

Servers Today, December 28, 2025

Making Our Plans & God's Sovereignty (James 4:13-17)

Speaker: CHRISTIAN 'CD' ESPINOSA

Song Leader: ANDY BESTRE

Invocation: MARIL P. BAYATING SR.

Intercessory Prayer: JUN REYES

Communion Text: 1 PETER 1:22-2:3

Scripture Reading: KHEIF WALANG

Prayer for the Bread: EZRA VALDEZ

Prayer for the Cup: JASPER PERDIGON

Prayer for the Giving: KAJEM KITMA

Closing Prayer: FELIX OLIDAN JR.

Announcement: ANDY BESTRE

Afternoon Speaker: CHRISTIAN 'CD' ESPINOSA

Song Leader: ANDY BESTRE

To Bring Flowers: C/O JIZZA AGUINO

To Bring Biscuits: C/O MIDTOWN

To Bring Drinks: C/O MIDTOWN

Usher/ettes: ESPINOSA FAMILY

Communion: NELLY & CHARIS BAYLA

Worship Coordinator: ART TACAY | LEM GLORI

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 4, 2026

Riches that Rust (James 5:1-6)

Speaker: JOJO RAMOS

Song Leader: KAJEM KITMA

Invocation: FELIX OLIDAN JR.

Intercessory Prayer: EZRA VALDEZ

Communion Text: LUKE 22:14-20

Scripture Reading: MARK QUIZANA

Prayer for the Bread: JANRIEL ABANCE

Prayer for the Cup: SAMUEL QUEZADA

Prayer for the Giving: JERRY MARTIN

Closing Prayer: GREG KITMA

Announcement: ARNAN BAYLA

Afternoon Speaker: JOJO RAMOS

Song Leader: KAJEM KITMA

To Bring Flowers: SARAH SAMEON

To Bring Biscuits: C/O MIDTOWN

To Bring Drinks: C/O MIDTOWN

Usher/ettes: RAMOS FAMILY

Communion: LORIE & CRISTY AUSTRIA

Worship Coordinator: EZRA VALDEZ | ART TACAY

THE **MIDTOWN** INFORMER

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

Vol. XLI No. 52 December 28, 2025 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.

"We can make our plans, but the Lord determines our steps."

READ Proverbs 16:9

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311 celebrate 42nd anniversary & Pasasalamat

A total of 311 worshipers including children and guests attended the WORSHIP ASSEMBLY at the 42ND ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION & PASASALAMAT at RIVERVIEW WATERPARK HOTEL in Nangalisan, Tuba, last Sunday morning, December 21st. Some brethren from the Bokod congregation and most members of the Nangalisan congregation joined the celebration and conveyed jubilations over the Lord's work being done at Midtown. Special presentations from Midtown's YOUNG ADULTS & YOUNG PEOPLE as well as from the SUNDAY SCHOOL children contributed to a fitting celebration of the Lord's work being done at Midtown and elsewhere. Again, Midtown thanks RIVERVIEW for the usual accommodation, generosity, and hospitality. God bless you all richly! Meanwhile around 60 brethren participated in the one-day CHURCH CAMP held at the same venue a day prior the PASASALAMAT. All participants had a good time with the activities and discussions on the "LIVING WATER" facilitated by brother Jojo Ramos based on John 7:37-38. PERSONAL REFLECTIONS (Look Back, Look Within, Look Forward) and a Dinner Fellowship concluded the camp. To God be the glory! Ω

90+ crowds TGIF yearender fellowship

A little less than a hundred Midtown brethren and guests gathered for the ANNUAL YEARENDER FELLOWSHIP sponsored by the TGIF (THANK GOD IT'S FRIDAY) CARE GROUP and which was hosted by the Rojos and the Palaypayons in their residences on Tamangan Road, Irisan, this city, last Monday evening, December 22, 2025. Everyone enjoyed the sharing of insights, thoughts, thanksgiving, and prayers during the DEVOTIONAL facilitated by brother Jesse Bestre. He reiterated that it is fitting to REVIEW blessings and challenges, RELEASE disappointments and anxiety, and REFOCUS on the most important matters in this life, i.e. to seek first God's righteousness (Matthew 6:33). His wife, Riza, facilitated the games. Participants enjoyed the food, fun, fellowship together with all the laughter in the games. Many thanks again to the Rojos and the Palaypayons for their hospitality and their generosity! For God's glory and honor!Ω

