Rev's Reflections

Is it spring yet?

Last week, my Dear Joe and I arrived in Michigan to meet his new congregation, and it was hot — in the upper 70's — and we were glad we brought shorts along. Two days later, it was hot in the morning and 40 degrees cooler by late afternoon. That night, tornadoes touched down all over the state during a huge thunderstorm. We froze for the next few days, and on Sunday, after his congregation voted to call Joe, it started snowing.

Snowing! On April 19, it was snowing as we drove to Ann Arbor, where our friends showed us the 100-year-old oak tree that just missed their house during the storm. The root ball was so big, and so far from its point of origin, I felt a knot in the pit of my stomach thinking about how close Susan and Mary Lou came to total devastation.

Here, now, it is still cold, and the long-range forecast is predicting continued chills — even frost at my home — through the month and into May. It's grim, especially considering that by this this time last year, my vegetable garden was already completely planted.

Yet, I know it will get better. I know the warmth will return. Even if it comes slowly, I will transfer those tiny plants on my windowsill out to the vegetable patch.

It always gets better.

In Peace,
Rev. Denis