



## BO'S BLOG

This month I begin my fourth year here at Prosser UMC. Those who study such things say that it takes about four years for a pastor and congregation to get to know each other well, and to really feel comfortable with each other. Once the pastor gets the “lay of the land,” and the congregation gets the measure of the pastor, they begin to know what ministry they can do together.

I have to say that Alison and I have felt welcomed here from the beginning. It has been nothing but a delight to get to know the members of this congregation, and the communities of Prosser and Grandview. You all have been very gracious with us, especially in allowing me to commute during the first two years so that our kids could remain in the area in which they grew up. Since moving here full-time last September, we have both noticed that traffic in the Tri-Cities is much worse than it used to be.

So, now that we are feeling comfortable with each other, I want to share with you a question that I asked the Ad Council members in June—“Why are you here?” This question has two meanings. The first is “How did you come to be here, in this place where you are now?” What were the events, and who were the people, that led you to this point in your life? How did you come to be connected to Prosser UMC? I have heard some of your stories over the years, and look forward to hearing more of them. It’s important for each of us to know our story, because that story has made us who we are. It’s important for us as a church to know each other’s story, because that shapes our identity as a church. Think about your story, and think of someone with whom to share it.

The other meaning of the question “Why are you here?” is “What are you here to do?” What is it that you are being called by God to do in this place? We are all called by God to do something. What is your calling? (If you want some hints, read Micah 6:8, or Matthew 28:18-20, or listen to God’s nudging.) Sometimes how we got here can be a clue or help to what it is we need to do. Again, think about what you are feeling called to, and share that with someone. Explore the possibilities. It doesn’t take much looking around to see that there’s plenty to do, but we don’t have to do it all. Just our part.

I look forward to our year ahead together.

Shalom,  
Bo