

Servers Today, January 3, 2021

**Living as Disciples of Christ
(Col. 3:1-11)**

Speaker: *Jesse Reuben Bestre*
 Song Leader: *Aldian Po*
 Invocation: *To Be Assigned (TBA)*
 Intercessory Prayer: *TBA*
 Communion Text: *1 Corinthians 15:1-8*
 Scripture Reading: *TBA*
 Prayer for the Bread: *TBA*
 Prayer for the Cup: *TBA*
 Prayer for the Giving: *TBA*
 Closing Prayer: *TBA*
 Announcement: *Arnan Bayla*
 Afternoon Speaker: *Jesse Reuben Bestre*
 Song Leader: *Aldian Po*
 To Bring Flowers: *Martin Family*
 To Bring Biscuits: *Suspended*
 To Bring Drinks: *Suspended*
 Usher/ettes: *Volunteers*

Communion: *Charis Bayla*
 Worship Coordinator: *Lem Glori | Art 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 10, 2021

**Clothing Ourselves as Holy People
(Col. 3:12-17)**

Speaker: *Dodoy Sameon*
 Song Leader: *Christopher Oliva*
 Invocation: *To Be Assigned (TBA)*
 Intercessory Prayer: *TBA*
 Communion Text: *Romans 6:1-7*
 Scripture Reading: *TBA*
 Prayer for the Bread: *TBA*
 Prayer for the Cup: *TBA*
 Prayer for the Giving: *TBA*
 Closing Prayer: *TBA*
 Announcement: *Andy Bestre*
 Afternoon Speaker: *Dodoy Sameon*
 Song Leader: *Christopher Oliva*
 To Bring Flowers: *Martin Family*
 To Bring Biscuits: *Suspended*
 To Bring Drinks: *Suspended*
 Usher/ettes: *Volunteers*

Communion: *Volunteers Needed*
 Worship Coordinator: *Lem Glori | Art Tacay*

PM Bible Study:



Vol. XXXVII No. 01 January 3, 2021 Baguio City, Philippines

Olidans convey greetings to Midtown from HK

Brother Arnan Bayla recently received a video call and message from brother Felix L. Olidan Jr. and family expressing their warmest greetings, goodwill, longings, and love for the Midtown brethren.

It was known that spouses Felix and Luz Olidan are wanting to return to the Philippines in the near future if and when the Lord wills it. Brother Felix says that if it is the Lord's will, they would want to return to the city of Baguio which has served as their home for many years before they moved to serve in the Lord's vineyard in Hong Kong in 2008.

The Olidans request the brethren to pray for the Lord's will for them in their ministry plans, aspirations, and intentions.Ω

Tuba frontliners appreciate BPFLC gift packs

The COVID19 FRONTLINERS of the MUNICIPAL HEALTH SERVICES OFFICE (MHSO) of the MUNICIPALITY OF TUBA, Benguet expressed appreciation for the gift packs shared to them through the SHARE-A-JOY PROGRAM of the BAGUIO PINES FAMILY LEARNING CENTER last Dec. 18, 2020.

Sister Lorigrace A. Bayla—Austria, Municipal Health Officer, through her deputy officer, Dr. Jane S. Bay-an, expressed appreciation for the generosity and thoughtfulness of the BPFLC school community in the bid of boosting the morale of the most challenged sector in the midst of the pandemic.Ω

Brethren's family grieve amidst holiday season

Midtown brethren conveys sympathies to the bereaved family of the late brother Romeo Guillermo Dojedo who passed away on December 27th and was interred December 29, 2020. He was the older brother of sister Meridith Dojedo.

Meanwhile, Mr. Edgardo Masangkay, relative of spouses Noel & Cot Espinosa, passed away due to stroke Saturday, January 2, 2021. He was a subject of the brethren's intercessory prayers very recently.

Midtown conveys condolences to the bereaved.Ω

“Life is what you are alive to.”

READ Philippians 1:21

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Volunteers needed in various ministries

As the new year starts, a number of needful tasks such as preparing the communion table as well as bringing and arranging flowers, need a number of cheerful volunteers, appeals the EDIFICATION MINISTRY. Sign-up sheets are now posted on the bulletin boards. Thank you.

As a brotherly reminder, below are some considerations to note when volunteering:

1. PREPARING THE COMMUNION TABLE— Responsible for baking the unleavened bread, and setting up the communion cups and trays on time or before the worship assembly starts. In addition, the volunteer is expected to wash, dry, and properly store the used communion cups every after use.

