

Hillcrest CHURCH

Today's Gathering

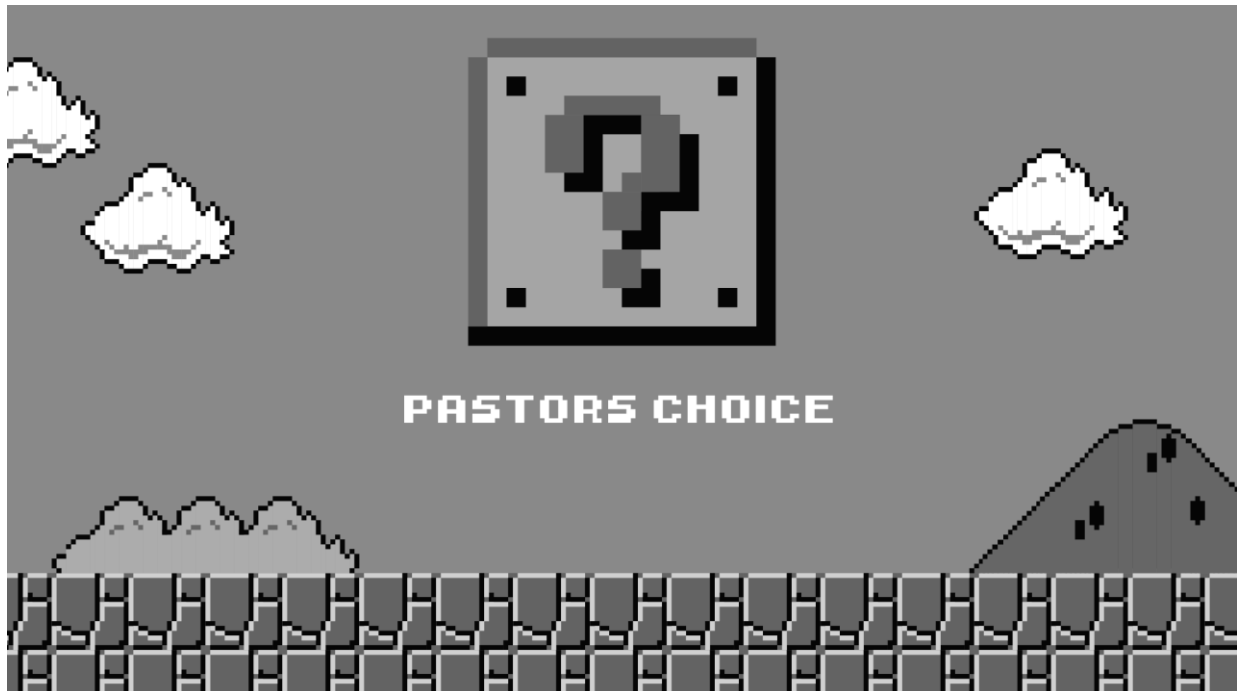
January 3, 2016

View from the Hill

Pastor Doug Bartel

Singing

Jesse VanderWeide



One Word New Year's Resolution

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.sioxfordchurch.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 January 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.

1st Sunday at the Pizza Ranch

Today is the first Sunday of the month. You are all invited to lunch at the 10th Street Pizza Ranch following the 10:30 service. This is an informal event, so simply show up and enjoy lunch with other Hillcresters. There is no need to RSVP and each person/family will be responsible for the cost of their own meals.

Hillcrest at Tut Hill

On January 13th Hillcrest will be meeting at Tuthill Park for some winter fun. There is a sledding hill and a skating rink with a warming house. Cost of skate rentals is \$1 for youth (2-15) and \$3 for adults (16-54). No need to sign up; just meet at Tuthill Park at 6pm. Bring your own sled and warm gear.

Family Movie Night

On January 17th at 6pm, Children's Ministries invites all families to join us as we watch the movie "Inside Out"! We'll provide popcorn, cocoa, and other snacks, as well as the photo booth! It's a great movie and a good opportunity to connect with your family and other families! Sign up at the Children's Ministry table in the back foyer or mark your connection card if you plan to attend.

Men's NCAA Football Championship

Hillcrest guys are invited to Cherry Creek Grill Monday, January 11th to watch the NCAA Football Championship Game at 7:30.

Serve

Packing Backpacks for Feeding South Dakota

Hillcrest will be packing backpacks at Feeding South Dakota on Tuesday, January 12th, beginning at 6pm. Volunteers need to be 13 years and older. Sign up at the Welcome Center or mark the back of your Connection Card if you are interested in volunteering.

January Mission Focus – The Banquet

The mission focus for January will be serving at the Banquet. We need approximately 35 people to serve on Friday, January 22nd from 5:15 pm to approximately 8pm. We will also need 6 to 8 volunteers to prepare the meal on Friday afternoon from 2-4pm. All children are welcome with adult supervision, but there are limited jobs for them if they are under 13 years old. Sign up at the Welcome Center or mark your connection card if you are interested in volunteering.

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 Movie Night

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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!

✓ *Reminder that there will be no 180 on December 30th.*

180 Events

Sunday School Service Project - During Sunday School on Jan 17th we will be making hygiene packs to be given out at the Banquet on January 22nd.

180 Super Bowl Party - February 7th, we will meet at the Davis' house at 5pm for food and watching the Game. Bring a 2 liter soda & a snack to share or \$5. There will be a group playing board games and watching the commercials in a different room if you simply want to come to hang out. Contact Meriah to RSVP and for directions.

Winter Camp - Feb 11th-14th We will head to Minneapolis and stay at Riverview Baptist Church while we ski, shop, and grow together. For more information, pick up a brochure and registration form at the Welcome Center. Deadline for early registration is January 10th.

