



Today's Gathering

March 20, 2016

View from the Hill

Pastor Brian Stroh

Singing

Aimee VanderWeide, Gary Rakebrandt, and Jacob Van Engen



Do You Want to Get Well?

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

Good Friday

On Friday, March 25th, Hillcrest's Good Friday Service will be held at 6:30pm. There will be no child care provided, but the service will be family friendly.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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

Volunteer Appreciation & VBS Training

Children's Ministries invites all volunteers and families to their annual volunteer appreciation event and VBS training Sunday, April 10, following the 10:30 service. Food and childcare provided. Please sign up in the back foyer or contact Tarina.

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

Bigger Better Hunt: On Wednesday, April 6th from 6:30pm to 8pm, in place of our normal 180 programming, students will be broken into teams for a competition. Each team will be sent out with the same small item. Their task is to exchange the item for a bigger and better item. They will have 1 hour to walk through the church neighborhood to do their exchanging. They will return to the church to see who has the best item. Bring walking shoes & a coat.

Message Notes:

Title: Do You Want to Get Well?

Scripture: John 5:1–9

Notes:

THE LONGER A PROBLEM PERSISTS, THE MORE _____ YOU BECOME

THE LONGER A PROBLEM PERSISTS, THE MORE _____ YOU MAKE

THE LONGER A PROBLEM PERSISTS, THE MORE YOU LEARN TO _____

I DON'T WANT TO HEAR YOUR _____, I WANT TO SEE YOUR _____.

For those going deeper:

This week's memory verse

Matthew 13:15 (NLT) For the hearts of these people are hardened, and their ears cannot hear, and they have closed their eyes— so their eyes cannot see, and their ears cannot hear, and their hearts cannot understand, and they cannot turn to me and let me heal them.'

Monday

Subject: Healed

Scripture: John 5:8

Commentary:

Thinking back in your life as a Christian, you came to a point where you decided to no longer be a slave to sin and accepted Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior. This is the point where Jesus says: "pick up your mat and walk", your willingness to serve the Lord outweighed your willingness to live in sin! Having this great healing helps you have faith and peace in your life.

Questions for further thought:

1. What healing has the Lord done in your life?
2. If you need healing, what is holding you back from asking for it?

Challenge:

You have been healed, how is our daily walk with the Lord?

Tuesday

Subject: Palms and Robes

Scripture: Mark 11:8-10

Commentary:

Jesus' Triumphant Entry shows that he was not afraid of what was going to happen. He did not avoid His enemies; He let them know He was there. What an encouragement to His disciples and to us. We need not be afraid of things but have courage and know that God is with us. Like it says in Romans 8:31; "if God is for us, who can ever be against us". Be triumphant and stand up for the Lord, do not be afraid.

Questions for further thought:

1. Do you stand up for the Lord?
2. Why are you afraid if you know that God is on your side?

Challenge:

Stand up for the Lord at your work, school, or wherever you are today!

Wednesday

Subject: Everything

Scripture: Romans 8:28

Commentary:

Everything.... that is a big statement. John states that God causes everything to work together, not just a random circumstance, one or two things, or one big thing, but everything. In our lives many things happen, big or small God will use them for our good and His purpose. In the daily rat race we get so caught up in the moment, in the small things, that we forget to look at the big picture and remember that God IS IN CONTROL. God uses everything for the good of those who love him.

Questions for further thought:

1. What does everything mean to you?
2. Do you take time out of your busy schedule to see how God is working in your life?

Challenge:

Take some time and write down a timeline of things that have happened in your life, and see how God has used them to shape who you are.

Thursday

Subject: Upper Room

Scripture: Luke 22 14-16

Commentary:

The Last Supper in the upper room is the last chance that Jesus had to speak to his disciples as a group. What a scene, Jesus washes their feet; he has the Passover meal with them and tells them one of their own will betray Him. Growing up the church I attended had an upper room where a Maundy Thursday service was held. This was one of my favorite services; you were not allowed to talk the whole time you were in the upper room. During the service, the pastor washed feet, the names of the 12 disciples were read a candle was lit for each disciple, except Judas, and communion was taken. The service gave you a lot of time to think and reflect on the great sacrifice that Jesus was about to make. How humbling is it to hear Jesus say that He is eager to eat this meal, even when He knows the great suffering He is about to endure. The hope is that He also says He will one day eat this meal again.

Questions for further thought:

1. How do you reflect on the sacrifice that Jesus made for you?
2. Have you made time for God this week?

Challenge:

Take time today to read the story of the last supper and spend some quiet time reflecting on it.

Friday

Subject: Today is Friday but Sunday is a coming!

Scripture: Luke 23:44-46, 48

Commentary:

Today is Good Friday, the day that we reflect on Jesus's death. These verses describe His last breath and what happened. We are told that the people who witnessed his death went home in deep sorrow. His death on the cross caused those viewing it to take a closer look at who Jesus was and should cause us to do the same. Do we go home in great sorrow or with the hope that this is only Friday and Sunday is coming!

Questions for further thought:

1. Who is Jesus to you?
2. How is Jesus the hope in your life?

Challenge:

Join Hillcrest for the Good Friday service and take time for a closer reflection on Jesus.

Saturday

(Looking to Sunday)

Message Series: The Counselor
Message Title: Why Do You Doubt?
Scripture: Lk 24:36-39; Jn 20:24-29; Lk 24:1-4;
Matt 28:5-6; 1 Sam 16:7; 1 Jn 2:16
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.

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

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
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Jacob Van Engen
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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 the Men’s Prayer Breakfast on March 25th.

☐ Attend the Children’s Ministry Volunteer Appreciation and VBS Training lunch on April 10th.

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 _____

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**

