

Hillcrest CHURCH

Today's Gathering
April 5th, 2015

View from the Hill
Brian Stroh

Singing
Tarina Stroh, Gary Rakebrandt, and Jesse VanderWeide



There Has Got to Be Something More to This Life
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.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 3-5, you will discover connecting and serving opportunities as well as information regarding Children's and Student's Ministries.

On pages 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

Hillcrest Amazing Race

On Sunday, April 26th from 5-7 PM, all Hillcresters are invited to participate in our version of the "Amazing Race"! Similar to the TV show, you'll race throughout Sioux Falls, use clues to figure out where to go, and complete simple challenges with the goal of being the first to cross the finish line! Cost is \$2 per person with a family max of \$10. Sign up at the Welcome Center or mark your connection card if you are interested in participating.

Dinner with Doug

Would you like to get to know Pastor Doug and his wife, Jenny? Are you interested in getting to know more about Hillcrest? Are you wanting to become a member? Then sign up at the Welcome Center or mark your connection card for Dinner with Doug on Wednesday, April 29th at 6:30pm. You'll spend an evening at Pastor Doug's house, eating dinner together and learning about Hillcrest as well as asking any questions you might have.

Parents Night Out

The 180 Chicago mission team is offering ANOTHER babysitting night on April 17th from 6pm-8pm. We will have a movie and snacks in one room, and games and activities in another. Cost is \$5 per kid, additional donations are welcome. Proceeds will go towards the cost of the 180 Chicago Mission Trip. Please sign up at the Welcome Center, mark the back of your connection card, or contact Meriah if you are interested.

Women's Pinterest Party!

Join us on Tuesday, April 21st at 6:30 p.m. in the FLC for a Pinterest themed gathering. Jessi Copeland will lead us through basic Pinterest information including where to find it, how to join Pinterest, how to "pin", how to create boards and secret boards and how to find your pins once you've pinned them. Bring your smartphones to be able to follow along for yourself! Jessi will also be leading us in a fun Pinterest craft (see sign-up table for a sample). We will enjoy Pinterest foods/snacks, Pinterest projects that have been created will grace our tables as centerpieces. If you are interested in providing a snack, food that you have made from Pinterest, there will be a place for you to let us know on the sign-up sheet. We are also looking to secure child care if that is a need. There is a \$5.00 fee for this event to cover the cost of the craft. Please sign-up at our table located by the Welcome Center in the front foyer.

EASTER FLOWERS GIVEN IN MEMORY OF...

Our Dad, who passed away in February	by Christy, Chuck, Tamilyn, William, David, & Thomas Bauer
Lance Buseman, Kelly Buseman, Wyatt Ammon, Art & Ordia Rave	by Aaron & Jasmine Buseman
Parents	by Neil & Linda Conover
Grandpa & Grandma Zwyghuizen Grandma Tubergen	by Norma Dalen
Les Tipton, Henry DeNeui	by Lois DeNeui
Rev. Fred Fuchs	by Ruth Fuchs
Grace Elizabeth Gilbert (daughter)	by Scott & Aubrey Gilbert
Our Grandparents Bruce's Dad & Step-Dad	by Bruce & Twila Kruger
Al Leither (Chris's Dad) Dan Hughes (Jen's Uncle)	by Chris & Jennifer Leither
Parents (Lori's Dad) Grandparents	by Bill & Lori Lewis
Lance Buseman (Jodi's brother)	by Jason, Jodi, Emma & Ellie Lounsbery
DJ's Father; Don O'Kon	by DJ & Dean Luethje & Family
Herb & Lillian Heupel (parents) Don & Hallis Matson (parents)	by Nancy & Larry Matson
David & Nellie Roddel	by Loreene Perkinson
Richard & Phyllis Lewis; Wade & Pat Perry	by Deena & Burke Perry
Gene Thompson	by Barb & Joleen Thompson & Family
Louise Westerman	by Bee Westerman

EASTER FLOWERS GIVEN IN HONOR OF...

Our family	by Linda & Neil Conover
Parents	by Bill & Lori Lewis
Don O'Kon, Keith Luethje, Jeff Luethje, Lexy Luethje, Gabrielle Luethje, Jose Saravia; all in service to our Country	by DJ & Dean Luethje & Family

***Thank you for your contribution for the flowers.
You may take your flower(s) home after the second service.***

Serve

April Mission Focus – Furniture Mission

Hillcrest's mission focus for April is the Furniture Mission. The Furniture Mission collects donations of gently used furniture and distributes the furniture to those in need, who have been referred to them from other organizations, such as Community Outreach, churches, schools, etc.

On Saturday morning, April 18th and Wednesday evening, April 22nd, Hillcresters will be delivering furniture for the Furniture Mission. Please sign up at the Welcome Center for one of these dates, or contact Pastor Brian if you are interested in volunteering.

Facility Work Day

Hillcrest's Spring Facility Work Day will be Saturday, April 25th, beginning at 8am. There are several projects both inside the facility and outside. We hope to be done by around noon, but if you can only come for an hour or two, please let us know by signing up at the Welcome Center or marking the back of your Connection Card.

