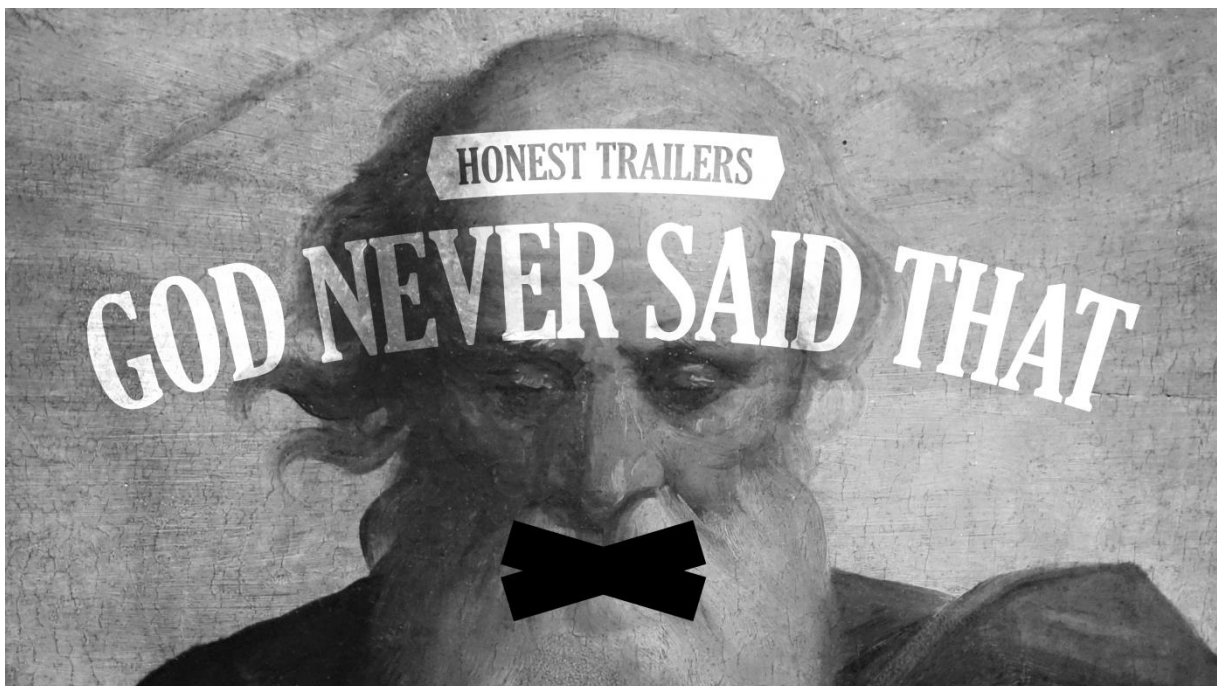


Hillcrest CHURCH

Today's Gathering
April 10, 2016

View from the Hill
Pastor Brian Stroh

Singing
Jacob Van Engen



God Won't Give You More than You Can Handle
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

Baptism

Our next baptism service will be on May 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.

Adult Only 50's Diner Party!

Please join us in the Family Life Center on Saturday, April 16th from 5:30-8:00 pm. 50's music, photo booth, games, burgers, fries and milkshakes! Sign-up in the front foyer - LAST day to sign-up will be Sunday, April 10th. Tickets are \$8.00 per person at the time of sign-up. Child care CAN be provided ONLY if you pre-register your need. Child care will be \$5.00 per child, in addition to your ticket price. You are encouraged to wear 50's attire! Questions can be directed to Deanna Moser at 359-7203, moser@sio.midco.net or in person.

Hillcrest Business Meeting

Hillcrest's semi-annual business meeting is set for Sunday, April 24th. A meal is also served and costs \$2/student, \$3/adult, and a \$12 family max. Reports and agendas will be available on Sunday, April 17th at the Welcome Center. Please sign up at the Welcome Center or mark the back of your connection card if you plan to attend.

Serve

April Mission Focus – Royal Family Kids

Our mission focus for the month of April is Royal Family Kids Camp, a summer camp designed for students in the foster care system. We will be collecting items throughout April for the camp as well as hearing from the camp's director on Sunday, April 10. Please check the Mission Focus board for ways to support this unique camping experience for foster children here in Sioux Falls.

Facility Work Day

Hillcrest's spring facility work day is Saturday, April 23rd, beginning at 8am. Projects include raking and yard clean-up, painting, and general cleaning and organizing. Come for as long as you're able! Sign up at the Welcome Center or mark your connection card if you are able to help.

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

Save the Dates!

- VBS Work Days – Saturdays, May 14, 21, & 28 from 9am to 12pm; and Saturday, June 4th, starting at 9am.
- Journey Off the Map VBS – Sunday, June 5th to Wednesday, June 8th, 6pm to 8pm each night
- K & 1st Grade Summer Fun Days – Sunday, June 12th, 2pm to 4pm
- 2nd & 3rd Grade Summer Fun Days – Sunday, July 10th, 2pm to 4pm
- 4th & 5th Grade Summer Fun Days – Sunday, August 28th, 5pm to 10pm

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 Volunteers Needed

- ❖ Each year, we provide High School students in the Sioux Falls and Brandon school districts with a small care package for semester tests. Meriah would like some help writing encouraging notes to the 24 students for their packages this year. Please contact Meriah if you would be willing to help.
- ❖ On May 18th We will have our end of the year Thrift Store Formal. This year's theme is the 1980's. We are looking for parents, mentors, and other adults to help with chaperoning, food, decorations, and music. Some of these tasks could be performed prior to the event, like donating some decor or helping with a playlist. Contact Meriah if you are interested in helping out.

