

# 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
- Jim Watts
- Odies Wright

## Chairman of the Elders

Charles Perkins  
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## Ministers

Alan Clute, *Involvement/Seniors*  
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Cynthia Coates, *Children*  
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Taylor Cockrell, *Youth*  
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Justin Hatfield, *University*  
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## Connecting to the Community and One Another (Part 2)

*Last week's article recounted the experiences of David who sought a church family for himself and his family as he suffered from AIDS. David asked to be a part of the community but offered to leave quietly if the church leaders thought it best. The elders decided to welcome him into their community but still had to decide how best to incorporate David into the church family.*

The next response from David and the church was an effort to understand the disease and the process involved in its transmission. A medical doctor was invited to speak to the entire assembly of the church a few days after David had been welcomed publicly and his condition explained to the same assembly. The church was encouraged to visit him and talk openly about their feelings and his. Through the effort to understand, a strong relationship was developing between David and the community of believers. Several people made it a personal goal to visit David daily. At first the visits were motivated by the mutual giving of an effectual relationship. In the end, everyone knew that David had given more than he received from this small church.

A strong and trusting relationship developed between the minister and his young dying friend. They shared the joy they had both come to experience by understanding Jesus as a lover of people, any kind of people. When David's family arrived to visit his new community of faith, they were accepted with open arms by the congregation.

Touching came to be important for the congregation. As the members began to understand that they were not in physical danger from the disease, handshakes and hugs were part of the expression of love given to David. Understandably some people still shied away. David understood. Some continued to express doubts. David understood.

As the love and acceptance for David grew within the congregation, the light of Christian love shined brightly to the community. Doctors and nurses began attending worship assemblies with David. Nurses, doctors and other medical staff joined in prayer in the hospital room with David and visiting church members.

A few days before David's death, the minister asked a question of his beloved friend, "What would you like me to tell other young men and women who find themselves hurting and alone like you were?" David paused...then replied, "TELL THEM, DON'T BE AFRAID TO COME HOME." David died a few nights later. Surrounding him were family, and representatives of his community of faith. The journey began with doubt and fear. Yet, through openness, a desire to understand, acceptance, trust, and the power of Holy Spirit, David's journey became filled with grace. He had found the safe place to die which he had lovingly sought. By yielding to the power and guidance of the Spirit, the family of God had connected with David, one another, and the community.

Charlie D. Pruett

# 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 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 14, 2016

Worship Leader..... Tyler Burton  
Hymn: #162..... All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name  
Welcome..... Dave Copeland  
Hymn: #221..... Jesus, Name Above All Names\*  
Hymn: #508..... A Wonderful Savior

## Loving God

Deuteronomy 6:1-9..... Jack Hodge  
Mark 12:28-31..... Lucas Masilamoney  
Hymn: #577..... We Bow Down  
Prayer..... Jim Watts

## The Lord's Supper

Hymn: #71..... As the Deer  
Hymn: #108..... The Lord Is in His Holy Temple  
Communion Meditation..... Ryan Jessup  
Hymn: #790..... Lord, Take Control

## Offering

Prayer..... Ryan Jessup  
Hymn: #790..... Lord, Take Control

## "First Things First: Love God"

Hymn: #100/101..... Holy Ground Medley  
Message..... Phil Ware  
Hymn: #453..... Love Lifted Me

## Responses

Hillcrest News..... Rob Byrd  
Hymn..... A Shield About Me  
Family Blessing..... Dave Copeland

(\*Children's Song of the Month)

The Hillcrest family is led by the Holy Spirit to glorify God, proclaim the truth of Christ which transforms lives, and encourage one another toward faithful service and maturity.

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# Hillcrest Family News

## Today's Speaker

A.M. – Phil Ware  
P.M. – Bob Pipes – Rm 10/11 at 6 p.m.

## Sympathy

- Our sympathy to Kay Heflin on the loss of her husband, Jearald Heflin.
- Our sympathy to Bill Loyd on the loss of his wife, Nelda Loyd.
- Our sympathy to Lottie Novak on the loss of her brother, Jack Cook.

## New Pictures – Today & Next Sunday

Is your picture in Hillcrest Connect? Have your children grown since the directory pictures taken in the fall of 2012? Have you experienced a change in your family? Are you new to Hillcrest? If you need a new picture for any of these reasons, please come by the side of the worship center after worship and have your picture made OR upload one to Hillcrest Connect yourself!

## Hilltoppers Luncheon – Tues., Feb. 23, 11:30 a.m.

Taylor Cockrell will share about the youth summer mission trip and how you can be involved. The menu will be stuffed bell pepper soup, turkey chili, ambrosia, chips, crackers & brownies with ice cream. If you would be willing to help prepare food Monday night at 7 p.m. or Tuesday morning beginning at 9 a.m., put a star by your name. The cost is \$3 per person. Hilltoppers are made up mostly of retirees, but anyone is welcome.

## Ugly Tie Contest – Sunday, February 28

We are asking our Single Seniors to serve as judges for the Ugly Tie Contest. Sign up at the side of the Worship Center and wear a judges' lanyard. Men and male youth are encouraged to "bribe" the judges with hugs, calls, visits, acts of service or kindness. The purpose is to connect our lives to one another (fellowship) in a fun way. Everyone is invited to watch the tie judging and enjoy a free meal at a luncheon in the MPR. Guys with ties: Get busy bribing! Not sure who to bribe? Contact the office for a list of single seniors.

