




# THE COMPASS

Current Series



*The Storyteller*  
*Truth Hidden In Plain Sight*

June 5, 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: **TODAY**, 10:15 am in Rm 214.
- 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](http://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](mailto:joel@theascentchurch.com).



## 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 [joel@theascentchurch.com](mailto:joel@theascentchurch.com).

# Community Life

## WOMEN ON THE ASCENT

June 16, 6-7:30pm  
Woodmoor Campus,  
Room 213

**BRING A FRIEND AND A  
DISH TO SHARE!**

Questions, contact Staci Waldvogel  
at 719-358-7222.



*Looking for a way to make an impact?* Join the Global Outreach Leadership or Missionary Support Team.  
[www.theascentchurch.com/missions/outreach](http://www.theascentchurch.com/missions/outreach)

Children's Ministry  
June 29, 9am-12pm

## A DAY AT THE PARK

Black Forest Park  
Kids ages 4yrs-4th grade



[theascentchurch.com/kids](http://theascentchurch.com/kids)

## Family Movie Night

Friday, June 10 - 6-9pm  
Woodmoor Campus

Worship and s'mores around a fire followed by The Peanuts Movie inside the Worship Center.



# 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: \$19,051.10**

As of 5/31/2016:

YTD Giving:	\$1,116,425
YTD Actual Expenses:	\$1,122,464
YTD Budget:	\$1,442,826

Fiscal Year 2015-16:

Avg. Weekly Giving:	\$28,626
Avg. Weekly Budget:	\$36,995
Min. Weekly Need:	\$31,314



## Giving at 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

(Middle school and high school)

**ASM Tuesday Dates:** June 7, 14, 21, 28, Woodmoor Campus.

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

**ASM Battlefield CO:** June 17, High schoolers extreme outdoor laser tag.

**ASM Girl's Mall Day:** June 15, middle school girls at Park Meadows Mall.



## Ascent Student Ministry Deep

ASM Deep meets Sundays for middle and high schoolers.

**ASM DEEP Dates:** June 12, 19, 26, upstairs at both campuses.

- Northgate: 10am
- Woodmoor: 11am

Questions about ASM, email: [asm@theascentchurch.com](mailto:asm@theascentchurch.com).

## Children's Ministry

(Birth - 6th grade)

**Tiny Town:** Birth - PreK

**Adventure Quest:** K - 4th grade

**Elevate:** 5th - 6th grade

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

- Northgate Campus: 10:00am

Parents at Woodmoor Campus: during our Connecting Time, we'd love to have your children join us.

- Birth - PreK: children stay in Tiny Town for the fellowship time.

• K - 4th grade: children checked out of Adventure Quest at the back of the Worship Center as worship ends.

• 5 - 6th grade: children are brought to the Worship Center as worship ends.

**Family Movie Night:** June 10, 6:00-9:00pm, Woodmoor Campus. Join us for s'mores & worship around fire pits and a family movie!

## Children's Day at the Park:

June 29, 9am-12pm, Black Forest Regional Park, 4yrs-4th grade.

24' slide, sports, crafts and more!

Register at: [www.theascentchurch.com/kids](http://www.theascentchurch.com/kids)

## Equipping Ministry

Equipping classes are offered at new times.

### **Connections Class:**

Sundays, 11am, Woodmoor Campus Rm 213.

**Parents of Teens Class:** Sundays, 11am, Woodmoor Campus Rm 210.

## Women's and Men's Ministries

### **Men on the Ascent Bible Study:**

Tuesdays at 6:15am.

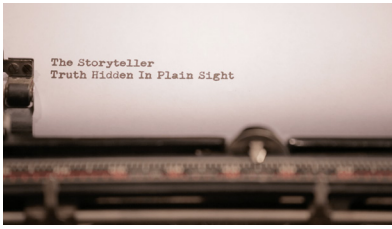
- Woodmoor Campus: Room 213
- Northgate: Cafe Communitas at Marcos Pizza.

**Women on The Ascent:** June 16, 6-7:30pm, Woodmoor Campus, Room 213. Bring a dish to share!

### **The Marriage Course:**

8 date nights! June 1-July 20, 6:00-8:30pm. Cost \$120 with dinner and childcare. Sign up:

[www.theascentchurch.com](http://www.theascentchurch.com).



# Message Notes

---

Sermon Passages: Luke 15:11-32.





## **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 6/6/16 – 6/11/16: Matthew 13:3-23.**

# Monday, June 6, 2016

**Read:** Matthew 13:3-23.

**Reflect:**

This parable often causes you to consider what type of soil YOU are. Consider the sower in the parable.

What is being sown in this parable?

Why is the seed a good symbol?

What's more important: the soil or the seed? Which gives life?

Who "sows" the message about the kingdom today? How?

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

What "message about the kingdom" (v. 19) will you "sow" this week?



**Tuesday, June 7, 2016**

**Read:** Matthew 13:3-23.

**Reflect:**

Given there are several different responses to sowing — some producing growth, some producing no crops — how does this influence the sower?

How is your “sowing” influenced by how others hear and understand the message about the kingdom?

When do you sow among the birds, rocks and thorns?

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

Imagine preparing the ground in advance, before you sow. What would that look like in your life?

Record two things you will do this week to “prepare the soil” before sowing seed.

## Wednesday, June 8, 2016

**Read:** Review the parable of the sower; Isaiah 52:7; Romans 10:13-17; John 3:16 and Romans 10:9.

**Reflect:**

We consider sowing as a means of spreading the message of God's kingdom.

As a sower facing the challenges of sowing in many different environments, how do you prepare?

