



*Join us at Hillcrest Baptist Church  
Friday, May 1st at 7:00 PM*



*"Preparing Lives for Today, Tomorrow and Eternity"*

1300 Anderson Drive  
Williamston, SC 29697

Return Service Requested

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*"Preparing Lives for Today, Tomorrow and Eternity"*

# **CHURCH News**

## **May 2026**

### **Hillcrest Staff**

Rev. Larry Baldwin, Senior Pastor  
Phone: 864-934-4487

Dwain Simmons, Associate Pastor and  
Minister of Students, dwain@412students.org

Tommy Bennett, Pianist

Billie Joe Paige, Music Director

Linda Barrett, Ministry Assistant

Office Phone: (864) 847-7521  
Email: info@myhillcrest.org  
Website: www.myhillcrest.org  
Office Hours: Monday—Friday 9AM-1PM



# HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

*Her children call her*

# BLESSED



From The Pastor's Pen

May 2026

As Mother's Day approaches, my heart is full of gratitude—not only for the incredible mothers in our congregation, but also for one very special woman in my own life: my mom, Joyce. When my dad passed away and I was just 22, life shifted in ways I could never have anticipated. In that season of loss and uncertainty, my mom became my rock. Through every chapter of my ministry—every church, every challenge, every joy—she has stood beside me with unwavering love, steady encouragement, and a faith that refuses to quit. I truly could not have asked for a better mom. God has blessed me beyond measure. Whenever I read Proverbs 31, I don't have to imagine what that kind of woman looks like. I see my mom. Strength, dignity, wisdom, kindness—she has lived these qualities with a quiet consistency that has shaped my life more than she will ever know. This July 4th, Mom will celebrate her 90th birthday. Ninety years of grace, grit, and God's goodness. And I'm praying boldly—Lord, give her the strength and joy to keep going all the way to 120. Because if anyone could do it, it's her. She is, without question, the Energizer Bunny of our family. She keeps going, and going, and going. Now, Mom, if you're reading this—and I know you are—there is one small request I'd like to slip in. I'd be just a *little* happier if you'd consider turning over those car keys. I'm kidding... sort of... but not really! You know I love you with all my heart.

To all the mothers in our church family: thank you. Thank you for the prayers you pray that no one hears, the sacrifices you make that no one sees, and the love you give that reflects the heart of Christ. You are a blessing to your families and to this church.

And to my mom, Joyce: thank you for being the steady, faithful, joyful presence you have always been. You are one of God's greatest gifts to me.

Happy Mother's Day to you all. May God continue to strengthen, honor, and bless every Mother who pours out her life in love.

Laboring and Loving it!  
Preacher Larry

## CHOIR NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENT INFORMATION



What a glorious Easter season we have just experienced together! Our adult choir truly did a spectacular job presenting the Easter Musical "Because He Lives." Your dedication, passion, and heartfelt worship were evident in every note, and it was a blessing to all who attended. Thank you for sharing your gifts so faithfully!

Looking ahead, we are excited to announce a special **All-Men's Choir** coming together for **Sunday, June 14th**. This is a wonderful opportunity for the men of our church to unite in worship and fellowship through music. Be sure to sign up on the sheet in the church foyer—practice times will be announced soon, so stay tuned!

Our **Adult Choir** continues to meet for rehearsals each **Sunday afternoon at 4:30 PM**. Whether you are a long-time member or have been thinking about joining, now is a great time to get involved. We would love to have you sing with us!

As we move forward in this season of renewal and praise, may this scripture encourage you:

