Being A Neighbor

But wanting to justify himself, he [a lawyer] asked Jesus,
"And who is my neighbor?" *Jesus replied,*
"A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.' ***Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" He said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."***
~ Luke 10:29-37 (NRSV)

If there is among you anyone in need, a member of your community in any of your towns … do not be hard-hearted or tight-fisted toward your needy neighbor. You should rather open your hand, willingly lending enough to meet the need, whatever it may be. ~ Deuteronomy 15:7-8

Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and will be repaid in full. ~ Proverbs 19:17

Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. ~ Galatians 6:2

Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. ~ Hebrews 13:16

This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ~ John 15:12

Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. ~ Romans 12:13

Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law. Romans 13:10

Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. ~ Philippians 2:4

How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. ~ 1 John 3:17-18

A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed. ~ Proverbs 11:25 (NIV)

~ Joy Lutheran Church Evangelism Committee, Parker, Colorado ~