

# 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

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## Ministers

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## The Gospel According to Pluto

Pluto has been in the news a lot during the past two weeks. With the culmination of NASA's New Horizons mission, the "planet" has been the focus of a nine-and-a-half year voyage; and while this kind of exploratory mission is not new to NASA, the distances and sizes involved are unique. Setting aside the debate of whether or not Pluto is a planet – most of us grew up memorizing nine planets in the Solar System and are pretty happy keeping it in that list – I think there are two aspects of this story that resonate with our walk as faithful Christians.

First is the scale of the mission: Pluto is 4.67 billion miles from earth. Such a distance is unimaginable. If the sun was the size of a Sam's Club in downtown Manhattan, the Earth would be a grand piano in Trenton, New Jersey; Pluto would be a violin in Los Angeles. It took almost nine years for the satellite to travel from here to there, and the culmination of its mission was about 2½ hours (150 minutes) of a close approach. Those few minutes represent 3/1000 of a percent of the whole mission; or said another way – 99.997% of the time, the satellite was traveling and the scientists were waiting, preparing to do their important work. In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus explains how the Father lavishes his love and good gifts on his children. It is easy to suggest that all the work put into a mission culminating in such a small window of data gathering is unnecessarily lavish, or costly, or even wasteful; yet the information received and the insights revealed have been truly extraordinary. How much more, then, does the Father lavish his blessings on us? And are we appropriately grateful?

In Luke 15, Jesus poses a question: "Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it?" This is a story about repentance, and the rejoicing in heaven that results in return. Pluto was a kind of lost sheep. True, we know about where it is in its 248-year orbit; but close enough would not work for *New Horizons*. What did work were the efforts of astronomer Carl Lampland. Almost every night for 20 years between 1930 and 1951, Lampland photographed the sky around Pluto. Those images were used to pinpoint Pluto in its orbit and predict exactly where it would be on July 14, 2015, at 5:49 am. What struck me as amazing about this observation was the effort of an individual to work on a project without even knowing if that work would be useful. Without Lampland's work, *New Horizons* would have likely missed Pluto. Are we consistent enough and patient enough for our efforts to yield such fruit? And can we fully realize the future harvest of our present kindness?

Let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us.

Greg Straughn

# 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 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

July 26, 2015

Worship Leader..... Josh Snead  
Hymn: #2..... We Praise Thee, O God  
Welcome..... Dave Copeland  
Hymn: #622..... Ring Out the Message

### We Are Blessed to Be a Blessing

Hymn #449..... Thy Word\*  
Genesis 12:1-3..... Carter Snead  
Ephesians 2:1-10..... Derrell Sloan  
Prayer..... Keith Morgan  
Hymn: #555..... Seek Ye First

### The Lord's Supper

Hymn: #337..... Hallelujah! What a Savior  
Communion Meditation..... Kilnam Cha

### Offering

Prayer..... Kilnam Cha  
Hymn: #671..... Purer In Heart, O God

### "Saved at Sea #6: Saved From to be Saved For"

Hymn..... Great Are You Lord  
(Parents may escort children ages 2-4 to TLC during this song)  
Message..... Phil Ware  
Hymn: #452..... Standing on the Promises

### Responses

Hillcrest News..... Malcolm Coco  
Hymn: #587..... Sing and Be Happy  
Elder Blessing..... John Barton

(\*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 Speakers

A.M. – Phil Ware  
P.M. – Coy Roper

## Bible Reading Schedule – July 26-August 1 Mark 3-9 – One chapter per day.

- What does Jesus want me to know?
- What does Jesus want me to feel?
- What does Jesus want me to do?

## Baby Shower

Honoring Isaac and Molly Wright and baby girl Brynlee Marie, Sunday, August 2, from 2-3:30 p.m. at the home of Judd & Kelly White, 2541 John C Stevens St. Selections at Target, Walmart, Kid's Village and online at [www.myregistry.com](http://www.myregistry.com).

## Members & New Members Directory

If you would like to view or download an updated members directory in Adobe Acrobat PDF format, you can log into Hillcrest Connect and follow these directions.

1. Log in to Hillcrest Connect.
2. You will be on your Home menu (top of your left menu)
3. Click on the Welcome tab (left in your top menu going across)
4. Click on these links to view directories. To download, right click and "save link as."
  - Printable Directory
  - New Members Directory

Please call the office if you would like help logging in or downloading these directories. Also, if you have not already bookmarked the mobile version of Hillcrest Connect online directory on your smart phone, let us show you how to use it. This is a convenient way to find addresses, phone numbers and pictures while you are out and about.

