

Cradle Rocking

The Cradle Rocking service of First United Methodist Church is based on an old Swedish custom brought to the Chisago Lakes area by Swedish pioneers. Ruth Bohleen, missionary to the Philippines and a member of the congregation organized the Cradle Rock, and the first Cradle Rocking service was held on Children's day in 1922. Two of her nephews were among the first to be rocked.

At this very special Cradle Rocking service, babies born into the church family within the past year are introduced to the congregation. As a moderator gives the name of the child, the parents bring the child forward and lay him/her in the cradle. This is a way of keeping the littlest ones in mind and reminding their brothers and sisters that all are important and welcome in the church family.



The spirit of this day is based on the scripture from Mark 10:14b -

"Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these." NIV