

Proclamation

**AUGUST 2 – 8, 2021 AS:
4th ANNUAL INTERFAITH AWARENESS WEEK**

- Whereas,** the City of Fruita honors and respects all religious beliefs, cultures, creeds, and races and is recognized as an Inclusive City -- defined in the November 20, 2018 "Inclusivity Proclamation"-- and seeks to learn from those who believe that equal spiritual opportunity and human rights belong to every citizen; and
- Whereas,** various statistical sources calculate that there are between 4,000 and 5,000 different religions in the world and that the City of Fruita and Mesa County are home to a number of such different faith paths; and
- Whereas,** there are three or more Interfaith organizations currently operating in Fruita and Mesa County and are offering varied programs designed to bring more faith groups into dialogue together to discuss and better practice peace, harmony, cooperation, and understanding among all people; and
- Whereas,** the Grand Valley Interfaith Network (GVIN) has been networking together to support the constructive activities of local interfaith operations in Mesa County since 1977; and
- Whereas,** many Fruita faith groups have partnered with GVIN to create a series of activities and events in the days and weeks leading up to Interfaith Awareness Week, to be followed by days of individual reflection on connection and peace, which is open to all people of any faith including those who are not affiliated with any faith; and
- Whereas,** the ongoing activities of harmony among a diversity of faiths is a vital goal for all people throughout Fruita, North America, and the world; **NOW, THEREFORE,**

BE IT PROCLAIMED, that the City Council for the City of Fruita, on behalf of the citizens of Fruita, proclaims the first week in August 2021 to be **"INTERFAITH AWARENESS WEEK"** in the City of Fruita. **FURTHERMORE,** the City of Fruita hereby intends to annually recognize the importance of all beliefs in the community and to consider, respect, and value the uniqueness and importance of religious diversity in our community.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official Seal of the City of Fruita this 3rd day of August 2021.

Joel Kincaid
Mayor of the City of Fruita

