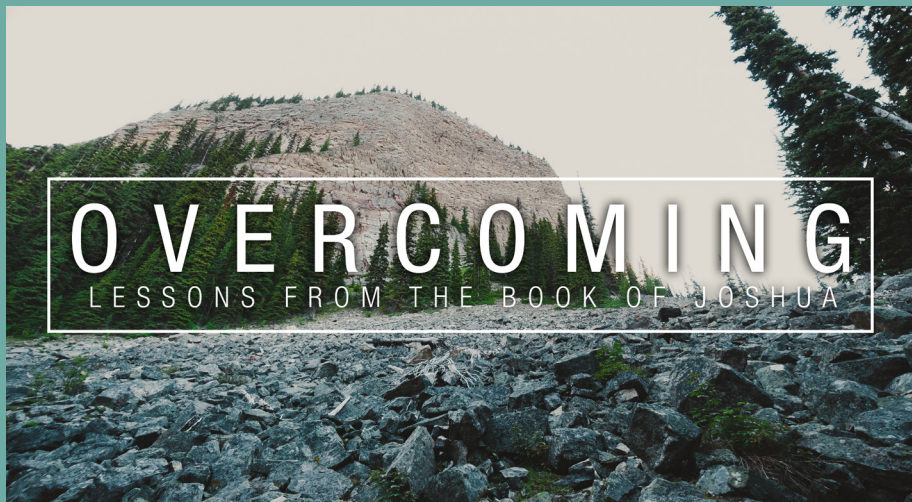




THE
COMPASS

This Sunday



December 11, 2016



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 it in the offering box or at the Welcome Area 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 1st Sunday, 10:15 am in Room 212.
- Northgate Campus: every 3rd Sunday, 11:30 am in lobby.

No pre-registration required.



Explore II

Explore II is a workshop for those ready to make The Ascent Church their church home and to 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 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.



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 at: www.theascentchurch.com/equipping.



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 email info@theascentchurch.com.

Community Life



Christmas Eve Services:

Woodmoor Campus
3:00pm, 5:00pm, 6:30pm

Woodmoor Campus
1750 Deer Creek Rd.
Monument, CO 80132

Northgate Campus
4:00pm

Northgate Campus
975 Stout Rd.
Colorado Springs, CO 80921

www.TheAscentChurch.com

No services at either campus on Christmas Day

The logo for "Women on the Ascent", featuring the text "Women ON THE Ascent" with a stylized mountain range graphic behind the words "ON THE".

Women
ON THE
Ascent

Women's Retreat

APRIL 7-9, 2017

SPRING CANYON RETREAT CENTER

www.theascentchurch.com/women

The logo for "Women on the Ascent", featuring the text "Women ON THE Ascent" with a stylized mountain range graphic behind the words "ON THE".

Women
ON THE
Ascent

WOTA Gather

January 4, 6:30-8pm in the Event Center at the Woodmoor Campus. Please bring a dessert or appetizer to share; hot chocolate bar provided. Our own Judi Hayes will be sharing.

A circular graphic with the text "NIGHT OF Worship" inside. The word "Worship" is in a large, cursive font. Below the circle are five dots. To the right of the circle is a sprig of holly with red berries and green leaves.

NIGHT
OF
Worship
.....

DECEMBER 13 @ WOODMOOR

6-8PM MS+HS

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.



End of Year Giving:

All end-of-year giving will need to be completed by December 31 in order to qualify for the 2016 tax year. If you have any questions, please contact: tara@theascentchurch.com.



Giving at The Ascent

- Offering boxes during worship
- Online www.theascentchurch.com/give1
- Kiosk
- The Ascent Church App

Financial information can be obtained by contacting Tara at tara@theascentchurch.com.

Connection Opportunities *This Week*



Ascent Student Ministry

ASM Tuesday Dates: December 13, 20 for MS and HS.

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

ASM Upcoming Events:

www.theascentchurch.com/students

ASM Deep

ASM DEEP Dates: December 11, 18.
No ASM on December 25.

- Northgate: 10:15am, upstairs.
- Woodmoor: 11am, upstairs.

Children's Ministry

(Birth - 6th grade)

Tiny Town: Birth - PreK

Adventure Quest: K - 4th grade

Elevate: 5th - 6th grade

- Woodmoor Campus: 9am, 11am
- Northgate Campus: 10am

Family Worship Sundays:

December 18 is a family worship day for K-6th grade. Tiny Town will have child care available.

