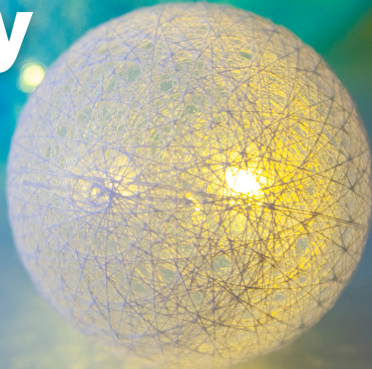


Advent Conspiracy

Freedom Fire Ministries



**THIS ADVENT WE'RE CONSPIRING
TO MEET PRACTICAL NEEDS
AT FREEDOM FIRE MINISTRIES.
JOIN US AS WE SHIFT OUR FOCUS
FROM SHOPPING TO SHARING.**

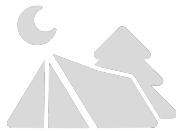
One of our long-time local ministry partners needs
our help to fund three projects:



Purchase a used Ford Transit Van.

Fund a Sports and Discipleship Program.

Provide Camp Scholarships.



**WILL YOU HELP MEET THESE NEEDS TO SEE GOD
TRANSFORM LIVES IN THE URBAN CORE?**

Advent Conspiracy Goal: \$42,000

How to Give:

Text hillcrestcov to 77977, OR **go online** to tinyurl.com/HCCAdvent
and select Advent Conspiracy in the drop-down menu,
OR **write a check** to Hillcrest Covenant Church
with Advent Conspiracy in the memo line
and put in one of our drop boxes.

SIMPLE CHRISTMAS

**WE'RE ALL SEARCHING FOR WAYS TO
UNCLUTTER,
UNCOMPLICATE,
UNPLUG,
AND FIND SIMPLICITY.**

*This Advent, we invite you to turn with us to God's
eternal messages of hope, peace, joy and love as
we reconnect with rest, less, space, and grace
during this season of anticipation and celebration.*



*For a child has been born - for us!
The gift of a son - for us!
He'll take over the running of the world.
His names will be: Amazing Counselor,
Strong God, Eternal Father,
Prince of Wholeness. His ruling authority
will grow, and there'll be no limits
to the wholeness he brings.*

Isaiah 9:6-7a

SIMPLE MESSAGES

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28—SIMPLE CHRISTMAS | LOOK—LUKE 2:8-18

When we slow down and focus our attention on the things that matter (faith, family, friendships) we find renewed hope. Hope is confidence in God and what He says about us. The shepherds encounter angels who told them to go look for the One who had been promised. When they found Him they shared the message of hope. Looking for God in our world still produces hope. "Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see." —Hebrews 11:1

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5—SIMPLE CHRISTMAS | LESS—LUKE 1:67-80

Have you ever thought about how having more stuff often causes more stress? You could almost say stuff = stress. John the Baptist came to guide people toward peace and he did it in a very unique way. Living a simple life, that some would call extreme, he was able to speak in a new way and help people see that God was breaking through. When Jesus came, John said, "I must become less" (John 3:30). What does it mean to "become less" in our lives today?

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12—SIMPLE CHRISTMAS | LISTEN—LUKE 1:46-56

Mary sang a song to express her joy at the news of Jesus. God spoke to her about what He would do and Mary listened. Her first reaction was "greatly troubled," but she moved to joy as she listened to the angel and to her cousin Elizabeth. Do you hear what God is saying into your life today?

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19—SIMPLE CHRISTMAS | LIGHT—MATTHEW 4:12-19

Jesus fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah "the people living in darkness have seen a great light" (Isaiah 9:2). The opposite of light is darkness but it is also heavy. When we love others we lift the burdens they carry and help them see a new way with God. To repent means to let go of our heavy burdens and embrace the love of God.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23 & FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24—SIMPLE CHRISTMAS | LIFE—LUKE 2:1-7

Simple can be defined as humble, common, and easy to understand. That is how God chose to enter into our lives, as a baby. His humbleness calls us to live in a different way, as those who give the gift of our lives to others. We give ourselves away so that others can find life.

DETAILS

*We're keeping it simple this Advent.
Learn more about our gatherings and services
at tinyurl.com/HCCSimpleChristmas*

Winter Selfie Booth

*Stop by our winter scene just outside the sanctuary
to take a Christmas selfie photo!*

SIMPLE JOY

*Each week, we'll light an Advent candle,
worship and anticipate celebrating the coming of Jesus,
Emmanuel—God with us.*

SIMPLE WAYS TO SERVE

*Help serve at one of our Christmas Eve services
by indicating your interest on the Connection card
or email info@hillcrestcov.org.*

SIMPLE GATHERINGS

*Deck the Halls on Tuesday, Nov 30.
Advent Wreath-Making for women on Wednesday, Dec 1.
Tabitha for senior ladies on Tuesday, Dec 14.
MS/HS Christmas Party on Wednesday, Dec 15.
Preschool/Elementary Party on Saturday, Dec 18.*



SIMPLE CHRISTMAS SERVICES

You're invited to join us at one of three services:

Thursday, December 23: Outside on the hill at 6 PM.
Friday, December 24: Inside or online at 3 or 4:30 PM.

SIMPLE DROP-OFF

*On Christmas Eve, we invite you to grab a box of donuts
as you leave and deliver it to select locations
where people have to work that evening.*