

Hillcrest CHURCH

Today's Gathering
September 28th, 2014

View from the Hill
Pastor Brian Stroh

Singing
Aaron Levisay, Kelsey Moser, and Jesse VanderWeide



The Power of Worship
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

Corn Maze

On Wednesday, October 8th, 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.

Men's Chili Cook Off

The Men of Hillcrest are invited to participate in a chili cook-off, to be held in the Family Life Center (the gym), following services on October 19th. This event is part of the Men's Hillcrest Cup – Winter Edition. If you would like to participate, or if you just want to eat chili (everyone's invited) please sign up at the Welcome Center or register online.

Ladies Football 101

On Tuesday, October 14th at 6:30pm, the ladies of Hillcrest are invited to attend Football 101 with Deena Perry. Feel free to wear your favorite team shirt as we "fumble" our way through learning the terms, plays and excitement of football! The event includes a free "tailgating" meal, and a sign up will be available in the front foyer in the next couple of weeks.

Cravings of the Soul Retreat

Pastor Doug will be leading a spiritual disciplines retreat at the Broom Tree Retreat Center in Irene, SD, as an application to the Cravings of the Soul series this September. The group will leave Hillcrest at 6pm on Friday, October 10th and return at 6pm on Saturday, October 11th. It will be open to anyone in the congregation that would like to indulge in the practice of various disciplines like prayer, silence, solitude, lectio divina, and even fasting. Cost is \$67 per person or \$77 per couple/double-occupancy. Includes private room and bath, and lunch on Saturday. We have 12 rooms available. Please sign up at the Welcome Center if you are interested in attending. **Today is the last day to sign up!**

1st Sunday at the Pizza Ranch

Next Sunday 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.

Men's Friday Morning Study Group

The Friday Morning Men's Group meets at Bagel Boy at 6am each Friday. All men are welcome to join at any time. They will be starting *Weird: Because Normal Isn't Working* on Friday, October 3rd. Please contact Pastor Brian if you would like to order a book.

Serve

October Mission Focus – Cleveland Elementary School

Hillcrest's mission for October is to supply Cleveland Elementary School with some of the items that the school has identified as needs for the children. This year's wish list includes Ear buds and headphones, deodorant, Kleenex boxes, Clorox/Lysol wipes, Bottles of hand sanitizer, Dum-Dums (suckers), Gallon size zip lock baggies, Boys and girls underwear- size 4T and 6, Socks- mostly for kindergarten age students, shoes sizes 1-5, sweat pants, new books for the library, puzzles/games. You can take a tag from the bulletin board near the Welcome Center and return your donations by October 26th.

Hillcrest Craft Bazaar and Bake Sale

On Saturday, October 25th, 9am to 3pm, Hillcrest will be hosting a craft fair at the church. This is a fundraising event for the Powerhouse Tutoring Center. Hillcresters can help by making items for the bake sale and volunteering the day of the event. Many different opportunities and shifts are available. Please sign up at the Welcome Center if you are interested in helping out.

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

Music & Movement Play Date

Sunday, October 19th from 6-7pm. Children, infant thru pre-school, are invited to join Tarina for a fun-filled hour of listening to music, singing, and dancing. Please sign up in the back foyer if your child will be attending.

Trunk or Treat

This year's Trunk or Treat event will be held on Sunday, October 26th from 12pm to 2pm at the parking lot behind the Powerhouse Tutoring Center (1708 E. 6th St.) Decorate your trunk and dress in costume with a theme, while handing out candy to the neighborhood kids. There will be food and games, provided by Wesley United Methodist Church, too! If you are unable to attend, you can also donate candy to hand out and give away as prizes on that day. Sign up for the event at the Kids Zone in the back foyer or drop off your candy donation near the Children's Check-In.

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!
- ❖ On Wednesday, October 8th, we will be attending the Corn Maze Event (pg. 3), instead of our regular Wednesday activities.
- ❖ On Wednesday, October 22nd, we will be meeting during our regular times at the Powerhouse Tutoring Center (1708 E. 6th St.) You can park in the back (parking lot of Wesley UMC) and come in the back door.

Message Notes:

Title: The Power of Worship

Scripture: 1 Chronicles 16:32-31; Romans 12:1-2;
Revelation 4:8-11

Notes

For those going deeper:

This week's memory verse

John 4:24 (NLT) For God is Spirit, so those who worship him must worship in spirit and in truth."