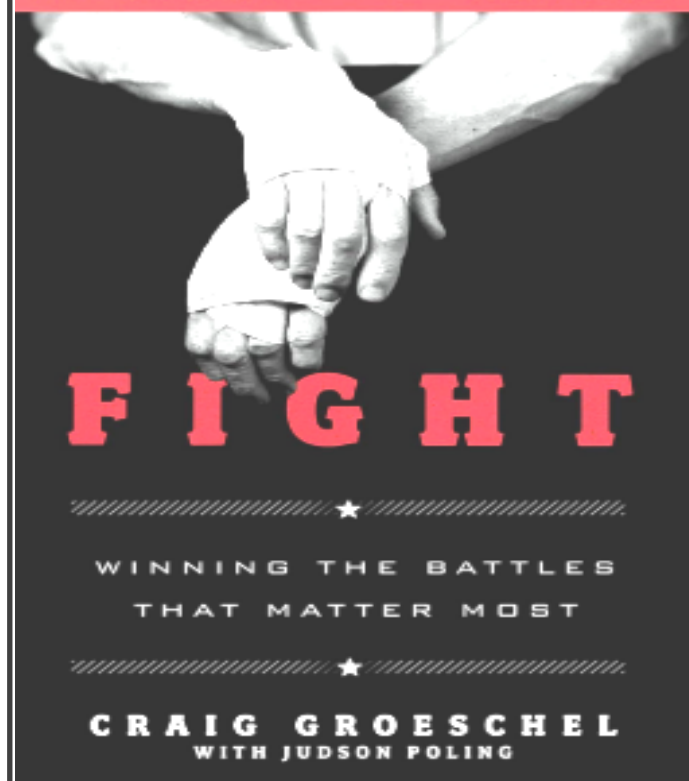
"Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth." — Psalm 96:1

Let's continue lifting our voices and hearts in worship together!

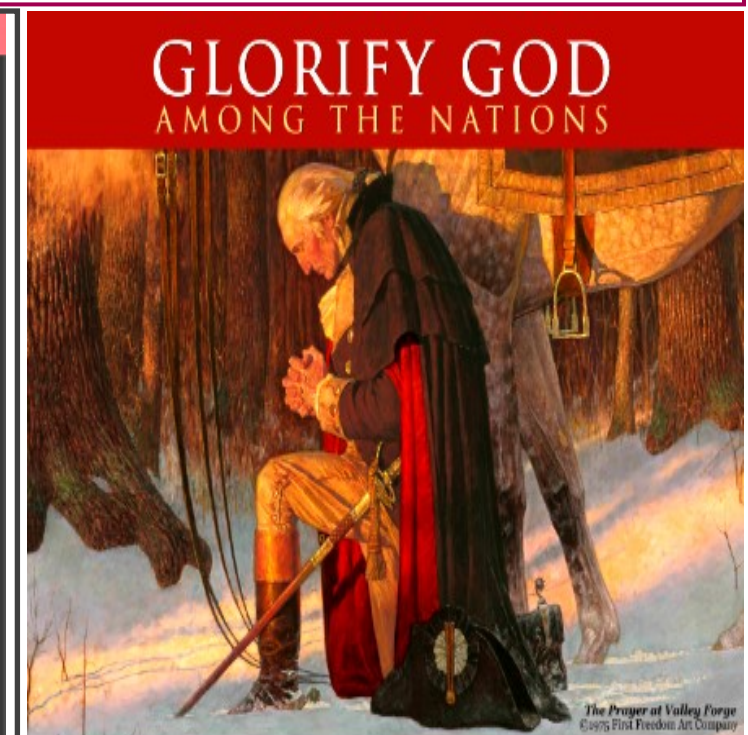
Love to you all,  
Billie Joe



FIVE SESSIONS STUDY GUIDE



Men's Family Night Bible Study 7:00  
Meets in the Mosaic Classroom  
This is 5th and final study of the Series.  
'FIGHT' by Author Craig Groeschel



SEEKING HIM  
IN ALL GENERATIONS  
1 CHRONICLES 16:24 NASB  
THURSDAY, MAY 7, 2026

NATIONALDAYOFFRAYER.ORG





**May Celebrations**

- 05/02 Colt Parsons
- 05/04 Tammy Smith
- 05/05 Ryan Jennings
- 05/07 Casey Reeves
- 05/08 Debbie Creamer
- 05/08 Edie Ford
- 05/08 Marie Ford
- 05/09 Michael Jolly
- 05/12 Marie Smith
- 05/14 Dolly Ford
- 05/15 Shawn Miller
- 05/16 Sharon Schronce



- 05/17 Fran Cooley
- 05/17 Zachary Taylor
- 05/18 David Owens, Sr.
- 05/23 Jeannie Barnard
- 05/25 Kaylee Ricks
- 05/25 Zoey Smith
- 05/27 Brenda Cox
- 05/27 Kaleigh Taylor
- 05/30 Tommy Bennett
- 05/30 Michael Looper
- 05/31 Daniel Hammond



