

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
Ray.Ferguson@condley.com

Ministers

Nathan Burrow, *Preacher*
nathan@hillcrestonline.com

Alan Clute, *Involvement/Seniors*
aclute@hillcrestonline.com
691-4217

Cynthia Coates, *Children*
cynthia@hillcrestonline.com

Jack Hardcastle, *Family*
familyman@hillcrestonline.com

Justin Hatfield, *University*
justinhat@gmail.com

J. Sanders, *Youth*
j.sanders@hillcrestonline.com

Shhhhhh.....

I must admit that it feels a bit hypocritical to be writing this article. Not only is it somewhat ironic that I'm writing about silence, but I am in a profession that requires me to talk for the purpose of imparting knowledge. Nonetheless, the spiritual discipline of silence merits our thoughts if not our scrutiny.

Spiritual discipline. Silence. Normally I tend to think of spiritual disciplines such as Bible study, prayer, fasting, but silence? As I consider my spiritual journey thus far, I tend to see silence as an attribute of God that must somehow be reconciled with his, shall we say, more positive characteristics. How many books have I read regarding the (painful? mystifying? inexplicable?) silence of God? Recently I even saw the movie *Silence* based upon a novel bearing the same title by Shusaku Endo. Of course, the movie (and novel) dealt with the "problem" of the God's silence. To be fair, for many who are undergoing suffering or persecution, the silence of God can be hard to understand and bear. And yet, the early church saw silence not as a distressing attribute of God so much as avenue to holiness to be emulated. They saw it as a... spiritual discipline.

In this world that abhors silence, that chirps, chatters, and shouts incessantly, you will not be rewarded for the spiritual discipline of silence. Indeed, you will be reviled and ridiculed for such reverent reticence. It seems as if today everyone has an opinion and wishes to exercise their "right" to be heard. Politicians argue, citizens expound, pundits opine and commentate. On social media, friends publish their pronouncements on everything from presidential tweets to what they had for dinner that evening. The whole world is blathering on and on and on, speaking everything and saying nothing. It's the arrogance of "listen to me." It is into this cacophony of words that God calls his people to silence. He demonstrates his holiness in his silence; should we not do likewise? "The Lord is in his holy temple; let all the earth be silent before him" (Habakkuk 2:20). James tells us that the tongue "corrupts the whole body, sets the whole course of one's life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell." He goes on to remind us that our tongues are a "restless evil" and are "full of deadly poison." The early Christians fully believed James' description of the tongue and strove to tame it, and hoped that in so doing would tame the sinful self. They did this through the spiritual discipline of silence.

The act of silence tames not only the tongue, but the self and its sinful desires. Silence quenches my self-aggrandizing nature that demands to be worshipped. We're not of this world; consequently, we shouldn't act as if we are. When the world speaks, we should be silent. When the world says "listen to me," we should hold our peace. When the world says "elevate self," we should diminish self. Silence brings the holiness of God. It teaches me to listen rather than talk, to consider rather than show. Meditation, solitude, silence. These disciplines bring about the peace of Jesus even in the midst of the chaos of the world. Silence brings humility. Silence brings holiness. Silence brings wisdom.

Be silent.

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 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 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

May 21, 2017

Worship Leader Isaac Wright
Hymn He Has Made Me Glad
Welcome J Sanders

Songs of Praise

Hymn: #167 Hosanna
Hymn 10,000 Reasons
Prayer Manuel Longoria

A Time of Blessing

Presentation of Seniors Elders
A Parent's Charge Shane Price
Hymn: #718 We Shall Assemble
Hymn Lord, I Lift Your Name on High

Shining Light

Genesis 1:1-5 Allen Price
Psalm 27:1-4 Kaleb Watson
John 1:1-5 Ty Brooks
Matthew 5:14-16 Collin Longoria

We Celebrate the Lord's Supper

Hymn Beautiful Lamb of God
Communion Meditation Duwain Houston
Hymn Every Time

Offering

Prayer Duwain Houston
Hymn: #959 Just A Little Talk with Jesus
(Parents may escort children to TLC during this song.)

"Be the Light"

Message Nathan Burrow
Hymn: #791 On Bended Knee

Responses

Family News James McGee
Hymn: #781 Thank You, Lord!
Elder Blessing Gary Varner

Hillcrest Family News

Today's Speakers

A.M. - Nathan Burrow
P.M. - Dan Cox – in the chapel at 6 p.m.

Senior Sunday - Today

Hillcrest is celebrating our High School graduates today. Bins have been placed in the hallway across from the MPR so that you can have the chance to give a gift to our graduating Seniors. Everyone is invited to stay in the auditorium for Bible Class to see the Senior Slide Show and after class to the MPR for the Senior reception. Graduating High School Seniors:

Carisa Brawley	Thomas Light
Ashlynn Brooks	Collin Longoria
Dylan Cox	Jade Martinez
Molly Earles	Allen Price
Tatum Hines	Kaleb Watson
Kendall Houston	

Sympathy

Sympathy to Brenda & Johnnie Howard on the loss of her brother, David Gaither.

Sympathy to Charles & Bonnie Sheppard on the loss of his brother, Gene. He was also the uncle of Karen Jinkerson.

Sympathy to Steve & Joy Powers on the loss of Steve's father, Bill Powers.

