

# 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
- Jim Watts
- Odies Wright

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## The First Shall Be Last and the Last Shall Be First

Dead last....by definition, this could be by a considerable margin. This phrase may strike a nerve from a painful memory. So do you consider it a triumph or defeat? The person who finishes "dead last" can be tagged as someone who loses by a landslide, or as a hero who chooses to finish the task, no matter what. It's all in the perception. It's all in the attitude. When we hear the announcer say, "and now...last but not least" it usually means they saved the best to emphasize a place of honor. Even concerts don't start with the main attraction, but build up to the featured artist.

In race settings, when someone gets lapped, some in the stands will tactfully turn away embarrassed; while other fans show the utmost respect to the last competitor who struggles across the line, giving a standing ovation and applauding as if the winner had just finished.

When my son was around 10, he attended a summer conditioning camp. I usually parked in the shade to watch the final minutes and invariably there would be one last running drill. One of these workouts proved quite memorable. Each camper was to run a series of sprints before getting water. As the boys lined up, I knew what would take place and I both cringed and smiled (with pride) at what my son was about to do. In a matter of minutes, the campers finished at their own pace and left the field to get water and leave. In the end, my son was the last one running. Other than the coach, there was no one else around. One of the fastest finishers was a teenager who crossed the line and wandered out of view. Suddenly he returned. Before I knew what was happening, this 7<sup>th</sup> grader was now striding right along side my son, encouraging him to finish. No fanfare, no one telling him to do it. As my eyes watered, I prayed a quick prayer of thanks for the sensitivity of this boy and for the sheer guts my son displayed in completing a task that was difficult for him. Last but not least.

During the running of the 400- meter race in the 1992 Olympics, Derek Remond, the British record holder tore his hamstring. Crying out in pain and disappointment he chose to finish what he started. On one leg, he was hopping around the final curve when the viewers saw an older man running past security to join his son and help him finish the race. As if breaking the world record, the crowd provided a deafening ovation of admiration to this athlete, even though he finished DEAD LAST.

Christ provided us the mindset that "the first shall be last and the last shall be first." He downplayed where people should sit at a banquet. He praised the underdogs and made sure the crown of glory was attainable for the first, last and everyone in between. One of my favorite lines in the movie Apollo 13, was when the mission commander corrected the naysayers of the failed mission by claiming just bringing back the astronauts "could be our finest hour." Mindset. "**Last but not least" represents victory, not defeat!** We are all precious in His sight. It doesn't matter to God what place you finish in life, just finish the race!

Deonna Shake

# 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 10/11
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 219
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

June 12, 2016

Worship Leader..... Odies Wright  
Hymn: #417..... Where He Leads I'll Follow  
Welcome..... Jack Hardcastle  
Hymn: #153..... Come, Let Us Worship and Bow Down

### Nothing Except Jesus Christ and Him Crucified

Psalm 18:28-33 .....

Robert Marion  
1 Corinthians 2:1-5..... Matt Merritt  
Prayer..... Derek Hood

### Songs of Praise

Hymn: #20..... We Worship and Adore You  
Hymn..... We Will Worship You  
Hymn..... Psalm 95

### The Lord's Supper

Hymn..... Wonderful, Merciful Savior  
Communion Meditation .....

Rick Riddle  
Hymn: #350..... When My Love to Christ Grows Weak

### Offering

Prayer..... Rick Riddle  
Hymn: #694..... Servant Song\*  
Hymn: #822..... Sweet Will of God  
(Parents may escort children ages 2-4 to TLC during this song)

### "Macedonian Wisdom #1 - Called?"

Message..... Phil Ware  
Hymn: #915..... Trust and Obey

### Responses

Hillcrest News .....

Shane Price  
Hymn: #870..... Beyond This Land of Parting  
Family Blessing..... Jim Watts  
(\*Children's Song of the Month)

# Hillcrest Family News

## Today's Speakers

A.M. – Phil Ware

P.M. – Care Group - The F.U.N. Class will lead the service in Rm 10/11 at 6 p.m. The speaker is John Chan, who has preached for the Chinese church in Flushing, NY, (Long Island) for the past 40 years. In 1966, he was an interpreter for the mission work in Hong Kong while the Pamplins were there.

## Couples Wedding Shower - Sunday, June 12, 1-2:30 p.m.

Honoring Darrin Cox and Summer Anders at the home of Randy and Kim Hancock. (1841 Marathon Ct.) Selections at Bed, Bath & Beyond. Gift cards: Target, Bed, Bath & Beyond, Lowes and Academy.

## VBS – June 19-22, - 6 - 8 p.m. - ages 4 through 5th grade.

This year's VBS theme is SCAR FORCE. Please respond to the needs list that was emailed to you on June 3 or go by the registration table to sign up to help. Examples of various duties are leading the groups to the different stations, helping with registration, and helping with setting up and taking down the learning stations. Take a registration form from the table to give to a friend! Nursery care will be provided for volunteers who have young children.

## Baby Shower - Saturday - June 18, 10:30 a.m.

A come and go diaper and gift card pounding for Megan Steele and baby boy at Mad Coffee.

