

Servers Today, December 6, 2015

Pursuing What Is Good
1Thessalonians 5:12-15

Speaker: Andy Bestre

Song Leader: Arnan Bayla

Invocation: Jhun Bayating

Intercessory Prayer: Mervin Oliva

Communion Text: Romans 6:8-14

Scripture Reading: Kajem Kitma

Prayer for the Bread: Richard Bestre

Prayer for the Cup: Oneil Gonzales

Prayer for the Giving: Mark Wagang

Closing Prayer: Jerry Martin

Announcement: Arnan Bayla

Evening Speaker: Andy Bestre

Song Leader: Arnan Bayla

To Bring Flowers: Josie Baban

To Bring Biscuits: Midtown

To Bring Drinks: Midtown

Usher/ettes: Tacay Family

Communion: Nelly Bayla

Worship Coordinator: Rod Tada | Lem Glori

How To Become a Biblical Christian

- 1). *Accept 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 is the Christ, 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 13, 2015

Rejoicing & Giving Thanks to God (1 Thess 5:16-22)

Speaker: Arnan Bayla

Song Leader: Cris Oliva

Invocation: Jun Reyes

Intercessory Prayer: Dexter Wagang

Communion Text: Matthew 26:26-30

Scripture Reading: Rodrigo Bondoc

Prayer for the Bread: Art Tagay

Prayer for the Cup: Julius Rojo

Prayer for the Giving: Sol Palaypayon

Closing Prayer: Abe Insas

Announcement: Cris Oliva

Evening Speaker: Arnan Bayla

Song Leader: Cris Oliva

To Bring Flowers: Nancy Bayla

To Bring Biscuits: Midtown

To Bring Drinks: Midtown

Usher/ettes: Bestre Family

Communion: Nelly Bayla

Worship Coordinator: Rod Tada | Lem Glori

THE **MIDTOWN**

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(A Church of Christ Serving You)

INFORMER



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Baguio's bravest seeks church support for "SAFE BAGUIO"

Midtown recently received a letter from the Bureau of Fire Protection—CAR soliciting the cooperation of the congregation to support “SAFE BAGUIO,” a campaign to “*totally ban the selling, use and display of firecrackers and other pyrotechnic devices and materials in the city that could put at risk lives, properties, and environment*” the letter reads.

SUPT Joe Fernand L Bangyod, City Fire Marshall of the Baguio City Fire Station further appeals for individuals to sign a manifesto signifying full support of the said “SAFE BAGUIO” campaign which will be used as instrument to further encourage city officials to adapt the same.

In this regard, the brethren are encouraged to practice good citizenship (Romans 13:5) by affixing their name and signature on the form found on the bulletin board by the hall entrance.Ω

YpeeZ join Tuao medical and spiritual mission

Two young ladies, namely sisters Abigail Kitma and Gracelynn Abance, are representing Midtown YpeeZ in the Tuao (Cagayan) medical and spiritual mission that runs December 2—9, 2015. They have joined with the young adults of the Tuao congregation and with the Pasir Panjang (Singapore) Young Adults team. The Ramoses are also with the said mission, serving as co-coordinators of the said event. Spouses Dan-gil and Lala Geron of Tuguegarao, Cagayan are expected to meet up with them. Two “VBS style” Bible study for children are scheduled in two different places in Tuao. Midtown, being partners with the PP congregation in Philippine evangelization, sponsored the young ladies’ transportation allowance.

Meanwhile, a “*Children’s Community Library*” has been set up at the premises of the Tuao congregation’s chapel. Said library is a ministry spearheaded by the PP (Singapore) congregation. Books and other reading materials all come from Singapore and from the USA. The host congregation may freely add wholesome local reading materials. Kindly pray for the success of this mission.Ω

"He who faces the sun has his shadows behind him."

READ Philippians 3:13-14

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Brethren encouraged to abide by Pasasalamat 2015 guidelines

In anticipation of the fast approaching celebration of the congregation’s *Pasasalamat & 32nd Anniversary*, the Edification Ministry released some important guidelines for an orderly and hassle-free conduct of the said event. The brethren are urged to read the guidelines and be well-informed of this matter. Please find said guidelines on page 3 of this bulletin.Ω

Josayan undergoes surgery; thanks Midtown

Sister Josefa Josayan, mother of sister Maribel Josayan—Sunggay, was admitted at the Baguio General Hospital & Medical Center (BGHMC) last Tuesday, December 1, 2015 for a surgical operation (*total abdominal hysterectomy and oophorectomy + appendectomy*). She was one of the subject of intercessory prayers at Midtown for the past few weeks.

Spouses Lito and Josefa Josayan (both baptized November 5, 2015) and spouses Henry and Maribel Josayan thank the Midtown congregation for the unceasing prayers offered in their behalf, the support, and for the visits made at the hospital by brethren represented by Arnan Bayla, Jun Reyes, Ruth Trinidad, and Sarah Sameon.

