PASTOR'S REPORT April 26th, 2017

Two quotes that I believe are related:

"No winter lasts forever, no spring skips its turn. April is a promise that May is bound to keep, and we know it." --Hal Borland

"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."- Hebrews 11:1

As we have moved from winter into spring, from Lent to Easter, from hopes to promises fulfilled, we have been richly blessed and I am so grateful to have been a part of it. From the promises of winter into spring, from Lent into Easter, from hope to fulfillment, from searching and growing to spiritual fulfillment, we have journeyed together as disciples of Christ, as the Pine Bluffs UMC Family of Faith. Let me share a few highlights:

- ~ Dedication of the Sweet Spirit Room, a lovely multi-use room created out of a hail and rain destroyed storage room.
- ~ A Lenten study on <u>He Chose the Nails</u>, by Max Lucado that encouraged us to new ways of building on our spiritual disciplines.
- ~ A Holy Week that brought us to fruition from our Lenten journey: Palm Sunday, Maun-Day Thursday service with a return of the Seder Meal and communion with four churches from the communities surrounding us, Good Friday worship service, and the glory of Easter. Special music from the Bell choir was inspiration and such a gift!
- ~ During Holy week, we welcomed six new members into the congregation and baptized two precious children.

Dates for your calendar:

April 30th Fifth Sunday Potluck after worship

May 3rd Mission Committee Mtg. and planning for our Mission Trip, June 4th-9th

May 7th Recognition of Graduates and Reception

May 14th Mother's Day Worship Service

June 15th-17th Rocky Mountain Annual Conference, Marriott Hotel, Denver Tech Center

July 2nd Church on the Green Worship Service Respectfully Submitted, Pastor Lesley