

Programming Calendar FY 2024-2025

This calendar is to assist in JCC program planning and scheduling that will be sensitive regarding the holiday cycle of the Jewish and broader communities so as to not put participants in a position of having to choose between a JCC non-holiday oriented activity and another community holiday oriented activity.



September 2024

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	Labor Day	2	3	4	5	6
7			9/11 Commemoration	11	12	13
14						
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

October 2024

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	Rosh Hashanah Eve	2	Rosh Hashanah
			3	Rosh Hashanah	4	Rosh Hashanah
			5			
Tzom Gedalyah	6	Hamas attack commemoration	7		Yom Kippur Eve	11
			8			12
			9			
			10	Sukkot	Sukkot	
			11	Sukkot	Sukkot	
			12			
			13			
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			15			
			16	Sukkot Eve	Sukkot	
			17	Sukkot	Sukkot	
			18	Sukkot	Sukkot	
			19			
			20			
			21			
			22	Shmini Atzeret/ S. Torah Eve	23	Shmini Atzeret/ S. Torah
			24	Shmini Atzeret/ S. Torah	25	Simchat Torah
			26			
10/27 commemoration	27					
			28			
			29			
			30			
			31			

November 2024

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
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Daylight Saving Ends	3	4	5	6	7	8
Kristallnacht	10	Veterans Day	11			12
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December 2024

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

January 2025

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			Chanukah	8	Chanukah	
			New Year's Day	1		2
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February 2025

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March 2025

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April 2025

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June 2025

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Shavuot Eve	1	Shavuot	2	Shavuot	3	
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August 2025

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JCC PGH “Grey Out” Days: How we observe the holidays

FY 2024-2025 (Oct. 2024 - Feb. 2025)
Do not schedule special events on these days as described below.

