

Servers Today, January 5, 2025

The Parable of Excuses (Luke 14:1-24)

Guest Speaker: *JOJO RAMOS*
 Song Leader: *FELIX OLIDAN JR.*
 Invocation: *NOEL ESPINOSA*
 Intercessory Prayer: *DEXTER WAGANG*
 Communion Text: *ROMANS 6:9-14*
 Scripture Reading: *JEREMIE CRAIG LICUPA*
 Prayer for the Bread: *MARK QUIZANA*
 Prayer for the Cup: *LEEMAR SIMON*
 Prayer for the Giving: *MARIL BAYATING SR.*
 Closing Prayer: *ERNIE WAGANG*
 Announcement: *FELIX OLIDAN JR.*
 Afternoon Speaker: *JOJO RAMOS*
 Song Leader: *FELIX OLIDAN JR.*
 To Bring Flowers: *CLARITA CACHERO*
 To Bring Biscuits: *C/O MIDTOWN*
 To Bring Drinks: *C/O MIDTOWN*
 Usher/ettes: *AUSTRIA FAMILY*

Communion: *LORI AUSTRIA*
 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 January 12, 2025

The Great Cost of Discipleship (Luke 14:25-35)

Speaker: *ARNAN BAYLA*
 Song Leader: *ANDY BESTRE*
 Invocation: *JOJO RAMOS*
 Intercessory Prayer: *EZRA VALDEZ*
 Communion Text: *PSALM 116:5-9*
 Scripture Reading: *KHEIF WALANG*
 Prayer for the Bread: *JHUN REYES*
 Prayer for the Cup: *LEMUEL GLORI*
 Prayer for the Giving: *JERRY MARTIN*
 Closing Prayer: *MARIL BAYATING SR.*
 Announcement: *ANDY BESTRE*
 Afternoon Speaker: *ARNAN BAYLA*
 Song Leader: *ANDY BESTRE*
 To Bring Flowers: *CECILIA ALVAREZ*
 To Bring Biscuits: *C/O MIDTOWN*
 To Bring Drinks: *C/O MIDTOWN*
 Usher/ettes: *PERDIGON FAMILY*

Communion: *LORI AUSTRIA*
 Worship Coordinator: *EZRA VALDEZ | ART TACAY*



Vol. XLI No. 1 January 5, 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 worshippers 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 all may have the exact same 365 days this new year. The only difference is what we do with them.”

READ Lamentations 3:19-14

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LAST SUNDAY'S RECORD
 December 29, 2024

ATTENDANCE

REGULAR WORSHIP ASSEMBLY AM & PM	SUNDAY SCHOOL
ADULTS.....157	PRESCHOOL.....11
YPEEZ.....29	GRADES 1-26
CHILDREN.....28	GRADES 3-4.....4
GUESTS.....17	GRADES 5-6.....5
TOTAL.....231	H.S.....22
	COL/YAs.....20
	ADULT Classes..111
	TOTAL.....179

OFFERING
 AM & PM: P70,233.00

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **TUESDAY CHURCH FORUM** —RESUMES JANUARY 7, 2025 | 12—2:30 PM
- **CALL FOR HELP FOR FIRE VICTIMS OF CAMP 6, TUBA**—ACCORDING TO SISTER LOU VILLANUEVA WHO HERSELF IS A VICTIM OF THE FIRE THAT GUTTED DOWN HER FAMILY'S HOUSE, WHAT ARE MOST NEEDED ARE KITCHEN WARES, DINING UTENSILS, AND BUILDING MATERIALS TO HELP THE VICTIMS REBUILD THEIR HOMES. HELP MAY BE DIRECTLY GIVEN TO SISTER LOU VILLANUEVA.
- **NATIONAL LADIES RETREAT**—TAGAYTAY CITY | APRIL 22-25, 2025
- **READING CENTER**—AT THE MIDTOWN ASSEMBLY HALL | EVERY FRIDAY | OPENS 9 AM—CLOSES 3 PM
- **BIBLE STUDY CENTER**—AT THE MIDTOWN ASSEMBLY HALL | OPEN MONDAY THRU FRIDAY FOR PERSONAL BIBLE STUDY AND BIBLICAL COUNSELLING | BRING ANYONE INTERESTED IN A FORMAL BIBLE STUDY COURSE OR BRING ANYONE WHO WOULD NEED COUNSELING OR NEEDING SOMEONE TO TALK TO.