2. BRINGING & ARRANGING FLOWERS— Responsible for providing ample flowers for arrangement by sister Irene Lagsaman or for bringing pre-arranged flowers for the stage, usually three (3) flower arrangements.

Meanwhile, volunteers are also needed to clean the windows, walls, fans, and other things in the Assembly Hall. Volunteers are encouraged to personally contact brother Arnan Bayla or by messaging him @ 09186986470 for scheduling. Thank you!Ω

MOM & HOLO grateful of brethren's undying support

Midtown's MISSION OUTREACH MINISTRY (MOM) thanks the congregation and all the anonymous donors in the call for donations for the ISABELA & CAGAYAN RELIEF MISSION. To date, PhP 14,000.00 in cash donations was received by brother Andy Bestre and was duly handed over to brother Jojo Ramos. There were also donations personally handed over to brother Jojo Ramos which were used for logistic operations and for meals for volunteer workers. Many toys were also received and have been distributed... Continued on Page 3)

**LAST SUNDAY'S RECORD
DECEMBER 27, 2020**

ATTENDANCE

REGULAR WORSHIP ASSEMBLY	VIRTUAL SUNDAY SCHOOL
ADULTS.....111	PRESCHOOL.....6
YPPEEZ.....26	GRADES 1-3.....9
CHILDREN.....7	GRADES 4-6.....2
GUEST.....0	HS & COLLEGE...5
TOTAL.....144	TOTAL.....22

OFFERING

**AM & PM TOTAL:
PhP42,081.00**

• P R A Y E R L I S T •

GOOD HEALTH & RECOVERY

- [ASSEMBLY 1] BRETHREN:
 *Gloria Yang
 *Bernie Austria
 *Josefa Josayan
 *Gil, Diana, Donna Geron
 *Ofelia Abance
 *Andy Bestre
 *Priscilla Bayasen
 *Rolito & Pina Tugay-an
 *Dave & Sharon Mcmillin
 *Dan & Dodoy Sameon
 *Dith Zamora
 *Tess Kiima
 *Jun Bondoc
 *Loida Baddas
 *Marina Mabesa
 *Bernard Ignacio
 *Florence Magalona
 *Jonathan Enerva
 *Jocelyn Bugtong
 *Dick Baguioen
 *Nainer Nawew
 *Mercy Bayot
 *Sony Abance
- *Jess Perdigon
 *Ruth Patricia
 *Nida Gabriel
 *Thaddeus Baggao
 *Carlos & Rufina Murayao
- [ASSEMBLY 2] REQUESTED BY BRETHREN:
 *Ian Pajantov
 *Arian Kaith Igoy
 *Robinson Palaypayon
 *Carmen Villanueva
 *Menchie Mojica
 *Magdalena A. Gavino
 *Marjorie C. Credo
 *Ricardo Malapit
 *Teresita De Leon
 *Melody Borja
 *Brandy Bueno
 *Zion Delizo
 *Philp Badua
 *Roberto Acosta
 *Jennilyn Villanueva
 *Ron Paul Gavino

SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE

- [ASSEMBLY 3]
 *Mark Ernest Wagang
 *Alan Patrick Akia
 *Local, National, World leaders.
 *On-going Seekers' Bible Study

SAFETY

- [ASSEMBLY 3]
 *Frontliners
 *Shinar Sameon—Ciencia
 *Aurma Sacayanan
 *Che Astadan
 *Denise Wagang (Pregnancy)

RECOVERY

- [ASSEMBLY 3]
 *Khen & Espie Villanueva
 *Mary Elaine Dolteo

A N N O U N C E M E N T S :

- TUESDAY CHURCH FORUM— JANUARY 5, 2021 | 12:00—2:30 PM.
- YOUNG PEOPLES VIRTUAL MEETINGS/ CARE GROUP—EVERY TUES & THURS @ 5-6 PM
- YOUNG ADULTS VIRTUAL MEETING — EVERY SUNDAY @ 4:30 PM C/O BRO. JESSE BESTRE
- VIRTUAL SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE— PLEASE COORDINATE WITH TEACHERS.
 - PRESCHOOL CLASS @ 3:30—4:30 PMC/O KESHA OLIVA—09955633844
 - GRADES 1-3 CLASS @ 10:30—11:30 AM.....C/O MAUREEN SORIANO—09756895950
 - GRADES 4-6 CLASS @ 10:30—11:30 AM.....C/O KANA PERDIGON—09158639845
 - H.S. & COLLEGE CLASS @ 3:30—4:30 PMC/O JASPER PERDIGON—09158639845

