

It's Really about the Journey  
Wednesday, August 19, 2009

Last Saturday Debbie and I took part in one of our favorite activities. In the afternoon, we were able to hop on the motorcycle and ride on county roads throughout Dane County and Columbus County. We rode about 100 miles.

We saw a lake that we had never seen before. We didn't even know a lake existed in that location. We saw a cow that had just given birth to a calf. We saw beautiful fields, farms and valleys. We enjoyed the couple hours we had together, visiting through our helmet communications system and enjoying the countryside.

We have come to see our little excursions as "adventures". It is fun to set off on an adventure. Because during the journey, we are open to the discoveries and people we meet along the way.

I have come to see these adventures as a model for how I can be living life. If I can bring that openness to others, to new discoveries, to the presences of God as I journey through each day, my life will be richer. In all honesty, it is way too easy to look at the day as a series of things to get done and places to go. Life for me is about journeying well, each day, enjoying the gifts God brings to me in the form of people, experiences and opportunities.

At the end of the Gospel of John, Jesus is visiting with Peter. They had just finished a meal and some conversation where Jesus ended the conversation by simply saying to Peter, "Follow me!"

I am not sure why, but evidently Peter didn't want the conversation to end, and he said to Jesus, asking about another person, "What is going to happen to him?"

Jesus basically said, "It's really not your business, Peter, what happens to him. Stay focused on following me."

Jesus' words to Peter are helpful for me to hear. My task is to stay focused on following God faithfully. For me, today, that means being willing to journey well on this path of life. I want to remain open to the adventures that may come.

My hope is that you will join me in being open to the gifts God brings to us in the form of people, experiences and opportunities that come.

In the hope Jesus offers us,  
*Rev. Scott Carlson*

*The Mission of Sun Prairie United Methodist Church is to invite and welcome people to be committed and compassionate followers of Jesus Christ through worship, through spiritual growth, through fellowship and through service to others.*