Who will help you sow?

Where/how do you get good seed?

How are you prepared to sow, to spread the good news? (Recall people who have sown seed in your life and things/events that have prepared you.)

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

If you had to explain John 3:16 and Romans 10:9 to someone who was receptive but knew nothing about God, Jesus, or salvation — how would you present these ideas?

## Thursday, June 9, 2016

**Read:** Matthew 13:11-17, 23; 2 Timothy 4:2-5; 1 Corinthians 1:18; and Acts 1:8.

**Reflect:**

The parable of the sower and Jesus's dialog with the disciples about certain listeners' failure to hear, displays clearly people will reject the Gospel. Jesus also talks about the message bearing 30, 60 or a 100 times what was sown. (1 bushel of wheat seed usually produced about 7 bushels of grain).

How does this influence your attitude, faith and action as a sower?

What could you say about the generosity or trust of one who sows for Christ?

Who sows: God or people?

Where have you seen 30, 60 or 100 times multiplication of "crops?"

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

Trust God to bless one small step of sowing this week. You do not need to lead a city-wide crusade? Write your first step:

## Friday, June 10, 2016

**Read:** Matthew 13:3-23; 2 Timothy 2:15; and 2 Timothy 3:15-17.

**Reflect:**

As you sow, you need to “correctly handle the word of truth.” What would it mean to “do your best” to handle this word of truth?

What steps have you taken to know God’s Word?

Where would you like to improve? Who/what could help you improve?

How has the message of the Kingdom influenced you? Has it changed your desire to share (and sow) with others? How so?

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

Ask someone to share their “good news story,” or their salvation experience. Journal about how their story influences you.

## Saturday, June 11, 2016

**Read:** Matthew 13:3-23; briefly review the other parables in Matthew 13.

**Reflect:**

The parable of the sower and other parables in Matthew 13 give repeated messages about believers and unbelievers. Is Jesus giving His disciples a warning? Encouragement? Directions?

How would you sum up the purpose for these parables?

What is the daily life application of the parable of the sower? If you are confronted by unbelief, what will you do?

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

Ask God to reveal opportunities to sow. Ask Him to speak to your heart and mind during worship on Sunday, and bless your discussion of the topic at Base Camp. Plan to generate ideas and applications around sowing.

## Building Our Base Camp Family

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

As you gather or connect around a meal, interact with all ages. Describe a time when you planted a seed and watched a plant grow. What contributed to the growth?

In your adult study, read Matthew 13:1-23 aloud. What stands out to you in this parable?

As you listen to the description of the four soils, which one best describes *your* response when you first heard the Gospel?

Why did Jesus use parables to teach the crowd (13:3, 10-15)?

Jesus gives his own interpretation of the parable of the sower (13:18-23). According to Jesus, to what do each of the following refer: “The seed that fell along the **path...rocks...thorns...soil?**”

How would you describe the root system in your spiritual life right now?

What steps could you take to improve the soil in your spiritual life? The life of your family? Your Base Camp? Your neighborhood?

Close your time in prayer. Consider breaking into groups of men and women to share requests and pray for each other, our neighborhoods, and world.

References utilized: *Serendipity Bible: For Personal and Small Group Study*. 1996. Edited by L. Coleman. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.  
*Matthew: A Life Changing Encounter with God's Word from the Book of Matthew*. 1997. *Life Change Series*. Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress.

# 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**

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 (NG)/Missions Director,  
[micah@theascentchurch.com](mailto:micah@theascentchurch.com)

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

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

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

Kristin Mezey, Interim Tiny Town Director (WM),  
[tinytownwm@theascentchurch.com](mailto:tinytownwm@theascentchurch.com)

Roxanne Lingle, Interim Adventure Quest Director (WM),  
[adventurequestwm@theascentchurch.com](mailto:adventurequestwm@theascentchurch.com)

Chris Ward, Interim Elevate Director (WM), [elevatewm@theascentchurch.com](mailto:elevatewm@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)

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)

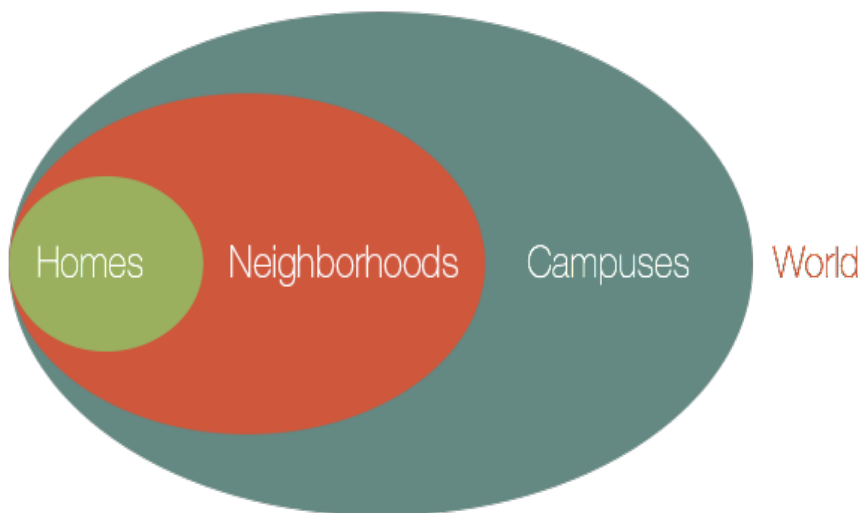


# Mission and Vision

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](http://TheAscentChurch.com)

Special thanks to all who contributed to The Compass

If you have questions or comments, email:

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

