

Current Series



July 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 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: date change to August 14, 10:15am in Rm 214.
- Northgate Campus: every 3rd Sunday, 11:30am in lobby.

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.



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

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.



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.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL COMBINED SERVICE AND CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

AUGUST 7 AT 10:00AM NORTHGATE CAMPUS

After prayer and discernment, the Board of Elders is pleased to present the Lead Pastor Candidate to The Ascent Church at a special service and Congregational Meeting on August 7.

We will be meeting as a combined campus for one service at 10:00am at the Northgate Campus. The candidate will teach, followed by a meet and greet after the service.

Saturday, August 6, there will be an additional opportunity to meet the candidate during a potluck from 5-7pm at the Woodmoor campus. Please RSVP at www.theascentchurch.com.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING AND PRAYING FOR THE ASCENT CHURCH.

Response Time

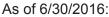
Each Sunday service, after the message, we have a time of response to God. We invite you to engage in worship through some tangible ways throughout our worship space.

- 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: \$18,536.06



YTD Giving: \$1,217,103 YTD Actual Expenses: \$1,255,109 YTD Budget: \$1,590,808

Fiscal Year 2015-16:

Avg. Weekly Giving: \$27,550 Avg. Weekly Budget: \$36,995 Min. Weekly Need: \$31,314



- 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)

Community Life





Join Tri-lakes MOPS!!

Are you feeling starry eyed and sleep deprived? Are you a mother of a child between 0-5 years? Tri-lakes MOPS would like to invite you to their Open House August 18th from 9am-11am at the Woodmoor Campus.

ff Trilakes MOPS

Trilakesmops.blogspot.com



Woodmoor Campus:
new date 8/14,
10:15am
Northgate Campus:
every 3rd Sunday,
11:30am
Join us for an
introduction to
The Ascent Church!
No pre-registration required.

Sky Sox
Faith Night

July 31, 2:05pm

Sky Sox vs. OKC Dodgers



Connection Opportunities This Week

Ascent Student Ministry

(Middle school and high school) **ASM Tuesday Dates**: ASM is off for July and will return August 2.

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

ASM All Play BBQ: HS & MS Hangout together, August 2, 6-8pm, Woodmoor Campus. Catch up with your ASM friends with hot dogs and games!

ASM MS Mystery Retreat: August 12-13, 4pm-4pm, 24 hours of mysterious fun; the trick is the middle school students don't know what they are! We will provide parents with a detailed schedule of our weekend but students only get a packing list to know what to bring. The cost for this retreat is \$50.00. Register at: www. theascentchurch.com/students.

More information about ASM upcoming events can be found at: www.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

More information about our Children's Programs can be found at: www.theascentchurch.com/kids.



Ascent Student Ministry Deep

ASM Deep meets Sundays for middle and high schoolers.

ASM DEEP Dates: ASM is off for July/August and will return on September 11.

Northgate: 10amWoodmoor: 11am

Questions about ASM, email: asm@theascentchurch.com.



Equipping Ministry

Equipping classes are offered at new times.

Connections Class:

Sundays, 10:45am, Woodmoor Campus Room 213.

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

Women's and Men's Ministries

Men on the Ascent Bible Study: Meetings will resume in the fall.

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

Women's Bible Studies: New studies will begin soon! Details will be available at: www. theascentchurch.com/women.

Missions

To volunteer with the Missions Team, visit: www.theascentchurch.com/missions/outreach.



Message Notes

Sermon Passages: *Jonah and the Whale*, Jonah 1-4.



Lead Pastor Search Discernment in Community

The content of this week's Compass is unique and important in the life of our church. The Elder Board and Search Team invite you to join them in the active process of discernment for our next Lead Pastor by spending time interacting with each day of the Compass content.

Balloting takes place between July 31st and 5:00 pm on Monday, August 8th. You may express your discernment at any time online or by turning in a ballot in the church office.

Monday, August 1, 2016

As we join the Elder Board and Search Team in the discernment process:

- 1. Read the opening letter of the candidate packet.
- 2. Pray for blessing on the people who've engaged in this search process by name.
- 3. Take some time to listen to God. What are you hearing?
- 4. Search the scriptures for a story of selecting a leader (Joshua 1:1-9, Acts 6:1-7 are examples).

Tuesday, August 2, 2016

As we continue to discern together:

- 1. Read the **Pastor Search Overview** section of the candidate packet.
- 2. Imagine the number of the hours spent by Agora Consulting and the Search Team.
- 3. Praise God for the sacrifice and dedication of time by these people.

