

Servers Today, December 17, 2017

**Celebrating the Goodness of God
(Psalm 100:1-5 | Eph. 5:19-21)**

Speaker: *Arnan Bayla*
 Song Leader: *Andy Bestre*
 Invocation: *Ernie Wagang*
 Intercessory Prayer: *June Reyes*
 Communion Text: *1 Corinthians 15:1-18*
 Scripture Reading: *Jasper Perdigon*
 Prayer for the Bread: *JJ Ramos*
 Prayer for the Cup: *Dante Baddas*
 Prayer for the Giving: *Greg Kitma*
 Closing Prayer: *Jesse Bestre*
 Announcement: *Andy Bestre*
 Evening Speaker: *Arnan Bayla*
 Song Leader: *Andy Bestre*
 To Bring Flowers: *The Bayatings*
 To Bring Biscuits: *n/a*
 To Bring Drinks: *n/a*
 Usher/ettes: *Julius Udan & Midtown YP's*
 Communion: *Charis Bayla*
 Worship Coordinator: *R.Tada | A. Tacay*

How To Become a Biblical Christian

- 1). *Admit that you are a sinner and in need of salvation, 1 John 3:4,8; Rom.3:10,23; Rom. 6:23.*
- 2). *Hear the pure New Testament gospel of Christ; Romans 1:16; Rom. 10:17.*
- 3). *Believe the gospel, Hebrews 11:6; Mark 16:16; John 8:24*
- 4). *Repent of your sins, Acts 2:38; Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30.*
- 5). *Confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, Mat. 10:32; Acts 8:37; Rom. 10:10.*
- 6). *Be baptized into Christ, Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; Acts 22:16.*
- 7). *Remain faithful unto death, Rev. 2:10;*

Servers for December 24, 2017

**Communicating Sound Doctrine
(Titus 2:1-15)**

Speaker: *Andy Bestre*
 Song Leader: *Arnan Bayla*
 Invocation: *Julius Rojo*
 Intercessory Prayer: *Jhun Bayating*
 Communion Text: *Romans 6:1-7*
 Scripture Reading: *Kajem Kitma*
 Prayer for the Bread: *Sam Quezada*
 Prayer for the Cup: *Chris Oliva*
 Prayer for the Giving: *Lem Glori*
 Closing Prayer: *Mar Bayating*
 Announcement: *Arnan Bayla*
 Evening Speaker: *Andy Bestre*
 Song Leader: *Arnan Bayla*
 To Bring Flowers: *Volunteers Needed*
 To Bring Biscuits: *Volunteers Needed*
 To Bring Drinks: *Volunteers Needed*
 Usher/ettes: *Kitma Family*
 Communion: *Charis Bayla*
 Worship Coordinator: *R.Tada | A. Tacay*



Vol. XXXIII No. 50 December 17, 2017 Baguio City, Philippines

Midtown celebrates 34th anniversary in annual pasasalamat today

Midtown celebrates thirty-four years of blessed existence today with great joy and thanksgiving for the Lord Almighty's manifold mercies! Through the years, Midtown has always been thankful of the opportunities to freely serve in aiming to give praise, glory and honour to God the Creator.

Midtown annually celebrates "PASASALAMAT DAY" as an avenue to express corporate gratitude to God for establishing the labours of this congregation in which we continually remember before our God and Father the work produced by faith, the labour prompted by love, and the endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ (1 Thess 1:3). Moreover, it is an opportunity to count our blessings, triumphs, and even the challenges through the years.

The leadership of this congregation enjoins everyone to give all thanks, praise, and adoration to God as well as to consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds! (Heb 10:24)Ω

13 new disciples added to the Lord's church at Midtown to date

Midtown praises the Lord Almighty for the opportunity of going, preaching, and teaching the pure gospel of salvation in Christ Jesus which brought the addition of eleven (13) new brethren to the Lord's church at Midtown to date. So far, the Lord has entrusted to the Midtown congregation the following new disciples this 2017:

1. Flora A. Campoas—baptized February 27
2. Anastacia S. Palaog—baptized March 12
3. Euan Clyde S. Aguinaldo—baptized April 22
4. Rafael C. Ozo—baptized April 30
5. Novelito B. Abance—baptized May 20
6. Jocelyn K. Abance—baptized May 20
7. Norma Abance—baptized May 20
8. Rolando B. Castillo—baptized August 31
9. Jonalyn L. Castillo—baptized August 31
10. Silvestre B. Andaya III—baptized November 9
11. Rossana B. Andaya—baptized November 9
12. Dencio B. Abance—baptized November 9
13. Elma G. Bugtong—baptized November 9

These brethren will be receiving their certificates of baptism during the *Pasasalamat* program today.Ω

"Only as we follow Christ can we lead others in the right direction."