**CLASS OF 2026**  
CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES

May 3rd at 10:00 AM  
Congratulations  
This Year's Graduates:  
Natalie Church  
Kaileigh Driver  
Grady Havird  
Megan Simmons

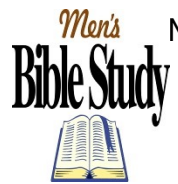
*Graduation*


*HAPPY ANNIVERSARY*

- 05/04 Mike & Martha Jordan
- 05/05 David & Susan Poole
- 05/13 Melvin & Edie Ford
- 05/16 Larry & Carol Strom
- 05/18 Tim & Millie Harmon
- 05/23 Mike & Kathy Carpenter
- 05/24 Clint & Debbie Childs
- 05/24 Greg & Jennifer Creel
- 05/25 Tad & Melissa Tilman
- 05/30 Mitch & Bailee Harbin


## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES & EVENTS

## ACTIVITIES, ANNOUNCEMENTS & SERVING OPPORTUNITIES

 **Men's Monday Night Bible Study 6:30**  
Meets in the Fellowship Hall to continue the chronological study of the Bible by chapter.

 Thanks to everyone who helped with the Fishing Tournament. We love and appreciate you. It was an amazing event from wonderful weather, friends bonding, good food and 46 Boats (approximately 92 Fisherman). 2026 was great! Let's start praying that 2027 will be bigger and better. God is Good!  
Ann & Tony Riddle.  
The proceeds of \$5,660.00 benefits the Doors and Windows Fund.


**SCBMA - South Carolina Baptist Ministries of Aging**  
**Mother's Day Annual Offering May 10th**


 Notes from Fran:  
Collection Deadline is May 10th  
Ministry Health Kit examples are in the Adult classrooms. Listed items are to be placed in a gallon ziplock bag..  
**Attention Please**


 **ATTENTION HILLCREST MEN!**  
Asking for Guys interested in singing in an All-Men's Choir for one Sunday. Please sign up if you would like to participate on Sunday June 14<sup>th</sup>. Thank you! Billie Joe

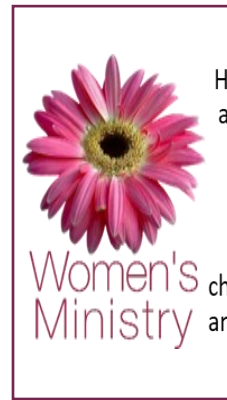
**MAY OPERATION CARE FOOD BANK AND BACKPACK SUGGESTED DONATIONS**  
No expired dates please!  
*Thank You For Supporting The Needs Of Our Local Communities*  
**Food Bank:** Canned Vegetables, Ravioli, Beefaroni, Crackers, Corn Bread Mixes, Baked Beans. All donations appreciated!  
**Backpack Ministry:** See the list from Operation Care in the Mission Hall. Bags are filled with items & handed out each Friday for children to take home.


 **Van Ministry Volunteers Schedule**  
**Prayerfully consider and Sign Up!**  
We are looking for Adult Drivers willing to help with the Van Ministry to pick up Church Members for Wednesday Night and Sunday Morning and Evening Services. A signup sheet is on the Bulletin Board. If you are a Member in need of a ride or need to cancel a ride, call Alan Taylor 864-353-0476

 **Mission Support**  
Mark your envelope ACTS 1:8 to designate a donation to the combined fund to support West Virginia, Ocoee Outreach and other mission trips & efforts at Hillcrest.

 **Nursery Ministry**  
**Bailee Harbin Coordinator**  
**Sunday Morning**  
May 3 Jessica Mullinax & Mitchell Ezakovich  
May 10 Sherri Cole & Kenetha Timms  
May 17 Byron & Rhiannon Smith  
May 24 Lisa Foster & Diane Rentz  
May 31 Melissa Smith & Donna Childs  
**Sunday Evening**  
May 3 Bailee Harbin & Billie Joe Paige  
May 10 No Evening Service  
May 17 Sherri Cole & Kenetha Timms  
May 24 Byron & Rhiannon Smith  
May 31 Nancy Gresham & Connie Turner  
**Wednesday Evening**  
May 6 Kim Baldwin & Samantha Dies  
May 13 Brittany Holden & Rhiannon Smith  
May 20 Kim Baldwin & Samantha Dies  
May 27 Brittany Holden & Rhiannon Smith

