

Servers Today, December 8, 2024

Freedom from Bondage
(Luke 13:10-17)

Speaker: FELIX OLIDAN JR.
Song Leader: ARNAN BAYLA
Invocation: EZRA VALDEZ
Intercessory Prayer: JHUN REYES
Communion Text: JOHN 6:53-58
Scripture Reading: SHERMAN BESTRE
Prayer for the Bread: LEEMAR SIMON
Prayer for the Cup: MARK QUIZANA
Prayer for the Giving: JERRY MARTIN
Closing Prayer: GREG KITMA
Announcement: ARNAN BAYLA
Afternoon Speaker: FELIX OLIDAN JR.
Song Leader: ARNAN BAYLA
To Bring Flowers: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
To Bring Biscuits: C/o MIDTOWN
To Bring Drinks: C/o MIDTOWN
Usher/ettes: AUSTRIA FAMILY

Communion: NELLY & CHARIS BAYLA
Worship Coordinator: 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 December 15, 2024


Thanksgiving Message
(Pasasalamat & 41st Anniversary)

Speaker: ARNAN BAYLA
Song Leader: FELIX OLIDAN JR.
Invocation: MARIL BAYATING SR.
Intercessory Prayer: JOJO RAMOS
Communion Text: ISAIAH 53:7-12
Scripture Reading: EZRA VALDEZ
Prayer for the Bread: ERNIE WAGANG
Prayer for the Cup: ANDY BESTRE
Prayer for the Giving: GREG KITMA
Closing Prayer: DODOY SAMEON
Announcement: FELIX OLIDAN JR.
Afternoon Speaker: ARNAN BAYLA
Song Leader: FELIX OLIDAN JR.
To Bring Flowers: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
To Bring Biscuits: C/o MIDTOWN
To Bring Drinks: C/o MIDTOWN
Usher/ettes: GLORI FAMILY

Communion: NELLY & CHARIS BAYLA
Worship Coordinator: EZRA VALDEZ | ART TACAY

THE **MIDTOWN** INFORMER

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



Vol. XL No. 49 December 8, 2024 Baguio City, Philippines

Mission & Vision

We are committed to give God glory, praise, and honor as we serve in making disciples of Christ. We envision ourselves to be a congregation of worshipers of God in spirit and in truth, and to be a living demonstration of the presence and power of our Lord Jesus Christ in a community of faith, hope, and love.

36 Midtown ladies participate in BB ladies fellowship

Thirty-six from Midtown participated in the recent BAGUIO-BENGUET CHRISTIAN LADIES FELLOWSHIP hosted by NLEX CHURCH OF CHRIST at the MT. CREST HOTEL last November 30, 2024. They were sisters Ruth Trinidad, Marilyn Nacatab, Jovy Mabesa, Marlene Samonte, Analyn Aronza, Ellen Bugnay, Lorigrace Austria, Cora Ozo, Rowana Ozo, Clarita Cachero, Elizabeth Sevilla, Kesha Oliva, Minda Oliva, Norma Aping, Carina Lacaba, Virgie Baldo, Dinah Austria, Luz Olidan, Cecilia Alvarez, Maribel Sunggay, Bing Buendia, Fely Flores, Josie Yapyapen, Alice Lalas, Trining Trinidad, Lou Villanueva, Jane Bestre, Lulu Bondoc, Ruby Suanding, Charmaine Rivera, Norma Andaya, Hakea Sati Balbaloza, Diana Geron, Lala Geron, Josie Calixtro, and Zhelle Big-asan. They were among the total number of 228 participants representing 14 congregations in the area.

Besides the fun activities, the ladies appreciated the Devotional Topic, “BRIDE OF CHRIST” based on Revelation 19:7-8 by sister Maribeth Gayo Isidoro.

Midtown is the 2nd biggest delegation. Sisters Cora Ozo, Jovy Mabesa, and Kesha Oliva emerged as winners in some of the games and challenges.

All the ladies are looking forward to next year’s BBCLF to be hosted by the A-Hill congregation. For God’s greater glory!Ω

“Freedom in Christ does not mean being free to do as we like. It means being free to do as we ought.”

READ Galatians 5:1-13

INSIDE PAGE:
Five Commands...page 2
December Birth Anniversaries...page 3
Pasasalamat Guidelines...page 3

LAST SUNDAY’S RECORD
December 1, 2024

ATTENDANCE

REGULAR WORSHIP ASSEMBLY AM & PM

ADULTS.....192
YP EEZ.....25
CHILDREN.....43
GUESTS.....4
TOTAL.....264

SUNDAY SCHOOL

PRESCHOOL.....16
GRADES 1-23
GRADES 3-4.....5
GRADES 5-6.....14
H.S.....00
COL/YAs.....00
ADULT Classes..190
TOTAL.....228

OFFERING

AM & PM: PhP64,199.00

• P R A Y E R L I S T •

FOR GOOD HEALTH & RECOVERY BRETHREN:

*GLORIA YANG
*JOSEFA JOSAYAN
*DONNA GERON
*PRISCILLA BAYASEN
*DODOY & SARAH SAMEON
*DITH ZAMORA
*TESS KITMA
*BERNARD IGNACIO
*JONATHAN ENERVA
*CESAR ACOSTA
*JOCELYN CALIXTRO
*JOVITA BONDOC
*ELLA GAROY
*LORENZA LOSNONG
*ERNIE ORDUÑA, JR.

