





We believe that following Jesus is best done with other people. Through the ups and downs we have all experienced in the last few years, these friendships have become more important than ever, and we want every adult at Hillcrest to find themselves in meaningful, Christ-centered relationships. Small groups are one way we practice this at Hillcrest.

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 for a couple hours to share life, study Scripture, and pray. Sign ups are in September and February. When the next sign up time comes around, you are welcome to step away for a season or try another group.

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.
- The second section is short term groups. These groups get together for a limited time to study a particular topic.
- The third section is other ways to get connected. Check this out for marriage and pre-marriage opportunities, youth and college ministry, and other places of connection at Hillcrest.

If you are interested in trying a small group out, take a look through this catalog and see the next page for how to get connected with a group. We would love to help you in your search for community at Hillcrest. May you find a life-giving small group this fall!



Tim Knipp
Teaching Pastor

Sincerely,



Alex Allyne
Ass. Dir. 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 would like some help finding a group,
or if you have any questions at all,
email Alex at: SmallGroups@HCBellingham.com
or call the office at 360-733-8400

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SUNDAY

ONGOING

LEADER: David and Lynn Gill

AREA OF TOWN: South Bellingham **LIFESTAGE:** Any Adult

DESCRIPTION: The group is multigenerational, singles, couples, and families. We study scripture, pray for one another, and have occasional social gatherings. We meet Sundays from 6:30-7:30pm. To protect the health of our members we will sometimes need to require masks or host an occasional zoom small group.

[REGISTER](#)



LEADER: Will and Cathaleen Hansen

AREA OF TOWN: Skagit **LIFESTAGE:** Any Adult

DESCRIPTION: We are a group that meets in the Skagit Valley. We are open to singles, couples, young and old! We'll have great conversations about Jesus and share good food together.

[REGISTER](#)



LEADER: Dan Herndon

AREA OF TOWN: South Bellingham **LIFESTAGE:** Adult Men

DESCRIPTION: A men's Bible Study that will focus on studying and applying God's Word to support one another in our walk with Christ. We meet from 6:00-8:00pm. Love to have you join us!

[REGISTER](#)



TUESDAY

ONGOING

LEADER: Jim and Laura Carney

AREA OF TOWN: East Bellingham **LIFESTAGE:** Any Adult

DESCRIPTION: We're a group of mostly older married couples (with grown children) and singles. We meet from 6:30-8:00pm. Currently, we meet in person and always provide a Zoom option for those who may need it. One focus is to discuss topics or passages of Scripture from Sunday sermons or from whatever series Hillcrest is doing. We also spend time encouraging one another in our journey of faith and praying for each other's needs and families and for our church.

[REGISTER](#)



TUESDAY ONGOING

NEW

LEADER: Aaron and Leah Dutton

AREA OF TOWN: South Bellingham **LIFESTAGE:** Any Adult

DESCRIPTION: We are a new group who desires to become 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 at a home near Lake Padden.

[REGISTER](#)



LEADER: Kris Peterson

AREA OF TOWN: South Bellingham **LIFESTAGE:** Adult Women

DESCRIPTION: We're a group of women reading and having insightful discussion about inspirational books. We are currently meeting at 5:30pm on the first and third Tuesdays of the month, but we tend to be very flexible to accomodate changing schedules. We communicate between meetings by sharing prayer requests and inspirational quotes.

[REGISTER](#)



WEDNESDAY ONGOING

NEW

LEADER: Kaleb and Katy Cuevas

AREA OF TOWN: North County **LIFESTAGE:** Any Adult

DESCRIPTION: We are a brand new group starting this fall. We hope to be multigenerational. We will study the Bible together and pray for each other. We will be on mission to grow the Kingdom of God.

[REGISTER](#)



WEDNESDAY

ONGOING

NEW

LEADER: Jayne Jurado

AREA OF TOWN: South Bellingham **LIFESTAGE:** Adult Women

DESCRIPTION: Este grupo es para mujeres que aman a Jesús y quieren desarrollar su camino más profundo con Él. Nuestra esperanza es crear un lugar para que las mujeres cultiven relaciones sinceras con otras mujeres que comparten culturales similares y cuyo idioma principal es el español. Nos reuniremos cada miércoles por la noche en la Iglesia Hillcrest para estudiar la palabra de Dios y orar juntos.

