



## Today's Gathering

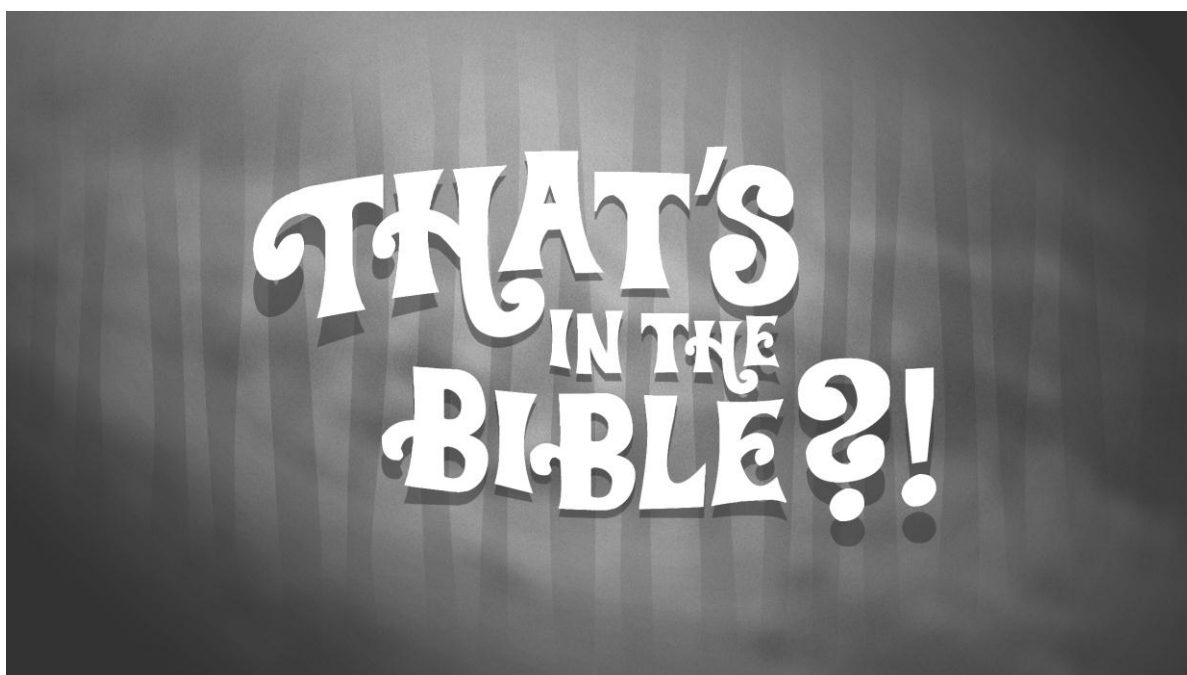
August 17th, 2014

## View from the Hill

Tarina Stroh

## Singing

Aimee VanderWeide and Jesse VanderWeide



## Skeleton Valley

Pastor Brian Stroh

## For the Kids

From 9:00 AM – 11:30 AM

*Parents can go to the Children's Welcome Center to find out about our Sunday morning options and check their children in. The Children's Welcome Center is located on the east side of the main foyer.*

*See page 5 of the bulletin for more information about opportunities for Children and Students.*

# Welcome to Hillcrest

## New to Hillcrest?

If you are new to Hillcrest, we'd like to say "Welcome!" We're glad you're here this morning. Please stop by the Welcome Center, following the worship service to meet one of our pastors and receive a **free gift**.

## Ready to Take the Next Step?

Hillcrest provides many opportunities to get involved with others in the church and the community. If you would like to find out more about classes, Bible studies, and small groups that are offered, stop by the Welcome Center, check out the Ministries section on our web site at [www.sioxfordchurch.com](http://www.sioxfordchurch.com), or call the church office at 371-0546.

## Our Weekly Bulletin and Devotional

Hillcrest provides this weekly bulletin/devotional to help you connect, serve others and study the Bible throughout the week.

On pages 3-5, you will discover connecting and serving opportunities as well as information regarding Children's and Student's Ministries.

On page 6, you have a place to take notes from the message. Also on page 6 is a memory verse, selected each week by Hillcrest leaders.

On pages 7-12, you will find a short devotional for each day. You will read a new text, some commentary and consider some questions to further your growth, as well as a challenge to help you take what you have studied and start to live it!

On page 13, you will find a Prayer Page, where you can keep track of your daily prayers. On page 14, you will find staff contact info.

Our prayer is that God will speak to you as you study His Word and as a result, it will impact the people in your life.

Want information on even more events happening at Hillcrest? Sign up for our weekly e-mail by marking your connection card and turning it in. Don't forget to include your e-mail address!