For the Record	
<b>Sunday Morning</b>	<b>Sunday Evening</b>
A.M. Assembly..... 648	Auditorium ..... 70
Classes..... 569	
Membership..... 953	<b>Wed Classes</b> ..... 326
Offering ..... \$23,534	
Weekly Budget .... \$25,000	

## Change in Contribution Reporting

We are very thankful to our members for your giving nature and the way you support the ministries at Hillcrest. We want you to see a broader view of our contributions, so starting in August, we will start reporting our contributions on a monthly basis so that we can more accurately reflect the totals. Several factors affect the weekly totals. Some weeks are larger due to the once-a-month contributions, while others may be lower. Some of our members mail in their contributions when out of town. Others have set up a once-a-month or weekly bank draft. Until recently, those drafts have not been included in the weekly totals for the Bulletin. Going forward, we will include all contributions in the monthly totals. If you are interested in the convenience of setting up a draft, contact the church office at 691-4200.

## Missions & Faith Sharing

### News from Kathie Wright in Zambia

About 1500 people gathered for worship at Namwianga Mission in Zambia. People from surrounding villages came for the annual meeting of Christians known as Lectureship. Every bench was packed, but always, throughout the night, one more person was able to squeeze onto an end. The stage behind the podium where Odies was speaking was full of people on benches and in chairs. People were hanging into the windows to hear. The doors were open so those outside crowded around the entrances could listen. We are so thankful to be here right now. The world is hungry for Jesus. People have little but there is contentment. Twice today I was asked for help. Both people wondered if I had a Bible I could give them.

Calendar of Events	
August 8 .....	Hillcrest Golf Scramble
August 9 .....	Care Group
August 16 .....	Big Event/HYG
August 23 .....	Promotion Sunday
August 22-23 .....	Faith At Home Weekend
August 24 .....	Prayer for Beginning of School
August 25 .....	Hilltoppers Luncheon
September 2 .....	LAFF (Loaves & Fishes Fellowship)
September 13 .....	Care Group

# 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 – 6 p.m.** – Tonight infants up to age 3 meet in the nursery. Children ages 4 through Kindergarten will begin in the MPR.

**Promotion Sunday – August 23** – Children going into PreK, Kindergarten, and 1<sup>st</sup> -5<sup>th</sup> grades will promote to their new classes. An email is coming your way with details.

## HYG - Youth

**Today** – Middle School and High School group leave for Pine Springs.

**Wednesday** – Class at 7 p.m.

**Next Sunday** – Interns last Sunday.

**All incoming Seniors** need to start making plans to attend the Big Event on Sunday, August 16.

**Cupcake wars** on Monday, August 3, talk to Chelsea, Emily, or Cassie to set up teams.

## HillcrestU - University

**Tonight – 7:30 p.m.**

Movie night at the Hatfield house. Bring drinks and snacks to share. (5333 CR 103 N)

**Wednesday**

Class at 7 p.m.

The School year is fast approaching. Please be in prayer for our coming year.

## Adult Education Corner

**Sunday morning** – Next Sunday morning several classes will begin new studies for the month of August.

**Rm 11, Younger/Older (YO) Class** – Keith Morgan/Steve Austin – *Travels of Jesus and the Apostles*

**Rm 12, Welcome Class** – Jerry Hayes – *Angels*

**Rm 14/15, Sunrise Class (8 a.m.)** – John Casada – *Being a Christian in a Secular World*

**Rm 14/15, Soulful Filling Class** – Terry Brown – *Walk with Me. Impacting the World by Following Jesus' Example*

**Rm 16, Common Ground Class** – Yancey House/Cliff Barbarick – *Various Topics*

**Rm 21, H.O.P.E. Class** – Dave Copeland – *Portrait of a Servant*

**Rm 30, Travelers Class** – Ron Rosseau – *Reformation*

**Rm 52, C.I.A./Young Professionals Class** – Ryan Jessup – *Arguments for the Existence of God*

**Rm 219, F.U.N. Class** – Perry Reeves – *Lessons for Today from Samuel*

**Chapel, Generations Class** – Jack Hardcastle – *Gospel of John*

**Wednesday, 7 p.m.** – Duwain Houston will be teaching in Rooms 10-11 this Wednesday and Bill Brant will teach during the month of August. The Women's Class (Room 219) continues their in-depth study of 1 and 2 Thessalonians.

## Family Ministry

**Wednesday – 7 p.m. – Room 14/15**

*Sacred Parenting - How Raising Children Shapes Our Souls* This series will show how God can transform lessons in raising children into opportunities to grow in the image of Christ as parents! This is for all ages of parents, and would benefit anyone that has children.