

Servers Today, June 11, 2023

Confidence in Jesus,  
Not in Flesh (Phil. 3:1-6)

Speaker:

Song Leader:

Invocation:

Intercessory Prayer:

Communion Text:

Scripture Reading:

Prayer for the Bread:

Prayer for the Cup:

Prayer for the Giving:

Closing Prayer:

Announcement:

Afternoon Speaker:

Song Leader:

To Bring Flowers:

To Bring Biscuits:

To Bring Drinks:

Usher/ettes

DODOY SAMEON

ARNAN BAYLA

GASPAR BALDO, JR.

JESSE BESTRE

MATTHEW 26:26-30

IRA NORTH PO

SAM QUEZADA

LEONARD BASIL

O'NIEL GONZALES

DEXTER WAGANG

ARNAN BAYLA

DODOY SAMEON

ARNAN BAYLA

BAYATING FAMILY

C/O MIDTOWN

C/O MIDTOWN

VOLUNTEERS

Communion:

Worship Coordinator:

KESHA OLIVA

EZRA VALDEZ ART TACAY

PM Bible Study:

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 June 18, 2023

Knowing Jesus is the  
Greatest Value (Phil 3:7-11)

Speaker:

Song Leader:

Invocation:

Intercessory Prayer:

Communion Text:

Scripture Reading:

Prayer for the Bread:

Prayer for the Cup:

Prayer for the Giving:

Closing Prayer:

Announcement:

Afternoon Speaker:

Song Leader:

To Bring Flowers:

To Bring Biscuits:

To Bring Drinks:

Usher/ettes

GREG KITMA

ANDY BESTRE

JUNE BAYATING

MERVIN OLIVA

EPHESIANS 2:3-10

MELCHI AGUINO

DONNEL GONZALES

KEMUEL PERDIGON

DANTE BADDAS

NOEL ESPINOSA

ANDY BESTRE

GREG KITMA

ANDY BESTRE

CLARITA CACHERO

C/O MIDTOWN

C/O MIDTOWN

VOLUNTEERS

Communion:

Worship Coordinator:

KESHA OLIVA

JESSE BESTRE | ART TACAY

THE

MIDTOWN

Official weekly publication of the Midtown Church.  
(A Church of Christ Serving You)

INFORMER



Vol. XXXIX No. 24 June 11, 2023 Baguio City, Philippines

Midtown welcomes back  
Olidans from Wanchai

Midtown brethren welcome back spouses Felix & Luz Olidan to their home congregation after having served and concluded their mission work in Wanchai, Hong Kong for fifteen years. The couple arrived in the city last Monday, June 5, 2023 and have settled in their new residence at 39-A Old Site, Purok 9, Bakakeng Norte, this city.

Brother Felix Olidan was one of the full-time ministers at Midtown from 1989 until the first quarter of 2008 before he and his family moved to Hong Kong. He served as minister for the WANCHAI CHURCH OF CHRIST specifically for the Overseas Filipino Workers there.

Having successfully fulfilled their duties overseas, they have come to serve the Lord’s vineyard in their homeland. “We will be serving in various capacities as the Lord would lead us,” says brother Felix.

Meanwhile spouses Raj & Dea Buo from the PECSONVILLE CHURCH OF CHRIST in Bulacan, have taken the place of spouses Felix & Luz Olidan at the Wanchai congregation. Again, Welcome back!Ω

Midtown celebrates with  
brethren's life journeys

The other past Saturday, June 3, 2023, a number of Midtown brethren led in a THANKSGIVING DEVOTIONAL SERVICE in commemoration of the 75th birth anniversary of brother Maril P. Bayating Sr. at the Function Hall of the Riverview Waterpark Hotel in Nangalisan, Tuba. Brother Arnan Bayla served as DEVOTIONAL Speaker. The occasion was also served as Reunion for all past and present employees of the Marlett’s Corporation as well as the UB (formerly Baguio Tech) High School Batch ‘67 in which brother Maril is a member.

Meanwhile brother Andy Bestre facilitated the THANKSGIVING DEVOTIONAL SERVICE in celebration of the 1st birth anniversary of Matthew and Andrew Yang at the Yang Residence at Irian, this city.

The Bayating and Yang families expressed appreciation for the devotional and the presence of a number of brethren in their celebrations.Ω

"Every father should remember  
that one day his son will follow  
his example and not his advice."