Abance-Panday nuptial celebrated @ Pan-ayayaman

The Midtown congregation joins family, friends, and all others in congratulating spouses CLERWIN RENZ & GRACELYNN ABANCE—PANDAY who tied the knot at the PAN-AYAYAMAN PLAYGROUND ECOPARK in Taloy Sur, Tuba the other past Friday, December 19th. Brother Arnan Bayla officiated the wedding. Earlier, the couple has completed the required Pre-marital Counseling course, "PREPARING FOR MARRIAGE GOD'S WAY." with brother Arnan. The newlywed were classmates and graduated at the SUNSET INTERNATIONAL BIBLE INSTITUTE (SIBI) in Singapore a few years ago. The congregation prays for their marriage to last a lifetime!Ω

58 participate in volunteers' retreat in elyu

Fifty-eight brethren including young people and children made up the dynamics of the recent retreat held in Bauang, LU, last December 8, for volunteers representing the TUESDAY CHURCH FORUM, SUNDAY SCHOOL teachers, and in other ministry involvements. Brother Ezra Valdez discussed the retreat theme, "FAITHFUL HEARTS, WILLING HANDS" while brother Kajem Kitma led the congregational singing. Sister Kesha Oliya facilitated Team Building activities while sisters Mau Soriano and Angela Ramos took charge of games. Overall, the retreat was a refreshing activity that has brought faithful volunteers to not grow weary of doing good. For the greater glory of God. Ω

LAST SUNDAY'S RECORD
December 21, 2025

ATTENDANCE

REGULAR WORSHIP ASSEMBLY AM & PM

ADULTS.....209

YP EEZ.....35

CHILDREN.....49

GUESTS.....37

TOTAL.....330

SUNDAY SCHOOL PRESCHOOL.....NA

GRADES 1-2NA

GRADES 3—4.....NA

GRADES 5-6.....NA

H.S.....NA

COL/YAs.....NA

ADULT.....NA

TOTAL.....NA

OFFERING

AM&PM: P92,983.00

ANNOUNCEMENTS!

• TUESDAY CHURCH FORUM — RESUMES JANUARY 6, 2026 | 12:00—2:30 PM | EVERYBODY WELCOME!

• VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO BRING FLOWERS— KINDLY FILL IN YOUR NAME ON THE SIGN-UP SHEET ON THE BULLETIN BOARD LOCATED BY THE STAIRS GOING UP THE MEZZANINE. THANK YOU & GOD BLESS!.

• VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO PREPARE COMMUNION BREAD— KINDLY FILL IN YOUR NAME ON THE SIGN—UP SHEET LOCATED ON THE BULLETIN BOARD LOCATED BY THE STAIRS GOING UP THE MEZZANINE. THANK YOU & GOD BLESS!

• 48TH NATIONAL LADIES RETREAT—HOST: MIDTOWN CHURCH OF CHRIST | VENUE: HOTEL SUPREME CONVENTION PLAZA | MAY 19—22, 2026 | EARLY REGISTRATION FEE: P7,500.00 UNTIL JANUARY 31, 2026.

• P R A Y E R L I S T •

FOR GOOD HEALTH & RECOVERY BRETHREN:

*GLORIA YANG

*JOSEFA JOSAYAN

*PRISCILLA BAYASEN

*DODOY & SARAH SAMEON

*TESS KITMA

*BERNARD IGNACIO

*JONATHAN ENERVA

*ELLA GAROY

*LORENZA LOSNONG

*ERNIE ORDUÑA, JR.

