



**FOLLOWING
JESUS
TOGETHER**



FALL 2023



FOLLOWING JESUS TOGETHER

FALL 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 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 youth and college ministry, our 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
*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

ONGOING SMALL GROUPS BY DAY

SUNDAY PAGE 6

MONDAY PAGE 6-7

TUESDAY PAGE 7-8

WEDNESDAY PAGE 8-9

THURSDAY PAGE 10-11

FRIDAY PAGE 11

SATURDAY PAGE 11

SHORT TERM GROUPS PAGE 12-17

OTHER WAYS TO CONNECT PAGE 18-20



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

[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 this summer and fall. We will watch Chosen series season 2 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](#)



MONDAY

ONGOING

LEADER: Anthony and Kylie Hale

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.

To accommodate families with little kids, we are planning to meet at 6:00pm Monday nights with just men one week, just women the next week and as a whole group with children about once a month. Please reach out to the leaders for a schedule.

[REGISTER](#)



MONDAY

ONGOING

NEW

LEADER: Grace Pierstorff

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

DESCRIPTION: This new young adult small group is for those in their 20s-30s, meeting every other Monday. This intentional community will be focused on building authentic relationships and doing life together. We will be a close-knit gathering of people who want to grow in our relationship with Jesus, study the bible together, and be an encouraging support system.

[REGISTER](#)



TUESDAY

ONGOING

LEADER: Aaron and Leah Dutton

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

DESCRIPTION: We are a newish 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: Nick and Melody Eastman/Nate and Rachel Vandermay

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

DESCRIPTION: We are a brand new group that will be getting to know each other as we follow the sermon series. We are primarily families with young children but all are welcome! We will split the time between the Vandermay house in Bellingham and the Eastman house in Ferndale. Please let us know if you're interested in joining!

[REGISTER](#)



TUESDAY ONGOING

NEW

LEADER: Renée Woods/Taylor Adriance

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

DESCRIPTION: We are a young adult small group focused on creating community and connection. Our hope for this group is to grow together in spiritual maturity and be an encouragement to one another as we go out into the mission field, which for most of us is the workforce/marketplace! We meet Tuesdays at 7:00pm.

[REGISTER](#)



WEDNESDAY ONGOING

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 on Wednesday nights from 5:30-7:00pm. 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. 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 Alexis Blalock

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

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

[REGISTER](#)



WEDNESDAY ONGOING

LEADER: Pee Wee and Maria Halsell

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

DESCRIPTION: We would love to have you join us! We are a group of mostly married couples, ages 50+, with grown children. We meet on Wednesdays from 6:30-8:00pm, Sept. through June (once a month during the summer) out near Mt. Baker Hwy on Britton Rd. We generally discuss the previous week's sermons for our study.

[REGISTER](#)



ESPAÑOL

LEADER: Jayne Jurado - Todas personas que hablan español

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

DESCRIPTION: Este grupo es para todos los hispanohablantes que aman a Jesús y quieren desarrollar un camino más profundo con Él. 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. Nos reuniremos el primer y tercer miércoles cada mes por la noche para estudiar la palabra de Dios y orar juntos.



This group is for all Spanish speakers who love Jesus and want to develop a deeper walk with Him. Our hope is to create a place for believers to cultivate sincere relationships with one another who share similar cultures and whose primary language is Spanish. We will meet the first and third Wednesday evening to study God's word and pray together.

[REGISTER](#)

GROUP: Wednesday Night Prayer

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

DESCRIPTION: You're invited to join a faithful core group for Wednesday night prayer in the Fireside Cafe. It is exactly one hour. There is no program. We let the Holy Spirit guide the prayer. We are never disappointed. That hour flies by. All are welcome, there is always an open invitation. Come when you are able. 7:00pm on Wednesdays at Hillcrest Church.



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 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](#)



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: Deb Wright

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 5:30-7:00pm for prayer and accountability.

[REGISTER](#)



LEADER: Kris Peterson

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

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

[REGISTER](#)



THURSDAY

ONGOING

NEW

LEADER: Dee Turley

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

DESCRIPTION: This is a new small group for women, ages 65+, who will meet in the early afternoon on Thursdays from 1:00-2:30pm.

We will share and talk about restoring joy during brokenness

– whether it be grief, depression, fear, stress, doubt, broken relationships, etc. We will share, study, and pray about JOY.

[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](#)



SHORT TERM GROUPS



Alpha

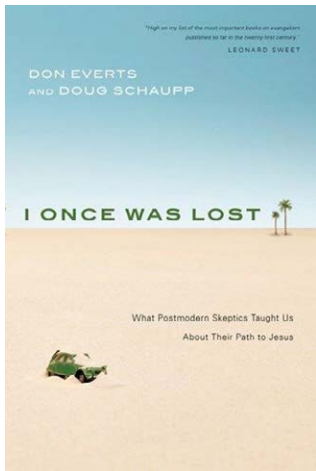
LEADER: Bryan Cartwright, Tim Vail

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) This group will meet on Thursdays at 6:00pm for 6 weeks beginning September 28. We will share a meal, watch a video, and discuss key questions around the table.

