

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

Nathan Burrow, *Preacher*
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Justin Hatfield, *University*
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“I See People That Look Like Trees Walking”

(Mark 8:24)

I recall Juan Monroy describing his conversion as comparable to the two-stage healing of a blind man by Jesus in Mark 8:22-25. In the story in Mark Jesus put saliva into the man’s eyes and laid hands on him. At first the blind man saw persons as trees that were walking. Then Jesus laid hands on his eyes, and the man’s vision was fully restored, and he saw everything clearly. Brother Monroy compared his conversion from atheism to faith in Jesus to the first stage in this healing miracle. When preachers from churches of Christ explained the way of the Lord to him more perfectly, he said that he then saw all things clearly.

This healing miracle is unusual and puzzling because the healing is not immediate and complete. Was Jesus lacking in his usual power? Was the man’s faith weak? Or is something else going on here?

The key to understanding this strange and perplexing two-stage healing is its location in Mark’s narrative. It immediately precedes Peter’s confession that Jesus is the Christ or Messiah (Mark 8:29). But Peter had an incorrect understanding of what it meant for Jesus to be the Christ. Jesus had to put content in the meaning of Messiahship. The work of the Messiah was to be killed and on the third day arise from the dead (Mark 8:31). That did not match Peter’s idea of the Christ (Mark 8:32-33). To see Jesus clearly meant not only to believe he is Christ - Peter’s confession (stage one) - but also to believe in what his Messiahship meant - his death and resurrection (stage two).

For many of us, like Peter, faith comes in stages. We are attracted to Jesus and believe him to be something special. Then Jesus touches us again, and we come to a fuller faith in who he is and what he has done for us. We should not disparage incomplete faith, nor should we be content with incomplete faith but should encourage growth in faith. Failure to grow in faith (2 Thessalonians 1:3) is to return to blindness (2 Peter 1:9).

If we follow this Christ, we do not expect crowns in this life but must be willing to walk in the path of sufferings, as he did (Mark 8:34).

Everett Ferguson

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	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 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

February 12, 2017

Worship Leader Odies Wright
Hymn: #867 To Canaan’s Land I’m on My Way
Welcome Dave Copeland

Marriage as Covenant

Genesis 2:21-25 Drew Martinez
Ephesians 5:22-28 Drew Martinez
Prayer J. Sanders

Songs of Praise

Hymn: #560 Living By Faith
Hymn: #528 I Know that My Redeemer Lives
Hymn: #417 Where He Leads I’ll Follow

We Celebrate the Lord’s Supper

Hymn: #325 Boundless Love
Communion Meditation Charles Perkins

Offering

Prayer Charles Perkins
Hymn Surround Us O Lord

Children’s Bible Bag

Hymn: #365 How Beautiful
(Parents may escort children to TLC during this song. Due to the sensitive nature of this month’s topic we will have children’s worship available for all ages.)

“Sacred Marriage: Marriage as Covenant”

Message..... Nathan Burrow
Hymn: #790 Lord, Take Control

Responses

Family News Jack Hardcastle
Hymn: #992 Can You Count the Stars?
Elder Blessing..... John Barton

Hillcrest Family News

Today's Speakers

A.M. - Nathan Burrow

Due to the sensitive nature of this month's topic we will have children's worship available for all ages.

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

Sympathy

Sympathy to Cam & Joan Hurst on the loss of Cam's father, Cam Hurst, Jr.

Get to Know Nathan

Nathan will not be in the office this Tues., Feb. 14 He will resume on the following Tues., Feb. 21.

Giving Statements Now Available

To view or print your annual giving statement on Hillcrest Connect, go to hillcrestonline.com/hillcrestconnect/statement for instructions. If you have never logged in to Hillcrest Connect, choose the Sign Up option. You may also request an email at admin@hillcrestonline.com or call 691-4200 for a printed copy.

Hillcrest 101 & New Member Dinner, This Wednesday

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 Wed., February 15, at 7 p.m. room 12. The first night we will begin at 5:30 p.m. with a New Member Dinner with elders, staff & spouses in the MPR. Terry Brown & Alan Clute will facilitate. RSVP to Kay in the Office 691-4200.

Hilltoppers Luncheon - February 28, 11:30 a.m.

Jim Clark of The Christian Service Center will be speaking.

New Wednesday Night Ladies Discussion Class began Last Wednesday.

