



THE
COMPASS

Current Series:



— *The* —
P S A L M S
— A SOUNDTRACK FOR OUR LIVES —

January 31, 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 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 at 11:00 am in Room 214. Northgate Campus: every 3rd Sunday at 10:45 am in the lobby. No pre-registration required.



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 TODAY at 10:45am 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.



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 Joel Witzel at joel@theascentchurch.com.



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.



Worship Team & Technical Arts

Join our Tech Team or Worship Team. For more info, contact carson@theascentchurch.com.

Community Life



Ash
Wednesday

February 10 - 6:30p
Woodmoor Campus



NIGHT OF
WORSHIP

engaging the psalms

FEBRUARY 5TH - 6:30P - WOODMOOR CAMPUS

The Ascent Church

PRAYER

for the Pastor Search Team

Woodmoor Campus: 9:30am,
Office Conference Room

Northgate Campus: after the service,
TCA Conference Room



**Request for Nominations
for a Constitution and
Bylaws Advisory Team**

Do you or someone you know
have a gift for reforming and
editing documents? Visit the
church website for more
information about the team and
the nomination form.



Ascent
Student Ministries

New Year
MIXER

Who: All Middle and High School
When: TODAY! Jan. 31, 11:00am
Where: The Student Center @The
Ascent Church - Woodmoor Campus
What: Hang-out time and find out what
ASM has planned in 2016! Free pizza,
snacks & fun. (Rides available from
Northgate Campus after the service.)

Women's Retreat



**March 11-13,
2016**

Cost of Retreat: \$190

Save the date for the next
Women's Retreat at
Spring Canyon in
Buena Vista, CO. More
details to come...



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: \$23,635.82

As of 1/31/2015:

YTD Giving:	\$706,106
YTD Actual Expenses:	\$602,168
YTD Budget:	\$776,906

Fiscal Year 2015-16:

Avg. Weekly Giving:	\$34,673
Avg. Weekly Budget:	\$36,995
Min. Weekly Need:	\$34,000



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

ASM welcomes all middle schoolers and high schoolers.

Upcoming ASM Tuesday Dates: Feb. 2, 9, 16, and 23, Woodmoor Campus.

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

ASM DEEP Dates: Feb. 14, 21, 28 upstairs at both campuses. Northgate: 9:00am, Woodmoor: 11:00am.

ASM Ski Trip: Feb. 20, ski trip to Monarch for all students, cost \$50 includes lift ticket, dinner and transport. Questions, email: asm@theascentchurch.com.

Missions

The Guatemala Missions Trip: deadline is today for applications for the trip, July 16-23. For information, email: asm@theascentchurch.com.

Dominican Republic Missions Trip: join the team for the next 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. New 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. Neighborhood studies are also available. Email: joel@theascentchurch.com.



Message Notes

Sermon Passage: Psalm 23.



Shared Engagement and Preparation

The Compass is a daily devotional and study guide for individuals, families, and Base Camps. The Compass begins devotions on Monday and leads up to the Sunday which will focus 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, not biblical information itself. 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 devotion. Rather, use The Compass as a resource for individual and community growth. If you miss a few days, move on and seek growth; 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 2/1/16–2/6/16: Psalm 8.

Monday, February 1, 2016

Read: Psalm 8.

Reflect:

Throughout the Psalms you've studied in this series, David has praised God for His surpassing greatness and acts of power. Here, David is inspired by God's creation.

Reflect on the greatness and wonder of God's creation (Ref. v. 3), and journal several things about God's creation that are amazing to you.

What times are you most often reminded of God's greatness through His creation? What special way could you respond each time you witness God's surpassing creativity?

Try to find the words to *How Great Thou Art* by Stuart Hine. It's a bit like Psalm 8. Meditate on it throughout this week.

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

Venture outside and observe God's creation. Try to notice something new. Praise God for His creative power and greatness.

Tuesday, February 2, 2016

Read: Psalm 8:1-4.

Reflect:

David believed God was the amazing creator of the universe. This majesty of God is meant to “still” or silence the foe and the avenger (v. 2).

How does this belief silence the “foes and avengers” in your life?

How do you use God’s creation to bring peace to others--or “silence the foe” for them?

Think of the contrast between who the awesome Creator God is and who you are. Is this comforting or frightening? Why?

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

People who don’t know God may be intimidated by, or even afraid of Him. How could Psalm 8 be a message of peace or comfort?

Wednesday, February 3, 2016

Read: Psalm 8:2-6; Genesis 1:26 and Genesis 2:4-7.

Reflect:

How would you answer David's question, "What is man that you are mindful of him?"