READ Hebrews 12:4-11

INSIDE PAGE:  
Today's Sermon Outline...page 2  
June Birth Anniversaries...page 3  
Seekers Lesson Series...page 3

Vacation Bible School  
returns to build up

After four years of not having a VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (vbs), the same will return very soon at Midtown, Lord willing on July 24-28, 2023. This year’s theme is “BUILDING EACH OTHER UP” based on 1 Thessalonians 5:11.

Initial preparations are under way and is being spearheaded by the Youth Ministry. Brothers Johnny Payangdo and Alton Mark Bayla are serving as directors of the VBS.

In line with this, the Young people are in need of carton boxes for the props and décor in setting the activity centers. Kindly bring the item to Midtown. Thanks much!Ω

Tuba's MSWDO taps  
NCoC minister's service

Brother Julius Udan, at the invitation of the Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office (MSWDO), served as Resource Speaker on “UNDERSTANDING AND COPING WITH PROBLEMS AFFECTING MODERN FILIPINO FAMILIES at the Nangalisan Barangay Hall last June 9, 2023 at 9:00 AM.

There were a good number of Out of School Youth (OSY) and other youth at risk that benefited from the program. “Lord willing, these sector will soon be helped in spiritual matters,” says brother Udan.Ω

FCG walking group  
serves in Luna, Apayao

Some members of the Midtown Hall Friday Care Group, namely, spouses Julius & Fely Rojo, Lemuel & Vangie Glori, Lani Palyapayon, Jun Reyes, and Lou Villanueva, are now serving with the congregation in Luna, Apayao. Brother Sol Palaypayon, a police officer assigned in the area worships with the brethren in Luna. The brethren will be serving in various capacities in the worship assembly and in the fellowship.Ω

LAST SUNDAY’S RECORD  
June 4, 2023

ATTENDANCE

REGULAR  
WORSHIP  
ASSEMBLY

SUNDAY  
SCHOOL +  
Virtual Class

PRESCHOOL.....9

GRADES 1-2 .....3

GRADES 3-4.....9

GRADES 5-6.....10

H.S./COL.....15

YAs .....18

TOTAL.....64

ADULTS.....117

YPPEZ.....19

CHILDREN.....31

GUESTS.....3

TOTAL.....170

OFFERING

AM & PM TOTAL:  
Php49,887.00

ANNOUNCEMENT

• TUESDAY CHURCH FORUM— ON JUNE 13, 2023 | 12:00—2:30 PM | EVERYBODY WELCOME!

• LADIES DEVOTIONAL & LUNCHEON FELLOWSHIP— SATURDAY, JUNE 17, 2023 @ 11:30 AM—2:30 PM

• HERITAGE BIBLE COLLEGE—PAW EXPRESS LEADERSHIP TRAINING COURSE | JUNE 19-25, 2023 | P1500.00

• NATIONAL LADIES RETREAT—HOST: BACOLOD CHURCH OF CHRIST | VENUE: NATURE’S VILLAGE RESORT, TALISAY CITY, NEGROS OCCIDENTAL | JULY 18-21, 2023 | REG. FEE: PHP5,500.00

• WEEKLY Rs (READING, REFLECTION, AND RESPONSE) — ON FACEBOOK LIVE THURSDAYS @ 9:00 PM .

• ID PICTURES FOR PICTURE DIRECTORY—KINDLY SUBMIT YOUR 2x2 ID PICTURES IF YOUR LATEST PICTURES HAVE NOT APPEARED IN THE UPDATED DIRECTORY. THANK YOU!

• P R A Y E R L I S T •

FOR GOOD HEALTH & RECOVERY BRETHREN:

\*GLORIA YANG

\*JOSEFA JOSAYAN

\*DONNA GERON

\*PRISCILLA BAYASEN

\*DAN SAMEON

\*DODOY & SARAH SAMEON

\*DITH ZAMORA

\*TESS KITMA

\*LOIDA BADDAS

\*BERNARD IGNACIO

\*JONATHAN ENERVA

\*MARYANN VALDEZ

\*CESAR ACOSTA

\*JOCELYN CALIXTRO

\*JOVITA “BETH” BONDOC

\*FLORENCE MAGALONG

\*RAFAEL OZO

\*ELLA GAROY

\*ALLAN PATRICK AKIA

\*LORENZA LOSNONG

\*ERNE ORDUÑA

\*KHEN VILLANUEVA

\*FLORA CAMPOAS

\*CLYDE & MICAH ABANCE

\*MELBA LICUPA

\*RUTH TRINIDAD

REQUESTED BY BRETHREN:

