



# THE COMPASS

Current Series



RE TOLD

July 24, 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).



## 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).



## 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).

# Community Life

## CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

JULY 24 AT 5:30PM  
WOODMOOR CAMPUS.

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**THE BUDGET AND BYLAWS WILL  
BE PRESENTED.**

### HEAVENFEST

TRANSFORMING LIVES. POPULATING HEAVEN.

July 29<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>, 2016 - Bandimere Speedway, Morrison CO

50 BANDS ON 5 STAGES

Sat. July 30, 10am-1am

\$50

(includes lunch, ticket and ride)

HS & MS

Sign up online

[Theascentchurch.com/students](http://Theascentchurch.com/students)

## Sky Sox Faith Night



July 31, 2:05pm

Sky Sox vs. OKC Dodgers

## MIDDLE SCHOOL MYSTERY RETREAT

FRIDAY AUGUST 12-SATURDAY 13

7PM-7PM

\$50

SIGN UP ONLINE

[THEASCENTCHURCH.COM/STUDENTS](http://THEASCENTCHURCH.COM/STUDENTS)

24 HOURS OF MYSTERIOUS FUN AND SUSPENSE

PARENTS KNOW WHAT STUDENTS ONLY KNOW WHAT  
TO BRING

# 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: \$21,431.45**

As of 6/30/2016:

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

Fiscal Year 2015-16:

|                     |          |
|---------------------|----------|
| Avg. Weekly Giving: | \$27,746 |
| 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:** ASM is off for July and will return August 2.

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

**ASM HeavenFest:** Middle and high school students travel to HeavenFest, July 30, 10am - 1am. Drive up to Bandimere Speedway to watch 50 great Christian artists. Cost of \$50 includes lunch, ticket and ride to Morrison.

**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](http://www.theascentchurch.com/students).

More information about ASM upcoming events can be found at: [www.theascentchurch.com](http://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](http://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 and will return on August 7.

- Northgate: 10am
- Woodmoor: 11am

Questions about ASM, email: [asm@theascentchurch.com](mailto: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.

## Missions

To volunteer with the Missions Team, visit: [www.theascentchurch.com/missions/outreach](http://www.theascentchurch.com/missions/outreach).

## Sky Sox Faith Night

Sky Sox Faith Night is July 31, 2:05pm, versus the OKC Dodgers. For tickets: [www.skysox.com](http://www.skysox.com).



# Message Notes

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Sermon Passages: Exodus 14.



## **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 7/25/16 – 7/30/16: Jonah and the Whale, Jonah 1-4.**



## Monday, July 25, 2016

**Read:** Find a children's book or children's Bible with the story of Jonah and the Whale, and read through it. Or reflect on when you first heard the story.

**Reflect:**

What lessons are taught through the story of Jonah and the whale?

What parts of the story do you most relate to? Why?

Take some time to pray and ask God to show you this story with fresh eyes.

Read through the entire book of Jonah. Allow God to speak to you in new and exciting ways.

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



## Tuesday, July 26, 2016

**Read:** Chapter 1. Let the story penetrate your heart and mind.

**Reflect:**

Think of a time when you felt God had specifically asked you to do something for Him. How did you respond?

Why do you think Jonah chose to directly disobey God and go the opposite way?

What did the others on the boat see and do as they experienced the fierce storm attacking their boat?

Why do you think people—sometimes even nonbelievers—attribute hardship and trials to God?

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

## Wednesday, July 27, 2016

**Read:** Jonah chapter 2. Again, ask God to speak to you in a fresh and new way as you reflect on this familiar story.

**Reflect:**

Today look at Jonah's prayer of confession and repentance while he was in the fish's stomach. Did Jonah express anything that surprised you? What was it?

What does Jonah's prayer teach you about God's grace and justice?

Think of a time you knew you had failed God and felt broken before Him. What did God teach you during this time?

Take some time today to talk with God, expressing thanks to Him for His grace and mercy. Ask God to give you a fuller understanding of what He has done for you.

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

## Thursday, July 28, 2016

**Read:** Jonah chapter 3.

**Reflect:**

What surprised you about Jonah's second call to go to Nineveh?

