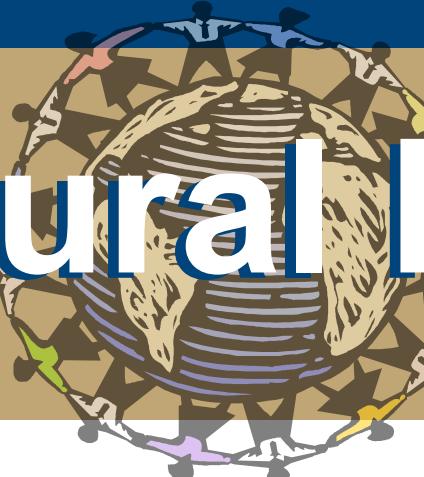


Cultural News



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Sukkot (Feast of Booths or Tabernacles)

What is Sukkot?

Sukkot (Feast of Booths or Tabernacles) is one of the three biblically based pilgrimage holidays known as the **shalosh regalim**. It is an agricultural festival that originally was considered a thanksgiving for the fruit harvest. Sukkot are hut-like structures that the Jews lived in during the 40 years of travel through the wilderness after the exodus from Egypt. As a temporary dwelling, the sukkah also represents the fact that all existence is fragile, and therefore Sukkot is a time to appreciate the shelter of our homes and our bodies.

How is Sukkot celebrated?

Sukkot is celebrated by, first of all, building a sukkah. Jews are required to eat in the sukkah for eight days (seven days in Israel), and some even sleep in the sukkah for the duration of the holiday. The sukkah is decorated and the first day is considered a holy day in which most forms of work are forbidden. The rabbis dictated that **arbat ha'minim** (four species) should be held together and waved during the holiday. These are based on four plants mentioned in the Bible, and the rabbinic version includes the following: **etrog** (fruit of the citron tree), **lulav** (palm frond), **hadas** (leaves from the myrtle tree), and **aravah** (leaves from the willow tree). This waving ceremony was performed at the Temple in the ancient world.

The seventh day of Sukkot is called **Hoshanah Rabah**. On that day in the synagogue Jews circle the room seven times while the arbat ha'minim are held and special prayers are recited.

What kinds of foods are eaten on Sukkot?

There are no traditional Sukkot foods, except for **kreplach** (stuffed dumplings). Sukkot meal inspiration can come from the harvest origin of the holiday, and meals can include fresh fruits and vegetables, or other harvest-

related ingredients. Of course, challah, chicken soup, and kugels are traditional Jewish foods that can be served on Sukkot (or any time of the year).

What is the proper greeting for Sukkot?

To wish someone a Happy Sukkot, simply say "Chag Sameach!" (Happy Holiday).

When is Sukkot?

On the Hebrew calendar, Sukkot starts on the 15th of Tishrei and continues until the 21st of Tishrei.

Sukkot occurs on the following dates:

Jewish Year 5773: Sunset September 30, 2012 – Nightfall October 7, 2012

Jewish Year 5774: Sunset September 18, 2013 – Nightfall September 25, 2013

Jewish Year 5775: Sunset October 8, 2014 – Nightfall October 15, 2014

Jewish Year 5776: Sunset September 28, 2015 – Nightfall October 5, 2015

Jewish Year 5777: Sunset October 17, 2016 – Nightfall October 25, 2016

Jewish Year 5778: Sunset October 5, 2017 – Nightfall October 13, 2017

Jewish Year 5779: Sunset September 24, 2018 – Nightfall October 2, 2018

Jewish Year 5780: Sunset October 14, 2019 – Nightfall October 22, 2019

Jewish Year 5781: Sunset October 3, 2020 – Nightfall October 11, 2020

Jewish Year 5782: Sunset September 21, 2021 – Nightfall September 29, 2021

Jewish Year 5783: Sunset October 10, 2022 – Nightfall October 18, 2022

Written by Tori Avey

<http://toriavey.com/what-is-sukkot/>



SEPTEMBER 2016 CALENDAR

HUNGER ACTION MONTH

NATIONAL TRANSLATORS/INTERPRETERS MONTH

NATIONAL HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

- 1- Save Japan's Dolphins Day (Japan)
- 1-7- National Nutrition Week (UNISEF-India)
- 4- National Wildlife Day
- 6-15- Paryushana Parava (Jain)
- 8- Nativity of Virgin Mary (Christian)
- 10- Waqf al Arafa - Hajj Day (Islam)
- 11-14- Eid al Adha (Islam)
- 15- LGBT Center Awareness Day (International)
- 17-23- Constitution Week (US)
- 19-25- International Week of the Deaf
- 22- American Business Women's Day (US)
- 23- Celebrate Bi-sexuality Day (International)
- 25- World Pharmacists Day
- 26- World Contraception Day
- 27- Sukkot (Jewish)
- 29- Meskel (Ethiopian Orthodox Christian)
- 30- International Interpreters and Translators Day

