

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
- Phil Vardiman
- Gary Varner
- Odies Wright

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Paul and Bad Motivational Posters

"I can do all things through Christ, who strengthens me." Philippians 4:13

You recognize that verse, don't you? You know, it's the one that lets us know how into sports God is. OK, I'm not going to rail on people who use this verse for inspiration on the field of competition. In truth, it's kind of nice to see people draw inspiration from God's word in contexts other than "churchy" places. I do wonder if this verse has been misappropriated away from the original point though.

I fear that many have come to the conclusion that this verse means we can overcome great obstacles to achieve great and impressive things through Christ. The world will stand in awe of what I have achieved (through Christ, of course) despite tremendous odds against me. Well, that's nice (I guess) but it's not really what Paul is getting at in this verse. Paul is not in a football locker room or a weight room. He isn't staring down a steely-eyed pitcher, while gripping his bat tighter. Paul isn't psyching himself up to do anything impressive at all by the world's standards. If successful, no one will cheer him. Nobody will take note. Rather, the thing that Paul is achieving through the strength of Christ is..... (are you ready?)..... contentment.

Sort of anti-climactic, isn't it? If you were about to "ooohhh" and "ahhhh" at Paul, don't bother. It's a bit of an awkward moment for those who are used to using this verse for grand, impressive achievements. Let's face it, Paul would be terrible at designing inspirational posters. Can't you just see it? "BE CONTENT!" Paul would make lousy halftime locker room speeches. "Be satisfied with what you have!" Yeah. Thanks, Paul.

And yet, upon closer perusal, Paul does seem to be making a bold statement. While showing genuine appreciation to the church at Philipi for their generosity in meeting his needs, he explains to them that he has learned to be content in any situation, most notably, when in need. I guess that is an impressive claim. Paul is content when at his lowest. He is content while hungry, content while suffering the sting of injustice, content in the confusing fog of wondering at God's plan. Paul finds contentment and peace where most would find demoralization and angst. Through Christ, Paul has found the ability to achieve the kind of contentment in the midst of adversity that few ever achieve.

The next time you see Philippians 4:13 bandied about to imply the attainment of lofty goals, take a moment to consider what Paul considered a lofty goal. His contentment was found in the grace of Jesus Christ, not in what the world sees as greatness. When you feel the pang of hunger, or the sting of injustice, fear of the future, or regret of the past, be content. Find peace. Remember the assuring grace of Jesus and your destiny in Christ. Be content in the holiness of God. It may sound impossible in your situation... your marriage, your economic situation, your job. But, like Paul, you truly can find contentment and peace in the midst of uncertainty and trouble. Yes, even right now. That may be even better than making touchdowns.

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 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

September 17, 2017

Worship Leader Odies Wright
Hymn: #74 Praise the Lord
Welcome Lance Parrish

Rejoice and Be Glad

Isaiah 61:10-11 Mark Miller
Matthew 5:10-16..... Mark Miller
Prayer Greg Straughn

Songs of Praise

Hymn Arise
Hymn One Thing Remains*
Hymn O What A Glorious God

We Celebrate the Lord's Supper

Hymn Wonderful, Merciful, Savior
Communion Meditation Robert Marion
Hymn Magnificat

Offering

Prayer Robert Marion
Hymn There's a Stirring
(Parents may escort children to TLC during this song.)

"#Blessed Difference"

Message..... Nathan Burrow
Hymn: #676 Living For Jesus

Responses

Family News Chris Pettijohn
Hymn Holy Spirit Dwell In Me
Elder Blessing..... Duwain Houston
*(*Children's Song of the Month)*

Hillcrest Family News

Today's Speakers

A.M. - Nathan Burrow
P.M. - Kevin Batten - in the chapel.

Sympathy

- Sympathy to Ted & Beth Komoroski on the loss of Beth's mother, Deen Lowrey.
- Sympathy to Jim & Debbie Bushey on the loss of Jim's father, Jerry Bushey.

New Baby

Congratulations to Scott & Rebecca Corley on the birth of a son, Silas Stephen Corley.

Hillcrest 101 & New Member Lunch - Today

If you are a new member or considering making Hillcrest your church family, you are invited to attend the Hillcrest 101 class. This class begins this morning at 10:30 a.m. in the MPR. We will have a New Member Lunch following class today for participants.

Men's Softball

Tomorrow, Mon., Sept. 18. We will play at 9 p.m. on field 1 against Baker Heights Team C.

World Bible School Breakfast & Workshop - Tues., Sept., 19

Please join us for the free annual WBS breakfast and workshop for postal and internet teachers at Hillcrest in Rm 10 at 7 a.m. Brian Davis, Executive VP of WBS, will present information about exciting programs to spread the gospel to seekers worldwide.

Reception - Sept. 24, After Bible Class

Join us in the MPR to honor Cleddy Varner & Jack Stewart for their many years of service as Elders.

Hilltoppers Luncheon - Tues., Sept. 26, 11:30 a.m.

Dr. Scott Carpenter & Dr. Erin (Bell) Garner will show how they do robotic surgery. The menu will be taco stack-up and homemade coconut ice box pie. Please sign up in Bible class if you are able to attend.

Woman to Woman Fall Brunch - Sat., Oct. 7, 9-11 a.m.

