



THE COMPASS

Current Series:



November 22, 2015



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 2nd Sunday at 11:00 am, Room 214. Northgate Campus: every 3rd Sunday at 10:45 am in the lobby. *No pre-registration required.*



Explore II

Go deeper into the vision and mission of our church. Become an active part of our church community, learn our trail map for each person, ministry values, doctrine, and connecting with a Base Camp. Held quarterly 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.



Sunday Morning Team

Serve as an usher or host with the welcome team. Meet new people, serve together and grow in Christ as you serve our community. Contact joel@theascentchurch.com

Community Life

**NIGHT OF
WORSHIP**

Transition Update Meeting:
4:00-5:00pm

Night of Worship:
5:00-6:00pm
Today, November 22
Light snacks at 3:30.

Children's Christmas Program December 13

- Woodmoor Campus: "A Christmas Treasure" Program will be held at all three Woodmoor Campus services.
- Northgate Campus: Children will sing and lead worship at the 9:30am service.



Northgate
Campus

Dessert Potluck

Time for Prayer

This Sunday, meet for a time of prayer for
The Ascent Church.

- Woodmoor Campus: 9:30am in Room 212
- Northgate Campus: 11:00am in Conference Room

*Join us in the lobby
TODAY after the
Northgate service.*

The Ascent Church Christmas Tea



*Purchase tickets in the lobby
today after each service.*
Saturday, December 5, 2015
2:00 - 4:00 p.m.



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: \$20,563.81

As of 10/31/2015:

YTD Giving:	\$217,564
YTD Actual Expenses:	\$261,129
YTD Budget:	\$295,964

Fiscal Year 2015-16:

Avg. Weekly Giving:	\$28,318
Avg. Weekly Budget:	\$36,995
Min. Weekly Need:	\$34,000



Giving @ 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)

(Middle & High School)

ASM will not meet this Tuesday night due to fall break. Upcoming dates: ASM Worship Night for Middle and High School on Dec.1 and ASM Christmas Party on Dec.15.

ASM meets today! Join us to learn more about God's promises. Future dates: Dec.13 and 20.

- Northgate Campus: 9:30am, rooms 3433 and 3435
- Woodmoor Campus: 11:00am, rooms 213 and 216

Email Micah, Rob & Taylor asm@theascentchurch.com for online registration link.

Children's Ministry (Birth—6th grade)

The Children's Christmas Program will be Dec.13 at each campus, with family services on Dec.20 and 27.

Tiny Town is available for birth - PreK:

Adventure Quest is available for K - 4th grade:

Elevate is available for 5th & 6th grade:

- Woodmoor Campus: 9:30 & 11:00am
- Northgate Campus: 9:30am

For more info, go to www.theascentchurch.com.



Ascent Missions

The Guatemala Missions Trip is scheduled for July 2016.

For more information, email asm@theascentchurch.com

Equipping, Women's and Men's Ministries

Equipping Classes: Sunday 9:30am at Woodmoor, *Book of Revelation* study. All are welcome!

Catalyst Equipping Class: Catalyst is for those seeking to get connected with others and be equipped for Biblical community. Catalyst meets Sunday mornings, 11:00am following the 9:30am service at the Woodmoor Campus in room 212.

Parents of Teens Equipping Class: The Parents of Teens Class meets Sunday mornings, 11:00am at the Woodmoor Campus in room 210. Join other parents for support and to help one another with raising our teens.

Men on the Ascent Bible Study: *Gospel of Mark* study, Tuesdays at 6:15am.

- Woodmoor Campus: room 213
- Northgate: Cafe Communitas at Marcos Pizza

Women on The Ascent: Bible Studies offered on Tuesday mornings at the Woodmoor Campus. Neighborhood studies are also available.





Message Notes



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 11/23/15–11/28/15: Luke 2:10-11.

Monday, November 23, 2015

Read: Thanksgiving is Thursday, and Advent begins this Sunday. For many Christians, this week launches the most intense and joyful days of the Christmas holiday. In preparation, read Luke 2:1-20.

Reflect:

After reading the above verses from Luke, take a moment to think about the images that come to mind as you reflect upon this most familiar account of Christ's birth.

Pretend you have been asked to tell the story from Luke 2:1-20 to a child. Without looking at Scripture, tell the story aloud.

Reflect upon what you thought and felt as you read and told the story. Record these thoughts:

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

Tuesday, November 24, 2015

Read: Luke 2:10 in at least two translations.

Reflect:

Make a list of what could have been “good news” to the people living during the time of Jesus. Also, comment on what you believe brought “great joy” to them.

