

In the Midst
Thursday, February 11, 2010

The sun is streaming through the window. The days are getting longer (ever so slowly). The sun is melting the snow on the pavement. This is good for my soul today.

The reality is that for many people this time of year is among the most challenging. We feel as if we are stuck deep in the midst of winter (and we are). Every flake of snow that falls is a reminder that winter doesn't want to loosen its grip. The clouds and storms that seem to be regular occurrences recently are reminders that there are days when we feel buried, not just by the snow but by the circumstances we may find ourselves in.

But today, the sun is streaming through the window. The days are slowly getting longer (ever so slowly). The sun is melting the snow on the pavement. This is good for my soul today.

It is a reminder that somehow, someday, this cold grip of winter will eventually give way to newness of life. Buried deep beneath this winters snow is grass that will grow and become green in its time. Buried deep beneath this winters snow is are new seeds that will sprout trees and flowers and fruit and life.

I have mostly lived in climates where cold winter was a necessary part of the rhythm of life. It has been a good lesson for me to remember that sometimes the challenges we face in life are also a necessary part of the rhythm of life also. Not that we should seek out the challenges and difficulties. But when they come, they can actually help us through life.

When we reflect upon the hurts and pains of our life, we can actually learn about ourselves. We can learn who we are and who God may be calling us to be and become. When we allow ourselves to learn, those hurts and pains are like the seed and hope of new life that comes each spring.

So today the sun is streaming through the window. The days are getting longer (ever so slowly). The sun is melting the snow on the pavement. This is good for my soul today. Because it is a reminder to me that God is present. That new life is being prepared in my life and in the world around us.

Where are you seeing God at work in your life today? Where do you see yourself encouraged? Where are you seeing new life?

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.