

Success Is a Marathon

Elders

John Deffenbaugh
Benny Haught
Glen Honeycutt
Rick Hyder
Tim Murray
Bill Reiboldt

Deacons

Pete Babb
Carl Cobb
Barry Flint
Casey Flint
Josh King
Mike Kidwell
Bryan Reiboldt
Jim Scott
Peter Wald

Preacher

Danny Boggs

Youth & Family Minister

Caleb Boggs

Worship Assemblies

10 a.m. Sunday
6 p.m. Sunday

Bible Classes

9 a.m. Sunday
7 p.m. Wednesday

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A motivational poster says, “Success is not a sprint, it’s a marathon.” God has been telling us the same thing all along! “Run with patience the race that is set before you” (Hebrews 12:1). Have you ever watched a sprinter run a race patiently? Sprinters run in frantic, short bursts and finish quickly. Distance runners, on the other hand, run patiently and seize the occasional opportunities to gain ground. During the race they can analyze the effort they’ve made so far, plan their next moves, and even take refreshment on the way to the finish line. Spiritually, do you feel like you’re running a sprint or a marathon?

Paul once told the Galatians, “You were running well; what hindered you...?” (Galatians 6:7). Running the Christian race like a sprint rather than a marathon can cause us to develop either a loser-mentality or an inordinate pride. We need to set goals individually and as a congregation. But our results may indicate neither success nor failure. We may hope to bring a certain friend to Christ this year. If our friend fails to make the decision this year to follow Him, have we failed? Or have we done well by planting the seed of the gospel? We may set a goal of 250 attending and worshiping on Sunday morning. We may reach it easily, but could we have had 300 if we really tried?

In reality the race isn’t finished until we die or Jesus returns. Goals are good, so long as they are subservient to the aim of

being well-pleasing to God in whatever we do (2 Corinthians 5:9). No one wants to run in vain (Philippians 2:16, Galatians 2:2). As we endeavor to share God’s will in the world, we must trust Him with the results (1 Corinthians 3:6). He is able to accomplish His good purpose through us, even when we may think that we have failed. He is even able to work good in the lives of the lost when our motives for sharing the gospel have become less than godly (Philippians 1:15-18).

As we continue in the race, we must determine as did the Psalmist, “I will run the way of Thy commandments” (119:32). Those who are guided by this way of wisdom are promised, “When you walk, your steps will not be hampered; when you run you will not stumble” (Proverbs 4:12). Those who “wait upon the Lord...shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint” (Isaiah 40:31).

Success in Christian life and in the church is not a sprint; it’s a marathon. The ultimate success is dependent on God and not on ourselves. “It does not, therefore, depend on him who desires, neither on him who runs, but on God who shows mercy” (Romans 9:16). Let’s make it our goal to be pleasing and faithful to Him throughout life.

Danny Boggs




Pam Babb, Carol Bessman, Fred and Carolyn Bukowich, Joyce Clarkson, Edwin and Vera Cornell, Erma Cornell, Lee Crabtree, Eli Dodson, Jaren Dodson, Joe and Teresa Freund, Wilma Hill, Justin Houston, Nadine Keith, Leopoldo Lizardo, Becky Matthews, Cheryl Neilans, Dale Privett, Susie Tomlin, Edith Toney.

Carol Bessman met with doctors last week and it was determined that surgery is not possible. Continue to pray for her strength and health.



Every "One" Counts: Remember when you give an extra dollar each Sunday, it goes to help someone in need. Last week we paid the electric bill for a man who had recently lost his wife. If you know someone who needs help, please contact Jennifer Daniels or Natalie McInturff.

Devo and Donuts is every Tuesday morning at 7:00 in the activities center. Come and start your day with a devotional to God. Bring a friend! 

Stop by the welcome desk Wednesday night and sign the **birthday card** for one of the boys at Fair Haven.

Sunday evening **discussion questions** are on the welcome desk. They will also be available at class time Sunday evening.

Ladies Bible class will meet this Thursday at 10:00.

Come and share a smile, a kind word, and a devotional with the residents at **Medicalodge** this Sunday at 1:30.



This Sunday's Sermons:

AM: Caleb Boggs

PM: God's Kind of Leaders and Followers (classes)

New Devo will be this Sunday after evening services at the Collinsworths' home with singing and pancakes on the menu. Girls bring milk or juice. Boys bring pancake toppings.

The **Third Wednesday Meal** is February 19. Ginger and Molly's groups will be providing a pork dinner. Sign up in the foyer.

Hymnal Brigade will be February 22. The youth group will be visiting some of our senior members and singing some old hymns with them. We will leave at 6:00. Eat before you come.

February 23 is the date for the **Bible Bowl written test**. You may take the test at 5:00 or 7:15.

H.O.P.E. group for girls in grades 7-12 and their mothers will meet February 27.

Ladies, remember to keep March 13-14 open for the **Ladies' Seminar** with Debbie Dupuy. We would love to represent Hillcrest with a large number of our ladies attending.

Copies of the **book**, *The Church of Christ* by Tim Alsup are on the welcome desk. Take one to share with a friend

July 15-19 will be the **youth mission trip** to Mankato, MN. This will be a great outreach opportunity for our youth.

NCS Benefit Banquet is April 18 at the Civic Center.

NCS is still looking for an English teacher for next school year. Information is on the bulletin board.

Thank you for all the prayers and concerns that were offered during Lee's eye surgery. We appreciate your support.

Edith Toney

*Dear Hillcrest Family,
We would like to thank everyone for the gifts for baby Drake and all the meals. We truly appreciate all the kindness and generosity.*

*In Christian Love,
Antonio and Hailee Webb*

PRAYER LEADERS

Sunday, February 16:

- AM Opening: Charlie Collinsworth
- AM Closing: Stuart Anderson
- PM Opening: Aaron Wilson
- PM Closing: Carl Thomlinson

Wednesday, February 19:

- Opening: Kaed Thomas
- Closing: Bob Murray

RECORDS	2-9-20	2-10-19
Bible Study	162	131
AM Worship	216	186
PM Worship	157	106
Wednesday	snow	88
Contribution	\$9,051.93	\$8,468.58
Budget	\$7,864.15	\$7,717.37