



December 12, 2018

### ***ONE SMALL MATTER TODAY***

I return each year to the wisdom of Charles Dickens and the story of Ebenezer Scrooge, the man who lost his way in life, forgot the power of kindness, but was finally redeemed by spiritual influence to become a person of compassion and generosity. This is, of course, the way of Christ in our lives.

The first spirit who visits Scrooge on Christmas Eve shows him scenes from his past, including Mr. Fezziwig, the warm and jovial business owner under whom Scrooge apprenticed. Mr. Fezziwig's Christmas party is a highlight of the story, with an abundance of joy and a generous heart.

After they have witnessed the scene, the spirit of Christmas past provokes a reaction in Scrooge by observing that it is "a small matter" to provide such loving hospitality.

As Scrooge explains the importance of Mr. Fezziwig's many acts of kindness, big and small, he realizes how often he has failed to do the same in his own life.

I bet that you have someone who is like Mr. Fezziwig, someone whose presence brightened your day, whose kindness made you feel valuable, whose love gave you courage. It may have been as small as something that was said, or a note received. It may have been a gift of great value or a small act of care.

Now – what is one thing you can do, today, to do the same for others?

I'll see you in church.

Peace,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Matt".

Rev. Dr. Matthew Wooster  
Senior Minister