[REGISTER](#)



I Once Was Lost - Book Study

LEADER: Griffin Gamble

WHEN: Sunday afternoon

WHERE: Central Bellingham **LIFESTAGE:** Any Adult

DESCRIPTION: Evangelism can feel insurmountable for the common churchgoer, yet that can change. This six meeting book study covers a simple modern approach to evangelism. Don't feel rushed to read either; we will be covering chapter 1 at our second meeting. We will meet on the 2nd and 4th Sunday from 12:45, beginning September 24th. We will discuss the "...five significant shifts that tend to go on in postmodern folks as they come to faith."

[REGISTER](#)

SHORT TERM GROUPS



Connecting with God

LEADER: Julie Sessions

WHEN: Sunday Morning

WHERE: Central Bellingham **LIFESTAGE:** Any Adult

DESCRIPTION: Ever been frustrated with the personal time you spend with God? Have you wondered what you should do or if it's even okay to do something different from others?

Whether you're a new Christian who wants to learn about how to spend time getting to know God, or you've been around for a while and would like to try some new practices, you're welcome to join us. Led by Julie Sessions, this group will meet for 6 weeks on Sundays during second service beginning October 8th.

[**REGISTER**](#)



BibleProject

Heaven and Earth

LEADER: Victor Kozaczuk

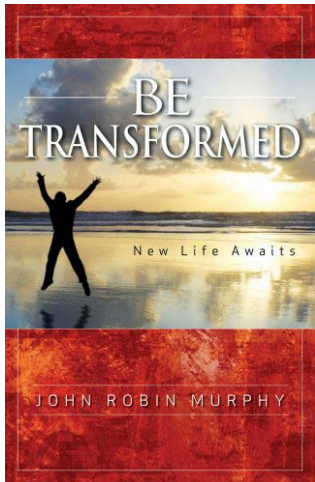
WHEN: Tuesday Evening

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 suggested weekly homework and watch "The Bible Project" videos related to the topics of the study. This study dives into the topics of Heaven, The Garden, Blessing, the Patriarchs, the Temple, the Prophets Hope, the Messiah's kingdom, walking with God and the New Jerusalem. What does the world look like when the images of God flourish and multiply, and when God dwells on the Earth? Led by Victor Kozaczuk, this group will meet for twelve weeks at 6:30pm on Tuesday evenings starting September 19.

[**REGISTER**](#)

SHORT TERM GROUPS



Be Transformed - Group Study

LEADER: Samantha and Robby Robinson

WHEN: Wednesday Evening

WHERE: North County **LIFESTAGE:** Any Adult

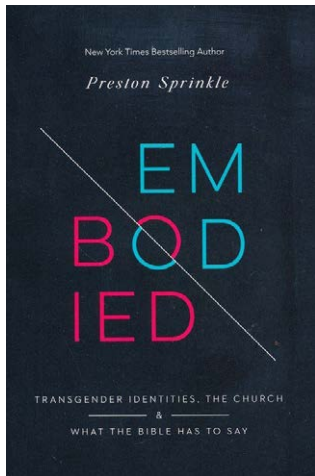
DESCRIPTION: This new small group will connect weekly to support one another through a heart transformation process directed by Rock House Center's book "Be Transformed". The Robinsons have been deeply impacted by the experience and are excited to share it with the Hillcrest community. A 16 week commitment 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 yolk is easy, and His burden is light'. By offering my heart to Him, He could start the clearing out the heartache and fill it with His peace."

This group will meet on Wednesday evenings from 6:00-8:00pm beginning September 27.

[REGISTER](#)

SHORT TERM GROUPS



Embodied - Book Study

LEADER: Jessica Mumley, Scott McCornack, Kennedy Werner

WHEN: Tuesday Evening

WHERE: South Bellingham **LIFESTAGE:** Any Adult

DESCRIPTION: If someone experiences incongruence between their biological sex and their internal sense of self, which one determines who they are - and why? This is the driving question Preston Sprinkle explores in his book *Embodied*. In this six week study, we will learn how the culture is using gender identity terminology, where we find truths about gender in scripture and the life of Jesus, and how we can equip ourselves to have conversations full of grace and truth in an evolving cultural climate. This will be a space to both learn and to share more personally, as more and more of us have a lived experience of gender distress, or walk closely with a loved one who does. This group will be lead by Jessica Mumley, Scott McCornack, and Kennedy Werner and will be meeting on Tuesday nights from 7:00-8:30pm beginning October 3.

[**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, money, and more.

DETAILS: The next session begins this fall; contact:

Hillcrest@HCBellingham.com right away if you are interested.

SHORT TERM GROUPS



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 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.

