

WELCOME



**WINTER
2025**



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 Spanish-language 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.

Sincerely,

Tim Knipp and Alex Allyne



Tim Knipp
Lead Pastor



Alex Allyne
*Associate Director
of Small Groups*

HOW TO GET CONNECTED WITH A SMALL GROUP

1

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

2

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.

3

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.

CONTENTS

<u>SUNDAY ONGOING GROUPS</u>	PAGE 4
<u>MONDAY ONGOING GROUPS</u>	PAGE 4
<u>TUESDAY ONGOING GROUPS</u>	PAGE 5-6
<u>WEDNESDAY ONGOING GROUPS</u>	PAGE 6
<u>THURSDAY ONGOING GROUPS</u>	PAGE 7-8
<u>SATURDAY ONGOING GROUPS</u>	PAGE 8
<u>SHORT TERM GROUPS</u>	PAGE 9-13
<u>ONGOING MINISTRIES</u>	PAGE 14
<u>FAMILY & COUPLES MINISTRIES</u>	PAGE 15
<u>SHARED INTEREST GROUPS</u>	PAGE 16

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](#)



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.

[REGISTER](#)



LEADER: Dan Herndon

AREA OF TOWN: South Bellingham

LIFESTAGE: Adult Men

DESCRIPTION: This is a men's Bible Study that will be studying the gospel of Luke or the Chosen season 3 this winter/spring. We meet Monday evenings from 7:00-9:00pm. We'd love to have you join us!

[REGISTER](#)



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 meets on Tuesday nights from 6:00-7:30pm at Hillcrest.

[REGISTER](#)

NEW

LEADER: Katie Kerin**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 meets on Tuesday evenings at 7:00pm. The meeting time and day could be flexible based on group member’s needs.

[REGISTER](#)

TUESDAY ONGOING

LEADER: Michelle Taylor

AREA OF TOWN: South Bellingham

LIFESTAGE: Adult Women

DESCRIPTION: This group is for women; moms, grandmas, aunts, 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 11:00am and we pray specifically for an hour. We would love to have you join us!

[REGISTER](#)



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](#)



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.

[REGISTER](#)



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 support, pray for

each other and encourage one another to bring God into all of it. 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.

[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](#)



THURSDAY **ONGOING**

NEW **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**](#)



SATURDAY **ONGOING**

LEADER: Guy 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.

[**REGISTER**](#)



SHORT TERM GROUPS

Next Steps

LEADER: Pastor Kathy Hill

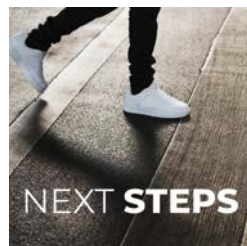
WHEN: Sunday at 12:30pm

WHERE: Fireside Cafe at Hillcrest

LIFESTAGE: Any Adult

DESCRIPTION: Are you new? This group is for you! A four-week 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, February 2nd with the Newcomer Lunch.

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



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 (they don't have to go to Hillcrest) and join us! Led by Bill Beer and Bryan Cartwright, this group will meet on Thursdays at 6:00pm for 8 weeks beginning on April 24.

[REGISTER](#)



SHORT TERM GROUPS

Maps Class: the Early Church

LEADER: Pastor Tim Knipp and Pastor James Junior

WHEN: Monday Evening

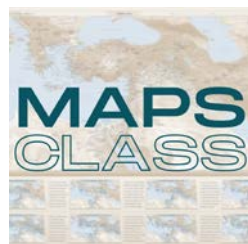
WHERE: Hillcrest Commons

LIFESTAGE: Any Adult

DESCRIPTION: Join us for this Maps Class where we look at the events of the early Jesus movement in the Roman

Empire. People going on the Turkey and Greece Trip this spring will be taking the class, but it is open to the entire community. In this course we will learn about the land of Asia Minor and Greece and how it shaped the Biblical Story. Much of the work will be mapping Biblical Stories onto full color maps and understanding why events unfolded the way they did. This class will meet for five weeks on Monday evenings from 7:00-8:30pm beginning March 3. Below is the link to the materials needed by the first class. You will also need a Bible and some kind of colored pens or pencils (or both if you like). Materials needed can be found [at this link](#).

[REGISTER](#)



Loving Justice:

A Small Group Conversation about Fighting the World's Greatest Injustices

LEADER: Talia Nuckolls

WHEN: Sunday Morning

WHERE: Hillcrest

LIFESTAGE: Any Adult

DESCRIPTION: During Missions Month 2024 Hillcrest heard from John Molineux, Love Justice founder, about the life-changing work God is doing through their organization to intercept people on the brink of being trafficked. Join this 8-week study by Love Justice to better understand how God's heart for the least of these can guide us in our life and choices. Each week will include a few pages of reading, questions for individual reflection, and group discussion. The hope is that we will see more of God's heart for vulnerable people and be empowered to do His will wherever we find ourselves. This group will meet for 8 weeks on Sundays during second service, from 11:00am-12:15pm beginning February 16.

[REGISTER](#)



SHORT TERM GROUPS

GriefShare

LEADER: Georgeanne Nichols,
Pam Newell & Pastor Cynthia Jensen

WHEN: Monday Afternoon

WHERE: Hillcrest

LIFESTAGE: Any Adult

DESCRIPTION: A GriefShare support group is a safe, welcoming place where people understand the difficult emotions of grief. Through this 13-week group, you'll discover what to expect in the days ahead and what's "normal" in grief. Since there are no neat, orderly stages of grief, you'll learn helpful ways of coping with grief, in all its unpredictability—and gain solid support each step of the way. This group will meet on Mondays at 1:00pm for 13 weeks, beginning February 24.

