

Servers Today, December 10, 2017

Emulating the Qualities of Elders (Titus 1:1-9)

Speaker: Jojo Ramos
 Song Leader: Mervin Oliva
 Invocation: Greg Kitma
 Intercessory Prayer: Dexter Wagang
 Communion Text: Romans 8:1-4
 Scripture Reading: Ira Po
 Prayer for the Bread: Richard Bestre
 Prayer for the Cup: O'neil Gonzales
 Prayer for the Giving: Julius Rojo
 Closing Prayer: Jerry Martin
 Announcement: Mervin Oliva
 Evening Speaker: Jojo Ramos
 Song Leader: Mervin Oliva
 To Bring Flowers: Josie Baban
 To Bring Biscuits: c/o Midtown
 To Bring Drinks: c/o Midtown
 Usher/ettes: Perdigon 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 December 17, 2017

Being Thankful To God Always (Psalm 100:1-5 / Eph. 5:17-20)

Speaker: Arnan Bayla
 Song Leader: Andy Bestre
 Invocation: Ernie Wagang
 Intercessory Prayer: June Reyes
 Communion Text: 1 Corinthians 15:1-8
 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: Volunteers Needed
 To Bring Biscuits: Volunteers Needed
 To Bring Drinks: Volunteers Needed
 Usher/ettes: Midtown YP's

Communion: Charis Bayla
 Worship Coordinator: R.Tada | A. Tacay



Vol. XXXIII No. 49 December 10, 2017 Baguio City, Philippines

Garage & Auction Sale for a cause today

As earlier announced, the Midtown's YPeez will be conducting a GARAGE & AUCTION SALE right after the morning worship assembly today, December 10, 2017. This project is being pursued in a bid to raise funds for the NATIONAL YOUTH CAMP (NYC) which will be hosted by this congregation on May 28—31, 2019. Various items such as clothes, fashion apparel, gadgets, and the like are up for sale and auction says the young people. Food and beverages will also be made available for sale. Among these items were earlier donated by benevolent brethren. Others can help by buying these items.Ω

Lady Ramos serves in regional ladies retreat

Sister Lady Janet Ramos was the invited guest speaker at the recently concluded REGIONAL LADIES RETREAT hosted by the Manaring church of Christ in Manaring, Isabela last November 30, 2017. There were over two hundred (200) in attendance representing a number of congregations not only in the region but from other parts of the country.

The organizers thanked sister Janet Ramos for facilitating a discussion on "A WOMAN OF PRAYER IS A WOMAN OF POWER" in which she emphasized that prayerfulness frees oneself from the usual worries a woman usually sets herself with (Luke 12:11-29).Ω

Letter of gratitude received by Midtown

A letter addressed to the Midtown congregation was recently received from sister Donna Gee Geron expressing her deepest gratitude to the Midtown family for the kindness, concern, and support she was accorded in recent past. She particularly named a number of loving brethren who significantly helped her in being restored to the Lord Almighty.

She also mentioned in her letter that prayers had been answered especially regarding her father's health condition. She wrote that the doctors said that her father, brother Gil Geron, no longer needs a heart bypass operation. Praise God!

*To our Midtown family, thank you so much for the prayers. Ako po at ang aking pamilya ay nagpasalamat sa inyo ng lubos. God is good!*Ω

"God hasn't arranged our anatomy so as to make it easy for us to pat ourselves on the back."

READ 2 Corinthians 12:7-10

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Brethren encouraged to attend Pasasalamat 2017

Next Sunday, December 17, 2017, is the much-awaited celebration of the Midtown congregation's PASASALAMAT & 34TH ANNIVERSARY at the Riverview Water Park, Nangalisan, Tuba, at 9:00AM—3:00PM. In line with this, the Edification Ministry calls attention to some important guidelines for an orderly 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. Please be there! The evening worship assembly will go on at usual at Midtown.Ω

15 represent Midtown in BB intercon fellowship

Fifteen (15) Midtown brethren, namely, Greg Kitma, Ernie Wagang, Abe Insas, Josie Baban, Corazon & Rowana Ozo, Norma Aping, Lorenza Losnong, Carina Lacaba, Carlo Jake Banatao, Jesse Bestre, Janriel Abance, O'neil Gonzales, Kana Perdigon, and Pearly Ambog participated in the BAGUIO-BENGUET INTERCONGREGATIONAL FELLOWSHIP held at the Albis Elementary School, Daclan, Tublay last December 2, 2017. They were also joined by brothers Sixto Aoas, Julius Udan, and James Bjadno.