# Connect

## Small Groups

Hillcrest offers a variety of small groups for many schedules and phases of life. In the coming weeks, we will have lots of information about new groups starting up or re-starting for the school year. Hillcrest encourages everyone to get involved and get connected. If you are interested in joining a small group, stop by the Welcome Center or contact Pastor Brian for more info.

- ❖ Serving and Connecting – This group meets every Wednesday from 6pm–7:30pm. They serve the community two Wednesdays a month, do something fun one Wednesday a month, and learn/discuss something one Wednesday a month. Children are welcome. They will kick-off with supper on September 3rd. Led by Brian and Tarina Stroh.
- ❖ Sunday Adult Class – Sundays at 10:30am, starting September 7<sup>th</sup>, we will be studying *Why I Believe* in the Adult Classroom upstairs. This 12 week DVD based curriculum will address questions about issues at the core of human existence. The cost of the book is \$7.
- ❖ Friday Morning Men's Group – Meets at 6am at 26<sup>th</sup> Street Bagel Boy. Will be starting a new study soon, TBD. All men welcome to join at any time. Led by Brian Stroh.
- ❖ Saturday Morning Women's Study – Meets from 9am–11am in the Fireside Room, starting September 13<sup>th</sup>. Will be starting the DVD series, *The Christ-Centered Woman: Finding Balance in a World of Extremes*. All women are welcome to join any time. Led by Missy Davis.
- ❖ Monday Night Women's Study – Meets from 6pm–8pm in the Fireside Room, starting September 8<sup>th</sup>. Will be studying *Jesus Feminist* by Sarah Bessey. All women are welcome to join any time. Led by Vicki Tigner.
- ❖ Moments for Moms – Meets 12:15pm–1:15pm one Wednesday a month at 26<sup>th</sup> Street McDonalds. Kids play, while moms chat and pray together. All moms welcome any time. Led by Tarina Stroh.
- ❖ Connection Group – Meets once a month for a fun activity. Next event is Sunday, Sept. 13<sup>th</sup> at the Apple Orchard. Led by Jessi Copeland & Kay Perry.
- ❖ Financial Peace University – Wednesday evenings from 6:30–8 beginning September 10<sup>th</sup>. The cost for the class is \$109 and you can get more information here: <http://www.daveramsey.com/fpu/home/>. Led by Vaughn Kirkland.

## Bible Study Fellowship

BSF is an in-depth, interdenominational Bible study that helps people know God and equips them to effectively serve the Church throughout the world. There are several classes offered at different churches in Sioux Falls. Contact Pastor Brian or go to [bsfinternational.org](http://bsfinternational.org) to learn more.

## Baptism

Our next baptism service will be on August 31<sup>st</sup>. Christ asked all of his followers to be baptized, in fact the Apostle Paul said, "Why wait? Get up and be baptized." Baptism is available for any person that has accepted Jesus as their Lord and Savior. If you are interested in baptism, contact Pastor Brian to reserve a spot.

## Hillcrest Picnic and Bean Bag Tournament

Hillcrest invites everyone to a picnic and bean bag tournament on Sunday, August 24<sup>th</sup> at Laurel Oaks Park, following services. The cost is \$2 per person with a family max of \$10. Sign up at the Welcome Center to RSVP for the picnic. Mark on the sign up if you plan to participate in the bean bag tournament (if you have a partner you want to play with, make sure to sign them up as well). If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Pastor Brian. FYI – The pool will NOT be open this year.

## Hillcrest Night at Huset's

Join us at Huset's Speedway in Brandon for the Labor Day Special on Monday, September 1<sup>st</sup>. Races will start early, at 5pm. Adult ticket price is \$13.00; Kids 8-14 are \$5; Kids 7-under free. No need to sign up, just find us on the north side of the grandstands in the second tier.

## Men's Ministry

- ❖ The Bean Bag Tournament at the picnic will be our last event for the Hillcrest Cup Summer tournament. Standings are posted on our web site.
- ❖ The Hillcrest Cup – *Fall/Winter Edition* will kick off with a Fantasy Football Draft on Wednesday, August 24<sup>th</sup> at 5pm in the Fireside Room. Sign up at the Welcome Center or contact Pastor Brian if you are interested in participating.

## Serve

### August Outreach Focus – Powerhouse Tutoring Center

The Powerhouse is a partnership project with Wesley United Methodist Church and continues their successful model of community relationship building and academic skill development. Powerhouse is a tutoring program that focuses on continuing academic skill development with Whittier Middle School students. Here are some ways that you can help support the Powerhouse:

- Don't forget to drop off your donations today!
- The Powerhouse Tutoring Center can always use more volunteers to help out daily from 4pm to 5:30pm. Any amount of time that you can give is truly appreciated. Please contact Melissa Simpson at [msimpson@siouxfallschurch.com](mailto:msimpson@siouxfallschurch.com) if you are interested.

