



Pastor Paul A. Coats

# Edgewood News

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January 24, 2012



## Lather, Rinse, Repeat



by  
Pastor Paul A. Coats

Sometimes the simplest idea can make a dramatic impact. For example, in Benjamin Cheever's novel *The Plagiarist*, a marketing executive becomes an industry legend by adding a single word to shampoo bottles: REPEAT. He doubles shampoo sales overnight.

Even though this *Lather, Rinse, Repeat* story is rooted in fiction, there is something in its simplicity that rings very true. Anyone who has become very good at anything realizes the importance of repetition. How does a child learn to walk or speak? Repetition. How does a musician learn to play a piece of music so beautifully and flawlessly? Repetition. How does a person learn to read, do math, speak confidently in front of groups of people, or make a quality piece of furniture? Repetition.

Let me put it another way. Suppose you needed open-heart surgery. Who would you rather do the surgery: (1) someone who had performed such surgery many times before, or (2) someone who has never done one before? Do you need any time to think about this one? *Lather, Rinse, Repeat* gets you cleaner than *Lather, Rinse*. It also gives you much more practice at how to do it.

Now, let's apply this principle to our preparation as disciples of Jesus Christ. Which disciple is more likely to be prepared when it comes to living and sharing their faith: (1) one who comes to church, hears a sermon, then goes home, or (2) one who reads the sermon Scripture in the Newsletter before coming to worship, listens to the sermon, takes notes during the sermon, talks about what they heard at lunch, reads a front page Newsletter article that explores the passage from a different angle, that week attends a Life

***We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act but a habit.***

*Aristotle*

Group that studies the passage from Sunday's message with other people, and then looks for an opportunity to share what they learned with someone they encounter that week? Again, do you really need to think about that one?

The one thing that most separates us from excellence and effectiveness is the failure to establish what is most important as a daily habit. In order to get better at anything requires practice—in other words, practice. Only when our practice is consistent and frequent enough will it ever become habit. And only those things we do habitually will we ever master.

I believe that Jesus expects more from us than our following him. He desires for us to *master* following him. To do that, we need to delve deep and repeatedly into the teaching of the Bible. We need to hear it, read it for ourselves, talk about it with others, ask questions about it, apply it, and live it again and again and again. Only then will we follow Jesus effectively and habitually as he desires.

This is what I am committed to doing as your pastor. My up coming sermon titles with the Scripture passages they are based on will be in the newsletter every week for you to read before coming to worship. I will be prepared and passionate in my delivery. My newsletter article will explore further the same passage preached on the Sunday before; and I will provide discussion questions on the Web site (epclife.com) to be used either in personal study and/or Life Group discussions. Together we can deepen our walk with God. Let's get the habit started.

Making Disciples  
Every Person Counts where

**JANUARY VOLUNTEERS FOR:**

Kitchen	Shirley Williams
Sanctuary	Gail McNair
Ushers	Mac Johnson & Ed Gilmore (CC); Mary Johnson; Wendell Grainger; Ted Ford; Emily Coats
Visitor Greeter	Shirley Williams

**SERVING EPC WEEK OF JANUARY 29**

Children’s Church	Cheryl Betts; Patricia Collins
Counters	Walter Williams; Lloyd Frey
Elder Prayer Partner	Martha Jane Roark
Greeters	Ron Gilbert; Allison Grainger
Greeting Cards	Katherine Roark
Lay Reader	Claudia Wells
Nursery	Kathryn Rhodes-Reynolds/Frank Reynolds
Security	Chris Posey
Sound	Steve Lennon

**EVANGELISM**

**Last Sunday’s Attendance at EPC**

Worship: 82    Sunday School: 47  
Visitors at EPC: In town: 7    Out of town: 1

**OUTREACH TEAM**

We are in need of team members for the Outreach Team 2012. This team will brainstorm Outreach opportunities and set up coordination and communication of these events for the congregation. Please don’t assume we have the members we need. Call either Sarah Pope or Julie Ligon. We need YOU!

**CONGRATULATIONS!**

Sue and Fred Holt are rejoicing upon the birth of their first great-grandchild. It’s a daughter born to Jessica (Holt) Hughes and Matt Hughes in San Diego.  
Reagan Lindsey Hughes arrived on January 23, 2012, weighing in at 9 lbs, 6 oz, 22”.

**UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES**



**Sunday, January 29**

9:30 am	Sunday School
10:30 am	Fellowship Time
11:00 am	Worship—Annual Congregational Meeting Prayer in Parlor with elders Lunch after Church—Bavarian House, Weems Rd.
4:00 pm	Youth Group

**Monday, January 30**

6:00 pm	HOPE Life Group at Zaxby’s, Phenix City, AL
6:30 pm	Life Group Meeting at Coats’ home
7:00 pm	Transitions Life Group at Mary Adams’ home

**Tuesday, January 31**

7:00 pm    Boy Scouts

**Wednesday, February 1**

10:00 am	Crafty Crew in Education Center, Room 4
5:00 pm	Joyful Ringers
6:00 pm	Adult Bell Choir
6:00 pm	Tai Chi Class in Fellowship Hall, stage area
7:00 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal

**Thursday, February 2**

10:00 am	Lively Ones-lunch at Bulloch House, Wm Spgs., GA
6:00 pm	Sundowners Toastmasters Meeting
6:30 pm	Cub Pack 100

**Saturday, February 4**

1:00 pm    Cub Pack’s Pinewood Derby at EPC until 5:00 pm  
*The Church Office is closed on Fridays.*

**YOUTH AND CHILDREN’S MINISTRY**

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**January 1-31st**

Souper Bowl of Caring Food Collection

**January 29**

Special MH/HS Youth Group 4-5:30 pm

(See separate page for Souper Bowl info.)

**Souper Bowl**

**FINANCIAL REPORT FOR EDGEWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

	<b>December, 2011</b>	<b>Year to Date</b>	<b>Budget to Date</b>
Receipts	\$29,387.54	\$293,073.29	\$307,700.00
Disbursements	(27,960.35)	(303,569.83)	(315,089.04)
Differences	1,427.19	(10,496.54)	(7,389.04)

Our income exceeded our expenditures last month which is a good thing. It is interesting to note that for the year, Income was below Budget by \$14,626.71. Expenses were under Budget by \$11,519.21. For the year, Expenses exceeded Income by \$10,496.54. Your Session has made some severe cuts in the budget for this year, 2012. We all need to be more frugal about turning out lights, heaters and air-conditioning whenever we leave a room or building.

Walter K. Williams, Treasurer

## FELLOWSHIP

**LUNCH AFTER CHURCH** on Sunday, January 29, is at the Bavarian House on Weems Road, and you are invited to join us (Dutch treat). Please sign the notebook on the credenza in the narthex before worship for a seating count.

## PLEASE JOIN THE LIVELY ONES ON GROUNDHOG DAY...

February 2nd is the date for our next Lively Ones meeting. We will be meeting at **10:00 am** in the BASIC classroom in Fellowship Hall, as always. Please note the time change.

Please remember to bring two Valentines to the meeting so we have them to send to shut-ins and the sick. We will be going to the Bulloch House for lunch since we didn't go in December. We will carpool, and those who are passengers will follow our policy of giving the driver \$5 to help with the cost of gasoline. And, we just might find a groundhog to tell us if spring will be early or late this year.



# Celebration of Faith

## WEEKEND OF MARCH 2-4.....

*The Flint River Presbytery will host the 30th Annual Celebration of Faith at Norman Park, Georgia, March 2-4, 2012. Go to [www.flintriverpresbytery.org](http://www.flintriverpresbytery.org) and click on the link on the left hand column marked COF 2012. Sign up right away.*

*It is for children, youth and adults....the food is great and the time is packed with classes and activities....and for some free time as well.*

***Talk it up with your friends and sign up!***

**Change your prayer life—Change Your World!**

## WORSHIP

### 13 WEEK SERMON SERIES

Jan. 29 *Enter Conflict* Genesis 4:1-16; Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18  
Feb. 5 *A Watery Judgment* Genesis 6:11-22; Mark 1:14-20  
Feb. 12 *Babel On* Genesis 11:1-9; Mark 1:21-18

## ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION

The session has called the Annual Meeting for Sunday, January 29, immediately following the morning worship service. The purposes of the meeting are twofold: to hear and act on a report of the session and to hear and act on a recommendation of the session concerning the Pastor's compensation.

