

# Hillcrest Encouragement

## Elders

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- Malcolm Coco
- David Copeland
- Ray Ferguson
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## THE WORRY MONSTER

*“Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life...Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?”--Matthew 6:25a, 26*

Have you ever heard the tale of the Worry Monster? At first glance, you may laugh at the thought. “Worry Monster”, you say, “There is no such thing.” Monsters are the things of children’s fables. Like the fear of boogymen hiding under the bed or in a closet, we are too sophisticated to be affected by such nonsense.

Ah, but look again and you will see a very real force that is wreaking havoc in lives all across our land. It comes to you in the night so that you cannot sleep. It reminds you of all the burdens that await you each day. It is the master of weighing us down with one care after another until we are taken its captive.

We buy guns; invest in hi-tech security, spend millions in healthcare and self-help products. We make all of our lives about it. Survival and safety of self becomes our number one objective. Worry tells us there is nothing we can do for others. Love is far too risky. Faith is a collapse waiting to happen to the one foolish enough to believe in what does not come with a money-back guarantee.

The Worry Monster shapes our religion. It promises a God that is only capable of a limited amount of care, a God who doesn’t have time for your small life. Therefore, it is on us to master life. Our food, clothes, life must be of our making and take center stage. Worry knows that one false move will end in destruction. There are no second chances. “Faith” is more about guilt and shame than love, grace, and forgiveness.

The Worry Monster offers its alternatives to risky faith. It offers us love that is about self. If we are in relationships that are shallow we will get what we want without failure or rejection. It offers us security in the form of money and makes us a slave.

So finally, we give in to the demands of the Worry Monster. We give up the dreams of joy and freedom in Christ for the safe shackles of worry. We hang on to it like an old chair that is beyond repair and needing to be forsaken, but we are comfortable with it. They are our worries. We know them well. Even though they leave our lives dark and bleak, they are ours after all.

WORRY GROUNDS OUR FAITH. The impossible remains just that, impossible. Faith, Hope, and Love are far to risky for those ruled by worry. The faith that “soars on wings as eagles” is grounded for fear of crashing. THE LOVE OF GOD FREES US FROM WORRY. John tells us, “Perfect love casts out fear” (1Jn. 4:18). Faith in God allows us to soar and sing! God remembers the life of a sparrow. They are each created by him and none are insignificant. How much more your life?

Nathan Burrow

# 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 16
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

November 19, 2017

**Staffed nursery for children 2 months to 24 months through back double doors. Training area for children and parents at rear north-side of Worship Center.**

Worship Leader ..... Josh Snead  
Hymn: #860 ..... There Is a Habitation  
Welcome ..... Jack Hardcastle  
Hymn: #579 ..... Praise the Name of Jesus

### Do Not Worry

Proverbs 3:5-6 ..... Patrick Garcia  
Matthew 6:28-34..... Patrick Garcia  
Prayer ..... Trenton Carothers  
Hymn: #574 ..... Oh, How I Love Jesus

### We Celebrate the Lord’s Supper

Hymn: #478 ..... Nearer, Still Nearer  
Communion Meditation..... Keith Morgan

### Offering

Prayer ..... Keith Morgan

### Songs of Praise

Hymn: #288 ..... Fairest Lord Jesus  
Hymn: #47 ..... Holy, Holy, Holy  
Hymn: #742 ..... When Upon Life’s Billows  
*(Parents may escort children to TLC during this song.)*

### “From Anxious Living to Thanksgiving”

Message..... Nathan Burrow  
Hymn: #924 ..... Just As I Am

### Responses

Family News ..... Lynn Luttrell  
Hymn: #242 ..... Sing Hallelujah to the Lord  
Elder Blessing..... Phil Vardiman

# Hillcrest Family News

## Today's Speakers

A.M. - Nathan Burrow  
P.M. - Bob Pipes in the chapel at 6 p.m.

## Light on the Hill

Thank you for your generous donations of \$54,354.44 to our Light on the Hill contribution. There were 95 boxes of groceries divided between Christian Service Center and Christian Ministries.

## Baptism

Congratulations to Debbie Russell on her recent baptism.

## New Member

Lauren McBay & daughter Willa

**This Wednesday, there will be a devotional in the Chapel at 7 p.m. Enter through the covered entrance. Connecting to the Community will resume next week.**

## Connecting to the Community - Wed., Nov. 29

On Wednesday, November 29, the series resumes with Judge Paul Rotenberry, Sandra Shirey of Big Country CASA, and Dan Cox of the Noah Project discussing child abuse and domestic violence in our community. If you would like more information about the speakers and how your family can help, visit [hillcrestonline.com/ministries/adult/](http://hillcrestonline.com/ministries/adult/) to download a pdf on each speaker.

## Single Seniors & Hilltoppers Christmas Dinner - Dec. 2

Christmas time's a comin' to Hillcrest on Saturday, December 2 at 5:30 p.m. in the MPR. We are planning to have lasagna soup, green beans, salad, bread & dessert. The Infield will share Songs of the Season . . . or at least the parts they know. Signups begin today. If you would be willing to help serve, please sign up. Contact Alan Clute for more information.

## Comfort & Hope Christmas Sacks – Fri., Dec. 8

Comfort & Hope Christmas sacks will be assembled. Pull out your recipes for treats.

## Breakfast with Santa - Sat., Dec. 9, 9 - 11 a.m., MPR.

Free pancake and sausage breakfast along with crafts for the kids and pictures made with Santa. No RSVP required. Bring your neighbors! Signups for volunteering to cook and help will come in an email this coming week.

## December Bible Class Fellowship - Chapel, Dec. 10, 6 p.m.

John Casada will be leading favorite hymns in the Bible Class Fellowship Chapel service.

