



THE  
COMPASS

Current Series:



September 20, 2015



THE  
ASCENT  
CHURCH

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: every 2nd Sunday at 11:00 am, room 214 Northgate Campus: every 3rd Sunday, at 10:45 am, in the lobby.



## Explore II

Go deeper into the vision and mission of our church. Become an active part of our church community, and plug-in to neighborhood and campus ministries. **Held quarterly.**



## 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](http://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 Rowland Smith at [rowland@theascentchurch.com](mailto:rowland@theascentchurch.com).



## Equipping

Our Equipping Classes are designed to help further your walk with Christ. There are many short-term classes offered, as well as ongoing women's and men's bible studies. For more information, visit our website or contact Joel Witzel at 719.481.3600 or [joel@theascentchurch.com](mailto:joel@theascentchurch.com).



## 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 (visit your App Store to download)

# Community Life

## Bible Studies

**Men on the Ascent** - Bible study begins Tuesday Sept. 22 at 6:15am. Brothers, come together for a practical time in God's word. Study the Gospel of Mark and apply what you learn in daily life while connecting with others who are seeking to live faithfully. Contact Joel Witzel at [joel@theascentchurch.com](mailto:joel@theascentchurch.com) for more information.



## **Munchkin Market is September 24-26!**

Munchkin Market is a HUGE sale of gently used baby and kid items. Clothes range from newborn to size 16 and most are \$1! You can also find shoes, coats, uniforms, dancewear, toys, books, baby gear and much, much more! Please come visit us in the Woodmoor sanctuary during one of the following times: Ladies Night Thursday from 6-8pm (\$2 admission or bring a friend for \$1 each), Friday 8am until 12pm and Saturday 8am until 12pm (items half priced the last hour).



## **EXPLORE I**

An Orientation of The Ascent

TODAY - Northgate Campus  
10:45 a.m. in the Lobby  
Join us for an introduction to  
The Ascent Church!

*No pre-registration required.*

## **Ornaments for Africa!**

Thank you for your interest in Global Outreach! Two of our key church partnerships have upcoming trips, Kenya (Dec 2015) and Ethiopia (February 2016). As part of our main project fundraising for these trips, the two teams have created "Africa ornaments" from African fabric which are available upon donation. It is our way of saying thank you for your support and a reminder to pray for our teams. Each number corresponds with the amount of money to be donated (i.e. #12 - donate \$12, #178 - donate \$178). So, pick an ornament, please donate accordingly and put "Africa ornament #\_\_\_" in the memo area of your check. Our teams thank you for partnering with us as we go and share God's love!

# 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.

## The Ascent Church Financial Update

As of 8/31/2015: (end of 2014/15 fiscal year)

Year To Date Giving: \$1,717,957.67

Year To Date Actual Expenses: \$1,731,814.67

Year To Date Budget: \$1,957,963.28

Last Week's Offering: \$21,243.42

Weekly Budget: \$36,995.54

# Get Connected

## Ascent Student Ministry (ASM)

(Middle & High School)

Ascent Student Ministries is still under construction, but we will meet this month for **September Nights with ASM**.

- Middle School meet from 5:30pm to 6:30pm
- High School meet from 7:00pm - 8:15pm.

Dinner will be provided Sept. 22 & 29. For information or questions, please contact Micah, Rob & Taylor at [ASM@TheAscentChurch.com](mailto:ASM@TheAscentChurch.com).



## Children's Ministry (Birth - 6th grade)

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

For more info go to [www.TheAscentChurch.com](http://www.TheAscentChurch.com)  
Questions? [Info@TheAscentChurch.com](mailto:Info@TheAscentChurch.com).



## Equipping, Women's and Men's Ministries

**Equipping Classes:** Sunday 9:30am at Woodmoor, *Book of Revelation* study. Come join us!

**Men on the Ascent:** *Gospel of Mark* study begins

Sept. 22 at 6:15am. Woodmoor Campus in Rm 213.

Northgate Campus: Cafe Communitas at Marcos Pizza.

**Women on The Ascent:** Studies began Sept. 15.

*Breath, Gideon, A Woman's Heart, Moms & Beyond, ART*

*Journaling and more!* **It is not too late to join!**

Registration and choices at [www.TheAscentChurch.com](http://www.TheAscentChurch.com).