Hillcrest Ladies, Do you feel you need a spark in your walk with Christ, in your relationships and your service to others? Then you don't want to miss the Women to Women Fall Brunch. Join us for a special time of spiritual fellowship as we explore ways to "Light The Fire," "Rekindle Your Light" "Shine Your Light," and "Use Your Light" to glorify God and form meaningful connections with others. Sign-up online at www.hillcrestonline.com or visit the Woman to Woman table for more information and to register by Oct. 1. Childcare will be provided, so sign up early

Life Group

If you would like to join a life group, please contact the office.

Hillcrest News in Your Inbox

If you would like to receive the Hillcrest Now email newsletter every Friday afternoon, please sign up at hillcrestonline.com/members/email.

Game Day Parking

The University Ministry will be taking donations of \$10 for football fans wanting to park in our parking lot beginning 2 hours before kickoff. All proceeds will go to mission trips to areas impacted by Hurricane Harvey and starting a food pantry for students in need. If you wish to park in our lot come by our tent and pick up a ticket to hang in your windshield. If you plan to be at the building for any other reason, simply find us at the tent and we will give you a free ticket.

Missions and Faith Sharing

Send the Light Mission Trips

Caleb and Vanessa Callari, along with Terry Brown and Brian Davis, made a site visit Sept. 2-9 to Cebu City, Philippines, where the Callari's will begin their ministry in January, 2018.

Send the Light reports will be presented on Wednesday nights during September in Rms. 10-11.

Zumba Fitness to Benefit Callari Mission

Join us for a Zumba class led by Vanessa Callari and a silent auction on Saturday, Sept. 23 from 10 a.m. to noon in the MPR. Proceeds will benefit the Callari Philippine mission fund.

Prison Ministry

There were 113 baptisms at the Middleton Unit in the month of August, bringing the total for the year to 503.

HillcrestU

Tonight - 6 p.m. - We will not have LIFE groups and encourage you to attend Summit.

Wednesday - 7 p.m. - We will not have our regular class and encourage you to attend Summit.

Thursday - 11 a.m.

Small group prayer chapel in BSB 104.

REACH - 4-5:30 p.m. - Canterbury Apartments

Mark Your Calendar

Oct. 26-29 - FALL BREAK MISSION TRIP - Instead of going on a Fall Break retreat we are planning to take a group to provide disaster relief work for the victims of Hurricane Harvey. If you are interested, email Justin at justinhat@gmail.com.

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.

Bibles for Eastern Europe - Our children will be raising funds for Bibles to be printed and distributed in Eastern Europe. Through the end of the last Sunday of October, a money jar will be on the children's desk in the children's wing. So far, \$54.68 has been raised.

HYG - Youth

Today - Join us for Bible class as we are in week 5 of studying Jesus' words from the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew chapters 5, 6, and 7. We'll see you upstairs, and don't forget to bring your Bible next week if you forgot it today!

Tonight - HS Huddles

6 - 7 p.m. - 11th & 12th Grade - 2434 Township Ct.
5:45 - 7 p.m. - 9th & 10th Grade - 1314 Piedmont Dr.

Middle School Madness - 5:30 - 7 p.m. in the MPR

Wednesday - 7 p.m. - This Wednesday, join us in the HS Youth room for a fun game and devotional! Bring a friend and we'll see you there!

Prayer Breakfast - Thurs., 7 a.m. - All students are welcome to join us at Rosa's Café on Judge Ely for prayer breakfast this Thursday from 7 a.m. to 7:45 a.m. Parents who can help give rides to school are encouraged to attend as well.

Text Message Communication - Sign Up Today - Students & Parents, in an effort to establish efficient communication we are adding a text service to our communication outlets. Please take out your phone and text the word **HILLCREST to 43506** to be added to the service. Sign up is quick and simple.

Follow Up Parent Meeting - September 24, next Sunday

Parents, please save Sunday September 24 from 4-5 p.m. in your calendars for a follow-up parent meeting. This will be a one-hour meeting where we will be laying out some more specifics about the youth ministry as we move forward.

For the Record

Sunday Morning	Sunday Evening
A.M. Assembly..... 754	Chapel..... 30
Bible Class..... 685	
Membership..... 892	Wed 395
Aug. Offering \$98,918	

Adult Education Corner

Sunday Morning Adult Classes

We are continuing our fall series in the Adult Classes with a study of the "transformed" life described in Romans 12. The theme for the semester is "Connecting to the Community through Hospitality".

Ladies Tuesday Morning Bible Class - September 19

No class this week. We will resume again on Sept. 26.

Wednesday Night Classes

- Rm 10/11 - Reports on Summer Mission Activities continue through the month of September.
- 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: Various speakers. Women of all ages are invited.

Family Ministry

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

You Make Me Crazy!

We all have relationships that drive us crazy, especially within our families. This series will help bring sanity to your relationships so you can do more than just co-exist with boy/girl friends, spouses, kids, siblings, co-workers, and even those crazy relatives you see once a year. Don't miss this chance to learn better ways to handle the crazy people in your life!

Calendar of Events

September 17	New Member Lunch
September 17	Hillcrest 101 Begins
September 19	WBS Breakfast & Workshop
September 26	Hilltoppers Luncheon
October 7	Woman to Woman Event
October 8.....	Bible Class Fellowship
October 31.....	Trunk Party