## Hillcrest Neighborhood Parade - Monday, July 4, 10 a.m.

The parade will begin at 10 a.m. (starting at the corner of Bacon and Campus Court) followed by home-made ice cream in the MPR. Sign up sheets will be in classrooms soon to bring home-made ice cream to the MPR or help clean up.

## New Tables

Hillcrest has recently donated some tables to the Christian Service Center and bought replacements. The new tables have a ledge around the top that helps them stack securely. These new tables are NOT to leave the building. If you would like to borrow some of the old ones, be sure to check them out through the office.

## Missions and Faith Sharing

### Missions Update

Phil and Elaine Palmer are preparing for a multiple week mission effort in East Africa. Please pray for their work and travel in Tanzania and Kenya.

Larry and Pam Sullivan, long-time missionaries from Germany since 1992, have returned to the States and are living in Abilene. Please continue praying for them as they adjust to their "new" lives and work on their home here in Abilene.

The Missions Team is busy this summer, more than usual. Along with involvement in Hillcrest's regular mission sites, the Team is evaluating future missions efforts for our congregation. This involves research, meeting with prospective missionaries, and considering how to use the blessings and resources that God has given us.

### Send the Light Update

- All Send the Light participants! Choose a photo or two from your mission trip, and post it on the missions bulletin board in the hallway!
- Ongoing Send the Light effort - Callie Houston is in Ghana on World Wide Witness during June and July. Check out her pictures on Facebook.
- Upcoming Send the Light effort - Cliff Barbarick will be in Thailand at Come Before Winter for area missionary men, June 15-26.
- Tony, Shanna, & Elizabeth Morrow from Ukraine will be visiting in Abilene June 20-25, July 3-5, and July 12-15.
- Another upcoming Send the Light mission trip - Allison Robinett will be in Sophia, Bulgaria on a campaign June 22-July 6.

## Calendar of Events

June 12 .....	Care Group
June 19-22 .....	VBS
June 27-July 11 .....	HYG Mumena Mission Trip
July 4.....	Hillcrest Neighborhood Parade
July 10.....	Care Group
July 17-20 .....	VIP Camp
July 24.....	HYG Pine Springs Camp
August 14.....	Care Group

# Hillcrest Ministries

## Children's Corner

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

**Training and Learning for Children: (Ages 2-4)**

Parents may escort their child to the Children's Wing during the song before the sermon.

**Bible Hour** – No Bible Hour tonight. Enjoy Care Group.

**VBS:** June 19-22, Ages 4 through 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Theme: SCAR FORCE. To register online at Hillcrest's website, go to "Events" or to the Children's Ministry drop down section to find the form. Paper forms are on the desk in the children's wing. Take one to a friend!

**VIP Camp:** July 17-20, Children who have completed 1<sup>st</sup> grade through 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Theme: Walk This Way.

## HYG – Youth

Thank you to everyone who helped with Ground Zero. Thank you to those who volunteered their time and resources and thank you to everyone who has been prayerful about this event.

**Wednesday – 7 p.m.**

Class #waybackwednesday. Bring your friends!

**Thursday - 10 a.m.** - Prayer Brunch. More details will be given in class and in HYG Newsletter.

**Next Sunday - 5:30 p.m.** - Summer Sunday Night! Meet at the Cockrell's (250 5th Street, Hawley, TX 79525). Transportation will be provided back to Hillcrest at 7 p.m. Let Taylor know if you need a ride back.

Middle school - Sign up for Camp Champion! June 26-30. [www.lcucamps.com](http://www.lcucamps.com)

## Hillcrest - U

**Today** – Class

**Tonight** – 7:30 p.m. – Movie Night at the Hatfield House.

**Wednesday** – Class at 7 p.m.

## For the Record

Sunday Morning	Sunday Evening
A.M. Assembly .....	Rm 10/11 .....
664	95
Classes .....	Bible Hour .....
697	10
Membership .....	Wed .....
864	321
May Offering.....	
\$112,255	

## Adult Education Corner

**Sunday Morning Adult Classes** – Remember that all adult classes are studying subjects of their own choosing during the summer months. Ask your class chair for more information concerning topics and teachers.

### Wednesday Night Classes

- **Rm 10/11** – Gary Mabry continues his series, "Lessons from the life of King David."
- **Rm 30 – ESL Class:** Meets every week
- **Rm 16 – Congregational Singing:** Join Odies Wright for a time of Worship in song!
- **Rm 219 – Women's Bible Class:** "Living Stones" by Casandra Martin. Women of all ages are invited.

## Family Ministry

**Wednesdays, June 15-29 – Rm 14/15 – 7 p.m.**

"Laugh Your Way to a Better Marriage"

**New Wednesday Class - Starts July 6 - Rm 14/15 - 7 p.m.**

"When Helping Hurts - Empowering The Impoverished"

The challenge of helping the poor families of our community takes a certain type of care and compassion and looking within ourselves at our own brokenness. This class will reveal a new paradigm in helping the poor, based on a biblical framework on the root causes of poverty. If you'd like to be involved in a local mission effort that changes lives, then this class is for you!



[www.hillcrestonline.com/members/search](http://www.hillcrestonline.com/members/search)

**Prayer Room for the Preacher Search – Living Room**

Open during office hours and anytime on Sunday and on Wednesday nights.