

Hillcrest CHURCH

Today's Gathering

March 6, 2016

View from the Hill

Meriah VanderWeide

Singing

Nic Torbert and Tarina Stroh



Why Are You So Afraid?

Burke Perry

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!

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.

Family Bowling Night

Hillcrest's Children's Ministries invites all Hillcresters to Family Bowling Night Sunday, March 13th from 6-8 PM at Eastway Bowl! Cost is \$8.42 per person and includes shoes and 2 games. Sign up in the back foyer or mark your connection card if you plan to attend.

Sioux Falls Prayer Breakfast

Join other Hillcrest guys for an inspiring start to your Easter Weekend! Hillcrest has 30 tickets available for the Sioux Falls' Prayer Breakfast on Friday, March 25th at 7am at the Ramkota Inn Exhibit Hall. The featured speaker is Daryl Strawberry, former Major League Baseball player who played in 4 World Series, 8 All-star games, and was the Rookie of the Year at age 21. Daryl has a powerful message of fame, fortune, and his fall to grace. Tickets normally cost \$18.75, but thanks to a generous donation, Hillcrest guys can get a ticket for \$10! You won't want to miss this event! Sign up at the Welcome Center or mark the back of your Connection Card.

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.

Mitch McVicker Concert

On Thursday, March 31st, Christian artist and award winning singer- songwriter, Mitch McVicker, will be performing at Hillcrest Church, starting at 7pm. Cost is \$5 at the door, and kids age 12 and under are free. If you would like more information about Mitch McVicker and his music, you can visit his web site at mitchmcvicker.com.

Easter Flowers

Hillcrest is again decorating the Worship Center with Easter flowers this year. If you are interested in purchasing a flower in memory of or in honor of a loved one, please fill out the form at the Welcome Center, include \$7 to cover the cost and drop it in the purple box. You may take a flower after the 2nd service on Easter Sunday.

Serve

March Mission Focus

Hillcrest's March Mission of the Month is Children's Home Society and Children's Inn. We'll be serving pizza for the students and staff at Children's Home Society on Wednesday, March 2. We need 6 volunteers to help serve the pizza. Please sign up at the Welcome Center or mark the back of your connection card if you are interested in helping out.

We're also collecting items all month for both Children's Home Society and Children's Inn. The lists can be found at the Outreach Bulletin Board.

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

Palm Sunday

Children's Ministries students will be performing songs during the 9:00 and 10:30 services on Palm Sunday, March 20th. Children will be practicing the songs Sunday morning during Clubhouse. Children should be to Hillcrest by 8:40 AM on March 20th and to stay for both services.

Easter Eggstravaganza

The Hillcrest Annual Neighborhood Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday, March 26th, starting at 10am. We will be inviting families from the neighborhood, and Hillcrest children are encouraged to invite their friends. The event will also include a free breakfast, crafts, singing, and a story.

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

Summer 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: Why Are You So Afraid?

Scripture: Mark 4:35-41; Psalm 46:1; Hebrews 13:5;
James 1:2-4

Notes:

For those going deeper:

This week's memory verse

1 John 4:18 (NLT) Such love has no fear, because perfect love expels all fear. If we are afraid, it is for fear of punishment, and this shows that we have not fully experienced his perfect love.

Monday

Subject: God is like a fort to us

Scripture: Psalm 46

Commentary:

The words in Psalm 46 are powerful and beautiful. It's difficult to think that we could ever be afraid when reading these words of comfort, yet far too often we find ourselves crippled with fear.

Questions for further thought:

1. When you are afraid, do you first seek comfort in your own surroundings or you do immediately turn to God in prayer?
2. How can seeking God's word first before seeking comfort in your surrounding be beneficial?

Challenge:

Meditate on Psalm 46. Consider how these words might be comforting during a fearful time.

Tuesday

Subject: Built on the Rock

Scripture: Matthew 7:24-29

Commentary:

Just listening to the word isn't enough; you must also do what it says. Practicing obedience becomes a solid foundation to weather the storms of life. Ask, search, and knock; all these things will be given to you.

Questions for further thought:

1. Are you building your house on the Rock or sand?
2. Do you think that knowing your Bible more would make you less fearful in certain situations?

Challenge:

Ask God for guidance for building your foundation on Him. Make note of the changes He reveals to you.

Wednesday

Subject: Fear God, not man

Scripture: Luke 12:4-5

Commentary:

It's human nature to cling to peace and comfort and often times we choose it over our walk with God. Fearing opposition and ridicule to the point of doing nothing ceases our witness for Christ. Jesus reminds us that we should fear God, who controls eternal consequences. Don't allow fear of things to keep you from standing up for Christ.

Questions for further thought:

1. Have you ever been paralyzed with fear; did it disable you from being a witness for Christ?
2. Do you ever use prayer to alleviate fear?

Challenge:

The next time you are faced with fear, don't first try to create a plan of action or attack. Instead turn immediately to God in prayer and trust His instructions.

Thursday

Subject: Peace in Trials

Scripture: John 16:33

Commentary:

God tells us that we will face many trials and sorrows on Earth. He also tells us that we should have peace. He is telling us this so that we can find comfort in Him and so that we don't spend our days worrying or fearing the unknown. God already knows what lays ahead. He knows what to do and is preparing us for those future battles.

Questions for further thought:

1. Can you point to a time where God was preparing you for the future?
2. Does John 16:33 freak you out or bring you comfort? Why?

Challenge:

Carefully consider your past and try to find where God might have been leading you and preparing you for the next trial.

Friday

Subject: Faith in God

Scripture: Judges 6:36-38

Commentary:

When God is leading us, we don't always trust him. Sometimes we need an external sign, such as Gideon's fleece test. This is especially true when God leads us places that don't make sense to us or are out of our comfort zone. It isn't always easy to see God's plan or where He might be leading us. We need to pray for wisdom and continue seeking complete faith in Christ.

Questions for further thought:

1. Have you ever asked for a sign from God as to where He was leading you?
2. Does God give us signs when we ask for one?

Challenge:

Pray for wisdom and faith and then ask God for his will and follow.

Saturday

(Looking to Sunday)

Message Series: The Counselor
Message Title: Do You Believe I Can Do This?
Scripture: Matt 9:27-30; Heb 11:1; Col 4:2; Ja
2:22; 2 Cor 4:4; Rev 12:2
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
dougbartel@siouxfallschurch.com



Brian Stroh
Ministry Pastor
brianstroh@siouxfallschurch.com



Tarina Stroh
Children's Ministries Coordinator
tarinastroh@siouxfallschurch.com



Meriah VanderWeide
Student Ministries Coordinator
mvanderweide@siouxfallschurch.com



Melissa Simpson
Power House Director
msimpson@siouxfallschurch.com



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.

☐ Attend Family Bowling Night on March 13th.

☐ Attend the Men’s Prayer Breakfast on March 25th.

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**

