



# Shavuot

Jewish

[shuh·voo·owt](#) 

Shavuot is known as the “festival of weeks” and combines two major observances: the grain harvest of the early summer and the receiving of the Torah on Mount Sinai during the Israelites’ exodus from Egypt. It is celebrated seven weeks after Passover (Pesach) with special readings of poems and the Book of Ruth at the Synagogue and an all night religious study session called the Tikkun Leil Shavuot.



This collection of information sheets on major holidays and cultural events is a joint partnership of the School of Information staff, the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, and the Office of the Provost. Facts have been vetted by U-M’s Association of Religious Counselors (ARC), and other campus groups. Public feedback is welcome; please email [DEIHolidayFacts@umich.edu](mailto:DEIHolidayFacts@umich.edu).

## Date

- Link to [Interfaith Calendar](#) for date/year lookup.
- Jewish holy days begin and end at sundown.
- Dates may vary depending on how one observes

## Greetings

Happy Shavuot or Chag Sameach (CHAHG sah-MAY-ach,) the Hebrew expression that translates to “happy holiday.”

## Common Practices and Celebrations

- Eating milk and cheese products as part of the celebration.
- Reading of the book of Ruth as recorded in the Christian Scriptures.

## Common Dietary Restrictions

- No leavened or fermented food are eaten. Additionally, some, not all, observers of Judaism follow kosher rules of eating.
- Meat and dairy are not eaten together. Pork and seafood are not eaten.

## Impact to U-M Community

- Avoid scheduling important academic deadlines, events, or activities during the first night leading into the holiday; this would include night study sessions.
- Expect that observers will not attend meetings or communicate during the first and last day of these Holy Days.
- Link to [U-M Guidance Regarding Conflicts.](#)

## U-M Campus Resources

- [Maize Pages - Jewish](#), U-M
- [Association of Religious Counselors](#), U-M

## Information Sources

- [My Jewish Learning - Shavuot](#)
- [Shabbat](#)
- [Kosher Eating](#)

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