

**Servers Today, December 31, 2017**

**Doing What Is Good (Titus 3:1-8)**

Speaker: Jesse Bestre  
 Song Leader: Chris Oliva  
 Invocation: CD Espinosa  
 Intercessory Prayer: Dexter Wagang  
 Communion Text: Galatians 3:26-29  
 Scripture Reading: Rodrigo Bondoc  
 Prayer for the Bread: Kemuel Perdigon  
 Prayer for the Cup: Ezra Valdez  
 Prayer for the Giving: O'neil Gonzales  
 Closing Prayer: Mervin Oliva  
 Announcement: Chris Oliva  
 Evening Speaker: Jesse Bestre  
 Song Leader: Chris Oliva  
 To Bring Flowers: Lara Montes  
 To Bring Biscuits: c/o Midtown  
 To Bring Drinks: Rachel Bestre  
 Usher/ettes: Baddas Family

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 January 7, 2018**

**The Creation Of The World (Genesis 1:1-2:3)**

Speaker: Arnan Bayla  
 Song Leader: Andy Bestre  
 Invocation: Jhun Bayating  
 Intercessory Prayer: June Reyes  
 Communion Text: Matthew 26:26-30  
 Scripture Reading: Ira Po  
 Prayer for the Bread: Julius Rojo  
 Prayer for the Cup: Lemuel Glori  
 Prayer for the Giving: Sol Palaypayon  
 Closing Prayer: Charlie Abance  
 Announcement: Andy Bestre  
 Evening Speaker: Arnan Bayla  
 Song Leader: Andy Bestre  
 To Bring Flowers: Volunteers Needed  
 To Bring Biscuits: Volunteers Needed  
 To Bring Drinks: Volunteers Needed  
 Usher/ettes: Gonzales Family

Communion: Volunteers Needed  
 Worship Coordinator: R.Tada | A. Tacay



Vol. XXXIII No. 52 December 31, 2017 Baguio City, Philippines

**Midtown ypeez learn to advocate the Master's instructions in yearender**

“RELATIONSHIP & COMMITMENT” was the theme for this year’s YP YEAREND ACTIVITY held on December 29-30, 2017. The event started with a devotional on TEAMWORK facilitated by CD Espinosa followed by the usual “AMAZING RACE” where participants were grouped into pre-existing relationships and were asked to accomplish tasks around the city. The tasks ranged from searching for landmarks, solving puzzles, doing random acts of kindness, taking photos with strangers, and the like.

“TEAM SISTERS IN CHRIST” composed of Louise Bawas, Klarissa Glori, and Angela Ramos raced to the finish and claimed first place. Jhoey Ramos, Joven Naguita, and Ezra Valdez, “THE CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY STUDENTS AND FRIEND TEAM” placed second while “THE SIBLINGS TEAM,” Kana, Jasper, and Kemuel Perdigon settled for third place.

In the evening, at the Aoas—Bayla Residence at Tanganan, Tadiangan, Tuba, spouses Arnan & Nelly Bayla led a discussion about “AIMING TO DEVELOP MEANINGFUL RELATIONSHIPS” with God and others with the young men and young ladies, respectively. The facilitators underscored that for disciples to develop significant relationships, they are to AIM such or to “ADVOCATE THE INSTRUCTIONS OF THE MASTER.”

The day ended with the usual fun and games, the uproarious “Greedy Man’s” exchange gift, and the sharing of thoughts, stories, struggles and victories.

The following day, Ryan Bestre shared reminders about taking care of our bodies, dealing with depression, and financial management.

Other attendees of the YEARENDER ACTIVITY were Grace & Janriel Abance, Louise Bawas, Kaisha Lagsaman, Kinsha & Klarissa Glori, Melchi Aquino, Amber, Ira, & Aldian Po, Abi Kitma, Kana, Jasper, & Kemuel Perdigon, Mahay & Shauli Kitma, JJ, Angela, & Rico Ramos, Khryz & Gian Gomowang, Alec Likigan, Kaesha & Kaelin Palaypayon, Novan Kepes, Charis & A-mark Bayla, Ryan & Jesse Bestre, Ezra Valdez, Jhoey Ramos, Joven Naguita, Mau Soriano, Euan Aguinardo, Sean Bestre, CD Espinosa, Kate Dereje, O’neil Gonzales, Dex & Den Wagang, Chris & Kesha Oliva, and brother Sixto Aoas. **HAPPY NEW YEAR!** Ω (by Ryan Anthony Bestre)

**"Give miles of smiles in great big piles."**

**READ Proverbs 15:13**

**INSIDE PAGE:**

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**Baguio church elder's wife passes away at 79**

Sister Elvira Buna—Sacayanan, born January 25, 1938, succumbed to a lingering illness at her residence early morning of December 28, 2017. She was one of the subject of intercessory prayers at Midtown for sometime. Her remains lay in state at the auditorium of the Baguio Church of Christ, 18 Rimando Road. Her interment will be on January 5, 2018.

