

THE COMPASS

Current Series:



December 13, 2015



THE
ASCENT
CHURCH

Get Connected

If this is your first visit, thank you for joining us. We hope your visit is meaningful! Please fill out a Connection Card and drop in the offering or at the Welcome Areas so we will know you were here. For all guests and attenders, below are steps you can take to engage in our community.



Explore I

Learn more about our church, meet our Campus Pastors and others on our leadership team.

Woodmoor Campus: Today at 11:00 am in Room 214.

Northgate Campus: every 3rd Sunday at 10:45 am in the lobby.
No pre-registration required.



Explore II

Go deeper into the vision and mission of our church. Become an active part of our church community, learn our trail map for each person, ministry values, doctrine, and connecting with a Base Camp. Held quarterly at 10:45am at both campuses.



Base Camps

Base Camps are neighborhood-based groups that meet regularly around our community. To build deeper relationships with your neighbors, visit our website at theascentchurch.com/basecamps.



Serving

Use your talents and interests to serve with others in your church, accomplishing common ministry goals. There are always teams you can join! Contact Joel Witzel at joel@theascentchurch.com.



Equipping

Our Equipping Classes are designed to help further your walk with Christ. There are many short-term classes offered at both campuses, as well as ongoing women's and men's bible studies. For more information, visit our website or contact Joel Witzel at joel@theascentchurch.com.



Worship Team & Technical Arts

Join our Tech Team or Worship Team. For more info, contact carson@theascentchurch.com.



Sunday Morning Team

Serve as an usher or host with the welcome team. Meet new people, serve together and grow in Christ as you serve our community. Contact joel@theascentchurch.com

Community Life

Children's Christmas Program

Today, December 13

- **Woodmoor Campus:** "A Christmas Treasure" Program
All three Woodmoor Campus services.
- **Northgate Campus:** Children will sing and lead worship at the 9:30am service.

Guatemala Missions Trip

July 16-23, 2016



Ascent Student Ministries

Informational Meeting
Today! December 13th, 12:30pm
Woodmoor Campus, Room 113

End of Year Giving

The church office will be closed Dec. 24 - January 4.

In order for your year-end gifts to be credited in 2015, please make sure your checks are dated and postmarked no later than December 31. Online transactions need to be completed by midnight December 31. Questions, please contact Tara Kuntzsch at 955-2509.

NIGHT OF
WORSHIP

Today, December 13
Light snacks at 3:30
Transition Update Meeting:
4:00-5:00pm

Night of Worship:
5:00-6:00pm

Christmas Eve

service times

at THE ASCENT CHURCH

Woodmoor Campus: 2:00, 3:30, and 5:00pm

Northgate Campus: 4:00pm

Response Time

Each Sunday service, after the message, we have a time of response to God. We invite you to engage in worship through some tangible ways throughout our worship space.

- Communion: Available to all who profess Jesus Christ
- Prayer: Pastors or Prayer Partners available in the room
- Song: Engage in singing and expression to God
- Offering: Offering boxes and kiosks are available for giving
- Other: At times we will offer artistic/tactile worship stations

We invite you to move around the room at your own pace and in freedom to worship and respond to God as you feel led. You may engage these areas of worship in any order and at your own pace.

Financial Update

Last Week's Offering: \$34,745.30

As of 11/30/2015:

YTD Giving:	\$355,716
YTD Actual Expenses:	\$382,504
YTD Budget:	\$480,942

Fiscal Year 2015-16:

Avg. Weekly Giving:	\$27,890
Avg. Weekly Budget:	\$36,995
Min. Weekly Need:	\$34,000



Giving @ The Ascent

- (1) Offering Boxes: cash/check (in our worship service)
- (2) Online from our website
- (3) Kiosk: In the lobby
- (4) Mobile/Text: The Ascent Church App (download from your App Store)

Connection Opportunities *This Week*



Ascent Student Ministry (ASM)

(Middle & High School)

The ASM Christmas Party will be Dec. 15 at regular meeting times. After break, the next meeting is Jan. 5.

- Middle School: 5:30-6:45pm
- High School: 7:00-8:30pm

ASM meets this Sunday! Future dates: Dec. 20, Jan. 10. Please note: ASM will not meeting from Dec. 21-Jan. 4. See you all in the New Year on Jan. 5, 2016!

Email Micah, Rob & Taylor at asm@theascentchurch.com for any questions.

Children's Ministry (Birth—6th grade)

The Children's Christmas Program will be today at each campus, with family services on Dec. 20 and 27.

