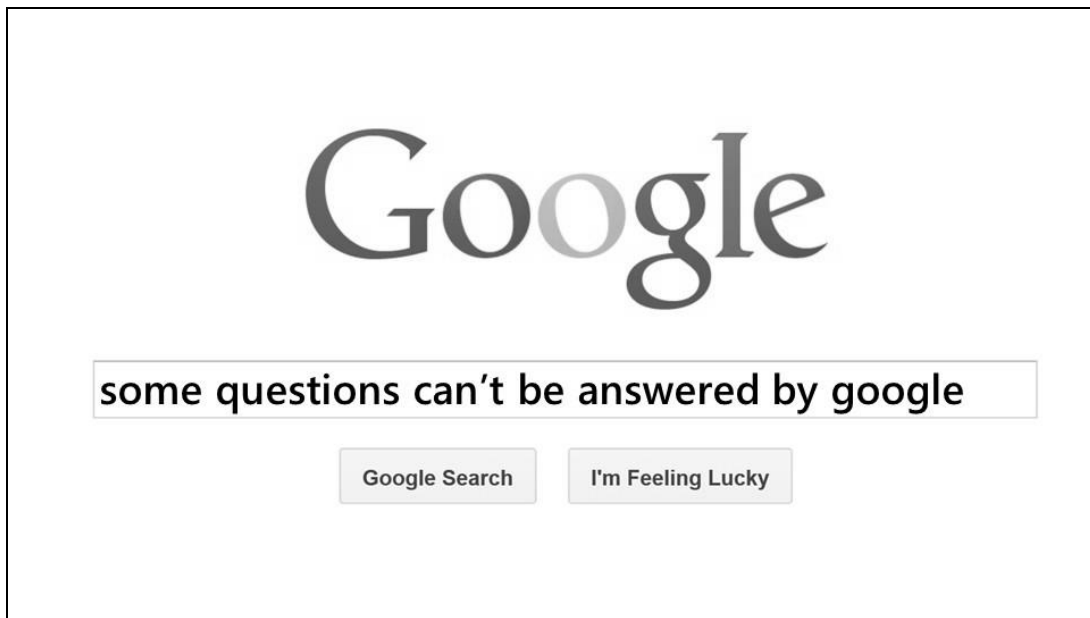




Today's Gathering
September 20th, 2015

View from the Hill
Pastor Brian Stroh

Singing
Aimee VanderWeide and Jesse VanderWeide



Can Science and Religion Coexist?
Pastor Doug Bartel

For the Kids

9:00 AM – 11:30 AM

Parents can go to the Children's Check-In to find out about our Sunday morning options and check their children in. The Children's Check-In is located on the north 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 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

BBQ at the Bartels

Do you ever eat lunch after church? Well, you need to do it with Pastor Doug and his family on October 4th after 2nd service. Come on over to his house for some BBQ (fresh smoked pulled pork) and all the fix'ns. Food and drinks are provided all you need to bring is your appetite and a chair. Please mark the back of your Connection Card and turn it in if you plan to come.

Corn Maze

On Wednesday, October 7th, Hillcresters are invited to meet at the Heartland Country Corn Maze at 6pm for a family friendly event. Cost is only \$5 per person (ages 4 and under are free). Please sign-up and pre-pay at the Welcome Center.

Hillcrest Basketball

Like to play basketball? Join others for basketball at Hillcrest Thursday evenings, starting October 8th from 7-8:30 in the gym. Open to men and women, all skill levels! Must be high school age and older. Sign up at the Welcome Center or mark the back of your connection card if you are interested.

Sabbath Retreat

Pastor Doug will be leading a Sabbath Retreat at the Sacred Heart Monastery in Yankton on October 16-17. The retreat will include times of instruction as well as times of solitude and prayer. We all need Sabbath time and this retreat is designed to refill your tanks and help you hear God and grow closer to Him.

The retreat is designed for adults, but mature students may come along, too. We suggest not bringing younger children on this retreat. We will leave Hillcrest at 5pm on Friday night and return Saturday by around 5pm.

Cost will be \$75 for an individual or \$100 for a couple. Scholarships are available for those that request it. Please sign up at the Welcome Center if you are interested in attending.

