

Servers Today, October 1, 2023

Meaning Found in Divine Timing (Ecclesiastes 3:1-15)

Speaker: JEREMIAH GAWE

Song Leader: ANDY BESTRE

Invocation: ERNIE WAGANG

Intercessory Prayer: JUNE REYES

Communion Text: 1 CORINTHIANS 15:1-8

Scripture Reading: KEMUEL PERDIGON

Prayer for the Bread: SAM QUEZADA

Prayer for the Cup: JERRY MARTIN

Prayer for the Giving: DEXTER WAGANG

Closing Prayer: JULIUS ROJO

Announcement: ANDY BESTRE

Afternoon Speaker: JEREMIAH GAWE

Song Leader: ANDY BESTRE

To Bring Flowers: CLARITA G. CACHERO

To Bring Biscuits: C/O MIDTOWN

To Bring Drinks: C/O MIDTOWN

Usher/ettes: VOLUNTEERS

Communion: CHARIS & NELLY BAYLA

Worship Coordinator: JESSE BESTRE | 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 October 8, 2023

Meaning Found in Divine Judgment (Eccl 3:16-22)

Speaker: JOJO RAMOS

Song Leader: JESSE BESTRE

Invocation: GASPAR BALDO, JR.

Intercessory Prayer: MERVIN OLIVA

Communion Text: EPHESIANS 2:3-10

Scripture Reading: ALTON BAYLA

Prayer for the Bread: O'NIEL GONZALES

Prayer for the Cup: JASPER PERDIGON

Prayer for the Giving: DAN-GIL GERON

Closing Prayer: GREG KITMA

Announcement: ARNAN BAYLA

Afternoon Speaker: JOJO RAMOS

Song Leader: JESSE BESTRE

To Bring Flowers: GLORI FAMILY

To Bring Biscuits: C/O MIDTOWN

To Bring Drinks: C/O MIDTOWN

Usher/ettes: VOLUNTEERS

Communion: CHARIS & NELLY BAYLA

Worship Coordinator: EZRA VALDEZ | ART TACAY

THE **MIDTOWN** INFORMER®

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

Vol. XXXIX No. 40    October 1, 2023    Baguio City, Philippines

Screening process for elders & deacons in progress

In last Tuesday’s CHURCH FORUM, the body prayerfully approved a TIMELINE FOR THE SCREENING PROCESS FOR THE SELECTION OF ELDERS AND DEACONS at Midtown as follows:

**September 1—October 16, 2023**—SCREENING OF NOMINEES FOR ELDERS AND DEACONS BY THE TUESDAY CHURCH FORUM as coordinated by brother Andy Bestre, chairperson of the Edification Ministry.

**October 17, 2023**—REPORTING OF THE SCREENING PROCESS by brother Andy Bestre as well as Evaluation and deliberation of the report by the Tuesday Church Forum.

**October 24, 2023**—PRESENTATION OF LIST OF PROSPECTIVE ELDERS AND DEACONS at the Tuesday Church Forum.

**October 29, 2023**—THE LIST OF PROSPECTIVE ELDERS AND DEACONS WILL BE PRESENTED TO THE CONGREGATION by way of the Midtown Informer as well as during the Announcement portion of the Worship Assembly.

**October 29—November 27, 2023**—MEMBERS OF THE CONGREGATION ARE FREE TO BRING FORMAL (WRITTEN LETTER IN BLACK AND WHITE) COMMENTS ON THE CANDIDATES’ QUALIFICATIONS. Concerned parties are to air and address their comments to the Edification Ministry.

**November 28, 2023**—FINAL DELIBERATION, & VERIFICATION OF FORMAL COMMENTS received during the Tuesday Church Forum. If no formal comments are received, the List of Prospective Elders and Deacons shall be deemed as final.

**December 5, 2023**—FINALIZATION OF THE LIST OF PROSPECTIVE ELDERS & DEACONS.

**December 10, 2023**—PUBLICATION OF THE FINAL LIST OF PROSPECTIVE ELDERS & DEACONS in the Midtown Informer as well as to be formally announced to the congregation.