There were 250 in attendance representing 16 congregations in the area. The event was co-hosted by the congregations in Tocmo, Antamok (Itogon), Lamut (La Trinidad), Daclan (Tublay), and Sinipsip (Buguias).Ω

Ladies learn of healing & health on Bonifacio Day

Midtown ladies were represented by sisters Josie Baban, Clarita Cachero, Norma Aping, Minda Oliva, Jane Bestre, Loida Baddas, Ruth Trinidad, Sonia Insas, Nelly Bayla, and Amber Po in the BAGUIO-BENGUET LADIES FELLOWSHIP held at the BAGUIO CHURCH OF CHRIST, 18 Rimando Rd., on Bonifacio Day, Nov. 30, 2017. Sister Sophia Tanicala, MD, lectured on "A HEALTHY LIFESTYLE AND USING BIBLE-BASED HEALING REMEDIES." A hundred participated from 12 congregations.Ω

Last Sunday's Offering December 3, 2017

AM COLLECTION P23,826.00

PM COLLECTION P4612.00

AM/PM TOTAL COLLECTION P28,438.00

ATTENDANCE

AM Adults - 97 YP - 31 Children - 33 Guests - 2	PM Adults -12 YP - 10 Children - 0 Guests - 4
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TOTAL - 163

TOTAL - 26

TOTAL ATTENDANCE (AM/PM) 189

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 | *David Paca |
| *Lily Soriano | *Anthony Flores |
| *Andy Bestre | *Elvie Sacayanan |
| *Gil & Diana Geron | *Marichu Concepcion |
| *Rodrigo Tada | *MaryAnn Gonzales |
| *Ruth Trinidad | *Linda Yaneza |
| *Ofelia Abance | *Florence Magalong |
| *Lourdes Cera | *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

Greg Kitma, Abe Insas, Art Tacay & Co. (Bokod)



ANNOUNCEMENTS!

- **YOUNG PEOPLE'S MEETING** — MEZZANINE FLOOR, RIGHT AFTER THE WORSHIP ASSEMBLY TODAY.
- **TUESDAY CHURCH FORUM**— DECEMBER 12, 2017 | 12:00—2:30 PM
- **GARAGE & AUCTION SALE**—TODAY, DECEMBER 10 | RIGHT AFTER THE AM WORSHIP ASSEMBLY
- **LADIES MINISTRY MEETING**—RIVERVIEW WATER PARK | DECEMBER 16, 2017 | 4:00 PM
- **PASASALAMAT & 34TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**— TOP FLOOR FUNCTION HALL, RIVERVIEW WATER PARK, NANGALISAN, TUBA | DECEMBER 17, 2017 | 9:00 AM—3:00 PM | PLEASE SIGN-UP FOR FREE TRANSPORTATION ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 10, 2017.
- **STAFF'S YEAREND BONUS UP FOR SPECIAL COLLECTION TODAY**—DECEMBER 10, 2017
- **REGIONAL YOUTH CAMP**—ASIAN CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY, BUGALLON, PANG. | DECEMBER 20-23, 2017

GOD'S GRACE IS SUFFICIENT FOR YOU

The Lord knows how to balance our lives. If we have only blessings, we may become proud; so He permits us to have burdens as well. Paul's great 'heavenly' experience could have ruined his ministry on earth; so God, in His goodness, permitted Satan to buffet Paul in order to keep him from becoming proud.

