

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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Bologna, No Fish, and the Way of Godly Manhood

This week I learned that a great man had passed away. As a young, newly-married man, I had two mentors. One mentored me spiritually, showing by word and action, what it meant to be a faithful man of God. That man went home to his God a few years back. My other mentor showed me what it was to be a godly husband and father. He showed me the strength found in being dependable and honest. In a world wrought with confusion about what it means to be a "real man", this man showed me what it means to be a godly man. He displayed leadership (he was an elder in the church) without pretense and knew God as the sole source of wisdom.

This was a man who understood that people were more important than issues and that every issue that came to him in the form of a decision to be made had the very real lives of people involved. He was a courageous man who wasn't afraid to love. He loved his wife, his family, the church, and Jesus. He loved nature, seeing it as a reflection of a God who loves the world. What set this man apart from so many others is that the love he had was manifested in his actions. To him, "loving" meant "doing". It meant that he spent his time on the people and things he loved. He saw love everywhere. I remember sitting in a fishing boat with him one weekend when we decided to break out the sandwiches for lunch. I remarked at how much better a simple bologna sandwich tasted "out here". He replied that the reason it tasted better was because it was made in love, meaning our wives. That was the kind of man he was. He saw great love in a bologna sandwich.

Another time, again out in nature, I was not having success in catching fish. Rather than being angry at my lack of skill or the fish, he simply adjusted. "Let's try a different bait and a different place; then we'll be patient." It didn't work. We didn't catch anything at all. I was disappointed, however this man of God reminded me that a day spent in nature was a day spent witnessing the wisdom of God. Patience meant understanding that some things were simply out of our control and that faith in God involved receiving the disappointing times with the same cheer as the "successful" times. That's the kind of man I want to be – a man of God... a man who understood and applied faith to every facet of his life. I've read many books that have attempted to define faith in various ways, but the few words and actions of this man of God expressed a wisdom few achieve in this world.

I pray that you have a mentor in your life, they're important. My great mentors are gone home now, but the lessons they taught me echo in the chambers of my heart. This is, I believe, one of the reasons we have a church. The older teach the younger. If you don't have an older man or woman in your life, you're missing out on one of the great blessings of God – the blessing of the body of Christ. Thank you, Robert Taylor, for mentoring me. I'll see you again.

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 March 8, 2015

Worship Leader..... Josh Snead
Hymn: #23..... Our God He Is Alive
Hymn: #528..... I Know That My Redeemer Lives
Welcome..... Matt Haynes

Whose Prayer Does God Answer?

Hymn: #789..... Father
Hymn: #108..... The Lord Is In His Holy Temple
Psalm 86:1-7, 11-13..... Mark Miller
Luke 18:9-14..... Mark Miller
Prayer..... Jerry Hayes

The Lord's Supper

Hymn: #186..... Christ We Do All Adore Thee
Hymn: #478..... Nearer, Still Nearer
Communion Meditation..... Glenn Cannon

Offering

Prayer..... Glenn Cannon
Hymn: #1014..... Jesus Loves Me

"Resistance Training: Ever Expanding Hearts"

Hymn: #924..... Just As I Am
Message..... Matt Haynes
Hymn: #410..... He Leadeth Me

Responses

Hillcrest News..... Yancey House
Hymn..... A Shield About Me
Elder Blessing..... Malcolm Coco

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

Tonight's Speaker

Dave Copeland

Sympathy

To Charles & Erma Jean Loveland on the loss of Charles' brother, Dale Loveland, of Rupert, Idaho, on March 4.

Tuesday Ladies Class – March 10,

No Classes - Spring Break

Calling 3rd Graders to High School Students . . . and anyone else who wants to participate

Nowhere to go . . . Nothing to do for Spring Break? How about helping someone in need? Meals on Wheels needs some help bagging groceries as well as substitute drivers this week. If you are interested in participating Tuesday and/or Thursday, please come to the church building at 9:50 a.m. We will go over to Meals on Wheels on N. 10th St., bag groceries (for evening and weekend meals) and then deliver them along with some hot meals. We should be done between 12:30 and 1 p.m. They also need drivers MWF. Please contact Alan Clute if you would like to help.

