

March Events

Youth Night- Study & Fun every Friday @ 6:30pm

Children's Classes - ages 5-11 every Saturday @ 2:30pm

Community Worship - Pray for our community & our youth Tuesdays @ 7:30am

Groove & Stretch - Worship and movement, Tuesdays @ 8:45am

Gardening Lessons - Mon-Wed-Sat @ 9am; Garden Coaching Coordinator, Dell @ 704-563-2323

Náv-Rúz (New Year) Celebration and the end of the Fast - March 20th

Overcoming Racism Discussion Series - March 23 @ 2pm

Community Service Project - March 29 from 3-5PM

For more info:
Everett: 612-986-8619
Ade: 336-999-1401

Empowering Youth

Learning, service, travel, developing powers of thought, discernment and expression, building community and serving humanity.



The Bahá'í Community

In thousands upon thousands of locations around the world, the teachings of the Bahá'í Faith inspire individuals and communities as they work to improve their own lives and contribute to the advancement of civilization.

Bahá'í beliefs address such essential themes as the oneness of God and religion, the oneness of humanity and freedom from prejudice, the inherent nobility of the human being, the progressive revelation of religious truth, the development of spiritual qualities, the integration of worship and service, the fundamental equality of the sexes, the harmony between religion and science, the centrality of justice to all human endeavours, the importance of education, and the dynamics of the relationships that are to bind together individuals, communities, and institutions as humanity advances towards its collective maturity.

Devotional Life

Service and worship are at the heart of the pattern of community life that Bahá'ís around the world are trying to bring into being. They are two distinct, yet inseparable elements that propel the life of the community forward. 'Abdu'l-Bahá writes that, "Success and prosperity depend upon service to and worship of God".



Involvement in the Life of Society

Bahá'u'lláh said: "Be anxiously concerned with the needs of the age ye live in, and centre your deliberations on its exigencies and requirements." Bahá'ís throughout the world—both individually and collectively—strive to become involved in the life of society, working shoulder to shoulder with diverse groups to contribute to the advancement of material and spiritual civilization.



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We have a lot happening in March!

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Youth Educating Children

The purpose of the moral and spiritual education of children program is to provide spiritual education by helping children learn about the qualities they inherently possess (like love, truthfulness and justice) and giving them an opportunity to develop the understanding of these qualities and build strong character.



Bahá'í Prayer & Fasting

Fasting has been a significant practice of religion throughout human history. Many of the Manifestations of God Themselves went through a period of meditation and fasting at some point in Their lives during which, in intense communion with God, They contemplated the mysteries of the universe and the nature of Their mission.



However, it is important to note that fasting should not be viewed as a practice of asceticism, nor is it to be used as a means of penance: ***“[T]his material fast is an outer token of the spiritual fast; it is a symbol of self-restraint, the withholding of oneself from all appetites of the self, taking on the characteristics of the spirit, being carried away by the breathings of heaven and catching fire from the love of God.”***

In the Bible (Exodus 34:28), fasting is mentioned as early as the time of Moses when he received the 10 Commandments. Mathew 4:1-11 tells us that Jesus fasted for 40 days for spiritual renewal. The Bible recommends fasting for all: ***“And he said unto them, This kind can come forth by nothing, but by Prayer and Fasting.”*** – Mark 9:29

During Ramadan, the ninth month of the Muslim year, fasting is observed from sunrise to sunset: ***“Praise belongs to God who appointed among those roads His month, the month of Ramadan, the month of fasting, the month of submission, the month of purity, the month of putting to test, the month of standing in prayer, in which the Qur'an was sent down as guidance to the people.”*** – Qur'an 2:183

In the writings of the Bahá'í Faith, prayer and fasting are referred to as the ***“two wings to man's life”***. Every year, during the last month of the Bahá'í calendar, Bahá'ís all around the world abstain from food and drink for 19 days from sunrise to sunset. This Fast, the Bahá'í teachings say, purifies the body and the spirit:

“Blessed is the one who through the heat generated by the Fast increaseth his love, and who, with joy and radiance, ariseth to perform worthy deeds.” – Bahá'u'lláh

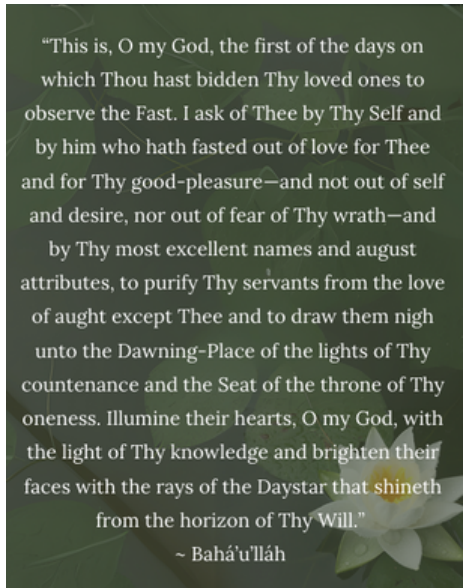
Bahá'u'lláh designated a nineteen-day period each year during which adult Bahá'ís fast **from sunrise to sunset** each day. This period coincides with the Bahá'í month of Alá—meaning Loftiness—from 2 to 20 March, which immediately precedes the Bahá'í new year. It is a time of prayer, meditation, and spiritual rejuvenation.

