

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

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Obeying the Signs

We have some interesting roads in Abilene. I'm not talking about the condition of the roads or construction sites or anything like that. I'm talking about the make-up and layout of the roads. In certain places, we have right lanes that only turn right with left lanes that can either go straight or turn left. We have straight roads that turn into a curve that turn into a turning lane with a stop sign without much of a notice. The good thing about all roads is that we always have signs demanding us to obey so that our lives are not in danger. And still, Abilene has some interesting roads.

But I am used to these roads. I have grown up driving these roads and I know where there is going to be a sign that says, "right turn only."

But what is the reason that I know how to drive in Abilene?

Is it because when I took driver's ed, the instructor taught me the exact layout of the city so that I could navigate it without having any trouble or without having to read the signs?

No, that's not what driver's ed is all about. If that was the case, I would only be able to drive in Abilene and I would never get to venture out to Dallas or Ft. Worth or Austin or any other city in the United States, or even the world.

Instead, the instructors taught us how to read the signs. They taught us what every sign meant. They taught us how to pay attention to the lines on the roads, the lights on the poles, and the signs over the streets. They taught us how to obey.

Realizing this made me really think about how God teaches us and what he teaches us. It would be very difficult if God taught us the exact pathway of our lives. It would be hard if God laid our whole life path in front of us and said, "Here it is, this is all you need to know." It would be hard if we knew exactly how to navigate a specific city, but never knew how to obey the law so that we could venture out.

So why do we look for answers from God about what our path is?

Why do we sit here and ask God to teach us to navigate Abilene?

God does not teach us to memorize a path, but to obey the law so that we can take any path that we find ourselves on.

It's not so much about being on the right street than it is about learning to obey so that we will never be lost, no matter what city we are in.

"I gave them this command: Obey me, and I will be your God and you will be my people. Walk in obedience to all I command you, that it may go well with you."

Jeremiah 7:23

Callie Houston

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 6, 2017

Worship Leader Odies Wright
Hymn Lord, I Lift Your Name on High
Welcome Chip Whitlock
Hymn: #659 I Love to Tell the Story

Hope and a Future

Jeremiah 29:11-13 John Ferguson
Acts 8:30-35 Reese Pettijohn
Prayer Everett Ferguson

Songs of Praise

Hymn Light the Fire
Hymn: #745 Humble Yourself
Hymn: #63 I Will Call upon the Lord

We Celebrate the Lord's Supper

Hymn Beautiful Lamb
Communion Meditation Duwain Houston
Hymn: #376 He Paid a Debt

Offering

Prayer Duwain Houston
Hymn: #83 God Is So Good
Hymn Shout to the Lord
(Parents may escort children to TLC during this song.)

"Finding Hope in the Desert"

Message Nathan Burrow
Hymn: #635 Freely, Freely

Responses

Family News Ron Rosseau
Hymn: #859 When All of God's Singers Get Home
Elder Blessing Duwain Houston

Hillcrest Family News

Today's Speakers

A.M. - Nathan Burrow

P.M. - Bob Pipes in the chapel at 6 p.m.

Sympathy

Sympathy to Beverley Starnes Pipes on the loss of her sister, Shirley Hairell.

Sympathy to Roy and Patsy Rains on the loss of Patsy's father, Dwain Currie.

Watermelon Feast - This Wednesday night

Come to the grassy area by the children's wing after Bible class this Wednesday night and enjoy some watermelon and fellowship.

Bridal Shower - Sat., Aug. 12, 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Honoring Katelyn Harlow & Jeremy Mills, daughter of Bob & Kathie Harlow at 1451 Tanglewood, the home of Laura Copeland. Selections: Target and amazon.com.

Baby Shower - August 12, 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Honoring Rebecca and Scott Corley at 1409 Woodridge. Selections: Walmart & Amazon.com.

Hillcrest Golf Scramble - Saturday, August 12, 8 a.m.

