewish, Messianic Jewish, and Yahwist offenders may hold a special worship/prayer service on this date; day or evening.
3/5/15	3/24/16	3/12/17	3/1/18	Purim (begins at sundown on the day preceding)	Judaism/Messianic Judaism/	Yes	Jewish, Messianic Jewish, and Yahwist offenders may be allowed a group meal. It can be at any time of day or evening. No special foods required; no pork products	Jewish, Messianic Jewish, and Yahwist offenders may hold a special worship/prayer service on this date; day or evening.
4/4/15 thru 4/11/15	4/23/16 thru 4/30/16	4/11/17 thru 4/18/17	3/31/18 thru 4/7/18	Passover (begins at sundown on the day preceding) - 8 days. Ends at sundown on 8th day.	Judaism/Messianic Judaism/Yahwists	Yes for the entire 8 days of Passover.	Matzo provided in place of bread to all Jews, Messianic Jews, and Yahwists during the entire Passover season. Ceremonial Passover Seder plate provided to Jews, Messianic Jews and Yahwists (separately) – one plate for each group (after sundown). Kosher for Passover food items will be made available through the DOC contract vendor. Commissary profits should be used to acquire Kosher for Passover Matzah, grape juice and walnuts.	The Passover Seder meal is itself a worship time. At least two hours should be allowed (for saying prayers, reading scriptures, singing hymns, etc.). Service should begin 30 minutes after sundown. Jews, Messianic Jews, and Yahwists must have their Passover Seder meal and service separately.
4/5/15	3/27/16	4/16/17	4/1/18	Easter	Christians	Yes	No Dietary Requirements	Usual Easter Services will be provided on Sunday.
Annual memo to confirm dates - may vary slightly				Lord's Evening Meal	Jehovah's Witnesses	Yes	Unleavened bread/matzo and grape juice to be passed around during service. An approved Jehovah's Witness elder may consume red wine during the service.	A group service is authorized to be held after sundown.
4/3/15	3/23/16	4/11/17	3/31/18					
5/1/15	5/1/16	5/1/17	5/1/18	Beltane (May Day)	Wicca/ Druidry-Celtic	Yes	None	A group service or meeting is authorized during the day or evening of May 1st. No "sponsor" or clergy required, but Chaplain or DOC staff must provide adequate supervision.



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5/24/15 5/25/15	6/12/16 6/13/16	5/31/17 6/1/17	5/20/18 5/21/18	Shavuot (begins at sundown on the day preceding) a/k/a Festival of Weeks	Judaism/ Messianic Judaism/ Yahwists	Yes	At least one dairy product should be provided on each of these two days.	A worship service may be held on each of these two days any time of day or evening.
6/1/15	5/20/16	5/10/17	4/30/18	Vesak (Buddha Day)	Buddhist	No	Celebratory meal authorized from the regular or alternate menu; no time specified.	A worship service may be held any time of day or evening
6/21/15	6/20/16	6/21/17	6/21/18	Summer Solstice	Asatru	Yes	Special Celebratory meal from normal menu; no time specified	Worship service is permitted any time of the day or evening and may be combined with celebratory meal.
6/21/15	6/20/16	6/21/17	6/21/18	Summer Solstice	Native American	Yes	Special group meal is authorized at institutional discretion (no dietary requirements).	Special ceremony or service authorized.
Annual memo to confirm dates - may vary slightly				Observance of Ramadan (Muslims MST); Nation of Islam Month of Fasting (Nation of Islam)	Islam/Nation of Islam, Moorish Science Temple	No	Muslim, NOI, & MST offenders will fast during daylight hours. A morning meal will be served and eaten before astronomical twilight. An evening meal and a bag meal (to be taken back to the cell or living area) will be distributed to Muslim, NOI, & MST offenders after sunset. There is a separate menu for Muslims and MST, and one for NOI. No pork products will be served to these offenders.	Friday Jumah (prayer/worship) services continue as usual through Ramadan (separate services for Muslims MST and NOI). Facilities that have adequate numbers, space and staff supervision may at their discretion hold 1-hour evening services for mainstream Muslims during Ramadan. At other facilities, Quran reading and prayer will be an individual worship time (in bunk or cell area).
6/18/15 thru 7/16/15	6/6/16 thru 7/5/16	5/27/17 thru 6/24/17	5/16/18 thru 6/14/18					
7/23/15	7/23/16	7/23/17	7/23/18	Haille Selaisse's Birthday	Rastafarian	Yes	None	Special ceremony or service authorized.