READ John 10:1-18

INSIDE PAGE:
Today's Sermon Outline... page 2
Pasasalamat Program... page 3
Midtown's Brief History ...page 3

3 young people baptized recently in Nangalisan congregation

Two young people, namely, Francis Del Rosario, 10y/o, and Rose Ann Batalier, 9y/o, were taught and recently baptized by brother Julius Udan, NCOC's full-time evangelist at Riverview on December 3, 2017.

Last Sunday, December 10th, Yasen Batalier, 13 y/o, was also baptized by brother Udan at Riverview. All three decided to put on Christ in baptism after having been taught of the pure gospel of Christ by brother Julius Udan in their residence at Sitio Bucan, Nangalisan. The Nangalisan church of Christ (NCOC) warmly welcomes them and prays for their spiritual growth.Ω

Sister Lourdes Cera bids final good-bye at 68

Sister Lourdes P. Rojas—Cera, born August 12, 1949 and born again July 16, 1986, passed on last Sunday, December 10, 2017 while confined at the Baguio General Hospital due to cardiac arrest. She is survived by her husband, Danny Cera, two daughters, namely, Carlota Senesan and Ma. Lourdes Literato; five grandchildren, namely, Alexa, Reuben, Nathan, Justin, and Jaden.

Midtown brethren conveyed sympathies to the bereaved through nightly devotionals at the St. Peter Chapels, Marcos Highway, this city, until her burial at the Baguio Cemetery last Friday, December 15th.

Family and relatives of the deceased expressed their thanks for the sympathies, unceasing prayers, and loving support during their time of bereavement.Ω

Staff ministers appreciate yearend bonus

Midtown's staff ministers, brothers Arnan Bayla, Andy Bestre, and Jesse Bestre, thank the Midtown family for the generous gesture of love and support expressed in the special contribution for their YEAREND BONUS done on Dec. 3 & 10, 2017. Total contribution reached P37,134.00. Thus, each staff minister received P12,378.00. BIG THANKS!Ω

**Last Sunday's Offering
December 10, 2017**

**AM COLLECTION
P27,780.00**

**PM COLLECTION
P1,930.00**

**AM/PM TOTAL COLLECTION
P29,710.00**

ATTENDANCE

AM Adults - 102 YP - 33 Children - 35 Guests - 0	PM Adults - 14 YP - 8 Children - 0 Guests - 0
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TOTAL - 170 **TOTAL - 22**

**TOTAL ATTENDANCE
(AM/PM) 192**

PRAYER LIST

Good Health & Fast Recovery:

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| *Ian Pajantoy | *Cecilia Alvarez |
| *Gloria Yang | *Gaspar Nawew |
| *Marina Gawe | *Charlie Alvarez |
| *Sotero Denis | *Priscilla Bayasen |
| *Bernie Austria | *Rolito Tugay-an |
| *Norma Aping | *Maria Elena Lachica |
| *Josefa Josayan | *Dave McMillin |
| *Arian Kaith Igoy | *Jeremy Denis |
| *Robinson Palaypayon | *Eduardo Ganga |
| *Carmen Villanueva | *Anthony Flores |
| *Lily Soriano | *Elvie Sacayanan |
| *Andy Bestre | *Marichu Concepcion |
| *Gil & Diana Geron | *MaryAnn Gonzales |
| *Rodrigo Tada | *Linda Yaneza |
| *Ruth Trinidad | *Florence Magalong |
| *Ofelia Abance | *Bernard Ignacio |

Spiritual guidance and comfort for some brethren; world, national, and local leaders.

SAFE PREGNANCY

*Denise Wagang



James 5:15

"And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise him up; " NIV

SAFE TRAVEL

*Delegates from Bokod
Anastacia Palaog
(Metro Manila)*

ANNOUNCEMENTS!

- **YOUNG PEOPLE'S MEETING** — MEZZANINE FLOOR, RIGHT AFTER THE WORSHIP ASSEMBLY NEXT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2017
- **TUESDAY CHURCH FORUM**— DECEMBER 19, 2017 | 12:00—2:30 PM
- **YOUNG PEOPLE'S MONTHLY SATURDAY CARE GROUP**— RAMOS RESIDENCE, SAN LUIS VILLAGE, KM 3 ASIN RD. | WILL MEET ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2017 | 5:00—7:30 PM
- **REGIONAL YOUTH CAMP**—ASIAN CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY, BUGALLON, PANG. | DECEMBER 20-23, 2017
- **NATIONAL LADIES RETREAT**— TO BE HOSTED BY THE TALAMBAN CHURCH OF CHRIST, TALAMBAN, CEBU CITY | APRIL 25— 28, 2018 | REGISTRATION FEE: P3,300.00