This group is for women who love Jesus and want to develop a deeper walk with Him. Our hope is to create a place for women to cultivate sincere relationships with other women who share similar cultures and whose primary language is Spanish. We will meet every Wednesday night at Hillcrest Church to study God's word and pray together.

[REGISTER](#)



LEADER: David Knebel

AREA OF TOWN: Central Bellingham **LIFESTAGE:** 40s - 50s Men

DESCRIPTION: We're a group of middle-aged men meeting every other Wednesday evening. We study scripture together, and we share and pray about following Christ in our marriage, family, and work.

[REGISTER](#)



LEADER: Corrie Mick

AREA OF TOWN: South Bellingham **LIFESTAGE:** 20s - 30s Women

DESCRIPTION: We're a small group of women who meet upstairs at church on Wednesday nights from 5:30-7:00pm, and sometimes on other occasions for walks with dogs and kiddos. :) We dive into studies on books of the Bible and follow along with the rest of the church when we're all studying a book together. We ask challenging questions, find hope, and encourage each other. God is holy, trustworthy, and the epitome of love. I'd love for you to join us as we dive into the beauty and sometimes challenge of learning about God.

[REGISTER](#)



WEDNESDAY ONGOING

LEADER: Hannah Halstead and Michael Krantz

AREA OF TOWN: South Bellingham **LIFESTAGE:** 20s

DESCRIPTION: A small group for recent college graduates to help the transition into a post-college life pursuing God in the working world.

[REGISTER](#)



LEADER: Tyler and Kirsten Van Wingerden

AREA OF TOWN: South Bellingham **LIFESTAGE:** 20s - 30s

DESCRIPTION: We are a group of 20 and 30 somethings, couples, singles, and young families, who meet every week for a meal and fellowship. One member describes our group as "We love to eat cookies and talk about Jesus!" If you like doing one or both of these things, we would love to have you!

[REGISTER](#)



THURSDAY ONGOING

LEADER: 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 2 groups, one meeting in person at the church and the other meeting on Zoom. If you prefer to join the Zoom group you can sign up and the leader will send you a link to you can participate via Zoom. If you'd like to join the in person group, just show up at 6:30 Thursday morning!

[REGISTER](#)



LEADER: Guy Frederick

AREA OF TOWN: South Bellingham **LIFESTAGE:** Adult Men

DESCRIPTION: We are a group of men that meets 6:30-8:30pm. We will meet at Hillcrest Church at the Modular as we are able.

[REGISTER](#)



THURSDAY

ONGOING

LEADER: Jeff and Emily Jenkins

AREA OF TOWN: North Bellingham **LIFESTAGE:** 20s - 30s

DESCRIPTION: We are a bunch of young adults (AKA young professionals + families) that meet together every Thursday night at 7:00pm. We will be following the Hillcrest sermon series using the HC discussion questions and praying for each other. We like eating together too!

[REGISTER](#)



LEADER: Russ and Mary Nuckolls

AREA OF TOWN: North Bellingham **LIFESTAGE:** Any Adult

DESCRIPTION: We are a multigenerational group of couples and singles that meets every other Thursday evening to share life, discuss the sermon questions, and pray for one another.

[REGISTER](#)



FRIDAY

ONGOING

LEADER: Bill Akers

AREA OF TOWN: North Bellingham **LIFESTAGE:** Adult Men

DESCRIPTION: We are a group of men in our 20s to 80s that meet Fridays between 6:00-7:30am at the Barkley Woods (near the movie theater). We discuss our lives and current cultural challenges and how the Word speaks to them and informs us. Register and the leader will connect with you ASAP.

[REGISTER](#)



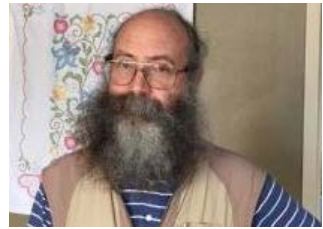
SATURDAY ONGOING

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](#)



LEADER: Angie Zehnder

AREA OF TOWN: North Bellingham **LIFESTAGE:** Adult Women

DESCRIPTION: We are a group of women that meet every other Saturday morning in various homes from 8:15-10:00am for prayer and accountability.