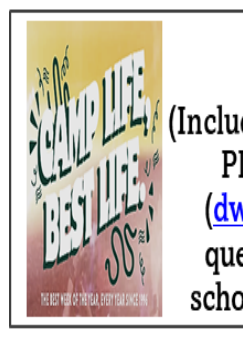
 **Young at Heart Group**  
Ages 50 and over  
Thursday, May 14th at 6:30 PM  
Food: Provided: Please sign up so we have a count. Donations for the food will be appreciated.  
Activities: Conducted by Don and Sherry  
Hostesses: Mandy Stang and Sherry Clardy  
Senior of the Month: Ann Riddle  
Note: "Thankful to have known them"  
Remembrance has been changed to September.

 **Women's Ministry**  
Hillcrest Ladies! Mark your calendar for May 21 at 6:30 PM as we kick off the unofficial start of summer for some of us (last day of school!).  
Expect an evening filled with laughter, meaningful conversation and prayer that refreshes the heart. It's a simple, joy-filled chance to connect and strengthen both our faith and our friendships. Bring your favorite summer snack to share and bring a friend.


 **Children's Church Ministry**  
**Sherry Clardy Coordinator**  
**Sunday Morning**  
**Preschool Children's Church**  
**3 year olds to 5 year old Kindergarten**  
May 3 Samantha Dies & Edie Ford  
May 10 Ami Alexander & Miranda Cox  
May 17 Dolly Ford & Linda Patterson  
May 24 Melissa Smith & Ellen Tierce  
May 31 Samantha Dies & Edie Ford  
**Elementary School Children's Church**  
**1st through 5th Grade**  
May 3 Mandy Stang & Brittany Holden  
May 10 Sherry Clardy & Millie Harmon  
May 17 Misty Coker & Brittany Holden  
May 24 Sherry Clardy & Anita Simmons  
May 31 Pat Bland & Janet Spruell


 **KIDS Power Hour**  
Sunday Nights at 6:00pm  
**No Sunday Night Service on May 10th.**


 **Camp La Vida**  
Deadline for enrollment to Camp La Vida and Camp McCall is May 1st. Please see Fran Cooley or Misty Coker for details.


 **June 29th through July 3rd**  
Cost: \$325 per student  
(Includes lodging, meals, shirt & activities)  
**PLEASE** see or email Pastor Dwain ([dwain@412students.org](mailto:dwain@412students.org)) if you have questions and would like to help with scholarships for students to go to camp.


 **We will be collecting New Socks and Shoes for our Back-to-School year 2026-2027 instead of school supplies. Update! A Contest is starting in June sponsored by the Women's Ministry Group challenging Guys and Girls to compete for the most donations. Student sizes are Grades K5 through 12.**


 **Wednesday Activities**  
Acteens are on break and will return for meetings in September.

 **Children In Action**  
Girls & Boys - Grades 1st—5th  
Meet Each Wednesday at 6:30—7:15


 **4:12 Student Ministry**  
Meets Each Wednesday in the Youth Room at 6:30-8:00  
Grades 6th—12th  
Invite a Friend!

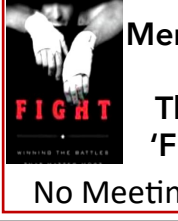
 **Mission Friends**  
Starts @ 7:00PM  
Mission Friends (3-5 Year olds)


 **Bible Study and Prayer Meeting**  
In the Sanctuary

 **Truth Seekers Class (1st-5th grades)**  
Starts 7:15—8:00

 **Family Night, Wed., May 6th**  
All Other Activities are the same

 **Ladies of Grace**  
Meeting at 6:50 in the Social Hall  
Wear Spring Colors  
Bring May snacks and bring a Spring Friend!

 **Men's Family Night Bible Study 7:00**  
Meets in the Mosaic Classroom  
This is the final of the 5 part series.  
'FIGHT' by Author Craig Groeschel  
No Meeting in the Sanctuary on Family Night

 **Mother's Day**  
❖ May 3rd - Ballots and voting for Mother of the Year.  
❖ May 10th - Celebrate Mother's Day and presenting Mom of the Year.