

# Hillcrest Encouragement

## Elders

- John Barton
- Terry Brown
- Neal Coates
- Malcolm Coco
- David Copeland
- Ray Ferguson
- Duwain Houston
- Robert Marion
- Charles Perkins
- Don Pope
- C. D. Pruett
- Jack Stewart
- Phil Vardiman
- Cleddy Varner
- Gary Varner
- Odies Wright

## Chairman of the Elders

Ray Ferguson  
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## Ministers

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## ...AND THERE WAS DARKNESS...

For two whole minutes last Monday in a swath across America, there was darkness when the moon totally eclipsed the sun, casting darkness on the Planet Earth. People were mesmerized by this forecasted event, and in great expectation traveled sometimes thousands of miles, living in tents for days, to be at the ultimate viewing area for this wonderful phenomenon.

I could not help marveling at this excitement, and imagining the reaction of the people of the 1st century, in Palestine during Jesus' crucifixion and death--when the earth was darkened for more than three hours!

*From noon until three in the afternoon darkness came over all the land. About three in the afternoon Jesus cried out in a loud voice "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" ( which means 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?') ...*

*...And when Jesus had cried out again in a loud voice, he gave up his spirit. At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The earth shook, the rocks split and the tombs broke open. The bodies of many holy people who had died were raised to life. They came out of the tombs after Jesus' resurrection and went into the holy city and appeared to many people.*

*When the centurion and those with him who were guarding Jesus saw the earthquake and all that had happened, they were terrified, and exclaimed, "Surely he was the Son of God!"*

*(Matthew 27:45-46, 50-54)*

On the radio during the coverage of the eclipse, a commentator reported that an atheist said he hadn't believed in God until he saw the eclipse and he decided then that only God could create such a world! Whether the eclipse would be the thing that convinces you of God's existence or not, certainly the beauty and majesty of the creation and its systematic workings, humbles us as "the heavens declare the glory of God." --And how much more the gift of God's Son. "How Great is Our God!"

Mary Barton

# Hillcrest Today

## Welcome Guests

We are glad you are here! Please fill out a Welcome Visitor card and place in the collection plate. Go by our Information Area on the right side of the Worship Center for materials that will better acquaint you with Hillcrest.

For your convenience, the staffed nursery for children 2 months to 24 months is available. Check-in is in the foyer. The parents' nursery & training area is available to parents and children. Enter at the back of the Worship Center.

### Bible Classes for All Ages

Nursery.....	2-24 mo.
Age 2 .....	Room 100
Age 3 .....	Room 106
Age 4 .....	Room 107
Pre-K.....	Room 110
K.....	Room 118
Gr 1.....	Room 121
Gr 2.....	Room 117
Gr 3.....	Room 120
Gr 4.....	Room 213
Gr 5.....	Room 209

### Young Adult Classes

Middle School .....	Room 204
High School .....	Room 200
University .....	Room 17

### Adult Classes

Sonrise (all ages) (8:00) .....	Room 14
Y/O (all ages) .....	Room 10/11
Welcome (all ages) .....	Room 12
Soulful Filling (all ages) .....	Room 14
Common Ground (30s & 40s) .....	Room 16
H.O.P.E. (all ages).....	Room 21
Travelers (all ages).....	Room 30
Christ in Action (all ages).....	Room 52
Young Professionals (20s) .....	Room 212
F.U.N. (all ages).....	Room 219
Generations (all ages).....	Chapel

### Worship Times

Morning Worship.....	9 a.m.
Bible Classes .....	10:30 a.m.
Evening Worship .....	6 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Classes .....	7 p.m.

