



*Hello from Pat Bailey, Pastor of Christ Presbyterian Church.*

*While Debbie and I have enjoyed meeting many of the members and friends of Christ Presbyterian Church, we have not yet had the opportunity to meet everyone. So, please allow me to introduce myself and my family to you.*

*I have been an ordained minister in the Presbyterian Church (USA) since 1987, serving as a pastor in Atlanta and as a chaplain in the U.S. Army since 1992. My Master of Divinity was earned at Columbia Theological Seminary, and I also hold a Master of Theology in comparative religion from Emory University. I am currently finishing my dissertation for a Doctor of Ministry in spiritual direction from San Francisco Theological Seminary. From 2002 to 2005, I taught world religions at the Defense Language Institute in Monterey, California, and I most recently served as a brigade chaplain at Fort Richardson, Alaska, returning from a fourteen month deployment to Iraq in December 2007.*

*Debbie and I are both natives of Atlanta and have been married for twenty seven years. Our son, Brian, is an airline pilot living in Norfolk, Virginia. Our daughter, Loren, just graduated from high school and will be attending Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Our life as an Army family has taken us to Germany, Korea, California, Alaska and several other locations; so, it's nice to be heading to a place where our children will want to come visit; they are both avid snowboarders.*

*I have been blessed in my vocation with opportunities to develop in a variety of ministries. Much of my ministry as a chaplain has focused on pastoral care to individuals and families, and I have always considered myself a pastor first. For the past several years I have also enjoyed opportunities to study, teach, and practice in the areas of interfaith studies and spiritual direction. Prior to our sojourns in the Army, Debbie worked in the business community in Atlanta and has since volunteered at our various posts, serving schools, clinics, family support groups, and our chapel community.*

*Debbie and I raised our children with an experienced appreciation for the outdoors. We have camped, canoed, kayaked, hiked, and skied in the many beautiful locations our life together has taken us. A love and respect for nature is very central to our sense of self and to our spirituality. I marvel at the discernment process that has brought me to this call to such an interesting community of individuals and families in such a beautiful natural setting.*

*In late August we will take Loren to Halifax to settle her into her new school. I will sign out of the Army on September 2, and after a visit with our families in Atlanta, Debbie and I will make our trip southward, camping and fly-fishing our way through Canada and the Western U.S. We should arrive in Telluride in late September with my first Sunday in the pulpit being October 5. I look forward to meeting each of you and to our being in community and ministry together.*

*Grace and Peace,*

*Pat Bailey  
(Pastor En-Route)*

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