



Today's Gathering

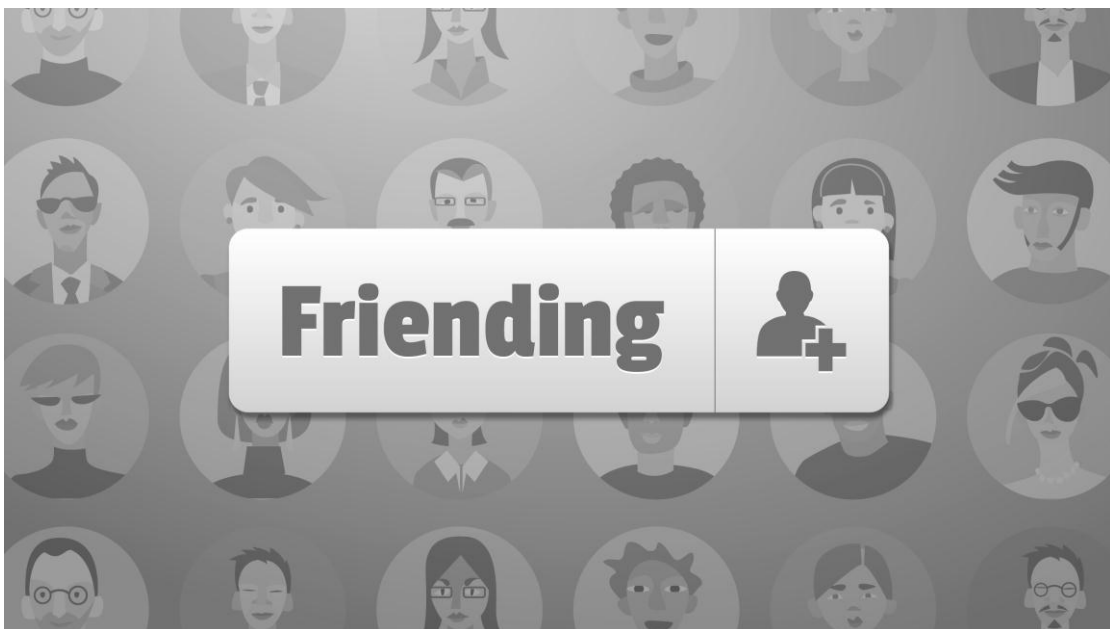
October 19th, 2014

View from the Hill

Pastor Brian Stroh

Singing

Aimee VanderWeide and Jesse VanderWeide



One Community 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

Baptism

Our next baptism service will be on November 30th. 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 Doug or Pastor Brian to reserve a spot.

Hillcrest Business Meeting

Hillcrest will have its semi-annual business meeting on Sunday, November 9th after the second service. Food will be served. Cost is \$3 for adults and \$2 for students with a family max of \$12. Agendas and reports will be available the week before the meeting. If you would like to attend, please sign up at the Welcome Center, mark your connection card, or contact Pastor Brian.

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.

If you have not signed up or picked your theme yet, here are some easy ideas – sports teams, pajama party, a favorite movie, tv show, book, cartoon, singers/band, vacation spot, decade, prom or school dance, cowboys, race car team, a zoo, food, or just all dress in one color.

Ask Anything

In November, we will be starting a series called "Ask Anything", in which Pastor Doug will answer any question that you have. To submit a question, go to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/SKBQM6H> or write it on your comment card in the bulletin. You can submit it anonymously, or you can provide your name.

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.

Facility Work Day

On Saturday, November 8th, starting at 9am, the Facility department will be doing some fall clean-up projects outside, as well as some interior projects. We need lots of volunteers to help get everything done. Please come any time you can on Saturday morning and stay for however long you are available. Any assistance you can give would be appreciated.

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

Operation Christmas Child

This year, Hillcrest Children's Ministry is once again supporting Operation Christmas Child, a ministry of Samaritan's Purse, which provides gifts for needy children around the world. Your child should be receiving an envelope with instructions on how they can help. Please be sure to return the envelopes by Sunday, November 2nd.

Family Game Night

Children's Ministries will be hosting a Family Game Night in the Family Life Center on Sunday, November 9th from 4-6pm. Please RSVP to Tarina or sign up in the back foyer if you plan to attend.

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 Community Away

Scripture: Acts 2:42-46; Romans 15:7; 1 Peter 5:8;
Matthew 16:18 Ephesians 2:19-21

Notes

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

- They have _____ rights
- We all have flawed _____
- We fight _____

For those going deeper:

This week's memory verse

Hebrews 10:24-25 (NLT) ²⁴Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. ²⁵And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.

Monday

Subject: The perfect church

Scripture: Acts 2: 42-46

Commentary:

Do you want to know the recipe for the perfect church; a recipe for a church that will grow? This scripture describes that church, and grow is exactly what happened.