A WHOLE NEW WAY OF LIVING

We must keep in mind that the pagan religions of Paul's day said little or nothing about personal morality. A worshiper could bow before an idol, put his offering on the altar, and go back to live the same old life of sin. What a person believed had no direct relationship with how he behaved, and no one would condemn a person for his behavior. But the Christian faith brought a whole new concept into pagan society: what we believe has a very definite connection with how we behave! After all, faith in Christ means being united to Christ; and if we share His life, we must follow His example. He cannot live in us by His Spirit and permit us to live in sin. Paul connected doctrine with duty in this section of (Colossians 3:1-11) by giving his readers three instructions.

SEEK THE HEAVENLY (Col. 3:1-4)

The emphasis is on the believer's relationship with Christ. **WE DIED WITH CHRIST** (v. 3 a). Christ not only died for us (substitution), but we died with Him (identification). Christ not only died for sin, bearing its penalty; but He died unto sin, breaking its power. Because we are "in Christ" through the work of the Holy Spirit (1 Cor 12:13), we died with Christ. This means that we can have victory over the old sin nature that wants to control us. **WE LIVE IN CHRIST** (v. 4 a). Christ is our life. Eternal life is not some heavenly substance that God imparts when we, as sinners, trust the Saviour. Eternal life is Jesus Christ Himself. We are dead and alive at the same time - dead to sin and alive in Christ. **WE ARE RAISED WITH CHRIST** (v. 1 a). Our exalted position in Christ is not a hypothetical thing, or a goal for which we strive. It is an accomplished fact. **WE ARE HIDDEN IN CHRIST** (v. 3 b). We no longer belong to the world, but to Christ, and the sources of life that we enjoy come only from Him. "Hidden in Christ" means security and satisfaction. **WE ARE GLORIFIED IN CHRIST** (v. 4 b). Christ is now seated at the Father's right hand, but one day He will come to take His people home (1 Thess 4:13-18). When He does, we shall enter into eternal glory with Christ. When He is revealed in His glory, we shall also be revealed in glory.

SLAY THE EARTHLY (Col. 3:5-9)

The word mortify means "put to death." Because we have died with Christ (Col 3:3), we have the spiritual power to slay the earthly, fleshly desires that want to control us. Paul called this "reckoning" ourselves to be dead to sin but alive

in Christ. Paul in this paragraph, named sins; and some people do not like that. These sins belong to the old life and have no place in our new life in Christ. Furthermore, God's judgment falls on those who practice these sins; and God is no respecter of persons. God's wrath fell on the Gentile world because of these sins (Rom 1:18 ff), and His wrath will fall again. "Because of these, the wrath of God is coming," Paul warned (Col 3:6, NIV).

STRENGTHEN THE CHRISTLY (Col. 3:10-11)

Because we are alive in Christ, we must seek the things that are above. And, because we died with Christ, we must put off the things that belong to the earthly life of past sin. The result is that we can become like Jesus Christ! God wants to renew us and make us into the image of His Son! The Greek verbs translated put off and put on (Col 3:9-10) indicate a once-for-all action. When we trust Christ, we put off the old life and put on the new. The old man has been buried, and the new man is now in control. But the verb translated "renewed" is a present participle - "who is constantly being renewed." This leads to the process of sanctification, becoming more like Jesus Christ.

All human distinctions belong to the "old man" and not the "new man." In his Letter to the Galatians, Paul added, "There is neither male nor female and thus erased even differences between the sexes. "Christ is all, and in all" was Paul's conclusion. "For ye are all one in Christ Jesus" (Gal 3:28).

It is wrong to build the fellowship of the church on anything other than Jesus Christ, His person and His work. Ministries that are built on human distinctions, such as race, color, or social standing, are not biblical. One of the evidences of spiritual growth and the renewing of the mind is this willingness to receive and love all who sincerely know Christ and seek to glorify Him.