The mystery of human suffering will not be solved completely in this life. Sometimes we suffer simply because we are human. Our bodies change as we grow older, and we are susceptible to the normal problems of life. The same body that can bring us pleasures can also bring us pains. The same family members and friends that delight us can also break our hearts. This is a part of the "human comedy," and the only way to escape it is to be less than human. But nobody wants to take that route. Sometimes we suffer because we are foolish and disobedient to the Lord. Our own rebellion may afflict us, or the Lord may see fit to chasten us in His love (Heb 12:3 ff). King David suffered greatly because of his sin; the consequences were painful and so was the discipline of God (see 2 Sam 12:1-22; Ps 51:1).

We do not know what Paul's thorn in the flesh was. The word translated thorn means "a sharp stake used for torturing or impaling someone." It was a physical affliction of some kind that brought pain and distress to Paul (2 Corinthians 12:1-10).

When God permits suffering to come to our lives, there are several ways we can deal with it. Some people become bitter and blame God for robbing them of freedom and pleasure. Others just "give up" and fail to get any blessing out of the experience because they will not put any courage into the experience. Still others grit their teeth and put on a brave front, determined to "endure to the very end." While this is a courageous response, it usually drains them of the strength needed for daily living, and after a time, they may collapse. It's best to depend on the Lord's GRACE. It is certainly a normal thing for a Christian to ask God for deliverance from sickness and pain. God has not obligated Himself to heal every believer whenever he prays; but He has encouraged us to bring our burdens and needs to Him. Paul did not know whether this "thorn in the flesh" was a temporary testing from God, or a permanent experience he would have to learn to live with.

"It is a greater thing to pray for pain's conversion than its removal," wrote P. T. Forsyth, and this is true. Paul won the victory, not by substitution, but by transformation. He discovered the sufficiency of the grace of God. From Paul's experience, we may learn several practical lessons.

1. The spiritual is far more important to the dedicated believer than the physical. This is not to suggest that we ignore the physical, because our bodies are the temples of the Spirit of God. But it does mean that we try not to make our bodies an end in themselves. They are God's tools for accomplishing His work in this world. What God does in developing our Christian character is far more valuable than physical healing without character.

"Today's saints are too prone to pamper themselves and use every little ache or pain as an excuse to stay home from church..."

2. God knows how to balance burdens and blessings, suffering and glory. Life is something like a prescription: the individual ingredients might hurt us, but when properly blended, they help us.

3. Not all sickness is caused by sin. The argument of Job's comforters was that Job had sinned, and that was why he was suffering. But their argument was wrong in Job's case, as well as in Paul's case. There are times when God permits Satan to afflict us so that God might accomplish a great purpose in our lives.

4. There is something worse than sickness, and that is sin, and the worst sin of all is pride. The healthy person who is rebelling against God is in worse shape than the suffering person who is submitting to God and enjoying God's grace. It is a paradox - and an evidence of the sovereignty of God - that God used Satan, the proudest of all beings, to help keep Paul humble.

5. Physical affliction need not be a barrier to effective Christian service. Today's saints are too prone to pamper themselves and use every little ache or pain as an excuse to stay home from church or refuse to accept opportunities for service. Paul did not permit his thorn in the flesh to become a stumbling block. In fact, he let God turn that thorn into a stepping-stone.

6. We can always rest in God's Word. He always has a message of encouragement for us in times of trial and suffering. Paul knew about that power, because he trusted the will of God and depended on the grace of God. That same power can be yours today.
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Midtown Church of Christ SCHEDULE OF MONTHLY / WEEKLY DEVOTIONALS CARE GROUPS		
VENUE	TIME	FACILITATORS
TUESDAY		
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
WEDNESDAY		
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
THURSDAY		
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 Kitima Village	7 - 9 PM	Greg Kitima / 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
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
SUNDAY		
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

GUIDELINES FOR THE 2017 PASASALAMAT & 34TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

As a brotherly reminder for everyone for the orderly conduct and optimum enjoyment of the **PASASALAMAT & 34TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION ON DECEMBER 17, 2017**, the congregation is enjoined to abide by the following guidelines:

1. Keep in mind that Midtown's PASASALAMAT to be held at the 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 10, 2017 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 10, 2017 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

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
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