## Base Camps

Experience life with a neighborhood group.

Questions? [Info@TheAscentChurch.com](mailto:Info@TheAscentChurch.com).



## Worship Ministry & Technical Arts

Join our Tech Team or Worship Team. For more info contact [Carson@TheAscentChurch.com](mailto:Carson@TheAscentChurch.com).

## Sunday Morning Team

This is a great way to serve at The Ascent! Meet new people, serve together and grow in Christ as you serve our community. Contact [Rowland@TheAscentChurch.com](mailto:Rowland@TheAscentChurch.com).



# The Compass Guide

If you're new to The Compass, welcome! Here is a short overview to keep in mind before you get started.

## **Advance Preparation**

At the Ascent Church, we help you prepare in advance to worship together. Throughout the week we study the passage(s) that is (are) the focus for the upcoming Sunday. This allows the whole church to engage God's Word before we join together for worship and to hear God's Word preached.

## **Deeper versus Broader**

We use one Bible passage in different environments to allow the passage to impact us in a variety of ways. It's not simply for study. It's for discussion in community and application. Remember, depth and maturity are not measured by new information or ideas. Depth is life change. One passage in different environments allows for a greater opportunity to have the Word of God go deep. The first question on the daily pages is one that may be helpful for group discussion, discussions with newer Christians, or for discussion with children or other family members.

## **Use versus Do**

One trap related to a tool like *The Compass* is that people start to "do" it and then measure their success (and their guilt!) based on whether or not they "did" it. The Compass is simply a resource. If you use this to grow in your faith as an individual and in community, God will honor that. If you miss a few days, move on. *Use* the resource. Don't *do* it.

## **Transformation versus Education**

Our goal with *The Compass* is to let the Word of God transform you. It's not so you can know more. It's so you can BE more like Jesus. So use the resource. Saturate yourself. Become more like Jesus every day as an individual and as a community! Let's grow together!

## **Passages for 9/20/2015 through 9/26/2015**

**Genesis 1:27-28, Romans 1:24-32, 1 Corinthians 6:9-11,  
1 Corinthians 5:9-10, John 8:1-11.**

# Monday, September 21, 2015

## **Reflect:**

This week you will be looking at a Biblical response to the changes in your culture related to sexual orientation and same sex marriage and their acceptance as the new normal. This is a highly explosive issue that is creating great discussion and division within the body of Christ. Take time this week in prayer, asking God to open your eyes and your heart to His teaching on this. How can you as a Christian be salt and light as you encounter this issue within your culture?

**Read:** Genesis 1:27-28, Romans 1:24-32, 1 Corinthians 5:9-10; 6:9-11, John 8:1-11 and take time to let the truth of these passages penetrate your heart and mind.

What are the principles you see in the passages you read today?

How do your views and opinions align with these Scriptures?

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

Reflect on your views of sexual orientation and same sex marriage. On what are you basing your views and opinions?



## Tuesday, September 22, 2015

**Read:** Genesis 1:27-28; 2:21-24; Ecclesiastes 7:28.

**Reflect:**

How would you summarize God's original design of humanity?

What are some of the differences God identified in His creation of man vs. woman? What are the similarities?

When looking at this issue, why is it important to understand the difference between today's reality and God's original design and plan?

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

Take time today to thank God for His original plan in creation. Reflect on how sin has distorted His original plan and order.

# Wednesday, September 23, 2015

**Read:** Romans 1:24-32; Ecclesiastes 7:29.

**Reflect:**

What reasons for the practice of homosexuality within the culture are given in these passages?

Take time to consider the broader context of Romans 1. Reflect on how this issue needs to be viewed from a context of complete depravity of all humankind.

What situations do you see in society which reveal the brokenness that came as a result of the fall? Do you look at these with the same emotional reaction as you do the issue of homosexuality? Why or why not?

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

Spend time quietly thinking about how God would want you to react regarding this issue.

## Thursday, September 24, 2015

**Read:** 1 Corinthians 5:9-11 and 1 Corinthians 6:1-11, taking time to understand the truth of God's Word.

**Reflect:**

How do these passages encourage you to treat the professed believer, as well as the unbeliever, with relation to blatant sin?

