

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church



Issue 101

March 11, 2015

Hello friends:

Of all the seasons, I think Springtime is probably my favorite. I love the way the blossoms burst open, almost overnight. No matter how many times I witness this marvel, it still seems like magic. One morning I leave the house and my sweet olive tree which I've not given a thought in many months, suddenly makes its presence known as I'm drenched in its sweet fragrance.

We have another sure sign at the Dalferes house that Spring is coming. Charles has a pet bearded dragon named Merlin. Merlin disappears for months at a time under a log, but when the days grow longer he suddenly pops out. Well "suddenly" may be a bit of an exaggeration. He begins by poking his head out. He looks a little haggard at first, with a blackened beard. I guess I'd be a little groggy as well if I'd been sleeping for 3 months.

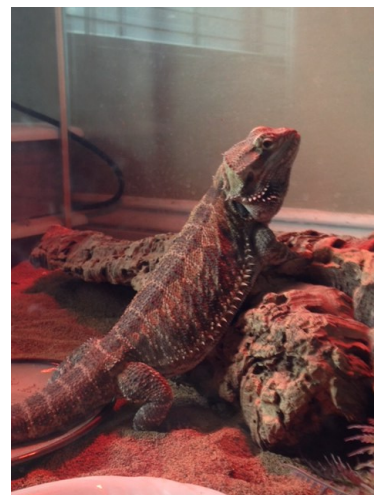
The first time he disappeared under his log for several days I expressed concern, but Charles wasn't alarmed at all. "That's normal," he said, "he's just brumating." Brumation, I later learned, is a lot like hibernation. Basically, all his systems slow down to a crawl although he can still be awakened. One time we began to wonder if he really was ok, as he'd been out for several weeks. We decided to inspect. As we slowly lifted the log, his head tilted and one eye flung open---kind of like "Smaug" in Tolkien's 'Hobbit.' So from then on, we just leave him be.

I suppose what I love about Spring is the way nature is always full of surprises. I mean who would ever guess that a worm could morph into a butterfly, or that a lizard could just switch itself off for a few months. To me, it just goes to show that God's fingerprints are all over his wonderful creation.

How wonderful to get to see it all made new again each Spring.

See you in Church,

Fr. Craig



Announcements:

- Click below to see a beautiful slideshow put together in honor of Roland Champagne, by his son, Carl. It was "tweaked" a bit and created in honor of what would have been his 100th birthday. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QJxIstgBkFE>
- Sermon: [Ten Commandments](#)

By the Grace of God

The Right Reverend
Dorsey W. M. McConnell
Bishop of Pittsburgh

will ordain

Howard D. Gillette

to the Sacred Order of Priests
in Christ's one holy catholic and apostolic Church

Saturday, April 11, 2015
at ten o'clock in the morning

St. Peter's Episcopal Church

4048 Brownsville Road
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15227

Your prayers and presence are requested

Clergy: Red Stoles

Reception follows

WARNING

Bible usage can be habit forming.
Regular reading of the Bible can cause loss
of anxiety and fear and a decreased appetite
for impatience and anger.

Symptoms include increased love, joy,
peace, patience, kindness, goodness,
faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

If symptoms persist, just PRAISE the LORD!

iBelieve.com

Links & Documents

SMEC Website:

www.stmatthewshouma.org

Partners in Faith:

www.rebuildstmatts.com

Morning and Evening Prayer

www.missionstclare.com/english/

Episcopal Diocese of Louisiana

www.edola.org

SMES Website:

www.stmattsschool.com

SMES Dolphin Diaries Blog:

<http://smes.edublogs.org/>

Prayers & Thanksgivings

Barbara & Alex S., Kathy, Todd, Allison, Ann, Robert, Marie, Margaret, Frances, Sharon, Sybil, Marian, Dorothy, Johanna, Angelle & Taylor, Emily, Rocelle, Warren, John, Harold, Gordon, Andy, Fannie, Andr  e, Calvin & Rhea, Phil and Shirleen, Pete and Paula, Russell, Jennifer, Hunter, Karen, Tessie, Jeanette, Jordan, Tilley, Penny, and our Partner-In-Mission sister parish, San Jose in Honduras. We give thanks and pray for St. Matthew's Episcopal School, Larke Leonard, Head of School, members of the Board, faculty, staff and students, our Parish Vestry and Building Committee.

Happy Birthday!

2-JoAnne Plessala	15-Allison Forest
3-Andree' Alexander	15-Kirsten Bazet
7-Sally Ellender	19-Janie Rhymes
7-Wyatt Rushing	21-Lona Smith
8-Danae' Himel	22-Mary Ellen Dupont
9-Kaitlyn Lirette	22-Shirley Use'
10-Madeline Ford	22-Pam Duncan
14-Julio Medina	26-Buddy Daisy
14-Cassia Carmichael	
15-Ray Rhymes	

Happy Anniversary!

5-Julio and Rina Medina
5-Lee and Debbie Stiel

BIRTHDAY PRAYER

Watch over your child, O Lord, as his days increase; bless and guide him wherever he may be. Strengthen him when he stands; comfort him when discouraged or sorrowful; raise him up if he falls; and in his heart may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of his life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Church Schedule

March 15, 2015

TEAM 2

Eucharistic Ministers	Sharon Pontiff, Donna Knight
Lector	Dana Davis
Acolyte	Grace Blair
Eucharistic Visitors (EV)	Debby Fortier
Ushers	Julio and Rina Medina, Karen Kelly
Vestry Member on Duty	Debby Fortier
Altar Guild	Sharon Pontiff, Suzanne Alexander, Gail Duhe'
Homes Visited Today:	Eula McElroy, Calvin Babin

Wednesday, March 17 – Hilda Blanchard

March 22, 2015

TEAM 3

Eucharistic Ministers	Alex Ostheimer, Sandra Deroche
Lector	EM
Acolyte	Kayleigh McNelis
Eucharistic Visitors (EV)	Emilie Daye
Ushers	George Drury, Karen Chauvin
Vestry Member on Duty	Karen Kelly
Altar Guild	Sandy Ostheimer, Karen Kelly
Homes Visited Today:	Kathy Ryan

Wednesday, March 25 – Hilda Blanchard

March 29, 2015

TEAM 4

Eucharistic Ministers	Kathy Theriot, Jay Theriot
Lector	Becky Becnel
Acolyte	Kalli Willet
Eucharistic Visitor	Beulah Rodrigue
Ushers	Sharon Pontiff, Randy Knight
Vestry Member on Duty	Randy Knight
Altar Guild	Shanna Himel, Penny Jefcoats
Homes Visited Today:	Ingree Guedry, Margaret Shaffer