

We believe that following Jesus is best done with other people. Our hope is for every adult at Hillcrest to find themselves in meaningful, Christ-centered relationships, and small groups are one of the big ways we practice this.

A small group is simply a group of 3 - 23 people that you intentionally do life with, talk about Jesus with, and serve alongside. Most groups meet every week or every other week to study Scripture, pray together, and grow in friendship.

In this catalog you will find three different sections:

- The first section is ongoing small groups. These are our core small groups that meet throughout the year.
 We want everyone to find their way into the right ongoing small group!
- Next you'll find short term small groups. These groups get together for a limited time to study a particular topic. They're a great way to try groups out or learn about something new.
- Finally, near the end of the booklet you'll find other
 places around Hillcrest to make connections. Groups
 like our young adult ministry Rooted, regular Spanishlanguage potlucks, and shared interest groups for
 everything from walking to the arts.

If you are interested in trying a small group out, see the next page for how to sign up for a group, and please reach out! We would love to help you in your search for community at Hillcrest.



Tim Knipp Lead Pastor



Alex Allyne Associate Director of Small Groups

Sincerely,

Tim Knipp and Alex Allyne

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HOW TO GET CONNECTED WITH A SMALL GROUP



Look through the groups in the catalog. Find one or more you would like to check out.



Click the "Register" link to let the group's leaders know you want to learn more - you'll just need to enter your name and email address.



After signing up the leader will contact you visit a few times and see if it's the right group for you!

If you like it, try out the group for a couple months. When the next
sign up time comes around (in September and February),
you are welcome to step away for a season or try another group.

If you would like some help finding a group, or if you have any questions at all, email Alex at: SmallGroups@HCBellingham.com or call her at 360-733-8400 ext. 208.

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SUNDAY ONGOING

LEADER: David and Lynn Gill

AREA OF TOWN: South Bellingham LIFESTAGE: Any Adult **DESCRIPTION:** We are a multigenerational group of singles. couples and families. We begin our meeting with a simple meal, study Scripture and pray for one another. We meet on Sunday

nights from 6:00-8:00pm at or near Hillcrest.

REGISTER



LEADER: Derrick and Kathy Hill

AREA OF TOWN: North Bellingham LIFESTAGE: Any Adult **DESCRIPTION:** We are a small group of both married couples and singles (50s - 60s) who meet together at 1:00pm on Sunday afternoons for a potluck, Bible Study, and prayer, in hopes of building one another up in our faith walks. We meet at the Hill's house.

REGISTER

MONDAY ONGOING

LEADER: Anthony and Kylie Hale/Griffin and Casey Bainter

AREA OF TOWN: Skagit LIFESTAGE: Any Adult

DESCRIPTION: If you're looking to connect with other Hillcrest folks down in Skagit Valley, then this group is for you! We are a mix of singles, couples, and families of all ages. Our vision for this small group is to create a community that shares life openly, grows in our relationships with Jesus, and also has fun when we get together. We are planning to meet at 6:00pm Monday nights except the last Monday of each month.



MONDAY ONGOING

LEADER: Dan Herndon

AREA OF TOWN: South Belingham LIFESTAGE: Adult Men **DESCRIPTION:** This is a men's Bible Study. We will watch the Chosen series season 3 together this fall. We meet Monday evenings from 7:00-9:00pm. We'd love to have you join us!

REGISTER



TUESDAY ONGOING

NEW LEADER: Michelle Taylor

AREA OF TOWN: South Bellingham LIFESTAGE: Adult Women **DESCRIPTION:** This group is for women; moms, grandmas, aunties, any women with a heart for covering our kids and schools in prayer. We meet to pray for Southside schools: Happy Valley, Lowell. Fairhaven and Wade King using the Moms in Prayer, International format. Our gatherings are weekly on Tuesday mornings starting at 9:30am and we pray specifically for an hour. We would love to have you join us!



