

Hillcrest CHURCH

Today's Gathering

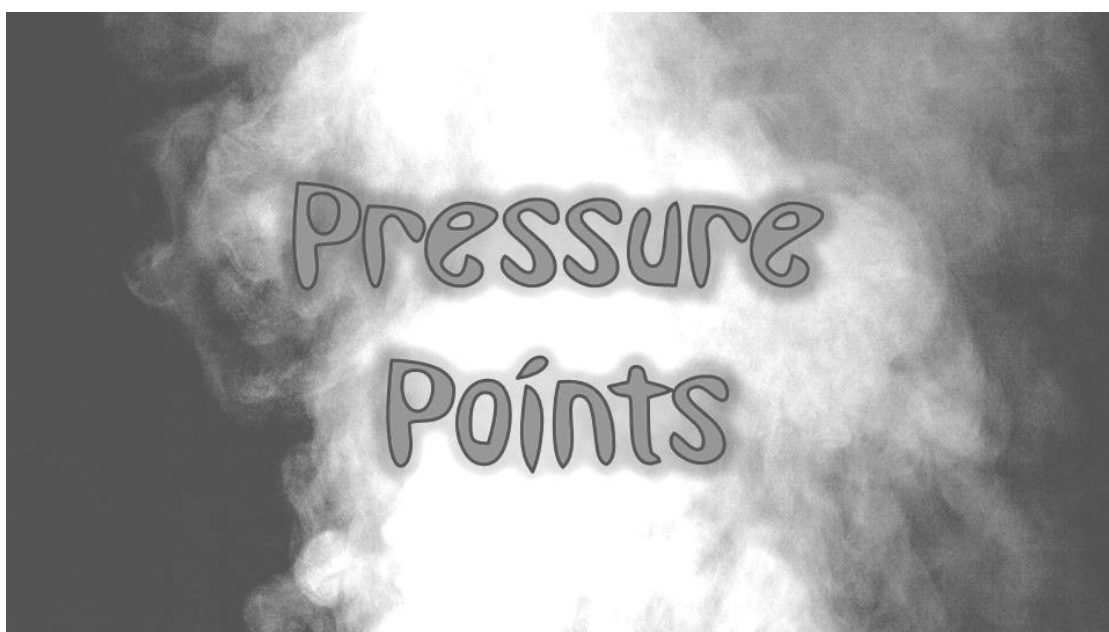
November 15th, 2015

View from the Hill

Meriah VanderWeide

Singing

Aimee VanderWeide and Jesse VanderWeide



Why We Fight

Pastor Brian Stroh

For the Kids

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

Baptism

Our next baptism service will be on November 29th. 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.

Cookies & Cocoa

Ladies! Please join us for our 2nd annual cookie exchange, "Cookies & Cocoa" to be held on Tuesday night, November 17th at 6:30 p.m. in the Family Life Center. We will taste, talk, pack and play! Sign-up begins Sunday, November 1st at the cookie table in the front foyer. There is no cost to attend that evening. You bring cookies, you take home different cookies - all details at the sign-up table. If childcare is a need, we can provide it IF you let us know by Monday the 16th. Hope to see you there!

Right Now Media

Next week, Hillcrest will be launching Right Now Media, which is a digital library that includes over 10,000 videos that you can instantly stream for your Sunday school class, small group, Bible study, or individual study. Resources are available from over 150 leading Christian publishers and ministries. Videos are available for men, women, youth, and children. Anyone who is signed up to receive the weekly info email will automatically receive an invitation to join. Watch for the email to arrive in your inbox on Friday, November 20th. Please join us next Sunday, November 22nd for a brief demonstration and more information on how you can use this learning tool.

November Outreach Focus – Food to You

Hillcrest is excited to start a new mission focus with Food to You, which is a Mobile Food Pantry for individuals and families in need of food. They offer government commodities, produce, bread, pastries, and assorted frozen food. It is a grocery-style distribution, with the families taking the food home to be cooked and consumed. Hillcrest's own Nick Welder is the Executive Director of Food to You.

On November 19, 2015 at Augustana Lutheran Church, Hillcresters are invited to volunteer to assist with the distribution of food. They need 18 - 22 volunteers (6th grade and older) for the distribution, starting at 5:15pm, as well as 4 - 5 individuals to help unload the truck and set up the room, starting at 4:15pm. Please sign up at the Welcome Center if you would like to volunteer.

Food to You also offers a Food of the Month every month. For November, they need Peanut Butter collected and donated for the distribution. Please drop off donations near the outreach bulletin board in the front foyer by Sunday, November 29th.

SCRIP Program

Now is the time when many of us start thinking about Christmas shopping! If you like to give gift cards, consider using Hillcrest's SCRIP Program to give back to 180 Student Ministries. It is an easy way to help out with expenses for student events and trips without spending any extra money. The way it works is that vendors give a portion of the money that you spend on gift cards back to Hillcrest. You can choose to assign your donations to a specific student or for the money to go to the general fund to help whichever students need it. You can also use SCRIP for other Hillcrest events. We can now take credit and debit cards! Sign up on our web site at siouxfallschurch.com/scrip or contact Jennifer Simons 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

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

Aloha Christmas

On Sunday, December 13th, during both services, Hillcrest Children's Ministries will be performing their Christmas Program, "Aloha Christmas." All children in pre-school through 5th grade will participate. Children should be bringing home a note that has more information and a rehearsal schedule.

