

# 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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## A Feast For a Namesake

Once or twice a year, Patson and Margret Syula take us for a Jesus feast to invite those who are poor and blind and lame in a small village to a banquet. This year's feast was at the blind village, Simakakata, not too far from Namwianga here in Zambia. We had a great feast of chicken, nsima, tomato soup relish, buns, cupcakes and juice. Then Patson gave the party favors (blankets, oil, salt, soap and washing powder) to the blind, lame, old, and poor. We were talking and laughing and singing when I asked, "Is there a Varner here?" "Eeyi" (yes) they replied, "He's back at the house." One child ran to get him. Here came thirteen-year-old Varner. He had just gotten home from school.

Varner's mother was blind and his father had passed away. His blind mother, who was part of the feast, was very glad for me to meet her son. Varner knelt before me. He had not been part of the food feast, but he was about to encounter another feast. I asked him if he knew about the man he was named after. He told me "no." I told him that Cleddy Varner is an elder at Hillcrest Church of Christ, a very large church in Abilene, Texas. Cleddy Varner loves Jesus, and his wife and children and grandchildren all love Jesus. Cleddy Varner is married to one faithful woman, and Cleddy Varner goes about sharing the good news of Jesus. I told Varner that I wanted him to be like his name sake-- to be a servant leader in the church, married to one Godly woman and who raised up Godly children and grandchildren, and all because he loved Jesus. Varner said that he wanted to be like his name sake and follow Jesus. He continued to kneel before me and then he started to cry, and I also started to cry.

I think that Varner won't forget the spiritual feast that day even though he received no food or presents. I am especially thankful for Cleddy and Pat Varner and their passion for the lost and for their Godly children and grandchildren. They have been a spiritual feast to me.

Today, Sunday, Delaney Andrews (Cleddy's and Pat's granddaughter and Joe and Ann Andrew's granddaughter who has been here with the medical mission and as an ACU intern) got to meet Varner. He loved the football (a soccer ball) that she presented to him.

"When you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame and the blind and you will be blessed." Luke 14:13-14

Cindy Robinson

# 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

Baby Bunch in Nursery

Age 2 .....Room 100	Gr 1.....Room 121
Age 3 .....Room 106	Gr 2.....Room 117
Age 4 .....Room 107	Gr 3.....Room 120
Pre-K.....Room 110	Gr 4.....Room 213
K.....Room 118	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
Families for Christ (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 219
Young Professionals (20s) .....	Room 16
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 7, 2016

Worship Leader..... Odies Wright  
Hymn: #570..... A Beautiful Life  
Welcome..... Shane Price

### Songs of Praise

Hymn: #610..... I Love My Savior, Too  
Hymn: #239..... In Moments Like These  
Hymn..... That's Why We Praise Him  
Hymn: #20..... We Worship and Adore You

### Jesus' Example

Isaiah 53:1-5..... Coy Roper  
Philippians 2:5-11..... Coy Roper  
Prayer..... Bob Pipes

### The Lord's Supper

Hymn: #234..... Worthy is the Lamb  
Communion Meditation .....
 Dan Cox || Hymn..... | Create In Me a Clean Heart |

### Offering

Prayer..... Dan Cox  
Hymn: #51..... Father of Mercies\*  
Hymn: #693..... Heart of a Seavant  
*(Parents may escort children ages 2-4 to TLC during this song)*

### Macedonian Maturity #3: "Living the Jesus Song"

Message..... Phil Ware  
Hymn: #683..... I Am Mine No More

### Responses

Hillcrest News..... J.R. Foster  
New Missions Sites Announcement .....
 Neal Coates || Hymn: #867..... | To Canaan's Land I'm on My Way |
| Family Blessing..... | Phil Vardiman |
| (Children's Song of the Month\*) | |

# Hillcrest Family News

## Today's Speakers

A.M. – Phil Ware

P.M. – Kenny Horner

## Next Sunday is Care Group

### Sympathy

- Sympathy to Chad & Lauren Wright on the loss of Lauren's father, Lyman Baker.
- Sympathy to Chris & Hailey (Hancock) Hughes on the loss of Chris' father, Ed Hughes.
- Sympathy to Deonna Shake on the loss of her mother, Deonne Moore.

**Baptism** - Congratulations to Carlotta Castillo, wife of Rudy Castillo, sister-in-law of Elida Hernandez, on her baptism. She lives in an assisted living facility in Merkel.

**New Baby** - Congratulations to Dean & Erica Pye on the birth of a son, Calvin Miles Pye, on June 30.

### Chapel

The chapel remodel is complete and we encourage anyone who would like to go by and see it to do so. Generations Bible class will resume meeting in the chapel today, and the 6 p.m. service will now start meeting in the chapel.

### Sunday Evening Prayer Hour

Prayer warriors, come join us for Hillcrest Sunday Evening Hour of Prayer every Sunday night at 6 p.m. Our prayer topics this week will be returning University students, Hillcrest's Ministry to all University Students, and personal revival for all Hillcrest members. We meet in the Living Room. If you have questions see Robert Cole.