She is survived by seven children and by her husband, brother Cristino C. Sacayanan, one of the current elders of the said congregation.Ω

**Midtown's youth minister serves in regional youth camp**

Brother Jesse Bestre served as one of the invited speakers in the recent REGIONAL YOUTH CAMP hosted and held at the Asian Christian University located at Salomague Sur, Bugallon, Pangasinan on Dec. 20-23.

He was tasked to discuss about “THE RESPONSIBLE USE OF THE SOCIAL MEDIA.” In his discussion, he reiterated that Christians are to exercise prudence in posting, uploading, liking, and commenting on the social media. He noted that while everything is permissible, not everything is beneficial and constructive (1 Corinthians 10:23). He added that the Lord’s disciples must be guided by the Scripture passage, “*Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification*” (Romans 14:19).Ω

**Midtown welcomes back the Sameons from the USA**

Midtown welcomes back spouses Dodoy & Sarah Sameon from a brief vacation and visit with their children in the USA, namely, Sharon McMillin and Shinar Ciencia, from October 28—December 19, 2017. They arrived Baguio last Thursday, Dec. 21 and were able to serve at Midtown’s worship assembly last Sunday, December 24th.Ω

**Last Sunday's Offering December 24, 2017**

**AM COLLECTION P27,601.00**

**PM COLLECTION P2,510.00**

**AM/PM TOTAL COLLECTION P30,111.00**

**ATTENDANCE**

<b>AM</b> Adults - 87 YP - 27 Children - 38 Guests - 8	<b>PM</b> Adults -19 YP - 3 Children - 2 Guests - 0
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**TOTAL - 160**

**TOTAL - 24**

**TOTAL ATTENDANCE (AM/PM) 184**

**PRAYER LIST**

**Good Health & Fast Recovery:**

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

*Holiday Vacationists  
 CD Espinosa & Gracelyn Abance (Back to Singapore)*

**A N N O U N C E M E N T S !**

- **YOUNG PEOPLE’S MEETING** — MEZZANINE FLOOR, RIGHT AFTER THE WORSHIP ASSEMBLY TODAY
- **NO TUESDAY CHURCH FORUM**—on January 2, 2017 | Resumes January 9, 2018.
- **MIDWEEK DEVOTIONAL MEETING AT MIDTOWN** (Wednesday | 7—9 PM) resumes January 10, 2018
- **FRIDAY CARE GROUP MEETING AT MIDTOWN** (Friday | 7—9 PM) resumes January 12, 2018
- **MISSION OUTREACH MINISTRY MEETING**—FAMILY LIFE CENTER | JANUARY 6, 2018 | 12:00—3 PM
- **NATIONAL LADIES RETREAT**—TALAMBAN, CEBU CITY | APRIL 25—28, 2018 | REG. FEE: P3,300.00
- **NEED VOLUNTEERS FOR 2018**— to prepare the communion table, bring flowers, bring drinks and biscuits for Sunday school children. Please sign up. Thanks.

# BE READY TO DO WHATEVER IS GOOD, EXCELLENT AND BENEFICIAL

Christians were often looked on with suspicion in the Roman Empire because their conduct was so different and they met in private meetings for worship (see 1 Peter 2:11-25; 3:13-4:5). It was important that they be good citizens without compromising the faith. Their pagan neighbors might disobey the law but Christians must submit to the authority of the state (see Rom 13). *Ready to every good work*" (Titus 3:1) means *cooperating in those matters that involve the whole community*. "Our heavenly citizenship (Phil 3:20) does not absolve us from responsibilities as citizens on earth (Titus 3:1-8)

The believer should not have a bad attitude toward the government and show it by slanderous accusations and pugnacious actions. The word gentle (Titus 3:2) means *an attitude of moderation, a sweet reasonableness*." Christians with this quality do not insist on the letter of the law, but are willing to give way where no moral issue is at stake.

Again, Paul linked duty to doctrine. *Don't be too critical of your pagan neighbors*, he wrote. *Just remember what you were before God saved you!*" Titus 3:3 needs little explanation—we know what it means from our own personal experiences.

What a difference the kindness and love of God" (Titus 3:4) makes! If you want a beautiful illustration of *the kindness of God*," read 2 Samuel 9 and note David's treatment of Mephibosheth, a little lame prince. Because Mephibosheth was a part of Saul's family, he expected to be slain. But David, in kindness, spared him and treated him as one of his own sons at the palace table. *Don't be afraid, for I will surely show you kindness for the sake of your father Jonathan...*

Salvation came not only because of God's kindness and love, but also because of His mercy (Titus 3:5). We did not save ourselves; *He saved us.*"

How did He do it? Through the miracle of the new birth, the work of the Holy Spirit of God. When one is baptized into the Lord Jesus, he is washed away of his sins (Acts 2:38; 22:16). Paul's mention of "*washing*" here means *bathed all over*." When a sinner trusts Christ, he is cleansed from all his sins, and he is made *a new person*" (Romans 6:3-14) by the indwelling Holy Spirit.