REGISTER

LEADER: Aaron and Leah Dutton

AREA OF TOWN: South Bellingham LIFESTAGE: Any Adult **DESCRIPTION:** We are a multigenerational group of believers learning from one another, whether we are new to following Jesus or have been at it for a long time. We pray for one another, follow the weekly sermon series, and discuss life. We meet Tuesday evenings at a home near Lake Padden. Once a month we eat dinner together. Couples and singles welcome. No child care is provided.



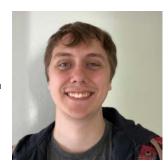
REGISTER

I think this is the best thing about Hillcrest!

TUESDAY ONGOING

NEW GROUP: Estuary

AREA OF TOWN: South Bellingham LIFESTAGE: Any Adult **DESCRIPTION:** Estuary is a place where people come for conversation. Honest conversation. Not ideological warfare, but mutually respectful attempts to understand one another and to learn to appreciate different perspectives and viewpoints. Estuary is a place where different ideas and ideologies meet. Where participants allow themselves to be exposed to new ways of thinking, where listening may be as important as talking, where being open to feedback will force you to "hear yourself think". We also believe that in doing so we form new friendships. We build a unique new community. We may learn to love one another in ways we didn't realize were possible. Led by Noah Martin, this group will be meeting on Tuesday nights from 6:00-7:30pm at Hillcrest beginning September 24.



REGISTER

NEW GROUP: Loving Jesus in a Traumatic Workplace

AREA OF TOWN: North Bellingham LIFESTAGE: Any Adult **DESCRIPTION:** There are professions many of us work in that are environments of darkness, stress, and general trauma. We often do this because of our love for people and love for Jesus. But how do we work well in these environments when the Gospel feels far away? There aren't easy answers, but this small group is a space where we can come together and explore how to love Jesus well when we work in hard places. We hope this can be a group where people can create deep relational bonds as we experience all parts of life together, balancing our work with the joy that Christ provides in community. Led by Katie Kerin, this group will be meeting on Tuesday evenings at 7:00pm beginning September 24. The meeting time and day could be flexible based on group member's needs.



WEDNESDAY ONGOING

NEW LEADER: Kevin and Alissa Stock

AREA OF TOWN: South Bellingham LIFESTAGE: Any Adult **DESCRIPTION:** We are a new small group for families with children school-aged and younger. We will be following the weekly sermon series and supporting each other as we navigate life and parenting. We meet at a home on the South Hill on Wednesday evenings from

6:00-7:30pm.

REGISTER



NEW LEADER: Dick and Linda Williams

AREA OF TOWN: South Bellingham LIFESTAGE: Any Adult **DESCRIPTION:** We are leaving a long-term, dearly loved small group to launch a new one. We look forward to establishing the same deep, abiding relationships with new folks. We will meet on Wednesday nights at 7:30pm in the South Bellingham area to study the Word following the Sunday sermon series, pray together and support one another in word and deed. We hope for this to be a multi-generational group welcoming both couples and singles.



REGISTER

THURSDAY ONGOING

GROUP: Men's Prayer Group

AREA OF TOWN: South Bellingham LIFESTAGE: Adult Men **DESCRIPTION:** We are a men's prayer group focused on Hillcrest and community-related prayer needs that meets Thursday morning from 6:30-7:30am. We currently have two groups, one meeting in person at the church and the other meeting on Zoom. If you'd like to join in person, just show up on a Thursday morning! If you prefer to join the Zoom group, or would like to learn more, register and a leader will get in touch with you.



THURSDAY ONGOING

NEW LEADER: Amberjoy Coble

AREA OF TOWN: North Bellingham LIFESTAGE: Adult Women **DESCRIPTION:** We all struggle sometimes, and some of us struggle daily. It could be dealing with grief or loss, chronic pain, financial struggle, addictions, or just a sense of no direction where it seems like God is silent. I know I've been there and the only thing that has helped me put one foot in front of the other is Jesus by my side. Walking there with me. This group is intended to be a support, pray for each other and encourage one another to bring God into the suffering and pain we have. We might go through a study, walk through the Scriptures or just pray for each other. But my hope is that we will learn and grow to understand that God is always with us and He cares deeply for our pain. This group will be meeting every other week on Thursday nights from 6:30-8:00pm beginning October 3.