With what challenge are you left as a believer when you are faced with people who live in a way that is not consistent with your Christian beliefs?

We often hear the phrase "Hate the sin but love the sinner." What is difficult about this approach when encountering sin in other people?

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

Think of a situation you have encountered where you were challenged to be tolerant of someone's beliefs. How does this passage change your thoughts about how you should interact with these people?

## Friday, September 25, 2015

**Read:** John 8:1-11 through several times. Ask God to show you His heart for the lost, concentrating on the actions of Jesus in this story.

**Reflect:**

What principles are pointed out in this story regarding the judgement of others?

What other passages of Scripture might give you insight when confronting people with sin?

Think of the various audiences in today's story. How did Jesus handle the issue of the woman caught in adultery for each of these audiences? What can you learn from this?

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

You are often told in the Gospels that Jesus was full of grace and truth. How do you see the balance between those two concepts illustrated in this short story about Jesus?

## Saturday, September 26, 2015

**Read:** All of this week's passages (Genesis 1:27-28, Romans 1:24-32, 1 Corinthians 6:9-11, 1 Corinthians 5:9-10, John 8:1-11) with your notes from this week's study.

List some ideas you were challenged with this week. Take time before the Lord, seeking His desire for your thoughts and actions.

Share these ideas with someone in your family or Base Camp. Ask for help so you might be held accountable for your actions. Allow those whom God has placed in your life to be an encouragement and support.

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

Spend time preparing your heart for the service tomorrow. Ask God to help you become available for His teachings and for the willingness to act upon His truth this week. Be prepared to respond in the service in accordance with what God is asking you to do.

## Building Our Base Camp Family

**Prepare:** This week we are looking at a Biblical response to the changes in our culture related to sexual orientation and same sex marriage. Because this is an issue that is creating great discussion and division within the body of Christ, involve all ages in fellowship time, but focus your group discussion on adults.

**Pray:** Before starting the group discussion, spend time in prayer, asking God to open your eyes and heart to His teaching. Pray for guidance in how to demonstrate unity in response to your changing culture.

**Read:** Genesis 1:27-28, Romans 7:24-27, 1 Corinthians 5:9-10; 6:9-11, Romans 1:28-32

**Reflect:** Take time to reflect on your views of sexual orientation and same sex marriage. On what are you basing your views and opinions?

What are the principles you observe in the passages you read today? How do your views and opinions align with these Scriptures?

**Respond:** Read John 8:1-11, John 1:14, Romans 3:23. Place yourself in the scene from John 8. What might be the emotions of the woman as she is caught in the act of adultery? What are the possible emotions of her accusers? What would you be thinking if you were part of the crowd as this situation unfolded?

In what ways does John 8:1-11 demonstrate grace and truth? Describe a time you have been the recipient of grace from others. Now describe a time when you have received God's grace. How do these passages relate to your views of sexual orientation and same sex marriage? How might they help in your response to others in your culture?

**Pray:** Close your time in prayer for our church, our culture, and for our ability to display Christ's grace, truth and love to others.

# Contact Us

Church Office 719.481.3600

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

## **Executive Leadership Team**

Jeff Holck, Area Pastor (NG), [jeff@theascentchurch.com](mailto:jeff@theascentchurch.com)

Rowland Smith, Worship Arts Pastor (NG), [rowland@theascentchurch.com](mailto:rowland@theascentchurch.com)

Scott Campbell, Area Pastor (WM), [scott@theascentchurch.com](mailto:scott@theascentchurch.com)

## **Worship & Technical Staff**

Casey Cherry, Worship Arts Pastor (WM), [casey@theascentchurch.com](mailto:casey@theascentchurch.com)

Carson Smith, Worship Arts Support (NG), [carson@theascentchurch.com](mailto:carson@theascentchurch.com)

Eric Samuel, Technical Director (WM), [erics@theascentchurch.com](mailto:erics@theascentchurch.com)

## **Student & Children's Ministry Staff**

Micah Steinwandt, Student Ministry Director & Missions Director,  
[micah@theascentchurch.com](mailto:micah@theascentchurch.com)

