



Today's Gathering

February 7, 2016

View from the Hill

Pastor Brian Stroh

Singing



Homosexuality & the Bible

Pastor Doug Bartel

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

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 Camping Trip

This year, our annual camping trip at Newton Hills State Park will be held June 10th-12th, the weekend after VBS. On Saturday evening, June 11th, we will also have a picnic for everyone, even if you are not camping. This is an annual tradition at Hillcrest and we encourage everyone to join in whatever way they can. In order to secure enough spots, we will need to make reservations for camping sites and cabins on March 12th, so please sign up for camping and have your **payment in no later than Sunday, March 6th**.

- Cabin - \$100 for weekend
- Electrical Site - \$19 a night; \$38 for weekend
- Tent site - \$15 a night; \$30 for weekend

Spots (especially cabins) are limited. Those staying in tents & campers may register for Friday night, only, or for Friday and Saturday night, but preference for cabins will be given to those that can stay the whole weekend. Checks and credit cards will be accepted at the Welcome Center or you can pay on-line by through the online giving option on our web site, and choosing "Events." If you would like to use SCRIP, please contact either Brian or Jennifer. There will be no refunds, unless we are unable to secure your spot. Reminder that if you do not have a yearly pass, the state park entrance fee of \$6 per day (per vehicle) will also be required at the time of arrival.

Partnering with Parents Class

Sunday, February 28th, after services. Hillcrest is proud to present Tom Henderson, founder and president of Restoration Generation, for a parenting seminar titled "Unpacking Youth Culture: Your Role as a Parent". This seminar is geared for parents with children in elementary, middle, and high school. The cost for the seminar is \$10/couple or \$20/family. Cost includes lunch from Qdoba and childcare (for those who need it). Also, a portion of the cost will be donated to Restoration Generation. Please sign up at the Welcome Center or mark the back of your connection card if you are interested in attending.

Chocolate & Canvas

All Hillcrest ladies are invited to attend and participate in our 2nd annual "Chocolate & Canvas" event to be held on Tuesday, February 16th. Please join us at 6:30 pm in the Family Life Center where Meriah VanderWeide will show us the techniques and guide us in painting a winter scene on an 11x17 canvas. Sign-up will begin on Sunday, January 24th at the table in the front foyer. Cost is \$8.00 at time of sign-up. All supplies will be provided the night of the painting...nothing for you to bring!

Zumba Class

There will be a free 45 minute Zumba class open to any age (parental approval needed if under age 18). We will meet Sunday evenings from 6:30-7:15pm upstairs in the Club House. The class will run February 21st to May 22nd. There will be no classes on the following dates: March 27th, May 1st, and May 8th. Please sign up at the Welcome Center if you are interested in participating.

Dance Ministry

Looking for dancers to learn a dance to be performed on April 10th during 1st and 2nd services. Participants must be able to be at the entire practice on February 27th from 8am-12pm, and both performances on April 10th in order to participate. Any age is welcome, but it would be beneficial to have some dance training, especially if you are younger than 5th grade. The group will meet every Sunday after church for 30 minutes to review the dance. There will also be a practice April 9th from 9am-10am in the gym. Attendance at these practices is not mandatory, but it is highly recommended that you attend as many as possible for the benefit of all involved. The group will be limited to 15 people and there is a cost of \$50 for outfits and shoes. Please sign up at the Welcome Center if you are interested in being a part of this performance.

Serve

February Mission Focus – Restoration Generation

Restoration Generation is about one thing: Relationships. Students today are living in a world where the majority of them have known nothing but broken relationships – with family, friends and themselves. Restoration Generation exists to partner with schools, organizations and communities to help Restore a Generation of Relationships.

On February 28th, Hillcrest will be hosting a parenting seminar presented by Tom Henderson, founder and president of Restoration Generation. Please see the Partnering with Parents section on page 3 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

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!

180 Events

180 Super Bowl Party – TONIGHT! 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.

Laser Tag – On Saturday, February 27th, we will meet at Galaxy Gaming for Laser Combat at 7pm. Pay Meriah \$10 to save your spot. Spots are limited. First come, first serve.

