

Hillcrest CHURCH

Today's Gathering

May 17th, 2015

View from the Hill

Brian Stroh

Singing

Aimee VanderWeide and Jesse VanderWeide



Our Need to be Chosen

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

Baptism

Our next baptism service will be on May 31st. 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 at Newton Hills

Join us for a potluck picnic at Newton Hills on Saturday, June 6th. Bring your own meat and drink and a side dish or dessert to share. You may also want to bring a lawn chair for more comfortable seating. We will meet at picnic shelter #1 near the Overlook Tower, starting at 5:30pm. Feel free to stay later for the campfire. A state park license or daily pass is required to enter the park. For directions and/or a map, visit Newton Hills' web site at <http://gfp.sd.gov/state-parks/directory/newton-hills/>

Hillcrest at Thunder Road

Join Hillcresters at Thunder Road on Wednesday, June 17th at 7pm. \$16 for a 2 hour unlimited wrist band or \$14 for 4 universal tickets. One ticket is good for go karts, mini golf, and other attractions. You can buy 4 tickets and share among your family or use them all for yourself! Sign up at Welcome Center or contact Brian.

Graduations

Hillcrest would like to congratulate its graduates of 2015!

- ★ Brad Bartel - Graduating May 17th from Washington High School. Attending South Dakota State University.
- ★ Paige Waltman - Graduating May 17th from Washington High School.
- ★ Ben Lewis - Graduating May 17th from Washington High School. Attending Northern State University in Aberdeen to play football and study Business Management.
- ★ Nathan Lietha - Graduating May 16th from Sioux Falls Christian. Attending Dakota State University to study Network Security and Business.
- ★ Madison Dalen - Graduating June 1st from Kelly Walsh High School in Wyoming. Starting boot camp with the US Marines in September.
- ★ Nick Welder - Graduating May 16th from Sioux Falls Seminary with a Masters in Christian Leadership. He will continue working at Charis Ministries, as the food coordinator for Food To You mobile food pantry.

"Agency D3" VBS

Hillcrest's Vacation Bible School, "Agency D3" will be held Sunday, May 31st through Wednesday, June 3rd from 6pm-8pm at Hillcrest. Registration is FREE! Brochures with more details and registration forms are available at the display in the front foyer. Don't forget to pick up a music cd for each family and an iron-on badge for each child when you register. You can also register for VBS on our web site.

"Monday" Night Women's Study

The Monday Night Women's Group will continue to meet periodically through the summer on Mondays or Tuesdays (6/9 Tuesday, 6/22 Monday, 6/30 Tuesday, 7/13 Monday, 7/21 Tuesday, 7/27 Monday, 8/11 Tuesday, 8/17 Monday, 8/25 Tuesday) Starting June 9th, they will start the book *The Shack* by William P Young. People can purchase their book from Last Stop CD, Walmart, or Amazon. The SF Public Library has a few copies also. We will meet 6 - 7:30 in the Fireside Room. All Women are welcome. We will have study guide questions for those who want to prepare. If questions for further information contact Vicki Tigner 605-201-7955.

Serve

May Outreach Focus - VBS

Hillcrest will be hosting "Agency D3" Vacation Bible School Sunday, May 31st through Wednesday, June 3rd from 6pm to 8pm each evening.

We are still in need of volunteers in several areas, especially "Agents of Truth," who will hang out with a small group of kids and get them where they need to go. We are also looking for volunteers to help with set up on Saturday, May 30th from 9am-1pm. There is a sign up board near the Children's Check-In if you are interested in helping out with VBS.

Lastly, the Outreach Bulletin Board is full of other ways you can help. Donations will be used for various expenses, including crafts supplies and snacks.

Urban Plunge

Hillcresters are invited to a unique short-term mission opportunity July 17-19 right here in our own city! Hillcrest's own Kevin Skogstad will be leading a team of Hillcresters through an opportunity called Urban Plunge. You'll experience a completely different side to Sioux Falls as you minister and interact with under-resourced people from Sioux Falls. The cost is \$130 for the weekend and includes meals, lodging, and a T-shirt. Participants must be at least 12 years old, and we need a minimum of a group of 10. A deposit of \$25 is due by **June 15th** in order to reserve your spot. Please sign up at the Welcome Center or contact Pastor Brian if you are interested in this opportunity.

