

Current Series:



February 28, 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: every 1st Sunday, 11:00 am in Rm 214.
- · Northgate Campus: every 3rd Sunday, 10:45 am in lobby. No pre-registration required.



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 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.

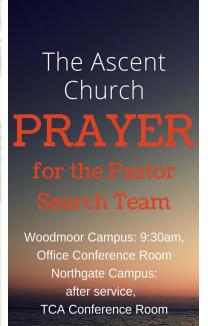


Serving Opportunities

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. Sign-up boards are located at the back of the sanctuary at each service this week.

Community Life







Daylight Saving Time Change will happen on March 13. Don't forget to change your clocks an hour later.



MISSIONS TRIP

Our 2016 trip will focus on building relationships with the community and doing all we can to show people the love of Jesus. We will:

- Lav foundation for a sport court
- Teach VBS to 250 children
- Develop leaders in Las Brisas

Ouestions? Email Paul at: DR@theascentchurch.com



Guatemala Missions Trip July 16-23, 2016 —

Ascent Student Ministries

Want to join an amazing adventure? Come serve in Guatemala this summer! We'll be doing VBS, soccer workshops, and work projects.

For questions: Email ASM@theascentchurch.com

Response Time

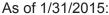
Each Sunday service, after the message, we have a time of response to God. We invite you to engage in worship through some tangible ways throughout our worship space.

- 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: \$18,992.00



YTD Giving: \$733,684 YTD Actual Expenses: \$629,916 YTD Budget: \$850,897

Fiscal Year 2015-16:

Avg. Weekly Giving: \$31,973 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) <u>Mobile/Text</u>: The Ascent Church App (download from your App Store)

Connection Opportunities This Week



Ascent Student Ministry

ASM welcomes all middle schoolers and high schoolers. **ASM Tuesday Dates**: March 8, 15, 29, Woodmoor Campus.

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

ASM DEEP Dates: Feb. 28, March 13, 20, 27 upstairs at both campuses. Northgate: 9:00am, Woodmoor: 11:00am. **ASM Parent Meeting:** March 6, 11am at Woodmoor.

ASM Worship Night: March 8, 6-8pm at Woodmoor. Questions, email: asm@theascentchurch.com.

Missions

Guatemala Missions Trip: July 16-23. For more information, email Taylor at *asm@theascentchurch.com*. **Dominican Republic Missions Trip:** July 2-9. For more information, email Paul Christoffersen at *DR@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 info, go to www.theascentchurch.com/kids.



Equipping, Women's and Men's Ministries

Connections Class: Sundays, 9:15-10:30am, Woodmoor Campus room 213. Series on the life of King David from I and II Samuel and I Chronicles.

Catalyst Equipping Class: Sundays, 11:00am, Woodmoor Campus room 212. Catalyst is for those seeking to be equipped for Biblical community.

Parents of Teens Equipping Class: Sundays, 11:00am, Woodmoor Campus room 210. Join other parents to learn and to help one another with raising our teens.

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 104.



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 2/29/16–3/5/16: Psalm 96.

Monday, February 29, 2016

Read: Psalm 96.

Reflect:
The phrase "sing a new song" is repeated several times in Scripture (v.1). Why would someone be singing a new song?

What in your life might cause you to sing a new song?

David wrote this song and gave it to his priests to be used to celebrate the arrival of the ark in Jerusalem. They naturally

celebrated through song, because singing was part of Israel's existence.

Do you enjoy singing, or does worship become commonplace or uninteresting to you? Why?

What can you do to make your worship fresh and intentional?

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

Share the words of a special hymn or psalm with someone. Be ready to share with your Base Camp as well.

Tuesday, March 1, 2016

Read: Psalm 96:2-3 and Isaiah 55:11.

Reflect:

David exhorts worshipers to sing, to praise God's name, to proclaim God's salvation, and to declare God's glory and marvelous deeds among the nations and all peoples.

What keeps you singing and praising God day after day?

When do you notice your singing and praising increase? When does it decrease?

