

Hillcrest CHURCH

Today's Gathering

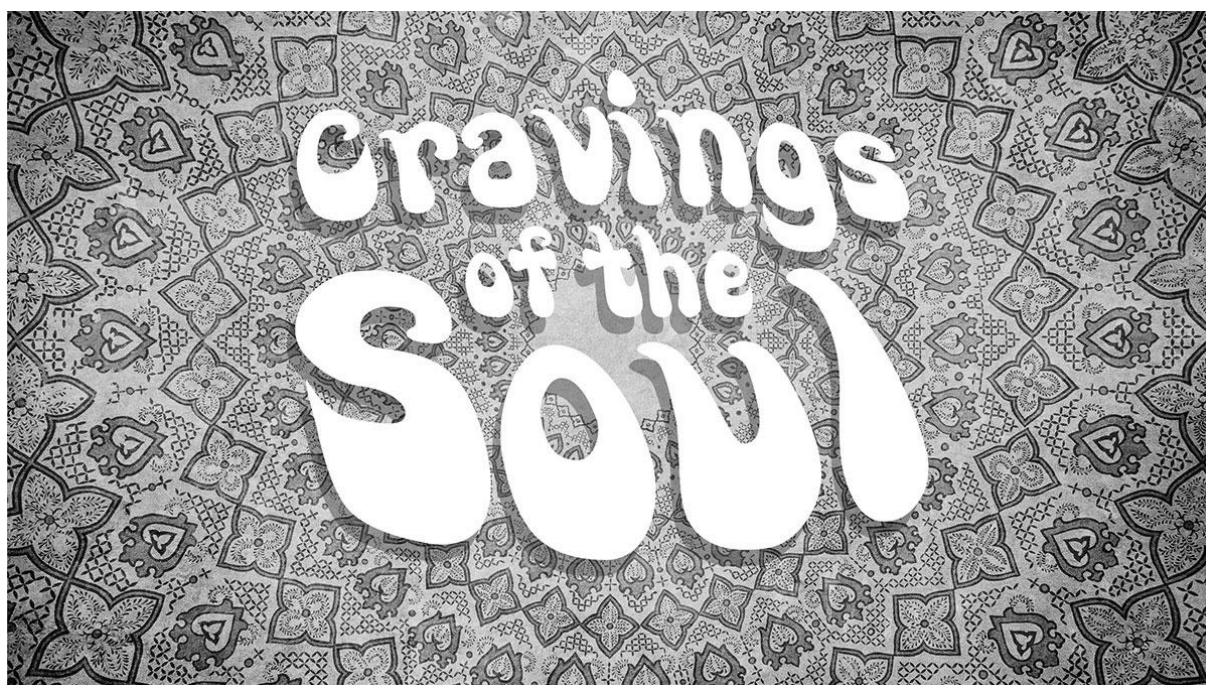
September 7th, 2014

View from the Hill

Meriah VanderWeide

Singing

Gary Rakebrandt and Jesse VanderWeide



The Power of a Sabbathal

Pastor Doug Bartel

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, 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

1st Sunday at the Pizza Ranch

Today is the first Sunday of the month. You are all invited to lunch at the 41st Street Pizza Ranch following the 10:30 service. This is an informal event, so simply show up and enjoy lunch with other Hillcresters. There is no need to RSVP and each person/family will be responsible for the cost of their own meals.

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 7th, 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 26th 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 13th. 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 8th. 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 26th 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. 13th at the Apple Orchard. Led by Jessi Copeland & Kay Perry.
- ❖ Financial Peace University – Wednesday evenings from 6:30–8 beginning September 10th. The cost for the class is \$109 and you can get more information here: <http://www.daveramsey.com/fpu/home/>. Led by Vaughn Kirkland.

Corn Maze

On Wednesday, October 9th, Hillcresters are invited to meet at the Heartland Country Corn Maze at 6pm for a family friendly event. Cost is only \$5 per person (ages 4 and under are free), but you must sign up at the Welcome Center or register on-line to receive the discounted rate.

Serve

September Mission Focus – Feeding South Dakota

The Back Pack Program is a service provided by Feeding South Dakota. Each backpack is a weekend's worth of nutritious food for children who are on the free lunch program at their school. Each backpack costs \$145, and our goal is to provide 75 backpacks to this program. On September 21st, we will take a special offering during our Sunday Services for those who would like to help provide for this program.

On Tuesday, September 23rd at 6pm, we will be packing back packs at Feeding SD. We need 20 volunteers to help out, and volunteers must be at least 12 years old. Please sign up at the Welcome Center if you would like to participate.

Mentors & Reading Buddies

Hillcrest is once again committing to provide mentors and reading buddies at Cleveland Elementary for the 2014-2015 school year. Please contact Pastor Brian if you are interested in either of these opportunities.

- ❖ A mentor is someone who spends one lunch hour with an elementary student and eats with them each week, plays games with them, and listens. Mentors meet with their student for 45 minutes one day a week over the student's lunch time (anywhere from 11-1).
- ❖ A reading buddy is someone who listens to a child read, reads with a child, or reads to a child. The purpose is to increase a child's comprehension skills and lead to greater academic success. Reading buddies spend as little as 15 minutes a week in a classroom assisting young readers. Reading buddies may volunteer for more than 15 minutes and may assist multiple readers.

