

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

Chairman of the Elders

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Ministers

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WHEN LIGHT FADES

*Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil, for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
Psalm 23:4*

I consider myself blessed to have spent most of my growing up years in the country. My parents wanted to get out of the big city of Houston, so we moved away from the concrete to a remote place filled with grass and trees. We lived on a few acres of land, miles from any town. It was a dirt road that went to nowhere. There was a creek and woods nearby that made it feel even more secluded from the rest of the world. It was the kind of place where a boy could roam in any direction and find adventure. One of my fondest memories was the night sky. Living far from the city made the nights extra dark and deep. The stars were even more brilliant because they were the only light for miles. I remember one night that I counted over thirty falling stars during a meteor shower. It was a reminder that some things become more visible the more light fades.

The poetry of Psalm 23 draws our imagination to the countryside. In the lush fields and calm waters, we have every assurance that God will meet our needs. However, when we find ourselves walking through the valley of shadows, the darkness can dominate our view. Things look very different and we feel lost. But, there is another perspective. David calls the reader to look through the eyes of faith. In this way, darkness can be a blessing as we focus on God who remains present. Fear leaves us the more we turn our attention on God and rely less on our own sight. The darker the shadow of death may loom, the more God's glorious beauty appears. Our weakness leads us to depend on God's grace and strength. Our need for God draws us into deeper relationship with him, and what matters most is knowing that he is with us. He loves and cares for us and will never leave us.

The stars do not disappear during the day, but the flood of light from the sun make it impossible for us to see them. As light fades with night, their presence are on full display. So it is with God and so it is with our faith. Whether in the valley of shadows or in the lush fields, God remains.

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 110 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
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

January 21, 2018

**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	Odies Wright
Hymn	Lord, Reign In Me
Welcome	Justin Hatfield
Prayer	Curtis Clements

Songs of Praise

Hymn	10,000 Reasons
Hymn	Arise
Hymn	Step by Step

We Celebrate the Lord's Supper

Hymn	Beautiful Lamb of God
Communion Meditation	Gary Varner
Hymn: #239	In Moments Like These*

Offering

Prayer	Gary Varner
Hymn: #778	Be with Me, Lord

Heart Prayer

Psalms 130:1-6	Collin Pittman
Romans 8:24-27	Collin Pittman

"Renew: Open Your Heart in Prayer"

Hymn	Lord, I Give You My Heart <i>(Parents may escort children ages 2-4 to TLC during this song)</i>
Message	Nathan Burrow
Hymn: #810	Listen to Our Hearts

New Life Blessing

Family News	Steve Powers
Hymn: #752	God Bless You, Go with God
Elder Blessing	Gary Varner <i>(*Children's song of the month)</i>

Hillcrest Family News

Today's Speakers

A.M. - Nathan Burrow

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

Sympathy

Our sympathy to the family of Kevin Batten on the loss of his grandmother, Eva Moore, in East Texas.

New Members

Jerry & Gwen Riggs

Baby Shower - Sun., Jan. 28, 2-3:30 p.m.

Honoring Ryan & Jenna Brumley at the home of Linda Varner, 13 Hilliard Circle. Selections for baby boy Jameson Wade are at Target.

Hilltoppers Luncheon - Tues., Jan. 30, 11:30 a.m., Rm 12

Cassie White will be sharing about her experience in Laos. Noke Logan will be teaming up with Susan Green to prepare cashew chicken, fried & plain rice, Bok Choy salad, egg rolls and gingerbread with lemon basil sauce for dessert. Sign up in Bible class. Put a star beside your name if you can help prepare food on Monday from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. or Tuesday at 9 a.m. The cost is \$3 per person. Hilltoppers are made up mostly of retirees, but anyone is welcome.

Babysitter Needed

The Tuesday morning Ladies' class is in need of two babysitters, 9:30 - 1 p.m. This is a paid position. Contact Linda Huff at 575-390-8818.

Needs at the Christian Service Center

- Girls' winter jackets, shoes, pajamas & 6x jeans
- Older boys' winter jackets & hoodies
- White socks - small boys, men's & women's
- Men's underwear, white T-shirts & shoes
- Can openers, cereal bowls, flatware, pots & pans
- Paper sacks with handles & wire hangers

Missing Trees

Several ficus trees that belong in the children's wing are missing. If you have borrowed them, please return them. They are used for lessons throughout the year.

Four Large Mixing Measuring Bowls from the Kitchen

If you have borrowed the 4 large mixing measuring bowls with lids from the kitchen, please return them or call the office.

Missions and Faith Sharing

WBS Trip to East Africa

Phil Palmer is visiting World Bible School Service Centers in Kenya, Uganda, and Tanzania, and establishing a new service center in South Sudan. He returns Jan. 24.

