

★EXTRA! EXTRA!★

Wednesday News

Hillcrest Baptist Church
3045 Deans Bridge Road
Augusta, GA 30909
706.793.3104

June 3, 2020

www.hillcrestbaptistaugusta.org

Wednesday Bible Study Message – Dr. Bryan's study this week is *"United We Stand"* based on **Philippians 1:27-30**. *"Just one thing: Live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. Then, whether I come and see you or am absent, I will hear about you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind, working side by side for the faith that comes from the gospel."*

- **Philippians 1:27 (HCSB)** In this troubled time within our nation of divided interests and turmoil, God has a Word as to how we can get it together as ONE in our faith and practice.

Sunday Morning Worship – Dr. Bryan's message for Sunday, June 7 will be *"Why Can't I Forgive You?"* – **Luke 7:36-50**. Anger, violence, and unforgiveness are a toxic combination that has led to national unrest. The scriptural source of such is sin. The solution is God's gift of grace triggered by our response through faith. God's Word speaks to our current condition and offers peace.

You can access the messages at this link - <http://www.hillcrestbaptistaugusta.org/sermons-and-bible-studies> as well as all of Dr. Bryan's messages. **You can also listen by phone by calling 706-230-6070.**



Office Hours during the Pandemic

The church office continues to be closed. Our office staff are working virtually, phone

calls are transferred so they can be addressed, and any financial needs are also being addressed. Someone checks the mail daily to ensure any and all tithe checks or other critical mail is handled. Please continue to mail your fithes if that is your best way to submit them; if you prefer, you can tithe online at the Hillcrest Baptist Church website.

Stay well, stay safe, and we look forward to the day we are all together in worship!

Worship Services Online and by Phone!

You now have the option to listen to Sunday and Wednesday messages by phone. If you wish to use this option, please call this number – **706-230-6070** - a minute or so before 11:00 a.m. on Sunday and 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday. Please mute your phone and wait for the message to begin.



Call this Number
706-230-6070

Giving Your Tithes and Offerings

Thank you for your faithfulness in giving your titles and offerings. Please continue to give by mailing your offering to the church, or donating online on our Website at www.hillcrestbaptistaugusta.org/give.

WORSHIP

in the SANCTUARY RESUMES

June 14 – 11:00 a.m.

Sunday morning worship in the Sanctuary will resume on June 14! We will be practicing social distancing; more information can be found on the second page of the Wednesday Evening News. Sunday School will not resume, and childcare will not be available at this time. The Wednesday evening Bible Study and other activities will not resume in the building for the foreseeable future. Wednesday evening Bible Study will continue online as outlined above.

If you are unable or uncomfortable returning on June 14, you can still worship with us online on our Website at

www.hillcrestbaptistaugusta.org/sermons-and-bible-studies and on our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/HillcrestBaptistChurchAugusta>.

Dear Hillcrest Family,

The past two and a half months have been challenging for our church family as well as our community, state, nation, and world. We have learned new terminology - social distancing, better techniques for hygiene - hand sanitization, proper methods of wearing the latest in facial fashions, and new ways to communicate through technology. We've also dealt with having to "shelter in place" and have grown accustomed to changing our habits which we take for granted.

Because our community is moving forward with reopening, our church leadership has decided it is time for us to begin resuming our worship services in our Sanctuary. Please read the ideas we have for returning through our **Reboot, Responsibility, and Respect** Agenda.

REBOOT

We will begin a "soft opening worship" on Sunday, June 14, at 11:00 AM. Your staff and leadership have worked hard to be certain that this is a safe and secure environment as we come together in our sanctuary to worship. There will be obvious differences from the past as we are seeking to follow CDC guidelines and use our common sense. We have asked God to give us spiritual discernment as we come together to celebrate once more.

When we return on June 14, we will meet only for the worship service in the Sanctuary. We will not meet for Sunday School or small groups at this time. In time, we believe we will be able to offer these activities. Wednesday evening Bible studies and fellowship meals will not resume until a later date.

RESPONSIBILITY

Each family and individual will need to take personal responsibility in determining their differing levels of comfort and care. Though we are not requiring that masks be worn, we are encouraging everyone to choose for themselves. We have taken the responsibility to thoroughly disinfect the worship areas that will be open and to have some airflow from the outdoors as well. Hand sanitizers will be at the entranceway and available for personal use. If you need a mask and did not bring one, we will provide one for you. Our focus is on God, and our fears can be better relieved as we interact in distanced seating and coordinated entrance and exiting practices without congregating.

We ask that you please DO NOT ATTEND church services if you are experiencing cold or flu symptoms, are running a fever, have tested positive for the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), have been exposed to someone who has, or are awaiting test results for COVID-19. Also, if you have an underlying medical condition for which the COVID-19 virus could pose a serious risk to your health, you may want to consider delaying your return to the church building.

RESPECT

Proof of our love for one another must be shown as we respect each other. We must show our respect through spacing ourselves properly and refraining from hugs and handshakes at this time. A friendly, holy wave to one another is just as effective and will be taken as a sign of love and respect. The bathroom facilities will be available for "serious needs." However, we ask that you exercise a purposeful respect and restraint. An attendant will be available should you have a need. Children are welcome and encouraged to come with their families and sit accordingly. There will be no childcare available.

Pastor John and the leadership respect your time and will keep the service within a period of one hour. We respect the right of all people to make their own decision regarding participation. We will continue our online worship experiences and encourage those that are not ready to engage face-to-face at this time to stay home and view by way of our Hillcrest Website and Facebook presentations as they may be made available.

We appreciate your patience as we have journeyed through this time. Thank you for your cooperation and for the joy of celebrating our Savior. We look forward to our future together!

In Christ Victorious,

John Bryan, Interim Pastor
The Hillcrest Body of Deacons