



○ ○ ○ ○ ○ FOLLOWING JESUS TOGETHER | WINTER 2023 ○ ○ ○ ○ ○





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 smallvgroups 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. *There are 8 groups that relate to our current Body & Soul sermon series, if you'd like to learn more about some of the topics addressed on Sunday mornings.*
- The third section is other ways to get connected. Check this out for youth and college ministry, our new young adult ministry Rooted, and other places of belonging at Hillcrest.



Tim Knipp
Teaching Pastor

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



Alex Allyne
Asst. 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 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 live in a world of options, where we might do this or that if we feel like it. But for followers of Jesus, certain things are not optional, they are necessary. Whether you are a follower of Jesus or not, you are welcome to join us for a 6 week study beginning February 19th around the "I must" passages of Jesus found in the Gospels. We are a multigenerational group of singles, couples and families. We study scripture, pray for one another and have occasional social gatherings. We will meet on Sunday nights 6:00-7:00pm at or near Hillcrest.

[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: This is a men's Bible Study that will be watching the Chosen series together this winter. We'll be comparing the series to the Gospels. We meet Sunday evenings from 6:00-8:00pm. We'd love to have you join us!

[REGISTER](#)



TUESDAY ONGOING

LEADER: Jim and Laura Carney

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

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

[REGISTER](#)



NEW

LEADER: Aaron and Leah Dutton

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

DESCRIPTION: We are a new small group who desire 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](#)



NEW

LEADER: Kathy Furtado

AREA OF TOWN: Central Bellingham **LIFESTAGE:** Women 40+

DESCRIPTION: This is a new small group for women over 40 who meet in the early afternoon. We pray for one another, usually follow the weekly sermon questions, and discuss life and death.

[REGISTER](#)



WEDNESDAY

ONGOING

LEADER: Pee Wee and Maria Halsell

AREA OF TOWN: North Bellingham **LIFESTAGE:** Empty Nest

DESCRIPTION: We meet on Wednesdays from 6:30-8:00pm, September through June (once a month during the summer). We meet out near Mt. Baker Hwy on Britton Road. We are mostly married couples, ages 50+, with grown children. We generally use follow up questions from previous week's sermons for our study.

[REGISTER](#)



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 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 to study God's word and pray together.

[REGISTER](#)

LEADER: David Knebel

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

DESCRIPTION: We are 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](#)



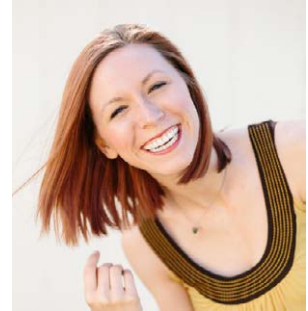
WEDNESDAY ONGOING

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](#)



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](#)



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 on a Thursday morning!

[REGISTER](#)



THURSDAY

ONGOING

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](#)



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](#)



LEADER: Angie Zehnder

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

DESCRIPTION: We are a group of women that meet every other Thursday evening in various homes from 5:00-7:00pm for prayer and accountability.

[REGISTER](#)



LEADER: Kris Peterson

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

DESCRIPTION: We're a group of women reading and having insightful discussions about inspirational books.

We are currently meeting at 5:30pm on the first and third Thursday of the month, but we tend to be very flexible to accommodate changing schedules.

[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 Friday mornings between 6:00-8:00am (show up when you can, leave when you need to) at the Barkley Woods (near the movie theater). We discuss our lives and current cultural challenges and how God's 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: Jonathan and Katelin Oliveira

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

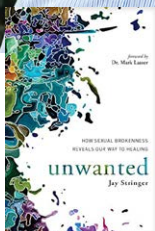
DESCRIPTION: We are a group of singles and young married couples with kids. We meet 4:00-5:30pm on Saturday, with dinner usually to follow for those who want to attend. We meet every 2nd and 4th Saturday. If you are looking to get connected we'd love to have you join us!

[REGISTER](#)



SHORT TERM GROUPS

DIG DEEPER INTO THE *BODY & SOUL* SERIES



Learning to Live Aligned for Men

LEADER: Christian Lindbeck

WHEN: Monday Evening **LIFESTAGE:** Adult Men

DESCRIPTION: Most Christians want to live a life that aligns with their fundamental beliefs about Jesus and the purpose of life. But we also have miswired behavioral habits and corrupted affections. This is why some Christians find themselves in the secret pain of wrestling with unwanted sexual thoughts and unhealthy behavior. Thankfully, there are answers and real hope that begin in our identity in Jesus and flow out through our affections and actions. You are invited to spend 6 weeks with Pastor Christian Lindbeck in an honest, confidential, and hopeful small group. This group will meet on Mondays at 7:30pm beginning April 24. Resources: *Unwanted* by Jay Stringer.

REGISTER: email Christian.L@HCBellingham.com for more information or to sign up.



