

Hillcrest CHURCH

Today's Gathering

June 14th, 2015

View from the Hill

Brian Stroh

Singing

Cindy Cummins and Jesse VanderWeide



The Spies and the Prostitute

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 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.

Craft Night

Procraftinators will get together on Friday, June 19th. We'll meet in the Family Life Center at 6:30pm and work until 11pm. Bring your unfinished crafts, sewing, scrapbooking, etc. to work on, as well as a drink and snack for yourself. Feel free to invite your friends! Contact Marti Lusk at 605-261-7753 to RSVP or for information.

Picnic at the Strohs'

Brian and Tarina Stroh would like to invite all Hillcresters to their home on Sunday, June 28th from 6-8pm. There will be hamburgers and/or hot dogs to eat and yard games to play. No need to bring anything except a lawn chair. If you plan to come, please mark the back of your connection card or send Pastor Brian an e-mail so they can properly plan.

Canaries Game

Monday, July 6th at 7pm, join other Hillcresters for a night at the ballpark, watching the Sioux Falls Canaries. Tickets cost \$1 each (yes, you read that right!). Sign up at the Welcome Center or contact Brian to reserve your tickets.

Wild Water West

Join Hillcrest at Wild Water West on July 15th! We have a fantastic deal for you- \$8 for an all-day pass (the normal price for this is \$26.00 - a discount of \$18!) The pass is good from 11am-8pm and includes all the attractions at the park (except Paintball). You need to sign-up and prepay for this deal by Sunday, July 12th.

Serve

June Outreach Focus – Our Neighbors

Hillcrest's Neighborhood Rummage Sale will be held in our parking lot on Saturday, June 27th from 9am-3pm. This is a free event that we host to thank our neighbors for allowing us to be a part of their neighborhood. Hillcrest provides the space, some tables, advertising, and a free lunch for all buyers and sellers. Hillcresters and their friends are also welcome to participate in the rummage sale. Please contact Jennifer Simons if you are interested in a spot.

In order to pull this off, we need volunteers! Set up will start at 7:30am; the rummage sale will start at 9am; and we will start serving food at 10am. Please sign up at the Welcome Center if you are available to help.

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.

Giving Convenience

Summer is a busy time for many individuals and families, with weddings, sports, camping, vacations, and other recreation. If you would like to remain faithful in your giving, regardless of your schedule, we encourage you to check out our electronic giving options. As the pace of life speeds up this summer, you may find electronic giving a most welcome way to make contributions. Visit www.siouxfallschurch.com or contact the church office for more information.

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 – 2nd & 3rd Grade

Thunder Road Mini Golf & Lazer Tag

Sunday, July 12th, 2-4pm

Cost is \$5 and children must memorize the 10 Commandments. If you memorized it last year, this year you will memorize The Fruits of the Spirit.

Parents can drop off their kids and pick them up at Thunder Road, but are also encouraged to attend with their child. Pick up a brochure with more information and/or sign up in the back foyer.

Contact Tarina Stroh at tarinastroh@siouxfallschurch.com with any questions.

Student Ministry

180 Sunday Classes

This summer, Middle School and High School students will meet together in the Youth Room during the 10:30am service. Students will be watching "AD: The Bible Continues" throughout the summer.

180 Wednesday Nights

This summer, Middle School students meet from 7-8pm and High School students meet from 8-9pm. Includes lesson, small group time, snack, and games!

Note: On Wednesday, June 17th, students can join their families at Thunder Road. (pg. 3) This will take the place of our regular Wednesday night activities.

180 Events

July 12th – 18th, Middle School students are invited to attend Village Creek Bible Camp in Northeast Iowa. Village Creek Bible Camp is a year-round ministry offering life-changing camp experiences enabling people of all ages to grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ. Meriah will be attending with the students and transportation will be provided. If you are interested in learning more about activities, cost, and registration, please contact Meriah VanderWeide or visit the camp's web site <http://villagecreek.net/#/village-creek-bible-camp>.

Message Notes:

Title: The Spies and the Prostitute

Scripture: Joshua 2

For those going deeper:

This week's memory verse

Hebrews 12:2 (NLT) We do this by keeping our eyes on Jesus, the champion who initiates and perfects our faith. Because of the joy awaiting him, he endured the cross, disregarding its shame. Now he is seated in the place of honor beside God's throne.

