

Merry Christmas  
December 23, 2008

I came across a delightful little story recently that I thought of sharing with you on this day leading up to Christmas Eve/Christmas.

It was the day after Christmas at a church in San Francisco. The pastor of the church was looking over the lawn when he noticed that the baby Jesus was missing from among the figures. He hurried outside and saw a little boy with a red wagon, and in the wagon was the figure of the little infant Jesus. So he walked up to the boy and said, "Well, where did you get your passenger, my friend?"

The little boy replied, "I got Him at church."

"And why did you take Him?"

The boy explained, "Well, about a week before Christmas I prayed to the Baby Jesus and I told Him if He would bring me a red wagon for Christmas I would give Him a ride around the block in it."

I love that story.

Recently I have seen many people feeling stressed. I have seen people wondering if they will ever get everything done that they want to. I have seen people worried about work. I have seen people worried about travel. I have seen people worried about health.

I like the simplicity of the above story. It reminds me in a world of stress and anxiety, that it is okay to live with a simple trust in God and a profound gratitude for all I have.

Are you able to live with trust? Do you have gratitude for the gifts in your life?

My hope and prayer is that we will find time to nurture our relationship with God in the days ahead. It is that we will learn to have a simple trust (which is different than a blind trust), in the God who loves us and has loved us throughout the ages. It is that we can live with gratitude for all we have, seeing even the little things that come our ways as gifts.

I look forward to seeing you in worship on Christmas Eve and this next weekend.

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.*