## Thanksgiving LAFF

Thank you to Kent & Lupe Anderson and everyone who worked to make Wednesday night's LAFF meal a wonderful time of fellowship.

## Share a Christmas Gift with a Child in Zambia

The Children's Ministry and the Adult Education Ministry are teaming up to take part in the M.A.G.I. Project (Making A Godly Impact). Families, or individuals, are encouraged to fill a shoebox-sized container with an assortment of personal hygiene items, school supplies, clothing, and small toys. These boxes will be decorated by our children on Wednesday evening, December 13, as part of the Connecting to the Community Series, and shipped to Namwianga Mission where they will be distributed to needy children.

Boxes, with detailed instructions about items to be placed in the box, will be available in the Children's Wing or near the south wall of the Worship Center. Approximate cost of the items to be placed in the box should not exceed \$15. We are also requesting a \$10 donation with each box to cover transportation costs to Zambia.

More information will be available in the Adult Classroom.

## Babysitter Needed

The Tuesday morning Ladies' class is in need of a babysitter, 9:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.. This is a paid position. You would be needed November 28, December 5, January 16 - March 6, and March 20-May 1.

## Lock Up Team

The lock up team is in need of additional people. Please contact Lee Lambert or Larry Knight.

## Good SOIL - Serving Others In Love

Please check the Good SOIL page on our website to see an updated list of needs. [hillcrestonline.com/goodsoil](http://hillcrestonline.com/goodsoil)

## Missions and Faith Sharing

### Cebu City

Please be in prayer for Caleb and Vanessa Callari as they prepare to leave in early January for their mission work in Cebu City, Philippines.

### Send the Light

If you are considering leading a Hillcrest short-term mission trip in 2018 and want to be a part of the Apr. 8 Send the Light special collection, contact Neal Coates for an application. The applications should be turned in by Jan. 1. Mission trips are already being planned for several sites including Mumena, Zambia (contact Cam Hurst) and Zambia Medical Mission (contact Ellie Hamby or Ray Ferguson).

# Hillcrest Ministries

## Children's Corner

### Nursery: 2-24 Months (TEAM #3)

**Training & 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.

### Thanksgiving Devotional/No Classes - Wed., Nov. 22

## HYG - Youth

**Today** - Bible class for 6th-12th grade students!

### Middle School Madness & High School Huddles – Tonight

There will be no Middle School Madness or Huddles tonight as we are returning from Encounter LE. Please enjoy the night off to work on homework, or spend time connecting with your family. We will resume on Sunday, November 26.

### Encounter LE – November 17-19

Encounter LE returns this afternoon. Our goal is to return to Hillcrest around 1:45 p.m. You may text with your kids directly, or Lance (youth minister) for updates as to our ETA.

**Wednesday - 7 p.m.** - There will be no teen Bible class this Wednesday. Everyone is invited to participate in the devotional in the chapel.

**Prayer Breakfast - Thurs., 7 a.m.** - There will be no Prayer Breakfast this week. We will resume on November 30.

### LTC Interest Meeting – Dec. 3

Parents: Cynthia and Lance will be having a Leadership Training for Christ (LTC) interest meeting after Bible class on Sun., Dec. 3. If you are interested in learning more about LTC, and the possibility of Hillcrest participating in LTC in the future, you are invited to join us for this meeting. . Please RSVP for your family by typing <http://bit.ly/2jwM7N2> into the browser on your smart phone, tablet, or computer and filling out the Google Form.

### Calendar of Events

November 22 ..... Devotional in Chapel/No Classes  
November 23-24.....Office Closed/Holiday  
December 2 ..... Senior Singles Christmas Dinner  
December 8 ..... Comfort & Hope Sacks  
December 9 ..... Breakfast with Santa  
December 10 ..... Bible Class Fellowship  
December 25-January 1.....Office Closed/Holiday  
January 14 ..... Teacher Appreciation Lunch

## Adult Education Corner

### Sunday Morning Adult Classes

Today we continue a study of how Jesus interacted with the marginalized groups of His day.

### Ladies Tuesday Morning Bible Class - Nov. 21 No Class - Thanksgiving

### Wednesday Night - No Classes Nov. 22, Devotional in the Chapel. Classes below will resume Nov. 29.

- Rm 11/12 - Glenn Rogers will be speaking on 1 John.
- Rm 16 - Congregational Singing: Join Odies Wright for a time of worship in song!
- Rm 34 - ESL Class
- Rm 51 - Class for Singles led by Glenn Tuttle
- Rm 52 - Divorce Care
- Rm 219 - Women's Bible Class: Will resume in Jan. 2018.
- Chapel - Connecting to the Community

## Family Ministry

### Connecting to the Community Series

If you would like more information about the speakers and how your family can help, visit [hillcrestonline.com/ministries/adult/](http://hillcrestonline.com/ministries/adult/) to download a pdf on each speaker.

## HillcrestU

### Tonight - All LIFE Groups meet!

- G1 – 2533 Lincoln Dr - 5 p.m.
- G2 – Barnett (1401 Roadrunner) - 6 p.m.
- G3 – Cole (3077 FM 3034) - 6 p.m.
- G4 – Straughn (1633 Hillview Rd) - 5 p.m.

**Wednesday** - No Class, devotional in the chapel.

### Mark your calendars!

Dec. 10 - Christmas Party! 6 p.m. at NCCIL in downtown Abilene! We will have a gift exchange and an Ugly Christmas Sweater contest! You won't want to miss it!

### For the Record

Sunday Morning	Sunday Evening
A.M. Assembly .....693	Chapel .....39
Bible Class .....646	
Membership .....892	Wed..... 483
Sept. Offering.....\$112,589	