REGISTER

LEADER: Guy Frederick

AREA OF TOWN: South Bellingham LIFESTAGE: Adult Men **DESCRIPTION:** We are a group of men that meets from 6:30-8:30pm.

We will meet at Hillcrest Church at the Modular as we are able.

REGISTER

LEADER: Jeff and Emily Jenkins

AREA OF TOWN: North Bellingham LIFESTAGE: Any Adult **DESCRIPTION:** We are looking to add some families and

Bellingham-planted couples to our wonderful crew as we team up to follow Jesus together for the long haul. We are trying out a new

rotating meeting schedule that will help families with kids!





THURSDAY ONGOING

LEADER: Sadie Knebel and Delaney Taubel

AREA OF TOWN: South Bellingham LIFESTAGE: 20's

DESCRIPTION: Welcome! Our small group was created with a heart for young adults seeking community. We have seen so much knowledge and growth blossom from doing life with people of all faith walks. We hope to create a safe place for any young adult seeking to explore and know Jesus more deeply. Whether you have been a Christian your entire life, you just met Jesus, or you're unsure about all of it, you and all your questions are welcome! We hope to encourage and grow with each other in knowing and loving Jesus more daily. This group will be meeting on Thursdays at 7:00pm on a weekly basis.



REGISTER

NEW LEADER: Jonathan and Emily Martens

AREA OF TOWN: South Bellingham LIFESTAGE: 20's - 30's **DESCRIPTION:** We are a small group for new married couples. We'll gather each Thursday evening and talk about what it looks like to follow Jesus together as a couple. We will share hosting and discussion leadership with those interested. Led by Jonathan and Emily Martens. We'd love to have you join us!

REGISTER



SATURDAY ONGOING

LEADER: Guv Frederick

AREA OF TOWN: South Bellingham LIFESTAGE: Any Adult **DESCRIPTION:** Our Saturday prayer group will meet at 10:00am at the modular building at Hillcrest Church. We begin with a time of table fellowship. We then move to a time of reading and praying from Scripture. All are welcome to join us.





Next Steps

LEADER: Pastor Kathy Hill **WHEN:** Sunday at 12:30pm

WHERE: Fireside Cafe at Hillcrest LIFESTAGE: Any Adult DESCRIPTION: Are you new? This group is for you! A fourweek small group to introduce you to the purpose, history, and vision for the future of Hillcrest Church. You'll meet the staff and hear about the programs offered, reasons behind what we do, and why we worship. You'll also get to meet other new people. The group will meet from 12:30-1:30pm for four weeks, starting Sunday, October 6th with the Newcomer Lunch.

LEARN MORE: Email <u>Connect@HCBellingham.com</u> to learn more or sign up!



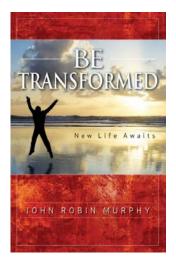
Precept Upon Precept: Spiritual Gifts Bible Study

LEADER: Ruby Hinds, Gaye Fullner, and Jill Takemura **WHEN:** Monday evening or Wednesday morning

WHERE: Hillcrest LIFESTAGE: Any Adult

DESCRIPTION: God has called you and equipped you as a believer in Christ to serve His church. As you study the spiritual gifts described in Scripture, you'll learn more about how you, as a vital member of the church, have been uniquely gifted to glorify God and edify His people. The Wednesday morning class begins September 25 at 9:15am, and the Monday night class begins September 30 at 6:30pm. Both will run for five sessions and meet every other week through the end of November. We will follow our 1 hour class discussion with a 1 hour recorded lecture by David Arthur, so the group can count on each bible study lasting a little over 2 hours.

TO SIGN UP: Learn more and register for the Monday evening group or for the Wednesday morning group.