Kindly continue praying for her relief, strength, and quick recovery. Ω

Midtown ypeeZ and UCM join for devotional

Midtown’s ypeeZ, Ira Po, Grace Abance, Kate Dereje, Amber Po, Angela Ramos, Alec Likigan, and Louise Bawas, enjoyed a joint devotional with fourteen members of the University Christian Ministry (UCM) of the Benguet State University. Said event was held at the Family Life Center, Session Rd., last November 26, 2015 @ 5:30—7PM.

Brother Jojo Ramos facilitated a timely and enlightening discussion on “*God Created Us for a Purpose.*” Ω

IS IT TRUE, THAT WATER AND THE HOLY SPIRIT BAPTISM IN JOHN 3:5, ARE ADMINISTERED SEPARATELY, TO RECEIVE THE GIFT OF THE INDWELLING SPIRIT? (Part II)

SANTIAGO B. SAMEON II: B.Th; Ed.D.

Please note: that the baptism “in the name of Jesus Christ” has water and Spirit components based in in Acts 10:47, “Can anyone forbid water, that these should not be baptized...? (48) And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord...” In Acts 2:38, Peter said that they were to “be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ...and they will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.” Therefore, water and Spirit were involved in the baptism of about three thousand souls who were added to them in Acts 2:41. If those added to them were through the baptism of water and Spirit, then the apostles too had gone through the same means.

Notice again: Whenever the baptism “in the name of the Lord Jesus” is done, water and Spirit are involved in a single or one act, but not in two separate administering as taught by some. In all baptisms of, “in the name of the Lord Jesus” in: Acts 2:38; Acts 8:16; Acts 10:47, 48 and Acts 19:5, which are synecdoches of Matt. 28:19, both water and Spirit are involved in immersions. Respondents are baptized in water and the gift of the Holy Spirit, which is non-miraculous, consequently followed after immersion, in a single or one act, but not in two separate administering, as erroneously taught and endorsed by some.

To pursue these separation of water and the Spirit, of a single or one act command in baptism, Acts 2:38 is coerced in Acts 8:15-17 (15) “who, when they had come down, prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit <miraculous empowerment is meant> (16) For as yet He had fallen upon none of them. They had “only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus”. (17) Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.” <miraculous empowerment>

Acts 8:18-21 (18) “And when Simon saw that through the laying of the apostles’ hands the Holy Spirit was given, he offered them money, 19 saying, ‘Give me this power also, that anyone on whom I lay hands may receive the Holy Spirit.’ 20 But Peter said, ‘Your money perish with you, because you thought that the gift of God could be purchased with money! 21 ‘You have neither part nor portion in this matter, for your heart is not right with God.’”

A similar case is found in the episode of Acts 19:1-6, that eventually resulted in the laying of hands on the disciples, that express (1) “And it happened, while Apollos was at Corinth, that Paul, having passed through the upper regions, came to Ephesus. And finding some disciples, (2) “he said to them, ‘Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?’ So they said to him, ‘We have not so much as heard whether there is a Holy Spirit.’ (3) And he said to them, ‘Into what then were you baptized?’ So they said, ‘Into John’s baptism.’” (4) “Then Paul said, ‘John indeed baptized with a baptism of repentance, saying to the people that they should believe on Him who would come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus. (5) When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. (6) And when Paul laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, <miraculous empowerment> and they spoke with tongues and prophesied.” <Acts 6:6; Acts 8:17; Acts 19:6>

VARIED PURPOSES ON LAYING OF HANDS:

- Lk. 13:13 - Infirm bent woman straightened by Jesus;
- Acts 6:6, 8 - Jerusalem deacons for the task and empowerment;
- Acts 8:17 - Samaritan church for miraculous empowerment;
- Acts 9:17 - Ananias laid hands on Paul for healing and empowerment;
- Acts 13:3 - Paul and Barnabas laid with hands for their mission tasks;
- Acts 19:6 - Ephesian church for miraculous empowerment;
- Acts 28:8, 9 - Publius’ father and Maltese populace for healing;
- 1 Tim. 4:14 - Reminder to Timothy not to neglect his imparted gift;
- 1 Tim. 5:22 - Reminder to Timothy against hasty laying of hands;
- 2 Tim. 1:6 - Reminder to Timothy to stir the gift imparted on him;

Where is the text which express that the laying of Hands is baptism? Any text to prove that laying of hands is a baptism?

<Only Jesus can baptized with the Holy Spirit: Matt. 3:11; Mk. 1:8; Lk. 3:16>

When the proponents are pressed if there is any bible citation that says, “the laying of hands”, is baptism? They readily admit that there is none! Then they alleged that after the laying of hands, the Holy Spirit fell upon them, and they were baptized in the Spirit, in the in-dwelling Spirit! This of course is purely an allegation to support their forced alien doctrine. No text says that, “after they laid hands on them the Holy Spirit fell upon them,...and were baptized in the indwelling Spirit”, which is an added statement.