# Children's Ministry

*All children should stop at the Children's Check-In, located on the north side of the front foyer, before going to their classroom.*

## 9 AM Children's Program

Building Blocks: Infants and 1 year olds  
Bird House: 2-4 year olds

## 10:30 AM Children's Program

Building Blocks: Infants & 1 year olds  
Bird House: 2 year olds  
Dog House: 3-4 year olds  
Club House: K-5<sup>th</sup> Grade

## Move Up Sunday

Sunday, August 24<sup>th</sup> is when all of the children will move into their new classrooms (if applicable), to reflect their updated ages/grades. Teachers will be available to help the children find their new classrooms.

# Student Ministry

## 180 Sunday Classes

- ❖ This summer, during the 10:30 service, Middle School and High School students will meet together in the Youth Room upstairs to watch and discuss *The Bible* mini-series.
- ❖ Sunday, August 24<sup>th</sup> is when 6<sup>th</sup> grade and 9<sup>th</sup> grade students will move into their new groups.

## 180 Wednesday Nights

Starting Wednesday, August 27<sup>th</sup>, Middle School students will meet from 6-7:30pm and High School students meet from 7:30-9pm. Includes lesson, small group time, snack, and games!

## 180 Events

- ❖ Wednesday, August 20<sup>th</sup> will be the Back to School Bash! Middle School (including new 6<sup>th</sup> graders) and High School students will all meet from 7-9pm at Hillcrest. There will be inflatables and our annual MS vs. HS competition!
- ❖ 180 Student Ministries will be having a Parent's Meeting on Sunday, September 14<sup>th</sup> after services. Lunch will be served for families, but the meeting is for adults only. Child care will be provided. Please RSVP to Meriah via text or e-mail.
- ❖ Fall calendars are now available at the Welcome Center.

# Message Notes:

Title: Skeleton Valley

Scripture: Ezekiel 37

## Notes

For those going deeper:

This week's memory verse

*Romans 15:4 (NLT) Such things were written in the Scriptures long ago to teach us. And the Scriptures give us hope and encouragement as we wait patiently for God's promises to be fulfilled.*



# The Jesus Memo

Today, remember Jesus. Remember to speak up for those who don't have  
a voice. Be kind to everyone. Today, **be last**. Really. <<  
Put others ahead of yourself. <<<<<<<<<<<<<

<<<<< Jesus did not come to be served. But to serve.

Don't worry about your clothes or anything like that.

God is looking out for you and will provide all that you need.

**Tomorrow**...tomorrow can and will take care of itself.

Today is the day to live for God.

Remember that you have a Father in heaven who wants to lavish love on you.

Ask. Open your eyes and watch what He does.

Live today with a pure heart. You will see God.

**Today, put your faith in the One who calms storms.**

Give your life

to the One who heals the sick and takes away the sins of the world.

Remember what He said about camels and needles.

Sometimes money really can cause more problems than it's worth.

If you want mercy, you need to show mercy.

[illegible]

When you do good things for people...hide it from others.

Do good in secret, and you'll have a great reward.

<<<<<< Forgive. Forgive everyone.

Let Him have your load. You weren't meant to carry it all by yourself. There is rest.

**Don't forget:** a little bread and fish will go a long way in the right hands.

Be Jesus to everyone you meet.

Love God. Love Others. Live the Gospel.

**Today will be different.**

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# Monday

Subject: Do You Have Peace?

Scripture: Romans 8:30-32

## Commentary:

As humans we tend to worry, it is a part of our sinful nature. This week we are learning that we serve the Almighty and as stated in Romans, "If God is for us, who can be against us". As Christians we have the peace to know that the Almighty is on our side and that no matter what we are going through, he will be with us. When we accept Christ as our Lord and Savior we have a unique opportunity to show the world the peace that can only be achieved by knowing him. We need to go out and spread this good news to the entire world.

## Questions for further thought:

1. What worries do you have in your life, how will you face these fears knowing that God is on your side?
2. How do you show the world that God is in control of your life?

## Challenge:

Take time this week to give your greatest fears and worries over to God.



# Tuesday

Subject: The Glory is God's

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 4:5-7

## Commentary:

Paul is reminding the church in Corinth that what they are preaching is not for their own glory, but to glorify God. We are to be humble, so that our lives are an example of the greatness of God and the transforming power of our relationship with Him. We are to be a light in a dark world, not to bring praise to ourselves, but to bring glory to God. Do your actions and deeds in your daily life show the glory of the Almighty God? This is challenged every day as we face the daily grind of life. Do you glorify God by having a positive attitude even when you are completing the same task you have to do at work for the 10<sup>th</sup> time, the 100<sup>th</sup> time, ect. Do all for the glory of God.

