

Hillcrest CHURCH

Today's Gathering
February 1st, 2015

View from the Hill
Pastor Doug Bartel

Singing
Gary Rakebrandt, Norma Dalen, and Jesse VanderWeide



A Tale of Two Healings
Burke Perry

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.siouxfallschurch.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 3-4, you will discover connecting and serving opportunities as well as information regarding Children's and Student's Ministries.

On pages 5-6, 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!

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.

Hillcrest Camping Trip

This year, our annual camping trip at Newton Hills State Park will be held June 5th-7th, the weekend after VBS. On Saturday evening, June 6th, we will also have a picnic for everyone, even if you are not camping. This is an annual tradition at Hillcrest and we encourage everyone to join in whatever way they can. In order to secure enough spots, we will need to make reservations for camping sites and cabins on March 6th, so please sign up for camping and have your payment in no later than Sunday, March 1st.

- Cabin \$40 a night- \$80 for weekend
- Electrical Site \$19 a night- \$38 for weekend
- Tent site \$15 a night- \$30 for weekend

Spots (especially cabins) are limited. You may register for Friday night, only, or for Friday and Saturday night. Checks and credit cards will be accepted at the Welcome Center or you can pay on-line by clicking on the "Give Online" button on our home page, and choosing "Events." If you would like to use SCRIP, please contact either Brian or Jennifer. There will be no refunds, unless we are unable to secure your spot. Reminder that if you do not have a yearly pass, the state park entrance fee of \$6 per day (per vehicle) will also be required at the time of arrival.

Stampede Game

Hillcresters are invited to attend the Sioux Falls Stampede Hockey Game against the Fargo Force on Saturday, February 7th at 7:05pm. Tickets are \$10 and must be purchased ahead of time. Sign up at the Welcome Center or contact Pastor Brian if you are interested in attending.

Chocolate & Canvas

On Thursday, February 26th from 6:30-8:30pm, Meriah VanderWeide will walk us through making the attached painting much like you would in a Wine & Canvas experience. Come for 2 hours of painting, chocolate, and fun, and go home with a beautiful 16"x20" painting! The cost is \$15 per person, which helps provide all supplies. Sign up at the Welcome Center if you are interested in participating.

Adult Bible Study

At 10:30am each Sunday, all adults are invited to meet in the Fireside Room for a Bible Study class. February's topic is Jesus and the reign of God. In March, they will start a new series on the Holy Spirit that will run through May. Feel free to join any time, or contact Pastor Brian for more information.

New Connection Group

Melissa Simpson and Nic Torbert are beginning a new connection group that will meet on Thursdays from 6:30-8:30, beginning February 19th. The group will include dinner and then using the Soul Provider and the previous Sunday's sermon as discussion material. The group will meet weekly and everyone is invited! Email Melissa at melissasimpson@siouxfallschurch.com or 605-359-1993, or contact Nic at nicholas.s.torbert@gmail.com or 605-209-0850 for more information. Sign up at the Welcome Center or contact Melissa or Nic, if you are interested in joining.

Notes from the Finance Department

Year-end contribution statements were sent out last week. If you have not yet received yours, please call the church office at 605-371-0546, so we can verify your address and resend your document.

If you have not signed up for on-line giving and prefer to use envelopes, you can pick up a box for this year at the Welcome Center.

Membership

Interested in joining Hillcrest as a member? Membership at Hillcrest is simply a commitment to one another as we seek to love God and love others. For more information, please check the box on the connection card on the back of the program or talk with Pastor Doug or Pastor Brian.

Serve

February Mission Focus – Restoration Generation

The mission focus for February will be Restoration Generation. Restoration Generation is about one thing: Relationships. Students today are living in a world where the majority of them have known nothing but broken relationships – with family, friends and themselves. Restoration Generation exists to partner with schools, organizations and communities to help Restore a Generation of Relationships.

On Wednesday, February 4th at 6pm in the Fireside Room, we will be signing copies of Heart Not Hype, written by Restoration Generation's founder, Tom Henderson. These books will be given away at concerts and festivals to students who make the decision to follow Christ.

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

Partnering with Parents: Love Languages

On Sunday, February 8th, after 2nd service, families of children of all ages are invited to attend this free Love Languages class. Learn how to love everyone in your life, according to their unique style. Lunch and child care will be provided. Please sign up in the back foyer if you are interested in attending.

Music & Movement Play Date

Sunday, February 22nd 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.

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

TONIGHT! Super Bowl Party - February 1st we will meet at the Davis' house at 5pm for food and watching the Game. Wings and fries will be provided for food. Bring a 2 liter soda & a snack to share or \$5. There will be a group playing board games and watching the commercials in a different room if you simply want to come to hang out.

