

Hillcrest Herald

November 2026

HILLCREST CHURCH

Hillcrest Herald
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In This Issue
Hillcrest Happenings
Youth and Family News

Hillcrest Baptist Church
2480 W. Broad St.
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Sunday Service
10:15 am

Tim Lee
Senior Pastor

Heather Kirk
Office Manager

Office Hours
T-F 9 am-1 pm

Gratitude: The Secret to Unstoppable Joy

From the Pastor's Heart - Thanksgiving 2026

Thanksgiving is one of my favorite times of the year. It's an opportunity to slow down, gather with family and friends, enjoy some good food, watch some football and reflect on God's many blessings. But I wonder if sometimes we miss one of Thanksgiving's greatest gifts - the joy that comes from a grateful heart.

The Apostle Paul writes in 1 Thessalonians 5:18, "Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

Notice Paul doesn't say to give thanks for everything, but in everything. We don't have to be thankful for life's disappointments, struggles, or losses. But even in difficult seasons, we can be thankful that God is still good, still faithful, and still working in our lives.

David Jeremiah often reminds us that gratitude isn't dependent on our circumstances but on our confidence in God's character. And Charles Swindoll emphasizes that while we cannot control everything that happens to us, we can choose our attitude toward it.

A complaining heart focuses on what's missing, but a grateful heart celebrates what God has provided.
That's why gratitude and joy are so closely connected. Gratitude changes our perspective, and a changed perspective produces a more joyful life!

In Philippians 4:4, Paul writes, "Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!" What's remarkable is that Paul wrote those words while imprisoned. His joy wasn't rooted in comfortable circumstances but in his relationship with Jesus Christ.

That's the Unstoppable Joy we've been discovering together!

So this Thanksgiving, let me encourage you to do three simple things: Count your blessings, express your gratitude, and share your blessings with others. Sometimes the simplest expressions of thanksgiving produce the greatest joy.

Remember, a grateful heart doesn't necessarily have a perfect life, but it has learned to see a faithful God in every season.

My prayer is that our homes will be filled with laughter, our tables with fellowship, and our hearts with gratitude and unstoppable joy.

Happy Thanksgiving!
Pastor Tim

Love Christ and Build Community—on the hilltop and beyond!

Hillcrest Happenings

Vision Team Meeting
Nov 12th 6:15 pm

Womens Ministry
Nov 18th 9 am

Thanksgiving Day
Nov 26th

Hanging of the Greens
Nov 29th

Hillcrest Women's Ministry

In October the HWM donated $250 to the Kairos Prison Ministry ~ proceeds from the Sub Sale.
They were also able to donate $100 to Choices Ministry.

Operation Chistmas Child

We are collecting donations for OCC through November 15th. The Packing Party will be on November 8th but shoeboxes will be accepted through the 15th of November. Questions? Reach out to Taylor Hutton.

Trunk or Treat ~ A Beautiful Day In The Neighborhood!

The Outreach Team sends a warm thank you to all those who participated in the Trunk or Treat Event! We handed out over 7500 pieces of candy and 300 hotdogs, fellowshiped with many in our community, and made our presence felt on the Hilltop.



Thanksgiving Food Drive

This year we will once again be collecting donations of the following items for our annual Food Drive to benefit families in our community. ***Donations are due November 15th.*** *Contact info@hillcrest-baptist.com with questions.*

Gravy - Canned, Jarred, or Boxed
Stuffing - bagged
Corn - Canned
Green Beans - Canned
Instant Potatos - Bagged or Boxed
Yams - Canned
Cranberry Sauce - Canned
Turkey