

Current Series:



March 13, 2016



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: Rescheduled for Today, 11:00 am in Rm 214.
- · Northgate Campus: every 3rd Sunday, 10:45 am in lobby.



Base Camps

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



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.



Explore II

Explore II is a workshop for those ready to make The Ascent Church their church home and be involved in God's mission and vision in our region. Explore II includes why and how to become a member, our trail map for each family member, ministry values, doctrine, and connecting with a Base Camp. Held quarterly at 10:45am at both campuses.



Serving Opportunities

How is God calling you to help create a welcoming and inviting Sunday experience for our guests and regular attenders? Serving opportunities are available in many areas from Hosting and Greeting, Service Prep Teams, or Technical and General Set-Up Teams. Training is available for each role. If you have any questions about hosting or serving roles, please contact Joel Witzel at ioel@theascentchurch.com.

Community Life







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: \$32,799.81

As of 2/29/2015:

YTD Giving: \$820,061 YTD Actual Expenses: \$755,040 YTD Budget: \$961,884

Fiscal Year 2015-16:

Avg. Weekly Giving: \$31,541 Avg. Weekly Budget: \$36,995 Min. Weekly Need: \$31,620



- 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

(Middle school and high school) **ASM Tuesday Dates**: March 15 and 29, Woodmoor Campus.

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

Mission:CO: A week of mission opportunities for high schoolers, March 21-25, Cost: \$99. Sign-up at www.theascentchurch.com/students.

Glow Mini-Golf: Today! March 13, 1:30pm at Chapel Hills Mall.



Ascent Student Ministry Deep ASM Deep meets

ASM Deep meets Sundays for middle and high schoolers upstairs at Woodmoor

and Northgate campuses.

ASM DEEP Dates: March 13, 20.

- Northgate: 9:00amWoodmoor: 11:00am
- Any questions about ASM, email: asm@theascentchurch.com.

Missions

Please pray for our Missions Teams who are preparing for their trips this summer 2016.

- Guatemala Missions Trip on July 16-23.
- Dominican Republic Missions Trip on July 2-9.



Equipping Ministry

Classes are offered at various times on Sunday mornings.

Connections Class: Sundays, 9:15-10:30am, Woodmoor Campus room 213.

Catalyst Equipping Class: Sundays, 11:00am, Woodmoor Campus room 212.

Parents of Teens Equipping Class: Sundays, 11:00am, Woodmoor Campus room 210. Email: joel@theascentchurch.com.

Children's Ministry

(Birth—6th grade)

Tiny Town: Birth - PreK:

Adventure Quest: K - 4th grade:

Elevate: 5th - 6th grade:

- Woodmoor Campus: 9:30 & 11:00am
- Northgate Campus: 9:30am For more information about our Children's Ministry, visit: www. theascentchurch.com/kids.

Women's and Men's Ministries

Men on the Ascent Bible Study: Tuesdays at 6:15am, Gospel of Mark study.

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

Women on The Ascent: Please visit the website for a list of Bible Studies. Email: *joel@theascentchurch.com*.



Message Notes

Sermon Passage: Psalm 145.



Shared Engagement and Preparation

The Compass is a daily devotional and study guide for individuals, families, and Base Camps. The Compass has Biblical reflections for each day, beginning on Monday and leading up to Sunday, which will help us all meditate 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. 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 reflection. Instead, use The Compass as a resource for individual and community growth. If you miss a few days, move on, pick it up from the next day, and seek maturity—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 3/14/16–3/19/16: Psalm 118.

Monday, March 14, 2016

Read: Psalm 118 quietly through several times.

Reflect:

What verses or phrases stand out to you as you read through this Psalm? Why?

Why do you think the Psalmist repeats certain phrases several times and comes back to those same phrases at the end?

What praise songs come to mind that you think are based upon this Psalm? List as many as you can think of.

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

As you reflect on this Psalm, what thoughts and/or actions come to mind for you?

Tuesday, March 15, 2016

Read: Psalm 118 aloud and let your voice express what you sense the emotions are of the Psalmist during the reading.