In what ways do your singing and praising declare His salvation and marvelous deeds and glory among the nations and "all the peoples"?

What "marvelous works" are you most excited to declare?

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

Consider your praise and proclamations in light of Isaiah 55:11. How could your praise "not return empty"?

How will your praise achieve God's purpose this week?

Wednesday, March 2, 2016

Read: Psalm 96:4-5 and Acts 17:22-34.

Reflect:

Declaring your God above all gods—as David did—is not something you often say as boldly as David does here. Why not?

Who are the pretenders to divinity today?

What things in your culture become idols or gods to you?

God is creator of everything. What does this say about Him? What does this say about other so-called gods?

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

Consider Acts 17:22-34. Do you have experiences similar to this today?

How can you minister to those who are pursuing other gods?

Thursday, March 3, 2016

Read: Psalm 96:2; 7-8.

Reflect:

David encourages you to tell of God's salvation and to give Him credit for His glory and strength.

In what ways do you tell of His salvation (in this world and eternally), His glory, and His strength?

Why and when do you fail to notice God's salvation, glory, and strength?

Consider how your Sunday (and daily) singing is a reminder of God's goodness. Find the words to a song that remind you of God's salvation, glory, or strength. Record them here:

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

Compose a list of things God has done you may not have remembered or noticed recently. Share these things as praise during prayer time with others at Base Camp this week.

Friday, March 4, 2016

Read: Psalm 96:10.

Reflect:

Recently at The Ascent, the message was about our missionaries who work abroad "among the nations." Consider your part in this work.

If you had the opportunity to tell someone about the God who judges with equity (fairness), what would you say?

Why is this good news?

What does it mean to say "the world is established; it shall never be moved"?

What does "the Lord reigns" mean to you?

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

Pray for our missionaries, using the Missions guide. Ask God to show you how you might lend your support. Ask God to speak His message through you as you join them in their work.

Saturday, March 5, 2016

Read: Psalm 96:11-13 and Luke 19:40.

Reflect:

Throughout the Psalms, we see that praise is justified—God is great. Praise is commanded and assumed. Even nature is expected to declare praise for God (vv. 11-13). David states all will praise God because He judges in righteousness and truth.

Why would you praise Him for judging?

What does it mean to judge in righteousness? In truth?

How is this a comfort to you or to others?

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

Take inventory of the things you consider praiseworthy about God: the items mentioned in Psalm 96, the things you often fail to notice He's done, and His place as one God above all others.

Look for reminders of these things in songs at church tomorrow. Be ready to share those praises with others.

Building Our Base Camp Family

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

Prepare: Have a whiteboard and markers or large paper and markers available for large group time. At the end of the meal, ask a teen or older elementary child to read Psalm 96 to the people at the table where he/she is seated.

Intergenerational: After reading Psalm 96, bring the group back together to answer the following questions:

What Is Joyful Worship?

What does Psalm 96 say about how to worship?

Bring out a whiteboard or paper for the following activity.

Ask a child: What is a verb?
Suggest a child demonstrate a verb to the group.
Say: A verb shows action. Let's look at Psalm 96 and find verbs that will teach us how to worship. Everyone start calling out the verbs you find that demonstrate joyful worship.

List the verbs on the board or paper. Here are some suggestions:

- · Give thanks
- Call on him
- Make him known
- Sing to him
- Praise
- Bring offerings

Say: People who know Jesus want to worship him. Let's model that worship to others. The psalmist instructed us to "proclaim his salvation day after day." Is that part of our daily worship?

Contact Us

Church Office 719.481.3600

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

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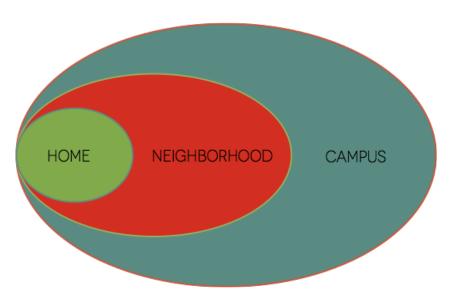
Visit us online at www.theascentchurch.com

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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