## Looking for a Way to Serve?

If you would be willing to serve as a parking lot monitor in the safety ministry, contact Robert Cole at 201-6321 or rcole1985@gmail.com. If you would be willing to serve in the unlock & lock-up team, contact Lee Lambert leelambert@juno.com or 280-9941. If you would be willing to respond to a medical emergency during worship or Bible class, please sign the red list in Bible class.

## Missions and Faith Sharing

### World Bible School Had an Exciting 2015

The WBS ministry experienced exciting changes this year with a new room that helped combine our WBS internet teaching and paper teaching. WBS also asked Hillcrest to be a part of the "Ghana Project" which targets high schools in Ghana, West Africa. We are in the process of studying with one of the schools. Don Pope is heading up this exciting new venture. This year the WBS helpers sent out 4494 paper courses to Africa, and we also studied with 471 in the U.S. Many of those are in prison. Recently one of our prisoners wrote, "We do not have anyone to teach. We have only your studies." Another one wrote, "May our God bless you and all that help prisoners to think and look at life in a different manner." Praise God, the good news of Jesus Christ is still good news and changes lives every day. We are thankful to Hillcrest for the support and encouragement we receive that allows us to be a part of this wonderful ministry. – Paula Leverett for WBS

### For the Record

Sunday Morning	Sunday Evening
A.M. Assembly..... 681	Rm 10/11..... 76
Classes..... 662	
Membership..... 900	Wed..... 364
Jan. Offering..... \$117,604	

## Calendar of Events

February 23.....	Hilltoppers Luncheon
February 28.....	Ugly Tie Luncheon
March 4-6 .....	University Spring Retreat
March 12-15 .....	HYG Spring Break Trip
March 23.....	New Member Dinner
March 23.....	Hillcrest 101 Begins
April 2 .....	Hillcrest Bible Bowl
April 3 .....	Send the Light Sunday
April 3 .....	Church-wide Picnic/Care Group
April 4-8 .....	Woman to Woman/Home Dinners
April 8-10 .....	High School Spring Retreat
April 20 .....	Cajun Fest LAFF
April 29-May 1 .....	Family Retreat at HEB Camp

# Hillcrest Ministries

## Children's Corner

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

### Training and Learning for Children: (Ages 2-4)

Parents may escort their children to the Children's Wing during the song before the sermon.

**Bible Hour – 6 p.m.** – No Bible Hour. If you have RSVP'd in your class today for Moms to Moms babysitting service at 5:30 p.m., Financial Peace class, or you are a huddle leader who has a child, please bring your child to the MPR this evening for some fun!

## HYG – Youth

**Tonight – 6 p.m.** – Huddles. Junior Huddle is helping babysit for the Moms to Moms at 5:15 p.m. in the MPR.

**Wednesday – 7 p.m.** – Come share your story! Our story is God's gift to us. Happy and joyful or painful and sad, our story can be used to encourage and bless others.

**Thursday – 7 a.m.** - Prayer Breakfast at Chick-fil-A North.

**TNT! Thursday Nights Together! – 7:30-9 p.m.**

**Sign-up** is now available online or through the link in our Newsletter for the HYG Spring Break Trip! March 12-15. \$75.

## Hillcrest - U

### Tonight – 5 p.m. – LIFE Groups Meet

G1 and G4 - Judd and Kelly White's Home  
G2 and G3 - Chip and Jill Whitlock's Home

### Wednesday – 7 p.m. – LIFT – Come Share Your Story

### Thursday - Prayer Chapel - ACU's campus, 11 a.m.

Weather permitting at Jacob's Dream. Otherwise, in the Bible building room 112.

**REACH Ministry! – Thursday, 4-5:30 p.m. – Canterbury Crossing Apartments** – Come join us as we minister to these wonderful children! See Justin, Kaylie or Savannah for more details. Background check required.

### Mark Your Calendar

- Feb 27 – 7:30 p.m. – Desserts & Movie at the Hatfield House
- Mar 4-6 – "We Praise You" Spring retreat at Lake Cisco Christian camp. Cost is only \$20! Go to hillcrestu.com or our facebook page to sign up!

## Adult Education Corner

**Sunday Morning Adult Classes** – Today's lesson is based on Mark chapter 10.

**Wednesday Night Class - Rm 10/11** – Terry Brown will be the speaker.

**Wednesday Night Class – Rm 12** – During the month of February, the newly released "Gospel of John" will be shown. This reenactment uses the word-for-word reading of the Gospel as its script.

**Wednesday Night Class – Rm 30** – ESL Class.

**Wednesday Night Class – Rm 16** – Join Odies Wright for a time of Worship in song!

**Wednesday Night Women's Class – Rm 219** – "Walking by Faith" by Jennifer Rothschild. Women of all ages are invited.

### Tuesday Women's Bible Study – February 9 – 10 a.m.

Rm 30 – "Think" (Phil. 4:8) Teacher, Pat Bratcher.

Rm 10 – "Faith or Works of Law" (Gal. 3:1-14) Teacher, Margaret Cooper.

## Family Ministry

### Wednesdays – Rm 14/15 – 7 p.m.

*Future Family: You Have A Choice In The Matter* - When it comes to family, what does a preferred future look like? What exactly are we aiming for? Whether you are starting a new family or leaving an old one, this class will help you decide what you want your family's future to look like, and help you plan to get there.



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