Message Notes:

Title: One Word New Year's Resolution

Scripture: Philippians 3:12-14

One Word Possibilities:

- Love
- Joy
- Patience
- Kindness
- Rest
- Prayer
- Health
- Train
- Flexible
- Devotion
- Intimacy
- Discipline
- Smile
- Commitment
- Overcome
- Bold
- Positive
- Inspire
- Finish
- Purity
- Integrity

For those going deeper:

This week's memory verse

Proverbs 12:14 (NLT) Wise words bring many benefits, and hard work brings rewards.

Monday

Subject: Quiet Time

Scripture: Mark 1:35-39

Commentary:

It's always interesting to me that Jesus- the Son of God- still needed time to pull away from his daily routine to connect with the Father. It's also interesting that as a result of the time spent with the Father, Jesus' plans changed. He was sent somewhere else to continue his ministry. People are busy, but I'm not sure anyone can say that he or she is as busy as Jesus (or as in demand as Jesus!). If Jesus valued time away to connect with God, we need to follow His example. This week, as you consider the word God has for you this new year, make sure to carve time out each day to spend with God.

Questions for further thought:

1. Why did Jesus need to spend time with God?
2. How will spending intentional time with God this week help you seek your word for 2016?

Challenge:

Map out the rest of your week today, and make sure to note when you're planning to spend some time with God. Writing it down is one good way to make sure it will happen!

Tuesday

Subject: Pressing On

Scripture: Philippians 3:12-14

Commentary:

Paul offers some encouragement to anyone seeking to make changes in their lives. When we look at determining our “word” for this new year, Paul offers some helpful advice:

- Forget the past– the past can be very helpful in some areas of life, but when seeking the word God has for you, it’s helpful to block out the past. Imagine the new year as a fresh canvas or clean slate. Focus on the word God has for you this year and not on the word you wish you would have had last year.
- Press on– your word ought to have a challenge component to it– your word ought to press you into a new direction or confirm a direction you were already heading

Questions for further thought:

1. What kind of year was 2015 for you? Was it one you’d like to remember or one you’d rather forget?
2. As you consider your word for 2016, what are some areas in your life that would be a challenge for you (finances, time, work, relationships, health, etc)?

Challenge:

Jot down some 10-15 potential words that arise out of reflections to the above questions. Words can be anything you sense God pushing you toward. You can find examples at www.getoneword.com and also on the Message Notes page.

Wednesday

Subject: Courage- A One Word Example

Scripture: Joshua 1:1-9

Commentary:

Moses has died. The Israelites can see the Promised Land but have yet to take possession. The leadership of the Israelites is transitioning to Joshua but you can sense the anxiety. The uneasiness. The unspoken fear. God delivers His message to Joshua and the overwhelming theme is courage. If Joshua were doing this exercise this week, there's no doubt that his one word would be courage. It spoke to his present situation and it also spoke to what those around him needed from him. They didn't need knowledge. They didn't need presence. They didn't need gratitude. Those are fine words, and they might be your word for this year, but those words wouldn't have worked for Joshua. Joshua's one word was courage.

Questions for further thought:

1. Put yourself in Joshua's shoes. What do you think he felt when Moses died? How would this word from God have comforted and challenged him?
2. Knowing what you know about the rest of the story (or read more in Joshua), how does the word "courage" fit Joshua and his story?

Challenge:

Your one word will speak to your current context and also speak to what those around you (your family, your friends, your coworkers, your team, etc) need from you. Look at Tuesday's list and try trim your list to about 5 potential words.

Thursday

Subject: Confirm Your Word

Scripture: Proverbs 27:17

Commentary:

A very familiar proverb- as iron sharpens iron, so a friend sharpens a friend. As you've narrowed down the possibilities for your one word, seek input from a spouse, a parent, a child, a friend, a boss, a teacher, a coach, or someone else in your life whom you trust and who has your best interest in mind. Share your list with him or her and then ask, "of these possibilities, what word do you think is the best for me for this new year?"

Questions for further thought:

1. How has a friend sharpened you in the past?
2. How have you sharpened a friend in the past?

Challenge:

Share your list with your friend. Seek his or her input. Consider the input as you select your one word for 2016. Write your word here:

Friday

Subject: Live Your One Word

Scripture: Mathew 7:24-27

Commentary:

These words of Jesus come at the end of his most well-known teachings- the Sermon on the Mount. He provides his listeners with analogies of listening to his teaching and deciding to follow through on it. Listening to God's word isn't enough- you have to follow it.

Likewise, selecting your word for 2016 is great, but the proof is in the follow-through. Consider the different ways this word will impact your life and those around you. Tell others about your word. Look for opportunities to put your word into practice (for instance, two years ago, my word was "presence" and I constantly discovered times in life that needed my presence, and also ways for me to increase presence by putting away the smartphone, turning the TV off, etc).

Questions for further thought:

1. How will your word help you practice God's word?
2. How will your one word impact your life today?

Challenge:

Now that you have your word, consider these challenges:

- Tell Hillcrest about your word- we're collecting our words to challenge and inspire one another. Contact Brian with your word.
- Create something with your word- could be a poster, a picture, an art work, even writing it on a rock. Create something that will remind you of your word.

Saturday

(Looking to Sunday)

Message Series: Pastor's Choice
Message Title: Muslims, Allah, Christians, and Jesus
Scripture: Matt 28:18-20; 1 Cor 9:16-23
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.

[illegible]

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
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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.

☐ Send me an invitation to Right Now Media.

☐ Help pack back packs at Feeding South Dakota on January 12th.

☐ Attend Family Movie Night on January 17th.

☐ Volunteer to serve at the Banquet on January 22nd.

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 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**

| |
|-------|
| _____ |
| _____ |
| _____ |
| _____ |
| _____ |
| _____ |