

In college, I had a roommate with a myna bird—arguably the most gifted of all birds at imitating human speech. Leroy had an amazing vocabulary and repertoire of imitated sounds. One of his phrases was, “Looking for something.” He was equally adept at repeating this phrase as a question or a statement and would often bounce between the two. Though we were amazed whenever such a phrase was repeated in an appropriate way, his speech just as frequently demonstrated he had no idea what he was saying.

In that regard, we share much in common with myna birds, for our words often betray how little we understand about what we are saying. For example, people say they want their lives to have meaning while investing virtually no energy into discovering the meaning of life.

What are you looking for out of life? You may not be exactly sure what it is that you are looking for, but it is very likely something more than what you have right now. Like many, you may be haunted by this question and may even earnestly be seeking an answer to it. You sense that something is missing, that there must certainly be something more to life than what you have been able to figure out on your own. But what?

Abram was looking for something. Unlike many of us, he knew exactly what he was looking for, but it seemed forever just beyond his reach. Abram and his wife, Sarai, wanted children. Now, seemingly past child-bearing age, they were trying to cope with the reality and ramification of having no heirs—no descendants.

Look around the habitable world, how few know their own good, or knowing it, pursue.

John Dryden

from the start of creation—to walk with his children.

We need to pay very close attention to the first eleven chapters of Genesis. They differ in character from the rest of Scripture for these chapters disclose a litany of damaging blows to the relationship between God and humanity. God is looking for a relationship with us; we, clearly, have something very different in mind. We want to strike out on our own; and **strike out** we do. Life without God—and by extension, without God’s plan—leads to corruption and destruction. The harder we look for meaning out of life, the more it eludes us because we cannot find meaning **in** life until we know the meaning **of** life.

I described God’s calling of Abram as a watershed event because from the moment Abram answered it, everything changed. Abram, if we choose to pay attention, understood the meaning of life. And it had surprisingly little to do with his dream of having children being fulfilled. The meaning of life is essentially this: following God’s plan, God’s dream, God’s voice. Amazingly, when Abram demonstrated his willingness to do this, both God’s purpose and his own were furthered. God desires to walk with his children; and he walked with Abram.

God desires his love and Word to be spread through all the peoples of the earth; and through Abram this continues to happen. Likewise, Abram’s dream of having descendants was fulfilled. When you look with God, you not only find what you seek, but you find each other.

Looking for Something



by
Pastor Paul A. Coats

FEBRUARY VOLUNTEERS FOR:

Kitchen	Patricia Banks
Sanctuary	Lee Hartline
Ushers	Walter Nesbitt & Karen Wetherell (CC); Rae Taylor; Theresa Kelly; Taylor Mills; Sheryl Wright
Visitor Greeter	Virginia Gilmore

SERVING EPC WEEK OF FEBRUARY 26

Children's Church	Kathryn Rhodes-Reynolds; Barbara McInnis
Counters	Larry Mills; Jeff Ingram
Elder Prayer Partner	Bill McLaughlin
Greeters	Sue Holt; Miranda Jones
Greeting Cards	Sue Holt
Lay Reader	Kathryn Rhodes-Reynolds
Nursery	Allison Grainger
Security	Fred Holt
Sound	Walter Nesbitt; Taylor Mills

OUTREACH

Last Sunday's Attendance at EPC

Worship: 105 Sunday School: 44
Visitors at EPC: In town: 5 Out of town: 3

JELLY BEAN PRAYER

Dear Lord:

Green is for the grass You made.
 White is for the grace you gave.
 Yellow is for the sun so bright.
 Orange for the edge of night.
 Red is for the blood You shed.
 Black is for our sins which fled.
 Purple for Your hours of sorrow.
 Pink is for our new tomorrow. Amen

*A bag full of jelly beans, colorful
 and sweet is a prayer, a promise,
 a small child's treat.*

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday, February 26

9:30 am	Sunday School
10:30 am	Fellowship Time
11:00 am	Worship
	Prayer in Parlor with elders
	Lunch after Church at Chef Lee's, Buena Vista Rd.
2:00 pm	Kids Club

Monday, February 27

6:00 pm	HOPE Life Group
6:30 pm	Life Group Meeting at Coats' home
7:00 pm	Transitions Life Group at Shirley Williams' home

Tuesday, February 28

7:00 pm Boy Scouts

Wednesday, February 29

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, March 1

10:30 am	Lively Ones Meeting—lunch at Cheddar's
6:00 pm	Sundowners Toastmasters Meeting, Room 4, Ed Ctr
6:30 pm	Cub Pack 100

The Church Office is closed on Fridays.

Celebration of Faith at Norman Park-March 2-4

Saturday, March 3 2:00 pm—Cub Scout Blue/Gold Banquet here

**CHILDREN AND
YOUTH MINISTRY**

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 26

Kids Club 2-4:00 pm

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR EDGEWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

	January, 2012	Year to Date	Budget to Date
Receipts	\$23,715.81	\$ 23,715.81	\$23,527.00
Disbursements	(26,036.62)	(26,036.62)	(24,869.33)
Differences	(2,320.81)	(2,320.81)	(1,342.33)

We did not get off to a good start this year. Expenses exceeded Income by \$2,320.81.