The truth is: the Samaritans were laid with hands to receive Holy Spirit empowerment but not to receive the Holy Spirit indwelling, on account that they received it already when they were baptized in the name of the Lord - Acts 8:16 – Acts 2:38. In Acts 8:17, it says, “Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.” <Miraculous empowerment is meant>

The Ephesians by about A.D. 62, were told by the apostle Paul, in Eph. 4:4, 5 “There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism;...”. Notice: They were baptized once (not double), into the Lord, Acts 19:5, and thereafter in verse 6 “And when Paul laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied.” <Miraculous empowerment>

The truth of the matter is: the Holy Spirit, that the Samaritans did not received in Acts 8:16, was the miraculous empowerment, which is done by the laying of hands, as they had “only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus”, a kind of baptism where the respondents receive non-miraculous indwelling Spirit, based in Acts 2:38, that they received, in keeping with Jesus’ promise in John 14:14 and John 7:38, 39, Acts 5:32 and affirmed in Acts 2:38, 39, of the said promise. That is why when the Samaritans were laid with hands, “...they received the Spirit” <of miraculous empowerment> Ω

No text explicitly nor implicitly expresses that laying of hands is baptism. “Only Jesus can baptize with the Holy Spirit” - *Matthew 3:11; Mark 1:8; Luke 3:16*

GUIDELINES FOR 2015 PASASALAMAT & 32nd ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

As a brotherly reminder for everyone for the orderly conduct and optimum enjoyment of the Pasasalamat & 32nd Anniversary Celebration on December 20, 2015, the congregation is enjoined to abide by the following guidelines:

1. Keep in mind that Midtown’s Pasasalamat to be held at the new Function Hall at the Top Floor of the Riverview Water Park Hotel is **primarily a fellowship and a worship assembly** and not an outing.
 2. As such, please come in proper attire and disposition.
 3. The assembly shall start at exactly 9 o’clock in the morning, so please **be at the venue before 9 AM**. Travel time from downtown Baguio to Riverview usually takes thirty (30) minutes.
 4. Transportation will be provided for free from Midtown via circumferential road to Riverview and vice versa. Hired jeepneys (PUJ) will leave Midtown at **exactly 8 AM**. The same will leave Riverview at **3:30 PM**. Please note that you are expected to ride the same jeepney going back to Midtown. PLEASE SIGN UP NOT LATER THAN **DECEMBER 13** IF YOU WILL TAKE THIS OPTION. Please find the SIGN UP sheets on one of the bulletin boards.
 5. If coming from downtown Baguio, free PUJ transportation will also be provided from BDO Legarda (near City Hall) to take you to Riverview at **exactly 8 AM**. If you take this option, you are expected to take the same jeepney to transport you back to town. The same will leave Riverview at **3:30 PM**. PLEASE SIGN UP NOT LATER THAN **DECEMBER 13** IF YOU WILL TAKE THIS OPTION. Please find the SIGN UP sheets on one of the bulletin boards.
 6. Once at the venue, kindly follow the directions of the designated ushers/usherettes.
 7. Lunch will be served through controlled buffet by the catering service authorized personnel only.
 8. 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’s safety.
 9. Please strictly observe the resort’s rules and regulations. Wear proper swimming attire.
 10. Kindly advise your guests to abide by the guidelines.
- MANY THANKS. — The Edification Ministry

Midtown Church of Christ
SCHEDULE OF MONTHLY / WEEKLY
DEVOTIONAL / CARE GROUPS

VENUE	TIME	FACILITATORS
WEDNESDAY		
Midtown Assembly Hall	7—9 PM	Arnan Bayla, et. al.
Irisan Mobile (Baban, Austria, Yang residences)	7 – 9 PM	Andy Bestre/ Sixto Aoas
THURSDAY		
Midtown Assembly Hall	7 – 9 PM (On Hold)	Andy Bestre
Young People Family Life Center	5:30 – 7:30 PM	O’neil Gonzales, et. al.
FRIDAY		
Midtown Assembly Hall	7 – 9 PM	Lemuel Glori / Arnan Bayla
Upper Kitma Village	7 – 9 PM	Greg Kitma / Chris Oliva
SATURDAY		
Sports & Jogging Panagbenga Park	8 – 10 AM	YPeez Sports Enthusiasts
Mobile Saturday Care Group	3 – 5 PM	D. Sameon, E. Wagang, R. Tada
Young Adults Family Life Center	5 – 7 PM	Dexter Wagang / O’neil Gonzales
Couples Care Group	5 – 7 PM Fourth Saturday	Jun Bondoc / Lemuel Glori
SUNDAY		
All YPeez Group	Care 12 – 3 PM Fourth Sunday	YPs in charge
All Ladies Fellowship	12 – 3 PM Third Sunday	Ladies in charge: Pagbibigay Group

SUNDAY AM WORSHIP ASSEMBLY



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

MIDWEEK DEVOTIONALS

SUNDAY PM WORSHIP

See schedule



Worship Assembly
5:30 - 6:30 PM



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SERVING TO MAKE DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

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