



"...so he asked Jesus, "And who is my **neighbor**?" "
- Luke 10:29b

Summer on Drummond Island is a time for connection. We gather with family and friends during one of the most spectacular times and seasons of the year. In July, we feel a special connection to our country, especially this year as we celebrate the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. And these connections are important.

Yet it's also important to remember that the Bible commends us to loving our neighbor, *whoever that may be*. In the Hebrew scriptures, the command is to care for the stranger in your midst with the best of your Middle Eastern hospitality. In the New Testament, Jesus challenges us to carry it even further in loving our enemies, those who appear to be a threat to us. In the quote above, Jesus will answer the question by making a hated Samaritan the hero of his story... very challenging to a G-d fearing Jew of that time.

So this summer, as you gather with loved ones, as you watch the fireworks on July 4th, remember to extend that same love to strangers and "foreigners" that happen across your path. By doing so, you open the door to a wonderful experience of God's inclusive embrace. Enjoy!

Scott

Matthew 5:43-48

KEEPING YOU INFORMED:

- **POTLUCK/BBQ JULY 12** after worship! The church supplies hotdogs, brats, and drinks. You bring a side dish or dessert, along with a friend or two!
- **Thursday Bible Discussion Group** will be taking a summer break beginning July 9th and reconvening on Oct. 1st.
- Save the dates:
 - **Annual Meeting, Aug. 1** during potluck after worship, for a conversation about our mission and ministry.

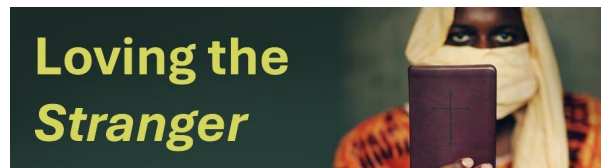
- **Baked goods Bingo Aug. 19th**, Twp. Hall, 7 pm (helpers arrive @ 5:30)



July through September begins our **third quarter missions giving**. The theme is "local outreach", where we seek to support individuals, families, and organizations, both prayerfully and financially. Just like the church in Acts chapter 2, we want to be a blessing to our community in creative ways, sharing the good news of Jesus to all!

Romania Outreach: Oct. 2-17, 2026. Pray about joining a group which will minister to needy, rural Romanian families. Not a missionary? Come anyway! This could be a life-changing adventure for you! Find details on our website homepage. Thank You, Shirley Hollister 517-425-2836

Our **Second Quarter Mission Focus** was directed toward taking care of Jesus' kids: [Bay Cliff Health Camp](#) and [Compass Pregnancy and Resource Center](#). Check them out! Collection was Sunday, **June 28th** (and July 5). Look for outreach totals on our website!



After a member of my family converted to a different religion, Christian friends urged me to "convince" her to return to Jesus. I found myself first seeking to love my family member as Christ would—including in public places where some people frowned at her "foreign-looking" clothes. Others even made rude comments. "Go home!" one man yelled

(over)



at her from his truck, not knowing or apparently caring that she already is "home." Moses taught a much kinder way to act toward people whose dress or beliefs feel different. Teaching laws of justice and mercy, Moses instructed the children of Israel, "Do not oppress a foreigner; you yourselves know how it feels to be foreigners, because you were foreigners in Egypt" (Exodus 23:9). The edict expresses God's concern for all strangers, people vulnerable to bias and abuse, and it is repeated in Exodus 22:21 and Leviticus 19:33.

Therefore, when I spend time with my family member—at a restaurant, in a park, taking a walk together or sitting and talking with her on my front porch—I seek first to show her the same kindness and respect that I would want to experience. It's one of the best ways to remind her of the sweet love of Jesus, not by shaming her for rejecting Him, but by loving her as He loves all of us—with amazing grace.

Reflect & Pray

What attitudes do you hold about people who appear "different" or "foreign"? In what ways can you practice God's edict to not mistreat a "stranger" or "sojourner" in your land?

Gracious Father, open my heart today to a stranger or foreigner in my land, helping them to encounter You.

by Patricia Raybon (from:
<https://www.odbm.org/en/authors/patricia-raybon>)

Pearls Of Wisdom

"Who We Are in Christ"

We are blessed with every spiritual blessing in Christ.

See: Ephesians 1:3

❤️ - Ruth Wise

July Birthdays

1. Colleen Barko

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

July Anniversaries

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

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



ARTICLES FOR THE **AUGUST** NEWSLETTER ARE DUE TO THE CHURCH OFFICE BY: **TUESDAY, JULY 21ST** (Email, if possible)



*Lighthouse
Church*

Scott Danforth, Pastor
P.O. Box 40

(906) 493-5233
Drummond Island, MI 49726

E-mail: lighthousechurch906@gmail.com

www.LighthouseChurchDrummondIsland.com