



Today's Gathering

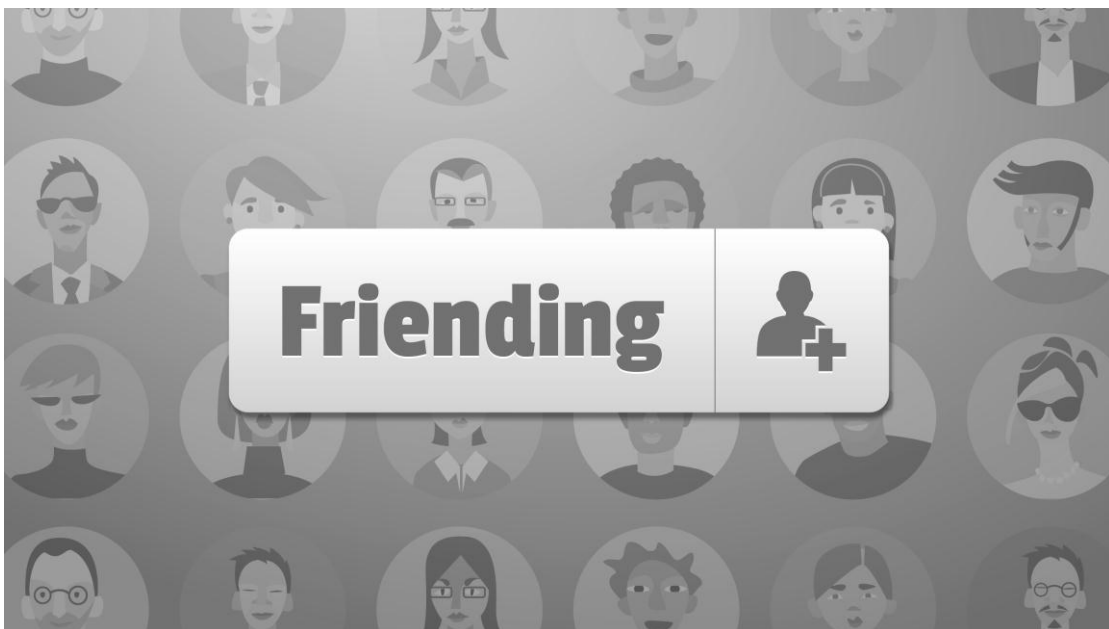
October 12th, 2014

View from the Hill

Pastor Brian Stroh

Singing

Cindy Cummins and Jesse VanderWeide



One Friend Away

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

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.

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.

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

Pastor Appreciation Month

October is Pastor Appreciation month, and at Hillcrest we have incredible pastors to show appreciation to. We will be creating “A Door of Thanks” on each of the pastors' office doors. There are some blank cards available at the Welcome Center, so stop by to jot them a quick note, prayer, or verse of encouragement. Leave it in the basket at the Welcome Center, and we will hang it on the door. You are also welcome to drop off your own cards.

Thank you for helping us show our pastors and their families just a small fraction of how much we appreciate them.

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.

Worship Team

The Worship Team is looking for instrumentalists, especially drummers and bassists. If you are interested in using your talents with the Hillcrest Worship Team, please contact Jesse VanderWeide.

Musical Props

Hillcrest's Children's Ministry is looking for jazz instruments for the Children's Christmas Musical on December 7th. The children will only be pretending to play the instruments. If you have a trumpet, trombone, saxophone, or clarinet that you are willing to loan out, please contact Tarina Stroh. She will ask you to label it well and drop it off in her office the week before the musical.

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

- ❖ 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.
- ❖ On Wednesday, October 29th, Middle School students are invited to our 4th annual Halloween Skating Party. Dress up in an obscure biblical costume and meet at Carousel Skate from 7-8:30pm. Prizes will be awarded. High School students will meet for appetizers at Applebee's on 10th Street at 9pm. This will replace our regular Wednesday activities.

