

THE
COMPASS



March 27, 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, 11:00 am in Rm 214.
- Northgate Campus: every 3rd Sunday, 10:45 am in lobby.

No pre-registration required.



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.



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.



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 quarterly at 10:45am at both campuses.



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.

Community Life

Baptism Sunday, April 10

Register www.theascentchurch.com

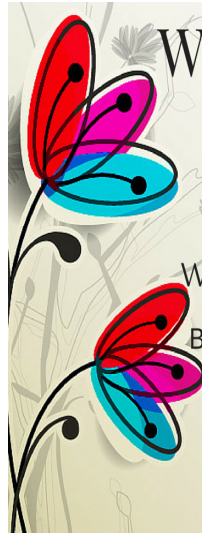
OVERFLOW

CELEBRATING NEW LIFE THROUGH BAPTISM



The Ascent Church Elder Board is accepting nominations for new Elders.

Nominations need to be men who meet the Biblical qualifications described in 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-9. Visit the church website for the nomination form which closes April 3.



WOMEN ON THE ASCENT

April 14, 6-7:30pm

Woodmoor Campus, Rm 213

Bring a friend and join the Women of The Ascent for a night of laughter, joy and friendship!



APRIL
8TH @ 6PM HS
9TH @ 6PM MS

MOVIE NIGHT

WOODMOOR CAMPUS



The Ascent Church

PRAYER

for the Pastor Search Team

Woodmoor Campus: 9:30am,
Office Conference Room
Northgate Campus:
after service,
TCA Conference Room

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: \$21,599.00

As of 2/29/2015:

YTD Giving:	\$820,061
YTD Actual Expenses:	\$747,363
YTD Budget:	\$961,884

Fiscal Year 2015-16:

Avg. Weekly Giving:	\$31,541
Avg. Weekly Budget:	\$36,995
Min. Weekly Need:	\$31,620



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: March 29, April 5, 12, 19, 26, Woodmoor Campus.

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

ASM Movie Night: April 8 - Middle School, April 9 - High School at the Woodmoor Campus.

ASM Senior Hangout: April 14 - High School Seniors hang out at Buffalo Wild Wings.

For more information visit: www.theascentchurch.com/students.

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 information about our Children's Programs, please visit: www.theascentchurch.com/kids

Equipping Ministry

Classes are offered at various times on Sunday mornings.

Connections Class: Sundays, 9:15-10:30am, Woodmoor Campus rm. 213.

Catalyst Equipping Class: Sundays, 11:00am, Woodmoor Campus rm. 212.

Parents of Teens Equipping Class: Sundays, 11:00am, Woodmoor rm. 210.



Ascent Student Ministry Deep

ASM Deep meets Sundays for middle and high schoolers.

ASM DEEP Dates: April 10, 17, 24 upstairs at both campuses.

- Northgate: 9:00am
- Woodmoor: 11:00am

Any questions about ASM, email: asm@theascentchurch.com.

Missions

Please pray for our Missions Teams who are preparing for their trips this summer 2016.

- Guatemala Missions Trip on July 16-23.
- Dominican Republic Missions Trip on July 2-9.

Women's and Men's Ministries

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 neighborhood and campus Bible Studies.

Questions, please email: joel@theascentchurch.com.



Message Notes

Sermon Passages: Luke 11:37-44,
Luke 24:1-8, 1 Peter 3:18-22 .



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 3/27/16–4/2/16: Job 8:21, Psalm 16:6, Romans 15:13, Psalm 139:7-10, Philippians 1:27 and 4:23.

Monday, March 28, 2016

Read: Job 8:21, Psalm 50:15, and Proverbs 15:13.

Reflect:

When have you needed the return of laughter and joy to your life?

What were your prayers to God in that time?

How did He answer?

How did restoration of laughter and joy impact you? Others?

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

Think about how God has given you joy or laughter in life. How could you share that with others this week?

What life events will require joy and laughter this week? How could you bring that to the table?

Tuesday, March 29, 2016

Read: Psalm 16:6, Psalm 50:23, and Proverbs 17:22.

Reflect:

Why is it sometimes difficult to see the “boundary lines...in pleasant places” or the “delightful inheritance” in our lives?

What gives you eyes to see the “pleasant” and “delightful” even in hard times?

How do God’s blessings to you also bless others?

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

How are you uniquely talented? How does this bless others?

Make a plan to use your gifts to bless others this week.

Thank God for the privilege to serve Him this way.

Wednesday, March 30, 2016

Read: Romans 15:13.

Reflect:

What is the cause and effect in this verse? Who or what produces what?

How do we hinder the work of the Holy Spirit?

Consider the effect of hope in our lives. This verse and those before it talk about hope. Hope is grouped with faith and love in 1 Corinthians 13—it's something we value greatly. How can we participate in the work of the Holy Spirit when it comes to developing hope?

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

The hymn *Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing* talks about raising an Ebenezer stone—remembrance of and motivation for hope in God. It reads:

“Here I raise mine Ebenezer; hither by thy help I’m come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of
God;
He, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.”