Motherly Love

Our next Motherly Love will be a small group dinner in the home of one of your MOM's on March 19, at 6 p.m. If you are a mother of a child, birth - 5th grade, and are not in a group but would like to be, call Linda Perkins at 672-9414. We would love to have you!

Financial Peace University

Are you drowning in debt? Wish you could give more? Not sure where to start? Stephen & Joy Powers will be facilitating Financial Peace University on Sunday nights at 6 p.m. in Room 16, starting March 22 and going 9 weeks. Participants will be able to return to or join a different Life Group after FPU is completed. Hillcrest members and non-members are welcome. If you are interested, register online at daveramsey.com/findaclass. Limited to the first 20 to sign up. Cost is \$100.

Calendar of Events

March 11.....Devo Only/No Bible Classes
 March 19..... Motherly Love
 March 20-22..... HillcrestU Spring Retreat
 March 26..... Woman to Woman Event
 April 5..... Churchwide Picnic & Egg Hunt
 April 12..... Send the Light Sunday
 April 26..... Labor For Your Neighbor
 May 1-3..... HEB Retreat

Woman to Woman Event

"Courage to Shine – Where is the Light Leading You?" Mark your calendar for Thursday, March 26, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Join us for an evening of light food, table talk and fellowship. Childcare provided. RSVP for yourself and your children on the Hillcrest website or sign up at the Woman to Woman banner at the side of the Worship Center.

Men's Softball

The first practice will be tomorrow, March 9, from 8-10 p.m. on field 1. The season starts Mar. 16. Contact Alan Clute if you are interested in playing.

Missions and Faith Sharing

World Bible School Is Spreading the "The Good News" Of Jesus Christ

World Bible School correspondence ministry at Hillcrest is praising God they were able to send out in 2014, 6,737 courses to Africa, and 403 courses in the US which go mostly into the prisons. Recently, Pemba Chilembwe, one of our advanced Malawian students wrote, "I need to congratulate you just because of what ..you are doing in my daily life... You know ..Satan is very cleaver so there is need to have powerful communication with our God,..through WBS from the first course.. and later on through other courses I now have the deepest love of my God, which is very important." So, we are thankful to God and thankful to the support of WBS and WBS workers who make it possible to share the good news of Jesus Christ around the world. But most of all we are thankful for good and honest hearts like Pemba's. May the love that is in her heart for Jesus, multiply a hundred fold.

Paula Leverett for WBS

News from Phil & Paula Sullivan

Just have to tell you again what a wonderful mission this trip was. All of our students will continue to study God's Word and the seed will grow.

God bless you all for helping us do this. Phil and Paula

Prison Ministry

There have been 54 baptisms this year at the Middleton Unit.

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

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 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 EVEN MORE!

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. At this point, we have only had about 150 participants, and we need about 500 for a good sampling. All you have to do is go to www.faihlife.me to take the survey, put in our church code, which is 511, and it will take you through a series of questions where you choose a response with a click of your mouse (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 assist 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.

Adult Education Corner

Wednesday Evening Women's Class

On March 18, a new class using the book *Children of the Day*, by Beth Moore begins. This nine-week study of I and II Thessalonians is a timely study for our class, our church, and our world. Come and invite new people to participate in an in-depth Bible study. Contact Marty Williams if you would like the workbook that goes along with the series. Cost is \$16.00.

Sunday Morning Series. We are continuing the 6-weeks study of the book of Judges. This morning's lesson focuses on Deborah, Barak and Jael. Gideon is featured next week.

HYG - Youth Group

Today

No Huddles due to Spring Break.

Wednesday

No tutoring. Class at 7 p.m.

Upcoming Events

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

HillcrestU – University

Tonight

For those in town we will be meeting at Heff's at 6 p.m.

Wednesday

We will be combining with HYG for a special class.

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!

For the Record

Sunday Morning

A.M. Assembly587
 Bible Class529
 Membership956

Sunday Evening

Auditorium..... Care Group
 Offering.....\$28,659
 Weekly Budget.....\$25,000