Taylor Shade, Student Ministry Director (WM), [taylor@theascentchurch.com](mailto:taylor@theascentchurch.com)

Rob Carlson, Student Ministry Director (NG), [rob@theascentchurch.com](mailto:rob@theascentchurch.com)

Fran Thompson, Children's Ministry Director (WM), [fran@theascentchurch.com](mailto:fran@theascentchurch.com)

Melinda Sukle, Children's Ministry Director (NG) [melinda@theascentchurch.com](mailto:melinda@theascentchurch.com)

Mindy Edson, Tiny Town Director (WM), [mindy@theascentchurch.com](mailto:mindy@theascentchurch.com)

Stacy Oseland, Tiny Town Director (NG), [stacy@theascentchurch.com](mailto:stacy@theascentchurch.com)

## **Central Support Staff**

Bev Morgan, Summit House Director (CS), [bev@theascentchurch.com](mailto:bev@theascentchurch.com)

Carol Davis, Assistant to Area Pastors (CS), [carol@theascentchurch.com](mailto:carol@theascentchurch.com)

Joel Witzel, Connections Director (CS), [joel@theascentchurch.com](mailto:joel@theascentchurch.com)

Karen Lawrie, Ministry Support Administrator (CS), [karen@theascentchurch.com](mailto:karen@theascentchurch.com)

Tara Kuntzsch, Business Administrator (CS), [tara@theascentchurch.com](mailto:tara@theascentchurch.com)

## **Elders**

Aaron Atwood, Chairman, [aaronjatwood@gmail.com](mailto:aaronjatwood@gmail.com)

Bob Ewell, On Sabbatical

Bryan Kavanaugh, [bckmjk1996@gmail.com](mailto:bckmjk1996@gmail.com)

Dave Reed, [DaveReed\\_Colo@msn.com](mailto:DaveReed_Colo@msn.com)

Eric Ecklund, [usafecklund@aol.com](mailto:usafecklund@aol.com)

Mark Hopkins, [Mark@Hopkins.net](mailto:Mark@Hopkins.net)

Ric Sieben, [Ric.Sieben@gmail.com](mailto:Ric.Sieben@gmail.com)

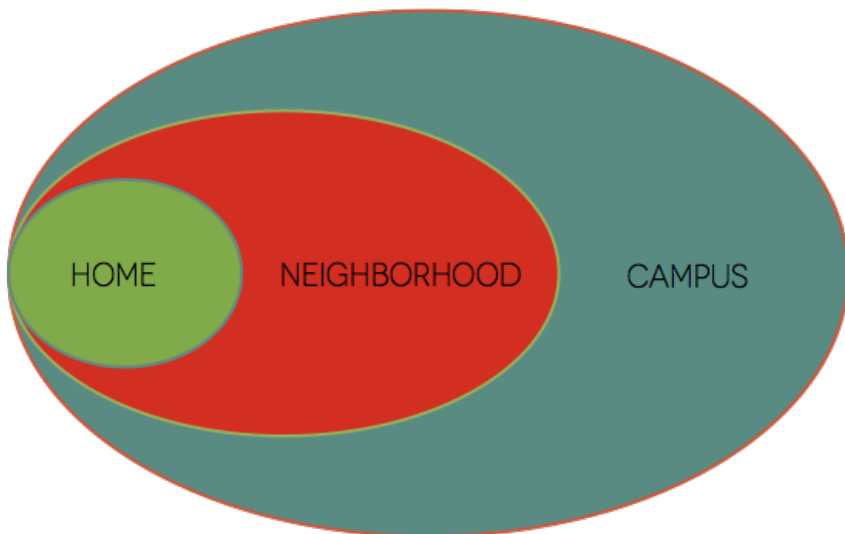
Visit us online at [www.TheAscentChurch.com](http://www.TheAscentChurch.com)

# 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.



1750 DEER CREEK ROAD - MONUMENT, CO 80132 - (719) 481.3600  
THEASCENTCHURCH.COM

SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL OF THOSE WHO CONTRIBUTED.

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS, EMAIL COMPASS@THEASCENTCHURCH.COM