## SUNDAY AFTER CHURCH

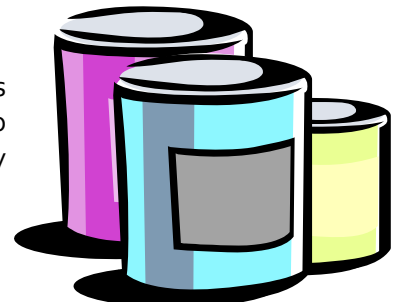
Sunday, February 5

Please plan to stay with your entire family for the covered dish lunch immediately following worship. Each family is asked to bring a large covered dish(es) and place it either in the Kitchen or Fellowship Hall prior to Worship.

As part of the activities, you won't want to miss the opportunity to throw a pie in Pastor Paul's face. (He has agreed good naturedly to do so). The way to have a chance to throw the pie is shown in today's insert in the Souper Bowl of Caring page in this week's newsletter.

Bring at least five cans of food, tell Cheryl that you did so, and you get to fill out a ticket (otherwise known as your chance for pie throwing).

All the canned goods collected will go to Feeding the Valley Food Bank.





**Making Disciples**  
*where Every Person Counts*

3617 Macon Road  
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**Annual  
Meeting  
of the  
Congregation  
on  
Sunday,  
January 29, 2012,  
following  
11:00 am  
Worship Service**

### **HAPPY FEBRUARY BIRTHDAY TO:**

Wilda Betts 3  
Sally Frey 6

*Happy Birthday,  
Wilda  
and  
Sally!*



### **PRAYER REQUESTS FOR CHURCH FAMILY**

Rachel Flournoy Janie McClerkin Don Kinard Mig Hanko  
Bette Schroeter: Magnolia Manor, Rehab wing  
J. C. Bray-rehab at Hughston, Columbus, Room 325—following stroke

**Covenant Woods:** Eva Lucille Roberts, PC 227  
**Gardens at Calvary:** Lee Cook, Apt. 321  
**Magnolia Manor:** Lillian McLeod, Room 24; Herb Jones, Room 13  
**Morningside Asst'd Living:** Bob Gedroic, Room 142; David Anastasia, Room 108  
**Muscogee Manor:** Lillie Register, East Wing 25B

### **PRAYER REQUESTS FOR FRIENDS AND RELATIVES**

Joe Post (friend of Ligons) stage 4 brain cancer  
Charles Smith (Roark/Grainger relative) deployed to Afghanistan  
Don Morrow (Ligons' friend) undergoing tests  
Tina Singleton (Ligons' friend) unknown cause of illness  
Rigsby Dixon (Mary Adams' premature great-granddaughter)  
Reese Stansfield (baby girl with brain cancer)  
Dorothy Cupples (Bob Ligon's sister) heart condition  
Ron Weller (Ligons' friend) stroke rehabilitation  
Jackie Jernigan (Tammy Mills' friend) widespread cancer

Jim Heaton (Kathy Windham's brother) kidney surgery in NC  
Kay Fouts (former member)  
Miranda Erwin (daughter of Walter & Shirley Williams)  
Al McCullough (Pete Sanders-Nesbitt's Dad) cancer  
Bradley Brooks (Gigi Lennon's friend's toddler) seizures  
Joe Jones (Marge Welker's friend)  
Robert McCart (Frances Long's brother) throat cancer  
Bill Blakely (former member)  
Bobbie Marbut (former member)  
Sue Poore (Janie McClerkin's sister)

# Children & Youth Ministry



## UPCOMING EVENTS

January 1—31st — Souper Bowl of  
Caring Food Collection

January 29 — **Special** MH/HS  
Youth Group 4– 5:30 PM



Have you remembered your 5 cans of food? This is the **Last Sunday** to bring your canned goods in for the youth to build the pyramid. Luncheon is on February 5th.

Remember the winning ticket holder gets to throw a pie into Pastor Paul's face at the luncheon. Get your tickets from **Cheryl** for every 5 cans of food you donate. **You will want to be that lucky person. Remember to join us for the SAC lunch on February 5th.**