CELEBRATING THE GOODNESS OF GOD

Psalm 100:1-5 | Ephesians 5:19-21
Annan A. Bayla | Midtown Church of Christ | December 17, 2017

CELEBRATING THE GOODNESS OF GOD

Psalm 100:1-5
Ephesians 5:19-21

- BEING A JOYFUL CONGREGATION
▪ Psalm 100: 1-2 | Ephesians 5:19
- BEING A SUBMISSIVE CONGREGATION
▪ Psalm 100:3 | Ephesians 5:21
- BEING A THANKFUL CONGREGATION
▪ Psalm 100:4-5 | Ephesians 5:20

I. BEING A JOYFUL CONGREGATION

Psalm 100:1-2
Ephesians 5:19

- SERVE GOD WITH GLADNESS
 - Express one's joyfulness
 - Be a cheerful giver
- SERVE WITH SONGS OF GLADNESS
 - Express adoration through joyful songs
 - Be a worshipful singer
- SERVE OTHERS WITH GLADNESS
 - Express service
 - Be a dutiful server

APPLICATION:

1. Let us celebrate God's goodness by being a joyful congregation today and for all time.
 - Take the challenge to be a source of good cheer.
 - Take the challenge to be dutiful worshippers.
 - Treat congregational life cheerfully and dutifully.
 - "Be cheerful no matter what; 17 pray all the time; 18 thank God no matter what happens. This is the way God wants you who belong to Christ Jesus to live. 19 Don't suppress the Spirit." 1 Thess 5:16-19 MSG

II. BEING A SUBMISSIVE CONGREGATION

Psalm 100:3
Ephesians 5:21

- ACKNOWLEDGE GOD'S LORDSHIP
 - Obedience to the Lord's commands
 - Be an obliging servant
- ACKNOWLEDGE GOD'S POWER
 - Obedience to the Lord's authority
 - Be a yielding Kingdom citizen
- ACKNOWLEDGE ONE'S POSITION
 - Obedience in the likeness of a sheep
 - Be an unassuming disciple

APPLICATION:

2. Let us celebrate God's goodness by being a submissive congregation today and for all time.
 - Take the challenge to be a source of good examples.
 - Take the challenge to be obliging servants.
 - Treat others in humility out of reverence for Christ.
 - "All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." [1 Peter 5:5]
 - "Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. 8 Come near to God and he will come near to you. [James 4:7-8 NIV]

III. BEING A THANKFUL CONGREGATION

Psalm 100:4-5
Ephesians 5:20

- GIVE THANKS FOR HIS GOODNESS
 - Remember the Lord's graciousness
 - Be benevolent to each other
- GIVE THANKS FOR HIS ENDURING LOVE
 - Remember the Lord's sacrifices
 - Be considerate of each other
- GIVE THANKS FOR HIS FAITHFULNESS
 - Remember the Lord's forgiveness
 - Be forgiving with each other

APPLICATION:

3. Let us celebrate God's goodness by being a thankful congregation today and for all time.
 - Take the challenge to be a source of thankfulness.
 - Take the challenge to be benevolent disciples.
 - Treat the Lord's graciousness with contentment.
 - "Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you." 6 So we say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?" Heb 13:5-6 NIV

How do we celebrate the goodness of God?

1. Let us celebrate God's goodness by being a joyful congregation – full of dutiful worshippers and a source of good cheer, today and for all time.
2. Let us celebrate God's goodness by being a submissive congregation – full of obliging servants and a source of good examples, today and for all time.
3. Let us celebrate God's goodness by being a thankful congregation – full of benevolent disciples and a source of thankfulness, today and for all time.

“ Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, men will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else. 14 And in their prayers for you their hearts will go out to you, because of the surpassing grace God has given you. 15 Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift! 2 Corinthians 9:13-15 ”

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE BEGINNINGS OF THE MIDTOWN CHURCH OF CHRIST

The MIDTOWN CHURCH OF CHRIST, a local church faithful to the pattern of the New Testament church of Christ in the first century (33 AD), began on October 16, 1983 when a handful of faithful Christian families from the Baguio Church of Christ, namely, families of Felix A. Bravo, Santiago B. Sameon II, Simeon S. Reyes, Daniel A. Oliva, Paulino Abubo and some students of the Philippine Bible College commenced a new work of preaching the pure gospel at the heart of the city and started a Worship Assembly at the Conference Hall of the YMCA Bldg., Upper Session Road, Baguio City.

