

**Those serving...****March 15th-A.M. Services**

Song Leading	Don Evans
Scripture Reading	Jonathan Evans
Opening Prayer	Calvin McCoy
Lord's Supper	Frank Long(P)
	Jerry Shepherd, Eugene Hendrix,
	Tom Parker, Jesse Callihan,
	John Hughes, Duke Allen
Delivering Sermon	Keith Dixon
Closing Prayer	Jerry Cooper
Media Attendant	Dwayne McCannon
Announcements/Invitation	Larry Eldridge

**March 15th-P.M. Services**

Song Leading	Don Evans
Scripture Reading	Jonathan Evans
Opening Prayer	Frank Long
Delivering Sermon	Keith Dixon
Closing Prayer	Timmy Thomas

**March 18th-Wednesday Services**

Announcements	Larry Eldridge
Lead Singing	Don Evans
Devotional	Frank Long
Closing Prayer	Jerry Cooper
Media Attendant	John Newham

**LADIES RETREAT-APRIL 24-25-MONEY DUE TODAY!**

The ladies will leave on the 24th and return on the 25th. They will be going to Callaway Gardens. Money for the trip is due today. It is \$56. Please give it to Judy to secure your room!

**YOUNG-IN'S-TODAY**

Today the kids will be going out for pizza and bowling after services. Plan to join them if you want.

**CARDS FOR THE FIELDS**

If you would like to send a card to Don Fields in the passing of his father his address is: Don and Robin Fields-719 Baskins Circle, Winder, GA 30680

**For The Record...****March 8th**

Bible Study	67
AM Worship	73
PM Worship	47

**March 11th**

Bible Study	65
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**Offering March 8th**  
\$3072.35

MARCH 15, 2015

**Assembly Times:****Sunday**

Bible Study-9:30 am  
Worship-10:30 am  
PM Worship-6:00 pm

**Wednesday**

Bible Study  
Morning-10:30 am  
Evening-7:00 pm

**ELDERS**

LARRY ELDRIDGE 678-524-3848  
TOMMY WOLAVER 770-596-7893

**DEACONS**

DUKE ALLEN 404-538-9507  
TREY CALLIHAN 770-841-4975  
JOHN HUGHES 678-983-8192  
TOM WOLAVER 770-560-3722

**MINISTER**  
KEITH DIXON

**GOD'S PLAN OF SALVATION**

Hear Romans 10:17  
Believe John 8:24  
Repent Acts 17:30  
Confess Romans 10:9-10  
Baptized Acts 22:16  
Live Faithfully Matthew 7:21

*Monroe*  
**CHURCH OF CHRIST**

*"...worship in spirit and in truth." John 4:24*

P.O. BOX 851  
813 N. BROAD ST.  
MONROE, GA 30655  
770-267-9877

churchofchristmonroega.org

*Visitors Welcome!*

You are truly our honored guests! We hope that you find our Bible Study and Worship Service beneficial to you. We seek only to worship God in the same manner as done by Christians when the church began in Acts 2. Please stay after services so that we may get to know you. For your convenience, there is a nursery in the foyer for babies up to 18 months old and a toddlers room next to the auditorium.

**COME BACK TONIGHT! SERVICES START AT 6PM.**

**UP**  
*Community*  
**EVENTS**

**SERVANTS FOR THE MASTER-TEAM 3**

Lunch will be served next door after morning worship. A trip to the nursing home will follow for singing and devo to the shut-in.

**NURSING HOME DEVO EVERY THIRD SUNDAY-2PM**

*Come and be with the shut-in. They love visitors.*

**MEN'S BREAKFAST-EVERY WED: 9AM ~ POT-LUCK-CAFE****YOUTH DEVOTIONAL NEXTSUNDAY EVENING!**

Ladies Retreat next month! April 24th. Payment is due TODAY!

**TEAM 3 NEXT WEEK-POT LUCK-BRING ANY DISH YOU WANT****REMEMBER IN PRAYER**

Larry Eldridge is having difficulty with his arm.  
Sharon Eldridge is having back issues.  
Please keep Yvonne Spates in your prayers.  
Brother Fields, former member, passed away. He lived in Florida.  
Trey Callihan has some spots that are cancerous. Please keep him in your prayers.  
Jewel Taylor fell and broke her hip after having recent surgery.  
Sharon Eldridges brother in law, Jackie Luttrell, has brain cancer.  
Pray for the recent ones who have been sick recently.  
Gloria Ansley, Karon Sims, Rita Mitchell, and Gina Tolle have all recently dealt with health issues. Continue to lift them up!  
Pray for our entire congregation.