PRAYER LIST

FOR GOOD HEALTH & RECOVERY BRETHREN:
 *GLORIA YANG
 *JOSEFA JOSAYAN
 *DONNA GERON
 *PRISCILLA BAYASEN
 *DODOY & SARAH SAMEON
 *DITH ZAMORA
 *TESS KITMA
 *BERNARD IGNACIO
 *JONATHAN ENERVA
 *JOCELYN CALIXTRO
 *JOVITA BONDOC
 *ELLA GAROY
 *LORENZA LOSNONG
 *ERNIE ORDUÑA, JR.
 *FLORA CAMPOAS
 *CLYDE ABANCE
 *MELBA LICUPA

***NIDA GABRIEL**
 *CHARLIE ABANCE
 *MARIL BAYATING, SR
 *LILY SORIANO
 *CARLOTA CERA
 *SHAMAE RAMOS
 *AIKO PAROHINOG—GOMEZ
 *RUTH CAMORA

REQUESTED BY BRETHREN:
 *CARMEN VILLANUEVA
 *MARILIZA ANDALLO
 *DIANA TAGUIBA
 *PHILIP BADUA
 *FRANKY SANCHI
 *RYN EISEN PANGANIBAN
 *JAN PAJANTOY
 *JAYVEE MAGPAYO
 *GASPAR NAWEW
 *JERALD BACOY
 *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:
 *JANET RAMOS & KIDS (JP)



YPeez conclude year with amazing race

The ANNUAL YOUNG PEOPLE'S YEAR-END ACTIVITY was successfully concluded on December 27 and 28, 2024 with the theme, "LEVEL UP! GOD'S THE MAIN CHARACTER" based on Ephesians 2:10. The objectives of helping young people recognize that their lives are to be centered on God, and that their purpose and identity come from Him were realized as each one got to encourage each other to trust God, make wise choices, and grow into who He wants them to be. The lessons focused on Samuel's calling, Joseph's faith in God especially during hardships, and Timothy's bold faith. All these were reflected in the AMAZING RACE, a game in which teams race around the city's central business district accomplishing various tasks or challenges.

Dinner was served at the KITMA YARD around a bonfire followed by the WHITE ELEPHANT EXCHANGE GIFT GAME at the AVONG NEN KITMA. More activities ensued the next morning.

This year, there were 20 participants including 4 guest participants. Those who made it include Riyu Albay, Jeremie Craig Licupa, Austin Cortez, Alton Mark Bayla, Luke Cabuenas, Ian Dumawa, Renian Nawew, Kheif Walang, Marcson Walang, Sherman Bestre, Josiah Calixtro, Jearlan Bawas, Allison Gapungli, Raiza Andaya, Shaira Andaya, Jacinth Perdigon, Rhianna Nawew, Raven Cados, Pearl Danielle Fortun, and Denise Quintos. In total, 36 people attended the YEAR END ACTIVITY, including the organizers, namely, Ezra Valdez, Demi Tacay, Jizza Aquino, Melchi Aquino, Jasper and Kemuel Perdigon, Aldian Po, Shauli Kitma, and Charis Bayla. Some young professionals from Midtown, Kana Valdez, Kajem Kitma, Abi Kitma, Janriel Abance, Amber and Ira Po, and Louise Bawas, participated in some of the activities.

The participants thanked the organizers having enjoyed the challenges and having learned from the studies. The guest participants also enjoyed the activity and look forward to the next one. Praise God for the successful activity! Ω

Camp 6 Tuba fire victims include Villanueva family

Fire broke out on New Year's eve at Camp 6, Barangay Camp 4, Kennon Road, Tuba. Sister Lou Villanueva who lives in the area was not spared and fire gutted down her family's house. Thankfully, she and all her family members are safe and are now staying temporarily in a sibling's house.