After a year, the congregation moved to the 3rd Floor of the Puso Ng Baguio Building, Session Road, at the time when brother David Allen Stathopulo, a missionary sponsored by the Saturn Road Church of Christ, Mesquite, Texas, USA, joined the work at Midtown and started the BIBLE STUDY CENTER. Bible teachers then helping in said center were Ruth L. Glori, Janice Reyes, Felix Bravo, Danny Oliva, Santiago Sameon II, spouses David and Sandy Stathopulo, and spouses Simeon Jr. and Phoebe Reyes. Later, two American missionary couples came to help in the work, namely, spouses Eddie and Sherry Poblete and spouses Doug and Sandy Holcomb. Sisters Janice Reyes and Jeanette Fetalino served as secretaries for the Bible Study Center on Session Road, while sisters Vickie Hombrebueno and Rose Macion served as secretaries of the Bible Study Center opened by brother Eddie Poblete at the 3rd Floor, GP Building, Upper Mabini Street. Between 1983 and 1984, thirty-four people were baptized. In 1985, more than a hundred people have been baptized into Christ. Later, the congregation has employed full-time staff evangelists and ministers, namely, brothers Annan A. Bayla (1987), Felix L. Olidan Jr. (1988), and Andres E. Bestre (1994). As the congregation grew numerically, more space was needed which made the congregation rent one place to another. The first move was to the 3rd Floor of the Maharlika Livelihood Center (1985). Then to the Baguio Patriotic High School gymnasium (1987), then to the University of Baguio Little Theater or Dap-ayan (1987), UB Education Building (1988), Baguio-Benquet Community Credit Cooperative Conference Hall (1990), and to the Bible Study Center opened by brother Sotero B. Denis at the 3rd Floor, Dangwa Terminal Building (1991). Having rented two office units at the Puso Ng Baguio Building along Session Road, the congregation once more conducted her worship assemblies there until 1993. Owing to the high rate of rentals after the 1990 killer earthquake, the church welcomed the offer of the Bayatays for Midtown to hold office and to conduct its worship assemblies at the 5th Basement Floor of the Marlett's Building located on Km. 4 Marcos Highway in 1993 for free. In 1995, the congregation transferred to the Top Floor of the same building free of charge and which is currently the congregation's office and assembly place.

The MIDTOWN CHURCH OF CHRIST was registered as a Non-stock, Non-profit Religious organization with the SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (SEC) with Registration No. BN092-000390 on September 18, 1992.Q (Condensed and edited by Annan Bayla for publication in this church bulletin.)

MIDTOWN CHURCH OF CHRIST PASASALAMAT & 34th ANNIVERSARY
Riverview Water Park, Nangalisan, Tuba, Benguet
Sunday | December 17, 2017 | 9:00 AM

P R O G R A M

Part I - Worship Assembly
[9:00—11:00 AM]

Part II - State of the Congregation Address (SOCA) & Presentations
[11:00—11:45 AM]

- SOCA Presentation by Bro. Annan A. Bayla
- Presentation of 2017 Baptisms by Bro. Jojo A. Ramos
- Special Presentations by:
Bokod brethren, Nangalisan brethren, Midtown YPeez

Part III - Fellowship Lunch
[11:45 AM—1:00 PM]

- Thanksgiving Prayer - Bro. Art Tacay

Part IV - Swimming, Fun & Games
[1:00-3:00 PM]

- Last PUJ trip from Riverview- [3:30 PM]

Part V - Worship Assembly @ Midtown
[5:30-6:30 PM]

Km. 4 Marcos Highway, Baguio City

• GUIDELINES •

1. Please strictly observe the resort's rules and regulations.
2. Strictly no swimming before the designated time of swimming which is at one o'clock (1PM). Parents and guardians shall take full responsibility of watching over their children.
3. Lunch will be served through controlled buffet by the catering service authorized personnel only.
4. In going back to Midtown or to downtown Baguio, please note that you are expected to Ride the same vehicle you rode coming to Riverview. If you did not sign up to be serviced by the hired vehicles, please take other PUJs.
5. For PUJ fare refunds, please ask from brothers Sixto Aoas & Julius Rojo.
6. Kindly advise your valued guests to abide by these guidelines. MANY THANKS.

•THE EDIFICATION MINISTRY

SUNDAY AM WORSHIP ASSEMBLY



Communion - 9:00 - 9:30
Bible Classes - 9:30 - 10:30
Message - 10:45 - 11:15

MIDWEEK DEVOTIONALS

See schedule



SUNDAY PM WORSHIP

Worship Assembly
5:30 - 6:30 PM



MIDTOWN CHURCH OF CHRIST
SERVING TO MAKE DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

TOP FLOOR MARLETT'S BUILDING, KM 4 MARCOS HIGHWAY, BAGUIO CITY, PHILIPPINES
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