"Stepping Up" Men's Small Group

Join nationally renowned men's ministry leaders and teachers on the most important journey of your life: the journey to courageous manhood. This 10 week video series, led by Jason Lounsbury, will meet in the Fireside Room on Tuesdays from 6:30-8pm, starting September 22nd. Cost for the book is \$15. Please sign up at the Welcome Center if you are interested.

Ladies' Night Out

All Hillcrest Ladies are invited to a night out at The Sandbar & Grill, on Marion Road on Tuesday, September 29th at 6:30 p.m. It's a night out of the kitchen for you and an opportunity to have fun with other Hillcrest ladies. Please RSVP to Deanna Moser at 359-7203 or moser@sio.midco.net or on the Hillcrest website.

Weekend to Remember

The Weekend to Remember getaway from FamilyLife is a time to be together as a couple to invest in and strengthen the foundation of your marriage, no matter how firm or fragile it is. By getting away from the distractions of life, you can fortify your most important relationship and work toward building wonderful memories together, for decades to come.

The Getaway is held at the Sheraton Hotel and Convention Center, Friday, November 13th, starting at 7:30pm through Sunday, November 15th at 12:30pm. You can obviously stay at your home for the event but it is recommended that you get a hotel for Saturday night (date night). Many couples stay in a hotel for the whole event.

Cost is \$299. If you use the group code hillcrestsf, you will get a \$100 discount. Military families get in for free, just contact Family Life and tell them you're with hillcrestsf! Register online at <https://shop.familylife.com/p-3964-sioux-falls.aspx>

Serve

September Outreach Focus – Cleveland Elementary

During the month of September, we will be collecting items that the school has identified as needs for the children. Please check the Outreach Bulletin Board, starting September 6th, for more information on these items.

Hillcrest is also once again committing to provide mentors and reading buddies at Cleveland Elementary for the 2015-2016 school year. Please contact Pastor Brian if you are interested in either of these opportunities.

October Outreach Focus – Feeding South Dakota

Hillcrest's October Mission Focus is Feeding South Dakota. We'll be taking an offering for the Backpack Program during the services on Sunday, October 11th. It costs approximately \$150 to sponsor a backpack for the school year. Each Friday, Feeding South Dakota backpacks go out to under-resourced students throughout the region, ensuring students have food to make it through the weekend. A representative from Feeding South Dakota will also be here on Sunday, October 11th.

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

Baby Owl House: 0-4 year olds
(pre-schoolers will break off into a small learning group)

10:30 AM Children's Program

Baby Owl House: Infants & 1 yr olds
Bird House: 2 year olds
Tree House: 3 year olds
Dog House: 4 year olds
Club House: K-5th Grade

Family Game Night

Hillcrest Children's Ministries invites children and families to a good ol' fashioned game night! Join us Sunday, September 27th, from 6-7:30 for games, fun, and snacks!

Student Ministry

180 Sunday Classes

Students meet upstairs in the Youth Room at 10:30am, then break up into small groups for lessons and discussion time.

180 Wednesday Nights

Middle School students meet at Hillcrest from 6-7:30pm and High School students meet from 7:30-9pm. Includes lesson, small group time, snack, and games!

180 Events

Boys' Video Game Night - September 25th starting at 8pm. This year will be a sleep over. We will have video games in the sanctuary, snacks, prizes, and a root beer keg! Cost \$10. Invite friends. Pick up a registration form at the Welcome Center.

Message Notes:

Title: Can Science and Religion Coexist?

Scripture: Genesis 1:1, 26-28; Proverbs 3:13-14;
Leviticus 13:45-46; Numbers 19:11

For those going deeper:

This week's memory verse

John 3:12 (NLT) But if you don't believe me when I tell you about earthly things, how can you possibly believe if I tell you about heavenly things?

Monday

Subject: In the Image of God

Scripture: Genesis 1:26-28

Commentary:

Day six was the climax of God's creation because it was the day man was created. Man was created in God's image, and was imparted only to humans. Being in God's image means that humans share in God's nature, that is, in His attributes (ie. Life, personality, truth, wisdom, love, and holiness). This gives us the ability to have spiritual fellowship with Him. God's purpose in creating human life in His image was for us to have dominion over all the earth.

Questions for further thought:

1. Why did God wait until day six to create the human race?
2. What was the significance of the fact that of all creation God only has a relationship with humans?