More information at:

www.theascentchurch.com/kids

Missions

Visit: www.theascentchurch.com/missions.



Equipping Ministry

Connections Class:

Sundays, 10:45am, Woodmoor Campus Room 213. The Connection Class is studying the prophecies of Zechariah until the end of the year, and starting a new study in January.

Parents of Teens Class: Sundays, 10:45am, Woodmoor Campus Room 210.

Women's and Men's Ministries

Men on the Ascent Bible Study:

1 & 2 Corinthians, 6:00am coffee; 6:15am start.

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

Women on the Ascent Studies:

- Tuesdays, 9am, Woodmoor Campus, childcare available.
- Wednesday evening study, 1 & 2 Corinthians, Woodmoor Campus, 6:30pm, childcare available.

Women on the Ascent Gather:

January 4, 6:30-8pm in the Event Center at the Woodmoor Campus. Please bring a dessert or appetizer to share; hot chocolate bar provided. Our own Judi Hayes will be sharing.

Women on the Ascent Retreat:

April 7-9, Spring Canyon Ranch in Buena Vista. Sign up now for the early bird special and payment plan. Register before February 1, the cost is only \$190 for an amazing weekend!



This Sunday's Message

Overcoming Deception

Joshua 9:1-27

Welcoming guest speaker:

Pastor Kevin Ravenscraft



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 Passage for December 12 – December 17, 2016:

Matthew 2:1-6

Monday, December 12, 2016

Read: Matthew 2:1-6.

Reflect:

The Israelites had believed for a long time that a Messiah would come to Israel.

What was God's purpose for imprinting this expectation on the hearts and minds of these people?

Why was the coming Messiah a great promise to some?

Why was the Messiah a great threat to others?

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

God has made a promise to everyone in Jesus. Perhaps you've heard a specific promise from God. This Advent season, what can you share about God's promises to you?

Tuesday, December 13, 2016

Read: Matthew 2:1-6; Matthew 1:20-21; Luke 1:30-33.

Reflect:

Think about how Jesus was foretold and announced. Consider all the people who awaited and received Him: the Israelite people, Joseph, Mary, Zechariah, Elizabeth, John the Baptist, the shepherds in the fields, Herod, the Magi, Simeon and Anna, and even the Jewish religious leaders.

Do you celebrate and receive Him the way they did? Why or why not?

Why does our society fail to receive Him with expectant hearts?

How was Jesus a light in the darkness for the people listed above?

How is Jesus a light in the darkness for you?

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

This Advent season, consider what darkness engulfs your life or others' lives. How can His light shine forth in your life and in the lives of others?

Wednesday, December 14, 2016

Read: Matthew 2:1-2; Luke 1:46-55, 67-79; Luke 2:29-32.

Reflect:

The account of the Magi and the songs in the Scriptures listed above reflect a posture of worship and gratitude for the coming Messiah. Secular kings felt the need to worship this King.

How do you think the Magi, Mary, Zechariah, and Simeon developed such a sense of awe about the coming Messiah? How might you do the same?

What boosts your posture of worship and gratitude?

What hinders your celebration of the Messiah?

How can you remove these obstacles, celebrating Christ more fully during the Advent season?

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

Thursday, December 15, 2016

Read: Matthew 2:1-2; Jeremiah 9:13; Jeremiah 6:16.

Reflect:

There is an oft-repeated maxim that says, “Wise men still seek Him.”

Consider why it’s wise to seek Him. If you choose to do so, what might you find?

The visit of the Magi, which has been celebrated since shortly after Jesus’ time, is called *Epiphany*, a word that means “realization” or “insight.”

What great insight or realization did the Magi have, and how does this apply to you?

What message does this provide for a world living in darkness?

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

This week, initiate a conversation with someone in your community about the meaning of Christmas. Think about light, darkness, promise, and salvation.

Friday, December 16, 2016

Read: Matthew 2:10-11; Acts 8:30-37.

Reflect:

Next week you'll study the response the angels and shepherds had to the Savior's birth. Today, reflect on the worshipful and obedient responses of the Magi and the Ethiopian eunuch. Wouldn't it be wonderful if you had such a heartfelt response to the Messiah?

Journal here a prayer to God about your gratitude for the Messiah, your heartfelt worship, and your commitment to His ways.

What are some specific ways you can worship or respond in obedience and gratitude this Advent season?

