



Grace at the Roots

ROOTED IN GRACE • ANCHORED IN TRUTH

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FAITH • FAMILY • WELLNESS • EVIDENCE • HERITAGE • DISCOVERY

2026 PLANNING & GROWING JOURNAL

Monthly calendar | Weekly glance | Garden + greenhouse | Property development

SEPTEMBER 2026

Grace at the Roots | Gather what matters. Tend what is living.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 Set monthly priorities	2 Choose a local garden focus	3	4	5
6 Weekly reflection	7 Labor Day	8	9	10 New Moon - traditional marker	11 Remembrance / Patriot Day	12
13 Weekly reflection	14 Review growing notes	15 Midmonth reset	16	17	18	19
20 Weekly reflection	21	22 Autumn Equinox	23 Pest + irrigation check	24	25	26 Full Moon - traditional marker
27 Weekly reflection	28 Plan next month's planting	29	30 Month-end reflection			
GATHER	TEND		DISCERN	ROOT		BRAND
Family + appointments	Property + garden		Decisions	Faith + rest		Create + publish

MONTH: _____ YEAR: _____

A reusable monthly rhythm for the entire year

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Date: ____	Date: ____	Date: ____	Date: ____	Date: ____	Date: ____	Date: ____
Date: ____	Date: ____	Date: ____	Date: ____	Date: ____	Date: ____	Date: ____
Date: ____	Date: ____	Date: ____	Date: ____	Date: ____	Date: ____	Date: ____
Date: ____	Date: ____	Date: ____	Date: ____	Date: ____	Date: ____	Date: ____
Date: ____	Date: ____	Date: ____	Date: ____	Date: ____	Date: ____	Date: ____
Date: ____	Date: ____	Date: ____	Date: ____	Date: ____	Date: ____	Date: ____

GATHER	TEND	DISCERN	ROOT	MONTH-END NOTES
Family, appointments, what is already here	Garden, greenhouse, property, home	Decisions, research, what needs clarity	Faith, rest, reflection, restoration	What grew? What changed? What carries forward?

WEEKLY GLANCE

Week of: _____ | Rooted in grace. Anchored in truth.

GATHER	TEND	DISCERN	ROOT
Appointments / people Meals / home One thing to enjoy	Property priority Garden / greenhouse Maintenance	Decision due Research needed What can wait?	Prayer / reflection Rest boundary Gratitude

DAY	TIME / APPOINTMENTS	FAMILY + HOME	BRAND	PROPERTY	GARDEN / GREENHOUSE	NEXT ACTION	NOTES
MONDAY							
TUESDAY							
WEDNESDAY							
THURSDAY							
FRIDAY							
SATURDAY							
SUNDAY							

TOP THREE	1.	2.	3.
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SEPTEMBER GARDEN + GREENHOUSE

Location-flexible plan | Use trusted local guidance, current weather, and your own observations

WHEN	AREA / CROP	ACTION	METHOD / CHECK	SUCCESS SIGNAL	STATUS	SOURCE
Week 1	Whole garden	Map sun, shade, water and exposed areas	Observe morning + afternoon conditions	Site map completed	Not started	S1 / S3
Week 1	Local guidance	Find your nearest Extension or trusted regional source	Note seasonal windows, frost dates and cautions	Regional source saved	Not started	S1
Week 1	Soil + beds	Check drainage, moisture and soil readiness	Avoid working saturated soil; record conditions	Bed notes completed	Not started	S1 / S3
Week 1-2	Crop trial 1	Choose one locally suitable crop or variety	Start small; record sowing or transplant date	Trial established	Not started	S1
Week 1-2	Crop trial 2	Choose a second locally suitable crop	Compare location, protection or timing	Trial established	Not started	S1
Week 2	Succession plan	Choose a crop suited to repeated sowings	Set a locally appropriate interval	Next date recorded	Not started	S1
Week 2-3	Greenhouse	Check ventilation, shade, water and min/max temperature	Log daily extremes for 7 days	Conditions documented	Not started	S1 / S3
Twice weekly	All beds	Scout before treating pests	Identify pest; note count and damage; choose least-risk response	Trend stable / improving	Ongoing	S2
Week 3	Bed protection	Plan mulch, cover crop, shade or frost protection as needed	Match protection to local weather and season	Materials ready	Not started	S1 + local guidance
Week 4	Next season	Reserve space for the next planting window	Check local timing, drainage and crop rotation	Area reserved	Not started	S1
Month end	Records	Review germination, weather, water, pests and harvests	Keep what worked; change one variable at a time	Next-month plan updated	Not started	S1 / S2 / S3