[REGISTER](#)



Exploring Art Journaling as a Spiritual Practice

LEADER: Tracy Vandermay

WHEN: Sunday Afternoon

WHERE: Hillcrest

LIFESTAGE: All ages welcome,
under age 12 need to attend with an adult.

DESCRIPTION: In this class, you'll discover how to use art journaling to deepen your prayer life and meditate on Scripture. Tracy will guide you through the creative process with helpful prompts and techniques, providing all materials needed to get started. Whether you're new to art journaling or looking to expand your practice, this class offers a unique way to connect with Jesus through creativity. This group will meet on Sundays from 2:00-4:00pm beginning March 1 for five weeks.

[REGISTER](#)



SHORT TERM GROUPS

Arms of Love

LEADER: Barb Curry

WHEN: Tuesday Evening

WHERE: TBD

LIFESTAGE: Any Adult Woman

DESCRIPTION: Arms of Love is a twelve-week support group where women can explore the complex and

sometimes confusing emotions surrounding their abortion experience(s) in an atmosphere of acceptance, safety and confidentiality. Open to women of all ages, pre-registration required. A new session begins in early March on Tuesday evenings from 6:30-8:30pm. Email Barb at armsoflove@whatcomclinic.com for more information or to sign up.

[REGISTER](#)



Caregiver Group

LEADER: Susan Carollo

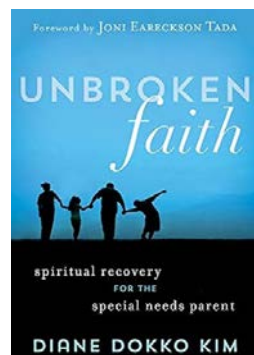
WHEN: Wednesday Afternoon

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 to read and discuss “Unbroken Faith” by Diane Dokko Kim. We are meeting Wednesdays from 11:30am-1:00pm for lunch and conversation from February through May. A zoom option is available.

[REGISTER](#)



SHORT TERM GROUPS

Voices United!

LEADER: Trish Newbold

WHEN: Wednesday Evening

WHERE: Central Bellingham

LIFESTAGE: Any Adult

DESCRIPTION: “Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord.” (Ephesians 5:19) Come together for music, fellowship, and praise as we gather to lift our voices in song. Together we'll sing beloved hymns and choral pieces that have inspired generations. Whether you're a seasoned singer or simply a lover of such music, this group is for you! Led by Trish Newbold, this group will meet the first and third Wednesday of every month from 6:30-8:00pm, beginning March 5.

[REGISTER](#)



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: ccfministry.com

WCC: ccfwhatcom.com

SVC: ccfskagit.com Email: admin@ccfministry.com



Rooted

DESCRIPTION: Calling all young adults ages 18-35ish! Rooted is a Young Adult Ministry to gather in a welcoming community and find encouragement in your walk with Jesus. We get together for quarterly events and encourage anyone who's interested to come join!

LEARN MORE: Follow @hcrooted on Instagram or email Rooted@HCBellingham.com for information about the next group event.



FAMILY & COUPLES MINISTRIES

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: Contact Connect@HCBellingham.com for more information.



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 once a month (February 2, March 2, April 13, May 18) during 412 from 6:00-7:30pm. 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! 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](#)



SHARED INTEREST GROUPS

Walking Fellowship

DESCRIPTION: Weekly, one-hour walk at your own pace on the Railroad Grade trail near Barkley Village. Kids, dogs, and friends are welcome too. We meet every Friday rain or shine at the café inside the Barkley Village Haggen at 10:55am and begin our walk at 11:00am sharp. Dress for the weather. In truly nasty weather, we may just stay indoors and chat for the hour!

LEARN MORE: Contact kathyfurtado@hotmail.com with any questions.



Potluck de la Iglesia

DESCRIPCIÓN: Los hermanos y hermanas hispanohablantes se reúnen varias veces al año para pasar un tiempo maravilloso de compañerismo con comida compartida al estilo “potluck”. Los horarios y las fechas de las reuniones se anunciarán hasta 1 mes antes de la comida compartida programada. Todos los hispanohablantes son bienvenidos.

APRENDE MÁS: Para obtener más información, comuníquese con Jayne Jurado en jayjur59@hotmail.com.



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 or writing 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 Saturday March 15 and April 26 from 9:00am-12:00pm in the Fireside Cafe

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

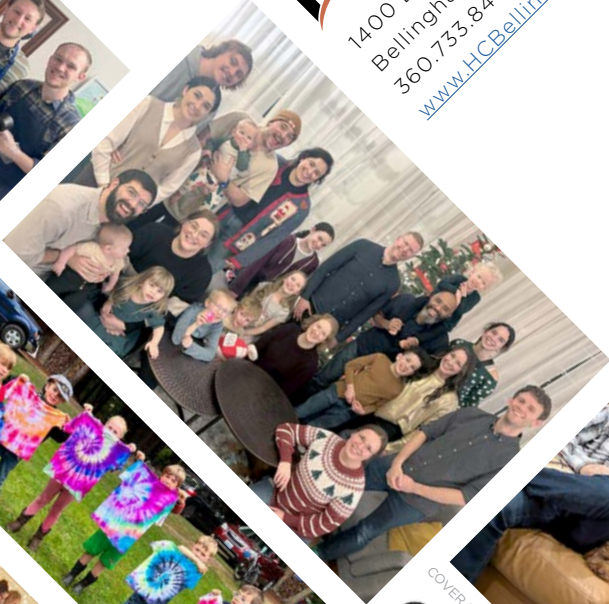




“It is so life giving to have people who know you well enough to pray for you on how you are doing.”
 — small group participant

HILLCREST
 C H U R C H

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