Challenge:

It is hard to image that God created the entire earth with everything in it in only 6 days. Meditate on all the details that were required to form the entire earth.

Tuesday

Subject: Stand up for Your Faith

Scripture: Hebrews 10:35-39

Commentary:

The writer of Hebrews encourages believers to persevere in their Christian faith when facing persecution and pressure. We do not usually think of suffering as good for us, but it can build our character and our patience. When we are put in situations when we need to defend our belief in creation as opposed to evolution it sometimes seems we are persecuted for our beliefs. We need to have confidence in our faith and what we believe as true. Rest in the comfort that God is sovereign and everything was created by Him.

Questions for further thought:

1. Do you have a response for why you believe what you believe regarding creation?
2. What scripture can you quote that will convey your source of faith in what you believe?

Challenge:

With our education system teaching evolution it seems we are losing the battle to teach our children the truth about how we came into being. Have you taught your children or others why you believe what you believe about creation?

Wednesday

Subject: Calming the Storms

Scripture: Mark 4:35-41

Commentary:

In this passage Jesus shows his humanity, in that he was so exhausted from preaching to the crowds that day that he fell asleep. It also shows Jesus authority because even the winds obeyed him. After Jesus commanded the winds to be quiet he rebuked his disciples for being afraid despite Jesus' tutoring it still had not dawned on them that God's authority and power were present in Jesus. This is what he meant by his question, do you still have no faith? Their question "who is this" that even nature obeyed his commands must have shocked them.

Questions for further thought:

1. How can you explain that the weather men cannot accurately predict the weather next week, but can claim to know what the weather will be in 100 years?
2. How much influence does God Have in the weather?

Challenge:

We are told that we are ruining our environment with our life styles and innovations. Why do opinions of global warming have such varying viewpoints?

Thursday

Subject: Unclean!

Scripture: Leviticus 13: 45-46

Commentary:

It is sometimes hard to find examples of science in the Bible, however, God uses specific instruction at times to convey how certain illnesses needed to be addressed. In Leviticus we are told that a priest did not function as a doctor to prescribe medical treatment. He functioned more like a public health official who would isolate a person with a contagious skin disease. The patient was basically left to natural healing processes to cure his condition, during which time he was isolated outside of camp. It was the responsibility of the person to yell "unclean" when someone came near so they would not be infected if it was a contagious condition.

Questions for further thought:

1. How do we in our society prevent the spread of disease?
2. What do you do to try and protect yourself from getting or spreading illnesses?

Challenge:

Although the Bible doesn't give a lot of examples of how to prevent the spread of germs, we can take some lessons from the Bible. Think about ways you can protect yourself and your family from getting sick this winter.

Friday

Subject: Preserve Life

Scripture: Isaiah 44:24-26

Commentary:

We read in Isaiah that God forms us in the womb and has made all things. The Lord as Israel's redeemer is the creator of all things including the heavens and the earth. He is also the one who makes false prophets, and supposedly wise people look foolish. At the time there were those who said God could not release His people from Babylon, however, they were proved false when God's predictions were fulfilled. Those who believe that it is okay to kill unborn children will one day stand before God and give an account for their actions and beliefs.

Questions for further thought:

1. What is the best way for us to try and convince someone that an unborn child is really a living human being?
2. What are some ways we can confront people with humility and love?

Challenge:

God will not be mocked and He will not stand by forever as this nation kills His unborn children. We need to pray for those who perform abortions and that God will convict their hearts and allow them to know that the unborn children are human beings and worthy of preserving.

Saturday

(Looking to Sunday)

Message Series: Some Questions Can't be Answered by Google

Message Title: Is Jesus the Only Way?

Scripture: 2 Cor 4:4; Rom 3:23; Rom 11:6; Matt 7:13; Jn 14:6; Acts 4:12; Rom 1:20

Speaker: Pastor 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:

- Join the "Stepping Up" Men's small group, starting September 22nd.
- Read and study the scriptures and devotionals, provided on pages 6-12.
- Attend BBQ at the Bartels on October 4th.
- Connect at the Corn Maze on October 8th.
- Play basketball with other Hillcresters on Thursdays, starting October 9th.
- Participate in the Ladies' Night Out on September 29th.

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
