

Adjusting
January 23, 2009

I can't believe it happened to me. I rely on it so much. It helps me to stay connected. It helps me to be aware. It is like a roving security blanket. I can't believe it happened to me.

My Blackberry died. It simply died. I went to bed one night after plugging it in so it could charge (like I always do) and when I woke up, it did not. I turned on the power . . . nothing. I took out the battery and reinserted the battery and turned it on . . . nothing. I scratched my head, looking at it. I even tried the power again . . . nothing.

At first I mildly panicked. Then I gathered my wits about me and said to myself and to Debbie, "I guess I am going to the cell phone store today."

They helped me go through the process to replace my phone (we had insurance). For a few days while I was waiting for my new Blackberry to arrive I used a borrowed phone. When the new Blackberry arrived, I have had some minor problems, but they are getting worked out.

All in all, this has been more of an inconvenience than anything. But it has been a time of adjustment. I am grateful for backing up my stuff on the computer, because I really haven't lost anything.

But this is one of those forced changes in life that reminds me that times of change and adjustment come. How we respond to those changes and adjustments really can make them worse or at least tolerable to get through. No one I know really likes forced changes.

In this minor forced time of adjustment in my life, I have really tried to thank God for all the gifts that are in my life. I have tried to focus on the gift of my family. I have tried to focus on the gift of friendship and the people around me who enrich my life. I have sought to focus on the gifts of this church.

In this minor forced time of adjustment in my life, I have sought to look at Paul and how he dealt with challenges that came his way. He often had to change his plans, because of circumstances out of his control. When forced change came to him, he saw that as an opportunity to look to God and to be faithful to the new opportunities that came his way because of the unexpected.

When forced times of change come to you, how do you respond? Do you look to God? Do you look for the new opportunities that may come your way because of it?

Soon, my new Blackberry will be working in the way I want it to. It will do what I need it to do. Life will return to normal. I am grateful that in this time of adjustment, I can look to God and see all the gifts that are around me.

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.