

Friendship International



NOVEMBER 7, 2025

THE STORY BEHIND “BLACK FRIDAY”

Even if you are new to the U.S., chances are you have seen “Black Friday” sales online since websites around the world advertise big discounts this time of year. But in America, Black Friday actually has a cultural history that connects Thanksgiving to Christmas.

The day after Thanksgiving (always the fourth Thursday in November) marks the unofficial start of Christmas shopping in the U.S. The name “Black Friday” started in the 1960s in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Police officers used it to describe the traffic jams and crowded sidewalks that happened when thousands of people rushed downtown to shop. Retailers later gave the name a twist, saying that it was the day their stores went from being “in the red” (losing money) to “in the black” (making a profit).

For many years, Black Friday meant waking up before sunrise (or even in the middle of the night) to stand in line outside stores waiting for doors to open. Those willing to brave the crowds to score a deal would look through all the ads included in the Thanksgiving Day newspaper and plan out their shopping routes. Today, the internet has changed how we approach it. Most stores now post their Black Friday discounts online, and less people go out because they can find great deals from the comfort of home.

Black Friday is a unique part of American holiday culture. Leave it to Americans to turn the day after giving thanks for all their blessings into the biggest shopping day of the year!



UPCOMING DATES

November 7th	Dollhouses with Diane Hodge
November 14th	International Music Day
November 21st	Friendship’s Thanksgiving Feast
November 22nd	Ashland’s International Thanksgiving (bring your family)
November 28th	No Friendship, Thanksgiving Break

Midway Old Fashioned Christmas Kick-Off



Saturday, November 8th
10:00AM to 4:00PM

101 E Main St
Midway, KY

Head to the nearby small town of Midway for the annual Old Fashioned Christmas Kick-Off event! Explore a variety of local arts, crafts, clothing and gift vendors on the northern side of E. Main Street.

Free Parking Nearby.

Citizenship Class

Lexington Public Library
Marksbury Family Branch - Keeneland
Community Room

Monday, November 10th, 5PM

Join instructors from Kentucky Refugee Ministries for this free citizenship class to review for the U.S. citizenship exam. Student must be a Green Card holder for at least 4 years and 9 months. No registration is required.



[Click here for more](#)



Christmas Tree Lightings & Parades

With Halloween almost over, the holidays of November and December will soon be here!

Check the link below for a round up of dates and times of upcoming tree lightings and holiday parades in Lexington and the surrounding smaller towns.

[Click here for more details](#)



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