The class will study "Daring Faith" by Randy Harris and Greg Taylor, a book that focuses on meeting Jesus as He is presented in the Gospel of John. Women looking for an opportunity to grow spiritually while developing a deeper relationship with other sisters in Christ are invited to attend. This class meets in Room 219. If you have any questions about the class, contact Marty Williams.

Life Group

If you would like to join a Life Group, please call Alan Clute.

Prayer Team Life Group

Join the Hillcrest Prayer Team in praying for all things Hillcrest such as ministers, ministries, special needs, and the spiritual health of Hillcrest. The team receives weekly prayer focus email and monthly potluck/group prayer time. Email Robert Cole for more info. rlcole1985@gmail.com

Missions and Faith Sharing

Phil Palmer has returned from East Africa and South Sudan for World Bible School.

The **Send the Light** special collection will be held at Hillcrest on Sunday April 2. Please mark your calendar!

Memorial Scholarship Fund for Loy Mitchell

Hillcrest is very honored and pleased to announce a scholarship fund in Loy's memory that will effectively remember and continue his decades of spiritual service, particularly in Zimbabwe. We invite you prayerfully to contribute to this special scholarship for preaching students in Zimbabwe.

For more information about his work you may pick up a brochure on the foyer tables.

For the Record

Sunday Morning	Sunday Evening
A.M. Assembly 689	Chapel Care Group
Bible Class 664	
Membership 883	Wed..... 366
Jan. Offering..... \$129,939	

Calendar of Events

February 14	Caterpillars & Butterflies
February 15	New Member Dinner
February 15 - March 8	Hillcrest 101
February 28	Hilltoppers Luncheon
March 5	Bible Class Fellowship
April 2	Send the Light Sunday
April 28-30	HEB Family Retreat

Hillcrest Ministries

Children's Corner

Nursery: 2-24 Months (TEAM #2)

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 Tonight. 6-7 p.m.

HYG – Youth

Seniors & Parents Meet & Greet - Today after Bible Class

Seniors and Parents will have a meet and greet at Rosa's on Judge Ely following class to go over upcoming senior events.

Tonight - 6 p.m. - Huddles

Wednesday – 7 p.m. - Class

Thursday

Prayer Breakfast - 7 a.m. at Chic-fil-A.

No TNT

HYG Spring Retreat will be March 31-April 2. Sign-up online. Link in Newsletter.

Hillcrest - U

Tonight - 5 p.m., All LIFE groups meet.

G1 – SND – (2533 Lincoln)

G2 – Barnett - (1401 Roadrunner Ct)

G3 – Goodman - (702 Serrot Ct)

G4 – Hatfield – (5333 CR 103N)

Wednesday - 7 p.m. - Share YOUR Story.

Thursday - 11 a.m. - HillcrestU Prayer Chapel at Jacob's Dream. If the weather is poor, we will meet in BSB 121.

REACH - 4-5:30 p.m. If you want to participate in this outreach ministry to the youth at Canterbury Crossing Apartments, please see Justin or Kaylie.

Mark Your Calendar - Spring Retreat will be March 3-5 at Solid Rock in Eastland! Cost will be \$35.

Adult Education Corner

Sunday Morning Adult Classes – This morning we continue the 8-week series on the book of James. Today's lesson, taken from chapter 2 focuses on "Power in What We Say" Another series on "Forgiveness" begins in March!

Ladies Tuesday Morning Bible Class - February 14, 10 a.m. H's & I's - Holy, Immanuel & Integrity, Psalm, 99, 77, 5, 15, 73, 119. Teacher: Karen Jinkerson.

Wednesday Night Classes

- Rm 10/11 – Kevin Batten continues his series on the Gospel of Mark.
- Rm 30 – ESL Class
- Rm 16 – Congregational Singing: Join Odies Wright for a time of worship in song!
- Rm 212 – Class for Young Professionals
- Rm 219 – Women's Bible Class: Daring Faith by Randy Harris and Greg Taylor. Women of all ages are invited.
- Rm 51 – Class for Singles led by Glenn Tuttle
- Rm 52 – Divorce Care

Family Ministry

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

The Fig Leaf Conspiracy

Did you know that sex is the covenant sign and seal for marriage, and this unique feature of marriage created by God is a major cornerstone of intimacy between a married man and woman? This is the reason why Satan hates it so much! From the moment Satan told Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden that they were naked, he has tried to corrupt human sexuality.

In this timely teaching tying in with the sermons this month, we will disclose Satan's lies and attacks on human sexuality and his intention to distort God's perfect design for marriage. Join us Wednesday nights.