## Questions for further thought:

1. Is your life a shining light in a dark world?
2. What tasks in your life seem tedious, how can you do these tasks with a more positive attitude that glorifies God?

## Challenge:

When taking the trash out this week, (a tedious task) say a short prayer to God thanking Him for all the blessing he has given you.

# Wednesday

Subject: Give it to God

Scripture: Mathew 6:25-34

## Commentary:

Sweet, all is good!!! Okay so that is easier to say than to believe. We are faced with many trials to this verse every day. We worry about paying the bills, about our jobs, about our families, about, about, about..... Jesus commands us to: "Seek first His Kingdom and His righteousness." We are to put God first and everything else is to come second. When we keep God first, the sinful part of our life that makes us worry does not go away, but we can plan ahead, get things done, and know that no matter what happens God is in control and will help us through. Hey, He Feeds the birds and clothes the flowers, just think what he will do for us.

## Questions for further thought:

1. What are you worrying about this week?
2. What are you going to do to give you worries to God?

## Challenge:

Share this week with someone how God has helped you through a difficult situation.

# Thursday

Subject: Sing to the Lord

Scripture: Psalm 96:1-3

## Commentary:

We always think of the Great Commission as a New Testament idea, but Psalms 96 tells us we are to "Declare His glory among the nations". We are not just to proclaim God's glory in church, we are to, "Sing it day after day". When we leave the house, when we are at work, at school, at the gym, etc. Do your actions and attitudes show God's glory in your life in how you carry out your everyday actions? When you interact with that person who has rubbed you the wrong way at work, at school, or in the checkout lane at the store?

## Questions for further thought:

1. What are some ways you would you can show God glory to others?
2. How is your life proclaiming God's salvation in your life?

## Challenge:

This week take time to share God's salvation in your life with another person.

# Friday

Subject: Can you do it?

Scripture: Philippians 4:10-13

## Commentary:

Paul is talking to the Philippians and thanking them for the support that they gave him. He reminds them that they must learn to be content to live with what you have been given. He says if have learned the "secret of living with every situation", "For I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength. It is not if, but when will we be faced with tough situations. In these times we are to turn to God for the strength to get us through. We also must realize that what God knows we need and what we want may be two different things.

## Questions for further thought:

1. Have you trusted God in a difficult situation?
2. How do you react when the answer God gives, is not the answer you were hoping for?

## Challenge:

Take time this week to thank God for what He has given you, and not focus on what you feel like you have not received.

# Saturday

(Looking to Sunday)

Message Series: That's in the Bible?!  
Message Title: I Saw the Sign  
Scripture: Judges 6  
Speaker: Pastor Brian Stroh

What do these passages say to you?

## Prayers:

Write down the prayer concerns and praises you want to remember throughout the week. Pray every day!

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*James 5:16* Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much.

# Staff Contact Information



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# Connection Card

Please fill out, tear at perforation and place in collection plate or drop off at Welcome Center as you leave.

**PRAYER REQUESTS**      ☐ **Keep confidential (Pastoral staff) or**    ☐ **Put on the Prayer Chain**

☐ **I would like to sign up for Hillcrest’s upcoming event. (Please specify.)**

My next step today is to:

- ☐ Read and study the scriptures and devotionals, provided on pages 6-12.
- ☐ Attend Family Fun Night at Huset’s Speedway on September 1st.
- ☐ Attend Picnic on August 24<sup>th</sup>.                      ☐ Do something on my own.
- ☐ Join a group or class.                                      ☐ Meet with a spiritual coach.
- ☐ Talk to Pastor Brian about Baptism.

Additional Comments:





4301 E. 26<sup>th</sup> St. Sioux Falls, SD 57103

605-371-0546

[www.sioxfordschurch.com](http://www.sioxfordschurch.com)

Connection Card

Please fill out and tear at perforation and place in collection plate or drop off at Welcome Center as you leave.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_ City/State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Check all that apply:

- ☐ 1<sup>st</sup> Visit --- How did you hear about Hilcrest?
- ☐ 2<sup>nd</sup> Visit
- ☐ Returning Guest
- ☐ Regular Attender
- ☐ Members

(web site, newspaper, radio, name of person who invited you, etc.)

*I am interested in:*

- ☐ beginning a relationship with Jesus      ☐ being baptized
- ☐ receiving the Hilcrest Informational E-mail.
- ☐ joining a small group      ☐ becoming a member of Hilcrest
- ☐ volunteering      ☐ praying for my Hilcrest family (received via e-mail)

*One of the pastors will contact you with information on these subjects.*

Your Age Group:

- ☐ 18-24      ☐ 25-35
- ☐ 36-45      ☐ 46-55
- ☐ 56-65      ☐ over 65

☐ Single      ☐ Married

☐ Divorced

☐ Widowed

☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Names & Birthdays of  
members of your  
household

_____
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_____
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