New Beginnings

" Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!" - 2 Corinthians 5:17 (NIV)

God loves new beginnings. Do you ever feel like you need a new beginning? That's exactly what I'm feeling is happening all around us because we are being tested and tried, feeling disoriented with current events in our world and church.

Oftentimes we get distracted by circumstances, and we miss the point of all that we can learn in the midst of our frustrations. As we read and listen to the myriad of publications and pundits flooding our minds, we may be turning a deaf ear to the greatest Voice of all. God is speaking! Are we listening?

We didn't ask or invite a new beginning into our lives; however, the possibilities are reaching out for us to start fresh without the temptation of begging for a rerun to the past.

Maybe it's time for us to recite and remember the *Serenity Prayer*:
God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change; courage to change the things I can; and wisdom to know the difference.

One of the things I love about our faith is that our God is a God of second chances, fresh starts, and new beginnings. I believe God is waiting on us even though sometimes we may think we are waiting for Him to do something.

Whenever I get to a place in my life where things aren't making sense, it always seems that I need to rediscover Jesus, dig deeper into his Word, and to never forget that Jesus Christ is the ultimate new beginning - every day.

In Christ Victorious,
Pastor John

Hillcrest Baptist Church
3045 Deans Bridge Rd.
Augusta, GA 30906

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Hillcrest Baptist Church exists to glorify God by being and producing spiritually mature disciples of Jesus Christ.

Hillcrest Ministerial Staff
John Bryan, Intentional Interim Pastor
Bill Dean, *Interim Director of Music*
Colletta Portis, *School Principal*

HILLCREST BAPTIST CHURCH

Connecting People to God, Bible, Church, Service, and Missions

3045 Deans Bridge Road, Augusta, GA 30906
Telephone (706) 793-3104 Fax (706) 793-6885
www.hillcrestbaptistaugusta.org

Volume 21 May 2020 No. 4

Special Days in May

May 7 ~ National Day of Prayer
May 10 ~ Mother's Day May 25 ~ Memorial Day

Even though we won't be worshipping together, you can still worship where you are and join us online on Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. and on Sundays at 11:00 a.m.

www.hillcrestbaptistaugusta.org/sermons-and-bible-studies

For the safety of our congregation, all Youth and Children's Activities, Sunday School, and Men's and Women's Bible Study and Prayer groups are suspended until further notice.

We will resume our normal schedule as soon as we feel it is safe to do so.

The Food Pantry is closed for now to the public, but we are restocking our shelves. Please consider giving a monetary donation to help us so we will be ready when we can reopen.

MUSIC NOTES

As I go through the Baptist Hymnal reviewing songs for Sunday worship, I find it amazing how songs written 100+ years ago are so relevant today. I challenge you to open your hymnals and read the words, many which are right out of scripture with powerful messages for today. I am praying daily for our music program and church family as I know you are. Hopefully, it will not be too long before we can all be together again. Choir members, please listen to the Easter musical when you have a chance.

In His Steps
Bill

Tithes & Gifts

During this time when we are away from our usual schedules of worship, Bible studies, and fellowship, please continue giving your tithes and offerings. You may mail your offering to the church, drop it by the church office, or donate online on our Website at www.hillcrestbaptistaugusta.org/give.

Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for North American Missions

When Annie was raising awareness for support of missions and asking for funds, she refused a salary because, as she said, she would never give to the Lord "that which costs me nothing", quoting a portion of the passage from 2 Samuel 24:24. Our government has provided extra funds for most individuals during this pandemic. Might you consider giving a portion of your funds which are extra income over and above your needs to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering?

They will glorify God because of your submission that comes from your confession of the gospel of Christ, and the generosity of your contribution for them and for all others.
- 2 Corinthians 9:13 (ESV)

Annie Armstrong Information
Annie Armstrong Biographical Video

ANNIE ARMSTRONG EASTER OFFERING®
FOR NORTH AMERICAN MISSIONS

Our Goal: $3,500 Received: $2,279

(Information and graphics from the North American Mission Board)

COVID-19 UPDATES

Worship Service Schedule

Due to concerns over the Coronovirus, all worship services and church activities are suspended.

Church Services Online

Hillcrest Baptist Church will continue to have worship services and Bible Study online. Join us each Wednesday evening at 6:00 p.m. and on

Worship Services 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 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday. Please mute your phone and wait for the service to begin.

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 tithes 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!

DRIVE IN SERVICE

Wednesday Evening Bible Study in the Church Parking Lot
May 13 - 6:30 p.m.

On Wednesday Evening, May 13, we will have a "Drive-In Wednesday Bible Study" at 6:30 p.m. in the large church parking lot near the side door of the Sanctuary. Cars will be parked in alternating spaces, and you must remain inside your car for the entire session. The church will be closed, and restroom facilities will not be accessible.

New Sermon Series
Listen Up!
Sunday Mornings at 11:00 a.m.

God speaks to us through His word and through quiet time with Him, but sometimes we get too busy to listen.