\*ARIAN KAITH JOY

\*CARMEN VILLANUEVA

\*PURIFICACION PACA

\*MARILIZA ANDALLO

\*CANDICE LEE

\*OLIVIA PEACOCK

\*MARIFE SALVIEJO

SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE

\*LOCAL, NATIONAL, WORLD LEADERS & GOVERNMENT

\*ON-GOING SEEKERS’ BS

\*ON-GOING FOLLOW-UP BS

\*RNHS OUTREACH MINISTRY

OTHER CONCERNS

Safe Pregnancy:

\*FAITH A. BAYATING

\*DYANE ERIN P. SIMON

SAFE TRAVEL:

\*RUTH TRINIDAD (USA)

\*JO-JANET & ANGELA RAMOS (PASIR PANJANG CHURCH CAMP)

\*BRETHREN VISITING THE APA-YAO CONGREGATION

CONFIDENCE IN JESUS, NOT IN FLESH

PHIL.3:1-6

SANTIAGO B. SAMEON II, BTH, ED.D.

INTRODUCTION:

In 2 Kings 18:35, with full confidence the Rabshekeh, spokesman of Sennacherib, king of Assyria, in Hebrew, bragged, “Who among all the gods of the lands have delivered their countries from my hand, that the Lord should deliver Jerusalem from my hand? In 2 Kings 19:35 the Angel of the Lord went out, and killed 185,000, of the troops of Sennacherib!

BELIEVERS ARE TO HAVE NO CONFIDENCE IN THE FLESH

A. THE EXHORTATION INTRODUCED (Phil.3:1)

Apostle Paul called for a spiritofrejoicing before stressing the danger of confidence. The word “finally” is used to introduce a new subject as well as a clue that he had begun to conclude the letter. He used the same phrase again in Phil.4:3, so that some feel that chapter 3 is a digression from his main theme.

Paul called on the believers to rejoice in the Lord. “Rejoice” appears 2x in Phil.1:18; 2x in Phil.2:17,18; 2x in Phil.3:1; and Phil.4:4. It seems that the Philippian Christians needed this word due to repeated emphasis.

Repetition is a vital part of learning orally or written. The apostle made no apology for repeating the instruction by writing the same things. It was not tiresome/tedious to him to review the necessities repeatedly because he felt constrained to do so for their benefit and to safeguard them.

B. THE EXAMPLES TO BE AVOIDED (Phil.3:2,3)

In Paul’s time the Judaizers who were guilty of putting confidence in the flesh, so they plagued him and his converts persistently. Confused about the gospel, they added works of the law to faith in Christ on both salvation and for Christian living. Circumcision in the O.T. was of special concern to them, so they insisted that it was necessary for salvation. Paul called them “deceitful workers” in 2 Cor.11:13. for adding works of the flesh. In Phil.3:2, Paul called the Judaizers “dogs”, men who do evil and mutilators of the flesh. He considered their works dangerous, ungodly, and the saints were not to follow them, but to watch out for them.

It was common for some Jews to refer gentiles as dogs, which were considered unclean animals. Paul used the term to describe those Jews who ruined the gospel by insisting on the need to mutilate the flesh to be rightly related to God. However, what they actually did was evil, even though they may have good intentions.

The O. T.rite of physical circumcision was not only a sign of covenant relationship, but was also related to spiritual circumcision of the heart (Deut.30:6). Paul’s letter to the Gentiles made it clear that they were the true circumcision because, they worshipped by the Spirit of God but had no confidence in the flesh.

A child of God should glory (means “boast” or “exalt” (Phil.1:26; Phil.2:16; 2 Cor.10:17). in Christ alone, instead of boasting in worldly accomplishments as the Judaizers and the Jews did.

C. THE EXAMPLES TO BE FOLLOWED (Phil.3:4-6)

It can’t be overly emphasized that Paul did not place any confidence in the flesh, because he gained victory over the temptation of the devil. His presentation in these verses was intended to review for the Philippians the things in which he could have placed confidence if he wanted to. In fact the list included things of great value and trust before he met Christ. He intends to show that in the flesh he could have boasted more, than any of the Judaizers.