International Week of the Deaf

International Week of the Deaf is celebrated by the **World Federation of the Deaf** (WFD) and its national associations and their affiliates globally during the last full week of September (Monday through Sunday), culminating with International Day of the Deaf on the last Sunday of the week.

The WFD is an international organization composed of 130 national associations of the deaf that, in collaboration with the United Nations, serves all countries with focus on improving human rights of deaf persons, the status of national sign languages, access to education, and access to information technology and services. The National Association of the Deaf (NAD) represents the United States as an affiliate member of the WFD.

The WFD today encourages its national associations and their affiliates to celebrate International Week of the Deaf by focusing on the theme of Human Rights through Sign Languages. This focus gives greater attention to deaf culture and the achievements of deaf people, portrayed in a positive way. This focus also increases solidarity among deaf people and their supporters, and provides an opportunity to stimulate greater efforts to promote the rights of deaf people throughout the world.

In the United States, celebration of International Week of the Deaf is held throughout the year, not only during the last full week of September. For instance, the NAD took part in the **Midwest DeaFest**, jointly hosted in August 2009 by four state associations of the deaf. Affiliate organizations or other groups may hold a Deaf Festivals during a given day or month (in April, as an example), or a library may have an exhibit in December in honor of the birth of Laurent Clerc (December 26, 1785) and Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet (December 10, 1787).

Events can also range from a themed exhibit in the corridor of a school to a full week of activities scheduled throughout a given city. Performing artists, lectures, art exhibits, film festivals, historical exhibits, Deaf Festivals, booths in area shopping malls, cultural activities held in conjunction with sporting events -- these are just a sampling of past events held across the nation.

Objectives:

- Gain greater understanding of the American deaf and hard of hearing community and its culture and heritage.
- Learn about sign language as an essential human right and how it is growing in popularity across the United States.
- Find out about resources within your community, e.g., sign language classes.
- Discover ways to promote the human rights of deaf people and access to education and technologies.



<https://nad.org/iwd>

New Supervisor Profile: Adriana Mortenson

Adriana Mortenson is the new Dispatch/Training Supervisor for UCDMC Medical Interpreting Services. She started with MIS as a Spanish Medical Interpreter in June 2015. She was promoted into a leadership position earlier this year in March of 2016.

She was born and raised in Lapaz, Bolivia. During her childhood years, Adriana lived in New York City for three years, where she started learning English. She graduated from high school in Bolivia, and moved back to the United States for college, and later obtained a graduate degree from Colorado State University in Spanish Language and Cultures.

For 3 years she was the President of a Spanish Literacy Group for children in Fort Collins, CO, that helped Hispanic children retain their native language through reading. Under her supervision and direction, college and graduate students presented story telling sessions in different parts of the community such as the public library and other outreach programs. Adriana supervised interpreters at the University of Utah hospital, where one of her responsibilities was coordinating language requests.

Adriana continues to enhance her language skills, and is learning Korean. While working as a medical assistant, Adriana received "Bridging the Gap" medical interpreter training and has 10 years of experience as a healthcare interpreter. She enjoys teaching Spanish as a second language and educating the UCDMC community on the roles and responsibilities of an interpreter.

This past May, Adriana led her first large training here at UCDMC, training 8 staff and 14 community interpreters on the roles and ethics of medical interpreters through the 40 hour "Connecting Worlds" curriculum.

We asked her how she feels about joining the MIS management team? In her own words, "What I love most about joining the management team and my new position is that I can combine my teaching skills with my interpreting skills. I always wanted a job where I can do both and this is the perfect place, plus I love working with all you guys!"

Welcome aboard, Adriana! We are happy to have you as a part of the MIS management team.