[REGISTER](#)



SHORT TERM GROUPS



Next Steps

LEADER: Pastor Kathy Hill

WHEN: Sunday

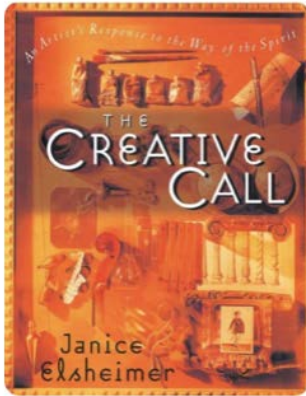
WHERE: The Fireside Cafe at Hillcrest

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, October 2nd with the Newcomer Lunch.

Email: Bev.D@HCBellingham.com to learn more or sign up!

SHORT TERM GROUPS



The Creative Call: An Artist's Response to the Way of the Spirit

LEADER: Mary Margaret Brotherton

WHEN: Sunday Evening starting September 18th, 6:00-7:30pm

WHERE: The Commons at Hillcrest

LIFESTAGE: Any Adult

DESCRIPTION: This short term group is a unique opportunity to reawaken the artist inside you. Join us to engage in the practical and insightful workbook “The Creative Call: An Artist’s Response to the Way of the Spirit” by Janice Elsheimer, culminating in a day-long retreat. God embedded His creative DNA in every person, and He invites us to unwrap and nurture it for His glory. Sharing this journey in community will yield the support and accountability to live more fully in our creativity. Led by Mary Margaret Brotherton, Associate Director for Creative Arts and Worship at Hillcrest, this group will meet for 8 weeks.

[REGISTER](#)



Heaven and Earth

LEADER: Victor Kozaczuk

WHEN: Tuesday Evening starting September 20th, 6:30pm

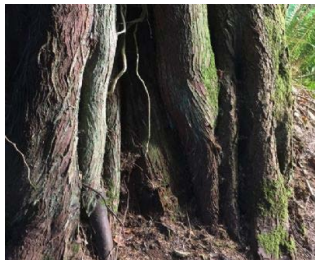
WHERE: North Bellingham

LIFESTAGE: Any Adult

DESCRIPTION: Join us for a profound overview of the nature and purpose of Creation using a study called “[Heaven and Earth](#)” produced by The Bible Project. As we gather we will discuss the weekly homework assignment, listen to podcasts, and watch the The Bible Project videos related to the topics of the study. This study dives into the topics of Heaven, Eden, the Patriarchs, the Temple, sacrifices, the Prophets, Jesus and the Kingdom of Heaven, living in the Spirit and the Second Coming of Jesus. What does the world look like when the images of God flourish and God’s glory fills the earth? Starting September 20 this group will meet at 6:30pm on Tuesday evenings.

[REGISTER](#)

SHORT TERM GROUPS



Grounding

LEADER: Kelli Jensen and Jenny Figgie

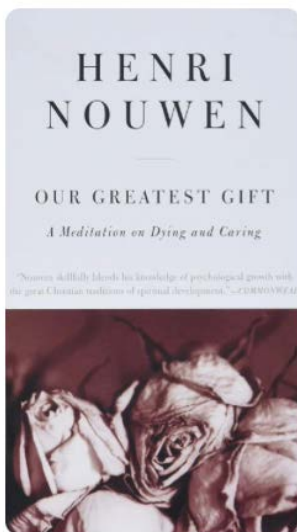
WHEN: Thursday Evening starting October 6th, 7:00pm

WHERE: The Commons at Hillcrest

LIFESTAGE: Any Adult

DESCRIPTION: Throughout a lifetime of discipleship, God repeatedly asks the question, Who do you say that I AM? In this 6-week group, we will use scripture reflection and a variety of other contemplative activities, inviting God to remind us of who He says He is. These truths help us navigate all forms of unrest that we encounter in daily life—both internal and external—particularly the cry of abandonment felt and voiced by so many. Join us Thursday evenings at 7:00pm starting on October 6.