### Bread for the Journey

Are you willing to bake small loaves of bread once a month to bless our guests? Sign up at the side of the worship center to bake on one of the four teams. The signup sheets have the dates each team will bake for the fall. We will begin handing out bread next Sunday, August 14. Thank you to Joan Hurst for overseeing the orange team the last several years. If you would be willing to lead the orange team (which includes calling or emailing to schedule/remind the bakers, checking to make sure the loaves are ready on Saturday, and placing leftover loaves in the freezer), please contact Alan Clute.

### Men's Softball

Come out and enjoy fun, fellowship and physical exercise. The season will start Monday, Sept. 19, and go through the first week of November. Games will be at 7, 8 or 9 p.m. (mostly 9 p.m.) on Monday nights. The first practice is tentatively scheduled for Monday, August 15, from 8 to 10 p.m. The cost will be \$50 per player unless we can find a sponsor. We have to turn in at least 10 contracts by Monday, August 29. Contact Alan Clute if you are interested in playing.

## Hillcrest Golf Scramble at the Cliffs

Our tournament will be held August 27<sup>th</sup> at The Cliffs Resort at Possum Kingdom Lake. We can have 14 four-person teams. Singles will be assigned a team. The cost of \$45.00 includes the practice range, green fee, cart with GPS, a magnificent luncheon and lots of fun for all. We are limited in our number of participants. Sign up begins Sunday 7 and closes August 22. The \$45.00 per person entry fee is due on or before August 21 (the normal weekend fee for golf and luncheon is \$109.00).

## Missions and Faith Sharing

### New Missions Sites

Today at Hillcrest the Missions Team has a special announcement. Our congregation is blessed to undertake two new missions efforts. Cassie White, who was raised at Hillcrest, will serve in the capital of Laos, Vientiane, during 2017 with missionaries who work to help women who have been abused and trafficked. Second, Hillcrest will begin a missions effort in Vienna, Austria, to assist and convert refugees from the Middle East and Africa. This will be through work fund assistance to ongoing efforts by two long-time missionaries there, Reggy Hiller and Gerhard Krassnig, with whom Mariana Long has long relationships. Hillcrest members will have a number of ways they can be involved in the Austria mission work.

### Send the Light Update

- Terry Brown is teaching the entire month of August at the South Pacific Bible College in Tauranga, New Zealand.
- Mariana Long has just returned from the most recent Come Before Winter in Russia for missionary women from Central Asia.

### Prison Ministry

There were 79 baptisms at the Middleton Unit in the month of July, bringing the total for the year to 538.

## Calendar of Events

August 14 ..... Care Group  
 August 14 .....HYG Big Event  
 August 22 .....Prayer for Beginning of School  
 August 23 .....Ladies Bible Class Begins  
 August 24 .....LAFF  
 August 30 ..... Hilltoppers Luncheon  
 September 7 ..... Prayer Time with Elders

# 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 – This is new:** Infants up to age 3 will now meet in the playroom of the children's wing. To find the playroom, walk down the main hall of the children's wing and take a left after you pass the two water fountains. Children ages 4-5th grade will begin in the MPR.

**Promotion Sunday** - Promotion Sunday is August 21. Children going into kindergarten through fifth grade will promote to their new classes.

### Trunk Party Need

If you have or know of someone who would be willing to loan a dunking booth for the Trunk Party, please contact the church office.

## HYG – Youth

### Wednesday – 7 p.m.

Class

Subscribe to HYG Newsletters! Stay plugged in to what HYG has going on this Fall!

Next Sunday: The Big Event for incoming Seniors

August 21: First Huddle of the year

## Hillcrest - U

**Tonight** – Movie night at the Hatfield house.

**Wednesday Class** – 7 p.m. - *Basic*

### Mark your calendars!

- August 17th - Wildcat Week Block Party at 6 p.m. This is our opportunity to meet incoming freshman at ACU! Make plans to come join us at our table to welcome and serve! We will begin set up at 5:30 p.m. More details to come.
- August 21st - 6 p.m. - Welcome Back Event at Action Zone!
- August 28th - LIFE Group kick-off in the MPR

## Adult Education Corner

**Sunday Morning Adult Classes** – Remember that all adult classes are studying subjects of their own choosing during the summer months. Ask your class chair for more information concerning topics and teachers.

### Wednesday Night Classes

- **Rm 10/11** – Dr. Royce Money will continue his series on "Interpreting the Bible in our Times."
- **Rm 30 – ESL Class:** No class until August 24.
- **Rm 16 – Congregational Singing:** Join Odies Wright for a time of Worship in song!
- **Rm 219 – Women's Bible Class:** *Living Stones* by Casandra Martin. Women of all ages are invited.

**Ladies Tuesday Morning Bible Class begins again on August 23.**

## Family Ministry

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

*When Helping Hurts - Empowering The Impoverished*

The challenge of helping the poor families of our community takes a certain type of care and compassion and looking within ourselves at our own brokenness.



[www.hillcrestonline.com/members/search](http://www.hillcrestonline.com/members/search)

## For the Record

Sunday Morning	Sunday Evening
A.M. Assembly .....587	Rm 10/11 .....106
Classes.....476	<b>Wednesday</b> .....368
Membership .....849	
July Offering.....\$107,415	