Please pray for our church and let's hope that things turn around for February. Walter K. Williams, Treasurer

**FELLOWSHIP
LUNCH AFTER CHURCH**

Lunch after Church on Sunday, February 26, will be at Chef Lee's on Buena Vista Road. You are invited (Dutch Treat) to join us. Please don't forget to sign the notebook on the credenza in the narthex before worship for a seating count.



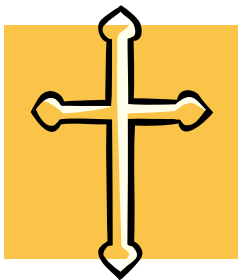
**LENTEN ACTIVITIES
FOR FAMILIES**

Parents, Grandparents, Aunts and Uncles: Please check out the materials in the basket on the credenza in the narthex for Lenten Activities that can be done with one or several individuals to help us understand Lent and prepare our hearts for Easter. Please pick up a set of activities to do with your family during the Lenten season.

LENTEN SYMBOLS

During this Lenten season, I will be explaining some of the symbols that the Church uses to symbolize Lent.

Cross and Crown—symbols of the sovereignty of Christ, Lord and King.



Lamb—symbolic of the sacrifice to God. Jesus becomes "the Lamb of God" who is sacrificed for our sins.



WORSHIP

13 WEEK SERMON SERIES

Feb. 26 *Promises Fulfilled* Genesis 21:1-21 ; I Cor. 9:16-23
March 4 *The Presence of God* Genesis 28:10-22; Mark 1:40-45

LENT

Lent will be observed at EPC. Music for the morning worship services will reflect the gratitude we feel as Christians for the life given for us. "What Wondrous Love Is This?" arranged by Alice Parker and Robert Shaw will be sung next Sunday, the first Sunday of Lent. Lenten hymns will be included in the service each week.

I SAW HIM by Emily Pardue will be presented during the morning worship service, March 25th. Inanimate objects and music will tell the Easter story.

On Maundy Thursday, April 5th, IS IT I, LORD?, by Dr. William D. Webber will be presented in the Fellowship Hall following a simple meal. A disciple (one of our elders) or minister will be seated at each table to serve communion at the close of the evening. More information will follow in the Edgewood News and Sunday bulletins.

Please note: To the 2-2-Tu Book Club members: please plan to discuss the book Redemption by Karen Kingsbury at the 2:00 pm meeting on the 2nd Tuesday in March, March 13.

Meetings are open to anyone interested. We hope to see you there.



NOTE OF THANKS...

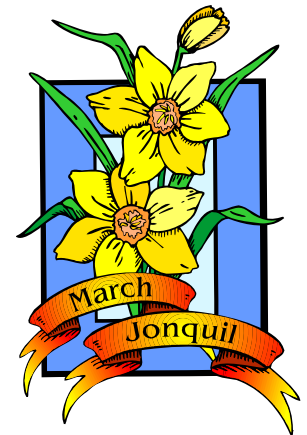
To the Holy Rollers,
I just want everyone to know how grateful I am for the new ramp. That ramp represents freedom for me that enables me to escape the four walls that have confined me for almost a year. Thank you so very much and God bless you all.

*In Christ's Love,
James Gruber*



Making Disciples
where Every Person Counts

3617 Macon Road
Columbus, GA 31907



HAPPY MARCH BIRTHDAY TO:

Neil Hotard 3
Izebella Knapp 3
Sarah Penttila 4



PRAYER REQUESTS FOR CHURCH FAMILY

The following live in their residences:

Ernestine Banks	Rachel Flournoy	Janie McClerkin	Bertrom Hunter
Margaret Greene	Grace Robinson	Nell Swensen	Don Kinard
Mig Hanko	J. C. Bray	Wilma Meadows	

Covenant Woods: Eva Lucille Roberts, PC 227

Gardens at Calvary: Lee Cook, Apt. 321

Emeritus - Heritage Hills: Bette Schroeter, Room 123

Magnolia Manor: Lillian McLeod, Rm 24; Herb Jones, Rm 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

Nancy DeCurtis (Larry Mills' co-worker) breast cancer

Morgen (Charlie Wike's great-granddaughter) heart problems

Ava Wilson (Christine Brooks' granddaughter) undergoing tests

Joe Post (friend of Lignons) stage 4 brain cancer

Charles Smith (Roark/Grainger relative) deployed to Afghanistan

Don Morrow (Lignons' friend) widespread cancer

Rigsby Dixon (Mary Adams' premature great-granddaughter)

Reese Stansfield (baby girl with brain cancer)

Dorothy Cupples (Bob Ligon's sister) heart condition

Ron Weller (Lignons' friend) stroke rehabilitation

Jackie Jernigan (Tammy Mills' friend) widespread cancer

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)