Learning to Live Aligned for Women

LIFESTAGE: Adult Women

DESCRIPTION: Many women feel alone in their struggle with the sexual brokenness in their life. We want you to know you are not alone; God wants to meet you where you are at and is the Giver of hope and freedom. If you desire healing from unwanted sexual thoughts and/or unhealthy sexual behavior, we would love to have you participate in this conversation with other women. This group will create a confidential and safe space to name the broken places in our stories and begin on a path of healing.

REGISTER: email Alex.A@HCBellingham.com for more information or to sign up.

SHORT TERM GROUPS

DIG DEEPER INTO THE *BODY & SOUL* SERIES



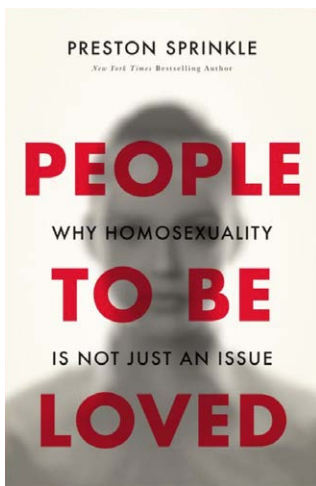
Arms of Love: After Abortion Care

LEADER: Barb Curry

WHEN: Tuesday Evening **LIFESTAGE:** Adult Women

DESCRIPTION: Arms of Love is a 12-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. New session begins the week of February 20th.

REGISTER: email Barb at ArmsOfLove@WhatcomClinic.com for more information or to sign up.



People to be Loved Book Club

LEADER: Hannah Dreblow and Jessica Mumley

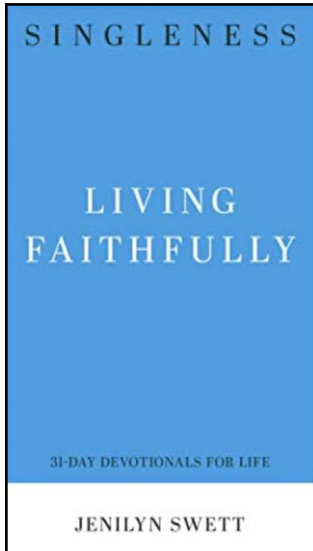
WHEN: Tuesday Evening **LIFESTAGE:** Adult

DESCRIPTION: Join us in exploring Preston Sprinkle's book *People to be Loved: Why Homosexuality is Not Just an Issue*. It is rare to find an author who excels so holistically in both his position and his posture: his scholarship of biblical text, his exploration of scientific findings, his insightful lens on this cultural moment, his pastoral heart of love and truth, and his lived experience walking alongside many same sex attracted friends. Our hope is that you will walk away from this book with better footing in both biblical position and pastoral posture; co-mingled attention to both is precisely what the Lord Jesus himself models and calls us to in this crucial conversation. This group will meet on Tuesday evenings at 7:00pm at Hillcrest beginning March 7th.

[REGISTER](#)

SHORT TERM GROUPS

DIG DEEPER INTO THE *BODY & SOUL* SERIES



Singleness: Living Faithfully

LEADER: Dan Herndon and Julie Sessions

WHEN: Tuesday Evening **LIFESTAGE:** Adult

DESCRIPTION: Single people have many challenges and concerns that need to be looked at and shared with those who have similar experiences. This group will be using the book *Singleness, Living Faithfully* by Jenilyn Swett, full of great topics and thought-provoking questions, as a starting point for discussion. Swett encourages and kindly challenges singles to be aware of God's positive view of us and our singleness, to learn new ways to cultivate meaningful relationships, to walk through difficulties and heartaches in healthy ways, and to grow in maturity and faithfulness as they walk the pathway before them. At our first meeting we will look at God's view of singleness and we'll spend some time getting to know each other. This group will meet on Tuesday evenings from 7:00-8:30pm for 8 weeks beginning February 14.

[REGISTER](#)



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, and money.

DETAILS: Next session begins in the spring.

Contact: Hillcrest@HCBellingham.com for more information.

SHORT TERM GROUPS

DIG DEEPER INTO THE *BODY & SOUL* SERIES



The *Pre* Marriage Course

The Pre-Marriage 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: Begins mid-February; contact Staci Zenonian at szenonian8823@msn.com for more information. The cost is \$35/couple and includes two books.

[REGISTER](#)



The Marriage Course

The Marriage Course

DESCRIPTION: The Marriage Course is for couples young and old, strong or struggling, including those with previous marriages, married young or later in life, or anyone looking for practical support to strengthen their marriage relationship. While you will meet other couples in the group, the course content will not be discussed in a group setting and each couple's conversations are completely private.

DETAILS: Begins Tuesday, March 21st and runs for seven Tuesdays from 7:00-9:00pm. The first (3/21) and last session (5/2) will be held in person, with the rest over zoom. The cost is \$25 per couple and includes two books. Contact Kim and Penny Sherwood at kpsherwood@comcast.net for more information or sign-up using the link below.