Monday

Subject: What is Worship?

Scripture: Psalm 59:16, 66:4, 150:1–6

Commentary:

If I were to take a poll and ask the question "What is worship?", I would expect a large number of respondents would say that worship is what we do on Sunday morning at church. After all, we call it a "worship service" don't we? While it is true that many identify Sunday services as their primary mode of worship, it is but a small part of the worship offering that God desires.

Questions for further thought:

1. How would you answer the question "What is worship"?
2. Does worship involve more than meeting Sunday and singing praise songs and listening to a message?

Challenge:

We will explore this week a few components of worship as outlined in Scripture. "Depend on it, my hearer, you never will go to heaven unless you are prepared to worship Jesus Christ as God." –*Charles Spurgeon*

Tuesday

Subject: Spirit and Truth

Scripture: John 4:23-24

Commentary:

Jesus' teaching to the Samaritan woman at the well reveals two important components of worship—Spirit and Truth. True worship cannot take place if the one offering worship is not "Born of the Spirit of God"—the Holy Spirit. One also needs knowledge of the truth of God's Word to offer acceptable and pleasing worship. One without the other renders one incapable of responding to God in true worship as Jesus refers to in this passage.

Questions for further thought:

1. Have you been "Born of the Spirit".
2. Does the Holy Spirit of God live within you?

Challenge:

It is impossible to please God in worship until you possess His Spirit and know His Word. "Fruitful and acceptable worship begins before it begins". -*Alexander MacLaren*

Wednesday

Subject: Living Sacrifices

Scripture: Romans 12:1-2, 1 Corinthians 6-8

Commentary:

We who have accepted Christ have been redeemed at a great price, and as those redeemed by the blood of Christ we are perfect in God's sight. We are loved, blameless and as the Corinthians passage states- "unleavened". What we do with our hands, feet, arms legs, tongue, eyes, ears and smiles prove to the watching world that Christ is King and He has great value to us.

Questions for further thought:

1. Do you believe that you are "unleavened"?
2. Do you think you reflect Christ's value to others?

Challenge:

Live as a living sacrifice (worship) in gratitude for what Christ did for you on the cross. Be what you really are! "The highest form of worship is the worship of unselfish Christian service". -*Billy Graham*

Thursday

Subject: Singing Rocks?

Scripture: 1 Chronicles 16:31-34

Commentary:

So even the earth will worship—the rocks, trees, seas, fields and everything in them will sing and bow down in worship at Christ's return. Really. That seems physically impossible. But is anything impossible for God? If He desires, He can certainly make inanimate objects animate. He has performed even greater miracles. Rocks and canyons and trees and grass will surely echo the glorious noise of Christ's return to judge the earth.

Questions for further thought:

1. Is anything impossible for God?
2. If He cannot make rocks sing can He raise the dead?

Challenge:

There is much more to this world than physical laws. The spiritual world is present and powerful. Open your mind to possibilities that on the surface seem impossible. "A man can no more diminish God's glory by refusing to worship Him than a lunatic can put out the sun by scribbling the word "darkness" on the walls of his cell" -CS Lewis

Friday

Subject: Eternal Worship

Scripture: Revelation 4:8-11

Commentary:

In John's vision, he is transported to the throne of God. There are 4 creatures proclaiming **day and night** "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty, who was, and is, and is to come". Note that these beings never stop saying these words. It is also noteworthy that this is the only characteristic of God that is repeated three times in succession in Scripture. Of all of the attributes of God that could have been proclaimed, the creatures worship by focusing on His holiness.

Questions for further thought:

1. What attribute of God stands out most to you?
2. Is holiness on that list?

Challenge:

Reread today's passage. Focus on the repetition. Try to envision the scene. Feel the reverence. Take time to thank God for His grace, honor Him with prayer and thanksgiving and reflect on His Holiness.

Saturday

(Looking to Sunday)

Message Series: Real Friends
Message Title: The Foundation of Friendship
Scripture: Proverbs 13:20, 17:17, 20:6;
Hebrews 10:24-25; John 15:13-15
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.

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

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 Corn Maze on Wednesday, October 8th.
- ☐ Participate in Men’s Chili Cook-off on Sunday, October 19th.
- ☐ Volunteer to help out at the Craft Fair on Oct. 24 or Oct. 25.

Additional Comments:



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

605-371-0546

www.siouxfallschurch.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**