New Baby

Congratulations to Tyler & Elizabeth Burton on the birth of a son, Jaxon Maclean Burton. Grandparents are Bryan & Lavon Burton. Great-grandparents are Lewis & Jane Duncan.

New Member/Updated Old Member Pictures

Do you have more children or have they grown more than 8 inches? Are you pictured at all? Time for a new picture! Alan will be taking pictures at the side of the worship center today after worship.

Baby Shower - Today, 2:30-4 p.m.

Honoring Jeff & Donna Ronquillo & family and upcoming little boy at the home of Marisa Beard, 2425 Township.

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.

MLB - Men's Day - Saturday, June 3

Join us for Men's Life Breakfast and Burgers at Bill Walker's! We will start with donuts, fruit, coffee & juice at 8:30. We will have a devotional in the barn at 9:15. The horseshoe tournament will start at 10 a.m. along with disc golf, washers, ladder golf, ping pong, "42" and Jokers & Marbles. Lunch will begin at 11:30. Help will be needed setting up, cooking and shuttling people from the parking area. If you have any questions, call Bill Walker (232-3292), David Beard (309-313-5550) or Alan Clute (691-4217). Sign up in Bible class.

Ties for Zimbabwe

Remember that tie that did not win "The First Annual Maybe Never to be Repeated Ugly Tie Contest" last year? Perhaps it could "win" in Zimbabwe! Seriously though, those going to Zimbabwe this year (Ken Austin, Kevin Batten, Brian Davis, John Fewkes, and Cam Hurst) would like to take ties to share with our brothers in Zimbabwe. Please put your gifted tie(s) in the box beside the welcome table by May 28th.

Canton Disaster Relief

We are working with the Canton Church of Christ to help the church and community recover from the recent tornado devastation. If you would like to contribute, please give your donation to an elder or Bernie Kastner.

Missions and Faith Sharing

Short-term Missions Blessing

On Sunday May 28, the congregation will pray for and bless those participating in Send the Light mission trips during 2017.

Calendar of Events

May 21.....	HYG Senior Sunday
May 24.....	Mesos Pylona
May 28.....	Elder Blessing for Summer Missions
May 29.....	Office Closed/Memorial Day
June 3	Men's Life Breakfast at Bill Walker's
June 11	Bible Class Fellowship
June 18-21	VBS
June 12-27	Vienna Mission Trip
July 4.....	Hillcrest July 4 Neighborhood Parade
July 9.....	Bible Class Fellowship
July 23-26	VIP Camp
August 13	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.

Bible Hour - 6 p.m. - Beginning in the MPR

5th Grade Open House- TODAY in the 5th Grade Room

Mesos Pylona - For our 5th graders. May 24, 5:30-7 p.m. in the MPR. RSVP by email with Cynthia Coates.

VBS - June 18-21, 2017

Register online at www.hillcrestonline.com/events/vbs/

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

HYG – Youth

Tonight - 6 p.m. - Seniors no huddle

Juniors - Meet at Johnson park out at Ft. Phantom from 5-8 p.m. for last huddle. Be at the Kern's by 4:45 if you need a ride or you can take your own car. Parents are welcome to come!!

Sophomores - Last huddle! Meet at the McGee's house - 3125 S Willis St.

8th and 9th grade - no huddle

7th and 8th grade - Last huddle! Meet at Play Faire Park from 5-7 p.m. for pizza and mini golf. Text 559-326-9566 if you plan to be there!

Wednesday – 7 p.m. - Bible Class in the youth room.

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

May 21 - Senior Sunday

Summer Kick off - June 4 at The Dive Spot from 6-8 p.m.

Encounter (June 11-17) for those entering 9th grade - graduating seniors

Camp Champion (June 28-July 3) for those entering 6th-8th grade

Pine Springs - July 29-August 4, for incoming 7th graders through graduating seniors. Go to pinespringscamp.com to sign up or get brochure from J or Keri.

Hillcrest - U

Tonight - 7:30 p.m. - Movie Night at the Hatfield House. Bring desserts/snacks to share!

Wednesday - 7 p.m., Class, volleyball at Sonic at 8:15 p.m.

June 12-27 - Vienna Mission Trip - Keep us in your prayers!

Adult Education Corner

Sunday Morning Adult Classes – The series on the book of Philippians continues.

Ladies Tuesday Morning Bible Class - Will resume in the Fall.

Wednesday Night Classes

- Rm 10/11 - Bill Brant continues series titled "What do we do with Jesus?"
- 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: Daring Faith by Randy Harris and Greg Taylor. Women of all ages are invited.

Family Ministry

Wednesday Night Class - 7 p.m., Rm 14/15, Baptism - Sharing the Story as A Family

Everyone knows someone, whether a friend or family member, who has not made the choice to be baptized. You may have a friend that is struggling with the thought of Christianity, but don't know how to approach them biblically. You may be a parent of a child that is getting close to "that age" and you're concerned, but don't know how to approach it. In this class, you will not only learn ways to share the gospel with someone you know, but as a parent you can bring your whole family and share in a guided study together! After a short intro, small groups (or families) will go through a guided Bible study together, and then close with a short discussion all together. Don't miss this great opportunity to share in a guided Bible study that will strengthen your own faith, as well as help you in sharing your faith!

For the Record

Sunday Morning	Sunday Evening
A.M. Assembly 689	Chapel58
Bible Class 613	
Membership 888	Wed.....355
April Offering \$91,391	