Our tournament will be held at Maxwell Municipal, Abilene. The cost is \$35 and includes cart and lunch. Payment is due by August 12, at Maxwell or at the church office. Sign-up sheets are in Bible classes.

Promotion Sunday - August 20 - Children going into kindergarten through fifth grade will go to their new classrooms for this coming school year. Children who are four or who will be turning four this fall will go to the PreK classroom.

Prayer for Beginning of School - August 28, 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.

Bread for the Journey

If you have a son or grandson in grades Kindergarten - 5th grade that would like to help pass out Bread for the Journey, please contact Melody Kern at mak1@suddenlink.net or 325-725-3451

Good SOIL Projects (Serving Others in Love)

The Hillcrest Family wants to help out whenever we can. We have created a list of needs on our website with a contact phone number. If you can help out, visit hillcrestonline.com/good-soil/ on the members section of our website and find out where you are needed.

Missions and Faith Sharing

Send the Light Mission Trips

- Phil and Elaine Palmer are leading WBS Campaigns in several Eastern Africa countries until August 7.
- Phil and Paula Sullivan are working with refugees at the Omonia Church of Christ in Athens, Greece, July 29-August 19. They are teaching the Bible with Let's Start Talking.
- Keri and Laurel Sanders are at Live Beyond "Heart for Children Mission" in Haiti, August 5-11.

Prison Ministry

There were 82 baptisms at the Middleton unit in July, bringing the total for the year to 390.

Calendar of Events

August 9	Watermelon Feast
August 12	Hillcrest Golf Scramble
August 13	The Big Event
August 13	Bible Class Fellowship
August 16	Reception for J. & Keri Sanders
August 17	ACS First Day of School
August 26	ESL Tea
August 28	Prayer Time for First Day of School
August 28	ACU & AISD First Day of School
August 29	Hilltoppers Luncheon
August 29	Ladies Bible Class Begins
August 30	LAFF
September 4	Labor Day/Office Closed
September 5	Hilltoppers Luncheon
September 10	Bible Class Fellowship

Hillcrest Ministries

Children's Corner

Nursery: 2-24 Months (TEAM #1)

Training and 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.

Bible Hour - 6 p.m. - Beginning in the MPR.

Promotion Sunday - August 20 - Children going into kindergarten through fifth grade will go to their new classrooms for this coming school year. Children who are four or who will be turning four this fall will go to the PreK classroom.

HYG - Youth

Wednesday - 7 p.m. - Class

BIG Event - August 13

If you would like to receive the youth email newsletter, please sign up at hillcrestonline.com/ministries/youth

Hillcrest - U

Tonight - 7:30 p.m.

Movie night at the Hatfield house, 2434 Independence Blvd. Bring snacks to share.

Wednesday - 7 pm. - Crazy Love series.

Mark Your Calendars

August 22 - ACU Move in Day - Come help freshmen move in and invite them to HillcrestU.

August 23 - Wildcat Week Block Party - Help me set up and man an information booth at this meet and greet event in downtown Abilene. We will have the opportunity to meet a lot of freshmen.

Adult Education Corner

Sunday Morning Adult Classes - Each adult class will pursue topics of their own choosing for the summer months. Ask your class chair for information about topics and teachers.

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 in the fall.
- Rm 212 - Class for Young Professionals
- Rm 219 - Women's Bible Class: Various speakers through the summer. Women of all ages are invited.

Family Ministry

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

A Life Long Love

Couples often settle for too little when it comes to marriage. We fail to understand how deeply God cares about our spouse. We diminish our need to not only understand what biblical love really is, but also to become a people who excel at it. We let ourselves drift apart instead of making the daily choices to grow closer together.

You will never look at worship or your spouse in the same way again, and this series will guide you through the power shifts and seasonal mine fields that blow up so many marriages so that you can grow in your love, instead of in your disappointment.

For the Record

Sunday Morning	Sunday Evening
A.M. Assembly 614	Chapel 66
Bible Class 475	
Membership 892	Wed 269
July Offering \$113,801	