



# THE COMPASS

Current Series



May 29, 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 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

## 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.



## 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.



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

## A DAY AT THE PARK

Black Forest Park

Kids ages 4yrs-4th grade



theascent  
church.com/kids

*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)*

# 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: \$20,161.40**

As of 4/30/2016:

YTD Giving:	\$999,510
YTD Actual Expenses:	\$996,046
YTD Budget:	\$1,257,848

Fiscal Year 2015-16:

Avg. Weekly Giving:	\$29,397
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:** May 31, June 7, 14, 21, 28, Woodmoor Campus.

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

**ASM “All Play” BBQ:** May 31, 6-8pm, Woodmoor Campus.

Welcome the new 7th graders to Middle School and 9th graders to High School. Hot dogs and games!



## 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.

**Catalyst Class:** Sundays, 11am, Woodmoor Campus Rm 212.

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

## Women’s and Men’s Ministries

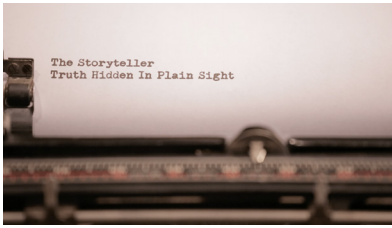
### **Men on the Ascent Bible Study:**

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

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Sermon Passages: Luke 10:25-42.



## **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 5/30/16–6/4/16:** Luke 15:11-32.

# Monday, May 30, 2016

**Read:** Luke 15:11-32.

**Reflect:**

This is one of Jesus' most famous parables. It's the story of a father and his two sons, and it's designed to illustrate spiritual dynamics regarding the nature of God, the nature of humanity, and the nature of our relationship with God. Today, we'll focus on the younger son: the prodigal.

What were the living conditions of the younger son before he received his inheritance? What kind of person was he?

In your own words, write down what happened to the younger son after he left home (Luke 15:13-19). What character changes do you notice in him during this time of his life?

Do you know anyone who's facing an experience similar to that of the younger son when he was separated from his family? If so, what might that person be feeling?

**What lessons did you learn from the younger son? What transforming thoughts and/or actions were revealed to you today, and how might you put them into practice?**



## Tuesday, May 31, 2016

**Read:** Luke 15:11-32 in at least two different translations.

**Reflect:**

Continue to reflect upon the younger son. What happened that caused him to return home?

What character changes do you notice in the younger son after “he came to his senses” (15:17)?

The “change of heart” we see in the younger son is an important example of what happens when a person truly repents. What did repentance involve for the younger son?

What does repentance mean for you? What changes have you made that demonstrate the reality of genuine repentance in your life?

**What lessons did you learn from the younger son?**

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

## Wednesday, June 1, 2016

**Read:** Luke 15:11-32 in at least two different translations.

**Reflect:**

Today, we'll focus on the older son. What do you imagine he was like before his younger brother left home?

What can you assume was going through his mind as he thought about his younger brother during their separation?

Now read Luke 15:25-30. Explain why you think it was difficult for the older brother to accept the younger when he returned home.

Do you know anyone who might be dealing with spiritual issues similar to the older son? What advice might you offer this person?

**What lessons did you learn from the older son?**

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

## Thursday, June 2, 2016

**Read:** Luke 15:11-32.

**Reflect:**

Today, we'll focus on the father. In chronological order, record the emotions you saw the father experience.

What did the father do when his younger son returned?

How did the father relate to his younger son?

How did the father relate to his older son?

**What lessons did you learn from the father?**

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

## Friday, June 3, 2016

**Read:** Luke 15:11-32 in THE MESSAGE by Eugene H. Peterson.

**Reflect:**

Look over your reflections on the sons and the father. Now answer the following questions:

What did you discover about God from the father's actions?

What insights did you gain about yourself and about the people around you when you reflected on the behavior of the sons?

Communicate the primary spiritual message of this story.

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

## Saturday, June 4, 2016

**Read:** Luke 15:1-32.

**Reflect:**

Record your response to the following questions:

What is the foremost lesson of the parable of the lost sheep?  
(Luke 15:1-7)

What is the chief lesson of the parable of the lost coin? (Luke  
15:8-10)

What is the principal lesson of the parable of the lost son? (Luke  
15:11-32)

Each parable concludes with a focus on the joy that God and the heavenly hosts experience when a sinner repents and the lost are found. When was the last time you had this joy? How have you contributed to making this kind of joy happen?

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

## Building Our Base Camp Family

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

This parable teaches us about forgiveness.

The man had two sons. The youngest made some poor choices and the older son stayed committed to serving his father at home. The older son left home, took all his money and belongings, and squandered everything. He sinned and made many mistakes. He was ashamed and felt unworthy to be called his father's son. The main idea is you can always come home to the Father. He knows you will sin, because you live in a fallen world. He calls you to repent and return to him. He loves you unconditionally.

God forgives you, so why do you hold on to anger and unforgiveness? God welcomes you home with open arms, and he celebrates your return, just as the father did for his younger son.

Pass out paper to each person in your Base Camp. Have each person record the name of someone in their life who needs forgiveness. Everyone should hang this paper in their homes where it will be seen often, so they will be reminded of their need to forgive. During the week, everyone should attempt to release these burdens, forgiving as God has forgiven them. If it's appropriate, or if people feel comfortable, they can share with others in Base Camp.

# Contact Us

Church Office 719.481.3600

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

## **Executive Leadership Team**

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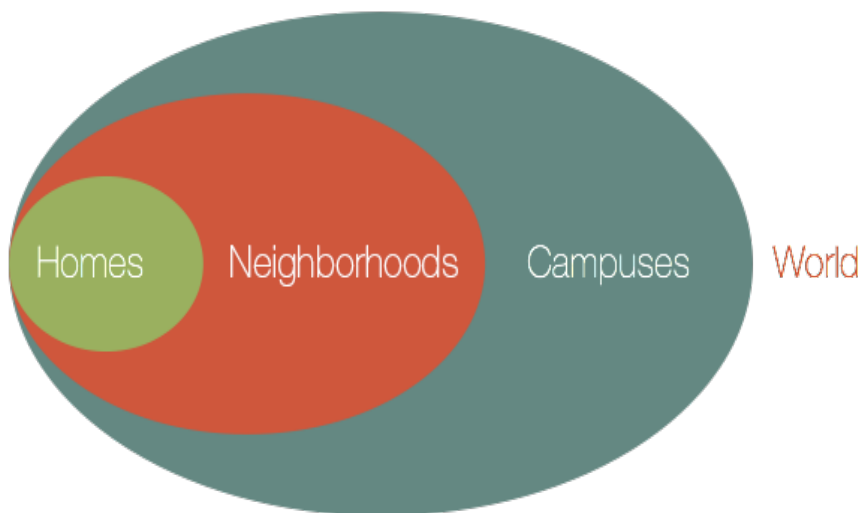
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# Mission and Vision

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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719-481-3600 - [TheAscentChurch.com](http://TheAscentChurch.com)

Special thanks to all who contributed to The Compass

If you have questions or comments, email:

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