

Hillcrest Encouragement

Elders

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

Chairman of the Elders

Don Pope
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Ministers

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Does God Wear a Watch?

The topic of time interests me a lot. I am time-bound... I'm temporal... trapped within the clutches of time. Time is the paradigm through which I define the world around me; it colors the way in which I think and act. My life is divided into "then", "now", and "later." I find myself regretting the things I did "back then" and hoping to do better "later." This concept so permeates my thinking that I'm tempted to overlay my fears, anxieties, and points of view upon God, wondering if He sees me through the same lens. However, God doesn't wear a watch.

Unlike me, God is not a temporal being. Time is a construct of God's, therefore He has existence outside of the parameters of His construction of time. To God, time is like a map that He can observe objectively and all at once. Whereas I have regret about "the past" and anxiety about "the future", God does not, nor does He measure me in this manner as it relates to time as I perceive it. This aspect of God is important to comprehend in terms of how I understand His mercy and grace. I'm tempted to apply my time-bound understanding and approach to life upon God by thinking that He was angry with me "yesterday" when I sinned, but that he may be pleased with me tomorrow if I am "good." Subjective feelings of pleasure and acceptance, or anger and disdain are a function of being time-bound – which God is decidedly not. Therefore His grace and mercy can apply to me equally at all "times" (as I would perceive it) because God "is"; there is no "yesterday" or "tomorrow" for God where He would see me as more or less deserving of His love and mercy. I have been placed into a linear existence by God and, consequently, must act according to those parameters. He is not bound by those same parameters nor is He subject to the constructed paradigm of time.

This understanding of time and how it relates to us as created beings and to God as The Creator is pivotal in my understanding of how God sees me. In God's timeless view I am no more or less worthy of His love, forgiveness, and mercy when I am "being good" than when I am "being bad." This truth of the nature of God brings great comfort to me as His mercy is no longer driven by my actions, but rather His holiness. Inasmuch as I understand God's nature, I am more free to praise and honor Him for that nature – free from being driven by my own sin, neither fearing His reprisal nor (perhaps more importantly) believing myself worthy of His divine pleasure. God never perceives me as more or less worthy of His mercy and love because He sees me in totality, never in segmented points of time.

If God loves you and shows you mercy (as He most certainly does), take solace in the fact that He does so from a timeless standpoint, not from a temporal one. He loves you then, now, and forever exactly the same as He is the same "yesterday, today, and forever." So, never ask God "What time is it?" He will always say "yes."

James McGee

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
Upward Bound (all ages)	Room 10
Y/O (all ages)	Room 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 22, 2015

Worship Leader.....Odies Wright
Hymn: #74.....Praise the Lord
WelcomeMatt Haynes
Hymn.....No Other Gods

Do Good to All People

Exodus 23:1-13Bruce Showalter
Galatians 6:1-10Dub Wellborn
Prayer:Kevin Wellborn
Hymn: #570.....A Beautiful Life
Hymn.....One Thing Remains

The Lord's Supper

Communion MeditationJosh Snead
Hymn.....There is None Like You

Offering

PrayerJosh Snead

Songs of Confession

Hymn: #745.....Humble Yourself
Hymn.....If I Have Wounded Any Soul Today
Hymn.....Create In Me
(Parents may escort children ages 2-4 to TLC during this song)

“Resistance Training: Speaking of Sin”

Message.....Matt Haynes
Hymn: #790.....Lord, Take Control

Responses

Family Ministry Survey Announcement

Hillcrest News.....Fred Bailey
Hymn: #794.....Unto Thee, O Lord
Family Blessing.....Cam Hurst

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.

Hillcrest Church of Christ
650 E Ambler Ave - Abilene, Texas 79601 - 325-691-4200 - office@hillcrestonline.com - www.hillcrestonline.com

Hillcrest Family News

Tonight's Speaker

Neal Coates. "Jerusalem, Jerusalem"

New Members

Gary & Dixie Mabry, Scott & Susan Hughes, Traci Kennan, Norma Rogahn, Elaine Nickell

Sympathy

To Tye and A'Lisa Brooks on the loss of her grandmother, Blanche Wiese, on Feb. 13, of Clyde.

To Keith and Rita Morgan on the loss of Rita's uncle, Ray Risley, of Feb. 19, in Kansas.

Tuesday Ladies Class - Feb 24 - 10 a.m.

Room 30: Pat Varner – "Lord is it Warfare" Ch. 4.

Room 10: Cathy Franklin - 1 Timothy 5:17-21

Hillcrest 101

If you are a new member or considering placing membership, you are invited to attend the Hillcrest 101 class. The class continues this Wed., at 7 p.m. in room 12. Alan Clute will share about all the ministries of Hillcrest.

Hilltoppers Luncheon

The next luncheon will be Tuesday, February 24, at 11:30 a.m. in Room 12. Ken Collums, ACU's head football coach, will be sharing about how the program is training football players to be men. The menu is baked fish almondine, fried okra, raisin & carrot salad, potato casserole, roll and brownies with chocolate dipped strawberries. The cost is \$3 per person.

