

Grand Rapids Interfaith Thanksgiving Celebration

Grand Rapids, Michigan



Our History

1987-1999

Interfaith Thanksgiving Services in Grand Rapids were held between Marywood, Congregation Ahavas Israel, Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox and Third Reformed Church beginning in 1987. That tradition became our city-wide Interfaith Thanksgiving Celebration in 2000 when the number of churches and faith traditions participating was greatly expanded.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Estimated Attendance</u>	<u>Main Speaker (Tradition)</u>	<u>Charity</u>
1. 2000	Cathedral of St. Andrew	?	Ghazala Munir (Muslim)	ACCESS
2. 2001	Central Reformed Church	?	Rabbi Michael Schadick (Jewish)	Second Harvest Gleaners
3. 2002	Congregation Ahavas Israel	600	Ken Wells (Buddhist)	?
4. 2003	Trinity United Methodist Church	?	Fred Stella (Hindu)	?
5. 2004	St. James Catholic Church	?	Kamal Nuriddin (Muslim)	ACCESS
6. 2005	Westminster Presbyterian Church	?	Rev. Mark Anthony Lord (Religious Science)	Downtown Food Pantry
7. 2006	Fountain Street Church	?	Sue Tracy, OP (Catholic)	Second Harvest Gleaners
8. 2007	Congregation Ahavas Israel	450	Michelle Loyd Paige (Christian Fellowship)	Temple Emanuel Food Bank & 2nd Harvest Gleaners
9. 2008	Cathedral of St. Andrew	?	Michael Hampton (Baha'i)	ACCESS & Kids' Food Basket
10. 2009	Fountain Street Church	?	(none)	ACCESS
			Theme: "The Many Languages of Gratitude"	
11. 2010	Temple Emanuel	400	Michael Hampton (Baha'i)	Kids' Food Basket
12. 2011	Cathedral of St. Andrew	400	(none)	Cathedral Clothing Outreach Center
			Theme: "Listening Our Way Into Thanksgiving"	
13. 2012	Bethlehem Lutheran Church	221	(none)	Family Promise of Grand Rapids
			Theme: "Serving One Another Gratefully"	
14. 2013	Temple Emanuel	265	Sunim (Buddhist)	Child Protective Services
			Theme: "The Warmth of Community"	
15. 2014	Westminster Presbyterian Church		Rev. Dr. Bill Lyons (Christian, UCC)	Habitat for Humanity & Downtown Food Pantry
			Theme: (A Deeper Need for) "Peace"	