Be Transformed

LEADER: Robby and Samantha Robinson

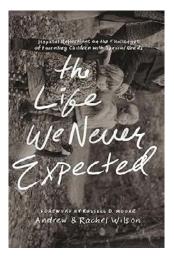
WHEN: Wednesday Evening

WHERE: North County LIFESTAGE: Any Adult

DESCRIPTION: This small group will connect weekly to support one another through a heart transformation process directed by Rock House Center's book "Be Transformed". The Robinsons have been deeply impacted by the experience and are excited to share it with the Hillcrest community. A 16 week commitment to complete the workbook, this study brings God's healing to our lives by uncovering the root causes of negative emotions and unwanted behaviors. Most of this process takes place independently through daily reflection guided by the book, with the group coming together once a week to discuss. Due to the sensitive nature, the group is limited to 10 persons and is child-free (no children present and no child care provided onsite). Robby and Samantha Robinson will be facilitating this group; register to ask questions or learn more.

Samantha's Testimony: "Through my own efforts, I tried everything to get off life's emotional rollercoaster. Self-reliance controlled me because I believed it was the only answer. If I could just make myself be a better person, do the right things relentlessly, then I'd be at peace! Thankfully, God was gracious and knew what I needed: heart transformation. Finally, I experienced that 'His yoke is easy, and His burden is light'. By offering my heart to Him, He could start clearing out the heartache and fill it with His peace."

This group will meet on Wednesday evenings from 6:00-8:00pm beginning October 2.



Caregiver Group

LEADER: Susan Carollo **WHEN:** Evening TBD

WHERE: South Bellingham LIFESTAGE: Any Adult

DESCRIPTION: This group is for those who have a special role in the life of a child with a disability. If you are caring for a child of any age with extra needs, come be encouraged in your faith! We will meet weekly for three months and read the book "The Life We

Never Expected" by Andrew and Rachel Wilson.

The meeting day will be determined by the availability of the interested group members.

REGISTER



Jewish Roots of Christianity

LEADER: Janet Tucker **WHEN:** Monday Evening

WHERE: South Bellingham LIFESTAGE: Any Adult

DESCRIPTION: This short-term small group for adults will be studying the Jewish Roots of our Christian faith. During our meetings we will learn together, break bread in community, experience Jewish feasts and Shabbat dinners, and understand more fully how it all points to Jesus/Yeshua. This class is designed to enrich your faith. Led by Jan Tucker, this group will be meeting Mondays at 6:00pm for dinners and teaching times woven together for six weeks, beginning October 7 and ending with a Passover Seder celebration on November 11.

REGISTER

Small group changed my life, I hope everyone would at least give groups a try!

small group participant



Encouragement for Citizens of God's Kingdom

LEADER: Paul Petersen WHEN: Sunday Morning

WHERE: Hillcrest LIFESTAGE: Any Adult

DESCRIPTION: The Hillcrest fall sermon series is looking at the letter to the Ephesians and this short term small group will focus on a truth declared throughout this letter, that salvation in Jesus brings with it a wonderful, new citizenship in God's eternal Kingdom. Jesus also taught us to pray "thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven." Thus, we will be discussing how to live out both the blessings and challenges of this "citizenship tension" in our current society and culture. The group meeting dates have been chosen intentionally around this year's U.S. local, state and federal election cycle on November 5th. We'll look at practical ways to rise above the oftenunsettling noise of social media and of the endless stream of conflicting news perspectives. We will also highlight the Gospel of hope that was demonstrated by the first century Christians, and offer practical ways to remain as faithful witnesses, rooted in Christ and committed to His Kingdom mission.

Led by Paul Petersen, this group will meet on Sundays for four weeks beginning October 20th, from 10:45am-12:00pm at Hillcrest.