The “anyone else” in Phil.3:4 referred to all those who place confidence in the flesh. Paul challenged the Judaizers to a showdown. His preliminary conclusion before he even got specific was that no matter what advantage was expressed by his opponents, his advantages exceeded theirs (Gal.1:14).

- The advantages in Phil. 3:5,6 show what Paul have in the flesh but later counted them as loss for Christ.
1. Paul was Circumcised on a specific time, the eighth day - Lev.12:3 - he was a pure blooded Jew, not a proselyte or an Ishmaelite. Proselytes were circumcised later in life and Ishmaelites after age 13 (Gen.17:25,26)
  2. Paul comes from the people of Israel. His parents were both true Jews, family lineage could be traced all the way back to Abraham (2 Cor.11:22).
  3. Paul was a Benjamite - the first king of Israel (1Sam.9:1,2) came from this tribe, which was highly honored and viewed with great esteem. The Benjamin tribe remained loyal to David’s house, even after the kingdom was disrupted.
  4. Paul’s native tongue was Hebrew - He was well versed both in the language and customs of God’s people. He was a Hebrew son of Hebrew parents.
  5. Paul was a Pharisee with regard to the Law- He was a member of the strictest sect among his people. Pharisees added their own regulations to the Law of Moses, which means equal to the Law.
  6. Paul was a Persecutor of the Church- He did this ceaselessly before his conversion to Christ (Acts 9:1,2). The Jewish religion with more zeal had boasted him for persecuting the church.
  7. Paul excelled in “legalistic righteousness”- in his own eyes he was faultless (amemptos), in Phil.2:15 decreed as “blameless”.

CONCLUSION:

- From the aforementioned passages, we learned that:
- A. Believers are to have no confidence in the flesh as to exhortation introduced.
  - B. Believers are to have no confidence in the flesh as to the examples to be avoided.
  - C. Believers are to have no confidence in the flesh as to the examples to be followed. Amen?

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

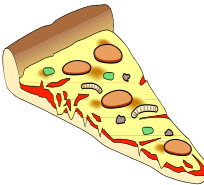
To enrol in any of the lessons, feel free to contact :  
Arnan Bayla @ 0918-698-6470  
Andy Bestre @ 0916-343-8539

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



June Celebrators

01 - Jovencia C. Mabesa  
01 - Jonimar Domasig  
01 - Lois June Fermin  
02 - Claudette Zamora  
02 - Maril P. Bayating  
04 - Katrina M. Viduya  
04 - Aaron Carlos Cordero  
05 - Mary Jane S. Abance  
05 - Sonia Insas  
08 - Jerico Ramos  
10 - Jhovet Sison  
12 - Andrena S. Balang  
13 - Mervin G. Oliva  
13 - Jonee C. Baddas  
14 - Corine B. Mabesa  
15 - Aljun Parohinog  
18 - Jimmy June Reyes  
18 - Rutchie R. Rebuca  
19 - Erwin Oliva  
19 - Kaisha Lagsaman  
19 - Shauli W. Kitma  
20 - Flora Campoas  
21 - Ezra A. Valdez  
21 - Lulu Bondoc  
25 - Julius Rojo  
25 - Anthony James Flores  
25 - Anri R. Hiragi—Ramos  
25 - Edward B. Peñaranda  
26 - Rafael C. Ozo  
26 - Frances Balangitan  
27 - Luz Olidan  
27 - Lala Geron  
28 - Lou Villanueva



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

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP ASSEMBLY

Singing & Prayers  
LORD’S SUPPER  
and OFFERING  
9:00—9:30

Prayers  
&  
BIBLE STUDY  
9:35—10:25

Singing, Prayers  
&  
MESSAGE  
10:30—11:10

Greetings  
&  
ANNOUNCEMENTS  
11:10—11:20

MIDWEEK DEVOTIONALS



6:00-8:00 PM



SUNDAY PM ASSEMBLY

•Singing & Prayers & MESSAGE: 5:30—6:15  
•LORD’S SUPPER & GIVING: 6:15—6:30  
•Greetings & ANNOUNCEMENTS: 6:30—6:40



MIDTOWN CHURCH OF CHRIST  
SERVING TO MAKE DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

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