**December 17, 2023**—FORMAL INSTALLATION of the very first set of Elders and Deacons of the congregation during the PASASALAMAT & 40TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION of the MIDTOWN CHURCH OF CHRIST at the Function Hall of the Riverview Water Park Hotel, Km. 16 Asin Road, Nangalisan, Tuba, Benguet. Glory to God!Ω

"We do not become good by doing good acts, but such acts declare our nature as Christians."

READ Luke 10:25-42

INSIDE PAGE:

Lessons from the Good Samaritan...page 2

October Birth Anniversaries...page 3

Seekers Lesson Series...page 3

NLEX congregation partners with Midtown in Bokod work

Brothers Rey Ebatados and Richard Callejo, church servant-leaders representing the NLEX CHURCH OF CHRIST meeting at the Juniper Bldg., Bonifacio St., this city, attended the TUESDAY CHURCH FORUM last week to formally strike an agreement of partnership in the Lord’s work being done in Bokod, Benguet. Specifically, the NLEX congregation would be helping in the conduct of WORSHIP ASSEMBLIES in the house of brother Alfonso Malapit in Poblacion, Bokod twice a month including 2nd Sundays. Besides the conduct of a SUNDAY WORSHIP ASSEMBLY, they will also be facilitating HOME BIBLE STUDY GROUPS in the area on weekends.

The proposal by the NLEX brethren was gladly welcomed by MIDTOWN’S MISSION OUTREACH MINISTRY (MOM) chaired by brother Jojo Ramos. In effect, a number of brethren from NLEX will be taking turns in fulfilling their commitments with the Bokod congregations. They include spouses Armando & Imelda Manuel and family, active disciples serving with the NLEX congregation who are originally from Bokod. They have been doing personal work in the area teaching their relatives about the pure Gospel of salvation. Praise be to God!Ω

Olidans serve in Lasilas joint worship assembly

Spouses Felix & Luz Olidan had their third chance of serving with the brethren in Nangalisan in a JOINT WORSHIP ASSEMBLY & LUNCHEON FELLOWSHIP at the AMBI RESIDENCE, Lasilas, Nangalisan, Tuba, last Sunday, September 24, 2023. Brother Felix Olidan served as Sermon Speaker in which he encouraged the brethren to “LOOK FOR THE BEST LIFE” based on 1 Peter 3:8-12. He emphasized seeking peace and pursuing it. For the glory of the Lord God Almighty!Ω

LAST SUNDAY’S RECORD

September 24, 2023

ATTENDANCE

REGULAR WORSHIP ASSEMBLY	SUNDAY SCHOOL + Virtual Class
ADULTS.....140	PRESCHOOL.....8
YP EEZ.....24	GRADES 1-2 .....9
CHILDREN.....35	GRADES 3-4.....11
GUESTS.....2	GRADES 5-6.....9
TOTAL.....201	H.S./COL.....15
	YAs .....18
	TOTAL.....70

OFFERING

AM & PM TOTAL:  
PhP52,640.00

• P R A Y E R L I S T •

FOR GOOD HEALTH & RECOVERY BRETHREN:

\*ELLA GAROY

\*LORENZA LOSNONG

\*ERNE ORDUÑA

\*FLORA CAMPOAS

\*CLYDE ABANCE

\*MELBA LICUPA

\*NIDA GABRIEL

\*CHARLIE ABANCE

REQUESTED BY BRETHREN:

\*CARMEN VILLANUEVA

\*MARILIZA ANDALLO

\*DIANA TAGUIBA

\*MICHAEL TRINIDAD

\*PHILIP BADUA

\*LILIAN JADORMIO GUMBAN

\*HORACIO C. RAMOS

SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE

\*LOCAL, NATIONAL, WORLD LEADERS & GOVERNMENT

\*ON-GOING SEEKERS’ BS

\*ON-GOING FOLLOW-UP BS

\*OPPORTUNITIES TO PREACH THE GOSPEL

OTHER CONCERNS

Safe Pregnancy:

\*DYANE ERIN P. SIMON

\*RAQUEL MAGALONG -SAGULO

Safe Travel:

\*

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

• TUESDAY CHURCH FORUM—OCTOBER 3, 2023 @ 12:00—2:30 PM | EVERYBODY WELCOME!

