



HILLFEST DRAWS COMMUNITY

What comes to mind when you think about Hillfest? If you're like me, the word sparks images of friends and worship, of food and family, and most of all, of fun! The 2019 event saw kids tossing a football for hours, friends dancing and singing, fans greeting artists, and couples watching fireworks.

It's true. Hillfest is a blast! And rightfully so, because of the mission it accomplishes: *"Bringing Glory to God by uniting local communities in worship and reaching our towns for Jesus."*

Hillfest's fun atmosphere makes it a natural, easy, and amazing access point for sharing God's love in our community. Below are some examples of the ways the event provides us to be real life examples of Jesus's love here on Earth:

Volunteer: For the day to go off without a hitch, we need many volunteers before, during, and after the event. Donating time can be a wonderful way to bless our community and contribute to the mission.

Family: Bring your whole family together for some memory making! Also,

many families are broken and hurting, the event is a great opportunity to invite another family to join you for a night of fun and connection. (Know a family who can't afford to attend? Let us know!)

Connections: Hillfest draws in many people who may have never ventured to our little town. I spent much of this year's event at our Information Booth chatting with guests and hearing their stories. Use Hillfest to meet someone new, make a connection, and share stories of God's blessings in your life.

Give: Hillfest provides many opportunities for us to cheerfully give.

Here are some ideas:

- Invite a friend to attend and pay their way
- Give to a certain aspect of the event (toward artist hospitality, safety, marketing, etc)
- Donate a raffle set of VIP tickets
- Give Hillfest tickets as a Christmas gift
- Donate general admission tickets to those who may not otherwise be able to attend

Prayer: In the days and months leading up to the event, please join us in prayer for the organizers, guests, and artists. Pray that our focus may remain on our mission and vision, and that the event may bring Glory to God and exemplify the love of Jesus.

What can you expect of Hillfest 2020? More love, more hope, more fun, and more mission!

Save the date: July 11, 2020



HEARTBEATS AT HOPE
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HEARTBEATS
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JULY-AUGUST 2019

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In June, Cornerstone made it possible for some of us to visit the State House and meet Governor Sununu.

LOVING OUR GOVERNMENT

As Christians, we are called to “*Love your neighbor as yourself.*” *Mark 12:31* and this means local, state and federal lawmakers. Treat politicians as you would want them to treat you, with respect, dignity and kindness. And yes, you are even charged to love the politicians that you disagree with.

We live in a republic. As citizens we have a say in who we elect as leaders and what kind of policies we believe are beneficial for our nation and our people. Unfortunately, many of us do not take advantage of our rights as citizens and we disconnect ourselves from the political scene. As Christians, we know God, which means we have truth and wisdom. Truth and wisdom are what the world needs.

I believe it’s time for local churches to take charge and be more influential in the political sphere. That’s where an organization like *Cornerstone* comes into play. Their goal is to motivate

Christians to reach out and get involved and influence lawmakers and laws that shape our state. You may not realize it, but the New Hampshire government is very accessible. For example, local Representative Paul Somero and a few private citizens invited Governor Sununu to attend *Hillfest* and he came! State Representatives like Paul welcome Christians to the State Capital and want your voices to be heard.

An initiative that *Cornerstone* is implementing at local churches is a program called “Beseech and Befriend.” Churches adopt one or two nearby legislators to “love practically” and to pray for regularly, changing the world one act of kingdom-kindness-to-a-a legislator at a time, regardless of political party.

We have implemented “Beseech and Befriend” at Hope. The two legislators that we have been assigned are Senator Jeanne Deitsch and Representative Craig Thompson. We have framed pictures of these two in the conference room to remind us to pray for them. After all, we are commanded to pray for “*all those in authority.*” *1 Tim 2:2*

To learn more about *Cornerstone* and to stay current with issues, see their website: www.nhcornerstone.org

With sincere encouragement,
Ethan Ketola
HFC Administrator



SUNDAY SCHOOL KICKS OFF SOON!

Sunday school starts on September 15th and parents are invited to attend an Open House! Amanda Ketola is our new Sunday school leader and will go over some changes in routine.

The first is a new check-in system. Students will check in and go straight to their classrooms. Another is that teachers are planning their lessons so that we can fit in the whole scope of the curriculum on the Bible and being a disciple of Jesus. And you’ll have to attend Open House and hear the rest.

In the meantime, we really need some teacher’s helpers. It’s a fun way to learn along with the kids. If you are someone who would like to study the Word of God, grow as a person and have a friend to meet with each week, let Amanda know you are interested. Contact Amanda Ketola for more info, 978-855-4423.