Gregorian Date	Holiday	What we need to consider
Thursday, October 3- Friday, October 4	Rosh HaShanah (The Jewish New Year.) 1 and 2 Tishre on the Jewish Calendar	This is a festive celebration of the new year. The JCC is closed for 2 days beginning at 5 pm the night before except for Rosh HaShanah activities. This is a festive time.
Sunday, October 6	Tzom Gedalyah (The Fast of Gedalyah. Commemorates the assassination of the governor of Jerusalem in the 6th Century BCE.) 3 Tishre on the Jewish Calendar	People who are religiously observant will fast from dawn to dusk. This is a somber time.
Monday, October 7	Hamas attack commemoration 22 Tishre on the Jewish Calendar	On October 7, 2023 over 1200 Israelis were massacred by Hamas. The date on the Jewish calendar is Shemini Atzeret/Simchat Torah. This is a somber time.
Saturday, October 12	Yom Kippur (The Day of Atonement.) 10 Tishre on the Jewish Calendar	People who are religiously observant will fast from sundown to sundown. The JCC is closed beginning at 5 pm the night before and on this day except for Yom Kippur activities. This is a somber time.
Thursday, October 17	Sukkot First Day (Fall Harvest Festival.) 15 Tishre on the Jewish Calendar	The JCC is closed beginning at 5 PM the night before and on this day except for Sukkot activities. This is a festive time.
Friday, October 18	Sukkot Second Day (Fall Harvest Festival.) Ends at sundown. 16 Tishre on the Jewish Calendar	People who are religiously observant might be in synagogue in the morning and might engage in holiday activities throughout the day. This is a festive time.
Wednesday, October 23	Hoshanah Rabbah (The Day of Great Salvation. A unique day in Sukkot marking the final closing of the Book of Life.) 21 Tishre on the Jewish Calendar	People who are religiously observant might be in synagogue in the morning and might engage in holiday activities throughout the day. This is a festive time.
Thursday, October 24	Shemini Atzeret/Simchat Torah (The Eight Day of Sukkot. It is also the day of the October 7, 2023 massacre in Israel according to the Jewish Calendar.) 22 Tishre on the Jewish Calendar	The JCC is closed beginning at 5 PM the night before and on this day except for Shemini Atzeret activities. This is a festive time because of the holiday and a somber time because of the massacre.
Friday, October 25	Simchat Torah (Celebrating the Torah Reading Cycle.) Ends at sundown. 23 Tishre on the Jewish Calendar	People who are religiously observant might be in synagogue the night before (when we are closed anyhow), the morning of, and might engage in holiday activities throughout the day. (Reform and Reconstructing synagogues celebrate this the day before.) This is a festive time.
Sunday, October 27, the night before (October 26), the weekend before (October 19-20), and the weekend after (November 2-3)	Remembering October 27, 2018 (This is the day when 11 of our neighbors were murdered and others were injured in the Tree of Life Synagogue building.)	In recognition of the shooting on October 27, 2018 at the Tree of Life synagogue building, the JCC will be sensitive in planning around this date. Check in with 10/27 Healing Partnership when planning events. Specific events will be dependent on community commemoration. The weekends surrounding October 27 have included service opportunities in memory of those who died and a community gathering in the afternoon of October 27. This is a somber time.
Saturday, November 9– Sunday, November 10	Kristallnacht (The Night of Broken Glass. Commemorates the 1938 pogrom against Jews throughout Germany and Vienna, Austria marking the beginning of the Holocaust.) Ends at sundown.	Specific events will be dependent on community commemoration. There are often synagogue and/or community gatherings on the night before and/or the day of. This is a somber time.
Monday, November 18	18 Cheshvan Eve (The Jewish Calendar commemoration of October 27, 2018.) Special consideration begins at 5 pm.	People who are religiously observant might be in synagogue to recite memorial prayers for the victims of October 27, 2018. This is a somber time.
Tuesday, November 19	18 Cheshvan Ends at sundown. 18 Cheshvan on the Jewish Calendar	Specific events will be dependent on community commemoration. As of now, this day has included Torah study in the middle of the day. Some will go to synagogue on this day and the night before to recite memorial prayers. This is a somber time.
Wednesday, December 25	Chanukah First Night (The victory of the Maccabees over the Assyrian Greeks 2,100 years ago.) Special consideration begins at 5 pm. 25 Kislev – 2 Tevet on the Jewish Calendar	Many members of the Jewish community will set aside time to be with family and friends on this night. This is a festive time.
Wednesday, January 1, 2025	Chanukah Eighth Night Special consideration begins at 5 pm. 1 Tevet on the Jewish Calendar	Many members of the Jewish community will set aside time to be with family and friends on this night. This is a festive time.
Friday, January 10	Asarah b'Tevet (The Tenth of Tevet. Commemorates the day when the Babylonians laid siege to Jerusalem in 586 BCE.) 10 Tevet on the Jewish Calendar	People who are religiously observant will fast from dawn to dusk. This is a somber day.
Monday, January 27	United Nations International Holocaust Remembrance Day (Commemorates the anniversary of the liberation of the German Nazi concentration and extermination camp Auschwitz in 1945.)	This day is often commemorated by civic institutions with special programs. It is rarely marked in synagogues. This is a somber time.
Wednesday, February 12	Tu b'Shvat Eve (Jewish Arbor Day.)	People who are religiously observant and those who want to be a part of the culture of the holiday might enjoy coming together for a meal with a theme of trees, environmentalism, and Israel. There might be special dinners in the community on this evening. This is a festive time.
Thursday, February 13	Tu b'Shvat (Jewish Arbor Day.) 15 Shvat on the Jewish Calendar	People who are religiously observant and those who want to be a part of the culture of the holiday might enjoy coming together for a meal with a theme of trees, environmentalism, and Israel. This is a festive time.

JCC PGH “Grey Out” Days: How we observe the holidays

FY 2024-2025 (March-Aug. 2025)

Do not schedule special events on these days as described below.