Sunrise & Sunset for Charlotte

Day of the Week	Date	Sunrise	Sunset
Saturday	March 01, 2025	6:51 AM	6:19 PM
Sunday	March 02, 2025	6:49 AM	6:20 PM
Monday	March 03, 2025	6:48 AM	6:21 PM
Tuesday	March 04, 2025	6:47 AM	6:22 PM
Wednesday	March 05, 2025	6:45 AM	6:23 PM
Thursday	March 06, 2025	6:44 AM	6:24 PM
Friday	March 07, 2025	6:43 AM	6:25 PM
Saturday	March 08, 2025	6:41 AM	6:26 PM
Sunday	March 09, 2025	7:40 AM	7:26 PM
Monday	March 10, 2025	7:39 AM	7:27 PM
Tuesday	March 11, 2025	7:37 AM	7:28 PM
Wednesday	March 12, 2025	7:36 AM	7:29 PM
Thursday	March 13, 2025	7:35 AM	7:30 PM
Friday	March 14, 2025	7:33 AM	7:31 PM
Saturday	March 15, 2025	7:32 AM	7:32 PM
Sunday	March 16, 2025	7:30 AM	7:33 PM
Monday	March 17, 2025	7:29 AM	7:34 PM
Tuesday	March 18, 2025	7:28 AM	7:35 PM
Wednesday	March 19, 2025	7:26 AM	7:36 PM

Bahá'í Fasting Prayer

A number of special prayers have been revealed specifically for the period of the fast. One, for example, begins with these words:



April Events

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Holy Day Celebrations - April hosts the Most Holy Festival of the Bahá'í calendar; April 21, 29 & May 2

Vibrant Communities Conference - April 26 & 27, Queens University - Registration is free, transportation provided, childcare included!

Youth Movie & Game Night - April 29 from 6-8PM

Serving Humanity

Attending to the material and spiritual well-being of our neighborhood is the foundation of what we do.



"All men have been called into being for the betterment of the world. It behoveth every soul to arise and serve his brethren for the sake of God."

Youth

Youth have played a vital role in Bahá'í history. The Báb Himself declared His mission when He was but twenty-five years old and so many among the band of His followers were in the prime of their youth when they embraced His Revelation. During the ministries of Bahá'u'lláh and 'Abdu'l-Bahá, young people were at the forefront of efforts to proclaim the message of the new Faith and to share its teachings with others.

Following in the path that these and other extraordinary figures had opened, thousands of young Bahá'ís have arisen in each generation to respond to the call of Bahá'u'lláh. Their efforts are guided by the Head of the Bahá'í Faith—today, the Universal House of Justice—which encourages young Bahá'ís to draw on the zeal and enthusiasm characteristic of the period of youth and so make decisive contributions to the advancement of spiritual and material civilization.

The youth movement in Charlotte is made up of two distinct groups of youth: The Junior Youth Spiritual Empowerment Program - created—to give youth spaces to explore big ideas, refine the power of expression utilizing the arts and oratory skills, build the aptitude to create environments of mutual support, and strengthen spiritual qualities. It's about empowering youth to read the reality around them and recognize the forces shaping the world and developing the power to choose and change. This programs lets youth be part of something greater—working for positive change.



Celebrations & Holy Days - The Festival of Riḍván

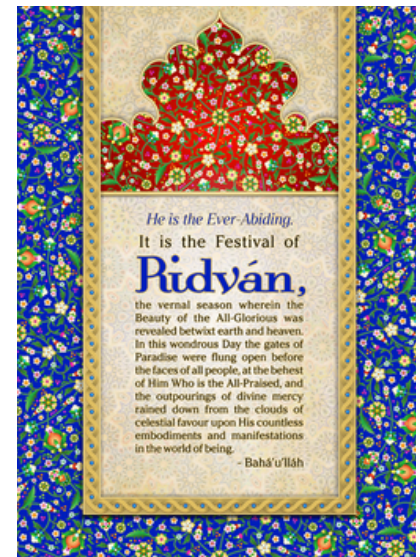
Bahá'í communities worldwide celebrate their most sacred festival, Riḍván, which starts the end of April ending the beginning of May each year. This event commemorates the 12 days that Bahá'u'lláh spent on the banks of the Tigris River in Baghdad in 1863, during which He declared His mission as God's Messenger for a new age and revealed the spiritual principles that are the foundation of His teachings. The name "Riḍván" means "paradise," and during the 12 days, Bahá'í communities come together to celebrate this joyous occasion. While the Bahá'í Festival of Riḍván lasts for 12 days, three of those days are particularly important: the first, ninth, and twelfth.

The First Day of Riḍván

This day commemorates the Declaration of Bahá'u'lláh as a Manifestation of God. On this day that Bahá'u'lláh shared three significant teachings. He condemned religious wars, declared that there would not be another Manifestation of God for 1,000 years, and affirmed that all the names of God were fully manifested in all things. The day holds special significance in the Bahá'í Faith as a reminder of its founding principles and teachings.

The Ninth Day of Riḍván

On the ninth day, the flooding Tigris receded enough for Bahá'u'lláh's family to cross the river and join him in the garden. The reunion of Bahá'u'lláh's family is symbolic of unity and love and it inspires the Bahá'í community to celebrate the Riḍván Festival with joy.



The Twelfth Day of Riḍván

This day commemorates the exile of Bahá'u'lláh, his family, and several followers to Constantinople. Although this exile would lead to imprisonment, torture, sickness, hardship, and death, it would also lead to the growth and spread of Bahá'u'lláh's teachings. Bahá'ís celebrate this day as the start of their faith and as a symbol of renewal, peace, and Bahá'u'lláh's vision of unity and progress for all people.