Annual memo to confirm dates - may vary slightly				Eid-ul-Fitr	Islam/Nation of Islam, Moorish Science Temple	Yes	Special feast/meal provided to Muslim, NOI, & MST offenders (separately from each other) on a day or evening within three days following the last day of the Ramadan fast.	A special prayer service is to be held (separately for Muslims, NOI, & MST) prior to 12:00 Noon on this date (the day following the last day of Ramadan fasting). The special feast/meal can be served on this date as well, or it can be served on one of the next two days.
7/17/15	7/5/16	6/25/17	6/15/18					
9/14/15 9/15/15	10/3/16 10/4/16	9/21/17 9/22/17	9/10/18 9/11/18	Rosh Hashanah (begins at sundown on the day preceding) - 2 days	Judaism/ Messianic Judaism/ Yahwists	Yes	None	A worship/prayer service may be held.
9/16/15	10/5/16	9/24/17	9/12/18	Fast of Gedaliah (Tishri 3)	Judaism/ Messianic Judaism/	Yes	Breakfast meal to be provided before astronomical twilight. Dinner meal and bag meal (to be taken back to the cell or living area) to be provided after sundown. No pork. The fast is from sunrise to sunset.	Jewish, Messianic Jewish, and Yahwist offenders may hold a special worship/prayer service on this date; day or evening.



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9/23/15	9/2/16	8/23/17	8/12/18	Eid-ul-Adha	Islam/Nation of Islam, Moorish Science Temple	Yes	Special feast/meal from items on Eid menu. (The feast/meal may be on this day [recommended] or one of the next two days.)	Congregational prayer, including Eid Prayer, before 12:00 Noon (held separately for the three groups).
9/23/15	10/12/16	9/30/17	9/19/18	Yom Kippur (begins at sundown on the day preceding)	Judaism/Messianic Judaism/Yahwists	Yes	Jews, Messianic Jews, and Yahwists fast this entire day, eating nothing until after sunset. They should be fed a tray or bag meal after sunset to eat individually or as separate groups. A bag meal (to be taken back to the cell or living area) will be distributed at the evening meal.	Prayer/worship service should be held during the day or evening.
9/28/15 thru 10/4/15	10/17/16 thru 10/23/16	10/5/17 thru 10/11/17	9/24/18 thru 9/30/18	Sukkoth (begins at sundown on the day preceding) - 9 days - a/k/a Feast of Tabernacles	Judaism/Messianic Judaism/Yahwists	Yes	No Special Meals.	AM and/or PM service(s) authorized for Jews, Messianic Jews, and Yahwists on Day 1 and 2; 8 and 9. No services during days 3-7.
10/31/15	10/31/16	10/31/17	10/31/18	Samhain	Wicca/ Druidry-Celtic	Yes	Group is authorized a special celebratory meal from the general menu. No dietary considerations.	Day or evening service authorized.
11/2/15	11/2/16	11/2/17	11/2/18	Haille Selaisse's Coronation	Rastafarian	Yes	None	Special celebration or service is authorized.
12/7/15 thru 12/14/15	12/25/16 thru 1/1/17	12/13/17 thru 12/20/17	12/3/18 Thru 12/10/18	Chanukah (begins at sundown on the day preceding) - 8 days	Judaism/Messianic Judaism/	No	None	Evening services authorized each evening of Chanukah for prayer, worship and lighting of the Menorah candles (see Addendum 3). Jewish, Messianic Jewish, and Yahwist groups should normally meet separately.
12/8/15	12/8/16	12/8/17	12/8/18	Bodhi (Enlightenment) Day	Buddhist	No	None	A worship service may be held any time of day or evening
12/21/15	12/21/16	12/21/17	12/21/18	Yule (Winter Solstice)	Asatru	Yes	Special Celebratory meal from normal menu; no time specified	Worship service is permitted any time of the day or evening and may be combined with celebratory meal.
12/21/15	12/21/16	12/21/17	12/21/18	Winter Solstice	Native American	Yes	Special celebratory meal authorized; day or evening; no dietary requirements.	Special celebration or service is authorized (either in conjunction with meal or separately).
12/25/15	12/25/16	12/25/17	12/25/18	Christmas	Christians	Yes	No Dietary Requirements	Usual Christmas Services will be provided. A Christmas Eve services (day or evening) is authorized in the event a Christmas Day service cannot be held. Both Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services may be held at the Facility Unit Head's discretion.