How can you be a living “Ebenezer stone” this week?

Thursday, March 31, 2016

Read: Psalms 139:7-10.

Reflect:

The *Practice of the Presence of God*, by Brother Lawrence, speaks about Brother Lawrence's regard for God's presence:

"...having resolved to make the love of God the end of all his actions,...he was pleased when he could take up a straw from the ground for the love of God, seeking Him only, and nothing else, not even His gifts. That in order to form a habit of conversing with God continually, and referring all we do to Him; we must at first apply to Him with some diligence: but that after a little care we should find His love inwardly excite us to it without any difficulty."

David tells us God is in all things; Lawrence sees God's love even in picking up a "straw from the ground."

Is it a comfort or a challenge that God is in every place and every moment? Why?

How does God's omnipresence impact your daily living?

What do you do to seek or acknowledge God's presence?

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

Do you know anyone or any circumstances full of despair, lacking hope, lacking joy or lacking purpose? How can you encourage or share God's presence in those situations this week?

Friday, April 1, 2016

Read: Phillipians 1:27 & 4:23.

Reflect:

Describe what it means to “conduct yourself in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ”:

Paul here is actually writing about opposition to the church—and how to face it. What do you consider a Christ-like response to opposition?

Where do you face such opposition?

When are you most challenged in your Christian witness or behavior?

What impact (positive or negative), might your response have on others? On you?

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

Think of a Christian brother or sister who needs to be encouraged and inspired to live out the gospel of Christ. How can you help them “stand firm in one spirit” this week?

Saturday, April 2, 2016

Read: Job 8:21, Psalm 16:6, Romans 15:13, Psalm 139:7-10, Phillipians 1:27, Phillipians 4:23, and Acts 1:8.

Reflect on the following:

This week's verses covered many topics concerning what we know, how we behave and how we feel about God. None are possible without the power of the Holy Spirit.

What beliefs (and/or doubts) do you have about the Holy Spirit's work in your life?

What spiritual practices invite the work of the Holy Spirit in your life? What do we do that quenches the Holy Spirit?

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

Worship and fellowship on Sunday and in Base Camp are certainly opportunities to study and celebrate what we know, what we feel, and what we do as God's children. What topic(s) from this week are you excited to meditate on or discuss during Sunday service or during Base Camp? What will you try to improve? What will you share?

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.

Prepare: Items needed include a bowl of jelly beans and a Twister spinner (from the popular game). On the Twister spinner, tape a jelly bean on each of the dots, using only five colors of jelly beans. (If you do not have a spinner, instruct each person to pick one of the five colors when it is her/his turn).

Intergenerational:

Take turns spinning (adults, too), and when you land on the color, pick up that jelly bean and answer the questions below. You can eat the jelly bean after you answer the question!

Yellow jelly bean - How do you choose joy each day? When is it hard to choose joy?

Red jelly bean - What are some things you can do to remember that God is with you all the time? Have you ever had a time when God carried you through something really difficult?

Green jelly bean - What are some things you are hopeful for? Explain what the word "hope" means to you.

Purple jelly bean - How can other people see Jesus living in you? Tell about a time when you saw the Holy Spirit working in someone else's life.

Orange jelly bean - What does the word "gratitude" mean? What are the little things in life that you are grateful for?

Enjoy the jelly beans together!

Contact Us

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

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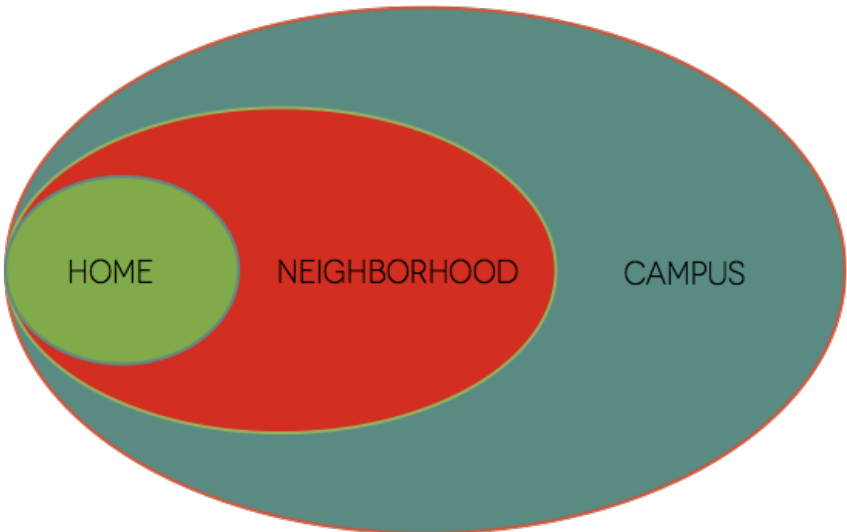
Visit us online at www.theascentchurch.com

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 Th
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