[**REGISTER**](#)



Our Greatest Gift:

Conversations about Dying and Caring Well

LEADER: Mark Wolf and Angela Caffrey

WHEN: Thursday Evening starting October 27th, 7:00-8:15pm

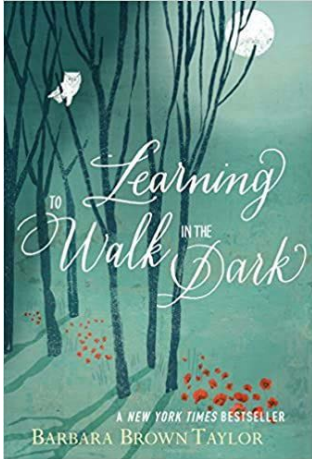
WHERE: The Fireside Cafe at Hillcrest

LIFESTAGE: Any Adult

DESCRIPTION: Join us for a 6-week conversation on the important topic of facing death as a follower of Christ. Our group will read Father Henri Nouwen's timeless book, "Our Greatest Gift: A Meditation on Dying and Caring," as a foundation for discussion. We will address facing our own mortality, communicating with empathy, healthy grieving, as well as suicide and other traumatic losses in a confidential setting. Led by Hillcrest couple Mark Wolf, a Psychiatrist, and Angela Caffrey, a Palliative Care Physician pursuing her Master of Divinity degree at Fuller Seminary, they share a passion for supporting those who are grieving and desire to incorporate emotionally healthy practices in all aspects of their walk with God. This group will meet for 6-weeks on Thursday evenings (except Thanksgiving).

[**REGISTER**](#)

SHORT TERM GROUPS



Learning to Walk in the Dark

LEADER: Peter and Kelly Venable

WHEN: Evenings starting end of September

WHERE: East Bellingham

LIFESTAGE: Any Adult

DESCRIPTION: Join us to discuss the short book “Learning to Walk in the Dark” by Barbara Brown Taylor. Light is good, and darkness is bad... or is it? Doesn't God work in the nighttime as well? Taylor asks us to put aside our fears and anxieties and to explore all that God has to teach us “in the dark.” Through darkness we find courage, we understand the world in new ways, and we feel God's presence around us, guiding us through things seen and unseen. Often, it is while we are in the dark seasons of our life that we grow the most. This group will be a safe space for anyone to explore these ideas and apply them to our lives. We might even take the title literally... Led by Peter and Kelly Venable, this group will meet for 8 weeks beginning at the end of September. Sign up for more information.

[REGISTER](#)

SHORT TERM GROUPS



The Pre-Engagement Course

DESCRIPTION: 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, and money in a fun and safe environment. Guiding couples prayerfully share their own lives, ask questions, and give their best advice to foster God-focused relationships moving towards marriage.

DETAILS: Runs quarterly in groups of 2-3 couples.

Interested or have questions, contact Andy: andy@brim.org or Anna: acbrim@gmail.com

The Marriage Preparation Course

DESCRIPTION: A series of conversations to help engaged couples build strong foundations for their future together. Over 5 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.

DETAILS: Starts the beginning of October; contact Staci or Loran Zenonian: szenonian8823@msn.com for details. The cost is \$35/couple and includes two books.

SHORT TERM GROUPS

The Marriage Course

DESCRIPTION: Whether you want a marriage tune-up, repair, or maintenance, this course is for you. This group is for couples young and old, strong or struggling, including those with previous marriages, those who married young or later in life, couples with blended families, or anyone who wants to grow in their marriage relationship. While you will meet and get to know the other couples in the group, the course content will not be discussed in a group setting and each couple's conversations is completely private.

DETAILS: Begins Tuesday, September 20th and runs for seven Tuesdays from 7:00-9:00pm. Sessions will be held over Zoom in order to view the content, and you will have conversations with your spouse in the privacy of your own space. The cost is \$25/couple and includes two books. Contact Kim and Penny Sherwood: kpsherwood@comcast.net for details or to sign up.

Marriage Mentoring

DESCRIPTION: Would you like another couple to come alongside your marriage — for support and encouragement? Hillcrest Church has Marriage Mentors available for strong or struggling marriages, young and old.

