

Raining Outside and Inside
May 30, 2008

It is raining outside. That is matching my mood that I feel on the inside as well.

Raining outside means that I am not able to do some of the things that I was really hoping to do today. I was hoping to work on an outside shed in our backyard. The rain is making that difficult (I am not good with electrical tools anyway. But I have heard electrical tools and rain don't go together too well).

I was hoping to be able to take my new motorcycle on errands that need to be run. But, rain and slick roads, along with my inexperience on a motorcycle will probably leave her parked in the garage today.

This day of rain matches the frustration that I am feeling on the inside as I come to terms with the Judges decision this past Tuesday to reject the plea agreement that had been set between Isaac, Isaac's Attorney and the North Dakota State's Attorney. While I know that it is always the judge's prerogative to accept or reject plea agreements, it is one more disappointment.

Rejecting a plea agreement just doesn't happen too often. Knowing that, I find myself wondering, what next? Where do we go from here? His action makes it much more likely that we will go to trial sometime later this summer or earlier this fall.

Disappointment. It isn't easy to deal with. How do you deal with it?

Most of the time, I like to withdraw for a bit. It allows me to take a limited amount of time to feel the way I feel, disappointed. It allows me to pray and journal and turn to God. It allows me to say, "What next?" What do I do now?

Today, I take comfort from the book of Romans, Chapter 11, verse 29 which reads, "For God's gifts and God's call can never be withdrawn." This is a verse that reminds me, even when disappointment and challenges arise, God is constant. God is there for us. God is turning to us and willing to bless us, even when in the moment we might be more aware of the challenges facing us.

While I know that at the moment, the rain is falling. I know that above the clouds the sun is shining. Someday, the shed will be done. Someday my motorcycle will be able to be ridden. Someday the legal issues surrounding Whitney's death and Isaac's involvement in her death will be done. Someday.

In the meantime, I am held in God's hands. In the meantime, you are held in the hands of a God who loves us too.

May God give us the courage and strength to stay the course and weather the disappointments that come our way.

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.