Student Ministry

180 Sunday Classes

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

180 Wednesday Nights

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

Message Notes:

Title: Why We Fight

Scripture: James 4

For those going deeper:

This week's memory verse

Titus 3:2 (NLT) They must not slander anyone and must avoid quarreling. Instead, they should be gentle and show true humility to everyone.

Monday

Subject: Hatred

Scripture: Proverbs 10:12

Commentary:

Who do you hate? That is to say, who in your life puts the bur under your skin? Hatred stirs up strife, so is it our hatred for the other person that causes the "bur." If we were to show more love to the person bothering us, would they change? Maybe not, but we are demonstrating a Christ-like response that would change us. We all want the other person to change, but the greatest change usually occurs in us.

Questions for further thought:

1. Is there someone you need to show more love to?
2. What are some ways you can love others even when they are putting that bur under your skin?

Challenge:

This week, find the person that is bugging you and resolve that conflict that is causing you to hate that person.

Tuesday

Subject: Change

Scripture: James 1:7

Commentary:

What is one thing that causes us to become irritated and creates conflict in our lives? It is change! How often do we become upset when we are faced with change? Great arguments in church are started by change. Should we change the carpet color, should we change from pews to chairs, etc, etc..... We do not like change at work, it causes us great strife. We do not like change at home, we like it just the way it is. Change: it is a large part of our lives; if there is one constant in our life it is change. James tells us that in the midst of change there is one constant, our Heavenly father, "with whom there is no variation or shifting shadow." Don't let change get you angry. Instead, keep your faith in God, who never wavers.

Questions for further thought:

1. How do you handle change?
2. How does knowing that God, "never wavers" help you deal with change?

Challenge:

When change comes this week, give it to God and let him be in control.

Wednesday

Subject: Sing to the Lord

Scripture: Psalm 96:1-3

Commentary:

We always think of the Great Commission as a New Testament Idea, but Psalms 96 tells us we are to "Declare His glory among the nations". We are not just to proclaim God's glory in church, we are to, "Sing it day after day". When we leave the house, when we are at work, at school, at the gym, etc. Do your actions and attitudes show God's glory in your life every day? When you interact with that person who has rubbed you the wrong way at work, at school, or in the checkout lane at the store?

Questions for further thought:

1. What are some ways you can show God's glory to others?
2. How are you proclaiming God's salvation in your life?

Challenge

This week take time to share God's salvation in your life with another person.

Thursday

Subject: Who do you Serve?

Scripture: Matthew 6:24

Commentary:

Who do you serve, the Almighty or yourself? This question is a tough one, because we are by nature self-centered. Yet, in Matthew, we are told we cannot serve two masters. God is not at our beck and call; we do not get to choose when we serve Him. We cannot serve Him only when it is convenient for us. We must let Him be in control of every day, minute, and second of our lives. In the good times and the bad times, we must submit our lives to Him. This is a tough thing to do, but as we strive to follow Him we must give every effort to serve Him not ourselves.

Questions for further thought:

1. Who do you serve?
2. Do you only serve God when it is convenient for you, or do you serve Him all the time?

Challenge:

What are some areas in your life that you need to give over to God?

Friday

Subject: Why Pray

Scripture: Revelation 5:8

Commentary:

Why do we pray? According to Revelation, our prayers are like incense to God. When we pray it is pleasing to God and is like incense to Him, so precious "the prayers of the Saints" are kept in golden bowls. Prayer is not a task you do before dinner, but rather a way to honor God. Do we only pray when we are at our wits end, or do we pray without ceasing? What an intimate way to worship our Heavenly Father by coming to Him in prayer. Does God need us to tell Him? No, but we need to be reminded that God already knows and is in charge. The best way is to go to pray and let him have the glory.

Questions for further thought:

1. How have you prayed this week?
2. How does your heart change, when you go to God in prayer?

Challenge:

Pray often this week and remember your prayers are filling bowls in heaven.

Saturday

(Looking to Sunday)

Message Series: Pressure Points
Message Title: Retaliation or Rescue?
Scripture: James 5:1-11
Speaker: Pastor 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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Melissa Simpson
Power House Director
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Jennifer Simons
Administrative Assistant
jennifersimons@siouxfallschurch.co



Bill Lewis
Custodian

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 Food to You on November 19th.

Additional Comments:



4301 E. 26th St. Sioux Falls, SD 57103

605-371-0546

www.sioxfordchurch.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 Hillcrest? _____
- 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 Hillcrest Informational E-mail.
- joining a small group becoming a member of Hillcrest
- volunteering praying for my Hillcrest 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