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
Dog House: 3 & 4 year olds
Club House: K-5th Grade

Summer Fun Days – Kindergarten & 1st Grade

Sunday, 6/14 from 2-4pm. Parents can drop children off at the Butterfly House & pick them up at the Outdoor Campus, or they can attend with their children. Cost is \$5 and children will memorize John 3:16 or John 3:17 (if they memorized John 3:16 last year.) Sign up in the back foyer or on our web site if your child plans 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

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!

Thrift Store Formal

May 20th is our First Annual Thrift Store Formal End of Year Bash! Middle School and High School will meet in the gym at 7pm for food, music, and to show off their awesome clothes. Invite your friends and celebrate the coming of summer! Come in your classy thrift store finds. Prizes will be awarded for most thrifty guy and gal.

Looking for Parents who are willing to make desserts or snacks and help with serving.

Message Notes:

Title: Our Need to be Chosen

Scripture: Luke 15; John 3:16

For those going deeper:

This week's memory verse

Psalm 106:5 (NLT) Let me share in the prosperity of your chosen ones. Let me rejoice in the joy of your people; let me praise you with those who are your heritage.

Monday

Subject: Treasure

Scripture: Deuteronomy 7:6

Commentary:

God created us in His image, yet uniquely different from any other individual on Earth. We are His precious treasure and are holy in His eyes. He has chosen us to walk on His Earth and live out His plan that He has set before us. Only you can do what God has put you here to do.

Questions for further thought:

1. Do you feel as though you were "chosen" by God; or that perhaps you were randomly selected?
2. In what ways has God revealed to you that you are chosen by Him?

Challenge:

Meditate on the ways that God made you uniquely different from His other chosen creations.

Tuesday

Subject: Chosen and Directed

Scripture: Genesis 18:19

Commentary:

God calls us to be right and just, to tell others about Him, and to carry out His great works. We were chosen by Him to spread the good news. We are to direct our households in a way that is pleasing to the Lord. Everything that we do should be done in an effort to glorify God because we were chosen by Him.

Questions for further thought:

1. Do you see the splendor in God during your day to day activities?
2. Are you able to glorify God during stressful moments and events in your life?

Challenge:

Tomorrow, strive to be acutely aware of God in all of your activities, especially the stressful moments. And then, thank Him for those moments and find His glory in them.

Wednesday

Subject: Chosen and not Separated

Scripture: Romans 8:38-39

Commentary:

We are a chosen creation. God's intention is for us to live with Him in eternity. There is no power that will separate us from His love. No matter the degree of our sin, God will never abandon us. "Nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord". How can we fathom that magnitude of love? It's incredible! No other human on Earth is able to love the way Christ loved us.

Questions for further thought:

1. Would you be able to forgive somebody for sinning against you 70 x 7 times a day; or would you protect yourself and walk away?
2. How can you be forgiving of others and show them the love that Christ showed us?

Challenge:

If you have not forgiven someone for an offense against you, pray for that person today and ask God to give you the strength to forgive.

Thursday

Subject: Chosen and Weary

Scripture: Matthew 11:28-29

Commentary:

Not only are we a chosen creation of God, but He also wants to take our burdens for us. We have a personal invitation from God to come to Him for rest. All we have to do is give it to Him. What other creation has a personal invitation from God to come to Him?

Questions for further thought:

1. What do you fear? Are you willing to trust Christ enough to give all that fear to Him?
2. How do you respond to Christ knowing you are a chosen person that He paid his life for?

Challenge:

Do not fear today by giving your fear to Jesus. Start by asking Him to take your fear away and then continue to pray throughout the day.

Friday

Subject: We cannot earn it

Scripture: Ephesians 2:4-5

Commentary:

God chose us in our sinfulness. We do not come to Christ clean but dirty in our transgressions. We do not deserve Christ and he does not need us. So then why does he choose us? The bible says He's rich in mercy and love.

Questions for further thought:

1. Do people have to get their life straightened out before they come to Christ?
2. If we do not earn our faith, then should we bother serving Christ and/or other people? Why or why not?

Challenge:

Meditate on why Christ chooses to love us even though we are sinful creatures who are undeserving of His love.

Saturday

(Looking to Sunday)

Message Series: Thrive
Message Title: Our Need to Be Included
Scripture: Matthew 20:50, 18:20; Mark 9:37;
Romans 12:5-6
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.
- Volunteer for a VBS work day!
- Volunteer to help out with VBS May 31st-June 3rd.
- Attend picnic at Newton Hills on June 6th.
- Attend Family Night at Thunder Road on June 17th.
- Participate in Urban Plunge mission July 17-19.

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