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

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!

Message Notes:

Title: There Has Got to Be Something More to This Life

Scripture: John 10:10

For those going deeper:

This week's memory verse

Psalm 139:16 (NLT) You saw me before I was born. Every day of my life was recorded in your book. Every moment was laid out before a single day had passed.

Monday

Subject: All Have Sinned

Scripture: Romans 3:9-20

Commentary:

Paul uses these Old Testament references to show that humanity in general, in its present sinful condition, is unacceptable to God. Have you ever thought to yourself, well, I'm not as bad as _____ (you fill in the blank)? Look at these verses again and see if any of them apply to you. Have you ever lied? Have you ever hurt someone's feelings by your words or tone of voice? In thought, word, and deed, we like everyone else in the world stand guilty before God. Don't deny that you are a sinner. Instead, allow your desperate need for God to point you towards Christ.

Questions for further thought:

1. Have you judged someone lately for their sinful behavior?
2. What are one or two specific steps you can take to not judge people in the future?

Challenge:

The last time someone accused you of wrong doing, what was your reaction? Try next time to extend the same grace to others.

Tuesday

Subject: So Now I Believe

Scripture: John 3:16-17

Commentary:

Whether you are a small child or watch sporting events you see and hear these verses frequently. God's motivation towards people is love. God's love is not limited to a few or to one group of people but His free gift is for the whole world. God's love was expressed in the giving of His most priceless gift, -His only Son. For humanity's sake the gift is simply to be received, not earned. Verse 17 states that God did not send His Son to condemn the world but to save it. God does not desire the death of the wicked, rather that everyone be saved.

Questions for further thought:

1. How sure are you that you are saved?
2. What is your level of burden for the lost in your circle of influence?

Challenge:

As believers we should feel a desire to share the message of salvation with others. Are you up to the challenge?

Wednesday

Subject: A Changed Mind

Scripture: Roman's 12:1-2

Commentary:

In order to grow deeper in our faith we need to first change our old thinking and be renewed. Morality is conforming to Christ. We are often told to not copy the behavior and sins of this world, which are selfish and often corrupting. Many Christians wisely decide that much worldly behavior is off limits for them. Our refusal to conform to this world's values, however, must go even deeper than the level of behaviors and customs. It must be firmly planted in our mind. Only when the Holy Spirit renews, reeducates, and redirects our mind that we are truly transformed.

Questions for further thought:

1. What are some specific behavioral changes you have made to help your spiritual life?
2. What steps can you take daily to renew your sinful thoughts?

Challenge:

Spiritual habits are hard to develop but can be even harder to maintain. What daily disciplines can you take to help maintain your daily walk?

Thursday

Subject: Falling Away-Backsliding

Scripture: Mark 4:13-20

Commentary:

We all go through seasons when we get distracted from our faithful relationship with God. It is said that distractions are the main cause of backsliding. Worldly worries, the false sense of security brought on by prosperity, and the desire for things plagued first century disciples as they do us today. How easy it is for our daily routines to become overcrowded? We need to be cautious to not live a life packed with materialistic pursuits that deafen us to God's word. Always strive to stay free of competing interests so you can hear God when he speaks to you.

Questions for further thought:

1. In what soil are you planting your seed?
2. What causes you to forget your faithfulness to God?

Challenge:

Selfishness leads to backsliding. Consistent spiritual disciplines can prevent us from falling into sinful temptations. Daily prayer and Bible reading are good ways to stay on track with your spiritual walk.

Friday

Subject: If Not Jesus...Who?

Scripture: John 6:60-69

Commentary:

Whether you are a new Christian or have been for thirty years there will be defining times when our faith will be tested. Following Jesus results in overwhelming faith, but at times it can also be inconvenient, awkward, and even embarrassing. It can result in missed opportunities, a loss of business, or put us on the spot in a crowd when we would rather fit in. Even Jesus earliest followers wrestled with this tension. Peter was bold enough to ask a question that put everything in perspective. To whom shall I go?

Questions for further thought:

1. Can you think of a time when you took a stand for your faith?
2. How would you respond to the question, "to whom shall I go"?

Challenge:

At some time we are going to be confronted with the questions, to whom shall I go? If not Jesus who? If not Christianity what? Take some time and meditate on those questions.

Saturday

(Looking to Sunday)

Message Series: Thrive

Message Title: Our Need to Be Heard & Understood

Scripture: Psalm 77:1-2; Isaiah 55:3; James 1:19

Speaker: Doug Bartel

What do these passages say to you?

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**

My next step today is to:

- Read and study the scriptures and devotionals, provided on pages 6-12.
- Participate in 180 Babysitting Night Chicago Trip Fundraiser on April 17^h.
- Attend Women's Pinterest Party on April 21st.
- Participate in the Facility Work Day on April 25th.
- Participate in Hillcrest's Amazing Race on Sunday, April 26th.
- Attend Dinner with Doug on Wednesday, April 29th.

Additional Comments:



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605-371-0546

www.sioxfordfallschurch.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