REGISTER

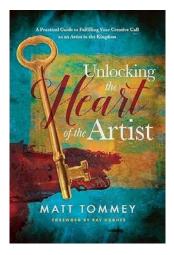


Women Who Flourish

LEADER: Hilary Williamson **WHEN:** Thursday Evening

WHERE: Skagit LIFESTAGE: Any Adult Women

DESCRIPTION: This short term small group will be a place where women of faith can gather to discuss and discover how female relationships are vital to our faith and well-being and how we might improve and nourish our connections. It is for women of any age. Led by Hilary Williamson, this group will be meeting for 6 weeks on Thursday evenings from 6:30-8:00pm beginning Thursday, October 10.



Unlocking the Heart of the Artist

LEADER: Mary Margaret Brotherton and Theresa Golden

WHEN: Wednesday Evening

WHERE: South Bellingham LIFESTAGE: Any Adult

DESCRIPTION: Unlocking the Heart of the Artist by Matt

Tommey addresses our inner creative desires with the intention of freeing them and creating with God. In this short term

book study, we will use art journals and creative prompts from the book to deepen our artistic practice and grow spiritually. We will gather at Hillcrest on Wednesday evenings from 6:30-8:30pm beginning October 2 and ending on November 20. This group will be led by Mary Margaret Brotherton and

Theresa Golden. All art supplies will be provided.

REGISTER



Alpha

LEADER: Bill Beer and Bryan Cartwright

WHEN: Thursday Evening

WHERE: Hillcrest Church LIFESTAGE: Any Adult

DESCRIPTION: The Alpha course is a small group for anyone that would like to explore life's big questions. Many of us wonder: why do bad things happen to good people? What's the purpose of life? What's next? Join Alpha for a judgment-free, caring space to connect with others, discuss these types of questions, and share your opinion. Alpha is for people of all faith and belief backgrounds and will also unpack the basics of Christian faith; bring a friend that's interested in these conversations and join us (they don't have to go to Hillcrest)! Led by Bill Beer and Bryan Cartwright, this group will meet on Thursdays at 6:00pm for 6 weeks beginning October 3rd.

ONGOING MINISTRIES



412 MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

DESCRIPTION: We have small groups for both middle and high school students, and we encourage students to connect with these groups! Our small groups meet during the week and aim to have fun, build authentic relationships, study the Bible, and have deep conversations.

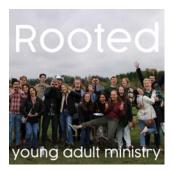
LEARN MORE: Email our youth pastor, Casey Stringer, at Casey.S@HCBellingham.com



COLLEGE MINISTRY

DESCRIPTION: Campus Christian Fellowship offers small groups for college students who take classes at Western Washington University, Whatcom Community College, and Skagit Valley College.

LEARN MORE: WWU: <u>ccfministry.com</u> WCC: <u>ccfwhatcom.com</u> SVC: <u>ccfskagit.com</u> Email: <u>admin@ccfministry.com</u>



ROOTED

DESCRIPTION: Calling all young adults ages 18-35ish! Hillcrest Church welcomes you to check out Rooted: a young adult ministry passionate about staying rooted in God's Word and connected with others. Rooted is a space to build friendships and find encouragement in your walk with Jesus, and gets together for quarterly events.

LEARN MORE: Join the <u>Rooted Group.Me</u> for information about the next group event.

FAMILY & COUPLES MINISTRIES



The Pre-Marriage Course

DESCRIPTION: A series of conversations to help engaged couples build strong foundations for their future together. Over seven sessions you will learn more about communication, understand and appreciate your differences, and prepare for potential challenges. This group is open to all couples: young and old, first time or previously married, church or community members.

LEARN MORE: Contact Staci Zenonian at szenonian8823@msn.com for more information.

The cost is \$22 per couple and includes two workbooks.



The Pre-Engagement Course

DESCRIPTION: Pre-E is for couples at a time in their relationship when they are starting to ask tough and important questions about their future together. Through readings, exercises, and discussions with their partner in a group setting led by a guiding couple, Pre-E seeks to engage, challenge, and encourage couples to seek God's wisdom and guidance for their relationship. This 10-week course covers many aspects of marriage including communication, family background, sexual intimacy, money, and more.