Tiny Town is available for birth - PreK:

Adventure Quest is available for K - 4th grade:

Elevate is available for 5th & 6th grade:

- Woodmoor Campus: 9:30 & 11:00am
- Northgate Campus: 9:30am

For more info, go to www.theascentchurch.com.



Ascent Missions

The Guatemala Missions Trip is scheduled for July 2016.

For more information, email asm@theascentchurch.com

Equipping, Women's and Men's Ministries

Equipping Classes: Sunday 9:30am at Woodmoor, *Book of Revelation* study. All are welcome!

Catalyst Equipping Class: Catalyst is for those seeking to get connected with others and be equipped for Biblical community. Catalyst meets Sunday mornings, 11:00am at the Woodmoor Campus in room 212.

Parents of Teens Equipping Class: The Parents of Teens Class meets Sunday mornings, 11:00am at the Woodmoor Campus in room 210. Join other parents for support and to help one another with raising our teens.

Men on the Ascent Bible Study: *Gospel of Mark* study, Tuesdays at 6:15am. Last meeting Dec. 15 for Christmas break, resume meeting on Jan. 5.

- Woodmoor Campus: room 213
- Northgate: Cafe Communitas at Marcos Pizza

Women on The Ascent: The winter session of Bible Studies will start on Jan. 12. Neighborhood studies are also available. For more information, contact joel@theascentchurch.com.





Message Notes

Sermon Passage: Luke 2:10-11.



Shared Engagement and Preparation

The Compass is a daily devotional and study guide for individuals, families, and Base Camps. The Compass begins devotions on Monday and leads up to the Sunday which will focus on the week's passage. In this way, the whole of the church engages in God's Word and prepares for our time of worship and preaching.

Deep Engagement and Doable Application

In order to allow for deep impact by God through His Word, The Compass centers on one passage in three ways — as individuals, with others, in our corporate gatherings — and focuses on applying what God is showing us, not biblical information itself. Life transformation happens when God's people depend upon and live out what He has revealed to us in His Word.

Consistency Over Time

With a tool such as The Compass, we can mistakenly measure personal spiritual success or failure based on whether we've completed a given day's devotion. Rather, use The Compass as a resource for individual and community growth. If you miss a few days, move on and seek growth; God will honor this.

Our prayer is that God will bless you as you seek to connect intimately with Him, intentionally with His people, and influentially in His world.

The Compass Passages for 12/14/15–12/19/15: Luke 2:10-11.

Monday, December 14, 2015

Read: Luke 2:8-11 in several translations focusing on the three aspects of who Jesus was in the declaration of the angels.

Reflect:

What are some of the things you remember from the last two weeks reflections on Jesus as Savior and Jesus as Christ? If you were not here for those two weeks, feel free to watch the sermons on-line at www.theascentchurch.com.

What do you see as being the significance of Jesus as Lord?

What are other terms we hear today that might mean the same thing?

Share with someone this week about the three declarations of who Jesus was and why it is significant as we celebrate Christmas.

Tuesday, December 15, 2015

Read: Romans 10:9; 1 Peter 3:15; 1 Corinthians 1:6 through several times. Reflect on what these say about Jesus as Lord.

Reflect:

Write out a definition of “Lord” below. Use your own words and what it means to you.

Look up the word “Lord” in the dictionary. What definition do you think best represents what was intended in these verses?

What does it mean to you to “sanctify Christ as Lord” in the passage in 1 Peter?

Spend time in prayer today confessing Christ as Lord and sanctifying Christ as Lord in your life. Let God know the areas you struggle with His Lordship.

Wednesday, December 16, 2015

Read: Revelations 17:14; 1 Timothy 6:15 and Revelation 19:16 today.

Reflect:

What do these verses declare about Jesus?

What is the significance of “Lord of lords” that is used in these verses?

Take time today to think about some of the things you allow to be a lord in your life. Ask God to show you what these are and listen to Him. What can you do to ensure that Jesus is Lord of lords in your life?

How can living in community together help us to remember Jesus is Lord of lords? Share with a close friend or someone in your Base Camp one of the areas which has become like a lord for you. Ask them to pray that you can allow Jesus to rule as Lord over this particular area of your life.

Thursday, December 17, 2015

Read: Colossians 3:17; Romans 10:12; Romans 14:9 and 1 Corinthians 8:6 asking God to show you His truth as you read and reflect on His Word.

Reflect:

What do you see as the common theme regarding Jesus as Lord from these verses?

What do you think it means to do everything “as if unto the Lord”? Spend time asking God how you can make everything you do be done as unto the Lord.

What is the significance of acknowledging Jesus is Lord of both the living and the dead?

