WHEREAS, our nation was founded on the principles of religious freedom and tolerance; and

WHEREAS, the people of South Carolina are a diverse people, representing a variety of religious traditions; and

WHEREAS, Different Religions Week encourages people to attend a service of faith different than their own in an effort to promote religious tolerance.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim July 9 - 16, 2004, as DIFFERENT RELIGIONS WEEK throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to recognize the importance of religious tolerance to safeguarding the American values of freedom and democracy.