*FLORA CAMPOAS
*CLYDE ABANCE
*MELBA LICUPA
*NIDA GABRIEL
*CHARLIE ABANCE
*BERNABE IGNACIO
*MARIL BAYATING, SR
*LILY SORIANO
*CARLOTA CERA
*SHAMAE RAMOS

REQUESTED BY BRETHREN:


*CARMEN VILLANUEVA
*MARILIZA ANDALLO
*DIANA TAGUIBA
*PHILIP BADUA
*FRANKY SANCHI
*RYN EISEN PANGANIBAN
*IAN PAJANTOY
*JAYVEE MAGPAYO
*GASPAR NAWEW
*JERALD BACOV
*JEHMEL OFRENEO

SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE

*LOCAL, NATIONAL, WORLD LEADERS & GOVERNMENT
*ON-GOING SEEKERS’ BS
*ON-GOING FOLLOW-UP BS
*OPPORTUNITIES TO PREACH THE GOSPEL

OTHER CONCERNS

Safe Travel:
*ED & SHERRY POBLETE (BACK TO USA ON DECEMBER 10TH)



building grace-based relationships

ANNOUNCEMENTS!

TUESDAY CHURCH FORUM —DECEMBER 10, 2024 | 12:00—4 PM | EVERYBODY WELCOME!

SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR THE YEAREND BONUS OF CHURCH STAFF —DECEMBER 8, 2024.

PASASALAMAT FREE TRANSPORTATION REGISTRATION—SIGN UP TODAY @ THE BULLETIN BOARD

MIDTOWN CHURCH CAMP —AT THE RIVERVIEW WATERPARK HOTEL, NANGALISAN, TUBA | SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2024 | 9 AM—8 PM | THEME: LIVING WITH PURPOSE (PROVERBS 19:21) | SIGN UP TODAY AND NEXT SUNDAY ONLY.

YOUNG PEOPLE WITH PARENTS CARE GROUP & FELLOWSHIP—MIDTOWN HALL | DEC. 8, 2024 @ 1:00 —5:00 PM | PLEASE CONTACT BROTHER EZRA VALDEZ FOR DETAILS

TGIF CARE GROUP YEARENDER—ROJO-PALAYPAYON RESIDENCE, TAMANGAN ROAD, IRISAN, BAGUIO CITY | DEC. 20, 2024 @ 6:00-9:00 PM | BRING A TOKEN WORTH P500.00 FOR THE GAME (OPTIONAL)

NATIONAL LADIES RETREAT—TAGAYTAY CITY | APRIL 22-25, 2025 | SIGN UP UNTIL DECEMBER 15, 2024.

READING CENTER—AT THE MIDTOWN ASSEMBLY HALL | EVERY FRIDAY | OPENS 9 AM—CLOSES 3 PM

Pasasalamat & anniversary celebration on Sunday

Next Sunday, December 15, 2024 is Midtown’s PASASALAMAT DAY AND 41ST ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION at the TOP FLOOR of the RIVERVIEW WATER PARK HOTEL, Nangalisan, Tuba. Everyone is enjoined to prepare for this occasion and get to meet and greet brethren from the Bokod and Nangalisan congregations. Kindly read and be guided by the GUIDELINES FOR THE PASASALAMAT on Page 3 of this bulletin.

The SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES is as follows:

9:00—10:30 AM.....PART ONE
WORSHIP ASSEMBLY

10:35—11:00 AM.....PART TWO
AWARDING OF CERTIFICATES OF BAPTISM.

11:00—11:30 AM.....PART THREE
YOUNG PEOPLE’S PRESENTATION

11:30-11:45 AM.....PART FOUR
CONGREGATIONAL PICTURE—TAKING

12:00—1:00 PM.....PART FIVE
FELLOWSHIP LUNCH

1:00—3:00 PMPART SIX
FUN & GAMES AND SWIMMING

3:00—3:30PM.....PART SEVEN
DEPARTURE TIME FROM RIVERVIEW

Church camp on Saturday; sign up today

Everyone is encouraged to join the CHURCH CAMP which will be held at the RIVERVIEW WATER PARK on Saturday, December 14th, at 9:00 AM—8:00 PM. Kindly register today by signing up at the Sign-Up Sheet posted on the Bulletin Board.