*Keep the men and women of our military in your prayers*

Corey Henry, Barron Crane, Matt Callihan, Jacob Shepherd, Nicholas Stacks, Shilo Crane, Tim Dixon, Josh Blackburn, Matt Shepherd, Ronald Bly

**FOOD PANTRY ITEMS-MAR.**

The pantry is used for members or anyone in need. Please help us be able to keep these items on hand. Let your kids bring them to class. They'll be excited to help!

- Noodles
- Canned Chili
- Spaghetti Sauce
- Deodorant
- Shampoo

MARCH 22ND-NEXT DEVO!  
Bring your bible and a friend!

**YOUTH**  
**NEWS**

How can a young man keep his way pure? By keeping it according to Your word.

*Psalms 119:9*

Please keep any electronic devices on silent during worship.

**CHURCHOFCHRISTMONROEGA.ORG**

## Did You Think to Pray? Allen Webster

Scenario: The church I attend is losing members instead of gaining them. We are not meeting budget. We have too few children in Bible class and far too few members to return Sunday night. Instead of adding new programs and activities for next year, we are cutting back on what we did last year.

Reaction: We worry, but we do we petition? We wring our hands, but do we bend our knees? We pinch our nickels, but do we bow our heads? We fret, but do we pray? We criticize and blame, but do we commune and beseech? We call emergency business meetings, but do we retreat to entreat? We see the problem, but are we blind to the “Solution”?

Discussion: In good times and bad, the greatest thing any member can do for the congregation is pray. The greatest favor any listener can do for the preacher is pray. The greatest thing all followers can do for their elders is pray. A bedfast Christian fervently praying with an open church bulletin in his/her lap does more for the church without ever leaving home than many able-bodied Christians do all week. Paul complimented the Corinthians for “helping” (sunupourgeo, to be a co-auxiliary, assist.” It comes from a root, ergon, that means, “to work; toil as an effort or occupation, labor.” These Christians had been “working” for Paul but had not lifted an hand—only in prayer) when all they had done was pray (2 Corinthians 1:11)! Somebody might say, “But I want to do more than pray.” We should do more than pray, but no one can do more than pray until first he has prayed.

It is time for us to take prayer seriously. Before Jesus went home, He gave His disciples (us) direct access into the very control room of the Universe. “At that day ye shall ask in my name: and I say not unto you, that I will pray the Father for you: For the Father himself loveth you, because ye have loved me, and have believed that I came out from God” (John 16:26-27). What a privilege is prayer! It is not just an emergency ripcord for when we fall; it is the parachute. It is not an optional rider on an insurance plan; it is the policy. It is not leather seats and power steering; it is the steering wheel and the drive train. It is not the plush carpet and chandeliers; it is the foundation and the roof. The God who cannot lie (Hebrews 6:18) has obligated Himself to heed our desires expressed in prayer (1 Peter 3:12). He stands so ready to bless our prayers that He told Isaiah to write, “And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear” (Isaiah 65:24; cf. Psalm 34:15).

It is time for us to take church building seriously. Our churches need to grow. It is not enough for us to sit still maintain the status quo, and baptize enough of our children to make up for those we bury. The church of the New Testament was a living body that grew up rapidly (e.g., Acts 2:41; 4:4). Why do we need to grow? We need more voices to praise God; He deserves better praise than we give Him—“let the whole earth be filled with his glory” (Psalm 72:19). We need more workers to visit the fatherless and widows—they need more attention and teaching than we provide (James 1:27). We need more encouragers to edify the body—too many are giving up (Hebrews 2:1). We need more money to take the Gospel to foreign lands—missionaries are wasting time raising money when they could be saving souls (Mark 16:15). We need more workers to take the Gospel across the street and across town—people are dying lost just down the road from us (Proverbs 11:20).