## Glorifying God

August 27, 2017

Worship Leader ..... Odies Wright  
Hymn: #167 ..... Hosanna  
Welcome ..... Justin Hatfield

### Songs of Praise

Hymn: #749 ..... The Battle Belongs to the Lord  
Hymn ..... My Life Is In You

### Hope and a Future

Jeremiah 29:11-13 ..... Will Holloway  
2 Corinthians 1:7-10 ..... Hunter Ely  
Prayer ..... Andy Little

### We Celebrate the Lord's Supper

Hymn: #287 ..... There Is a Redeemer  
Communion Meditation ..... Justin Walker  
Hymn: #64 ..... I Worship You, Almighty God

### Offering

Prayer ..... Justin Walker  
Hymn ..... Surround Us, Lord  
Hymn ..... Awesome God  
*(Parents may escort children to TLC during this song.)*

### "Hope That Endures"

Message..... Nathan Burrow  
Hymn ..... Learning to Lean

### Responses

Family News ..... Ron Rosseau  
Hymn ..... Salvation Belongs to Our God  
Elder Blessing..... Duwain Houston

# Hillcrest Family News

## Today's Speakers

A.M. - Nathan Burrow  
P.M. - Coy Roper in the chapel

## Sympathy

Sympathy to Perry & Judy Reeves on the loss of Perry's uncle, L.V. Pfeifer.

**Congratulations** to Jack & Susan Hardcastle on the birth of a new grandson, Brooks Wade Hardcastle. Parents are Josh & Whitney Hardcastle.

## New Members

Welcome to new members Carlin and Teresa Brooks

## New Member/Updated Old Member Pictures

Think your appearance hasn't changed much since the last directory pictures were taken in 2011? Are you pictured at all? Time for a new picture! Alan will be taking pictures at the side of the worship center today after worship.

## Prayer for Beginning of School - Tomorrow, 8:45 a.m.

Join us for a prayer time in the chapel for all of the students and teachers for the school year. Write the name of students, teachers and administrators that you would like to pray for on an encouragement card and place it in the collection plate.

## Men's Softball

The season will start Mon., Sept. 11. Games will be at 7, 8 or 9 p.m. on Monday nights. The first practice will be tomorrow, Aug. 28, from 8 to 10 p.m. The cost will be \$25. Contact Alan Clute if you are interested in playing.

## LAFF (church-wide meal) - August 30, 5:30 p.m., MPR

The menu is parmesan crusted chicken, rice, green beans, salad bar, rolls, and banana pudding. Sign up in Bible class to help cook, serve or clean up the kitchen and MPR afterwards. This ministry is funded by your donations.

## Bakers for Bread for the Journey

Are you willing to bake small loaves of breads once a month to bless our guests? Sign up at the side of the worship center. We will begin handing out bread today.

## Hillcrest 101 & New Member Lunch - Sun., Sept. 17

If you are a new member or considering making Hillcrest your church family, you are invited to attend the Hillcrest 101 class. This class begins Sun., Sept. 17, at 10:30 a.m. in the MPR. The first morning we will have a New Member Lunch following class. RSVP to Kay in the office 691-4200.

## Let's Be Good Neighbors

A few of our neighbors have asked us not to park on the street in front of their houses or apartments. Some of them do not have driveways or garages, and they need that space to park their cars. Thanks for helping us be good neighbors.

## Babysitters Needed for Ladies Bible Class

We are looking for a head sitter and two assistants to take care of children on Tuesdays, 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. starting Aug. 29 to May 1 (excluding weeks that school is out for vacations). These are paid positions. Please contact Linda Huff at 575-390-8818.

## Missions and Faith Sharing

### Send the Light Mission Trips

Caleb and Vanessa Callari, along with Terry Brown and Brian Davis, are making a site visit Sept. 2-9 to Cebu City, Philippines, where the Callaris will begin their ministry in January, 2018.

Send the Light reports will be presented on Wednesday nights during September in Rms. 10-11. On Sept. 6, reports will be heard from the Mumena Mission Campaign in Zambia and the Let's Start Talking campaign for refugees in Athens, Greece.

## HillcrestU

**Welcome! If you are a new student at ACU, HSU or McMurray, we are glad you are with us! Welcome back to all of our friends who have been gone this summer, and welcome to anyone who may be visiting us for the first time! Our class will meet in the MPR this morning and we hope you will stick around after worship and join us!**

**Tonight - 6 p.m.** - Welcome Back Event in the MPR! Come say hello, meet new friends or greet friends you haven't seen all summer. We'll have burgers and everything that comes with! We hope you join us!

**Wednesday - 6 p.m.** - We have LAFF (dinner in the MPR) starting at 6 p.m.! **7 p.m.** First Wednesday praise night in the University Classroom.