Meanwhile, brother Jojo Ramos and the Equipping Ministry, in-charge of the activity, will be meeting today with the various groups and individuals for the preparation.Ω

Kitma CG takes charge of planters in the hall

The congregation thanks the KITMA CARE GROUP for having taken the initiative to take charge of providing plants and maintaining the planters at Midtown’s Assembly Hall.

Meanwhile, more volunteers are needed to bring flowers for the SUNDAY WORSHIP ASSEMBLY. Flowers may be brought Saturday afternoon to be arranged by sister Irene Lagsaman. For God’s greater glory, honor and praise!Ω

Five Commands

"Therefore, prepare your minds for action; be self-controlled; set your hope fully on the grace to be given you when Jesus Christ is revealed. 14 As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. 15 But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; 16 for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy."
1 Peter 1:13-16

In this text, five commands are given to the believer striving to live a godly life. Let us look briefly at each one.

1. PREPARE YOUR MINDS FOR ACTION. Peter commands us to engage our mind with truth, run with the truth of Scripture, and live with the truth of Scripture. "Gird your minds" is similar to the Israelites being told to eat the Passover meal with their belts fastened. It is a call to be intentional and to exercise our mind toward holiness. We need to discipline our minds for action.

2. BE SELF-CONTROLLED OR SOBER. A drunken person has a disoriented mind, lacks self-control, and is not alert to his surroundings. We are commanded to maintain a calm and thoughtful state of mind, to evaluate things correctly, and to be in full control of all our actions.

3. HOPE FULLY, OR "PATIENTLY FIX YOUR HOPE." We must recognize that He is in control and patiently wait for Him. The focus of our expectation is His grace, which we presently experience but which will be fully granted us at His return.

4. DO NOT CONFORM TO THE EVIL DESIRES (v. 14). This phrase is translated "be not conformed" in Romans 12:2 and commands us not to adopt the world's lifestyle and thought patterns, especially our "former lusts" that enslaved us before our conversion.

5. BUT JUST AS HE CALLED YOU IS HOLY, SO BE HOLY (v. 15). God is first and foremost a holy God, and we are called to "fashion" ourselves after Him. Complete holiness is out of our reach this side of glory, but it should be our goal. And the Lord makes us holy.

All five are commands indeed, but commands three and five are in an emphatic position in the Greek, and these two hold the key to success in the others. **Only by patiently fixing our hope on Him and His grace can we successfully strive for His holiness.** JDM

Reprinted from the Days of Praise Podcast based on
The Institute of Creation Research Quarterly Print Devotional

GUIDELINES FOR THE 2024 PASASALAMAT & 41st ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

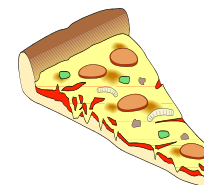
As a brotherly reminder for everyone for the orderly conduct and optimum enjoyment of the PASASALAMAT & 41ST ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION on December 15, 2024, the congregation is enjoined to abide by the following guidelines:

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 8 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 8 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. THANKS & GOD BLESS!

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

December Celebrators

01 - Denise A. Wagang
02 - Linda A. Yaneza
02 - Janet B. Ramos
02 - Ma. Alexis J. Sunggay
03 - Rowena L. Quezada
04 - Erika Abijar
04 - Rachel Cabuenas
05 - Daisy Calzo
08 - Josephine A. Baban
09 - Gracelynn Abance
09 - Marilyn Joy B. Gamboa
10 - Dencio B. Abance
11 - Jovita R. Bondoc
14 - Santiago B. Sameon II
14 - Edith Latonio
16 - Christian S. Parohinog
16 - Mark Joseph N. Quizana
17 - Jane M. Bestre
20 - Gaspar Baldo, Jr.
20 - Jess Perdigon
21 - Sotero Denis
21 - Kinsha C. Glori
22 - Jess Solomon
22 - Diana Jane Geron
23 - Rosita Go
23 - Sherman C. Bestre
23 - Padmei Lara Geron
24 - Noel Espinosa
24 - Crispina Tugay-an
26 - Arlene G. Rimando
26 - Kaesha R. Palaypayon
26 - Sharon Kosgey
29 - Aldian R. Po
29 - Xelli Qea E. Parohinog
30 - Analyn B. Aronza





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 & GIFTS: 6:15-6:30
• Greetings & ANNOUNCEMENTS: 6:30-6:40

MIDTOWN CHURCH OF CHRIST

Top Floor Marlett's Bldg.
KM 4 MARCOS HIGHWAY, BAGUIO CITY, PHILS.
e-mail - midtownphcoc@yahoo.com
Midtown website: www.midtownchurchbaguio.org

Editorial Staff & Ministers:
Arnan A. Bayla Phone: 0918-698-6470
Ezra V. Valdez Phone: 0977-160-8271

ELDERS: Maril P. Bayating Sr., Jonathan A. Ramos,
Santiago B. Sameon II, Ernesto B. Wagang
DEACONS: Gregory C. Kitma, Felix L. Olidan Jr.