*FLORA CAMPOAS

*CLYDE ABANCE

*MELBA LICUPA

*CHARLIE ABANCE

*MARIL BAYATING, SR

*EDDIE LAGSAMAN

*RON VILLARUZ

*AIDA SAINGAN

*MEGUELITA Q. ABARIAL

*DANTE BADDAS

*LALA GERON

*ANRI RAMOS

REQUESTED BY BRETHREN:

*CARMEN VILLANUEVA

*MARILIZA ANDALLO

*DIANA TAGUIBA

*IAN PAJANTOY

*GASPAR NAWEW

*JERALD BACOY

*JEHMELOFRENEO

*DWYLA AMILA SIMON

*ABIGAIL RAMOS—DUMAOP

*RODOLFO ANDAYA

*BETCHY LYNNE NORICO

*EVELYN SAINGAN

SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE

*LOCAL, NATIONAL, WORLD LEADERS & GOVERNMENT

*ON-GOING SEEKERS' BS

*ON-GOING FOLLOW-UP BS

*OPPORTUNITIES TO PREACH THE GOSPEL

*ADDITIONAL ELDERS & DEACONS

*48TH NLR PREPARATIONS

SAFE TRAVEL:

*CD ESPINOSA (PHILS—INDONESIA)

*RACHEL BESTRE (PHILS—INDONESIA)

*VACATIONISTS

CURSED OR BLESSED

“Thus saith the LORD; Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the LORD.” (Jeremiah 17:5)

Jeremiah provides for us a striking contrast between the self-assured humanist and the one who has placed his trust in God. **The man who looks to his own abilities or those of others to save him in time of trouble is “cursed.” His existence will be one of futility, just as is that of a parched desert plant** (v. 6). Why? Because his “heart departeth from the LORD” (v. 5), the source of strength and salvation.

Jeremiah uses a play on words here. The words for “man” in our text are different: the first means “warrior” or “strong man,” and the second a “normal man.” **The warrior who should be strong is cursed because he trusts in one who is weak: in this case, in any other man’s wisdom or might or even his own strength, when overestimated. What sense is there in that?**

In contrast, “blessed is the man that trusteth in the LORD” (v. 7). “He shall be as a tree planted by the waters . . . and shall not be careful [i.e., anxious] in the year of drought, neither shall cease from yielding fruit” (v. 8). Why? Because his “hope the LORD is” (v. 7). We see this man—one who might be considered strong—trusting solely in the true “strong man,” the Lord.

It is a tragic fact that even many Christians fall into the mindset of the autonomous humanist and attempt to live their lives (even “the Christian life”) under their own power. Do we trust in our own feeble power or in the Lord? Every heart, whether humanist or Christian, “is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?” (v. 9). Make no mistake! “I the LORD search the heart” (v. 10); He knows our inner motives. Let us recommit ourselves to trust in the Lord and make Him our hope. JDM

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)

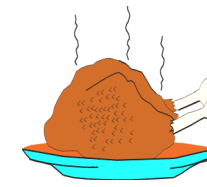
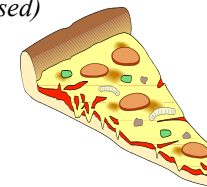
- LESSON NO. 1 – Assurance of Salvation
- LESSON NO. 2 – Obedient Living
- LESSON NO. 3 – Dealing With Temptations
- LESSON NO. 4 – Developing a Devotional Life
- LESSON NO. 5 – Developing a Prayerful Life
- LESSON NO. 6 – Discerning God’s Guidance
- LESSON NO. 7 – My Church Involvement & Spiritual Gifts
- 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
Ezra Valdez @ 0977-160-8271
Angela Ramos @ 0995-463-3686

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 (Deceased)
14 - Santiago B. Sameon II
14 - Edith Latonio
16 - Christian S. Parohinog
16 - Mark Joseph N. Quizana
17 - Jane M. Bestre
19 - Anthony E. Salud
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 Oea 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 & GIVING: 6:15–6:30
• Greetings & ANNOUNCEMENTS: 6:30–6:40

MIDTOWN CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Santiago B. Sameon II, Ernesto B. Wagang
DEACONS: Gregory C. Kitma, Felix L. Olidan Jr.