This was a group of people who cared about each other, knew each other, saw the needs of the group and worked together to meet those needs. They hung out together: at church and in each other's homes, ate together, studied together and praised God together. Then what happened? They enjoyed the favor of all people – harmony, and the Lord added to them daily the number that were being saved. People felt loved and cared for. Because of this, God was praised, and God added to their number. What an exciting church.

Questions for further thought:

1. What about this church is the most appealing?
2. What about this church scares you?

Challenge:

Consider what you see in our church bulletin and what you hear from our Sunday morning announcements, and what comes on our informational email. How do you think we are doing?

Tuesday

Subject: Just as I am

Scripture: Romans 15:7

Commentary:

Years ago I longed for acceptance from my family. I wanted them to love me just the way I was, not having to fit into their mold. It was a harsh reality to recognize that meant I needed to accept them as they were and not expect them to fit into my mold. That was quite a reality check.

This scripture tells us that is what Jesus does to us and we are directed to do to others—in order to bring praise to God. Jesus accepts us and we are to accept others. God loves all of his creation, and expects us to do the same.

Questions for further thought:

1. Who have you longed to accept you?
2. Who do you need to accept?

Challenge:

At many Billy Graham crusades the song *Just as I am* closes the preaching and opens the "alter call." That is a great illustration of this scripture. Begin to pray about the person/people you need to accept just as they are.

Wednesday

Subject: How do we love?

Scripture: 2 Sam 9:13, John 13:35

Commentary:

Jonathon, (son of dead King Saul and David's friend) had a son. This child would have been heir to the throne and an enemy of King David, who God placed on the throne of Israel. David wanted to care for any of Saul's family on behalf of his friend Jonathon. This child was crippled which could have made him an outcast in society. Scripture tells us that David gave him all that belong to Saul and his family. He received that which was due to him as the grandson to the king.

In Jesus' words—all will know we are his disciples if we love one another. David showed us an example of this kind of love—love that may go against cultural or social norms. This love is unconditional, not based on the person doing anything to worthy of being loved, just loving because Jesus loved us.

Questions for further thought:

1. Who do you find it hard to love?
2. Would you be recognized as a disciple of Jesus because of how you love others?

Challenge:

Look into your heart and find who needs to be loved and take a step towards showing love to that person.

Thursday

Subject: Self-control

Scripture: 1 Peter 5:8

Commentary:

One definition for control is control of one's feelings and actions. To me this means using our thoughts and will to choose how we will respond to situations, circumstances, hurts, failures, and other people's actions. Self-control affects how bad things affect you, by how you react to them.

Imagine a toddler who lives in the world that everything is about them—their pleasure, their needs, their wants, in their time. How do they react when they don't get their way—no matter where they are; by having a temper tantrum. Self-control is the direct opposite of that reaction. We all, regardless of age, can have toddler like response to situations. This is a skill that grows with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, and as we grow as followers of Christ. As we study the bible we learn more about how we should behave and respond.

Questions for further thought:

1. In what situations do you react well?
2. What things cause you to react badly?

Challenge:

When living in a community our actions and behaviors affect others. Evaluate how you are affecting your community. Are there areas that need confession and asking for forgiveness? Begin today.

Friday

Subject: Where we belong

Scripture: Ephesians 2:19-21

Commentary:

As believers we are part of a community where we are fellow citizens and members of God's household. This community is built on the foundation of Christ. We are joined together with Christ and become the temple of the Lord to be a dwelling place for God. WOW! Let that sink in for a moment.

What a powerful image and reality we have as followers of Christ. What strength we have together with Christ. Imagine all the support, wisdom, knowledge, friendship and encouragement that can come from being part of such a community. Not to mention that we become a dwelling place for God.

Questions for further thought:

1. Have you taken the steps to become part of this community by becoming a member?
2. Have you "joined" into activities to begin to develop relationships within this community?

Challenge:

If you answered no to the above questions you can begin today. Look at the bulletin for an opportunity to connect into this community. If you are not a member, speak to a pastor, staff, or elder about how to become one. This community needs you and desires to provide you a place to belong.

Saturday

(Looking to Sunday)

Message Series: Friending
Message Title: Unfriending
Scripture: Proverbs 12:26; 1 Corinthians 15:33;
Matthew 6:23; Genesis 39:12;
John 13:34-35
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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Brian Stroh

Ministry Pastor

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Jesse VanderWeide

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Meriah VanderWeide

Student Ministries Coordinator

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Tarina Stroh

Children's Ministries Coordinator

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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.
- ☐ Volunteer to help out at the Craft Fair on Oct. 24 or Oct. 25.
- ☐ Attend Business Meeting on Sunday, November 9th.
- ☐ Volunteer to help with the Facility Work Day on Saturday, November 8th.
- ☐ Find out more information about baptism.

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**

