

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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Alan Clute, *Involvement/Seniors*
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Cynthia Coates, *Children*
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Justin Hatfield, *University*
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Lives of Lasting Influence

"It's not what you take when you leave this world behind you, It's what you leave behind you when you go."

The truth in the chorus of the country song, "Wooden Crosses," lingers with me when I think of the life and recent death of our friend and steward of faith, Randy Becton. Though his physical body seldom worked in his favor, he continued to influence hundreds through his own battles with cancer and with his faith - speaking and writing of his doubts, fears, and anxieties. He laid himself at the feet of Jesus again and again, then rose again and again, faith intact. Randy's honesty about his journey resonated with us, often reflecting our own stories.

Expecting a shortened life, Randy was eagerly bold in conversations about his faith and bold in asking about ours. His wife, Camilla, ever by his side, never wavered in his care or in their partnership of influencing the "forever" of others. Randy prompted conversations about spiritual matters as much as physical; "How is your Spiritual self?" or as he asked me when our kiddos were teenagers, "How are your children, spiritually?"

What will we allow God to use in our lives to give us the courage, the sense of urgency, the intensity to be bold about Him? We can, even in the smallest of actions, contribute to the "forever influence" of others - by being kinder, more sympathetic, more encouraging. Or, as my late husband Alton suggested, "Just give them a good listening to."

We lament the passing of the men and women who have shored us up in our faith. But, oh how grateful we are for them, for their lives with us, and "what they leave behind when they go."

The words of the hymn "May Those Who Come Behind Us Find Us Faithful" say it best:

Let us run the race as those who've gone before us,
Let the footprints that we leave, lead others to believe.
Oh, may all who come behind us find us faithful.
May the fire of our devotion light their way.
And the lives we live, inspire them to obey.
Oh, may all who come behind us find us faithful.

I'm humbly amazed that God trusts us as the vessels that hold the truths of the centuries. A vessel He tells us to boldly empty again and again for the world, while He continues to refill it, again and again - generation after generation.

Betty Davis

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 2Room 100	Gr 1.....Room 121
Age 3Room 106	Gr 2.....Room 117
Age 4Room 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

January 15, 2017

Worship Leader Odies Wright
Hymn: #96 I Stand in Awe
Welcome Chip Whitlock

Favorite Songs of the H.O.P.E. Class

Hymn Let Us Worship
Hymn Here I Am to Worship

Love Your Neighbor

Leviticus 19:13-18..... Rich Jinkerson
2 Corinthians 5:16-21 Rich Jinkerson
PrayerCliff Barbarick

We Celebrate the Lord's Supper

Hymn: #364 Come, Share the Lord
Communion Meditation..... Phil Vardiman
HymnBeautiful Lamb

Offering

Prayer Phil Vardiman
Hymn: #446 Hear, O Israel
Hymn: #290 Shine, Jesus, Shine
(Parents may escort children ages 2-4 to TLC during this song)

"Reconnect with Your Neighbor"

Message..... Nathan Burrow
Hymn: #660 People Need the Lord

Responses

Remembrance of Lives Lived

Family News Kyle McAlister
Hymn: #567 Restore My Soul
Elder Blessing..... Odies Wright

Hillcrest Family News

Today's Speakers

A.M. - Nathan Burrow
P.M. - Bob Pipes - Rm 10/11 at 6 p.m.

Sympathy

- Sympathy to Ann Little on the loss of her mother, Willa B. Patterson.
- Sympathy to Carol Hall on the loss of her husband, Raymond.
- Sympathy to Chris & Tracy Pettijohn on the loss of Tracy's father.
- Sympathy to Elda Hernandez and Rudy Castillo on the loss of their aunt, Esther.

New Baby

Congratulations to Jorge and Darci Cruz on the birth of a son, Dillon. Big brother is Maddix.

Baby Shower - Postponed to January 22, 3 - 4:30 p.m.

In honor of Jennifer Hoskins, (daughter-in-law of J.R. & Carmen Foster), at the home of Karen Southward, 1941 Green Ridge Ct. Selections at Target, Walmart, and Amazon gift cards.

Leadership Training for Christ (LTC) - An information meeting will take place today after classes at the rear of the Worship Center.

Get to Know Nathan

If you haven't had a chance to meet or visit with Nathan, feel free to drop by the office any Tuesday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. His door will be open.

Hillcrest Singers

The Hillcrest Singers Spring 2017 program will feature songs from the "Great American Hymnbook" - examples of sacred music from throughout American History. All our rehearsals and presentations are on Wednesday nights at 7:00. We'll begin on January 11 in the Chapel; then in March-April, we will sing at area nursing homes and assisted living facilities - culminating in a presentation at local churches the first two Wednesday nights in May. All are welcome. For more info. contact Greg Straughn at gregory.straughn@acu.edu.