How are you, "Ruler of the works of (His) hands?"(v. 6)

If "all flocks and herds and beasts of the field" are under your feet (vs. 6-7), how does this apply to your daily living?

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

Consider the privileges and responsibilities of being the pinnacle or the crown jewel of God's creation.

What is your commitment as a servant and steward in this creation?

Thursday, February 4, 2016

Read: Psalm 8:4-8 and Isaiah 40:26.

Reflect:

Write the phrases from Psalm 8 that declare how God has loved and esteemed you as man or “son of man”:

Consider the fact that God created each of the stars and calls them each by name (Isaiah 40:26). What does this say about how He knows you?

How does God uniquely know you?

How does this realization influence your relationship with Him?

How does God use you uniquely?

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

Meditate on God’s love for you, (Ref. 1 John 4:19 & John 13:34), and how He esteems you (Ref. vs. 4-8).

How could you uniquely appreciate and love someone this week?

Friday, February 5, 2016

Read: Psalm 8:4-8; Psalm 17:8 and Matthew 10:29-31.

Reflect:

The phrase in Psalm 17:8, “apple of your eye”, actually refers to the important part of the eye that sees--the crucial part that must be protected.

Considering the Psalms and Matthew verses, journal why you are important to God.

What does God’s love for you say about who He is? List several characteristics of God shown through His love, (e.g. He is a provider, He is a protector).

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

Psalm 8 tells you the Creator of the universe has loved and crowned you with glory--to join Him and to rule in His majestic creation. You can trust that, “He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion.” (Philippians 1:6).

In what will you trust God this week?

Saturday, February 6, 2016

Read: Psalm 8 and John 3:16.

Reflect:

How is David's amazement at the Creator's love for us similar to the message of salvation in John 3:16?

When you share God's love for man--do you speak of God loving the world, or as God-loving individuals? Why?

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

How will you be intentionally interested in others this week? How will you invite them into God's work and creation as God has invited us in Psalm 8?

At church tomorrow, listen for the message of God as Creator and Lover of the world and Creator and Lover of each individual. Be ready to pray over and share with someone who needs this message--in your neighborhood, in Base Camp, or at church.

There's an Augustine quote which is sometimes misquoted and misunderstood: "God loves each of us as if there were only one of us to love." Do you agree or disagree? Explain.

Building Our Base Camp Family

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

Preparation: Have finger paint and finger paint paper available for the children and teens to create a picture of the amazing world God created. Display the pictures.

Begin your discussion with the reading of Psalms 8:1-9. Have someone read the passage with expression. Discuss various ways you can honor the Lord. Is this a routine in which only adults should participate? God does not need us to praise Him, but He loves it when we do! How will you praise our Lord differently in 2016?

Ask the children and teens to show the pictures they created. Think about all God has created and discuss the reasons God should be praised. In Psalms 8 you see God created the moon, stars, and entire world. Read verse 3 again. It states God used his fingers to create our beautiful world. Does Psalms 8 do an adequate job of praising your Lord?

End with a prayer of praise for your God.

Contact Us

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

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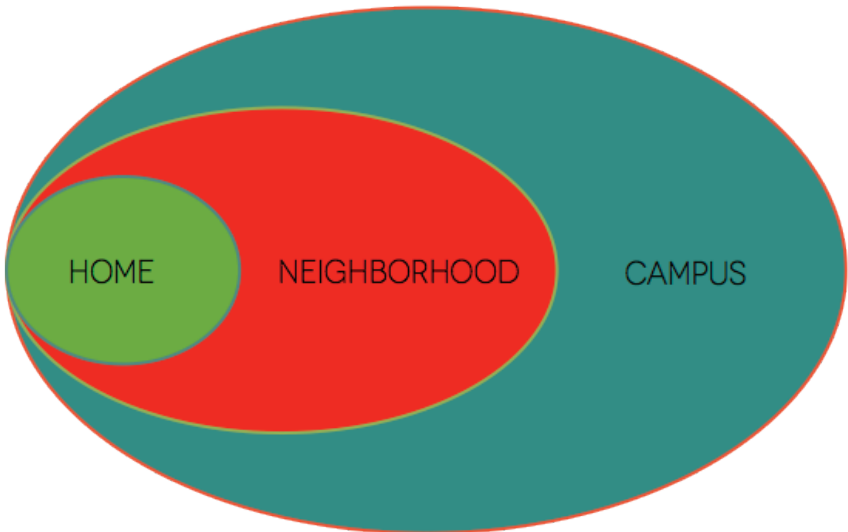
Visit us online at www.theascentchurch.com

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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Special thanks to all who contributed to The Compass.
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