Gregorian Date	Holiday	What we need to consider
Thursday, March 13	Ta’ anit Esther (The Fast of Esther when she and Mordechai fasted before she went to see Achashverus according to the Book of Esther in the 5th century BCE.) 13 Adar on the Jewish Calendar	People who are religiously observant will fast from dawn to dusk. This is a somber day.
Thursday, March 13	Purim Eve (The defeat of an anti-Semitic plot to annihilate the Jewish community in the 5th century BCE.) Special consideration begins at 5 pm.	People who are religiously observant and those who want to be a part of the culture of the holiday might be in synagogue to hear the story of Purim and watch a Purim play. This is a festive time.
Friday, March 14	Purim Day Ends at sundown. 14 Adar on the Jewish Calendar	People who are religiously observant might be in synagogue in the morning and might engage in holiday activities throughout the day. Avoid morning activities when many synagogues have services. Other customs include wearing masks and costumes, public celebrations and parades. This is a festive time.
Thursday, April 10	Ta’ a nit Bechorot (The Fast of the First Born. Commemorates the plague of the killing of the first-born sons in Egypt, first born sons fast on this day.) 14 Nisan on the Jewish Calendar	Religiously observant first-born sons will fast from dawn to dusk. This is a somber time.
Sunday, April 13 – Sunday, April 20	Passover (The celebration of Freedom from Egyptian slavery 3,200 years ago.) 15 Nisan – 22 Nisan on the Jewish Calendar	Avoid food at events: it will cost us too much and will be too much of a hassle. If you must serve food, make sure it is especially kosher certified for Passover according to JCC policy. This is a festive time.
Sunday, April 13	Passover First Day 15 Nisan on the Jewish Calendar	People who are religiously observant and those who want to be part of the culture might be at a special meal the night before (when we are closed anyhow), in synagogue the morning of, and might engage in holiday activities throughout the day. The JCC is closed beginning at 5 pm the night before and on this day except for Passover activities. This is a festive time.
Monday, April 14	Passover Second Day Ends at sundown. 16 Nisan on the Jewish Calendar	People who are religiously observant might be at a special meal the night before (when we are closed anyhow), in synagogue the morning of, and might engage in holiday activities throughout the day. This is a festive time.
Saturday, April 19	Passover Seventh Day 21 Nisan on the Jewish Calendar	People who are religiously observant might be in synagogue. the night before, the morning of, and might engage in holiday activities throughout the day. The JCC is closed beginning at 5 PM the night before and on this day except for Passover activities. This is a festive time.
Sunday, April 20	Passover Eighth Day Ends at sundown. 22 Nisan on the Jewish Calendar	People who are religiously observant might be in synagogue the night before (when we are closed anyhow), the morning of, and might engage in holiday activities throughout the day. This is a festive time.
Wednesday, April 23	Yom HaShoah Eve (Holocaust Memorial Day.) Special consideration begins at 5 pm.	Specific events will be dependent on community commemoration. This is a somber time.
Thursday, April 24	Yom HaShoah (Holocaust Memorial Day.) Ends at sundown. 27 Nisan on the Jewish Calendar	Specific events will be dependent on community commemoration. This is a somber time.
Tuesday, April 29	Yom haZikaron Eve (Israel Memorial Day.) Special consideration begins at 5 pm.	Specific events will be dependent on community commemoration. This is a somber time.
Wednesday, April 30	Yom haZikaron (Israel Memorial Day.) Ends at sundown. 4 Iyar on the Jewish Calendar	Specific events will be dependent on community commemoration. This is a somber time.
Wednesday, April 30	Yom ha’Atzma’ut Eve (Israel Independence Day.)	Specific events will be dependent on community commemoration. This is a festive time.
Thursday, May 1	Yom ha’Atzma’ut (Israel Independence Day.) Ends at sundown. 5 Iyar on the Jewish Calendar	Specific events will be dependent on community commemoration. This is a festive time.
Thursday, May 15	Lag ba’Omer Eve (The 33rd Day since Passover celebrating relief from oppression 2,000 years ago.) Special consideration begins at 5 pm.	Be aware that other organizations might have bonfires and the like. This is a festive time.
Friday, May 16	Lag ba’Omer Ends at sundown. 18 Iyar on the Jewish Calendar	Be aware that other organizations might have bonfires and the like. This is a festive time.
Monday, June 2	Shavuot First Day (The celebration of the giving of the Torah at Mt. Sinai 3,200 years ago.) Ends at sundown. 5 Sivan on the Jewish Calendar	People who are religiously observant might be in synagogue the night before (when we are closed anyhow), the morning of, and might engage in holiday activities throughout the day. The JCC is closed beginning at 5 pm the night before and on this day except for Shavuot activities. This is a festive time.
Tuesday, June 3	Shavuot Second Day Ends at sundown. 6 Sivan on the Jewish Calendar	People who are religiously observant might be in synagogue the night before (when we are closed anyhow), the morning of, and might engage in holiday activities throughout the day. This is a festive time.
Sunday, July 13	Sh’va Esrei b’Tammuz (17 Tammuz. Commemorates an array of bad days in Jewish history including Moses breaking the tablets and the Romans entering Jerusalem to destroy it in the year 70 CE.) 17 Tammuz on the Jewish Calendar	People who are religiously observant will fast from dawn to dusk. This is a somber day.
Saturday, August 2	Tisha b’Av Eve (The Ninth of Av. Commemorates the destruction of the Temples in ancient days among other tragedies.) Special consideration begins at 5 pm	People who are religiously observant will fast from sundown to sundown and will be in synagogue for the reading of the Book of Lamentations. This is a somber day.
Sunday, August 3	Tisha b’Av Ends at sundown. 9 Av on the Jewish Calendar	People who are religiously observant will fast from sundown to sundown the night before and will be in synagogue for the reading of the Book of Lamentations and prayers throughout the day. This is a somber day.