

Twas the 7th of December and all through the church
As we entered God's house, for heat we **did** search!
Hope and peace hung on the tree with care,
In hopes that our Lord's birth, soon would be there.

The people were all nestled and frozen in their pews,
With the choir singing and watching Carlson for cues
And Donna with no coat on and Dennis with his light
Were beginning to get advent candles lit just right

When out in the narthex there arose such a clatter
We all turned our eyes to see what was the matter
We forgot all our music and we started to stare
At what, who whatever ... came in right there

It was a little old driver, so lively and quick
We were sure for a moment, it must be St. Nick.
Ladened with blankets, afghans, and quilts
He came tumbling in ... Was he walking on stilts?

He'd gone back to his house without any fuss
And gathered up warmth to bring back to us
He was dressed all in blankets from head to his boots
Was this some new trend ... like new monkey suits?

His eyes how they twinkled, his dimples how merry!
His cheeks were like roses, his nose like a cherry!

His droll little mouth was drawn up like a bow,
And the whiskers on his chin were frozen like snow!

Two trips he had made, stumbling in from his car
Warmth had arrived!!!!And Gary was OUR STAR!!!
He spoke not a word, but went straight to his work
He passed out the coverlets, without even a smirk.

On Joanne, on Cindi, on Terri, Thelma and Elaine
On Patty, on Susie, April, Nancy and Diane
On Bonnie, Kiera, Sandy, on Teresa, Heidi, too
He'd brought enough to cover the whole darn crew!

To the top of your neck, to the bottom of your toes
Now cover up, cover up, cover up ... all of those!!
As we sat there our noses had started to glow
And our frozen blood cells began to flow!

Our hands we kept warm tucked in our arm pits
And we snuggled together; it was cozy, I'll admit.
Carlson's fingers had turned blue, not Kermit frog green!
It truly was a sight ... one you never have seen!

The bag lady, Patty, brought m & m's this time.
How they tie in with God was all in rhyme.

Next the choir from under their afghan did sing
Will Someone See the Star Tonight.. for Our King?

And then, in a twinkling, we heard Donna say
Some concerns and some joys, and then we did pray
For the hundreds of service men who gave their lives
At Pearl Harbor when they were taken by surprise.

Then up on the pulpit Donna's message began ..
She talked about John, the Baptist Man
The Messenger of God and then she asked so
Are you like him??? .. .She Wanted to know.

It is true, you know, when the brain gets too cold
The blood vessels in them shrink, so I'm told.
The HARRISES, Lay Leaders, had a brain freeze, that day
During the collection, they did the two-step their way.

Let us break bread together. The wine was well chilled.
Communion this time warmed our hearts as they filled
With compassion, with joy and with so much LOVE
That's what our church family is simply made of!

You could feel the warmth, the togetherness there.
You could feel God's Love as we bowed in prayer.

Gary is like John the Baptist, that's true ..

He helped Donna's message reach all of you.

He kept us warm through a cold winter's hour

That taught us great lessons about God's power.

Let There Be Peace on Earth, let it begin with us

For on December 7th, not one made a fuss!

We wish you Good Health, and also Good Cheer.

We know great things will happen this year

In the Union Church Family with people like Gary ..

May your Christmases be blessed and definitely Merry!