Men's Life Breakfast

Rise up, O men of God! Plan to attend and bring your sons, grandsons, fathers, father-in-laws and friends for this time of food, fellowship and encouragement on Saturday, February 28, from 8 to 10 a.m., in Rm 12. The menu includes scrambled eggs, sausage, biscuits and gravy, milk, juice and coffee. David Beard will bring a devotional thought followed by discussion and prayer. There is no cost, but please sign up in Bible class so we can have a count for food. Contact Alan Clute if you have any questions or are willing to help cook.

Calendar of Events

February 24.....Hilltoppers Luncheon
 February 28..... Men's Life Breakfast
 March 1..... Care Group (Young Professionals)
 March 8.....Daylight Savings Time Begins
 March 19.....Motherly Love
 March 26..... Woman to Woman Event
 April 19..... Labor For Your Neighbor
 May 1-3.....HEB Retreat

New Member Pictures

If you have recently placed membership at Hillcrest or experienced a change in your family, please come to the side of the Worship Center and have your picture made today after worship.

Men's Softball

The first practice will be tomorrow, Feb. 23, from 8-10 p.m. on field 1. Contracts are due tomorrow night also. The season starts Mar. 16. Cost is \$50. Contact Alan Clute if you are interested in playing.

Missions and Faith Sharing

Dear Hillcrest family,

I want to thank you for all of your love, support, and prayers I received during my apprenticeship in Mumena. It was a season of great learning and spiritual growth for me as I worked among the tribes of the Northwest Province of Zambia, and I could not have done it without the support of each one of you. The warmth of your welcome and greetings, and the reception last Sunday filled my heart and made me so proud and thankful to have represented this congregation to others. May God bless you this day.

Your brother in Christ, Caleb Callari

HillcrestU – University

Tonight

LIFE groups meet at 5:30 p.m.

G1 and G2 – Whitlock (1317 Lakeview)

G3 and G4 – Hatfield Host (Hillcrest)

Tuesday

Tuesday Night Bible study at 2417 Church St at 8 p.m.

Wednesday

LIFT Worship: Experiencing the Psalms at 7 p.m.

Thursday

We will have small group chapel this week at 11 a.m. at Jacob's Dream. If the weather is cold or rainy, we will be in the Bible building room 120.

Spring Retreat – March 20-22

Sign up today for our retreat, REST Sign up available from our Facebook page or hillcrestonline.com on our HillcrestU page! Cost is only \$35!

Hillcrest Ministries

Children's Corner

Nursery: 2-24 Months (TEAM #4)

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

Tonight from 6-7 p.m. Infants up to age 3 meet in the nursery. Children ages 4-5th grade will begin in the MPR.

Family Ministry

Sunday - Single and Parenting - 6 p.m. – Room 14-15

Darrin Cox & Summer Anders facilitate this group.

Wednesday - 7 p.m. - Room 14-15

"Breathing Room" Ever feel like you can't catch your breath? Perhaps you need some breathing room - a place where you can actually stop for a minute and not think about all of the family crises you're dealing with. In this four week series, we will show you how to create this place in your schedule, your finances, and your relationships. Don't miss it!

Divorce Care – Wednesday – 7 p.m. – Room 52

If you or someone you know could benefit from this support group, please plan to attend. Facilitated by Russell & Cene' Gould.

Hillcrest Family Ministry Needs You

The Family Ministry Leadership is looking for your help with an anonymous survey that will measure what is going on spiritually in the families we have here at Hillcrest, and specifically what spiritual activities are happening within the home. This takes just a few minutes of your time, and the information will help us to know better how we can help you develop more of a faith at home mindset.

All you have to do is go to www.faithlife.me to take the survey, and put in our church code, which is 511. It will take you through a series of questions where you choose a response with a click of your mouse, so it goes very quickly. If for some reason you are not able to make it work or do not have access to a computer, you can come up to the office and we will help you.

The results of this survey will be shared during our Faith at Home weekend on March 28-29th. Again, your honest involvement is needed and appreciated, and will be totally anonymous.

Thank you for your help!

Adult Education Corner

New Series begins this morning

Today we begin a 6-week study of the Old Testament book of Judges. These lessons focus on great men and women who tried to turn the children of Israel's hearts back to God. The overarching question is: "Why can't we seem to learn from past experiences?"

Looking for Individuals Interested in Teaching a Summer Class.

This summer we will be using various men to teach month-long series in the Adult Classes. If you have a 4-5 lesson series and would like to be considered as a teacher this summer, please contact Perry Reeves (telephone: 676-0875 or email: reevesp@acu.edu) for more information.

HYG - Youth Group

Today

Lunch meeting for Mumena Campaigners from 12-3 p.m. in the youth room. Lunch will be provided

Wednesday

Tutoring at 6:15 p.m. Class at 7 p.m.

Thursday

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

Friday

South-side Prayer Breakfast at 7 a.m. at Chick-fil-A South (on Southwest Dr.) Contact Taylor if you will need a ride to school.

Upcoming Events

If you are planning on going on the Spring Break Ski Trip, email Taylor.

Juniors and seniors, sign up online for the Junior/Senior Night Out on April 10-11.

For the Record

Sunday Morning

A.M. Assembly 915
 Bible Class 707
 Membership 956

Offering \$21,987
 Weekly Budget \$25,000

Sunday Evening

Auditorium 56
 Adult Life Groups 199
 Bible Hour 21
 University 64

Wednesday Evening

Classes 407