DETAILS: Begins the first week of October or by individual arrangement. Contact Staci Zenonian at szenonian8823@msn.com for more information. The cost is \$22 per couple and includes two workbooks.

[REGISTER](#)



The Marriage Course

The Marriage Course

DESCRIPTION: Apart from a relationship with Christ, marriage is often the most life-changing relationship humans experience, and this seven week course is designed to build, inspire, and encourage couples in all stages of marriage. The video series and the accompanying workbook offer guided, completely private, conversations between you and your spouse that will bring deeper connection and intimacy as well as increased joy into this key relationship. One couple that recently participated, married for 36 years, said of the course: "Amazing experience! This was some of the best and deepest sharing we've done in years!" We hope, whether you've engaged in this course previously, or it is the first time, that you will join us as we work to build marriages that reflect God's deep love for us.

DETAILS: Begins Monday, October 2nd and runs for seven Mondays from 7:00-9:00pm. The first (10/2) and last session (11/13) 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 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 8th with the Newcomer Lunch. Email Bev.D@HCBellingham.com to learn more or sign up!



Aging Faithfully - Retirement with Purpose

LEADER: Paul Petersen

DESCRIPTION: With so many Hillcrest attenders either already retired or making plans to do so, our desire is to provide a forum for learning from each other. The topics will focus on growing deeper in Christ and further in service to His church and to others. Two main books will be utilized: "An Uncommon Guide to Retirement" by Jeff Haanen and "Aging Faithfully" by Alice Fryling. Topics will include a biblical framework for aging, facing loss, cultivating hope, spiritual growth, mentoring, relationship adjustments, life-long learning, new life-rhythms, etc.

DETAILS: Registration for this group will be available in early December, which will meet for six Thursday evenings beginning January 11.

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, Casey Stringer, at Casey.S@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.

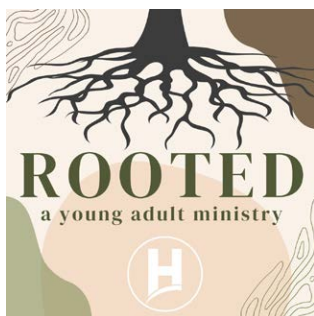
FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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.

OTHER WAYS TO CONNECT



MOMS' GROUP

WHEN: 2nd and 4th Wednesdays from 9:30-11:00am

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.

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



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.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Contact HopeRestored@HCBellingham.com



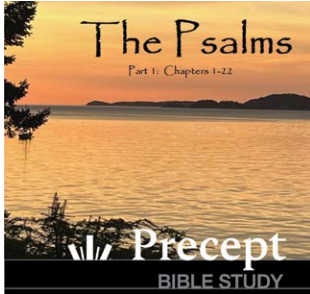
HILLCREST CREATES

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 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.

DETAILS: Saturday mornings from 9:00am-12:00pm on Sept. 16th, Nov. 18th, Jan. 20th, March 9th, and May 4th in the Fireside Cafe.

CONTACT: MaryMargaret.B@HCBellingham.com for details.

OTHER WAYS TO CONNECT



PRECEPTS: PSALMS PART 1

"The Lord Hears When I Call", a 5 lesson Precept Upon Precept Study

WHEN: Every other Monday at 6:30pm, beginning September 18.

Or every other Wednesday at 9:15am, beginning September 20.

WHERE: Hillcrest Large Conference Room

DESCRIPTION: How do you pray when you aren't sure what to say? The Book of Psalms shows us how to cry out to God in every circumstance. If you want to learn more about how to praise God in the good times, lament honestly in the bad, and trust God through every season of life, this study on Psalms 1-22 is perfect for you.

DETAILS: Space is limited, but the evening classes will also be accessible via Zoom. Participants should order their own workbook and complete Lesson 1 before the first meeting. Each lesson requires approximately 3 hours of homework and meditation time to engage these beautiful passages of Scripture.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Please contact the church office at Hillcrest@HCBellingham.com if you would like to sign up for the class and receive information on how to order a workbook.



LEARN TO PAINT IN WATERCOLOR

WHEN: Sundays from 3:00-4:30pm beginning October 1.

WHERE: Hillcrest Fireside Cafe

DESCRIPTION: In this six week class, artist Kris DeBruine will introduce us to the fundamentals of painting in watercolor. The class is well suited to beginners, however all skill levels are welcome. This is an adult class for artists 16 and older. We will meet Sundays from 3:00-4:30pm in the Fireside Cafe at Hillcrest Church. There is no charge for the class, however students are responsible for their own supplies. Kris will supply a list of recommended materials upon registration.

[REGISTER](#)

FOLLOWING JESUS TOGETHER

“I wasn’t particularly looking for community and wasn’t planning on staying in Bellingham at all this year, but since I did, being adopted into the small group and being a part of this community has been one of the biggest blessings.”

— New Hillcrest small group participant



HILLCREST C H U R C H

1400 Larrabee Ave
Bellingham, WA 98225

360.733.8400

www.HCBellingham.com