

Pastor's Page – July 2014



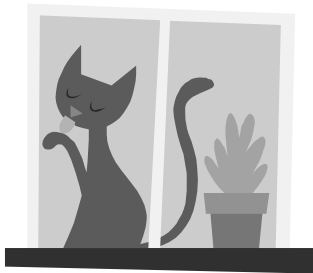
[Pastor Pat was busy so George, her cat, volunteered to write a newsletter article.]

Hello. My name is George. I'm your new parsonage cat. I've been a parsonage cat since Wayne – he's my person's husband - brought me home from Olmstead Manor in 2005. I was hanging out there all summer. The people were very nice to me and were afraid I might suffer during the cold winter weather. So when Wayne volunteered to take me home with him in October, they were glad.

I am glad, too. I like living in a warm home where there's always food and water and my people to pet me.

This is my fifth parsonage to live in. I'm sure I'll enjoy it. My needs are very simple: cat food, water dish and litter box. A window to look out of is good, too.

I'm not unfriendly but I'm not sociable either. So if you come to visit my person at the parsonage don't be surprised if you don't see me. But if you're quiet and I'm in the mood, I might just let you pet me.



- George, the parsonage cat

I see George has already introduced himself. He will write from time to time to let people know what's going on at the parsonage.

I want to introduce myself, too. In pondering what to say in my first newsletter as your pastor, it occurs to me that the apostle Paul found himself in a similar situation. When writing his letter to the Romans, he was addressing a community of believers he had not met.

Paul starts by giving a thumbnail version of his spiritual "credentials." Then he thanks God for the people in Rome. He prays for them. Finally he expresses his hope that theirs will be a relationship of mutual love and encouragement. All in order to reach those who had yet to come to salvation in Jesus Christ.

This is how I want to begin, too.

So let me start by saying I am a Christian, baptized and brought up in the Presbyterian Church (former UPC). I first experienced a personal relationship with Christ at age 14. I received the call to ordained ministry at age 32. I was ordained at age 42. I have served the local church for 31 years. I feel blessed to serve the Lord and his Church as a United Methodist pastor.

I thank God for you. I am excited about the many good things I have heard about you. I am praying for all of us in this time of transition. I look forward to being your pastor so we can work together to fulfill the mission of our church which is "to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world."

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Pat