LEARN MORE: Sessions take place twice a year, with one beginning soon. Contact <u>Connect@HCBellingham.com</u> right away if you are interested.

FAMILY & COUPLES MINISTRIES



HOPE RESTORED SUPPORT GROUP

DESCRIPTION: This group meets for dinner once a month to provide support, resources and conversations to those caring for kids from hard places. This group often includes foster and adoptive parents, as well as adults with adoption stories.

LEARN MORE: Contact

HopeRestored@HCBellingham.com with questions.



412 PARENT CONNECTION

DESCRIPTION: 412 Parent Connection will meet the first Sunday of each month during 412 from 6:00-7:30pm (unless 412 is not meeting that first Sunday, then it will meet the following Sunday). This group is for parents of kids/teenagers (whether they attend 412 or not), preteens, or anyone who actively cares about teenagers or 412. Come once, or every month, or as you can! We'll have connection and sharing time in smaller groups and as a large group. There will be a conversation/discussion topic or question each meeting and time to pray together.

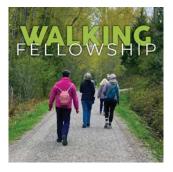
Our hope and goals are to support 412, to love our kids together (whether they attend 412 or not), and encourage each other toward that end. We want to not just survive but enjoy the teen parenting years together! This group will be led by Derrick and Biz Scheid.

REGISTER

God used my small group to provide me with people to sit with on Sunday morning. It can be hard to go to church alone every week, and this met that need in abundance!

small group participant

SHARED INTEREST GROUPS



WALKING FELLOWSHIP

DESCRIPTION: Join us for a weekly one-hour walk, at your own pace, on the Railroad Grade trail. Enjoy time outside and fellowship with others. Kids, dogs, and friends are welcome. We'll meet at the café inside the Barkley Village Haggen at 10:50am and begin our walk at 11:00am.

LEARN MORE: Contact <u>kathyfurtado@hotmail.com</u> with any questions.



POTLUCK DE LA IGLESIA

DESCRIPCIÓN: Para todos los hispanohablantes nos reunimos cada tercer domingo del mes para una comida compartida. Nuestra esperanza es crear un lugar para que los creyentes cultiven relaciones sinceras entre sí que comparten culturas similares y cuyo idioma principal es el español.

APRENDE MÁS: Contacte a Jayne Jurado en jayjur59@hotmail.com para mas información.



STITCH TOGETHER

DESCRIPTION: Stitch Together meets twice a month to work on our fiber arts projects together. Bring your own knitting, crochet, embroidery, cross stitch, quilting and more to work on. If you want to learn more about any of these skills, please come and we will teach you! This group meets at Hillcrest two Mondays a month from 6:00-8:30pm.

LEARN MORE: Reach out to Theresa Golden for details at tagolden@outlook.com.

SHARED INTEREST GROUPS



HILLCREST CREATES

DESCRIPTION: Calling all creatives of every medium, skill level, and age! Join us for Hillcrest Creates, an open studio time where you bring your own art project and create in community. This is a multi-generational gathering in an encouraging environment, meant to help you grow in your artistry. We offer refreshments and have a brief devotional. Kids age 11 and under must have an adult attend with them. *Join us Saturdays September 14, November 9, January 11, March 15, and April 26 from 9:00am-12:00pm in the Fireside Cafe.*

LEARN MORE: MaryMargaret.B@HCBellingham.com for details.



WRITERS GROUP: THE HOPE THAT YOU HAVE

DESCRIPTION: 1 Peter says, "Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have" (1 Peter 3:15). Are you prepared to give the reason for the hope that you have? Join us for a writing group that will meet once a month to work on our written stories and verbal testimonies. We'll focus on how to convey them clearly, honestly, and concisely. Bring your favorite writing implements. The group will meet near Barkley Village, once a month, on the first Thursday of the month from 11:00-noon.

LEARN MORE: Contact Kathy at <u>kathyfurtado@hotmail.com</u> for more information.

Small groups are a great starting place to feel purpose and connection within the Hillcrest community.

— small group participant