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

Saturday, December 17, 2016

Read: Matthew 2:1-6; Micah 5:2.

Reflect:

At Jesus's birth, God had been "silent" for 400 years (Micah was written about 700 years prior), yet the Magi and all of Israel still clung to the promises of a Messiah.

Why would God's people (as well as the secular leaders) continue to trust God's promises or prophecies?

The Magi had a star—a light, that pointed to another Light: Jesus Christ. What guides you or points you to Christ today?

How can you be guided when it seems as if God is silent? In what do you trust when it seems as if God isn't talking?

What promises will you count on?

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

Share with your Base Camp or community of friends the ways in which you've seen promises fulfilled. Share why you trust God even when He appears to be silent.

Building Our Base Camp Family

This is week three of our suggested four-week pattern for Base Camps: intergenerational, adult study, mixed, invitation/service.

Spend time in prayer—focus on quieting your minds and hearts.

Share what stood out to you from the Compass and what you experienced in your walk with God this week. Make sure to encourage all age groups to share.

As a group, spend time discussing practical ways you might wait in anticipation of Christ.

How can you pray for each other this week?

Contact Us

Church Office: 719-481-3600

Senior Leadership Team

Rusty Hayes, Lead Pastor, rusty@theascentchurch.com

Jeff Holck, Northgate Campus Pastor, jeff@theascentchurch.com

Scott Campbell, Woodmoor Campus Pastor, scott@theascentchurch.com

Worship & Technical Staff

Carson Smith, Worship Arts Director, carson@theascentchurch.com

Eric Samuel, Woodmoor Technical Director, erics@theascentchurch.com

Kyle Lively, Northgate Setup & Technical Director, kyle@theascentchurch.com

Student & Children's Ministry Staff

Taylor Shade, Student Ministry Director, taylor@theascentchurch.com

Melinda Sukle, Children's Ministry Director, melinda@theascentchurch.com

Stacy Oseland, Northgate Tiny Town Director, stacy@theascentchurch.com

Kristin Mezey, Woodmoor Tiny Town Director, tinytownwm@theascentchurch.com

Central Support Staff

Tara Iacovetto, Business Administrator, tara@theascentchurch.com

Karen Lawrie, Ministry Support Administrator, karen@theascentchurch.com

Hidye Fletcher, Administrative Support, hidye@theascentchurch.com

Elders

Aaron Atwood, Chairman, aaronjatwood@gmail.com

Bryan Kavanaugh, bckmjk1996@gmail.com

Dave Reed, DaveReed_Colo@msn.com

Ric Sieben, Ric.Sieben@gmail.com

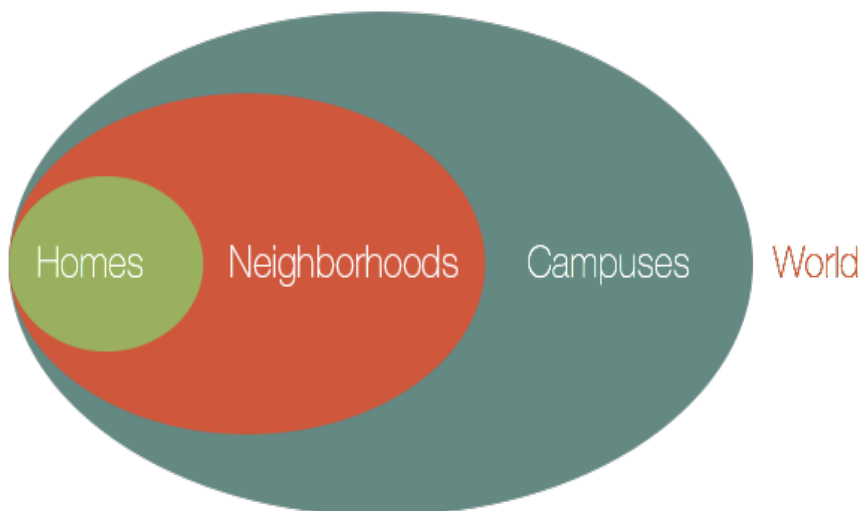
Visit us online at www.theascentchurch.com

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.



1750 Deer Creek Road - Monument, CO 80132

719-481-3600 - TheAscentChurch.com

Special thanks to all who contributed to The Compass

If you have questions or comments, email:

Info@TheAscentChurch.com