Monday

Subject: Start Over

Scripture: Joshua 2:1-7

Commentary:

Why would Rehab's house be the spot God chose for Joshua's spies to stay? Didn't he know who she was? What her reputation was?

Yes, of course he did. We are all given an opportunity (sometimes more than one) to align ourselves with God. God knew Rehab's heart was open to Him. She didn't allow her past to keep her from doing God's will and beginning a new life.

Questions for further thought:

1. What is a way you have seen God trying to align our lives with Him?
2. Are there reasons or things about you that you find to keep from doing what God has called you to do? Try to see yourself as God sees you!

Challenge:

Pray for a way to have a new beginning in one or more areas of your life.

Tuesday

Subject: Overly Confident

Scripture: Jeremiah 17:9; Proverbs 14:12

Commentary:

We all have experienced times of being over confident in ourselves, making decisions based on our own needs and wants. We have maybe even started endeavors with prayer, seeking God's will. Things fall into place. We begin to believe that our decisions are sound. We are Christians after all. We begin to believe since we are good people our intentions are good therefore we are capable of making good decisions. The problem is, is that leads to self-reliance. We grow farther away from being aligned with His will. We must remember who it is that is good. He makes us good. We must always seek His advisement!

Questions for further thought:

1. What are the ways you go about usually making decisions?
2. Is there a decision you are facing in your life that you can turn over to God so His will becomes your will?

Challenge:

Spend time this week in prayer on how you can hear God in your decision making processes.

Wednesday

Subject: Renewing Our Minds

Scripture: Romans 12:2; Psalm 51:10

Commentary:

In order to align with God, we must know his will. Because of our sinful nature we constantly reject the will of God or we are unable to discern it. Psalms 51:10 is our prayer to God that he would clean us and make us new so that we can be loyal to his word. Paul in Romans tells us how we can help this process happen within us.

Questions for further thought:

1. What are some ways you can tell God's will apart from your own?
2. What happened in times that you followed your own will instead of God's?

Challenge:

This week take a moment to read all of Romans Chapter 12.

Thursday

Subject: Submission vs. Alignment

Scripture: Jeremiah 17:7; Proverbs 16:3

Commentary:

Are you attending church regularly? How often do you read your bible? How often do you sin? These are some of the questions people use to measure what "level" of a Christian you are. How many of these matter to God? None. But when we are aligned with God's will for our lives the spirit will put a wanting in our hearts to learn more about Him, to fellowship with other believers, to put effort into making righteous decisions. The numbers don't matter. Of course failure will come daily but our willingness to strive for bringing God glory in all we do should be how we measure ourselves.

Questions for further thought:

1. We all have areas in our lives that need work. What specific area is God calling you to strive to be more righteous?
2. What keeps you from believing that God can help you succeed in becoming more righteous?

Challenge:

Always the focus should be not on **what** you are doing, but on **why** you are doing it.

Friday

Subject: Seize the Opportunity!!

Scripture: Hebrews 12:1; 1 Corinthians 16:9

Commentary:

Opportunity is a combination of circumstances favorable for a purpose. Why is it important that we as Christians then seize them? Which means, "strike fast, take possession of suddenly."

Notice how Paul says a wide door of opportunity has been opened unto him..... but with adversaries. The devil isn't going to sit down and play dead to let us seize our opportunities without a fight. Every opportunity that God gives us demands persevering, steadfast spirit.

Questions for further thought:

1. Has there been an opportunity that you were slow to seize, and it came and went?
2. What is a way you can conquer your fear of failure in order to seize opportunity when it presents itself?

Challenge:

If you think an opportunity is impossible, remember that God would not have given you the ability beforehand to accomplish it.

Saturday

(Looking to Sunday)

Message Series: Spies Like Us
Message Title: Ten Spies & One Prisoner
Scripture: Genesis 42-45
Speaker: 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.

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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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**

My next step today is to:

- Read and study the scriptures and devotionals, provided on pages 6-12.
- Attend Family Night at Thunder Road on June 17th.
- Volunteer to help with the Neighborhood Rummage Sale on June 27th.
- Attend picnic at Strohs' house on June 28th.
- Participate in Urban Plunge mission July 17-19.
- Attend Canaries Game on July 6th.

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

_____ (web site, newspaper, radio, name of person who invited you, etc.)

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