Message Notes:

Title: A Tale of Two Healings

Scripture: Matthew 8:1-17

Notes

For those going deeper:

This week's memory verse

John 5:36 (NLT) But I have a greater witness than John—my teachings and my miracles. The Father gave me these works to accomplish, and they prove that he sent me.

Monday

Subject: God is Faithful

Scripture: Psalm 145:8-18

Commentary:

God has not called us to blindly have faith in Him. His character is revealed throughout history and the scriptures. Here, David praises God for His strength as creator and provider. He certainly fills the role of God in that category. Second, is a softer, but perhaps more profound side to God. This passage is full of His grace, love, and faithfulness towards his creation. Together we begin to glimpse the character of God. A God who can be relied upon in any situation.

Questions for further thought:

1. If you are able to rely on a God who "...is faithful to all His promises and loving toward all he has made." How does that affect your daily struggles?
2. The passage repeatedly talks of God loving all his creation, not just the "good" people. What do you think of God being so inclusive with His love?

Challenge:

Take notes throughout the day today, documenting the ways, big and small, that God is faithfully providing for you.

Tuesday

Subject: Giving in to Pressure

Scripture: Judges 16:6-21

Commentary:

Samson was a man who was dedicated to God from birth. He was the leader of Israel. However, through many small choices he drifted from God's will. When he finally gave in to Delilah's constant questioning of his love for her it was another small decision. He didn't expect God to really leave him weak and vulnerable. He may not have even realized how much he had begun to rely on himself rather than God. Somewhere in the process, he gave up on his faith. Samson suffered greatly from his choices, but God used his situation to turn Samson's direction around.

Questions for further thought:

1. Have you ever found yourself on a destructive path, without even quite realizing how you got there? Explain.
2. Were you able to change your course? In what way did it happen? Or what hasn't worked?

Challenge:

Take time to meet with a friend, mentor, or accountability partner to discuss anything that might currently be pulling you away from God.

Wednesday

Subject: Run with Purpose

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 9:24-27

Commentary:

Life is hard. It is hard when you lose a job, a loved one, or an opportunity. Then it is hard when you find yourself slogging through the mundane, day after day with no end in sight. But this passage reminds us that we aren't laboring in vain. God gives us the strength and grace we need, not just to reach the finish line, but to run the race well.

Questions for further thought:

1. Sometimes your situation can leave you feeling lost or aimless. What kind of training might help you through such times?
2. How do you balance self-effort with reliance on God?

Challenge:

Take the thing you are most worried about and try to put it in God's hands for the day. In exchange, ask for something positive to focus on.

Thursday

Subject: In Trouble Again

Scripture: Genesis 39:7-21

Commentary:

In this passage, we see that Joseph has unintentionally gained the attention of his master's wife. He has a choice to make. The choice may not be easy in the moment, but the right choice is at least clear. However, even though he refuses her advances, he still ends up in trouble. Yet God stays with Joseph, and he is entrusted to do greater things for God down the road.

Questions for further thought:

1. Have you ever felt like you were in trouble for making the right choice? What happened?
2. Did you see benefits in the long run in spite of any initial consequences?

Challenge:

Take time to journal about any insights you discovered from making a hard choice regardless of the outcome.

Friday

Subject: The Example of Jesus

Scripture: Luke 4:1-13

Commentary:

"You are hungry. Change this rock into bread so you can eat." "Just worship me, and I will give you everything you desire." "If you are who you say you are - jump - you will be protected." Jesus was tempted in many ways. In these examples, we see a potent way to overcome temptation when it comes. Jesus knows His Father in heaven, He knows His place in God's plan, and he knows Scripture well enough to reinforce His knowledge and relationship with His Father. This allows Him to recognize that He doesn't need to test God's faithfulness or provision. He lacks nothing that He needs to do God's will.

Questions for further thought:

1. Can you think of a time you have been tempted to do the wrong thing? What was your motivation?
2. Do you feel like God has provided all you need for what He is asking in your life? Why or why not?

Challenge:

Temptations are tempting. Set aside some time today to pray for strength in your times of weakness, and find a few key verses to remind you of God's faithfulness.

Saturday

(Looking to Sunday)

Message Series: Pastor's Choice
Message Title: A Rich and Satisfying Life
Scripture: John 10:9-11
Speaker: Brian Stroh

What do these passages say to you?

Staff Contact Information



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Administrative Assistant
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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.
- Sign books for Restoration Generation on February 4th.
- Attend the Love Languages class for parents on February 8th.
- Join the new connection group, starting on February 19th.
- Attend the Chocolate & Canvas women's event on February 23rd.

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
- 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
