

# 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

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## Enjoy the Ride

Coming home after a workout, my mind was already working on my next task. Later that day, each faculty member in our department would be giving a blessing to our graduating seniors and I was mulling over a few ideas. It wasn't until I took off my workout cap that the outline came to me by way of a company advertised on my cap: "Enjoy the Ride...Mind, Body, Cycle." Ironically, the Maui spin studio's motto wanted people to "enjoy" a really tough hour-long workout on a spin bike. Even though that sounds like a fun and challenging way to spend an hour for me, it would not be everyone's choice. However, within that phrase, "Enjoy the Ride," a few thoughts formulated for the blessing I would give.

Take a look around. The majority of people look for a quick or easy path to success or happiness in life or to complete unpleasant tasks. Sometimes shortcuts get you to where you want to go, but in the process, you missed the lessons or struggles along the way. As a teacher, this is most evident in end of the semester emails (not even face to face visits) to ask if there are extra credit opportunities to improve their grade. However, in the fitness world, our bodies get stronger if we voluntarily push our normal limits (Overload Principle). The principle can also be applied in our everyday lives. Can you think of a recent time you challenged yourself spiritually or mentally? Did you grow from that experience?

The phrase, "Enjoy the Ride" invites a new attitude of embracing challenges and being ok with uncomfortable because in doing so you will become stronger. I Timothy 4:15 says, "Take pains with these things. Be absorbed in them that your progress will be evident to all." The process of going through and surviving/finishing something difficult or new can give us confidence, experience and strength in return for our effort.

God didn't typically pull out the "Easy" button, did He? I mean, 40 years of wandering in the desert could have been cut in half and still made a great point, but God used those years to teach dependence on Him. He could have crumbled the wall of Jericho with a "Three Little Pigs" huff and puff and blow your wall down kind of action, but instead instructed His people to earn the crumbling of the wall by marching around it six times and on the seventh time call out. The story of Jacob working for his bride not seven, but fourteen years was a story for the ages in faithfulness and love (probably not a choice for those who don't like to put in effort for a reward). And for Peter, what he learned from desperately grasping for the Master's hand out on some angry water was probably a more meaningful lesson than Christ tossing some stones towards the boat to create steppingstones. Peter wasn't even tossed a life preserver before he climbed out of the boat; instead he was encouraged to navigate tumultuous waters if he wanted to be with Jesus.

Maybe we all need that "slap in the face with cold water faith experience" to remind us that Jesus is right there reaching out to us as we go through the "rough waters" of our life. If you are graduating, you may have more school ahead while others are starting a fresh chapter that may include a new job, a move, or getting married. Wherever your journey takes you, Enjoy the Ride and don't rely on shortcuts. Challenge your challenges and find joy in them. Embrace tough circumstances knowing God will get you through it.

*James 1:2-4- Consider it pure joy whenever you face trials of many kinds because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance.*

*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

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 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 14, 2017

Worship Leader ..... Odies Wright  
Hymn: #577 ..... We Bow Down\*  
Welcome ..... Nathan Burrow  
Hymn ..... Magnificat

### Pray Boldly

1 Samuel 2:1-8..... Carter Snead  
Luke 11:5-10..... Carter Snead  
Prayer ..... Josh Snead

### Songs of Praise

Hymn ..... The River is Here  
Hymn: #15 ..... Step by Step  
Hymn: #127 ..... When All Thy Mercies

### We Celebrate the Lord's Supper

Hymn ..... Communion Prayer  
Communion Meditation..... Gary Snead  
Hymn ..... New Doxology

### Offering

Prayer ..... Gary Snead  
Hymn: #779 ..... I Love You, Lord

### Children's Bible Bag

Hymn: #794 ..... Unto Thee, O Lord  
*(Parents may escort children to TLC during this song.)*

### "Momma Prayed"

Message..... Nathan Burrow  
Hymn: #845 ..... Gentle Shepherd

### Responses

Family News ..... Malcolm Coco  
Hymn: #781 ..... Thank You, Lord!  
Elder Blessing..... Charles Perkins  
*(\* Children's Song of the Month)*

# Hillcrest Family News

## Today's Speakers

A.M. - Nathan Burrow

P.M. - Duwain Houston – in the chapel at 6 p.m.

## New Baby

Congratulations to Tyler & Elizabeth Burton on the birth of a son, Jaxon Maclean Burton. Grandparents are Bryan & Lavon Burton.

## Baptism

Congratulations to Jessica Price on her baptism. Parents are Shane & Carmen Price.

## Congratulations to Our College Graduates

Congratulations to our college graduates: Manaia Broom, Carolyn Casada, Philomena DeHoyos, Averi Edwards, Jaymie Fuller, Katelyn Goodman, Kayla Holcomb, Callie Houston, Courtney LeFan, Meagan McBride, Jonathan McCormick, Savanah Pybus, Vicente Rojas, Denae Shake, Jordan Snell, Jonathan Ward, and Sierra Ware.

## Hillcrest Softball - 7 p.m., Field 2

Tomorrow's game is against First Baptist Blue.

## 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.

## Anniversary Celebration - Sat., May 20, 2 p.m., Rm 12

Honoring Jack & Donna Goble's 50th anniversary. Hosted by their children, Jaclyn and Amanda.

## Baby Shower—May 21, 2:30-4 p.m.

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

## Senior Sunday - May 21

Hillcrest will be celebrating our High School graduates next Sunday. 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. Graduating High School

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

Seniors:

## 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

Please join African Christian College in celebrating its 50th Anniversary of work for God in Swaziland. The free event is Monday, May 15, at 6:30 p.m. at Southern Hills Church of Christ, and includes a meal with macadamia nuts grown on the school's property. You will meet some graduates of the college and hear inspiring stories from Brad Carter, ACC President. Registration for this free event is at [www.AfricanChristianCollege.org/Abilene50](http://www.AfricanChristianCollege.org/Abilene50) or 325-261-9207. Hillcrest formerly supported this ministry when it was called Manzini School of Preaching.

## 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

# Hillcrest Ministries

## Children's Corner

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

**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.**

**VBS - June 18-21, 2017**

Register online at [www.hillcrestonline.com/events/vbs/](http://www.hillcrestonline.com/events/vbs/)

## HYG – Youth

**Tonight - 6 p.m.** - 6th and 7th grade huddles

All other huddles will not meet this Sunday - watch for details about final huddle coming up!

**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](http://pinespringscamp.com) to sign up or get brochure from J or Keri.

## Hillcrest - U

Hello all! The school year is over and summer is here! All of our normal school year activities are on hiatus during the summer! We will still be active with Sunday morning and Wednesday evening classes and a few other surprises as the summer progresses.

**Tonight** - No events are planned tonight. Beginning NEXT Sunday we will have a movie night each Sunday at 7:30pm.

**Wednesday** - 7 p.m., Class

## Upcoming Events

We are planning a trip to Six Flags so stay tuned for that!

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 ..... 749	Chapel .....54
Bible Class ..... 672	
Membership ..... 888	Wed.....376
April Offering ..... \$91,391	