**Thursday** - Small group chapel and our apartment complex ministry REACH will not begin this week.

### Mark Your Calendar

Sept. 3 - Be sure to come back next Sunday and join us for class and meal immediately following in the MPR!

Sept. 3 - 6 p.m. - LIFE Group Kickoff in the MPR.

Oct. 27-29 - Fall Break retreat at Camp Egan. Make plans to join us on our Fall Break retreat, Peace Like a River in Tahlequah, Oklahoma! We'll engage in various forms of spiritual practice, spend time floating the Illinois River and ride horses! Don't miss it!

# Hillcrest Ministries

## Children's Corner

**Nursery: 2-24 Months** (TEAM #4)

**Training & Learning for Children** (Children's Church ages 2-4) Parents may escort their child to the Children's Wing during the song before the sermon.

## HYG - Youth

**Today** - Join us for Bible class as we are in week 2 of studying Jesus' words from the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew chapters 5, 6, and 7. We'll see you upstairs, and don't forget to bring your Bible next week if you forgot it today!

**Parent Meeting - Today** - All youth ministry parents are invited to save the date for a two-part parent meeting. The first will be Sunday, August 27, and the follow up meeting will be Sunday, September 24. The meetings will take place at Hillcrest in Room 10/11. More details to come this week via email.

**Wednesday - 7 p.m.** - This Wednesday, join us in the HS Youth room for a fun game and devotional! Bring a friend and we'll see you there!

**Huddles Kick Off Party - September 3** - Next Sunday we will be having a Huddles kick-off party at the Abilene Swim Club! We will begin at 4:00 p.m. and go until 6:30 p.m. We'll swim, play games, eat dinner, and have our initial Huddles breakout groups! More details to come this week via email and next week's bulletin.

### Save the Date

Sept. 3, Huddles Kick off Party

Sept. 10, First Huddles Meeting

Sept. 24, Parent Meeting Follow-Up

### Calendar of Events

August 28..... Prayer Time for First Day of School  
August 28..... ACU & AISD First Day of School  
August 29..... Ladies Bible Class Begins  
August 30..... Loaves and Fishes Fellowship (LAFF)  
August 30..... Divorce Care Class Begins  
August 30..... ESL Begins  
September 4 ..... Labor Day/Office Closed  
September 5 ..... Hilltoppers Luncheon  
September 10 ..... Bible Class Fellowship  
September 12 ..... Caterpillars & Butterfiles

## Adult Education Corner

### New Sunday Morning Adult Classes begin Sept. 3

During the fall semester, all Adult Sunday morning classes will be studying materials related to the theme of Connecting to our Community through hospitality. The semester begins with a study of the "transformed life" as described in Romans 12, followed by a series on Ruth. The second half of the semester focuses on how Jesus showed hospitality and welcome to marginalized groups in his culture and an examination of how we can live out Jesus' example today in our own community.

### Ladies Tuesday Morning Bible Class - Aug. 29

**Fellowship - 9:30 a.m., Class - 10 a.m.:** Teacher, Mary Barton. Introduction to the Parables & The Pharisee & The Publican.

### Wednesday Night Classes

- Rm 10/11 - Various men will be presenting individual lessons during the month of August.
- Rm 16 - Congregational Singing: Join Odies Wright for a time of worship in song!
- Rm 30 - ESL Class - Will resume August 30.
- Rm 51 - Class for Singles led by Glenn Tuttle
- Rm 52 - Divorce Care will resume August 30.
- Rm 219 - Women's Bible Class: Various speakers through the summer. Women of all ages are invited.

## Family Ministry

### New Wednesday Night Class - 7 p.m., Rm 14/15

#### You Make Me Crazy!

We all have relationships that drive us crazy, especially within our families. This series will help bring sanity to your relationships so you can do more than just co-exist with boy/girl friends, spouses, kids, siblings, co-workers, and even those crazy relatives you see once a year. Don't miss this chance to learn better ways to handle the crazy people in your life!

### For the Record

Sunday Morning	Sunday Evening
A.M. Assembly..... 735	Chapel ..... 79
Bible Class..... 658	
Membership ..... 892	Wed ..... 335
July Offering ..... \$113,801	