• EVERYONE (ADULTS & CHILDREN) ADVISED TO HAVE THEIR NAMES WRITTEN ON THE ATTENDANCE LOG— FOR AN ACCURATE CHECKING OF ATTENDANCE. THANK YOU!

• MONTHLY LADIES DEVOTIONAL & LUNCHEON FELLOWSHIP — MIDTOWN ASSEMBLY HALL., | SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2023 @ 11:30 AM—2:30 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!

## LESSONS FROM THE PARABLE OF THE GOOD SAMARITAN

Luke 10:25-42

ARNAN BAYLA | MIDTOWN CHURCH OF CHRIST | SEPT. 10, 17, 24, 2023 AM

## LESSONS FROM THE PARABLE OF THE GOOD SAMARITAN

Luke 10:25-42

- RECOGNIZING OUR ACCOUNTABILITY TOWARDS OUR NEIGHBORS
  - *Luke 10:25-29*
- RECOGNIZING OUR COMMON ACTS AND SELFISH TENDENCIES TOWARDS OTHERS
  - *Luke 10:29-32*
- RECOGNIZING CHRIST'S TEACHING ON BEING A TRUE NEIGHBOR
  - *Luke 10:33-37*

### I. RECOGNIZING OUR ACCOUNTABILITY TOWARDS OUR NEIGHBORS

Luke 10:25-29

- WE ARE COMMANDED TO LOVE OUR NEIGHBORS AS OURSELVES
  - Love for neighbors stem from the greatest commandment. "And the second is like it."
  - Love as we naturally love ourselves.
- WE ARE TO REGARD EVERYONE AS OUR NEIGHBOR
  - It is God who defines the term "neighbor."
  - Our neighbor is he who especially needs compassion, mercy, and benevolence.
- WE ARE TO ACT BENEVOLENTLY TO OUR NEIGHBORS
  - Benevolence is characteristic of being "neighborly" (helpful, friendly, kind).
  - Desire to do good to others, becoming a person of goodwill and charitableness.

### II. RECOGNIZING OUR COMMON ACTS AND SELFISH TENDENCIES TOWARDS OTHERS

Luke 10:29-32

- WE TEND TO BELIEVE THAT WE HAVE GOOD REASONS FOR BEHAVING THE WAY WE DO
  - We mostly can rationalize everything.
  - Man basically attempts to justify one's behavior even if these are not appropriate.
- WE TEND TO ACT ACCORDING TO OUR PRECONCEIVED NOTIONS ABOUT OTHERS
  - We mostly make decisions out of cultural beliefs, personal biases, opinions...
  - Man basically behaves according to existing norms even if questionable.
- WE TEND TO AVOID WHAT WE BELIEVE MAY CAUSE US INCONVENIENCE
  - We mostly dislike and resist disturbances, changes, discomfort, hassle...
  - Man basically desires comfort & easiness even in the expense of others.

### III. RECOGNIZING CHRIST'S TEACHING ON BEING A TRUE NEIGHBOR

Luke 10:33-37

- WE BECOME A TRUE NEIGHBOR BY BEING COMPASSIONATE AND MERCIFUL
  - He "took pity" and "had mercy" towards a stranger or an unfamiliar person.
  - He is genuinely concerned of any others' welfare more than his own.
- WE BECOME A TRUE NEIGHBOR BY LOVING OUR ENEMIES
  - He ignores being a hated "Samaritan."
  - He recognizes there is no reward in loving only those who love him.
- WE BECOME A TRUE NEIGHBOR BY GOING THE EXTRA MILE
  - He takes care of the "extra expenses."
  - He does not mind spending and being spent for the sake of others.

Matthew 25:37-40 NIV

37 "Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? 38 When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? 39 When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?'

40 "The King will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.'