Paul related this same cleansing experience to the Word of God (Eph 5:26). Salvation comes to a sinner when he trusts Christ, when the Spirit of God uses the Word of God to bring about the new birth. We are born of water and the Spirit (John 3:5-6).

Not only have we who are Christians been washed and made new in Christ, but we have also been justified (Titus 3:7). This wonderful doctrine is discussed in detail in Rom 3:21-8:39. Justification is the gracious act of God whereby He declares a believing sinner righteous because of the finished work of Christ on the cross. God puts to our account the righteousness of His Son, so that we can be condemned no more. Not only does He forget our sins, but He forgets that we were even sinners!

What is the result of His kindness, love, mercy, and grace? Hope! We are heirs of God! This means that

today we can draw on His riches; and when He comes, we will share His wealth and His kingdom forever. This hope ties in with Titus 2:13: *Looking for that blessed hope*." But there is something more involved: We should live godly lives and be *careful to maintain good works*" (Titus 3:8). The only evidence the unsaved world has that we belong to God is our unquestionable love and godly lives (Jn 13:35). The best proof a local church has to convince the unsaved is through a sacrificial service reflective of the Lord's sacrificial love for us. Ω

**The only evidence the unsaved world has that we belong to God is our unquestionable love and godly lives. The best proof a local church has to convince the unsaved is through a sacrificial service reflective of the Lord's sacrificial love for us.**

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Remember your Creator in the days of your youth, before the days of trouble come and the years approach when you will say, "I find no pleasure in them..." Ecclesiastes 12:1

## January Celebrators

- 02 - Kevin Dennis
- 02 - Jocelyn K. Abance
- 02 - Priscilla Bayasen
- 04 - Pearl C. Bestre
- 05 - Leah V. Tada
- 05 - Khryz Xyryll B. Gomowang
- 07 - Josefa Teliaken
- 08 - Jarialle Taltala
- 10 - Sean R. Viduya
- 10 - Ernesto Orduña, Jr.
- 10 - Henrietta R. Espinosa
- 12 - Dionesia Gorio
- 14 - Anastacia S. Palaoag
- 15 - Jan Arthur Tacay
- 15 - Ronnilie Corisay
- 18 - Macrina Espiritu
- 20 - Cindy K. Abance
- 22 - Antonita Orduña
- 23 - Dexter R. Wagang
- 23 - Lorna B. Montes
- 23 - Vangie C. Glori
- 26 - Richard Montes
- 26 - Christian Paulo T. Cordero
- 27 - Loida C. Baddas
- 28 - Ernesto B. Wagang
- 28 - Myra O. Manansala
- 29 - Charis Grace D. Bayla
- 30 - Marie Joy Lacambra
- 31 - Abigail A. Kitma

Please notify the M.I. Staff if your name should have been included in this list.  
Thank You.

### Midtown Church of Christ SCHEDULE OF MONTHLY / WEEKLY DEVOTIONALS | CARE GROUPS

VENUE	TIME	FACILITATORS
<b>TUESDAY</b>		
Bayating Residence Poblacion, Tuba	5:30- 7:30 PM	Arnan Bayla & Andy Bestre
College & Young Adults @ Family Life Center	6 – 7:30 PM	Ezra Valdez
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>		
Midtown Assembly Hall	7—9 PM	Arnan Bayla, et. al.
Irisan Mobile (Baban, & Yang residences)	7 – 9 PM	Andy Bestre/ Sixto Aoas
Geron Residence @ Queen of Peace Road	5 – 6:30 PM	O'neil Gonzales
Congregational Midweek Devotional	6 – 7 PM Every 4th Wednesday	Care Group assigned
<b>THURSDAY</b>		
Young People Family Life Center	5:30 – 7:30 PM	O'neil Gonzales, et. al.
<b>FRIDAY</b>		
Midtown Assembly Hall	7 – 9 PM	Lemuel Glori / Arnan Bayla
Upper Kitma Village	7 – 9 PM	Greg Kitma / Chris Oliva
<b>SATURDAY</b>		
Sports & Jogging Panagbenga Park	8 – 10 AM	YPeez Sports Enthusiasts
Mobile Saturday Care Group	3 – 5 PM	D. Sameon, E. Wagang, R. Tada
Couples Care Group	5 – 7 PM 4th Saturday	Jun Bondoc / Lemuel Glori
High School -College Care Group @ FLC	5 – 7 PM	Young Adults and College students
<b>SUNDAY</b>		
All YPeez Care Group	12 – 3 PM Fourth Sunday	YPs in charge
All Ladies Fellowship	12 – 3 PM Third Sunday	Ladies in charge: 4th Q Steering Group
Young Adults @ Family Life Center	3 – 5 PM	YAs in charge

#### 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



**TOP FLOOR MARLETT'S BLDG.**  
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