

The Wave
Wednesday, July 01, 2009

Many of you know that I have a new passion for the last year. It is riding motorcycle. I absolutely love these beautiful summer days that allow me to ride the motorcycle to meetings and events. I have been enjoying the ride. Where ever it may take me.

One of the things I have learned about is what I call the wave. It is when one motorcyclist waves to a passing cyclist. Sometimes I have seen the wave with just two fingers extended. At other times I have seen the whole hand extended. Once, I even saw someone pump their arm above their head (I really liked that one).

The wave, for me, signifies solidarity. It is an acknowledgement that we are participating in something pretty dangerous (riding a motorcycle). It is an acknowledgement that I am not alone today. It is an acknowledgement that I am traveling with others who dare to travel on two wheels, too.

In some odd way, the wave from one motorcyclist to another, reminds me of our faith. When we commit to following Christ, we don't do it alone. We are traveling down the road with others who have made this commitment too.

It isn't always an easy commitment to follow through on. There are times it feels like we are pretty alone. There are moments when we are not sure if we really want to carry on. There are difficulties we face that cause us to wonder if we will actually make it back home.

The great news for me is that when we commit to following Christ, we don't do it alone. We become a part of a larger community. A community called church. We are a faith community, designed to help people connect with God and grow in faith. In the book of Ephesians Paul writes the following words to us, in the church: *the gifts God gave were . . . to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for the building up of the body of Christ, until . . . we grow up in every way into Christ who is the head of the whole body.*

As you go throughout your day and throughout the rest of your week, who are you waving to? Who are you walking with to support and care for as they connect with God and grow in faith? Who are you allowing to touch you so that you may connect with God and grow in faith?

In the hope that 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.

A NEW SUMMER STUDY

On a Journey to Discover Jesus with your travel guides Marcus (Borg) and Scott (Carlson). We will look at what does it mean to follow Jesus for today. Using faith practices and study, we will walk together to learn and grow in our faith. The class will meet on Monday's at 6:30 beginning on July 20th. If you are interested in attending, please let me know.