DATE	MIN	MAX	HUMIDITY	WATER / IRRIGATION	PESTS / BENEFICIALS	SOW / TRANSPLANT / HARVEST	NOTES

PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR

Plan the land in an order that protects water, access, safety, and future flexibility

PHASE	PROJECT	WHY IT COMES HERE	OWNER	PRIORITY	STATUS	NEXT ACTION	EVIDENCE / DECISION NOTE
1 Understand	Base map + inventory	Boundaries, slopes, structures and utilities guide all later work		High	Not started	Gather survey, parcel map and site photos	
1 Understand	Drainage / flood / runoff	Avoid siting structures or beds in problem areas		High	Not started	Walk property after rain; map flow paths	
1 Understand	Soil tests by use	Garden, orchard and construction areas can differ		High	Not started	Sample separately; record amendments	
1 Understand	Water + irrigation capacity	Sets realistic greenhouse, garden and livestock scale		High	Not started	Document pressure, flow, quality and seasonal limits	
1 Understand	Utilities + access	Prevents rework and protects emergency access		High	Not started	Map utilities, gates, turnaround and delivery route	
2 Protect	Fencing + storage	Protects tools, materials and growing areas		Medium	Not started	Prioritize perimeter and working-yard zones	
2 Protect	Compost + materials	Supports soil work without blocking circulation		Medium	Not started	Choose all-weather, water-accessible location	
3 Build	Greenhouse siting	Needs sun, wind protection, drainage, water and power		High	Not started	Score 2-3 candidate sites	
3 Build	Barn / nursery	Coordinate trenching, access and shared utilities		Medium	Not started	Draft dependency order and rough budget	
3 Build	40 x 60 shop	Confirm setbacks, power, vehicle access and drainage		Medium	Not started	Check zoning; create requirements list	
4 Grow	Orchard / perennials	Long-lived plants need confident water and site choices		Medium	Not started	Observe one full season before final layout	
Ongoing	Permits / zoning	Rules vary by parcel and can change the plan		High	Ongoing	Verify with responsible local authority	

THE YEAR AT A GLANCE

One rhythm across family, brand, property and growing

MONTH	FAMILY + APPOINTMENTS	BRAND + JOURNAL	PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT	GARDEN + GREENHOUSE	SEASONAL REFLECTION
JANUARY					
FEBRUARY					
MARCH					
APRIL					
MAY					
JUNE					
JULY					
AUGUST					
SEPTEMBER	Appointments + gatherings	Weekly reflections; month-end review	Map water, drainage, soil and access	Locally suitable crop trials; greenhouse log	What needs attention? What can be set down?
OCTOBER					
NOVEMBER					
DECEMBER					

ANNUAL RHYTHM	Winter: plan + repair	Spring: establish + plant	Summer: protect + maintain	Autumn: harvest + evaluate	Keep records so the property teaches us
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SOURCES + METHOD

Plain science, local observation, and transparent tradition

ID	SOURCE	USED FOR	WHAT IT CAN TELL US	LIMIT / CARE NOTE	LINK
S1	USDA NIFA - Land-grant University Directory	Find regional Extension guidance	Connects U.S. readers with land-grant university and Extension resources	Outside the U.S., use a comparable public agricultural advisory service	nifa.usda.gov/grants/land-grant-university-website-directory
S2	UC Statewide IPM Program	Pest scouting + response	Monitor first; combine cultural, biological and least-risk approaches	Identify the actual pest and follow label / safety requirements	ipm.ucanr.edu
S3	USDA Plant Hardiness Zone Map	Perennial cold-hardiness context	Average annual extreme minimum temperature using 1991-2020 data	Not an exact vegetable calendar; does not replace microclimate records	planthardiness.ars.usda.gov
S4	Old Farmer's Almanac - Planting Calendar	Traditional regional reference	Prompts for local frost windows and traditional moon dates	Lunar planting is tradition, not the primary agronomic rule	almanac.com/gardening/planting-calendar
S5	Mayoral et al. (2020), Agronomy 10(7):955	Evidence check for lunar claims	Review found no reliable science-based evidence for lunar-phase agricultural effects	Yield rules are not established	doi.org/10.3390/agronomy10070955
S6	U.S. Naval Observatory	Astronomical dates	Authoritative moon phase and seasonal dates	Astronomical dates do not establish planting effectiveness	aa.usno.navy.mil

DECISION RULE

Use extension guidance to choose the season. Use current weather and bed conditions to choose the week. Use germination, pest and harvest records to improve the next decision. Moon phases may remain as meaningful traditional markers, but are not treated here as proven yield tools.

ADAPTING FOR YOUR LOCATION

Start with a trusted regional agricultural or Extension source. Verify frost, heat, rainfall and irrigation patterns, then build one season of site-specific records. Choose the season from local guidance and the exact week from current conditions on your own property.