According to sister Lou, relief from the government and from the community are overwhelming as to food, clothes, and personal care. But what is more needed now by most victims are kitchen wares, dining utensils, and building materials to help the victims rebuild their homes. The CHURCH FORUM is yet to meet on Tuesday to consider how the congregation can better help the fire victims. For God's glory and honor!Ω

Brother Bernabe Ignacio passes on to Abraham's side

Midtown conveyed sympathies to the bereaved family of the late brother BERNABE IGNACIO who succumbed to complications caused by CHRONIC OBSTRUCTIVE PULMONARY DISEASE (COPD) and has passed on to Abraham's side on December 28, 2024. A couple of vigil services were conducted by Midtown brethren and facilitated by the KITMA CARE GROUP evenings of December 30 and 31. Brothers Ezra Valdez and Greg Kitma alternately served as speakers. On the other hand, brothers Kajem Kitma and Janriel Abance alternately led the singing. The deceased was entombed at the family's private graveyard on January 1, 2025.

The IGNACIO FAMILY and relatives expressed appreciation for the unceasing prayers, support, and benevolence extended to them. For God's glory and praise!Ω

CREATION AND THE NEW YEAR

“In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.”
(Genesis 1:1)

It is appropriate for Christians to begin the New Year by referring back to the beginning of the very first year. The first verse of God’s Word is also its most important verse, since it is the foundation on which everything else is built. Even God’s great work of salvation is irrelevant and futile without His prior work of creation, **for only the Creator of all things could ever become the Savior of all things.**

If a person really believes Genesis 1:1, he or she should have no difficulty believing anything else in the Bible. The very first object of saving faith (Hebrews 10:39) is the fact of special creation by the word of God (Hebrews 11:3).

The verse is comprehensive and scientific, viewing space (“the heaven”) and matter (“the earth”) as functioning in a framework of time (“in the beginning”). This space/matter/time “continuum” (as scientists call it) has not existed eternally, nor is it still being created, both of which heresies are standard beliefs of all forms of evolutionary pantheism (including most of the world’s religions and philosophies, ancient or modern). It was created, and even completed, in the past.

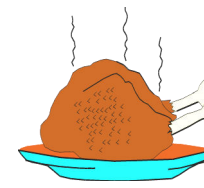
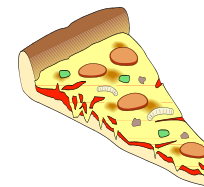
This foundation of all foundations is, clearly, the only sure foundation upon which one should build a life, an organization, or anything. A firm renewal of one’s commitment to special creation as literally recorded by divine revelation in the inerrant Word of God is thus the proper way to begin a new year, a new home, a new career, a new family, or any phase of a Christian life. **This is the time to confess and forsake all doubts and trust God’s Word!** In the beginning of the first year, God created all things. At the beginning of this year, we should resolve to believe and obey all things in His Word. HMM

Reprinted from the Days of Praise Devotional, Institute of Creation Research
1806 Royal Lane, Dallas, TX 75229

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

January Celebrators

- 01 - Felicisima S. Flores
- 02 - Kevin Dennis
- 02 - Jocelyn K. Abance
- 02 - Priscilla P. Bayasan
- 04 - Pearl C. Bestre
- 05 - Leah V. Tada
- 05 - Khryz Xyryll B. Gomowang
- 08 - Jarialle Taltala
- 09 - Jane U. Donato
- 09 - Romelyn E. Wagang
- 10 - Sean R. Viduya
- 10 - Ernesto Orduña, Jr.
- 10 - Henrietta R. Espinosa
- 10 - Lara Chauncey Montes
- 12 - Dionesia Gorio
- 12 - Lorenza Losnong
- 14 - Anastacia S. Palaoag
- 15 - Jan Arthur Tacay
- 15 - Ronnilie Corisay
- 18 - Macrina Espiritu
- 18 - Oscar Sison Jr.
- 20 - Cindy K. Abance
- 22 - Antonita Orduña
- 23 - Dexter R. Wagang
- 23 - Lorna B. Montes
- 23 - Vangie C. Glori
- 26 - Richard Montes
- 26 - Christian Paulo T. Cordero
- 27 - Loida C. Baddas (deceased)
- 27 - Rachel Ann R. Torres
- 28 - Ernesto B. Wagang
- 28 - Myra O. Manansala
- 29 - Charis Grace D. Bayla
- 29 - Xyrus Macario
- 30 - Marie Joy Lacambra
- 31 - Abigail A. Kitma



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

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

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
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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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