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
Tree House: 3 year olds
Dog House: 4 year olds
Club House: K-5th Grade

Baptism & Communion Class

Hillcrest Children's Ministries will be hosting a Baptism & Communion class on Sunday, September 21st, following the second service. This class is to learn about how and why we do communion and baptism. Books will also be available for \$5 on the day of the class. Bring the whole family and lunch will be served. Please sign up at the Welcome Center if you are interested in attending.

Student Ministry

180 Sunday Classes

Middle School and High School students are invited to meet in the Youth Room during the 10:30am service. Students will then break into small groups.

180 Wednesday Nights

Middle School students meet from 6-7:30pm and High School students meet from 7:30-9pm. Includes lesson, small group time, snack, and games!

180 Events

- ❖ 180 Student Ministries will be having a Parents' Meeting on Sunday, September 14th after services. Lunch will be served and children are welcome to attend the meeting with their parents. Child care will not be available. (NOTE: this is a change from the original information.) Please RSVP to Meriah.
- ❖ The 4th Annual Boys Video Game Night will be held Sept 27th from 4pm-10pm. Video games on the sanctuary big screens. What could be better? Food & soda provided. Cost is \$8 and registration forms are available in the back foyer or at the Welcome Center. Invite your friends! Non-Hillcrest students get in free!
- ❖ Fall calendars are now available at the Welcome Center.

Message Notes:

Title: The Power of a Sabbatical

Scripture: Genesis 2:1-3; Exodus 16:26; Exodus 20:8-11

Notes

For those going deeper:

This week's memory verse

Mark 2:27 (NLT) Then Jesus said to them, "The Sabbath was made to meet the needs of people, and not people to meet the requirements of the Sabbath."

Monday

Subject: Sabbath—The Covenant

Scripture: Isaiah 56:1–8

Commentary:

Keeping the Sabbath is a sign of the covenant with God. What does observing the Sabbath mean? In simplest terms, devote a day to rest and think on the Lord just as He did on the seventh day of creation. How often do we take time away from our busy schedules to just have a day dedicated to God and resting? God created everything in 6 days and then, took a day to rest as well. Shouldn't we follow His example?

Questions for further thought:

1. How do you observe Sabbath today?
2. What interferes with you observing the Sabbath?

Challenge:

Remove one of the obstacles you identified above so you can observe the Sabbath.

Tuesday

Subject: Sabbath = Sunday?

Scripture: Exodus 20:8-11

Commentary:

God does not state the Sabbath had to be Sunday. He simply said labor and do all your work for 6 days and on the 7th day, observe the Sabbath. Depending on your work and home schedule, your Sabbath might be a different day than Sunday. The day of the week isn't the important part but the actual act of taking the time to concentrate and devote a day to God.

Questions for further thought:

1. What day of your week is your Sabbath?
2. What interferes or could interfere with your observance of the Sabbath?

Challenge:

Choose a day of the week to consistently observe the Sabbath. This may mean reorganizing your schedule to make this a consistent event.

Wednesday

Subject: Sabbath—Benefits

Scripture: Ephesians 6:10–18

Commentary:

Besides the obvious benefits of taking time to slow down and allow our bodies to rejuvenate, we are able to strengthen our “armor” so we can win the battle against evil forces. God never intended for someone to be so busy that they cannot take time to slow down and reinforce their physical and spiritual defenses.

Questions for further thought:

1. When you do observe the Sabbath, how are you shoring up your spiritual defenses?
2. What else can you be doing to strengthen your “armor” for the coming week?

Challenge:

Next time you observe the Sabbath; do one of the activities you noted above.

Thursday

Subject: Solitude—Finding time

Scripture: Luke 4:38-44

Commentary:

Throughout Christ's ministry, we see Him taking time to go off by Himself in order to pray and commune with His Father. Even though there was always something to do, He made sure to take the time to pray and learn God's will. If Christ could take time considering how busy He was, should we not do the same?

Questions for further thought:

1. What hinders you from finding time for solitude?
2. How can you eliminate or manage one of the items listed in #1?

Challenge:

Implement the change you identified above.

Friday

Subject: Solitude—Seeking His Will

Scripture: Luke 6:12:16

Commentary:

Before Jesus selected his Twelve Apostles, He spent the night in prayer. When important decisions come up in your life, do you take the time to seek God's will in prayer? Are we any better than Jesus? No, we must seek God's guidance often and frequently to ensure we are following the right path.

Questions for further thought:

1. When was the last time you sought solitude to seek God's will for your life?
2. What was the result of that instance?

Challenge:

Take time today or this weekend to seek solitude and pray for guidance on a current problem or decision you need to make.

Saturday

(Looking to Sunday)

Message Series: Cravings of the Soul
Message Title: The Power of Being Alone
Scripture: Mark 6:31-32; Acts 9:9;
Galatians 1:15-16
Speaker: Pastor Doug Bartel

What do these passages say to you?

Prayer Page:

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

If you would like to receive the email prayer chain, check the box on the Connection Card. You can also submit prayer requests through the church web site or by calling the church office.

[illegible]

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



Doug Bartel

Lead Pastor

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Ministry Pastor

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Jennifer Simons

Administrative Assistant

jennifersimons@siouxfallschurch.com

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 Baptism & Communion Class on September 21st.
- ☐ Attend Corn Maze on Wednesday, October 8th.

Additional Comments:



4301 E. 26th St. Sioux Falls, SD 57103

605-371-0546

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:

☐ 1st Visit --- How did you hear about Hilcrest? _____

☐ 2nd Visit _____
(web site, newspaper, radio, name of person who invited you, etc.)

☐ Returning Guest

☐ Regular Attender

☐ Members

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**