Reflect:

What circumstances of your life come to mind when you think of the words this Psalm expresses?

Which verses seem to resonate with your heart and your current circumstances?

How does the phrase "His love endures forever" provide encouragement for you today?

Wednesday, March 16, 2016

Read: Psalm 118 today, taking your time to let the various phrases and verses reverberate in your heart and mind. Ask God to use this Psalm to lift your heart to Him today.

Reflect:

What verses or phrases challenge your current state of mind? Why?

Choose one or more verses that speak to your heart especially today, and commit them to memory. Allow them to dwell in your mind throughout the day.

Take those verses and sing them back to God. Even if you are not musical; let God's spirit provide a melody.

Write out below how these special verses have changed your thoughts and emotions today. Take time to pray and let God know how much He has ministered to you today through His Word.

Thursday, March 17, 2016

Read: Psalm 118 today and pray it back to God, letting the truths in it direct your thoughts to God.

Reflect:

What phrases in this Psalm do you recall being quoted in other parts of the Bible? Even if they are not word for word, do any sound familiar?

Take time to reflect on what this Psalm tells us about God and His character. List below the characteristics of God from this exercise.

What are some of the fresh insights you have gained into who God is from this Psalm? Share one of them with a family member or friend today.

Write out a prayer to God, thanking Him for the fresh insights you have gained from reflecting on His Psalm today.

Friday, March 18, 2016

Read: Psalm 118 with a friend or family member today. Each of you read it aloud so the other one can listen and hear it.

Reflect:

How did hearing someone else read the Psalm to you change how the Psalm spoke to you today?

What phrases or verses jumped out to you from hearing it rather than reading it? Why?

What have you learned about experiencing a Psalm from the various ways you have been asked to interact with it this week?

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

Take time to ask God to speak to you through this Psalm in a special way. Sit quietly for five minutes or more, and listen for what God has to say to you.

Saturday, March 19, 2016

Reflect: On what you have learned through your study of Psalm 118 this week. Ask God to speak to you through His Psalm.

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

If God has given you several actions to put into practice, focus on one you want to emphasize. Find a friend, or a member of your Base Camp, to share with and ask them to walk alongside you as you put those actions into practice.

Take time today, asking God to prepare your heart to hear from Him as you worship with fellow believers tomorrow at church. Attend with the anticipation that God wants to speak to your heart through the people, the worship and the teaching of God's Word together.

Building Our Base Camp Family

This is week three of our suggested four-week pattern for Base Camps: intergenerational, adult study, <u>mixed</u>, 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: This week through the Compass, we have interacted with Psalm 118 in many different ways. Hopefully each different angle has uncovered a different truth about God in this passage. Today we want to bring forward those insights gained throughout the week. We will engage once more in Psalm 118, this time in a public forum to see what God wants to reveal to us through each other and this passage.

Read quietly, or as a group, through Psalm 118, taking notes as the passage is read.

Mixed: (Make sure that the different age groups have an opportunity and are encouraged to share; God wants to speak to each of us through one another).

Have a time for all to share what stood out to them in this passage, either during this reading or throughout the week.

- -What was familiar in this passage?
- -What was new to you?
- -What challenged you?
- -What else stood out to you?
- -What different ways of engaging this Scripture throughout the week were especially impactful to you?
- -What application is God laying on your heart from this passage?
- -How can this Base Camp community help you in that application?

Contact Us

Church Office 719.481.3600

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

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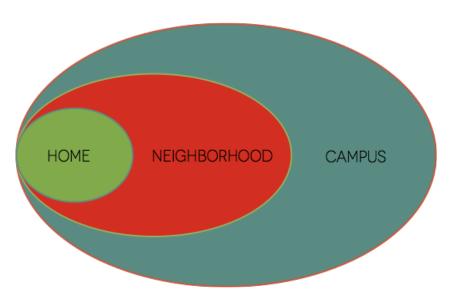
Visit us online at www.theascentchurch.com

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.



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