Message Notes:

Title: One Friend Away

Scripture: Proverbs 27:5-6; Acts 9:26-28;

1 Samuel 16:12-13, 23:15-16

Notes

You might be _____ friend away from
changing the course of your _____.

Samuel: A friend who makes you _____

Jonathan: A friend who helps you find spiritual _____

Nathan: A friend who tells you the _____

For those going deeper:

This week's memory verse

Hebrews 13:7 (NLT) Remember your leaders who taught you the word of God. Think of all the good that has come from their lives, and follow the example of their faith.

Monday

Subject: One Friend Away

Scripture: Proverbs 13:20, 19:20, 27:17;
1 Samuel 23:15-16

Commentary:

Having the right friend can lead you to be wiser and closer to God. A good, Godly friend will challenge you to become a better person by being honest, truthful, and hold you accountable for your actions. Do an inventory of your friends to determine if you have at least one of these types of friends. As you seek people's friendship keep this in mind; do not just have friends by default.

Questions for further thought:

1. How have you gained the friends that you have?
2. Are your closest friends the "best" friends for you?

Challenge:

Inventory your friends and journal how each person influences you – good or bad.

Tuesday

Subject: Is Jesus your friend?

Scripture: John 15:12-15; James 4:8

Commentary:

Jesus is the best friend and influence that you could have. Do your actions show that He is your friend? As Jesus stated in John, "you are my friends IF you do what I command you". In order to consider Jesus your friend you need to be studying and knowing how He acted, spoke, and what he commanded. His entire focus was to do the will of the Father and love Him with his whole heart, mind, and soul.

Questions for further thought:

1. Do you consider Jesus your friend?
2. Do you follow his example?

Challenge:

Reflect on your day. Are there things that you should have done differently in order to reflect your friendship with Jesus to others?

Wednesday

Subject: Good or Bad

Scripture: Matthew 7:17-20

Commentary:

This passage tells us that evaluating your friends should be quite easy...

v18 "A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot bear good fruit." What kind of fruit are your friends producing, or differently asked, what type of fruit are your friends holding you accountable to produce? This is very important since it is determining your future....v19 "Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire." This is a very serious prediction.

Questions for further thought:

1. What type of fruit are your friends producing?
2. What type of fruit are you producing?

Challenge:

Read verse 19 and ponder on it. Is this the future that you are planning for or planning against?

Thursday

Subject: Break up with Bad Influences

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 5:11, 15:33;
Proverbs 14:6-7

Commentary:

After doing an inventory on your friends were there any that you determined were not the best influence? If yes, Proverbs says to "leave the presence of a fool". Corinthians says if this person "claims to be a believer to not associate with them; do not even eat with them". You must find a way to "break up" with them and remove them from your influence circle.

Questions for further thought:

1. Where are your friends leading you?
2. Do you have any friends that you need to break up with?

Challenge:

Resolve to remove yourself from the influence of this friend. Prepare yourself by devising a plan or an out. For example: if this person is a gossip at work, plan a way to step out of the conversation such as needing to warm up your coffee.

Friday

Subject: Find a friend

Scripture: Galatians 5:16-18

Commentary:

Keep your whole heart, mind, and soul focused on God and follow His Spirit and you will not want or be able to be influenced by bad fruit. Following God's Spirit will lead you to that positive one friend that will help you to become wiser and closer to God.

Questions for further thought:

1. Is God leading you to reach out to a new friend?
2. Where is the Spirit leading you?

Challenge:

Take time this week to meditate.

Saturday

(Looking to Sunday)

Message Series: Friending
Message Title: One Community Away
Scripture: Acts 2:42-46; Romans 15:7;
 2 Samuel 9:13; 1 Peter 5:8; John 13:35;
 Ephesians 2:19-21
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



Doug Bartel

Lead Pastor

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Brian Stroh

Ministry Pastor

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Jesse VanderWeide

Worship Ministries Coordinator

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Meriah VanderWeide

Student Ministries Coordinator

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Tarina Stroh

Children's Ministries Coordinator

tarinastroh@siouxfallschurch.com

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.
- ☐ 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.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**