Friday, December 18, 2015

Read: Luke 2:8-11 today as a family. Spend time in prayer as a family asking God to give meaning to the season when we celebrate Jesus as our Savior, Christ the Lord.

Reflect:

Look back on the verses we have read about the concept of Jesus as Lord this week. Which of these verses challenged you the most? Why?

Are there other verses you know of that also show the importance of recognizing Jesus as Lord? List any below that you can think of:

Read Matthew 7:21-23, to understand the warning that Jesus gave about the importance of our actions in showing we truly recognize Jesus is Lord. How does this passage challenge you?

Saturday, December 19, 2015

Reflect back over your study this week. What one thing stands out most to you that you want to take action upon this coming week?

What transforming thoughts and/or actions were revealed to you today, and how might you put them into practice?

As you prepare for worship tomorrow with your family and fellow brothers and sisters in Christ, let God's Spirit dwell in your thoughts and mind. Ask God to speak clearly to you tomorrow through His Word.

After church, find someone new you haven't met before and share with them the reason for this season of Christmas—Jesus is our savior, Christ the Lord!! Be a blessing to someone this week.

Building Our Base Camp Family

This is week three of our suggested four-week pattern for Base Camps: intergenerational, adult study, mixed, invitation/service. Each week will have an intergenerational element (such as the meal); then there will be a focus for the meeting that follows the pattern and is attentive to God's Word and the age mix.

Prepare:

Take some time as a Base Camp to pray with each other. Focus on what God's doing in the lives of the people around you.

Mixed:

We read in Luke 2:8-11 that an angel of the Lord came to shepherds. Those who made their careers watching animals graze were regarded very lowly in ancient Jewish society. According to the Talmud, shepherds were not trustworthy and couldn't be called on as witnesses in court. Yet, it was to these individuals Jesus' birth was first heralded. The words the angels speak is a fulfillment of God's promise, hundreds of years earlier, in Isaiah 9:6, indicating Jesus would be the foundation for His new Kingdom.

- Take a moment and place yourself in the position of the shepherds.
 - What would your thoughts be if an angel appeared in front of you?
 - What would your physical reaction be?
- Discuss why, among all the possible humans on earth, the angels appeared to shepherds outside of Bethlehem?
- What would your reaction be if you heard the announcement of Christ's birth like the shepherds did?
- What lesson can we take from the shepherds?
- How does Luke 2:8-11 effect Christmas in modern America?

Contact Us

Church Office 719.481.3600

(WM-Woodmoor, NG-Northgate, CS-Central Support)

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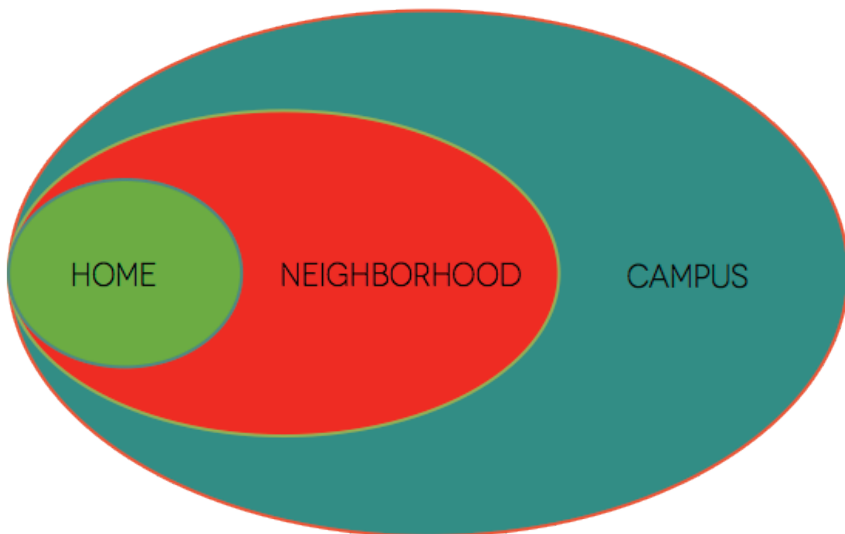
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Mission and Vision

The mission of THE ASCENT CHURCH is to help people connect: *Intimately* with God, *Intentionally* with God's family, and *Influentially* with God's world. Our vision is to develop genuine Biblical communities on every street in our region.

Our community lives out its vision and mission within three environments:

- Home - The best place for formation and nurture.
- Neighborhood - The best place for application and outreach.
- Campus - The best place for equipping, inspiration and celebration.



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Special thanks to all who contributed to The Compass.
If you have questions or comments, email:
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