Teacher Appreciation Lunch - January 22, MPR

We will honor our teachers at lunch. All church members are invited! Please RSVP at www.hillcrestonline.com in the events section.

Faith at Home Sunday, Jan. 29 - "Be a Match"

We will have a blood marrow donor drive immediately after the special workshop that will happen during Bible Class. In various locations throughout the auditorium, volunteers will leave a simple throat swab that can save someone's life (blood marrow tests only take a few minutes and add you to a national registry). We are also asking Bible classes to bring underwear and socks for our homeless teen population here in Abilene. (or you can bring Wal Mart gift cards, as well) A box will be available on January 29, at the entrance to the worship center by the foyer. Sign-ups will be available in each class beginning Jan. 8, to bring certain sizes. Call Jack in the office if you have any questions at 325-691-4200.

Hilltoppers Luncheon - January 31, 11:30 a.m.

Kay Talley will speak about her book "Beyond the Rain" dealing with recovering from grief.

Life Group

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

Inclement Weather Closings

When winter weather prevents members from safely attending, our elders may choose to cancel services. When that happens, we will post information on the Hillcrest home page at www.hillcrestonline.com, our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/hillcrestabilene, the office phone at 691-4200, local TV stations and their websites, and through our Hillcrest Connect email message system.

Missions and Faith Sharing

Zambia Medical Mission is having a work day from 9 a.m. to 12 noon on Saturday, Jan. 21, at Bontke Brothers Construction Company, 102 College Drive. Please come to sort items and prepare them for shipment to Zambia. There will also be a truck from Global Samaritan Resources to unload. Light breakfast food and lunch will be served to volunteers. Second, there are two ZMM containers leaving from Abilene this winter. The first will be loaded at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 28, again at Bontke. The second will be loaded on Saturday, Feb. 4, at 10 a.m. at Bontke.

Prison Ministry - There were 47 baptisms in the month of December bringing the total for 2016 to 866 at the Middleton Unit.

Hillcrest Ministries

Children's Corner

Nursery: 2-24 Months (TEAM #3)

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 - Bible Hour will begin in the MPR.

Leadership Training for Christ (LTC) - An information meeting will take place today after classes at the rear of the Worship Center.

HYG - Youth

Tonight - 6 p.m. - Huddles

Wednesday - 7 p.m. - Class

Thursday

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

6-8 p.m. - TNT, All grades

Deadline to sign up for ski trip is Wed., Jan. 25. Sign up at skidaddy.com/hillcrestmansfield. All payments must be turned in to Cody Forsberg by Wed., Feb. 15.

HYG Spring Retreat will be March 31-April 2. Sign-ups will be available online soon.

Hillcrest - U

The holidays are over and the new semester begins this week! We are looking forward to a great semester.

Tonight - 6 p.m., For those who are back in town, we will meet at Rosa's to eat together.

Wednesday - 7 p.m. - LIFT - Welcome back praise and prayer night. Hope to see you there and catch up.

Mark Your Calendar - Spring Retreat will be March 3-5. Location and theme to be announced.

Calendar of Events

January 15	Remembrance of Lives Lived
January 22	Teacher Appreciation Lunch
January 29	Faith at Home Sunday
January 31	Hilltoppers Luncheon
February 5	Bible Class Fellowship
February 15	New Member Dinner
February 15 - March 8	Hillcrest 101

Adult Education Corner

Sunday Morning Adult Classes - This morning our study of the book of James continues with a lesson on 'Trials and Temptations' taken from James chapter 1.

Ladies Tuesday Morning Bible Class - January 17, 10 a.m. A's - Able & Abide, Psalm, 13, 17, 42,1, 34, 91, 27. Teacher: Megan Forsburg.

Wednesday Night Classes

- Rm 10/11 - Cliff Barbarick presents lessons during the month of January.
- 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: Living Stones by Casandra Martin. Women of all ages are invited.
- Rm 51 - Class for Singles led by Glenn Tuttle
- Rm 52 - Divorce Care, new session begins this Week.

Family Ministry

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

An Unexpected Christmas

Let's face it; we all have an uncle or cousin we whisper about behind closed doors. We all have a relative or two we try to avoid at family gatherings. No surprise there. But here's something you may not know. Jesus had a few shady characters in his family as well. Actually, he had some relatives that make your most wayward cousin look like a saint. This series will look at how we see our families in a new light!

Faith at Home Sunday Jan. 29

Speaker: Earl Young, Olympic Gold Medalist and Cancer Survivor - Earl will be here to share his testimony of the healing power of God during worship, and how we can heal others with a very simple test. A special interview will be held during bible class time in the worship center, and Jack will demonstrate on stage how simple the marrow donor process is.

For the Record

Sunday Morning	Sunday Evening
A.M. Assembly..... 756	Chapel.....Class Fellowship
Membership..... 883	
Dec. Offering \$136,086	Wed 363