Summer Camp – While the weather outside can be frightful, we're already thinking about summer camp at Village Creek! Your middle or high school student is not going to want to miss camp! Current high school students will be attending Senior High Camp June 19-25. Current middle school students will be attending Teen Camp 2 July 10-16. To secure the best (i.e. lowest!) price, registrations are due with a \$75 deposit by March 10. You can turn in registrations to Hillcrest and we'll mail them off together. Registrations are available at the Welcome Center, or at <http://villagecreek.net/summer/2016-camps-dates>. As a bonus, for every 4 registrations turned in by March 10th, one lucky camper will receive \$50 off of camp! If there are 8 registrations by the 10th, we will draw 2 winners (and so forth).

Message Notes:

Title: Homosexuality & the Bible

Scripture: Leviticus 18:22, 20:13; Romans 1:24-27

Notes:

For those going deeper:

This week's memory verse

1 Peter 4:8 (NLT) Most important of all, continue to show deep love for each other, for love covers a multitude of sins.

Monday

Subject: Even He Needed Time

Scripture: Luke 5:15-16

Matthew 14:22-23

Commentary:

Jesus had many seeking after him, to hear him preach and be healed. He knows how our schedules can get very busy! Jesus also knew the importance of seeking solitude and prayer. He often withdrew to quiet places to pray and spend time completely alone with God without distractions. It is very important in our day to day lives to get out of the craziness and seclude ourselves to focus on God and spend time in prayer. That is how we renew our strength to face another day.

Questions for further thought:

1. In what ways can it be difficult to be completely still and silent?
2. What is one of the major distractions in your life that keeps you from having solitude with God?

Challenge:

Find a minimum of 10 minutes a day to withdraw completely and be alone in prayer.

Tuesday

Subject: In the Whisper

Scripture: 1Kings 19:11-13a

Commentary:

Elijah knew God wasn't in the windstorm, the earthquake or the fire. God doesn't always reveal himself in big ways. We often look for God to speak to us at big crowd filled conferences or church services. He speaks to us softly and at times we may not expect it. We need to back away from the noise and listen for His guidance.

Questions for further thought:

1. Has there been a time where God was speaking softly to you but you were so overwhelmed by the noise of life that you almost missed it?
2. How are you listening for God?

Challenge:

Find a way this week that God was talking to you in a way you least expected.

Wednesday

Subject: Meditate on These Things

Scripture: Philippians 4:6–8

Commentary:

God does not want our lives to be consumed by our fears and anxieties. He wants us to come to him in prayer about everything. Fixing our minds on all that is good and pure. God gives us a peace we can't get from this world. His peace will guard our hearts from the difficulties around us. That's not saying we will be free from hurt, worry and sadness but when those things happen we will have a peace that we can only get from God.

Questions for further thought:

1. What one area do you struggle with more than others?
2. Think about what you put into your mind that may make the struggle more difficult.

Challenge:

Ask God to help you focus your mind on what is good and pure.

Thursday

Subject: The wise Listen

Scripture: Proverbs 1:5

Commentary:

When you think of a person in your life that you consider to be wise are they talkers or listeners? The wise get wise from listening to all the knowledge around them. They listen more than they talk. They are also not prideful in their knowledge and wisdom but humble with no desire to be glorified. If you are feeling like you lack wisdom take time to sit and listen to the godly men and women in your lives.

Questions for further thought:

1. Who in your life would you consider to be a good listener?
2. What qualities make a good listener and how can you put these into practice?

Challenge:

Find a time this week you feel an urge to share your opinion or give advice and choose to listen and be slow to speak. See what the outcome of that is.

Friday

Subject: Control

Scripture: Romans 8:5-8

Commentary:

A life controlled by sin is no life at all. In these verses we are told that the life controlled by sin leads to death, but the life controlled by the Holy Spirit thinks of ways to please the spirit. We are born into a life dominated by sin but once we accept the life giving gift of Jesus the sinful nature has the Holy Spirit to contend with. The Holy Spirit seeks to please the Lord our God and search out His will for our lives so that we may live in accordance with Him. Give yourself over to the Holy Spirit and allow Him to do his work in you.

Questions for further thought:

1. In what ways do you still find the sinful nature trying to take control of your life?
2. What have you learned from experience with your daily battle could you pass along?

Challenge:

Over the next week, take notes of when that sinful nature wants to take control. At the end of the week, review and see if there is anything common with the particular sins. Then ask God to work in your life in these areas.

Saturday

(Looking to Sunday)

Message Series: God & Sexuality
Message Title: Sex & Marriage
Scripture: Genesis 2:22-24; Matthew 19:4-6; 1
Cor 7:1-16; Mk 10:6-9; Heb 13:4-7
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.

[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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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.
- ☐ Attend the Partnering with Parents class on February 28th.

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**