Message Notes:

Title: God Won't Give You More than You Can Handle

Scripture: 1 Cor 10:13; Job 3:1-13; Mk 14:33-34; Matt 27:46; Jonah 2:2, 7; Ps 145:18; 2 Cor 12:9-10

Notes:

Why would God allow us to have more than we can handle?

God wants us to Depend on His _____

God wants us to Experience His _____

For those going deeper:

This week's memory verse

Isaiah 40:29 (NLT) He gives power to the weak and strength to the powerless.

Monday

Subject: There is an Escape

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 10:6-13

Commentary:

In a culture filled with moral depravity and pressures Paul gave some strong encouragement to the Corinthians about temptation. Not much has changed in our society today as the morals of our country seem as bad as ever. Some things we need to remember are: wrong desires and temptations happen to everyone, so don't feel singled out; others have resisted temptation, and so can you; any temptation can be resisted because God will help you resist it. God helps you resist temptation by helping you recognize those people and situations that give you trouble, and to help you run from anything you know is wrong.

Questions for further thought:

1. Can you remember a time when temptation was overwhelming to you?
2. Has there been times when despite great temptation you didn't give into it?

Challenge:

Read 2 Timothy 2:22 and remember that running from a tempting situation is your first step to victory!

Tuesday

Subject: Benefits of Weakness

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 12:9-10

Commentary:

It is in our weakness that we must clearly experience God's strength. Although God did not remove Paul's physical affliction, he promised to demonstrate his power in Paul. The fact that God's power is displayed in weak people should give us courage. Though we recognize our limitations, we should not congratulate ourselves and rest in that. We must rely on God for our effectiveness rather than simply on our own energy, effort, or talent. Our weakness not only helps develop Christian character, it also deepens our worship, because in admitting our weakness, we affirm God's strength.

Questions for further thought:

1. How hard is it to admit that when we are weak we are really strong?
2. Can you think of a time that you relied on God to get you through a time when you felt weak?

Challenge:

When you are weak, allow God to fill you with His power, then you will be stronger than you could ever be on our own. Will you allow God's power in your life?

Wednesday

Subject: Rejoice "in" Suffering

Scripture: Romans 5:3-5

Commentary:

For first century Christians, suffering was the rule rather than the exception. Paul tells us that in the future we will become, but until then we must overcome. This means we will experience difficulties that help us grow. We rejoice in suffering not because we like pain or deny it's reality, but because we know God is using life's difficulties to build our character. The problems that we run into will develop our patience, which in turn will strengthen our character, deepen our trust in God, and give us greater confidence about the future. Remember, you will probably find your patience tested in some way every day.

Questions for further thought:

1. What is normally your response when you are tested in difficult situations?
2. In what ways can you prepare ahead of time for those times of stress and testing in your life?

Challenge:

Read 1 Peter 1:6-7. Thank God for those opportunities to grow, and deal with them in strength. Always strive to improve when being tested.

Thursday

Subject: Facing Trials Through
Perseverance

Scripture: James 1:2-4

Commentary:

All too often trials prompt groaning's and complaints to Christian maturity. It only makes matters worse. Trials are not to be seen as tribulations, but testings. Trials should not be seen as a punishment or a calamity but something that must prompt rejoicing. It is important to note that James did not say that a believer should be joyous **for** the trials but **in** the trials. When surrounded by these trials, one should respond with joy. Most people count it all joy when they escape trials. James said to count it all joy in the midst of those trials.

Questions for further thought:

1. Have you ever witnessed someone who rejoiced through their suffering?
2. What would be some ways that you could rejoice next time you are going through trials?

Challenge:

Trials can be faced with joy because through faith and perseverance results in a fully developed, and mature Christian who lacks nothing. Can you accept that truth today?

Friday

Subject: Under Pressure

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 1:8-10

Commentary:

God offers us comfort even during difficult times. Many people think that when God comforts us, our hardships should go away. But if that were always so, people would turn to God only to be relieved of pain and not out of our love for Him. We must understand that being comforted can also mean receiving strength, encouragement, and hope to deal with our hardships. The more we suffer the more comfort God gives us. If you are feeling overwhelmed, allow God to comfort you. Remember that every trial you endure will help you comfort other people who are suffering similar hardships.

Questions for further thought:

1. Do you remember any time when someone comforted you in a difficult situation you were going through?
2. Are you aware of a time that you were a comfort to someone else? How did that make you feel?

Challenge:

Read Isaiah 40:1. You may not escape adversity, but you may find God's comfort as you face it. Just ask God to comfort you during those times.

Saturday

(Looking to Sunday)

Message Series: Honest Trailers: God Never Said That
Message Title: God Wants Me to Be Happy
Scripture: 1 Thess 5:16, Ps 37:4; 32:11; 100:2; Rom
12:8; Lk 15:11-32
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 run 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
brianstroh@siouxfallschurch.com



Jacob Van Engen
Worship Coordinator
jacobve@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.

☐ Volunteer to help at the Facility Work Day on April 23rd.

☐ Attend the Business Meeting on April 24th .

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**