Make a list of what would be “good news” for you. What might bring “great joy”?

How is Jesus “good news,” and how does Jesus bring “great joy?”

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

Wednesday, November 25, 2015

Read: Luke 2: 10-11 and Isaiah 9:2-6 in at least two translations.

Reflect:

Make a list of the ways Isaiah's prophecy parallels the declaration from the angel recorded by Luke.

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

Thursday, November 26, 2015

Read: Luke 2:10-11.

Reflect:

On this day of Thanksgiving, record brief responses to the following questions:

How is Jesus “good news” to you?

How does Jesus bring “great joy”?

Why are you grateful Jesus is your Savior and Lord?

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

Friday, November 27, 2015

Read: Luke 2:14 in at least two translations.

Reflect:

The angel declared “glory to God.” What does this mean to you?

The angel declared “peace on earth.” Explain what this implies.

The angel declared “peace on earth among those with whom he (God) is pleased.” Journal your feelings about this statement.

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

Saturday, November 28, 2015

Read: Luke 2:1-20.

Reflect:

Tomorrow begins Advent. Advent is an ancient practice by Christians for the purpose of reflecting upon the prophecies of the Messiah. For several weeks Christians commemorate His incarnation and birth. Do you have a plan for observing Advent?

As Christmas day approaches, how will you use the days ahead to prepare your heart and mind to celebrate Jesus?

What might you do to bear witness to the “good news” of Jesus and the “great joy” He brings during this season of Advent?

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

Building Our Base Camp Family

Prepare:

Do a web or other search for depictions of Jesus; either save the search on a tablet for all to see, or print off the top 15-20 images.

Intergenerational:

Open in prayer as you begin a season of preparation for Christmas, the season of Advent. If you are using an Advent Wreath, make the devotion appropriate for all ages.

- With the images from Preparation, have children and teens categorize the emotions of Jesus. Research shows four or six fundamental emotions: Anger/Disgust, Fear/Surprise, Sadness and Joy.
- Ask: Which emotions to these images tell us Jesus had, and most frequently? When you imagine Jesus, how often do you imagine him in great joy? Why so?
- Does happiness or great joy sound like a needed gift in your life? In the life of others? Why?
- Read Luke 2.10-11 and reflect on what the advent (coming) of Jesus is meant to produce.

Adult or Adult/Teen time:

Read Luke 2.8-15:

- What is significant about the messengers of this announcement of “good news”?
- Was fear the shepherds only reaction to angelic visitation, or was it also a reality in their world? Is fear a reality in your world?
- What offset the fear of the shepherds?

Read Hebrews 2.14-18 and 2 Timothy 1.5-14

- What in Luke and these passages is meant to offset your fear?
- How are we to commend the faith within us? How can we make this a spiritual practice for Advent?
- In so committing our fears, how are we, then, messengers of this same good news?

Conclude with a time of prayer for one another and for those God calls us to share good news.

Contact Us

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

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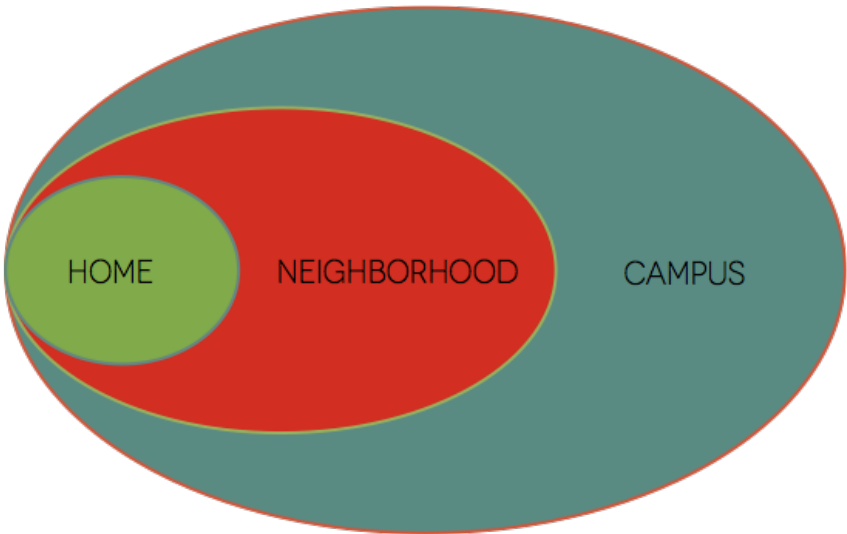
Visit us online at www.theascentchurch.com

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.
If you have questions or comments, email:
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