



Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares. - Heb. 13:2

At LCC, we often say that we are all about relationships. That's because the Bible is constantly emphasizing quality relationships marked by love and justice.

So, we begin with one on one relationships between friends and lovers. Then we look at groups, like families, teams, and faith communities. And as we celebrate the birth of our Nation, we reflect upon our patriotic loyalties and connections in the light of the Bible.

While the Bible affirms healthy relationships in all different contexts, including that of tribe and nation, it also delivers a sobering warning. When our patriotism becomes a way to oppress others, healthy relationships become toxic and destructive. The Bible leads us to a thoughtful and honest examination of how we align with the prevailing national powers, whether they be Pharaoh or Caesar or Washington D.C. And then there is the continual invitation to extend our "tribe" to strangers and even enemies.

Just a thought. Have a safe and blessed Fourth!

Scott ❤️

(Leviticus 19: 33-4)

KEEPING YOU INFORMED:

- **BAKED GOODS BINGO is back!** Join us on **July 3rd, 7 pm, at the Twp. Hall** for a roaring good time for the whole family! (Helpers come @ 5:30). Donations of baked goods are welcome: Tues.(7/1) at the Church, 10-1 or before Bingo from 5 – 7 at the Twp. Hall.

- **BBQ/POTLUCK: July 14** after worship. Church provides meat/buns, drinks, dinnerware. You bring a dish to share. Spread the word and invite a friend or two! (*No potluck on July 7*)
- **HARP CONCERT!** Mark your calendars now for a late summer concert on Aug. 25. Renowned harpist, Amy Shreve, will lead us in creative worship for our Sunday morning service. This is a great opportunity to invite a friend to a high quality music experience!
- Experience Jesus like never before in season 4 of **The Chosen**, Thursday evenings @ 6:30, beginning May 9, in the Church sanctuary. Lively discussion follows the 30 minute episode. There may be cookies!



The Romania Mission Trip is still on! If you are interested in being part of the mission team, contact

Shirley asap (see below). She will be sponsoring a **Yard Sale** to support the trip: Aug. 30-31, 9-5, 33366 S. Center St. (In the U-block). Items can be dropped off Thursdays at that location in August. Also the **can drive** continues. Drop off points: Northwood Restaurant, Lighthouse Church or Chuck's. Thank you for your donations for the project - Shirley Hollister 517-425-2836 or ahappyheart46@yahoo.com

Our **second quarter mission's giving** focused on [Bay Cliff Health Camp](#) and [Care Net Pregnancy Center of the EUP](#). Watch our website for giving totals after our ingatherings of **June 30** and **July 7**. Our **third quarter** is devoted to *local* outreach. We prayerfully look to support individuals, families, and organizations that are here in our community. Collection Sunday is **Sept. 29**.

(Over)



In the US, the Fourth of July is a national holiday when outdoor grills are heated up; beaches are packed; and cities and towns have parades and fireworks displays, picnics, and patriotic celebrations. All of

this is in remembrance of July 4, 1776, when the 13 American colonies declared their independence.

Independence appeals to all ages. It means “freedom from the control, influence, support, and aid of others.” So it’s not surprising that teenagers talk about gaining their independence. Many adults have the goal of being “independently wealthy.” And senior citizens want to maintain their independence. Whether anyone is ever truly independent is a discussion for another time and place—but it sounds good.

Craving political or personal independence is one thing; daring to pursue spiritual independence is problematic. What we need instead is a recognition and acceptance of our deep spiritual dependence. Jesus said, “I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing” ([John 15:5](#)). Far from being self-reliant, we are totally and eternally dependent on the One who died to set us free. Every day is our “dependence day.”

Reflect & Pray

I need Thee every hour, most gracious Lord;
No tender voice like Thine can peace afford.
I need Thee, O I need Thee; every hour I need
Thee!

O bless me now, my Savior, I come to Thee.
—Hawks/Lowry

*Our greatest strength comes from dependence
on our strong God.*

By: **Bill Crowder**

(from: <https://odb.org/2014/07/04/dependence-day>)

July Birthdays

1. Colliien Barko
10. Sophie Larson
10. Dot Stacy
11. Chuck Barko
15. Vivienne Seaman.
17. Linda Van Rhee
18. Rod Buxton
20. Bob Muter
24. Janet Gage

July Anniversaries

27. Rod & Connie Buxton
31. Len & Carol Webber

(If we don’t have your birthday or anniversary, let us know!)

Pearls Of Wisdom "Who I Am In Christ"

*I am never separated from the love of God.
See: Romans 8: 38-39*

- Ruth Wise

ARTICLES FOR THE AUGUST NEWSLETTER ARE DUE TO THE CHURCH OFFICE BY TUESDAY, JULY 23rd (Email, if possible.)



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