We all admit that the church is not growing in our generations as it could. Some churches have more empty pews than filled ones. In a generation when we have more Bibles and study tools in one house than were in a whole city at the close of the First Century, some congregations have trouble finding enough teachers to complete a Bible school faculty. Now

that there are more children than ever in the world’s history, some churches have so few in Bible class that they group the preschoolers with the sixth graders. Some assemblies have had the same “faithful few” since Reagan’s first term. Others had fewer last Sunday than they have had in the lifetime of their oldest member. Denominational churches in some towns mock (or, worse, ignore) God’s true church when they grow by leaps and bounds and we stagnate and cut back.

In a day when the church has more money than Solomon, more education than Moses, and more resources than David, some churches have fewer responses than Noah (he did save his family). We have the best transportation since Elijah’s chariot of fire, the best communication technology since Pentecost, the best visual since those seen at Belshazzar’s feast (Daniel 5), but in some places are having less success at church building than Sardis and Laodicea (Revelation 3).

To be a part of a growing church—seeing lost people saved—means more to a genuine Christian than a Lexus in his garage or a million in his bank. It means more than a college education for his

children, or a getaway vacation for his family. It means more than a job promotion or an early retirement. It means more than a trophy buck on his wall or his team in the Super Bowl. It means more than a “big church wedding” for her daughter or a ring on her every finger.

What would Jesus think of our “growth strategies” and church activities nowadays? With many congregations, He would be as happy as with any since Philadelphia and Smyrna (Revelation 2:8;3:7), but others might remind Him more of Ephesus (Revelation 2:1-7) AND Corinth (1 Corinthians). We have tried many things to get the church to grow: buses; fancier buildings; smoother-talking; better-looking preachers; Willow Creek strategies; shorter services and sermonettes; membership drives; campaigns; and a full slate of programs; Family Life Centers; “Don’t ask/ don’t tell” on divorce; mass mail; websites; and phone surveys; compromise doctrines on repentance, baptism, and worship; giveaways and getaways; sheep-stealing form the church across town; drama and choirs; aerobics on Tuesdays; the Lord’s Supper on Thursdays; and softball on Saturdays; seminars, workshops, retreats, and “felt needs” emphases; purpose-driven ministries; small groups and big days; marriage films and parenting videos; events for Seniors, women youth, parents, singles, couples, divorcees, retirees, and any other special interest group someone could recognize and put together. A few of these are good ideas. Others were simply the wisdom of men. Some are nothing more than the devil’s devices (2 Corinthians 2:11; 11:15). The questions to ponder in this study do not have to do with practical growth strategies but with our primary Resource. Have we remembered to save God a seat in our planning sessions? Have we charted our attendance with out logging our prayer journals? Have we planted and watered while shading out God’s life-giving sun (1 Corinthians 3:6-9)? Have we had members to purpose their giving without encouraging them to practice their praying? Have we emphasized a day in the park more than a night in prayer (cf. Luke 6:12)? Have we spent more time in our prayer closets? Have we rolled up our sleeves without removing our shoes?

This is a wonderful article! We need to reflect on how much time we do spend in prayer to God not only for ourselves but also for the church. There are many areas that we can accomplish great things but first we need to ask God’s help along the way. Let us remember to set time aside to study God’s Word and pray each day. It will make us a better person. We ought always to pray. Let us not be weary in well doing for in due season we shall reap if we faint not. Pray without ceasing. Where are these passages found? They are as important as any in the scriptures!

There are great things in the future for the church here, but let us always start by praying for God’s help and wisdom. These things will always so better when we do. Love, Keith

### Those serving...Next Sunday

Song Leading  
Scripture Reading  
Opening Prayer  
Lord’s Supper

Don Evans  
Jerry Martinez  
Chuck Mitchell  
Calvin McCoy(P)

Jerry Shepherd, Eugene Hendrix, Art Hein,  
Trey Callihan, Timmy Thomas, Duke Allen

Closing Prayer  
Announcements/Invitation

Jerry Cooper  
Tommy Wolaver

### BULLETIN INFORMATION

If there is something that needs to be put in the bulletin please email Crissy at [trudyblue1@yahoo.com](mailto:trudyblue1@yahoo.com). Please get this info to her before Thursday evening. You can also text her with info at 706-206-8514