Think of a time you sensed God had given you a second chance to do something He had called you to do. Why do you think God is a God of second chances?

Has God ever asked you to do something for Him and as a result you saw God bring about great success in your effort? Explain.

Spend time in prayer today, thanking God for allowing you to be a part of His mission to reconcile people to Him. Ask God to show you how to carry out this mission within your neighborhood.

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

## Friday, July 29, 2016

**Read:** Jonah chapter 4. Take time to reflect on this passage—imagine yourself in the place of Jonah.

**Reflect:**

What surprises you the most about the ending to Jonah's story?

What might cause you to think you are more worthy of God's redemption than someone else is?

Why do you think God put the story of Jonah in the Bible? Ask God to show you what He wants you to learn through this special story.

**What transforming thoughts and/or actions were revealed to you this week through the story of Jonah, and how might you put them into practice?**

## Saturday, July 30, 2016

### **Reflect:**

Review your study of Jonah this week. List a few of the fresh insights God has given you.

What did you learn about God's compassion for those who are lost?

What can you do in order to have God's heart for the lost in your neighborhood? How can you avoid experiencing life as Jonah did, thinking he was more worthy of God's love than the people of Nineveh?

As you prepare for worship tomorrow, ask God to help you see those around you from His perspective. Ask God what He wants you to do in order to share His love with those you encounter every day.

## Building Our Base Camp Family

During your gathering/meal time, read the first two chapters of Jonah together. Include all ages. Take turns reading, and pause to allow for questions and explanations to make sure everyone follows along.

Make sure younger children have a purposeful activity. Then adults should answer the following questions. To prepare, read the entire book of Jonah together.

1. What stood out to you after reading the story of Jonah? Who are the different characters in the story?
2. Write down your interpretation of the central message of Jonah and then share with the group. What commonalities or differences do you notice?
3. What do you suppose Jonah was thinking as he fled to Tarshish? How would you have felt if God gave you a similar command?
4. Where do you see obedience to God in this story? Disobedience? (Think beyond the main character.)
5. What impact did Jonah's time in the whale have on his life?
6. Describe Jonah's view of the Ninevites. How does God's view of the Ninevites differ?
7. Name a "Nineveh" in your life (a person, place, task, situation). What do you need to do about it? Which direction will you run?
8. As you close your gathering time, pray for your answers to question #7 in addition to other prayer requests.

Reference utilized: *Serendipity Bible: For Personal and Small Group Study*. 1996. Edited by L. Coleman. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.

# Contact Us

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

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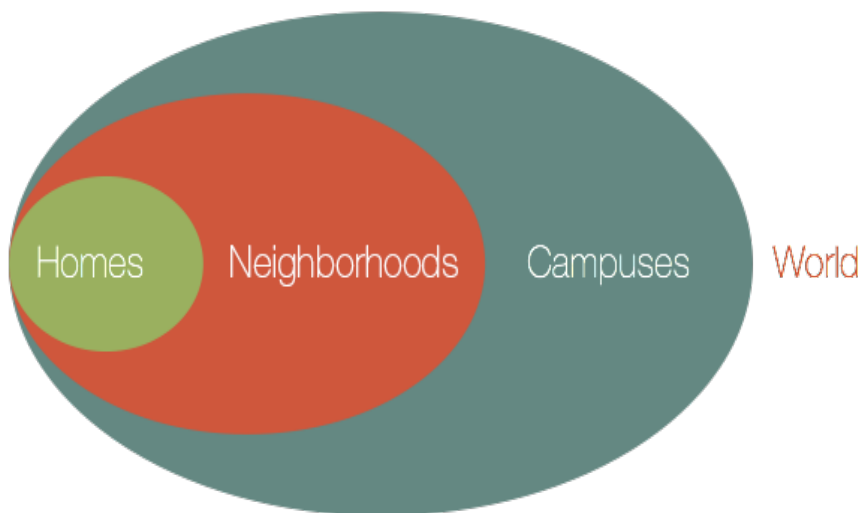


# Mission and Vision

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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