### What important lessons do we learn from the Parable of the Good Samaritan?

1. Let us increasingly be aware of our accountability in loving others by being continuously benevolent and becoming a person of goodwill and charitableness.
2. Let us increasingly be aware of our natural human selfish tendencies, our biases, and our inclinations to rationalize our wrong acts so that we can do the opposite –to overcome evil with good.
3. Let us increasingly be compassionate and merciful, be true in loving our enemies, and be sincere in going the extra mile.
4. Let us realize that we do not become good by doing good acts, but such acts declare our nature as Christians.

### APPLICATION:

1. Like the Law Expert in the Parable, in what ways do we justify our lack of love towards our neighbors?
  - By asking, "Who is my neighbor?," reflects our inclination that we don't want to think we must love everybody.
  - By defining our own terms as to whom we want to love, as to how we want to love, as to who deserves our love, compassion, or kindness.
  - By unthinkingly doing the thing we want to do and thereby disregarding the effects of what we do or say.
  - By thinking that we don't have enough "love" to supply those who need it.
  - By believing that we can "reserve the right" to do something (doing it only when we feel necessary).

### APPLICATION:

2. Like the Priest and the Levite in the Parable, what natural inclinations make it easier to act like them?
  - Being self-centered, self-seeking, self-absorbed.
  - Being acculturated or have assimilated a different culture, typically the dominant one.
  - Believing or thinking too highly of one's importance, we become arrogant or superior over others.
  - Believing it is not of our business, we become indifferent or unconcerned with the welfare of others.
  - Believing there are those who are suppose to attend to others' needs, and "that is not me."
  - Believing that we have the right to choose what actions to take, and no one dares question it.

### APPLICATION:

3. Like the Samaritan in the Parable, in what ways can we be more like him?
  - By being less concerned of one's own' welfare to be able to attend to someone's wellbeing.
  - By ignoring the differences that causes division amongst men; just help.
  - By readily identifying and by making use of the opportunities to love our neighbors.
  - By willing to make use of God's provisions for the good or welfare of others. Believe that God provides and will enable us to help the needy.
  - By nurturing ourselves with the word of God to be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

## 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 :

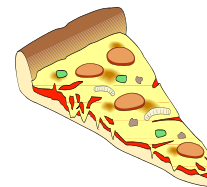
Arnan Bayla @ 0918-698-6470

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

## October Celebrators

01 - Katrina Dereje  
03 - Gladness Rajanan  
03 - Kemuel Perdigon  
04 - O'Neil M. Gonzales  
04 - Nelly Bayla  
04 - Rossana Ozo  
04 - Josh Darius Martin  
06 - Johnny Payangdo Jr.  
06 - Wilson Abance  
07 - Erin Sarah Sameon  
08 - Arturo Tacay  
09 - Rod Tada  
09 - Earl Tristan Sameon  
10 - Eleonor Garoy  
10 - Jasmine Chappot  
11 - Danielle Rosa Tan  
12 - Octavio Abance  
13 - Wrendel Macam  
15 - Rose Acosta  
15 - Richard Bestre  
16 - Rodrigo Bondoc  
17 - Jizza K. Abance  
17 - Primitiva Ridon (Dec)  
22 - Wynell Roncal  
23 - Lemuel Glori  
23 - Ofelia Abance  
24 - Jeadi Jewel D. Igoy  
25 - Lani Palaypayon  
28 - Cyndyleen Macam  
28 - Florence Magalong  
29 - Sarah Elepane  
29 - Lera R. Humakey  
29 - Clyde Abance  
31 - Erika Mariano



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

TOP FLOOR MARLETT'S BUILDING  
AND A MARCOS HIGHWAY  
BAGUIO CITY, PHILS.  
074.427.2729

TOP FLOOR MARLETT'S BLDG.  
KM 4 MARCOS HIGHWAY, BAGUIO CITY, PHILS.  
e-mail - midtownphcoc@yahoo.com

Midtown website: [www.midtownchurchbaguio.org](http://www.midtownchurchbaguio.org)

Editorial Staff:

Arnan A. Bayla | Phone: 0918-698-6470  
Andres E. Bestre | Phone: 0916-343-8539