DETAILS: Contact Pastor Cynthia: cynthia.j@hcbellingham.com



OTHER WAYS TO CONNECT



412 MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS:

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 these times are scheduled by the students and leaders in the first few weeks of September. Our small groups aim to have fun, build authentic relationships, study the Bible, and have deep conversations.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Email our youth pastor, Hannah Dreblow, at youth@hcbellingham.com



CAMPUS CHRISTIAN
FELLOWSHIP

COLLEGE MINISTRY:

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

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

WWU: ccfministry.com

WCC: ccfwhatcom.com

SVC: ccfskagit.com

Email: admin@ccfministry.com



MOMS' GROUP:

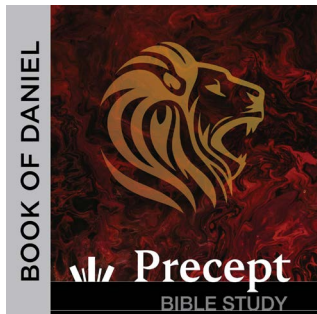
WHEN: 2nd and 4th Tuesdays from 9:30-11:00am (with childcare)

WHERE: Hillcrest Community Room (Commons)

Moms' Group would love to warmly welcome you to our gatherings this fall! Moms' Group is a place where women from all different backgrounds and stages of motherhood spend time together. Our time together is spent studying, sharing, and praying, and we would love to have you join us. We aim to know Jesus more and connect with other moms with children of any age. We will be begin September 27th.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Contact Ellie at ellietakemura@gmail.com or find us on Facebook ([Hillcrest Moms Group](#))

OTHER WAYS TO CONNECT



PRECEPT BIBLE STUDY: Daniel Part 2, Chapters 7-12

WHEN: Discussion groups meet every other week on Wednesday mornings from 9:15-11:30am or Monday evenings from 6:30-8:45pm, in person at Hillcrest and remotely via Zoom. Wednesday morning class begins October 5, Monday evening class begins October 10.

WHERE: In person at Hillcrest and over Zoom

DESCRIPTION: Does the turmoil of our times, conflicts among nations, and the widespread spiritual decay of society have anything to do with the book of Daniel? This study of Daniel chapters 7-12, "Gaining Understanding of the Time of the End," covers the second half of Daniel, focusing on the visions God gave him concerning the future. Participants will purchase a workbook and complete 3-5 hours of homework every 2 weeks before meeting for a class discussion and video lecture.

DETAILS: This is a 10 lesson study of Daniel in total: the first 5 lessons will be completed this fall and the remaining 5 lessons will be completed beginning in January. We always welcome those who are new to the bible, but be prepared for a challenge!

REGISTER: Email Hillcrest@HCBellingham.com to register and receive more information about how to order a workbook.



HILLCREST CREATES

WHEN: Monthly on a Saturday Morning 9:00am to noon

DESCRIPTION: A monthly art gathering where you bring your current art project and create in community. People who create in any medium, at any age, and at any skill level are welcome to attend! Please feel free to invite any friends. Kids age 12 and under must have an adult with them. Stay for as little or as long as you wish. We begin with a brief devotional; coffee and light snacks.

DETAILS: Save the date for these upcoming Hillcrest Creates: September 17, October 15, November 19.

CONTACT: Mary Margaret Brotherton for more information at marymargaret.b@hcbellingham.com



“Thank you for encouraging us to join a small group. It has changed our lives.”

“I moved to Bellingham a year ago and my small group has been the vehicle in which I have made a lot of my community here.”

“Small groups are an effective way to make faith part of our daily lives. It has been a sort of weekly mental health therapy during Covid. Thank you for facilitating and encouraging small groups.”

“This small group has changed my life, it has been an answer to literally years of prayer in which I was longing for a family of Believers to follow Jesus with.”

“Being a part of my small group has awakened my heart to the true meaning of community.”

“Small group: friendship, walking life with other Christians who are not perfect. Learning who I really am in Christ through His grace. Authentic friends who care and support each other in hard times and good. Thankful for such wonderful ladies in my life.”



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