[REGISTER](#)

SHORT TERM GROUPS



Next Steps

LEADER: Pastor Kathy Hill

WHEN: Sunday at 12:30pm

WHERE: The Fireside Cafe at Hillcrest **LIFESTAGE:** Any Adult

DESCRIPTION: Are you new? This group is for you! A three-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. This group will be meeting for three weeks beginning Sunday, February 5th at 12:30pm. Email Bev.D@HCBellingham.com to learn more or sign up!



Aligning our Hearts with God in Prayer

LEADER: Jason Kelly

WHEN: Sunday Evening

WHERE: Hillcrest **LIFESTAGE:** Any Adult

DESCRIPTION: What is prayer and why should we do it?

How can we shift our approach so that prayer becomes life-giving and transformative? How should we handle unanswered prayer? If prayer is a conversation, how do we grow in hearing God's voice? This four week course will meet on Sunday nights from 6:00-7:30pm beginning February 26th, and is aimed to build confidence from the scriptures that we're truly aligning our hearts with God in prayer. Expect helpful, biblically grounded notes and opportunities to practice the topics discussed. This group will be led by Jason Kelly who has served Jesus in various churches and ministries for over two decades and is currently on staff at Bless the City church in Bellingham.

[REGISTER](#)

SHORT TERM GROUPS



Alpha

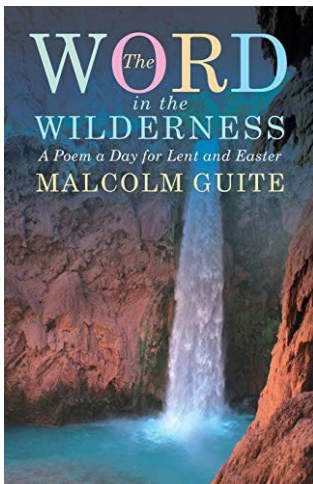
LEADER: Tim Vail

WHEN: Monday Evening

WHERE: Hillcrest **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 and join us! This group will meet on Mondays from 6:00-7:30pm for 10 weeks beginning Monday, February 27th. We will share a meal, watch a video, and discuss key questions around the table.

[REGISTER](#)



The Word in the Wilderness

LEADER: Bill Akers and Mary Margaret Brotherton

WHEN: Monday Evening

WHERE: Hillcrest **LIFESTAGE:** Any Adult

DESCRIPTION: Lent: it is often hard to wrap our minds and souls around. What should we be doing between the flurry of Christmas and New Years celebrations, goal setting, life plans, and a seemingly distant Easter? This small group, which begins the week of Ash Wednesday and ends the week following Easter, is framed around a small book titled *The Word in the Wilderness* which offers 40 short, daily invitations to read, listen, contemplate and enter into this path of discovery. With these readings as a guide, our weekly gathering time will be to reflect on how our paths have been interrupted by the presence of God. Our prayer is that as we take this journey together we may see this season in a new light and prepare us in beautifully unexpected ways for daily resurrection. We will meet for 8 weeks on Monday evenings at Hillcrest beginning February 20th from 6:30-8:00pm.

[REGISTER](#)

OTHER WAYS TO CONNECT



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.

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



**CAMPUS CHRISTIAN
FELLOWSHIP**

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.

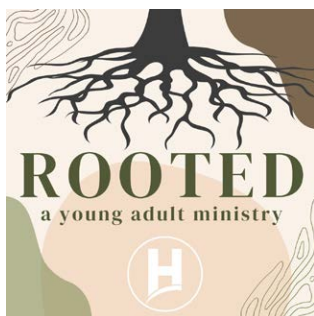
FOR MORE INFORMATION:

WWU: ccfministry.com

WCC: ccfwhatcom.com

SVC: ccfskagit.com

Email: admin@ccfministry.com



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 monthly events.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:



Join the [Rooted Group.Me](https://www.meetup.com/Rooted-Group-Me/) for information about the next group event, or contact Lindsay Gross at lmariel144@gmail.com

OTHER WAYS TO CONNECT



MOMS' GROUP

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

WHERE: Hillcrest Commons

DESCRIPTION: Moms' Group would love to warmly welcome you to our gatherings this year! Moms' Group is a place where women from all different backgrounds and stages of motherhood spend time together studying, sharing, and praying. We aim to know Jesus more and connect with other moms with children of any age. Childcare is provided. In 2023, we will focus our Bible study on the New Testament Letters of John.

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



HOPE RESTORED SUPPORT GROUP

DESCRIPTION: This group meets for dinner the 1st Tuesday of each 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.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Contact Shelley.K@HCBellingham.com to learn more.



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: February 4, March 4, April 15.

CONTACT: Mary Margaret Brotherton for more information at MaryMargaret.B@hcbellingham.com



“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.”

— New Hillcrest small group participant

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1400 Larrabee Ave, Bellingham, WA 98225 | 360.733.8400 | www.HCBellingham.com