Join Pastor John as he gives us insights and ways that we should *Listen Up!*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 **9:45 AM** Sunday School has been suspended **11:00 AM** Morning Worship online or by phone	**27** **10:00 AM** Food Pantry Is Closed Until Further Notice	**28**	**29** **5:30 PM** Wednesday Night Fellowship Meal has been suspended **6:00 PM** Wednesday Night Bible Study online or by phone **6:15 PM** Ladies' Bible Study has been suspended **6:15 PM** TeamKid has been suspended **6:15 PM** The Outlet (Youth) has been suspended **7:30 PM** Praise Choir Rehearsal has been suspended	**30**	**1**	**2**
3 **9:15 AM** Churchwide Breakfast has been cancelled **9:45 AM** Sunday School has been suspended **11:00 AM** Morning Worship online or by phone	**4** Prison Ministry cancelled for May **10:00 AM** Food Pantry Is Closed Until Further Notice	**5** **7:00 AM** Men's Prayer Breakfast has been suspended	**6** **5:30 PM** Wednesday Night Fellowship Meal has been suspended **6:00 PM** Wednesday Night Bible Study online or by phone **6:15 PM** Ladies' Bible Study has been suspended **6:15 PM** TeamKid has been suspended **6:15 PM** The Outlet (Youth) has been suspended **7:30 PM** Praise Choir Rehearsal has been suspended	**7** **National Day of Prayer**	**8**	**9**
10 **Mother's Day** **9:45 AM** Sunday School has been suspended **11:00 AM** Morning Worship online or by phone **12:30 PM** Youth Fellowship Lunch has been suspended	**11** **10:00 AM** Food Pantry Is Closed Until Further Notice	**12** **6:00 PM** Budget & Finance Committee **7:00 PM** Deacons' Meeting	**13** **5:30 PM** Wednesday Night Fellowship Meal has been suspended **6:30 PM Drive-In Wednesday Night Bible Study** **6:15 PM** Ladies' Bible Study has been suspended **6:15 PM** TeamKid has been suspended **6:15 PM** The Outlet (Youth) has been suspended **7:30 PM** Praise Choir Rehearsal has been suspended	**14**	**15**	**16**
17 **9:45 AM** Sunday School has been suspended **11:00 AM** Morning Worship online or by phone	**18** **10:00 AM** Food Pantry Is Closed Until Further Notice	**19** **7:00 AM** Men's Prayer Breakfast has been suspended	20 **5:30 PM** Wednesday Night Fellowship Meal has been suspended **6:00 PM** Wednesday Night Bible Study online or by phone **6:15 PM** Ladies' Bible Study has been suspended **6:15 PM** TeamKid has been suspended **6:15 PM** The Outlet (Youth) has been suspended **7:30 PM** Praise Choir Rehearsal has been suspended	**21** **12:00 PM** Tammy & Steve Jenne take Lunch to the Burn Unit	**22**	**23**
24 **9:45 AM** Sunday School has been suspended **11:00 AM** Morning Worship online or by phone	**25** **Memorial Day** **Church Office Closed** **10:00 AM** Food Pantry Is Closed Until Further Notice	**26**	27 **5:30 PM** Wednesday Night Fellowship Meal has been suspended **6:00 PM** Wednesday Night Bible Study online or by phone **6:15 PM** Ladies' Bible Study has been suspended **6:15 PM** TeamKid has been suspended **6:15 PM** The Outlet (Youth) has been suspended **7:30 PM** Praise Choir Rehearsal has been suspended	**28**	**29**	**30**
31 **9:45 AM** Sunday School has been suspended **11:00 AM** Morning Worship online or by phone	**1** Prison Ministry cancelled for June **10:00 AM** Food Pantry Is Closed Until Further Notice	**2** **7:00 AM** Men's Prayer Breakfast has been suspended	3 **5:30 PM** Wednesday Night Fellowship Meal has been suspended **6:00 PM** Wednesday Night Bible Study online or by phone **6:15 PM** Ladies' Bible Study has been suspended **6:15 PM** TeamKid has been suspended **6:15 PM** The Outlet (Youth) has been suspended **7:30 PM** Praise Choir Rehearsal has been suspended	**4**	5	6

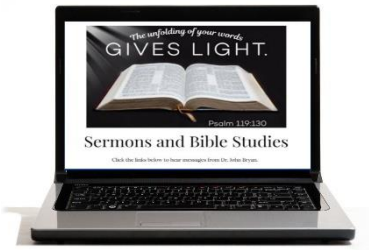
Please join us online for worship services and Bible Study on Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. and Sundays at 11:00 a.m. at this link – www.hillcrestbaptistaugusta.org/sermons-and-bible-studies; **on the phone by calling this number - 706-230-6070; and on our Facebook page, only on Sunday mornings, at this link –** www.facebook.com/hillcrestbaptistaugusta**.**

Hillcrest at Home

We invite you to join us for worship at 11:00 a.m. on Sunday morning and for Bible Study on Wednesday evenings at 6:00 p.m.

Watch and Listen On Our Website

You can watch the Worship Services and listen to the Wednesday Bible Studies on our Website at this link - www.hillcrestbaptistaugusta.org/sermons-and-bible-studies



Watch On Our Facebook Page

You can watch Sunday Services on our Facebook page at this link
www.facebook.com/HillcrestBaptistChurchAugusta

Listen on the Phone

You can listen to Sunday Worship Services and Wednesday Bible Studies 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 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday. Please mute your phone and wait for the service or Bible Study to begin.

You're Invited! Wednesday, May 13 at 6:30 p.m.

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