

# 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

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## Ministers

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## Time to Hit the Road

The alarm goes off and I get out of bed. A quick, easy breakfast that doesn't make too much of a mess is the order of the day. Two cups of coffee are unthinkable; I barely slurp down the one this busy morning. I get the kids up; my wife is in the shower. We all get ready quickly and get in the already gassed truck that is hooked up to our trailer. We pull out of the driveway only 30 minutes late! Not too bad. Thus, our vacation to the east coast began late in June.

These vacations take a lot of planning. We make reservations months in advance, plan what to do and where to go well in advance, and contact friends and relatives in advance so we may coordinate schedules to see each other. The budget is consulted, groceries purchased, the route is mapped out and addresses logged into the GPS. We plan our vacations. We anticipate them.

There are some parallels between this journey and our spiritual journey. My anticipation and excitement to leave should be similar to how I feel about heading toward my home with God. It would be foolish to just bump along haphazardly and see what comes my way. The Christian journey is an intentional one. I may prepare for it through prayer and Bible study. I meet with the saints regularly for encouragement along my journey. I avoid certain places and situations because they will be unwanted detours. That's not to suggest that my journey is without bumps in the road.

Sometimes the road seems too long and the destination too far. Tempers flare and unkind words are spoken in the truck. We feel crowded and uncomfortable. Just like a road trip, sometimes we struggle to get along with our fellow travelers. The trip seems too long and the destination too far. And don't even get me started about the traffic! It was awful on the east coast. It seemed that someone was always trying to cut me off or slow me down. That's how it is in my spiritual life at times. Sometimes tempers flare and unkind words are spoken when things don't go my way – when my desires are crowded out or I'm pushed out of my comfort zone. I think I know the best way to go, and it turns out to be not so great.

I wonder if the children of Israel felt this way on the eve of the Exodus. They were to eat the Passover meal the night prior with their travelling clothes on, staff in hand, ready to go (Ex 12:11 ff). They were to greatly anticipate leaving Egypt to go to the promised land symbolizing us leaving our sinful way of life to journey toward the Kingdom of God. We shouldn't long to remain, but be ready to leave! Like the journey undertaken by Israel, our journey will take faith, planning, and a leader and there will likely be grumbling, detours, and hard times. Things will get in our way to distract us and slow us down; however, we should always keep our goal in sight.

The journey is hard and we sometimes struggle to make progress, but the destination is worth the struggle.

Bon Voyage!

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

Nursery.....	2-24 mo.
Age 2 .....	Room 100
Age 3 .....	Room 106
Age 4 .....	Room 107
Pre-K.....	Room 110
K.....	Room 118
Gr 1.....	Room 121
Gr 2.....	Room 117
Gr 3.....	Room 120
Gr 4.....	Room 213
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
Soulful Filling (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

July 16, 2017

Worship Leader ..... Collin Pittman  
Hymn ..... Psalm 95  
Welcome ..... Shane Price

### Songs of Praise

Hymn: #587 ..... Sing and Be Happy  
Hymn: #2 ..... We Praise Thee, O God

### Singing God's Praise

Psalm 138 ..... Ron Owens  
Colossians 3:15-71 ..... Ron Owens  
Prayer ..... Gene Williams  
Hymn ..... Shout Hallelujah  
Hymn: #63 ..... I Will Call upon the Lord

### We Celebrate the Lord's Supper

Hymn: #315 ..... When I Survey the Wondrous Cross  
Communion Meditation ..... Gary Varner

### Offering

Prayer ..... Gary Varner  
Hymn: #47 ..... Holy, Holy, Holy  
Hymn: #23 ..... Our God, He Is Alive  
*(Parents may escort children to TLC during this song.)*

### "Our God Reigns!"

Message..... Justin Hatfield  
Hymn ..... Lord, Reign In Me

### Responses

Family News ..... Kelly Moore  
Hymn: #851 ..... I'll Fly Away  
Elder Blessing..... Dave Copeland

# Hillcrest Family News

## Today's Speakers

A.M. - Justin Hatfield  
P.M. - John Fewkes in the chapel at 6 p.m.

## New Members

Jacob & Christal Martin

## Nathan's Schedule for Summer

Nathan will not be available during July. He is in Zambia for 3-4 weeks.

## Sanctuary Ministries Lunch - Today, 12 p.m., MPR

Sanctuary Ministries invites Hillcrest members to a lunch in the MPR today, for brisket sandwiches and all the trimmings. The meal is free. Sanctuary hopes you can join others and donate to help support this orphanage, evangelism, and benevolence work in India. Isaac Palaparthi from Tenali, India, will be the special guest. He is a long-time minister and evangelist, and is the director of Sanctuary Ministries in India. Isaac will speak today in the H.O.P.E. Class. A Hillcrest family, Matt & Cheryl Merritt, are involved with the Sanctuary work.

## Pack the Pulpit - July 30

We are looking for new and gently used backpacks for the upcoming school season. Bring them with you to Faith at Home Sunday on July 30 and let's pack the pulpit.

## Unclaimed Dishes

Are you missing any dishes? There is a table in the long hallway with unclaimed dishes. Please check to see if any of them belong to you. Any dishes left after August 3, will be donated to the Christian Service Center.