"CHRIST IS ALL AND IN ALL" is the emphasis in this letter. "That in all things He might have the preeminence" (Col 1:18). We are alive in Christ; therefore, we should seek the heavenly. We are dead in Christ; therefore, we should slay the earthly. We can become like Christ; therefore, we must strengthen the Christly and permit the Spirit to renew our minds, making us more into the image of God.Ω

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MORE NEWS

MOM & HOLO grateful of brethren's undying support

(continued from Page 1)

...in Barangay Bangag, Ilagan, Isabela the other past Tuesday, December 29, 2020.

Spouses Jojo & Janet Ramos, together with volunteer brethren in the area served around 470 families in giving out the toys gathered by PROJECT HOPE & LOVE (HOLO) initiated by sister Margaret Yang. This was the highlight of the relief distribution being "one of a kind" among all other relief operations. The children were all overjoyed with what they got and were inspired by the hope and love brought about by the PROJECT HOLO.

Meanwhile, five (5) kilos of rice were also distributed to each family. Snacks (Pancit and Juice drinks) prepared by volunteer brethren from the MANARING CHURCH OF CHRIST were also served. Toys from PROJECT HOLO were handed over to the church leaders of the TUGUEGARAO CHURCH OF CHRIST and the REYNA MERCEDES CHURCH OF CHRIST for distribution in their own area very soon.

Brother Jojo Ramos says they hope to return to the area for Livelihood Projects in the near future and also to continue planting the seeds of the Word of God which will grow in due season. The Manaring brethren have been preparing themselves in reaching out to the community and are in partnership with brother Jojo Ramos and the ministry circle of brother Dale Byrum, an American missionary. The PASIR PANJANG CHURCH OF CHRIST have also shelled out an amount of PhP171,114.00 from the onset of the relief operations, reports brother Jojo Ramos.

Sister Margaret Yang of PROJECT HOLO expressed joy for the outcome of the most recent relief operations and conveyed appreciation to the MIDTOWN CHURCH OF CHRIST for the usual cooperation and generosity and to spouses Jojo & Janet Ramos for the partnership especially in bringing the toys to the children.Ω

EVANGELISTIC LESSON SERIES [VIRTUAL OR FACE-TO-FACE]

A. INTRODUCTORY LESSONS (5)

- LESSON NO. 1 – The Importance of the Word of God
- LESSON NO. 2 – Introduction to the Bible
- LESSON NO. 3 – How We Got the Bible
- LESSON NO. 4 – Overview of Bible History
- LESSON NO. 5 – Christ's New Testament Replaces the Old Testament

B. SEEKER'S LESSONS (6)

- LESSON NO. 1 – The Scheme of Redemption: A. God's Plan for Man
- LESSON NO. 2 – The Scheme of Redemption: B. The Fall of Man
- LESSON NO. 3 – The Scheme of Redemption: C. Jesus the Savior
- LESSON NO. 4 – The Scheme of Redemption: D. The Steps of Salvation
- LESSON NO. 5 – The Scheme of Redemption: E. The Cost of Discipleship
- LESSON NO. 6 – The Scheme of Redemption: F. Where Will Your Life End?

C. NEW LIFE LESSONS (12)

- LESSON NO. 1 – Assurance of Salvation
- LESSON NO. 2 – Obedient Living
- LESSON NO. 3 – Dealing With Temptations
- LESSON NO. 4 – Developing a Devotional Life
- LESSON NO. 5 – Developing a Prayerful Life
- LESSON NO. 6 – Discerning God's Guidance
- LESSON NO. 7 – My Church Involvement & Spiritual Gifts
- LESSON NO. 7 – Supplement: Becoming Christians Only Biblical Church Organization
- LESSON NO. 8 – Partaking of the Lord's Supper
- LESSON NO. 9 – Living Abundantly & My Giving
- LESSON NO. 10 – Becoming an Effective Soul-winner
- LESSON NO. 11 – Victorious Christian Living
- LESSON NO. 12 – Everyday Righteousness & Commitment to Moral Excellence

To enrol in any of the lessons, feel free to contact :
 Arnan Bayla @ 0918-698-6470
 Andy Bestre @ 0916-343-8539

SUNDAY AM WORSHIP ASSEMBLY



ASSEMBLY 1 - 9:00 - 10:15

ASSEMBLY 2 - 10:30 - 11:45

MIDWEEK DEVOTIONALS

SUNDAY PM WORSHIP

SUSPENDED

ASSEMBLY 3:
12:45 - 2:00



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