Wednesday, August 3, 2016

"Discernment, in a most general sense, is the capacity to recognize and respond to the presence and the activity of God—both in the ordinary moments and in the larger decisions of our lives." Ruth Haley Barton

- 1. Read Rusty's story in the candidate profile.
- 2. Can you see yourself in any of his or his family's experiences?
- 3. Write down what stands out to you in his story.
- 4. Pray for his family as they consider a major transition in their lives.
- 5. Read today's email from The Ascent to view Rusty's sermons.

Thursday, August 4, 2016

"Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing *you may discern* what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect." Romans 12:2

- 1. Read the **Qualifications** page of the candidate packet.
- 2. In June 2015, the Elders conducted hundreds of interviews that asked what needs attendees thought were most important in the next Lead Pastor. The Search Team compiled an extensive list of qualifications to initiate the search process. In fact, Agora Consulting was surprised by the specificity of these qualifications. Search Team members wondered if they were, "asking for the impossible."

Rusty meets all the qualifications outlined by the Search Team.

- 3. Give praise to the Lord for His provision of a candidate who meets all the qualifications we desired to lead our church.
- 4. Now ask God what He is doing in meeting such a specific list.

Friday, August 5, 2016

As we continue to discern as a community:

- 1. Read the Q&A section of the candidate profile.
- 2. What do you see regarding Rusty's heart for serving, teaching, and leading?
- 3. Write out questions you want to ask Rusty when he is here this weekend.

Saturday, August 6, 2016

Rusty and his family will be here today and tomorrow. You are invited to fellowship with him and his family and ask questions tonight at 5 p.m. at the Woodmoor Campus. (Please bring a dish to share.)

- 1. Reflect back over the week and what you've noticed God doing in your spirit.
- 2. Recall what you've learned about the candidate and list what you've seen as markers of God's hand on this process.
- 3. Imagine how the qualifications and life experiences Rusty holds could be a gift to our church family.
- 4. Based on your processing throughout the week, can you see God working through the discernment of the Elders and Search Team?
- 5. Might God be intending Rusty to be the next Lead Pastor for The Ascent Church?
- 6. Pray for Rusty as he engages our congregation in teaching, fellowship, and important conversations.

Balloting takes place between July 31st and 5:00 pm on Monday, August 8th. You may express your discernment at any time online or by turning in a ballot in the church office.

Building Our Base Camp Family

The focus of Base Camp should be discerning God's will in community.

(5 minutes) Read over your reflections for this week. What or who do you feel led to pray for?

(10 minutes) Read Luke 6:12-16 and 1 Samuel 16:1-13.

What do you observe in this passage? What stands out to you?

How and when did prayer factor into choosing the disciples or David?

What do you think it means that "all night [Jesus] continued in prayer to God"? Be as specific as possible. Consider John 12:24-25 and Mark:8.35.

(10 minutes) Discuss.

How does the world evaluate a candidate for a leadership position? What is similar and what is different for choosing leaders in Christ's church? How does sharing the discernment load help us with those parts that are different?

Have you heard stories about how God was working in our call process, or did you see God working? Share your story with your Base Camp.

How do you know God has spoken to you or acted? What is essential for you to discern God's action? How does biblical community inform your heart, soul, or mind?

(15 minutes) Pray.

Invite five minutes of silent prayer. Share stories, impressions, or sense of God with one or two others. Share any subsequent discernment with the large group.

Discuss.

What raises your confidence that God is working or has spoken?

Is there anything that has increased your confidence that God is at work in the choice of Rusty as our candidate?

(15 minutes) Read John 10:7-10.

Have you sensed God's protection, direction, or provision at the Ascent Church in the past eighteen months?

If you had to cast your ballot tonight, would you confirm the Search Team and Elders' candidate? Why or why not?

What do you need in order to raise your confidence that God has called Rusty and his family to the Ascent or to know that God has not? Ask your group to help you listen to God.

(10 Minutes) End by praying for God's will and that the next steps would be God's steps.

Contact Us

Church Office 719.481.3600

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

Executive Leadership Team

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Student & Children's Ministry Staff

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Taylor Shade, Student Ministry Director (WM), taylor@theascentchurch.com Melinda Sukle, Children's Ministry Director (NG) melinda@theascentchurch.com Stacy Oseland, Tiny Town Director (NG), stacy@theascentchurch.com Kristin Mezey, Interim Tiny Town Director (WM),

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Elders

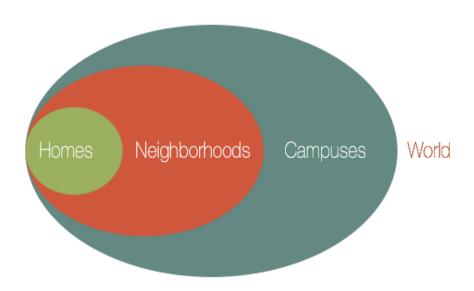
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Mission and Vision

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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