Neema Village, Tanzania

Four Hillcrest members, Connie Adams, Peggy Goodwin, Carol Horton, and Janiece Watts are serving orphaned babies at Neema Village Rescue Center in Arusha, Tanzania, Jan. 16-Feb. 2.

Sunset Vision Workshop

You are invited to attend the Sunset International Bible Institute annual Sunset Vision Workshop, Jan. 24-27 in Lubbock. Registration forms are on foyer tables. This is a time to remind one another of the great deeds of God and of His divine power.

ZMM Work Day and Container Loading

You and your Life Group or Bible Class can help send off the next Zambia Medical Mission! Please come Jan. 27 (Sat.) at 9 a.m. at Bontke Construction, 102 College Drive to help load the 40-ft. container that will leave later that day for Zambia.

Prison Ministry

There were 81 baptisms at the Middleton unit in December bringing the total for 2017 to 761.

HillcrestU

Tonight - 6 p.m. - LIFE Groups are back!

G1 - Safari (2533 Lincoln Dr)

G2 - Barnett (1401 Roadrunner Ct)

G3 - Holt (1318 Newcastle)

G4 - Straughn (1633 Hillview Rd)

Wednesday - 7 p.m. - LIFT

Thursday

Small group chapel in room 104 of the Bible building

REACH kicks off this week at it's new time, 4:30 p.m.

Spring Break Mission Trip - March 9 - 16

We will be returning to Beaumont, TX to continue Hurricane Harvey relief work. The cost is \$25. The sign up deadline is February 16. Visit our facebook page for instructions on how to sign up!

Hillcrest Ministries

Children's Corner

Nursery: 2-24 Months (TEAM #3)

Training & Learning for Children (Children's Church for ages 2-4) Parents may escort children to the TLC during the song service. (see worship order).

HYG - Youth

Today - Join us after worship for Bible class! James McGee is teaching the middle school class, and Lance Parrish is teaching the high school class! We'll see you there!

Youth Ministry Lunch & Meeting - Today

After Bible class this morning, all youth ministry students, families, and volunteers are invited to attend a luncheon in rooms 10-12. We will enjoy a meal together and go over the calendar of events for 2018 - highlighting the spring and summer plans. Even if your family didn't RSVP, please make plans to come today! We bought extra lunch boxes from Jason's Deli, so there's plenty of food!

Middle School Madness and High School Huddles tonight

6th-8th Grade - Youth room, 5:30-7 p.m.

9th & 10th Grade - 1341 Piedmont Dr., 5:45-7:15 p.m.

11th Grade - 2626 Garfield, 6-7:30 p.m.

12th Grade - 2434 Township Ct, 6 - 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday Bible Class - 7 p.m.

This Wednesday, join us in the high school youth room at 7:00 for a fun game, singing, and devotional! Bring a friend and we'll see you there!

Prayer Breakfast - Thursday - 7 - 7:30 a.m.

All students are welcome to join us at Chick-fil-a on the North Side (Hwy 351) for prayer breakfast this Thursday. Parents who can help give rides to school are encouraged to attend as well.

For the Record

Sunday Morning

A.M. Assembly790

Bible Class669

Membership.....892

Dec. Offering\$142,838

Sunday Evening

Chapel.....41

Wed. Evening359

Adult Education Corner

Sunday Morning Adult Classes

Today's lesson focuses on Genesis 1 and addresses the question of "Why did God place man on earth?".

Ladies Tuesday Morning Bible Class - Jan. 23

Fellowship - 9:30 a.m., Class - 10 a.m.: "YAHWEH" (Exo 3) and "The Lord Our Righteousness" (Jer 23). Teacher: Cleilda Smith

Wednesday Night - 7 p.m.

- Rm 10/11 - Everett Ferguson continues his series on the Lord's Supper
- Rm 12 - Glenn Rogers continues his series on the Gospel of Mark.
- Rm 14/15 - Route 52 - Psalms
- Rm 16 - Congregational Singing: Join Odies Wright for a time of worship in song!
- Rm 34 - ESL Class
- Chapel - Hillcrest Singers
- Rm 51 - Class for Singles led by Glenn Tuttle
- Rm 52 - Divorce Care
- Rm 219 - Women's Bible Class - *Don't Hurry the Sunrise* Women of all ages are invited.

Family Ministry

Route 52 - Psalms - Wed., 7 p.m.

Hillcrest Roadtrip 2018

This will be a year long mental road trip (52 weeks) for anyone who would like to go deeper into the Psalms, with special emphasis each session for families, marriages, and singles. Participants will be able to use this as a springboard for personal use in the home. Each session will be interactive with scripture, handouts, media you can use at home and group discussion tools.

Calendar of Events

January 21 New Life Blessing
 January 30Hilltoppers Luncheon
 February 4 Bible Class Fellowship
 February 11Hillcrest 101/New Member Lunch
 February 24 Men's Life Breakfast
 April 8 Church-wide Picnic
 April 27-29HEB Retreat