## Thank You Kitchen Keepers!

A big thank you to our kitchen keepers, who have spent all week cleaning and organizing the kitchen. Thanks to Jan Miller, Denise Barnett & Jill Whitlock!! We will do our best to keep it clean.

**VIP Camp Craft Needs:** This year's craft needs are plastic containers with lids, cereal boxes, old cords or wires, boxes smaller than cereal boxes, shoe boxes, and toilet paper rolls. Drop your items into the bins marked "VIP Camp" next to the WBS room.

## Good SOIL Projects (Serving Others in Love)

The Hillcrest Family wants to help out whenever we can. We have created a list of needs on our website with a contact phone number. If you can help out, visit [hillcrestonline.com/good-soil/](http://hillcrestonline.com/good-soil/) on the members section of our website and find out where you are needed.

## Missing Blu-Ray Player

If you borrowed a Blu-Ray player from Rm 14/15, please return it ASAP.

## Missions and Faith Sharing

### Send the Light Mission Trips

- The Mumena, Zambia campaign, led by Cam Hurst and Brian Davis, returned on July 10. Please tell the high school seniors involved in the trip thank you for a job well done in teaching Kaonde youth from many villages. There were 37 youth baptisms.
- The Starfish Ministry campaign in eastern Zimbabwe was conducted by the Dos Santos family through July 14. They helped feed hundreds of persons and encouraged churches and their preachers.
- Zambia Medical Mission is currently running and lasts until July 23. You can keep up with this large mission effort by entering "Zambia Medical Mission Team Info" on Facebook. They witnessed over 20 baptisms in the first three days of clinics.
- Phil and Elaine Palmer are participating in a WBS Campaign in several Eastern Africa countries from July 6 - August 7. Phil reports from Juba, the capital and largest city of South Sudan, the WBS Workshop there had 40 attendees and 11 baptisms on one day.

### Cebu City, Philippines

This past Sunday, it was announced that Hillcrest will oversee the new mission effort in Cebu City, Philippines, by Caleb and Vanessa Callari. They are working now to prepare and raise needed funds. Please be praying for their success.

### Calendar of Events

July 16 .....Sanctuary Ministries Lunch  
July 23-26 .....VIP Camp  
July 29 - August 4 .....Pine Springs Youth Camp  
July 30 .....Faith @ Home Sunday  
August 9 .....Watermelon Feast  
August 13 .....Bible Class Fellowship  
August 28 .....ACU & AISD First Day of School  
Aug 29 .....Hilltoppers Luncheon  
September 4.....Labor Day  
September 10.....Bible Class Fellowship

# 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.

**No Bible Hour Tonight**

**VIP Camp - July 23-26** (For children who have finished 1st-5th grade) Online registration forms have been emailed to our families.

## HYG – Youth

**Wednesday – 7 p.m. - Class**

**VIP Camp - July 23-26** - Sign up with J and Keri to help.

**Pine Springs - July 29-August 4**, for incoming 7th graders through graduating seniors. Go to [pinespringscamp.com](http://pinespringscamp.com) to sign up or get brochure from J or Keri.

If you would like to receive the youth email newsletter, please sign up at [hillcrestonline.com/ministries/youth](http://hillcrestonline.com/ministries/youth)

## Hillcrest - U

**Tonight - 7:30 p.m.**

Movie night at the Hatfield's new address, 2434 Independence Blvd.

**Wednesday - 7 p.m., Class, Crazy Love**

### For the Record

Sunday Morning	Sunday Evening
A.M. Assembly .....647	Chapel..... 57
Bible Class .....593	
Membership.....892	Wed ..... 282
June Offering.....\$90,954	

## Adult Education Corner

**Sunday Morning Adult Classes** – Each adult class will pursue topics of their own choosing for the summer months. Ask your class chair for information about topics and teachers

### Wednesday Night Classes

- Rm 10/11 - Various men will be presenting individual lessons during the month of July.
- Rm 16 – Congregational Singing: Join Odies Wright for a time of worship in song!
- Rm 30 – ESL Class
- Rm 51 – Class for Singles led by Glenn Tuttle
- Rm 52 – Divorce Care will resume in the fall.
- Rm 212 – Class for Young Professionals
- Rm 219 – Women's Bible Class: Various speakers through the summer. Women of all ages are invited.

## Family Ministry

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

### A Life Long Love

Couples often settle for too little when it comes to marriage. We fail to understand how deeply God cares about our spouse. We diminish our need to not only understand what biblical love really is, but also to become a people who excel at it. We let ourselves drift apart instead of making the daily choices to grow closer together.

You will never look at worship or your spouse in the same way again, and this series will guide you through the power shifts and seasonal mine fields that blow up so many marriages so that you can grow in your love, instead of in your disappointment.

**Faith at Home - Sunday, July 30, 9 a.m. - Back to School with God in Your Backpack - Guest Speaker, David Frazee**

**Back to School Parenting Workshop - 10:30 a.m., Worship Center.** This is an optional workshop for all parents and grandparents during Bible class. We will be collecting new backpacks and supplies that day for kids in our community who cannot afford to buy their own. Sign up in Bible class.